

Kompally residents raise civic issues with KTR, seek support

Hyderabad: Residents of Shweta Shubham Residency and IT professionals in Kompally complained of deteriorating civic infrastructure under the Congress government in Hyderabad.City & Local Guides

They submitted representations to BRS working president KT Rama Rao on local civic issues and appreciated civic amenities in Hyderabad during the previous BRS regime.

Telangana urged to clear Rs 3,725.73 crore dues to liquor companies

Hyderabad: The Brewers Association of India (BAI), International Spirits and Wines Association of India (ISWAI), and the Confederation of Indian Alcoholic Beverage Companies (CIABC) on Friday urged the State government to clear Rs 3,725.73 crore in dues that have been pending from December 2025 to April 2026.

The three associations, which collectively account for over 80 per cent of the liquor, beer and wine sold in the country, raised serious concerns over the State government's unilateral decision to pay for the supply of alcoholic beverages after 15 days upon deduction of a 2 per cent cash discount.

New Ways Open Up For Nari Shakti: PM

New Delhi, June 12

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the NDA government's efforts over the last 12 years have created an environment where women can realise their full potential and contribute more to nation-building. The Prime Minister said new avenues for India's "nari shakti" have opened up as his government focused on providing "dignity, opportunity and empowerment".

In a series of posts on X, Modi stated that his government's efforts to encourage women-led development are visible across sectors, as women are playing a prominent role across diverse fields — from financial inclusion and entrepreneurship to education, healthcare, sanitation, housing, sports, science, and governance.

The Prime Minister noted that he is particularly happy to see India's nari shakti make a mark in sectors like science, space and innovation. He highlighted that their growing participation in emerging fields such as drone technology is opening new avenues of opportunity and transforming the development landscape across the nation.Modi shared that the government is actively supporting self-help groups, which are going a long way in making women financially independent.Sharing a "Sanskrit Subhashitam", Modi stated that India's nari shakti is the cornerstone of nation building. "Today, our mothers, sisters, and daughters are increasing the pride of Maa Bharati with their amazing talent and skills in every field," he observed."Over the last 12 years, the NDA government has worked to further women-led development. And this is visible across sectors. From financial inclusion and entrepreneurship to education, healthcare, sanitation, housing, sports, science and governance, women are playing a prominent role across diverse sectors. The efforts of the NDA government are rooted in dignity, opportunity and empowerment. They have helped create an environment where women can realise their full potential and contribute even more strongly to nation-building," the Prime Minister posted on X."I am particularly happy to see India's nari shakti make a mark in sectors like science, space and innovation. Their growing participation in emerging fields such as drone technology is opening new avenues of opportunity and transforming development landscape across the nation. Our government is actively supporting self-help groups, which are going a long way in making women financially independent," Modi added.



Hyderabad, June 12

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday accused the BJP and the BRS of spreading false propaganda over the rejection of AICC Telangana in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan's Rajya Sabha nomination papers, and attempting to divert attention from an "undemocratic" episode in Madhya Pradesh.

Speaking during an informal interaction with journalists in Delhi, Revanth Reddy also rejected allegations linking him to remarks praising Adolf Hitler and asserted that no person committed to democracy would ever describe the Nazi dictator as an inspiration.

He reiterated that there had been no discussion with the Congress high command on Cabinet expansion and dismissed reports suggesting otherwise. Revanth Reddy also stated that during his recent meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it was the Prime Minister who had embraced him and not the other way around.

Revanth Reddy alleged that the BJP had exposed its "ill intentions" by fielding a third candidate in Madhya Pradesh despite lacking the numbers. He questioned why the BJP entered the contest without sufficient numbers

Revanth Accuses BJP Of ‘Seat Chori’, Misinformation

and accused the party of conspiring in advance to influence the outcome.

The Chief Minister alleged that the returning officer had acted like a BJP worker and claimed there was no pending criminal case in Telangana whatsoever against Natarajan. He described the rejection of her nomination as deeply painful, unfortunate and undemocratic, accusing the BJP of being both anti-democratic and anti-women.

The Chief Minister said the BJP had so far been known for "vote chori" and had now graduated to "seat chori." He alleged that the party was spreading misinformation by branding Congress leaders as covert supporters of the BJP in an attempt to escape scrutiny over the controversy.

Revanth Reddy remarked that the BJP appeared to have moved beyond taking inspiration from Nathuram Godse and was now emulating North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. He accused BJP leaders of behaving like Kim and said that, just as elections are held in North Korea with predetermined outcomes, the BJP was undermining democratic principles in India through one-party dominance and manipulation.

On the issue of Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan, Revanth Reddy clarified that he was free to visit Telangana, travel across the state and contest elections. He said Telangana ministers had criticised Pawan Kalyan only because of statements perceived as being against the interests of Telangana.

The Chief Minister explained that permission for a recent meeting proposed by Pawan Kalyan was denied solely on law-and-order grounds. He, however, questioned why meetings of opposition leader Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy were denied permission in Andhra Pradesh and demanded an explanation from Pawan Kalyan.

Revanth Reddy also accused the Centre of discriminating against Telangana and squarely blamed Union minister G. Kishan Reddy for delays in approvals for key infrastructure projects. He alleged that Kishan Reddy had blocked the Hyderabad Metro Rail expansion and was also hindering the Regional Ring Road project.

The Chief Minister claimed that the failure to secure Central funds for several projects was due to Kishan



Revanth’s flight diverted to Bengaluru amid heavy rains in Hyderabad

Hyderabad:, June 12

The IndiGo flight carrying Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy was diverted to Bengaluru on Friday night as the airport authorities refused permission for landing at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport due to inclement weather conditions.

The IndiGo flight from New Delhi to Hyderabad was to land at 9.15 p.m even as heavy rains lashed the State capital on Friday night. It was not immediately known whether Revanth Reddy will take a late-night flight to Hyderabad or spend the night in Bengaluru.

Heavy rains accompanied by thunder and lightning lashed Hyderabad, leading to traffic snarls and waterlogging on several roads. Authorities were attempting to clear vehicles stranded on the roads.

Hyderabad:, June 12

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday condemned Pakistan's support for terrorism and said the NDA government would not allow the waters of the Sindhu river to reach those who sponsor it.

Addressing an 'Intellectuals Meet' organised in Hyderabad by Telangana BJP, he said that through Operation Sindoor, the government had shown the world that it knows how to respond to those who do not understand the language of peace and harmony-in their own language.

He criticised Congress and other opposition leaders for questioning Operation Sindoor and the bravery of soldiers, saying the government had stated it would stop the supply of grain and water to Pakistan if terror attacks were carried out against India.

"After the Pahalgam terror attack, by suspend-



ing the Indus Waters Treaty, we said that those whose tears have dried up should not expect water from us. We will not let the waters of the Sindhu reach the patrons of terrorists and enemies of humanity," he said.AP News Updates

Singh said India has emerged as a "trusted partner" in the world and has always helped countries that faced disasters.

Citing India's assistance to several countries during the Covid-19 pandemic, he said the country is seen globally as a "vishwa bandhu" (friend of the world). However, he added that India's enemies should not forget that the country has not only vaccines but also the BrahMos missile.

Singh also said the defence budget allocation had risen to Rs 8 lakh crore from Rs 2.5 lakh crore during his tenure as home minister from 2014 to 2019.

Defence exports stand at Rs 39,000 crore, and the figure is set to increase further in the coming days, he said. India is exporting defence items to 100 countries, he added.

The defence minister,

ish it with ease," he said.

He said that while Kashmir was once known for terrorism, the region is now seeing growth in tourism, investments and employment opportunities.

The Tricolour is flying at Srinagar's Lal Chowk, Krishna Janmashtami is being celebrated there for the first time, Muharram processions are being taken out peacefully, and cinema halls that had remained shut for decades are being reopened, he said.

who spoke on the NDA government's achievements over the last 11 years, highlighted the abolition of Article 370, making the country largely Naxal-free, the implementation of GST, electrification across the country, and reforms in the justice system, among others.

"There was a time when Congress used to say that no one could abolish Article 370. But you have seen our government abol-

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MOHAMMED AREEFODDIN, S/O MOHAMMED BURHANODDIN (old name) born on 05-11-1971 at Nalgonda earlier was Holding Passport No. J8988059 DT: 24-10-2011 hereby changing my Name and henceforth in future I would be known as MOHAMMED ARIFUDDIN, S/O MOHAMMED BURHANODDIN (new name) H.No. 4-9-285/A, RTC Supervisors Colony, Hayatnagar, RR Dist-501505 Telangana State.

DECLARANT. MOHAMMED ARIFUDDIN

Place: Hayatnagar S/o MOHAMMED BURHANODDIN Date: 12-06-2026

Indian Chronicle

English Daily

A year on, probe throws up troubling questions

ON June 12, 2025, tragedy struck Air India flight 171 bound for London from Ahmedabad, sending shockwaves worldwide. It crashed less than a minute after taking off, killing all but one of those on board. Another 19 people on the ground also died, taking the toll to 260. A time-bound impartial and informative inquiry is a basic expectation. A year on, there are more questions than answers on what led to the deadliest crash in Air India's history after the Kanishka bombing in 1985. The investigation continues to spark intense controversy both in India and abroad. Any such probe is complex, but a disturbing aspect has been the free run for insinuation and conjecture. Amid claims of corporate influence and political pressure, it has triggered a debate on the conduct of such inquiries.

The preliminary report, issued by India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau a month after the incident, proved to be contentious. The brief statement, provided without a transcript or any indication of who was speaking, sparked intense speculation about the actions of the pilots. The purpose of an air crash investigation is to find out the exact cause, and also learn from it to improve passenger safety. In the case of AI171, the information revealed led to a backlash. Pilots' groups, safety campaigners, and the bereaved relatives warned against premature narratives undermining the integrity of the investigative process. A more disciplined, professional outlook would have helped. The final report may well reveal uncomfortable findings. It was the world's first crash involving a 787 Dreamliner, a Boeing model that has been in service since 2011. For the manufacturer, the conclusions will determine its safety, quality and engineering decisions. A troubling question still remains.

CITU Demands Implementation of Congress Election Promises for Gram Panchayat Workers



Khammam, June 12, Indian Chronicle ""The Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) has demanded that the State Government implement the election promises made by the Congress Party to Gram Panchayat workers. The demand was raised by CITU State Committee Member Chalamala Vittal Rao and Gram Panchayat Workers Union (CITU) District Vice-President Perumalla Palli Mohan Rao. "The leaders participated in a protest organized in front of the Khammam District Collectorate following a call given by the State Committee of the Gram Panchayat Workers Union (CITU). "Addressing the gathering, they urged the government to fulfill the commitments made in the election manifesto by regularizing all Gram Panchayat workers and providing a minimum monthly salary of ₹26,000. They also demanded that wages be credited directly into workers' bank accounts through the Green Channel system. "The union leaders further called for the implementation of the Second Pay Revision Commission (PRC) benefits for Panchayat workers, abolition of the multi-purpose worker system, and recruitment of workers category-wise. They also demanded the allotment of Indiramma houses and house sites to Panchayat workers. "Among other demands, they sought ₹20 lakh accident insurance compensation for workers who die while on duty, employment for one family member of deceased workers, ₹10 lakh insurance coverage, gratuity benefits, and retirement benefits. "As part of the protest, workers staged a dharna at the Dharna Chowk and later organized a rally to the Collectorate. Subsequently, they submitted a memorandum detailing their demands to Joint Collector Srija and District Panchayat Officer Rambabu. "The protest was attended by Gram Panchayat Workers Union (CITU) District President Vemireddy Sudhakar Reddy, General Secretary Shaik Hussain, Vice-President Vangara Dharmendra, district leaders Panga Lalayya, Lakshmi Narayana, Nareish, Dhanalakshmi, Srinivasa Rao, Satyam, Anand Rao, Papayya, Brahmam, Krishna Charan, Upendramma, Lachayya, Sangayya, Bala Nagamma, Mani Kumari, and others.

Survey Conducted on Conditions of Hut Dwellers in Nelakondapalli

Khammam Nelakondapalli, June 12 Indian Chronicle: The government has launched a field-level survey to assess the living conditions of people residing in huts in rural areas. The survey was formally initiated on Friday at Mandrajupalli Thanda in Nelakondapalli mandal by MPDO M. Yarraiah. "As part of the survey, officials are collecting detailed information from each household, including the duration of residence in huts, the number of family members, their livelihood, and whether they would be able to construct a house if sanctioned under the Indiramma Housing Scheme. Information regarding their available resources and other socio-economic conditions is also being gathered. "Speaking on the occasion, MPDO M. Yarraiah said that the survey is being conducted as per government instructions to identify eligible beneficiaries living in huts.

Centre Using Backdoor Tactics for Vote Manipulation

Minister Ponguleti "Allegation of Conspiracy to Delete Opposition Votes"



"Khammam Yedulapuram June 12 Indian Chronicle: ""Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has alleged that the BJP-led Central Government is resorting to anti-democratic tactics to target opposition parties and governments across the country. Addressing a training camp for Congress Booth Level Agents (BLAs) on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, organized by the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) in Palair constituency on Friday, the minister accused the Centre of attempting to weaken the Congress through voter list manipulation. "SIR Is a Dangerous and Backdoor Exercise "Ponguleti described the SIR process as a "dangerous exercise" and alleged that it is being used to remove a significant number of Congress-supporting voters from electoral rolls. He claimed that in areas where Congress enjoys strong support, authorities are planning to classify nearly 30–35 percent of votes as "fake" and delete them. "According to the minister, even minor discrepancies in voter details—such as spelling mistakes in names or small variations in age—could be used as grounds for deleting genuine voters. He alleged that similar methods had already been tested in states such as Bihar and West Bengal and are now being replicated in Telangana. "Rajya Sabha Nomination Rejection Criticized "Referring to the rejection of Congress candidate Meenakshi Natarajan in a recent Rajya Sabha election, Ponguleti alleged that despite having sufficient support, her nomination was rejected on the basis of an old FIR. He



claimed that undue pressure was exerted on election authorities, resulting in Congress losing a seat it rightfully deserved. "Earlier they stole votes; now they are stealing seats," the minister remarked, criticizing the Centre's approach. "Allegations Against Central Agencies "The minister further accused the BJP of misusing central investigative agencies such as the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Enforcement Directorate (ED), and the Income Tax Department for political purposes. He alleged that elected representatives from opposition parties are being intimidated and pressured, and that efforts are being made to destabilize democratically elected non-BJP governments. "Call to Protect Every Vote "Ponguleti urged Congress workers to remain vigilant during the voter mapping process scheduled from June 25 to July 24. He warned that voters living away from their native villages for employment or education could face deletion from voter rolls if they are unavailable during verification visits. "He advised party workers to ensure that such voters are informed and present when officials conduct verification. "We do not need fake votes. Every genuine vote must be protected like a concrete wall," he said. "The minister also called upon Congress cadres to stand firmly behind Rahul Gandhi and take the alleged SIR-related issues to the public. "Participants "The event was attended by District Congress President Nuthi Satyanarayana Goud, PCC representatives, municipal leaders, market committee chairpersons, sarpanches, MPTCs, and around 291 Booth Level Agents from across the constituency.

Public Government Gives Top Priority to Power Sector Development:



Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy 37.38 crore spent on electricity infrastructure development in Palair constituency during the last two-and-a-half years "Government promoting green energy for environmental protection "Every eligible family will receive an Indiramma House irrespective of political affiliation "Minister Ponguleti lays foundation stone for 0.8 MW Solar Power Plant and Electrical Controller Repair Centre at Thirumalayapalem "

"Khammam Thirumalayapalem, June 12 Indian Chronicle ""State Revenue, Housing, Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said that the people's government is giving special priority to the development of the power sector. "On Friday, the Minister, along with Additional Collector P. Srinivas Reddy, laid the foundation stone for a 0.8 MW Solar Power Plant to be established at a cost of ₹3 crore and an Electrical Controller Repair Centre at the 33/11 KV Substation in

Thirumalayapalem. "Speaking on the occasion, Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said that the welfare of the poor and overall development are the primary objectives of the people's government under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. He recalled that in the past, people faced severe hardships due to power shortages, and farmers often had to visit their fields at night, exposing themselves to dangers such as snake bites. "The Minister noted that former Chief Minister Dr. Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy had introduced free electricity for farmers and stated that the present government is ensuring uninterrupted and quality power supply to the farming community. "He said the government is actively promoting the use of green energy as part of its commitment to environmental protection. During the last two-and-a-half years, ₹37.38 crore has been spent on electricity infrastructure development works in the Palair constituency. "The Minister further stated that the government is addressing long-pending issues faced by residents due to high-tension power lines passing over residential areas. Works on three substations are being undertaken at a cost of ₹9 crore to improve power distribution and reliability. "Highlighting the government's welfare initiatives, he said that all promises made to the people are being fulfilled. Schemes such as free bus travel for women, issuance of new ration cards, free electricity up to 200 units, and Indiramma Housing are being implemented successfully. "He reiterated that every eligible poor family will be sanctioned an Indiramma House irrespective of political affiliation and emphasized that the government remains committed to public welfare and development. "Electricity Department Superintending Engineer Srinivasachary, District Agriculture Officer D. Pullaiah, public representatives, officials of the Electricity Department, local leaders, and others participated in the programme.

Welfare and Development Moving Forward Hand in Hand Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy

Khammam, June 12 Indian Chronicle: ""State Revenue, Housing, Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy stated that the people's government is advancing with welfare and development as its two guiding priorities. "Addressing a gathering after distributing Kalyana Lakshmi and Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques to beneficiaries at the MPDO office premises in Thirumalayapalem mandal on Friday, the minister said that the government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has been working with a strong focus on the welfare of the poor over the past two-and-a-half years. "He highlighted several welfare initiatives implemented by the government, including: "Free electricity up to 200 units, "Distribution of fine rice through ration cards, "Issuance of new white ration cards, "Free bus travel for women, "A 40% increase in diet charges, "A 200% increase in cosmetic charges in Gurukul institutions. "The minister criticized the previous government for neglecting housing for the poor and said the present government had sanctioned 4.5 lakh Indiramma houses in the first phase. He announced that an additional 2,000 houses would be sanctioned for every Assembly constituency in the second phase, assuring that all eligible poor families would receive housing irrespective of political affiliations. "Emphasizing the government's commitment to farmers, Ponguleti said that loan waivers up to ₹2 lakh had been implemented for 25 lakh farmers. He also noted that assistance under the Rythu Bharosa scheme had been increased from 10,000 to 12,000 per acre. "The minister said the current government is providing a ₹500 bonus per quintal over and above the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy procurement. He claimed that the state had procured a record 75 lakh metric tonnes of paddy, including rain-damaged grain at MSP. The government had also undertaken maize procurement, he added. "Despite financial constraints, the government continues to implement welfare and development programmes, the minister said, adding that nearly 72,000 jobs had been provided to unemployed youth. "He stated that the distribution of Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak benefits is continuing regularly. Referring to healthcare assistance, he said that under the leadership of



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the government had extended ₹1,034 crore through the CMRF last year for medical treatment of poor families. "Ponguleti assured that several more welfare programmes would be introduced during the remaining two-and-a-half years of the government's tenure. "In view of below-normal rainfall this year, he advised farmers to consult local agriculture officials and cultivate crops suitable to prevailing conditions. "Additional Collector P. Srinivas Reddy, Electricity Department SE Srinivasachary, District Agriculture Officer D. Pullaiah, public representatives, officials, local leaders and beneficiaries participated in the programme. "Issued by: District Public Relations Officer's Office, Khammam.

Police Personnel Health is Top Priority: Commissioner Sunil Dutt

Free Cardiac Health Screening Conducted for Police Personnel "Khammam June 12 Indian Chronicle: ""Police Commissioner Sunil Dutt stated that the Police Department is giving utmost importance to the health and well-being of police personnel and their families. "A special medical camp was organized at the Armed Reserve (AR) Police Headquarters in Khammam in collaboration with Yashoda Hospital, Hyderabad, where ECG and 2D Echo cardiac screening tests were conducted for police personnel. "Inaugurating the camp, the Commissioner emphasized that maintaining good



health is essential for effective performance of duties and ensuring peace and happiness within families. He advised police personnel to prioritize their personal health and undergo regular medical check-ups. "He noted that due to the stress associated with police duties, personnel are at a higher risk of heart-related ailments and other serious health issues. To facilitate early detection and prevention of such conditions, the Police Department has been conducting special health screening programs. "Commissioner Sunil Dutt said that with the support of reputed hospitals such as Yashoda Hospital, free medical camps are being organized to provide important cardiac evaluations, including ECG and 2D Echo tests, and to help personnel maintain comprehensive health profiles. "The program was attended by renowned cardiologist Dr. Bharat Reddy and Senior Manager Vinay Kumar from Yashoda Hospital, SB ACP Mahesh, AR ACP Sushil Singh, Narsaiah, and Reserve Inspectors Kamaraju, Srisailam, Suresh, and Sambasiva Rao.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FORM VI						
DISTRICT COLLECTOR, WARANGAL PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION						
(See Sub- rule (1) of rule-19 And Section -11(1) of the RFCT in LA R&R Act-30/2013 r/w Telangana Amendment Act, 2016 (Act No. 21 of 2017))						
Warangal District Gazette No.38/WGL/2026, (District Collector, Warangal Prods.No.G/1004/2026, Rc.No.B/908/2026				Dated. 09-06-2026. Dated. 09-06-2026. Dated. 25-05-2026.		
Whereas it appears to the District Collector, Warangal that a total of Ac.1-30 gts land is required in Keshavapuram Village of Rayaparthi Mandal of Warangal District for public purpose, namely for excavation of IL-2L-7L Distributory on Nashkal main Canal from Nashkal Tank to Palakurthy Tank from KM 0.781 to 1.128 under J. Chokka Rao Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme.						
The Government have issued orders vide No. 63 Irrigation & CAD Department dated 29-07-2017" In accordance with the provisions contained in Sec.10 (A) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 in its application to the state of Telangana, the Government have decided and accordingly hereby, in the public interest, exempt the JCRDLIS Project from the application of provisions of the Chapter - II and Chapter II of the Act.						
Therefore, it is notified that for the above said project in Keshavapuram Village of Rayaparthi Mandal of Warangal District a piece of land measuring, more or less Ac.1-30 gts , of standard measurement, whose detail description is following, is under acquisition.						
SCHEDULE						
Village: Keshavapuram			Mandal : Rayaparthi		District: Warangal	
Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Type of Title	Type of Land	Area Acquisition (in Ac. gts)	Name of Pattedar as per Bhubarathi and Occupant and person interested	Trees/ Structures if any
1L-2L-7L Distributory on Nashkal main Canal from Nashkal Tank to Palakurthy Tank from KM 0.781 to 1.128						
1	202	Patta	Dry	0-36	Pattedar (As per Bhubharathi) Bonala Santhosh S/o Somnarsaiah Bonala Mallikamba W/o Somnarsaiah Nalabothula Sarojana W/o Kistaiah Kondrathi Kumaraswamy S/o Arvapelli Chilumulla Narsaiah S/o Uppalaiah Bonala Ramesh S/o Somnarsaiah Chilumulla Yellaiah S/o Narsaiah Gujje Pradeep S/o Mallesh Gujje Sudhakar S/o Mallesh	
2	215	Patta	Dry	0-19	Pattedar (As per Bhubharathi) Chellapalli Lavanya W/o Raju Nalabothula Sambaraju S/o Kistaiah Bugga Lasya W/o Lingamurthy Nalabothula Sambalaxmi W/o Kistaiah Kokkalakonda Balamalaiah S/o Somaiah aliya Sammaiah	
3	203	Patta	Dry	0-03	Pattedar (As per Bhubharathi) Bonala Santhosh S/o Somnarsaiah Kondrathi Kumaraswamy S/o Arvapelli Nalabothula Sarojana W/o Kistaiah Neelam Padma W/o Yellaiah Bonala Yakaiah S/o Somnarsaiah	
4	214	Patta	Dry	0-09	Pattedar (As per Bhubharathi) Md Pasha S/o Ameer Government land	
5	213	Patta	Dry	0-03	Pattedar (As per Bhubharathi) Nalabothula Ailumallu S/o Narsaiah Nalabothu Rajitha W/o Kumar Nalabothu Padma W/o Yakana Nallabothula Mallesham S/o Nampally	
Total				1-30		
The notification is made under the provisions of Section-11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Act No. 30/2013) read with Telangana Amendment Act, 2016 (Act No.21 of 2017) to all whom it may concern.						
A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector, Warangal & Land Acquisition Officer/ Revenue Divisional Officer, Warangal on any working day during the working hours. The Collector-cum Appropriate Government is pleased to authorize Revenue Divisional Officer, Warangal and his staff/workmen to enter upon and survey land, take levels of any land, dig or bore into the sub-soil & do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in section-12 of the said Act.						
Under Section 11(4) of the Act, no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land i.e., sale/purchase etc., or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such notification without prior approval of the Collector.						
Objections to the Acquisition, if any, may be filed by the person interested within (60) (Sixty days) from the date of publication of this notification as provided under section 15 of the Act before the District Collector, Warangal.						
Sd/- Land Acquisition Officer & Revenue Divisional Officer Warangal.		Sd/- Addl. Collector (Rev) Warangal.		Sd/- District Collector, Warangal.		
DIPR NO.0298/LA/PP/AdvT/Pub/2026-27						

MEAI Hyderabad Chapter Hosts National Conference on "Mining 4.0 - Advanced Technologies for Safe and Sustainable Mining Operations"



""OU June 12 INDIAN CHRONICLE : The Mining Engineers' Association of India (MEAI), Hyderabad Chapter successfully hosted the inaugural day of its two-day National Conference on the theme "Mining 4.0 Advanced Technologies for Safe and Sustainable Mining Operations." The conference brought together mining professionals, industry leaders, technology experts, researchers, academicians and innovators to deliberate on the transformative role of advanced technologies in enhancing safety, sustainable mining and operational excellence across the mining sector. ""The inaugural session was graced by Shri Amitava Mukherjee, Chairman and Managing Director, NMDC, as the Chief Guest. The Guests of Honour included Shri Dhananjaya G Reddy, Vice President, MEAI and COO, ERM Group; Shri D.B. Sundara Raman, President, MEAI and Vice-President (Corporate Affairs), Tata Steel; and Shri Joydeep Dasgupta, Director (Production), NMDC. The event was presided over by Shri Vinay Kumar, Director (Technical), NMDC and Chairman, MEAI Hyderabad Chapter. ""Welcoming the delegates, "Shri Vinay Kumar highlighted MEAI's role in advancing professional excellence and technological progress in the mining sector. Referring to the conference theme, he emphasized that Mining 4.0 is shaping the future of mining through technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, IoT, robotics, autonomous systems, geospatial technologies and advanced safety analytics. He also shared NMDC's ongoing digital transformation journey, including the deployment of fleet management systems, drone-based exploration and collaborations with leading institutions to develop AI and machine learning-driven solutions for mining operations. He urged industry, academia and research organizations to work together to build safe, smart, sustainable and future-ready mining operations. ""Addressing the gathering, Shri Amitava Mukherjee, Chairman and Managing Director, NMDC, highlighted the growing importance of technology-driven mining and the need to adopt innovation-led approaches to enhance safety, sustainability and operational efficiency across the sector. He said, "The future of mining lies in the convergence of safety, sustainability and technology. As the demand for critical minerals and other resources essential for modern industries continues to grow, the mining sector must evolve to meet these needs responsibly. Advanced technologies today enable end-to-end transformation of mining operations, from planning and extraction to processing and dispatch, making mining safer, smarter and more sustainable. The opportunities before us are immense, but so is our responsibility to create value not only from re-

sources, but also for communities, the environment and future generations. ""Speaking on the conference theme, Shri Dhananjaya G Reddy, Vice President, MEAI and COO, ERM Group, stressed that "Advanced technologies must not remain limited to large organized mining operations but should also reach smaller and unorganized mining sectors. He observed that despite being the backbone of industrial and economic development, the mining sector is often perceived negatively and called upon the mining community to educate stakeholders about responsible mining practices, technological advancements and sustainability initiatives. He highlighted the role of AI, smart sensors, drones, real-time monitoring systems and renewable energy solutions in making mining operations safer and more sustainable while balancing resource extraction with environmental responsibility. ""Shri D.B. Sundara Raman, President, MEAI & Services, Tata Steel, emphasized that "Mining 4.0 is no longer an option but a strategic imperative for the future of the industry. Sharing Tata Steel's experience, he explained how technologies such as centralized control rooms, smart helmets, environmental monitoring systems and predictive analytics are improving safety, equipment reliability and operational efficiency. "Our responsibility is no longer limited to what we extract from the earth; it is defined by how we extract it -responsibly, safely and sustainably. ""Delivering his address, Shri Joydeep Dasgupta, Director (Production), NMDC, said that "Mining 4.0 represents a transformational shift in the way mining operations are managed. He emphasized that the core philosophy of Mining 4.0 lies in minimizing human intervention in hazardous zones while maximizing operational efficiency through Industrial IoT, smart sensors, automated monitoring systems and advanced analytics. Mining 4.0 is not a replacement for human intellect but an elevation of it. The objective is to build mines where machinery works seamlessly, data flows intelligently, environmental footprints shrink and, most importantly, every miner returns home safely at the end of the day," he said. ""A major highlight of the inaugural day was the felicitation of four distinguished stalwarts of the mining industry in recognition of their exceptional contributions to the sector. The honourees included Shri Akshaya Datt Tripathi, Shri S. Krishnamurthy, Dr. K. V. Shanker and Dr. K. Srinivas. ""The conference featured a series of technical sessions focusing on emerging technologies and innovative approaches shaping the future of mining. Presentations covered topics including smart production monitoring and resource optimization using UAVs, LIDAR, IoT and GIS technologies, AI-enabled blast design optimization, digitally enabled material handling solutions, geospatial investigations, intelligent truck dispatch systems, real-time hazard detection, mine safety analytics, automation and sustainable mining development. ""The first day concluded with insightful deliberations on how technology, innovation and collaboration can accelerate the transition towards safer, smarter and more sustainable mining operations. The conference will continue on June 13, 2026 with further technical sessions on digital mining, AI-driven solutions, autonomous systems, remote sensing, sustainability and emerging technologies shaping the future of the mining industry.



Koti Lingala Installation to Begin from June 24 at Harihara Kshetram Sri Chilukeshwara Anjaneya Swamy Temple

Temple Committee Representatives Invite Prominent Officials

“UPPAL , JUNE 12 (INDIAN CHRONICAL): As part of the reconstruction of the Chilukanagar Shiva Temple, the Koti Lingala Sthapana Mahotsavam will commence from June 24 at Harihara Kshetram Sri Chilukeshwara Anjaneya Swamy Temple. The sacred event will be held under the divine blessings of Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamiji, Pontiff of the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham. "Ahead of the grand ceremony, temple committee representatives met and invited GHMC Uppal Zonal Commissioner Radhika Gupta, ACP Venkat Reddy, CI Ramalinga Reddy, MRO Pul Singh Chouhan, Sector SI Vinay, and other dignitaries to participate in the celebrations. "Those present during the invitation programme included Temple Committee President Dasari Krishna, General Secretary Gone Srikanth, Treasurer Amrutha Rao, and committee members Gone Anjaiah, Devasani Balachander, Ramacharla Balaram, Kavali Narasimha, Guda Srisailam, among others.

BRS State Leader Bannala Praveen Mudiraj Inspects 1.45 Crore Storm Water Drain (Trunk Line) Works in Srinagar and Dharmapuri Colonies



UPPAL , JUNE 12 (INDIAN CHRONICAL): BRS Party State Leader Bannala Praveen Mudiraj, along with GHMC senior officials S.E. Hari Kishore, D.E. Vennela Goud, and A.E. Raj Kumar, conducted an extensive inspection in several colonies in coordination with colony association members. "During the visit, they reviewed the construction of the Storm Water Drain (Trunk Line) being taken up at a cost of ₹1.45 crore in Srinagar Colony, Dharmapuri Colony, and Sai Ram Nagar Colony. The team, along with local residents, discussed and finalized the alignment of the trunk line to ensure that it connects effectively with the irrigation nala. "Speaking on the occasion, Bannala Praveen Mudiraj said that the inspection was aimed at coordinating with residents and officials to determine the most suitable route for the new trunk line. He added that the works are being carried out with active participation from the colony residents to ensure a permanent solution to drainage issues. "S.E. Hari Kishore stated that the trunk line would be laid in consultation with local residents and based on their suggestions, ensuring that the project is executed without causing inconvenience to the public. "Leaders Kokkonda Jagan, Shyam, Banti Goud Srinivas, Srinagar Colony President Om Prakash, members of the Sai Ram Nagar and Dharmapuri Colony Associations, and a large number of residents participated in the programme.

Key Petition Filed in Court Over Telangana State Bhatraju Association Elections: Pak Naveen Babu



""HYDERABAD , JUNE 12 (INDIAN CHRONICAL): Advocate Pak Naveen Babu has filed a petition (O.P. No. 31/2026) in the City Civil Court, Hyderabad, seeking a stay on the ongoing state and district-level elections of the Telangana State Bhatraju Association. The petition was filed on behalf of petitioner Onkaram Santosh Raju, and the matter is scheduled to come up for hearing. "Expressing serious concerns over the election process, the petition highlights several alleged irregularities. It states that the elections are being conducted in violation of the association's constitution and bylaws. It further alleges that individuals belonging to other districts have been included as members of district committees and have even been elected as district presidents, leading to major irregularities. "According to Advocate Pak Naveen Babu, the rules of the Bhatraju Association stipulate that only members belonging to a particular district are eligible to contest for the post of president of that district. Electing persons from other districts amounts to a violation of the rights and provisions laid down in the association's regulations. In view of these alleged irregularities, the petition has urged the court to immediately halt the ongoing election process and order a comprehensive inquiry to ensure that no further violations take place.

Houses Damaged Due to Unseasonal Rains

“Khammam Nelakondapalli, June 12 Indian Chronicle: ""Several houses and compound walls were damaged in different villages of Nelakondapalli mandal following unseasonal rains that lashed the area on Thursday night. The rainfall also left roads muddy and difficult for commuters. "In Mandrajupalli village, the compound wall of the house belonging to Tumma Nagaiah collapsed completely. As the family is economically weak, local residents have appealed to the government to provide financial assistance. "In Konayigudem village, the front portion of a dilapidated house belonging to Binde Chiranjeevi, a poor resident, collapsed due to the heavy rain. The family, including small children, is living in fear and uncertainty following the incident. "Several roads in villages such as Chennaram and Nelakondapalli turned muddy even after a brief spell of rain, causing inconvenience to residents. "Locals have urged the authorities to assess the damage and extend immediate relief to the affected families.



Union Minister Bandi Sanjay participated in Tiffin Baitak with local residents at Rekonda village in Husnabad constituency

sharing a meal with them and discussing community issues. He said that since becoming a Member of Parliament, he has been giving greater priority to social service initiatives and public welfare activities. ""During the interaction, Bandi Sanjay reviewed the ongoing school cleanliness initiative "Mana Badi Mana Badhyatha" at Rekonda School and appealed to local residents to actively participate in the drive. He stressed that the effort should be carried out beyond political affiliations and encouraged the community to work together to improve the school environment before the reopening of classes. ""Teachers and villagers brought several issues to the Minister's attention, including the lack of dining facilities for students and the shortage of classrooms in the primary school. After listening to their con-

cerns, Bandi Sanjay responded positively and assured support for addressing the infrastructure gaps. ""He announced financial assistance of ₹75 lakh for creating dining facilities for students in the high school and ₹20 lakh for the construction of classrooms in the primary school. He further assured that ₹10 lakh would be released in the first phase to begin the works at the earliest. ""The Union Minister also congratulated students who secured top marks in the Class 10 examinations and announced that free bicycles would once again be provided to all Class 10 students this year. He urged local residents to spread awareness about the achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 12 years in office and handed over booklets highlighting the government's accomplishments to the school headmaster.

Survey Conducted on Conditions of Hut Dwellers in Nelakondapalli

Khammam Nelakondapalli, June 12 Indian Chronicle: ""The government has launched a field-level survey to assess the living conditions of people residing in huts in rural areas. The survey was formally initiated on Friday at Mandrajupalli Thanda in Nelakondapalli mandal by MPDO M. Yarraiah. "As part of the survey, officials are collecting detailed information from each household, including the duration of residence in huts, the number of family members, their livelihood, and whether they would be able to construct a house if sanctioned under the Indiramma Housing Scheme. Information regarding their available resources and other socio-economic conditions is also being gathered. "Speaking on the occasion, MPDO M. Yarraiah said that the survey is being conducted as per government instructions to identify eligible beneficiaries living in huts. The collected data will be scrutinized and forwarded to dis-



trict authorities for further action. "He stated that officials would visit every hut across all villages in the mandal to ensure that no eligible family is left out. The survey aims to facilitate the selection of deserving beneficiaries for the Indiramma Housing Scheme. "Panchayat Secretary Gayam Rama Rao and other officials participated in the survey.

BLAs Play a Crucial Role in Safeguarding Democracy: Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar, DCC President Inagala



Congress Organizes BLA Training Camp in Husnabad ""Hanumakonda/Husnabad, June 12 (Indian Chronicle) : A Constituency-Level Training and Awareness Camp for Booth Level Agents (BLAs) on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls was organized at Shubham Gardens in Husnabad under the leadership of Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar. ""The programme was attended by AICC In-charge Secretary Sachin Sawant as the chief guest. Hanumakonda District Congress Committee President and KUDA Chairman Inagala Venkatram Reddy also participated in the training session. ""Addressing the gathering, Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar stated that Booth Level Agents are the backbone of the Congress Party and urged them to

work with dedication to strengthen the party at every polling booth. He emphasized the importance of ensuring that every eligible citizen is included in the electoral rolls during the SIR process and called upon party cadres to create widespread awareness to prevent any omissions or irregularities. ""AICC In-charge Secretary Sachin Sawant highlighted that the registration of eligible new voters and correction of inaccuracies in voter records are among the most critical processes in a democratic system. He directed Congress workers to actively engage with voters in every booth area and ensure the successful implementation of the voter registration drive in line with the party leadership's vision. ""Speaking on the occasion, KUDA Chairman and Hanumakonda DCC President Inagala Venkatram Reddy stressed the need to curb bogus voting practices and urged BLAs to continuously monitor the deletion of deceased voters' names and the updating of address changes in electoral rolls. He called upon public representatives and party leaders across all mandals of the constituency to work in coordination and further strengthen the party at the grassroots level. ""The programme was attended by PCC Insurance Department Chairman Pawan Malladi, local Municipal Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Congress Party Presidents from all seven mandals of the Husnabad constituency, Market Committee Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons, Municipal Councillors, senior Congress leaders, key party functionaries, and a large number of Booth Level Agents. ""The training programme focused on enhancing the efficiency of BLAs and equipping them with the knowledge required to ensure transparency, accuracy, and inclusiveness in the electoral process, thereby strengthening democratic participation at the grassroots level.

Eradicating Child Labour is Everyone’s Responsibility: Dr. Anita Reddy



““Warangal, June 12 (Indian Chronicle): Marking the World Day Against Child Labour, an awareness rally was organized in Warangal on Friday under the aegis of Don Bosco Navajeevan, a voluntary organization. The rally commenced from the Warangal Head Post Office and culminated at Shivanagar.”“The rally aimed to create public awareness about the eradication of child labour and the importance of ensuring every child’s right to education. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Anita Reddy, Governing Body Member of Kakatiya University, emphasized that eliminating child labour is a collective responsibility that requires the active participation of every section of society.”“She urged people



to ensure that children hold books instead of tools and are provided with opportunities to pursue education and realize their full potential. Dr. Reddy stated that a child-labour-free society should be the shared vision of all citizens and stressed that protecting children’s rights is essential for building a brighter and more prosperous future.”“The programme was attended by Mr. Shukoor, Circle Inspector of Intezarganj; Mr. Ramesh, Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) Inspector; social activist Mr. Mandala Parashuramulu; Mr. Santosh, Coordinator of Don Bosco Navajeevan; and several other dignitaries and community members.

70 Lakh Skills Centre to Boost Youth Employment

Calls for Fast-Track Completion of Skills Centre: Collector Haritha

“Indian Chronicle, Kagaznagar, June 12: District Collector K. Haritha has directed officials to accelerate the construction of the Skills Centre building being established to provide skill development training to unemployed youth and support their future career prospects.”“On Friday, the Collector, along with District Panchayat Raj Engineering Officer Dharmender, inspected the ongoing construction works of the Skills Centre being built at an estimated cost of 70 lakh behind the old Collectorate building in the Industrial Area of the district headquarters.”“Speaking on the occasion, the Collector said that the Skills Centre is being constructed with an investment of 70 lakh under the Aspirational Districts Programme. She stated that once the centre becomes operational, unemployed youth in the district will receive skill training in various sectors, enabling them to pursue self-employment opportunities and build sustainable careers.”“The Collector instructed engineering officials to maintain high-quality construction standards, complete all pending works on a priority basis, and ensure that the building is brought into use at the earliest.”“Among those



present were PR Executive Engineer (EE) Dharmender, District Coordinator Sambasiva Rao, Assistant Engineer (AE) Gopal, TASK District Manager Rakesh, Lakshmikanth, and other officials.

Handloom Workers Call Off Protest Following Assurance from Minister Konda Surekha



Warangal, June 12 (Indian Chronicle): The week-long protest and hunger strike being staged by handloom workers of Kothawada came to an end following assurances given by Minister Konda Surekha. The Minister personally visited the protest site near the statue of Acharya Konda Laxman Bapuji at Gopalaswamy Temple Junction and extended her support to the agitating workers.”“The handloom workers had been protesting for the past week, demanding that the government procure bed sheets, carpets, and other handloom products through TSCO as was done earlier, instead of adopting the tender system. They also urged the government to immediately purchase the unsold stock that

had accumulated with the weavers.”“The issue was consistently brought to the government’s attention by Chippa Venkateshwarlu. Recognizing the seriousness of the situation, Minister Konda Surekha arrived directly from Hyderabad to the protest camp on Friday. After paying floral tributes to the statue of Acharya Konda Laxman Bapuji, she interacted with the protesting workers and listened to their concerns.”“Addressing the gathering, the Minister assured the workers that the government would immediately procure 2.29 lakh pieces of handloom products. She further announced that the 30 percent increase in weaving wages would be implemented and procurement would be carried out accordingly.”“She also stated that a team of ministers would meet the Chief Minister within a week to discuss and resolve the legitimate demands of the handloom workers of Warangal. The government, she said, is committed to supporting the welfare and livelihood of the weaving community.”“Satisfied with the Minister’s assurances, the handloom workers announced that they would withdraw their protest and hunger strike from Saturday onwards.”“Expressing gratitude, Chippa Venkateshwarlu thanked Minister Konda Surekha for personally visiting the workers and providing a positive assurance regarding their demands.”“Among those present on the occasion were Adigoppula Sampath, Elugam Venkatamallu, Sambaiah, Pantagani Srinivas, Duvvala Ravi, Kurapati Sampath, Dasari Rajashekar, Damera Raj Kamal, Gonda Srinivas, and several others.

Collector stresses collective responsibility to end child labour

Collector unveils awareness poster; rally and inspections held across Karimnagar.

KARIMNAGAR June 12 (Correspondent): District Collector Chitra Mishra on Friday called upon all sections of society to actively participate in efforts to eradicate child labour and ensure that every child has access to education.”“Marking the observance of World Day Against Child Labour, the Collector unveiled a poster prepared by the Labour Department at her chamber in the Collectorate. She warned that stringent action would be taken against those employing children below the age of 14 years and stressed that society had a collective responsibility to ensure that children attend school instead of being engaged in labour.”“The Collector urged citizens to remain vigilant and report instances of child labour to the authorities for prompt action.”“Meanwhile, an awareness rally on the eradication of child labour was organised in Karimnagar by the Departments of Women Development and Child Welfare, Labour, Police, and the District Legal Services Authority.”“District Welfare Officer Saraswathi and Labour Department Deputy Commissioner Prasad flagged off the rally from the Zilla Parishad office. The rally proceeded up to Geetha Bhavan junction.”“As part of the campaign, officials conducted surprise inspections at shops and commercial establishments to check for the employment of child labourers. Shop owners found not employing children were sensitised on child rights and issued “Child Labour-Free Shop” stickers.”“Officials appealed to the public to become partners in the fight against child labour and urged them to immediately report any instances of child labour to Childline 1098.”“Joint Karimnagar District Deputy Commissioner of Labour Kola Prasad, Assistant Commissioner of Labour Venkataramana, Child Welfare Committee member Rendla Kalinga Shekhar, District Legal Services Authority representative Chandraprakash Reddy, CDPOs, Childline 1098 District Coordinator Sampath, child protection staff members Shantha and Tirupathi, Labour Department officials,

police task force personnel and other officials participated in the programmes.

Youth Trapped in Uppal Skywalk Lift for Over Two Hours Due to Alleged Official Negligence

“UPPAL, JUNE 12 (INDIAN CHRONICAL): A youth was trapped inside a lift at the Uppal Skywalk on Thursday night, causing concern among locals and raising questions over the maintenance of the facility.”“Rahul (20), a native of Mahabubnagar, is staying at Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Boys Hostel in Uppal and works in a private company at NRP. After completing his duty, he was returning to his hostel and, at around 11 p.m., boarded the 6-B Skywalk lift near Uppal Metro Station to reach the ground level. However, the lift suddenly stopped midway, leaving him stranded inside.”“Upon receiving information, HYDRAA officials, Uppal police and fire department personnel rushed to the spot and initiated rescue operations. As the lift doors could not be opened immediately, efforts to rescue the youth were delayed. With the assistance of a technician, Rahul was finally brought out safely at around 1:15 a.m., after being trapped for more than two hours.”“Allegations have surfaced that the delay in the rescue operation was due to the lack of a timely response from Krishna Construction staff, who are responsible for the lift’s maintenance, and HMDA officials. Local residents expressed anger, claiming that poor maintenance led to the incident.”“

Irshad Khan (Uppal Khan) Initiative Prompts Swift Official Response to Public Issues in Beerappagadda Division

“UPPAL, JUNE 12 (INDIAN CHRONICAL): Acting on representations made by local residents, Irshad Khan (Uppal Khan) submitted a memorandum to Uppal Zone Zonal Commissioner Radhika Gupta highlighting several public issues on the main road stretch from Pista House to Uppal Monda Market in Beerappagadda Division.”“The issues raised included traffic safety concerns, the need for speed breakers, repair of damaged manholes, filling of pot-holes, and ensuring the safety of school students. With schools reopening and thousands of students using the route daily, Irshad Khan informed the Zonal Commissioner that traffic congestion had increased significantly due to diversions caused by the Uppal Elevated Corridor works, creating hazardous conditions for commuters.”“He also brought to the attention of the authorities the problems caused by rain-induced potholes, damaged manholes and speeding vehicles, which have been posing difficulties for local residents and students.”“Responding promptly to the representation, Zonal Commissioner Radhika Gupta acknowledged the seriousness of the issues and immediately directed the concerned engineering officials to take necessary action.”“Following her instructions, Beerappagadda Division Assistant Engineer Rajkumar and Work Inspector Kedar, in the presence of Irshad Khan (Uppal Khan), inspected the affected areas. They examined potholes, damaged man-holes, water stagnation and issues affecting the movement of schoolchildren and assured that the problems would be addressed on a priority basis.”“Officials stated that necessary measures, including the installation of rumble strips (speed breakers), filling of potholes, repair of manholes, erection of warning signboards and other safety measures for students, would be taken at the earliest.”“Speaking on the



occasion, Irshad Khan (Uppal Khan) said that the encouragement, guidance and support of Uppal Assembly Constituency Congress Party In-charge M. Parameshwar Reddy have been instrumental in bringing public grievances to the notice of the authorities and ensuring their resolution. He noted that Parameshwar Reddy has been consistently focusing on improving civic infrastructure for the benefit of the people.”“Irshad Khan also expressed gratitude, on behalf of the local residents, to Zonal Commissioner Radhika Gupta for her prompt response and to Assistant Engineer Rajkumar and Work Inspector Kedar for conducting the field inspection.”“Congress leaders and local representatives, including Mohsin, Asif, Pawan, Kittu and Dattu, along with representatives of various schools, participated in the programme.

BJP plotting to manipulate voter lists: MP Dr. Kadiyam Kavya

“---BLAs must work like party soldiers”“Hanumakonda, June 12 (Indian Chronicle): Warangal MP Dr. Kadiyam Kavya stated that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), aiming to come to power for a fourth consecutive term, is attempting to exploit voter lists for political gain. She urged every Congress worker and booth-level leader to remain vigilant regarding the voter list.”“Attending a training session for constituency-level Booth Level Agents (BLAs) at Ambedkar Bhavan in Hanumakonda as the chief guest, she provided the party workers with a comprehensive understanding of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process through a PowerPoint presentation.”“Speaking on the occasion, she noted that when there is no prospect of winning through public support, attempts are being made to secure political advantage by manipulating the voter list. She remarked that the BJP, realizing it has no chance of coming to power in Telangana, is trying to use voter lists as a weapon.”“She warned that attempts are being made to remove the names of eligible voters under the guise of the SIR process and cautioned that complacency—thinking “we have voted in the past, so we are safe”—could be dangerous. She expressed concern that the absence of one’s name from the voter list would result in the loss of their democratic right to vote.”“She pointed out that while the BJP speaks about women’s empowerment, in practice, it creates obstacles for women. She cited the events surrounding the Congress party’s nomination of a female candidate to the Rajya Sabha as an example. She noted that numerous incidents undermining transparency in the electoral system are occurring, which weaken the democratic framework.”“Senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has alerted the public across the country regarding irregularities in voter lists and urged them to fight for transparency in the electoral system. He clarified that this effort is not merely for the benefit of the Congress party but is essential for safeguarding the nation’s democracy.”“She stated that protecting the right to vote—granted by the Constitution through Dr. B.R. Ambedkar—is a constitutional duty for every citizen, emphasizing that safeguarding the right to vote is synonymous with safeguarding the Constitution itself.”“She directed Booth Level Agents



(BLAs) and Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to conduct door-to-door verification of voter lists over the next three days. They were instructed to bring matters such as new voter registration, address corrections, and the identification of names unjustly removed from the rolls to everyone’s attention. She affirmed that the Congress party’s goal is to ensure every eligible person has the right to vote.”“The voter list is the first step toward electoral victory. A party remains strong only when its booths are strong. Every party worker must act as a warrior in the cause of protecting democracy. Everyone must strive for the Congress party’s success at both the state and central levels,” said Dr. Kadiyam Kavya. Subsequently, the *

‘Booth Level Agents’ Consolidated Information Handbook”—prepared by her—was unveiled, and the event served as a platform for interaction with Booth Level Agents (BLAs) and division in-charges.”“Attendees at the event included MLC Baswaraju Saraiah; Warangal Parliamentary constituency in-charge and MLC Shankar Naik; TPCC Wardhannapet constituency in-charge Naga Sitaramulu; TPCC General Secretary Duddilla Srinubabu; KUDA Chairman Inagala Venkatram Reddy; Warangal DCC President Mohammed Ayub; as well as public representatives from Enumamula, party representatives, agents, and party activists.

Congress, NSUI protest alleged irregularities in national entrance examinations

Leaders seek accountability and reforms in conduct of NEET and IIT Advanced tests at Karimnagar demonstration.



KARIMNAGAR June 12 (Correspondent): Congress leaders and members of the National Students’ Union of India (NSUI) staged a protest in Karimnagar on Friday, alleging irregularities in the conduct of national-level entrance examinations, including NEET and IIT Advanced, and demanding greater accountability in the examination system. The protest rally, organised by former NSUI district vice-president M.D. Imran at Telangana Chowk, was attended by senior Congress leader and VNR Foundation founder Alphores Dr. V. Narendra Reddy and Corporation Congress president Vaidyula Anjan Kumar, among others.

Addressing the gathering, the speakers expressed concern over recurring controversies surrounding competitive examinations and said such incidents could undermine public confidence in the country’s education system. They alleged that lapses in examination management, technical glitches and inadequate monitoring mechanisms had adversely affected students and tarnished the credibility of national testing processes.”“Mr. Narendra Reddy said transparency and accountability were essential in the conduct of examinations that determine the academic future of lakhs of students. He urged the Union government to take corrective measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents and ensure the integrity of the examination system.

Referring to recent student protests in New Delhi over examination-related issues, the speakers said concerns raised by candidates should be addressed promptly and impartially. They also called for a thorough inquiry into al-

leged irregularities and demanded stringent action against those found responsible.”“Mr. Anjan Kumar expressed concern over reports of errors and controversies linked to IIT Advanced and NEET examinations, stating that maintaining the credibility of premier entrance tests was crucial for preserving confidence in India’s higher education system. The leaders further alleged deficiencies in the evaluation process of certain board examinations and called for reforms to strengthen examination administration and assessment mechanisms. The protesters demanded that the Centre ensure the smooth and transparent conduct of all national-level examinations and safeguard the interests of students. As part of the agitation, demonstrators raised slogans and staged a symbolic protest against the Union government’s handling of examination-related issues. Among those present were Congress Working President Komatireddy Padmakar Reddy, ST Cell president Shrawan Naik, District Congress BC Cell president Puluri Anjaneyulu Goud, City Mahila Congress president Rajitha Reddy, Chintala Srinivas Reddy, District Youth Congress vice-president Kim Fahad and other party functionaries.

Telangana urged to clear Rs 3,725.73 crore dues to liquor companies

Hyderabad: The Brewers Association of India (BAI), International Spirits and Wines Association of India (ISWAI), and the Confederation of Indian Alcoholic Beverage Companies (CIABC) on Friday urged the State government to clear Rs 3,725.73 crore in dues that have been pending from December 2025 to April 2026. The three associations, which collectively account for over 80 per cent of the liquor, beer and wine sold in the country, raised serious concerns over the State government’s unilateral decision to pay for the supply of alcoholic beverages after 15 days upon deduction of a 2 per cent cash discount.

Unhealed scars, burning memories: Aakash’s ashes await final journey to Ganga



GNS News Agency, June 12

Air India compensation offer, AI 171 victims families, Ahmedabad plane crash, Air India legal waiver, N Chandrasekaran, Radhika Mishra, Vijay Rupani crash victim, Boeing 787-8 crash, aviation disaster compensation, Air India response, crash investigation report, Ahmedabad aviation tragedySuresh and Sita Patni, parents of Aakash Patni, near a ‘memorial’ for their son at their residence in Ahmedabad. (Bhupendra Rana)Sita still bears the physical scars of that tragic day: severe burns she suffered while trying to put out the fire from her boy, Aakash, on June 12 last year.On that fateful afternoon, the 13-year-old boy was sleeping on the pavement opposite their tea stall when the Air India passenger flight crashed into the hostel buildings nearby, strewing debris and highly inflammable aviation gasoline across a wide swathe of the area. This, in turn, led to fires at the temperature of over 700 degrees Celsius. Aakash also caught fire, leading to his death in front of his horrified mother Sita and grandmother Babi Patni. They tried hard to save him, but their efforts remained futile.

Speaking about her recovery a year later, her husband Suresh Patni said, “Sita’s treatment is still underway. She still has about 30% burns left to heal.”Aakash’s family had been rendered homeless a fortnight before the June 12 plane crash last year when they were evicted by their landlord. At that time, they had been living on the pavement opposite the road from their tea shop in the Meghaninagar

area of Ahmedabad, near the UG hostels of the BJ Medical College where the plane crashed, leaving 260 killed including 19 on the ground and 241 on board. When The Indian Express met Babi Patni near the postmortem room at Ahmedabad Civil Hospital last year, all she could say was, “Aakash was sleeping on the road when the plane fell out of the sky. Maaro kaanudo maari saame badi gayo (My grandson caught fire right in front of my eyes).”At their home, sitting next to a ‘memorial’ of their younger son, Suresh and Sita said they never visited the crash site again. “It brings up memories too hard to bear,” she said, with tears in her eyes. Days after the solemn commemoration of a year since the disaster that took away their son, Suresh and Sita will travel to Varanasi to immerse his ashes in the Ganga. A matki carrying Akash’s ashes, covered in a faded white cloth, still hangs from the top grill of the hall window in the family’s one-bedroom apartment on the first floor of the New Lakshminagar Society in Meghaninagar, just 200 metres from their tea stall located at the main gate of the Atulyam hostel buildings. Next to his ashes, a full-size cut out of their dear boy in a blue suit is placed, with a silver chain placed around his neck.Speaking to The Indian Express on Thursday, Suresh, an auto rickshaw driver, said, “We had carried out Aakash’s final rites after his body was identified four days after the crash. We then completed the one-month rituals at our hometown in Patan. As per tradition, we will be holding bhajans a year after his death before travelling to Kashi (Varanasi) to immerse his ashes in the Ganga.”Since the crash, the Patni family’s old tea stall, located at the gate of the hostel campus, has been wiped out.

What was not destroyed in the crash was moved to one side to make way for a police check post and tent for the personnel stationed there to protect the crash site during the investigation by the AAIB. After the parts of the plane were taken away, the checkpoint remained for several months to keep curious onlookers away from the dangerously burnt buildings. When The Indian Express visited the site on June 11, the family’s small wooden temple, which was kept in their tea stall, was hanging entangled in the razor wires atop the boundary wall – but there was no deity.

PWD gives nod for a consultant for structural audit of Signature Bridge in Delhi

GNS News Agency, June 12To ensure the structural stability of the Signature Bridge, the Public Works Department (PWD) has approved a proposal to engage a consultant to conduct a comprehensive structural audit and preparation of maintenance methodology of the city’s first asymmetrical bridge, inaugurated in 2018.PWD minister Parvesh Sahib Singh said, “Public safety is our highest priority. It is surprising that no structural audit of the Signature Bridge was conducted in the last seven years. This landmark structure suffered from years of neglect under the previous government. To ensure its long-term safety and stability, we have decided to appoint an expert consultant for a comprehensive structural assessment.”

The consultant will also examine the slanting lifts and assess the feasibility of making them operational for public use. Based on the report, necessary steps will be taken for repairs, rehabilitation and maintenance, Singh told The Indian Express. The Signature Bridge project was executed by the Delhi Tourism and Transport Development Corporation (DTTDC). The DTTDC, however, did not have the budget for its maintenance, and after several request made by it, the bridge was finally handed over to the PWD earlier this year.According to an official document, the cost of engaging a consultant is Rs 17.5 lakh. The consultancy will include a detailed structural safety and stability assessment of the bridge. A comprehensive maintenance methodology, including recommendations for preventive, periodic and long-term measures, will also be part of it.The PWD also directed the engineer in charge to ensure that the consultancy services are completed on time. “No cost escalation will be entertained without prior approval of the competent authority,” read the document.A senior PWD official said that after taking over the bridge from DTTDC, PWD carried out an internal audit and found that the surface and grills and side railings of the bridge were damaged and the street lights were not functional.Following that, the department took immediate measures like eradicating dark spots

by fixing streetlights. Besides, patch works were carried out on the road surface and potholes were repaired, said officials.“Whenever a road stretch, especially an elevated one, is completed after a long period, it requires a proper structural audit, followed by rehabilitation every two years. But the bridge did not go through proper audit or maintenance for years,” said an official, adding that the PWD had initially decided to rope in IIT Delhi and Kanpur.Officials said that a team of experts from IIT had also visited the site.The elevated bridge, termed as an engineer marvel and India’s first asymmetrical cable-stayed bridge was constructed by the DTTDC at a cost of Rs 1,518.37 crore.

The bridge falls under the jurisdiction of the PWD. While the project was executed by the DTTDC, the agency was initially allocated funds for construction and maintenance of the bridge for three years.However, after the maintenance period ended, DTTDC faced budgetary constraints and decided to hand over the bridge to the PWD, which is responsible for the upkeep and repair of roads and related infrastructure in the city.“The Signature Bridge is a highly specialised and technologically advanced piece of infrastructure that serves as a landmark for Delhi. It requires dedicated maintenance protocols, skilled technical personnel and specialised equipment,” officials said, adding that periodic structural audits are crucial to prevent failures, particularly in complex long-span bridges such as the Signature Bridge.Taking over the bridge was also among the key targets outlined in the PWD’s 100-day action plan for this year.The bridge links the Outer Ring Road with Northeast Delhi’s Karawal Nagar and Bhajanpura, providing direct connectivity to commuters travelling between Loni, Ghaziabad, Rajinder Nagar, northeast Delhi and central parts of the Capital, including ITO.The bridge is known for its iconic pylon, which, at 154 metres, is among the tallest structures in Delhi. The pylon features a viewing gallery that has emerged as a popular attraction for visitors.

Man from UP nabbed for sacrilege bid at Golden Temple complex



GNS News Agency, June 12

Man from UP nabbed for sacrilege bid at Golden Temple complex, Man nabbed for sacrilege bid at Golden Temple, sacrilege bid at Golden Temple, Golden Temple, Indian express news, current affairsThe Jathedar added that the current case could be part of a larger conspiracy or a deliberate effort to hurt Sikh sentiments.A man from Uttar Pradesh was on Thursday nabbed by guards for an alleged sacrilege bid at Gurdwara Shaheed Baba Gurbaksh Singh Ji, situated inside the Golden Temple complex.

Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Kuldeep Singh Gargaji said that one Abhijit from Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh entered the sanctum during a Akhand Path around 2 am on Thursday. “After completing parkarma (circumambulation) of Guru Granth Sahib, he reportedly picked up the Sri Sahib (sword). Sewadars immediately apprehended him and handed him over to the police,” he said.The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) has filed an official complaint regarding the incident, however, police said that and FIR is yet to be registered.Gargaji added that the incident was similar to a December 2021 sacrilege attempt, when an individual crossed a safety grill inside Golden Temple and picked up the Sri Sahib.He also called Thursday’s incident a major failure of the Punjab government and criticised authorities for not yet identifying the person involved in the 2021 case.The Jathedar added that the current case could be part of a larger conspiracy or a deliberate effort to hurt

Sikh sentiments.He urged the sangat to strengthen panthi pehridari (community vigilance) and tighten security arrangements at gurdwaras in villages, towns and cities, and to remain alert to suspicious activities.

Delhi cop booked for assaulting woman and trespassing into Gurgaon society

Delhi Police constable booked for assaulting woman, Delhi Police constable booked for trespassing into Gurgaon society, Gurgaon, Delhi Police, delhi news, India news, Indian express, current affairsThe FIR states that the accused allegedly abused her, issued death threats, and even physically assaulted her before her friends intervened. The complainant underwent a medical examination after alerting the police.A Delhi Police constable has been booked for allegedly trespassing into a residential society, issuing death threats to a family, and physically assaulting a 21-year-old woman in Gurgaon, officers said on Thursday.According to the FIR registered in the case, the accused allegedly entered an apartment complex in a highly intoxicated state between 5 am and 6:30 am on May 31. The woman, also the complainant in the case, alleged that the accused repeatedly rang the doorbell of her apartment. When her mother opened the door, he allegedly attempted to force his way inside, hurling abuses and issuing death threats. The situation escalated when the accused, according to the complainant, verbally abused her younger sister and threatened her with “rape and murder”.The woman said that she was returning from a function when her mother informed her about the incident. She alleged that the accused subsequently intercepted her within the society premises.

Smoke detectors, fire extinguishers could soon be mandatory at homes in Delhi



Smoke detectors mandatory at delhi homes, fire extinguishers mandatory at delhi homes, Smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, delhi fires, delhi news, India news, Indian express, current affairsOfficials said that following the Vivek Vihar fire tragedy which claimed nine lives last month, the fire department was asked to submit a proposal to include fire prevention systems, like smoke detectors, in houses.

Citing that 90% of the buildings in the national capital neither have fire NOC or related safety compliance in place, the Delhi government is planning to tighten enforcement of building by-laws and strengthen fire safety norms by making hydrants, smoke detectors and extinguishers mandatory across residential areas, including gated societies, individual houses and residential colonies, said Home Minister Ashish Sood.“It has also come forward that storage of inflammable materials, electric overloading and violations of rules are the leading causes of fire. Beside actions, it is also time we make people aware about the dos and don’ts to prevent fire in houses especially those located in densely populated areas with narrow lanes,” said the minister.In Delhi, currently fire hydrants and smoke detectors are only mandatory for commercial buildings and those with a height of 15 metres or above. However, NOCs and other equipment are not mandatory for independent, low-rise buildings and residential properties, said officials.

“This is not about reacting in haste. But when a fire breaks out, basic safety measures such as fire hydrants, smoke detectors and emergency escape ladders can make the difference... Even as we work to strengthen the city’s fire safety infrastructure, those inside a building are invariably the first to respond. Ensuring that these systems are

in place is therefore in everyone’s interest,” Sood also said.

Officials said that following the Vivek Vihar fire tragedy which claimed nine lives last month, the fire department was asked to submit a proposal to include fire prevention systems, like smoke detectors, in houses.“The department has submitted its proposal and it is being examined. Under the proposal, the government is mulling to make smoke detectors mandatory in houses. These don’t cost much and run on battery and whenever there is smoke, an alarm will buzz and alert people so they can escape the premises before the fire spreads,” said a senior official, adding that it can also prevent mishaps.Officials said Sood has directed the fire department and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to examine building by-laws.Officials said that the government is also examining the possibility of advising people on less use of inflammable construction materials, asking them not to store those inside the house.At the four-storey building in Palam where a fire broke out in March killing nine of a family, inflammable materials like thinners, chemicals and paints were stored in the basement.

Another hurdle is said to be crowded, narrow lanes which makes it difficult for fire tenders to reach the site of a fire. “Thus, the four-minute response window for addressing such situations is crossed... We are making several changes and upgrading our fire infrastructure and planning to increase the number of stations and procurement of small-sized fire tenders that can reach such areas,” said the minister.Home department officials confirmed that they have received a proposal from the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) for making smoke detectors mandatory in houses.“We are reviewing the proposal. We believe that this will reduce fire incidents and casualties drastically. It will soon be sent to the Cabinet for further approval,” said the minister.Sood is also going to write a letter to the residents of Delhi highlighting the importance of fire safety norms and compliance.For instance, as residential buildings of a height of up to 15 metres and ones of a height of 17.5 metres with stilt parking do not require a fire NOC, the responsibility of the residents becomes even greater. “The letter will have precautionary measures to be taken by the residents,” the minister said.As per data, DFS handles over 20,000 fire calls and the city sees 250-300 deaths due to fire every year. In the last six months alone, over 60 people have lost their lives in fire tragedies.

Fled over a year back, grew his network in Georgia: Gangster behind BSP leader’s murder extradited

GNS News Agency, June 12

Gangster behind BSP leader murder extradited, BSP leader murder, BSP leader Harbilash Hajjuma murder, Hajjuma murder, delhi news, India news, Indian express, current affairsApart from the above case, Garg was allegedly involved in recruiting and directing shooters around the Delhi- NCR area. After the killing of the BSP leader, sources said that his gang had become more active in the Capital.Last year, in January, Haryana Police arrested five alleged shooters within three days — Sagar, Rajan, Mangu, Gagan and Shivam. All five men were wanted for allegedly shooting dead Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) leader Harbilash Hajjuma inside his car in Ambala on January 24, 2025.Even as the police had zeroed on the suspected gangster behind the killing due to purported social media posts, the statements of the five shooters confirmed the name — Vainket Garg (29), an ally of Kapil Sangwan Aka Nandu, the notorious gangster based out of the United Kingdom.However, about a month before he allegedly executed his most infamous murder, Garg had allegedly fled India. The gangster, following his arrest after registration of 23 cases against him in Chandigarh and Haryana, had got out on bail in October 2024 and escaped. The first case filed against him dated back to 2016, said officers.

“Investigation conducted by STF Haryana revealed that Vainket Garg fled India on December 10, 2024, from the Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi, to the United Arab Emirates and subsequently travelled to Georgia on January 26, 2025,” read a statement by Haryana Police.To stay in Georgia, officers said, he only needed proof of residence in UAE, as per the East European country’s laws. “From Georgia, he established contact with Kapil Sangwan. Most gangs in Delhi were consolidating and forming alliances back then. Garg did the same,” a police officer said.Year-long efforts by the Indian authorities have finally led to his extradition. The CBI, in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the Ministry of Home Af-

fairs (MHA), and the Haryana Police. A team from Haryana Police reached Tbilisi five days back and he was brought back to Delhi on Thursday.At present, he is allegedly involved in at least 34 cases. Of these, 11 are linked to crimes perpetrated from foreign soil. Police say his involvement is suspected in many more.

Born in Chandana Colony of Narayangarh area of Ambala in Haryana, Garg initially got involved with local gangs. He managed to scale his network to a 53-member network based in the NCR, with cases of Arms Act, extortion and murder filed against the membersHaryana Police wasn’t the only one who tried to bring Garg back. “About six months back, the Delhi Police had found him involved in the murder of a businessman in Paschim Vihar area of Delhi. The businessman was suspected of being close to Kapil Sangwan’s rival, Manjeet Mahal, and was looking after some of his properties. The Delhi Police had requested the MEA to revoke Garg’s passports along with those of nine other criminals,” said a police officer.Apart from the above case, Garg was allegedly involved in recruiting and directing shooters around the Delhi- NCR area. After the killing of the BSP leader, sources said that his gang had become more active in the Capital.Two of the gang’s alleged shooters, Harshdeep (20), a resident of Ambala Cantt in Haryana, and his cousin Naveen Dhiman (24) from Panipat, were arrested by the Delhi Police in August 2025, five months after the killing of BSP leader. “The shooters were found to be involved in an extortion- related firing case in Dwarka area of Delhi. Since the BSP leader’s killing, Venkat gang felt they could now command extortion fees in the Capital, as they were feared,” said a police officer.When the police searched the two shooters, they found sophisticated automatic pistols, including a Glock 17 and a Star.“Garg lured shooters like Harshdeep by offering them jobs in the Middle East. He was in constant touch with his shooters through social media till the said operation was executed,” said a source.

Nigerian woman jumps to death during raid to bust drug manufacturing unit

Nigerian woman jumps to death, Nigerian woman jumps to death during drug raid, raid to bust drug manufacturing unit, drug manufacturing unit, delhi news, India news, Indian express, current affairsAmong other items recovered during the raid were approximately 100 litres of unidentified chemical substances, 10 litres of hydrochloric acid, 31 bottles containing around 15.5 litres of hypophosphorous acid, six empty bottles of the same chemical, 35.5 kg of a white powder, 21 kilograms of black granules, 4.1 kilograms of black liquid and 192 grams of MDMA, said officers.

A Nigerian woman died after allegedly jumping from the fourth floor of a residential building in Outer Delhi’s Swaroop Nagar during a search operation to bust a drug manufacturing unit on Thursday afternoon, said police. The alleged synthetic drug manufacturing unit was unearthed during a raid by the Anti-Narcotics Squad of the Outer North district, officers added.During the operation, officers said, a man identified as Romeo alias Sky was also arrested from the third floor of the residential building. Approximately 30 grams of banned methamphetamine and 1.5 grams of heroin were allegedly recovered from his possession.

Investigators then moved to the fourth floor, where two African nationals were residing in separate flats. One of the flats was occupied by a woman identified as Stella Pius. An officer said, “When the police team entered the flat, Stella allegedly jumped from the balcony. She was immediately shifted to the government hospital in Burari, where she was declared brought dead,” the officer said.From the possession of another African national, identified as Martin Aaron, who was her neighbour, police recovered the key to unlock the alleged drug unit at Stella’s flat. According to police, the room contained a large quantity of chemicals, laboratory equipment and other material allegedly used in the manufacture of synthetic drugs. “The premises appeared to be functioning as a methamphetamine manufacturing and raw material storage facility,” the officer said.Madhur Verma,

Joint Commissioner of Police, said, “In accordance with the Centre’s Nasha Mukti Bharat campaign, the Delhi Police is committed to carrying out comprehensive investigations to ensure that every source, supplier, and network involved in the trafficking of illicit substances, narcotics, and contraband is exposed and brought to justice. This operation represents a major breakthrough, and further investigation is being conducted to uncover the entire supply chain and identify all those involved.”

Among other items recovered during the raid were approximately 100 litres of unidentified chemical substances, 10 litres of hydrochloric acid, 31 bottles containing around 15.5 litres of hypophosphorous acid, six empty bottles of the same chemical, 35.5 kg of a white powder, 21 kilograms of black granules, 4.1 kilograms of black liquid and 192 grams of MDMA, said officers.Police also seized two heating mantles, two 2,000-ml flasks, two distillation units, two weighing machines, several drums, steel tubs, plastic pipes, a large stove and a gas cylinder.Samples of the seized substances have been sent for forensic examination. Police are investigating the source of the chemicals, the scale of the alleged operation and the role of those involved.Police said the raid was conducted as part of the investigation into an Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) case registered at Burari police station earlier this week. On June 9, acting on a tip-off, the Anti-Narcotics Cell had arrested a Nigerian national, Frank Dashmond, from the Chandan Vihar area of Burari and recovered 67.9 grams of MDMA from his possession, according to officers. A case under the NDPS Act was registered and Dashmond was subsequently arrested.According to investigators, leads developed during the questioning of Dashmond led police to Swaroop Nagar, resulting in the latest arrests and the discovery of the suspected drug manufacturing facility on Thursday. Further investigation is ongoing.

FPIs pull out nearly Rs 43,000 Crore from Indian equities in June amid global AI shift



New Delhi: Foreign investors continued to pare their exposure to Indian equities, pulling out nearly Rs 43,000 crore in the first week of June amid a shift of global capital towards technology and artificial intelligence (AI)-linked opportunities overseas and persistent weakness in the rupee. With this, total outflows by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) from Indian equities have reached Rs 2.67 lakh crore so far in 2026, surpassing the Rs 1.66 lakh crore withdrawn during the whole of 2025, according to data available with the National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL). Market experts said FPIs have been reducing their exposure to Indian equities due to a combination of weak earnings growth, rupee depreciation and the emergence of more attractive investment opportunities in global markets, particularly in the technology and AI space.

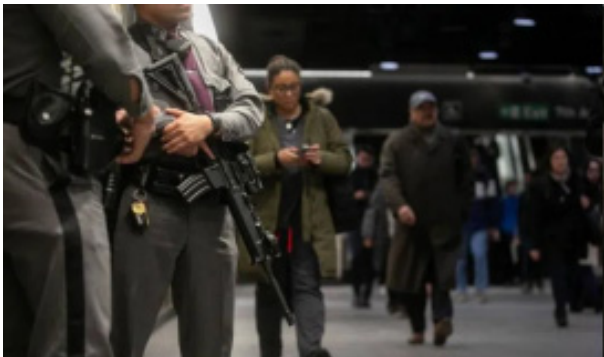
“Apart from higher US yields and dollar strength, global investors are also reallocating capital towards some of the largest technology and AI-related public market opportunities currently emerging globally. The upcoming SpaceX IPO, along with anticipated capital market activity around leading AI companies, is attracting significant global liquidity, leading to temporary capital rotation away from emerging markets, including India,” Alpha AMC Founder Rajesh Singla said.

According to the data, FPIs were net sellers in all months of 2026 except February. They pulled out Rs 35,962

crore in January before turning net buyers in February, when they invested Rs 22,615 crore, the highest monthly inflow in 17 months. However, the trend reversed sharply in March, when foreign investors withdrew a record Rs 1.17 lakh crore. The selling continued in April with net outflows of Rs 60,847 crore and in May with withdrawals of Rs 32,963 crore. The exodus persisted in June, with FPIs pulling out Rs 42,927 crore during the first week of the month. Market experts said that persistent depreciation of the rupee has emerged as another key factor behind the sustained outflows. The Indian currency has weakened nearly 6 per cent so far in 2026 and around 10 per cent over the past year, falling from the mid-80s to about 95.5 against the US dollar despite efforts by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to stabilise the currency.

Given the importance of foreign portfolio flows in financing the current account deficit and supporting the balance of payments, policymakers have announced a series of measures aimed at attracting overseas capital. Geojit Investments Chief Investment Strategist V K Vijayakumar said the government’s decision to exempt interest and capital gains arising from FPI investments in government securities from taxation, along with recent RBI measures, could support fresh foreign inflows. These measures include the central bank absorbing hedging costs on FCNR deposits mobilised by commercial banks, expanding the forex swap window, increasing access to government bonds through the Fully Accessible Route (FAR), and raising investment limits for non-resident Indians (NRIs) and overseas citizens of India (OCIs) in Indian equities. However, Vijayakumar said a sustained revival in FPI inflows would depend on a moderation in the global AI-driven investment theme, which has been drawing capital away from emerging markets, including India. “There are early signs of this happening. The sharp decline in the Nasdaq on June 5 indicates that the AI trade may be losing momentum. If the AI-driven rally cools and reverses, it could trigger a reversal in FPI outflows from India,” he added. On the country, FPIs invested over Rs 2,600 crore in debt through the Fully Accessible Route in the first week of June, taking the total to Rs 17,230 crore in this year so far.

Stabbing spree in New York’s Penn Station; five injured



GNS News Agency, June 12

New York: Five people were stabbed at New York Penn Station, with at least one sustaining serious injuries, local media reported. The incident occurred on Sunday night (Local time). The five victims were rushed to a local hospital, reports CBS News, quoting the Fire Department of New York City. A suspect was quickly taken into custody, the authorities said. Police sources told CBS that the suspect is believed to have mental health issues. A criminal investigation is still underway, and no signs of terrorism have been reported so far, reports Xinhua news agency, quoting

CBS News.

Police urged the public to avoid the area due to expected traffic delays, road closures and mass transit disruptions. Widely regarded as the busiest rail hub in the Western Hemisphere, New York Penn Station serves over 600,000 passengers each day. Earlier on Saturday afternoon, at least 12 people were shot near a community festival in Toledo, US state of Ohio, with two in critical condition. It appeared there were at least two people who were “probably shooting at each other,” Toledo Deputy Police Chief Joe Heffernan said, adding that police are still searching for the suspects and advise the public to avoid the surrounding areas. Toledo Police Department officers responded to a report of a person shot in an area near the Old West End Festival at approximately 5:37 p.m. local time (2137 GMT) and discovered multiple shooting victims. The injured were taken to hospitals for treatment, reports Xinhua news agency. The Old West End Festival is a two-day event featuring live music, food markets, house tours and shopping. Earlier on Wednesday, a teenager was killed and three people wounded in a shooting after a US California high school graduation ceremony, according to local media. The shooting occurred in the parking lot of a high school in Northern California, CBS reported, citing a local police spokesperson.

Trump, Netanyahu hold phone talks after Iranian missile fire

GNS News Agency, June 12

Jerusalem: US President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke by phone on Sunday after Iran fired missile barrages at Israel in response to airstrikes in Beirut, Israel’s state-owned Kan TV news reported. Neither Netanyahu’s nor Trump’s office immediately commented on the call. Before the call, Trump told Israel’s Channel 12 News that he would tell Netanyahu not to strike back because he did not want US-Iran ceasefire negotiations to collapse, Xinhua news agency reported. “What I would suggest to Iran: You’ve shot your missiles, that’s enough,” Trump told Fox News.

“Get back to the table and make a deal.” Trump also claimed that Washington and Tehran had been close to reaching an agreement before Iran launched the missiles earlier in the day. “We’re very close. I would say an agreement would be signed on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of this coming week. And now this takes place,” he said. “It’s certainly not going to help negotiations,” Trump said.

In another interview with US media outlet Axios, Trump said he will call Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and press him not to retaliate for Iran’s missile attack. “I am going to call Bibi right now and tell him not to retaliate. Each of them had their fun. Israel had its strike, and Iran had its



strike. We don’t need another one,” Trump said. According to CNN, Iran fired at least 10 ballistic missiles toward Israel in at least three separate waves on Sunday. The Israeli military said all of the missiles were intercepted. Two Israeli sources cited by CNN said Israel would deliver a “powerful” response to the attack, raising concerns about further escalation in the region. The Israeli military said Sunday night that Iran has so far fired four missile barrages towards the country. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage. The missiles have triggered sirens across northern Israel.

Iran rejects idea of using its assets to pay damages to US allies

GNS News Agency, June 12 Iran’s Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi said on Sunday that regional governments were “not in a position to demand reparations”, responding to what he said “were reports that the U.S. could use Iranian assets to compensate regional allies for war-related damages. Gharibabadi added in a post on X that Iran’s assets were “neither war spoils for Washington nor a payment fund for its allies”.

Get a look at the day ahead in U.S. and global markets with the Morning Bid U.S. newsletter. Sign up here. Reuters reported on Saturday, citing a source familiar with the matter, that the United States would make Iranian assets available to Gulf allies to support rebuilding and repairs for future damage caused by Iran. The United States would also consider using those assets to support repairs for past damages, the source said, adding that U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent had directed a team to assess the cost of damage already inflicted on Gulf allies by Iran. During the war, Iran launched missile and drone attacks on several Gulf countries, saying it was targeting U.S. and Israeli interests in the region. On Saturday, Iran said it had launched ballistic missiles at U.S. bases in Kuwait and Bahrain. The U.S. military said six missiles were intercepted and a seventh did not reach its target, while Kuwait reported material damage but no casualties and Bahrain urged residents to seek shelter.

The Middle East conflict could saddle the region with as much as \$58 billion in repair costs for energy-linked infrastructure alone, according to a report by research firm Rystad Energy in April. Gharibabadi said any seizure, transfer or allocation of Iranian assets without the consent of the Iranian government would constitute “a new internationally



wrongful act”, giving rise to U.S. responsibility at a time when Washington claims to be seeking negotiation and understanding with Tehran. Such a move would also prompt an “appropriate response” from Iran, he said, without elaborating. Iran has been asking for a portion of its seized funds to be released by the U.S. under a framework that the two countries are negotiating to end the Iran war. Gharibabadi said some regional governments had placed their territory and facilities “at the service of aggression against Iran” and were therefore not in a position to demand reparations.

He said those governments must fully compensate Iran for damages inflicted on it. Tehran’s demands to end the war include the release of billions of dollars in frozen assets, as well as the lifting of U.S. and international sanctions and recognition of its sway over the Strait of Hormuz.

Oil prices climb more than \$3 after Israeli strikes on Lebanon

GNS News Agency, June 12

PERTH/BEIJING, - Brent oil prices jumped more than \$3 a barrel on Monday, initially spooked by Israel’s launch of renewed strikes on Lebanon a day earlier, but also gaining further steam after sounds of explosions were heard in Iran.

Sounds of blasts were heard - in Tehran, Tabriz and Isfahan, local media reported early on Monday, eroding hopes for an imminent end to the wider war and a restart to crude flows through the Strait of Hormuz. The Reuters Power Up newsletter provides everything you need to know about the global energy industry. Sign up here. Brent crude futures rose \$3.20 or 3.39% to \$96.24 a barrel while U.S. crude futures were up \$2.87 or 3.17% at \$93.41 per barrel as of 0333 GMT. Those gains erased Friday’s losses, when prices fell on hopes of a de-escalation in the U.S.-Iran conflict, which has seen oil prices rise over 50% since March. Though Iran on Sunday fired a salvo of missiles at Israeli targets in retaliation, U.S. President Donald Trump insisted that an agreement to end the wider war remains well within reach. Trump also reportedly told Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to refrain from further attacks. “It’s not going to have any impact on the deal,” Trump told the Financial Times. “I call the shots. I call all the shots. He doesn’t call the shots.” Iran has made a ceasefire with Lebanon a condition for a peace deal with Washington. Israel invaded Lebanon in March after Iran-backed Hezbollah fired rockets and drones across the border. Lebanon and Israel said on June 3 that they had agreed to a ceasefire following negotiations in Washington. The two



countries had previously agreed to a cessation of hostilities in April but violence continued.

The wider war has been stalemated since the U.S. and Israel paused their attacks on Iran in early April, with Tehran blocking most shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, the main transit route for one-fifth of the world’s oil. Washington has imposed its own blockade of Iranian ports. Amid the resulting supply crisis, OPEC+ on Sunday agreed its fourth increase in oil output in four months. But analysts said the decision would have little impact since most OPEC+ members could not meet their output targets because of the Hormuz closure or, in the case of Russia, infrastructure attacks that have eroded its production capacity. “In the current market, the physical impact of such a decision would be close to zero,”

OpenAI plans major ChatGPT overhaul to turn platform into ‘super app’: Report

New Delhi: OpenAI is reportedly preparing its biggest overhaul of ChatGPT so far, with plans to transform the platform into a superapp by integrating coding tools, AI agents and partner services, as it positions itself for stronger revenue growth ahead of a potential stock market listing. The changes are part of a broader internal reorganisation at OpenAI, as the company shifts focus toward higher-value enterprise customers while intensifying competition with rival AI firm Anthropic, according to a Financial Times report. The report, which cited more than a dozen current and former employees, said the overhaul will give increased prominence to OpenAI’s coding product Codex and is expected to roll out in the coming weeks.

The updates will initially appear in ChatGPT’s website and mobile applications. As part of the redesign, ChatGPT’s interface is being reworked to actively steer users toward specific tools such as coding features, image generation and integrated partner services, including platforms like Canva and Booking.com, the report added. The Financial Times further reported that most Codex users are paid subscribers, and around 2 million business customers currently contribute nearly 40 per cent of OpenAI’s revenue. This share is expected to rise to about 50 per cent by the end of the year, the report said. ChatGPT currently serves more than 900 million weekly active users, according to figures



shared earlier by OpenAI, while its paid consumer subscriber base has crossed 50 million users. The development comes as OpenAI continues to expand its commercial footprint. Earlier report in May said that the company was preparing a confidential filing for a U.S. initial public offering, although CEO Sam Altman has said the timing of any listing would depend on broader strategic considerations.

The latest reported overhaul underscores OpenAI’s push to evolve ChatGPT from a conversational AI tool into a multi-functional platform that combines productivity, coding, and third-party services within a single ecosystem.

Trump dismisses idea that Iran betrays his ‘no new wars’ campaign message

GNS News Agency, June 12

Bridgewater: President Donald Trump is dismissing the idea that launching the war with Iran this year betrayed his refrain of “No new wars” that he made repeatedly as he campaigned again for the White House. Trump, in an interview that aired Sunday on NBC’s “Meet the Press,” said he “didn’t guarantee” there would be no wars if he were back in office. “First of all, I didn’t guarantee no war. Why would I have built the strongest military in the world?” Trump said.

Trump also defended plans for a now-scrapped \$1.8 billion fund that would have compensated allies of the Republican president and he repeated his baseless claims of mass fraud in California’s drawn-out vote count from Tuesday’s primary. He ended the interview abruptly when he became frustrated with pushback from NBC’s Kristen Welker. Iran is not an endless war

In his 2024 campaign, Trump repeatedly cast his Democratic opponents as warmongers and said he was a president who started “no new wars” and would bring an era of peace. But Trump said in the NBC interview, taped Friday in Wisconsin, that as a candidate, “I didn’t promise anything.” “I don’t like these endless wars. This is not an endless war. We’ve been doing this for three months,” he said of the war with Iran, which began Feb. 28.

Trump said he was “doing the world a service” and “doing our country a service” because he had to stop Iran from having a nuclear weapon. But elsewhere in the interview, Trump repeated a contradictory message where he said U.S. strikes last year “obliterated” Iranian nuclear sites. He also defended his decision in his first term to withdraw from Democratic President Barack Obama’s nuclear deal with Iran, an agreement he has heavily criticized, without negotiating the “better deal” he has promised to reach. “It takes years to do these things,” Trump said. California’s notoriously prolonged vote count has been a magnet for election conspiracy theories, and Trump since Tuesday’s election has claimed without evidence that Democrats are rigging the election. The Trump-appointed top federal prosecutor in Los Angeles said Friday that his office had opened “multiple election fraud investigations.” Late-tallied Democratic-leaning mail ballots have eaten into the vote totals for Trump’s preferred candidates for governor and Los Angeles mayor. While Trump has often said that changes to vote totals as late ballots are counted are a sign of fraud, they are merely a reflection of a slow vote-counting process. Trump in the interview kept claiming that it was a sign of “cheating” and “a rigged election,” and grew increasingly frustrated as Welker pressed him for evidence to support that. “All I have to do is look. All I have to do is look,” Trump said. “But that’s not evidence,” Welker responded. “And I listen. And I listen to people. And let’s see what happens,” Trump replied.



Trump defended plans that his Department of Justice said it has now abandoned to create a \$1.776 billion “Anti-Weaponization Fund” as part of a settlement to resolve Trump’s lawsuit against the IRS over the leak of his tax returns. Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche said Wednesday that the department was scrapping the plan. That announcement came after the plan was paused by a judge and after both Democrats and some Republicans said they were concerned about the fund’s lack of oversight and the possibility of payouts being made to participants in the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the Capitol.

Trump told NBC he thought the fund was “a great idea” and that he would be “disappointed” if it were not approved. When asked if he thought people who attacked police officers on Jan. 6 should get a payout, Trump said, “I wouldn’t be inclined to say so, but I have to see it.” He then began making unfounded and false claims about the riot and those who stormed the Capitol. Trump granted a sweeping pardon on his first day back in office in January 2025 to the more than 1,500 people prosecuted over Jan. 6.

The NBC interview was conducted in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, before Trump was set to speak at a roundtable event with farmers. The interview was repeatedly interrupted as waves of heavy rain fell on the metal roof of the barn where the taping took place, making it difficult at times to hear. At the end, Welker pressed Trump on the settlement fund and his claims about the California election. Trump raised his voice and began calling Welker and the media “crooked,” attacking her credibility and complaining about what he called “the fake, dirty press.” As Welker tried to switch subjects, Trump continued on and there was cross talk between the two. Trump ended the interview, saying said, “Let’s call it quits.” He took off his microphone, telling Welker, “Thank you, darling. Have a good time.” He said he had given the interview enough time, stood up and walked away. Welker said during the broadcast that she spoke to Trump on Saturday and he agreed the rain had caused complications and said he would do another interview in the future.

Mario Miranda birth centenary: The people of Goa who lived forever in his drawings



Dressed in his long checkered T-shirt and Bermuda shorts, the poder (baker) cycles through the narrow lanes of the small town. He begins his journey early in the morning, a little after the crack of dawn — before the rush of the day begins — carrying freshly baked pao in the blue tarp-covered carrier on the back of his bicycle. He presses the familiar horn attached to the steel handle of his old-school bicycle. And stops at a doorstep even before the bicycle comes to a halt. He props it on its stand and honks twice, to announce his arrival. But it's not just his arrival, it is the arrival of a new day.Goa has always had its own way of waking up. Slowly, taking its own sweet time. Before all the hustle begins in the city, the villages and the smaller towns are a place where the morning does not arrive in a rush. It arrives in fragments — in the splash of a bucket being emptied at the gate after the morning cleaning, in the smell of the freshly baked bread, in a neighbour calling out to another from behind a half-open window.That is the Goa Mario Miranda knew and drew.

Born in Loutolim in 1926, Mario did not turn Goan life into postcard scenery. He turned it into a crowd. The frames of his sketches filled with poders, fisherwomen, tavern regulars, market women, priests, porters, children and gossiping neighbours, all caught in a state of motion. He had an eye for the kind of details that most people overlooked — the tilt of a head, the roundness of a belly, the careful way a woman balances a basket on her head, the tired swagger of a man with a drink in hand. Nobody stands still for long in

his world. Everyone is doing something.In Mario's drawing, Goa is more than just a destination. The humour in his lines comes from familiarity. These are not invented figures but people one has seen in the market in Margao, on a village road in Saligao, at the counter of an old tavern in Panaji or outside a chapel after thThe poder is one of those recurring presences in the Goan life. He is not glamorous. The blue tarp covering the bread carrier flaps lightly in the wind and the lanes seem to recognise his passage.

Mario's drawings bring to life the authority the fisherwoman holds. She walks door to door, in her satin dress, carrying a bamboo basket on her head, hawking out, "Bai, nuste zai go? (Lady, do you want fish?)." She is efficient. She struts unhurriedly, in the way only people who know their worth can. And a fisherwoman never forgets her customer. Fish in Goa is about livelihood, bargaining, taste, smell, argument and memory.This is what makes Mario's Goa feel intimate. He did not separate women from the scene or tuck them into the edges. They occupied the frame fully, with the same assurance as men. His market women stand with their hands on their hips, their mouths mid-sentence, their bodies turned towards the business of living. The tavern men are equally vivid, their faces round with time, drink and their expression full of opinion. Nobody is idealised. Nobody is reduced. Everyone is observed with affection and a clear eye.Goa has often been described from the outside through its beaches, churches and old Portuguese houses but the real texture of a place can be found in its people. That is why the way Mario looked at Goa mattered. His frames were often full and brimming — a reminder that Goan life is full of noise, neighbours, rituals, small economies, habit and improvisation. That is why his work endures. For those who grew up in Goa, his art often feels less like illustration and more recognition. A person can look at a Mario sketch and find a cousin, an aunt, a man who always sits on the same bar stool and a fisherwoman who knows every household on her route. His art does not merely resemble the people of Goa. It remembers them.

Curtains down on Swarup Biswas era? West Bengal film industry hopes so

In the series of twists that have followed the West Bengal Assembly election results, police Thursday night swooped down on Trinamool Congress leader Swarup Biswas, the man who for the past decade has called the shots in the state's film industry, deciding who gets work and who can't, wielding "bans" as his weapon.Biswas's Facebook bio simply says "politician", the one-word descriptor telling as much as it conceals about the clout enjoyed by the 51-year-old who never held any official position in the TMC but, for years, sat at the top of Tollywood's administrative power structure as the President of the Federation of Cine Technicians & Workers of Eastern India (FCTWEI). After the results, as the chorus of allegations against him grew, Swarup claimed his tenure as its chief ended in December 2025 itself.

Swarup's arrest, over allegations of sexual harassment, extortion and attempt to murder, comes in the wake of growing trouble for his elder brother Aroop Biswas, a former TMC sports minister who dictated terms with allegedly equal impunity in the state's sports field. Aroop is facing investigation over the administrative chaos surrounding Argentine football legend Lionel Messi's visit to Kolkata in December last year. On Friday, Mamata Banerjee named Aroop as TMC state general secretary.

Following Swarup's arrest, several artistes associated with Tollywood spoke up about how he dictated terms in the film industry through a "syndicate" that blacklisted those "non-compliant" or not aligned to TMC interests.Acclaimed actress Sreelekha Mitra posted on Facebook: "I was effectively banned for the last 10 years by the TMC and the so-called artistes who ruled the industry."BJP MLA from Tollygunge Papia Adhikary announced that there would be a major overhaul with the launch of the Eastern India Motion Picture Cultural Confederation, that will streamline industry operations into four broad categories – replacing the previous system of the FCTWEI.Veteran actor Aparajita Aadya said Swarup's "arrest was required". "People knew that anyone who did not listen to him would get banned, that he would end their career. Many producers left the industry because of him. There are so many movies which remain incomplete... To 'allow' a film's release, extraordinary amounts of money was demanded."

Actor-turned-activist Rupa Bhattacharya, who was with the BJP briefly, said she had not got work for almost 10 years due to Swarup, giving the example of a big-budget film from which she was allegedly dropped as producers were told not to take her and that there would be problem getting the film a release.A small-time actor told The Indian Express: "If an actor, director or even a technician publicly criticised the FCTWEI's leadership, they wouldn't just be hauled before the union, but face a quiet, devastating boycott."In November 2025, a movie made by film students struggled to get a release as the FCTWEI reportedly objected to federation-approved technicians not being hired for it. Among the several rules the FCTWEI was said to impose is that a filmmaker hire a given number of federation-approved technicians for their project, allegedly regardless of the film's requirements.

In July 2024, director Rahool Mukherjee was subjected to three-month suspension by the FCTWEI for working on a Bangladeshi OTT series which, it said, failed the technician requirement, as well as a condition by the FCTWEI that "foreign productions" pay higher amounts. The latter rule had incidentally been brought in with Hollywood pro-



ductions in mind. After the series got shelved, many filmmakers called for a strike. They returned to work only after assurance by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to set up a committee to streamline regulations.When the promised panel did not materialise, more than a dozen filmmakers, including leading names like Indranil Roychowdhury, Parambrata Chatterjee and Anirban Bhattacharya, filed a petition before the Calcutta High Court accusing the FCTWEI actions of impacting their right to work. However, the court dismissed the petition, and the actors withdrew their petitions, apparently after "private negotiations". Anirban Bhattacharya only recently returned to the shooting floor after a long gap.Swarup, in turn, always claimed that the FCTWEI exists to fight for the interests of technicians and that his primary goal was their welfare.

Actor Sujoy Prasad Chatterjee said the "clean-up" needs to go deeper. "Swarup Biswas is just the tip of the iceberg. There are people who worked with him to pollute the industry and those who sucked up to him."Accusing Swarup of causing "massive damage to the Bengali film industry", actor Aritra Dutta Banik said that, to be fair, the TMC leader was a huge help to daily wage technicians employed in the film industry during Covid, when work came to a standstill. "But the volume of his crimes and wrongdoings is so high that bad far outweighs the good," Banik said.

In a Facebook post, Banik also warned against the "Leftists in words, TMC at heart" actors "who are now testing the waters" with the BJP.Prominent BJP leader and minister Dilip Ghosh has asked others to come forward. "Those who haven't yet gathered the courage to complain should also do so now. Let people know how tyrannical they were and how much they misused and abused power."Actor-turned-politician and BJP leader Locket Chatterjee assured that change would come now with the TMC out of power. Talking about her decision to sever ties with the TMC 12 years ago, Chatterjee said she paid a price for doing a press conference "on how the brothers Aroop and Swarup Biswas had finished the entertainment industry of Bengal".Swarup, remanded in police custody till June 18, has been booked for alleged sexual harassment, extortion, attempt to murder, criminal conspiracy and under provisions of the Arms Act. A make-up artist has accused him of seeking sexual favours in return for being allowed to work in the industry, of using threats to extort around Rs 22 lakh from different people, and of an attempt to murder using firearms. The FCTWEI has been silent on the development.There is a plot twist in this too. Back in September 2024, Swarup had announced a cell to fight sexual harassment in the film industry, while claiming that 60% of complaints received by them were against directors and producer-directors, and 40% against producers. Following this, a directors' association filed a defamation suit against the TMC leader.

Investigation Team (SIT) or a Commission, it has the power to refer a matter for investigation to a police agency, it can refer a civil or commercial dispute to mediation or arbitration, it can transfer a matter from the jurisdiction of a High Court to the jurisdiction of another High Court, it can pronounce a man and a woman divorced, it has the power to punish a person for contempt of court, its interpretation of the Constitution of India is the final word, and it has the power to pass any order to "do complete justice". It is said that the SC is the most powerful court in the world.Among its vast powers, one stands out. In State of Madras vs V G Row, the Supreme Court described itself as the sentinel qui vive—a watchful guardian of the Constitution. What does the Constitution say about elections?I Article 324 vests in the Election Commission of India (ECI) the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for,...and the conduct of all elections to, Parliament and the Legislature of every State.IArticle 326 prescribes that elections to the House of the People and the Legislative

The problem in India is not unemployment but unemployability



paper leak, CBSE on-screen marking glitches, Dharmendra Pradhan, NEET UG 2026 paper leak, National Testing Agency NTA, NEET UG 2026 cancellation, NEET paper leak Rajasthan, NTA NEET re-exam date 2026, NEET investigation, WhatsApp guess paper leak, CBI probe NEET leak, WhatsApp paper leak syndicate, Nashik medical student Shubham Kharinar, Private Mafia WhatsApp group, NEET guess paper controversy, exam paper leak India, Sikar NEET coaching hub, multi-state exam scam India, NEET chemistry paper leak Sikar, CBI probe NEET 2026, medical entrance exam cancelled India, 22 lakh students NEET re-test, Indian expressIt is heartbreaking to think of how disadvantaged Indian children will be when they go out into a world where the competition could be AI children. Already, we have 'graduates' who cannot find jobs because they have left college without being able to articulate an idea or solve a simple equation.

It is astonishing that it has become fashionable to talk about education. For the wrong reasons maybe, but at least we are discussing the most undiscussed and, in my view, the most vital reform that India needs. So far, all talk has been about NEET and leaked papers and the venality that has been revealed in the CBSE exam system. Desperate young students have been driven to suicide because of these corrupt practices. This alone should shame those responsible. So, when the noise and drama of these events die, please, please let us continue talking about the rot in our education system.Maybe this time we will talk about it a little longer because of India's newest political party making leaked papers their first cause. By the time you read this, the leader of the Cockroach Janata Party should have landed in Delhi and probably been arrested before he manages to hold a protest rally at Jantar Mantar. It is my fervent hope that even if the protest fails, the cause that he claims has brought him back home will not be forgotten. There must be accountability and heads must roll. He has demanded the resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan, and if this man had any self-respect, he would have already resigned, but this will solve nothing.

The rot goes deep and has spread from the top to the very bottom. The reason why our political leaders and high officials never send their children to government schools is because they know that they have built schools that offer not real learning but barest literacy. When Indian children from Tamil Nadu and Himachal competed in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) in 2009, they came second last. In this exam, 15-year-olds were tested for their skills in reading, mathematics and science. Alarm

How an IMD discovery in 1920s changed monsoon forecasts



The El Niño phenomenon is fairly well known in India, thanks to widespread discussion in the media in connection with its impact on the Indian monsoon. El Niño Southern Oscillation, or ENSO, is a large-scale ocean-atmosphere interaction playing out in the Pacific Ocean region that happens to be the biggest cause of year-on-year variations in global climate. It has profound impacts on weather events everywhere, including the Indian monsoon.

What is much less known is that this global phenomenon, at least the atmospheric component of this ocean-atmosphere interaction, was first discovered by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) in the early 1920s. It was British mathematician Sir Gilbert Walker, working as head of IMD, a position that was at that time described as Director General of Observatories, who had noticed the see-saw behaviour of air pressure between the east and west Pacific Ocean, something that became known as the Southern Oscillation, or SO.While working to develop a reliable forecast model for the Indian monsoon, Walker, who had a nearly 21-year tenure at IMD from 1904 to 1924,had decided to look at external influences, having realised that the monsoon was not an isolated phenomenon over the Indian region. Meticulously going through all the weather observation data that used to be collected at the time, Walker noticed three large systems, two in the Pacific and one in the Atlantic Ocean, in which the atmospheric pressures periodically oscillated between being very high and very low at the opposite ends. The Southern Oscillation was so named because it was relatively south of the other two, which were called the North Atlantic Oscillation and North Pacific Oscillation.

He found the Southern Oscillation to be the most persistent and also the most likely to have an impact on the Indian monsoon.Decades later, Norwegian-American meteorologist Jacob Bjerknes linked the Southern Oscillation to the periodic warming and cooling of the equatorial Pacific Ocean, or El Niño. Natives of the western coastline of South America, in the countries of Peru and Ecuador, were aware of this periodic change in sea surface temperatures for centuries. But it was Bjerknes who showed in the late 1960s that the two processes, the ocean phenomenon of El Niño and the atmospheric phenomenon of Southern Oscillation, formed a feedback loop in which one reinforced the other.

This discovery gave the scientists their first understanding of this complete process. El Niño and La Niña, the two opposite phases of ENSO, are now known to influence every large-scale weather phenomenon in the world. In the El Niño phase, the equatorial Pacific Ocean, off the coast of South America, gets warmer than normal, while in the La Niña phase, it gets cooler. El Niño has a general warming impact on the planet. It is known to suppress rainfall over the Indian and Australian region, including southeast Asia, but causes bountiful rains to happen over the North Ameri-

bells should have gone off across India but if our babus have one superpower, it is knowing how to keep bad news from reaching the ears of their political masters.We did not need an international test to establish that schools run by the Indian state are abysmal. If our prime ministers have had one thing in common, it is their neglect of education. Jawaharlal Nehru built the IITs but appeared not to notice that the only children able to get into them were from upper caste, middle class families. He also did not notice that on his watch was created a higher education system that was so tightly controlled by the government that it killed all chances of excellence or research. One reason is middle-some officials. If there is to be reform, then it should start with the abolition of the University Grants Commission. It is an unneeded busybody that gives officials unneeded power.

Before writing this piece, I had a chat with Michel Danino who knows from the inside how the system works. He worked in the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and recently got into trouble with the Supreme Court for telling the truth about corruption in the judiciary in a school textbook. When I asked him what were the three most important reforms that needed to be made in the school system, he said that for a start, instead of students being treated as a 'passive sponge', they need to be encouraged to participate. In other words, less rote learning.

The second reform he recommends is the setting up of proper teacher training institutes. And third, that there be investment in school infrastructure. Government schools lack such basic things as libraries, playgrounds, clean water and toilets. I have visited village schools in many states and seen some that are just empty sheds. So, I could not agree more. The irony is that the one reform that has been made is for teachers to be paid hefty salaries. These are sometimes ten times higher than the paltry salaries teachers earn in the thousands of private schools that have sprouted across rural India.It is heartbreaking to think of how disadvantaged Indian children will be when they go out into a world where the competition could be AI children. Already, we have 'graduates' who cannot find jobs because they have left college without being able to articulate an idea or solve a simple equation. It has been said more than once that the problem in India is not unemployment but unemployability.

In 2013, when I was a passionate Modi-bhakt and hoped with all my heart that he would be able to bring the changes India so desperately needs, I was once summoned to meet him. He was still Chief Minister of Gujarat but knew in his heart that when the general election came the following year, he would be prime minister. He asked me what I felt were the things that most urgently needed to be done. And, I said he needed to rectify the mistakes that Congress prime ministers had made, which was to neglect education and healthcare.We talked uninterrupted for more than an hour at the end, of which I was convinced that I had made my point. Clearly, I had not or by now we should have seen a revolutionary improvement in government schools that are in states governed by BJP chief ministers. Today that includes all major Hindi-belt states, Maharashtra and now West Bengal. Will the Cockroach noises bring some urgency? It is my sincerest hope that this will happen.

cas. La Niña has opposing impacts.Walker's discovery of the southern oscillation marked a major improvement in the scientific understanding of monsoon and resulted in greater scientific grounding of its forecasts. Before that, forecasts, issued since the establishment of IMD in the 1870s, relied heavily on statistical correlations.However, monsoon forecasts did not suddenly become accurate. Even decades after discovering the ENSO link, IMD struggled to provide reliable forecasts. That is because the monsoon is a highly complex system, and its relationship with ENSO is not causal. In fact, because of the lack of reliable predictors, the IMD, for a very long time, between 1932 and 1988, had stopped providing monsoon forecasts for the entire country. Its forecasts used to be limited only to northwest India and the peninsular region. And even this was not quantitative. Instead of mentioning the percentage of normal rainfall expected during the season, as it does now, IMD then used terms like "slightly above normal" or "not far from normal".It was only in 1988 that IMD restarted all-India forecasts and reintroduced the quantitative element into its predictions. Over the years, IMD has significantly upgraded its computational abilities, observational network, and prediction models, resulting in remarkable improvements in long-range forecasts. But new challenges have arisen, particularly those related to extreme weather events.

India, Nepal partner to advance multilingual AI and digital public infrastructure

New Delhi: BHASHINI's open Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) model has the potential to transform digital access for millions of citizens across South Asia, Amitabh Nag, CEO, Digital India BHASHINI Division, has said.

The Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD) under IT Ministry, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kathmandu University's Centre for Digital Public Infrastructure & Artificial Intelligence (DPI-AI), Nepal, to establish a collaborative framework for advancing Language AI, multilingual digital public infrastructure, and inclusive digital ecosystems across India and Nepal.According to Nag, this collaboration will help us extend that vision beyond India's borders, strengthening our shared linguistic and cultural heritage while building the next generation of multilingual AI for the Global South. The exchange of the MoU took place in the presence of External Affairs Minister (EAM) Dr S. Jaishankar, and Shishir Khanal, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Nepal.The occasion underscored the shared commitment of India and Nepal towards strengthening cooperation in emerging technologies, Digital Public Infrastructure, and inclusive digital transformation.Under the MoU, the two institutions will collaborate on the development of high-quality Nepali language datasets, speech corpora, and multilingual AI resources including speech-to-text, text-to-speech, machine translation, and multilingual conversational AI capabilities. The partnership will also support the preservation and digitisation of linguistic and literary heritage of low-resource and underrepresented languages across the India-Nepal region, ensuring that communities whose languages risk digital extinction have access to AI-enabled tools and services in their mother tongue,

The university under attack, universities undermined



Universities are facing an unprecedented challenge. While in India the challenge has been growing over the last three decades, in the United States, it has erupted since President Donald Trump took office in January 2025. The challenge has been growing elsewhere too as society's expectations from universities are changing. The Trump administration is freezing \$3.2 billion of Harvard University's grants and contracts. There is a move to revoke Harvard's tax-exempt status which will cost it a few hundred million dollars. Harvard's President Alan M. Garber has said that political disagreements could pose an existential threat to educational institutions. Because a cut in funds is being used to coerce universities to change their policies regarding student admissions, protests on campus, faculty recruitment, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programmes.

In India, the control of institutions of higher learning has increasingly slipped out of the hands of academics to the bureaucracies in the Ministries of Education and the University Grants Commission over the last 40 years. Academics in India are facing growing challenges related to teaching and research. The institutions they work in do not come to their defence, as seen in a recent case of a prestigious private university. All this represents a shift in the fine balance in the societal role of institutions of higher learning. The U.S. system was a model to emulate and even that is being dismantled.

There is an inherent tension in the social role of universities. On one side they are required to generate socially relevant knowledge to meet the evolving challenges society faces while on the other, they are expected to reproduce the existing societal structures. To fulfil their creative role, academia requires autonomy. The heart and soul of creativity is what makes societies dynamic. Unfortunately, rulers while paying lip service to this are hollowing it out in practice. Autonomy enables academics to take a long-term view of emerging social challenges, even anticipating them. Given the accelerating pace of change, by the time society becomes aware of the change, it becomes too late to tackle it. For instance, developments in Artificial Intelligence and social media are leading to challenges for employment, the issue of fake news and the nature of war. Autonomy enables current orthodoxy to be challenged and facilitates the generation of new knowledge. Without Galileo challenging the Church our understanding of the universe would not have advanced. Further, dynamism comes when academics who are aware of their own assumptions question them. Academics are a product of a time-consuming process. We do not know how to produce a Mahalanobis. He emerged out of an environment of freedom of thought that a university provides. In a shotgun approach, the system produces original thinkers who change the course of their discipline and give society new leads. The wider the catchment area, the higher the chance of producing excellence. Autonomy is needed all the way down the line. Universities need autonomy from vested interests to shield individual academics who generate new knowledge. Autonomy is not just for a vice chancellor or a director of an institute but it must be embedded in the structure of the institutions to enable the autonomy of functioning to individual academics.

Autonomy enables academics to develop their own view of their discipline which guides their research and teaching and which helps them resist orthodoxy and imposition so that originality flowers. Challenging orthodoxy ought

to be the second nature of academics which includes their own institutions. While that slows down decision making in institutions, it results in more robust decisions. Authorities running these institutions have to accept this and function democratically. Dissent is essential and not a malaise to be eliminated. A bureaucrat or a bureaucratised academic would not understand this and that is why such people are most often not suited to head a university. Challenging orthodoxy produces the tension between 'what universities ought to be' and 'what rulers expect' of them. Heads of institutions of higher learning have to negotiate this tension and academics are better suited for it than those with bureaucratised mindset. Cultivating dissent makes universities anti-establishment while the rulers expect them to promote their agenda and reproduce the existing social relations. A feudal system would not like the birthright of the rulers to be challenged and a capitalist system would want docile labour rather than aware workers who challenge the notion of 'dollar vote' that undermines democracy. The anti-establishment character is anathema to regimes with a narrow agenda and lacking in confidence. They limit autonomy to help push their agenda. They neither need new ideas nor value them, thereby downgrading the role of universities and their social status. This forces academics to become status quoist. Both rapid technical change and marketisation create a mist of the future resulting in short termism and a stultified view of society's future and the past. Complex ideas are neither understood nor valued and are turned into a caricature. An ahistorical view of society is propagated to fit the agenda of the rulers. Existing divides among people are exploited to further a narrow agenda and propagate conservatism by caricaturing an increasingly complex society. 'Democratization' via the Internet is helping the process by propagating instant ideas and opinions so that the imaginary is perceived to be the reality. This helps the rulers push their agenda. The U.S. and China have operated with a long-term agenda which has enabled them to dominate the fast globalising world which is witnessing a rapid evolution of technology and ideas. For this, the U.S. created a huge system of independent universities and research institutes and attracted talent from all over the world. This is now being undermined by the attack on U.S. universities and their faculty. Columbia buckled under pressure but Harvard has stood firm and challenged the government in court. It has received support from academics and over 150 universities. But why are private universities with big endowments dependent on government funding? Education and research are expensive. The faculty of universities need funds for projects across the board — in science and technology, social science and art and culture. Science and technology is crucial for development. But so is the social environment in which it flourishes. Creativity is multi-dimensional and requires a holistic view of research.

Funds for higher education ought to be free of strings to preserve autonomy. Private sector funding tends to be largely linked to the profit motive and affords limited autonomy. The burden then falls on public funding. This has been the case not only in India but also in the U.S. Only a liberal ruling regime can consider providing untied funds. In India, since the private sector spends little on research, public funding is crucial. Post 1991, public funding in India declined in per capita terms and starved institutions of higher education. This has enabled the state to not only curb autonomy but also push its agenda by appointing people of its own proclivity as the heads of these institutions and also allowing them limited autonomy.

The key role of institutions of higher learning is to generate socially relevant knowledge. This requires autonomy to challenge orthodoxy, which makes them appear to be anti-establishment. This is the social tension in their role as reproducers of societal structures and generators of new knowledge. Creeping short termism has led to a simplistic understanding of society and growing conservatism. Often the imaginary masquerades as new knowledge. All this undermines the value of universities in society and they get hollowed out while retaining the façade and none is left to defend their autonomy. This is what Harvard's Dr. Garber pointed to.

of implementing environmental and development policies. Additionally, career workshops and networking events helped build meaningful connections and explore career opportunities. Beyond academics, I work as a Student Research Assistant at the Urban Institute, which has allowed me to collaborate with researchers across different disciplines and engage with urban development issues from a global perspective. It has been an exciting to contribute to discussions about sustainable cities and inclusive urban policies.

Studying here has provided me with numerous opportunities for personal and professional growth. The emphasis on research communication, critical analysis, and report writing has strengthened my confidence in articulating complex ideas effectively. Engaging in workshops, group discussions, and hands-on projects has refined my ability to think independently and present my work with clarity. The city is a vibrant and student-friendly place, offering something to do beyond academics. It fosters a strong sense of community and encourages students to engage in extra-curricular activities, volunteer work and social initiatives. It is not just a place to earn a degree, but a space where one can grow intellectually, gain hands-on experience, and be part of a global network of changemakers.

Three more teams to power India AI mission

New Delhi: After Sarvam AI, India on Friday selected three more teams — Soket AI, Gan AI, Gnani AI — for building indigenous artificial intelligence foundation models.

In line with its global AI ambitions—a comprehensive plan that entails enhanced AI infrastructure and local language model development — India has also announced availability of 16,000 more GPUs that would take the compute facility available to startups and researchers here to 34,000. IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said significant progress has been made in India AI Mission, with focus on democratisation of technology. The compute facility supercharged with 34,000 GPUs will enable India to develop AI ecosystem in a big way, he said. Three more teams — Soket AI, Gan AI, Gnani AI — have been selected for building indigenous artificial intelligence foundation models.

Why is Pollachi sexual assault verdict unique? | Explained



The story so far: On May 13, 2025, a Mahila Court in Coimbatore convicted nine men from Pollachi under Section 376D (gang rape) of the Indian Penal Code and imposed the maximum punishment of imprisonment for the remainder of their life. The court also awarded a compensation of ₹85 lakh to seven victims, including those who had been subjected to sexual assault repeatedly pursuant a conspiracy hatched by the convicts between October 2016 and February 2019. According to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the modus operandi of the convicts was to befriending women before abducting and subjecting them to sexual assault. The prosecution had also charged the gang of recording the sexual acts on video and using those clips to threaten and rape the women repeatedly on different occasions. The 658-page judgement delivered by sessions judge R. Nandhini Devi highlights the challenges faced by the prosecution in proving its case in order to secure a conviction.

Did Victim 'A' exaggerate the offence committed against her?

Victim 'A', a 19-year-old college girl, was the last victim of the convicts before they got arrested in 2019. However, she turned out to be the first to lodge a police complaint on February 24, 2019 leading to the unearthing of their antecedents. According to the prosecution, A1 (28-year-old Rishwanth alias N. Sabarirajan, a civil engineer by profession) had pretended to have fallen in love with the victim, taken her to a place near a poultry farm in a car and abused her sexually by removing her upper garments on February 12, 2019. He also surreptitiously shot half naked pictures of the victim with a mobile phone and used them to threaten her. When she confided about it to her family members after a few days, her elder brother and his friends tracked down the accused as well as his accomplices and found many videos of other women having been subjected to sexual assault by the gang. Therefore, the family decided to lodge a complaint after 12 days since the victim was abused. When victim 'A' deposed before the trial court after six years, she levelled the charge of rape too against A1. However, the CBI Special Public Prosecutor fairly conceded that such an exaggerated claim made by the victim for the first time before the trial court, and not made before any of the four investigating officers or the two judicial magistrates during the course of investigation, need not be given credence. After recording his submission, the court said, it was quite possible that the victim did not want the accused to escape from punishment or imposed with lesser punishment and therefore, she might have chosen to make an exaggerated allegation. Stating that the improved version of the victim could certainly not be accepted by the court, the trial judge said, at the same time, the entire testimony of the victim could not be discarded just because of the exaggerated portion. The principle falsus in uno, falsus in omnibus (false in one thing, false in everything) has no application in Indian courts, she said. "There is a marked difference between exaggerated version and false version," the judge observed and added that it was the duty of the court to sift the chaff from the grain in case of exaggerations or contradictions. Ultimately, the trial court convicted A1 for the charge of outraging the modesty of the victim but acquitted A2 (30-year-old financier K. Thirunavukkarasu) and A5 (28-year-old Mani alias R. Manivannan whose car was used for the crime) from the charges levelled against them for having facilitated the offence against this victim.

What was the goof up in the charge sheets related to Victim B?

Victim 'B' was also a final year college student. She had been brutally gang raped by A1, A2, A3 (29-year-old M. Sathish), A4 (26-year-old T. Vasanthakumar) and A7 (29-year-old Haron alias T. Haronimus Paul) on April 24, 2018 despite being informed that she was menstruating at that point of time. The first charge sheet filed by CBI Inspector Vijayavaishnavi had mentioned the incident to have taken place in April 2018 but the supplementary charge sheet filed by Inspector Pachayammal had mentioned it as November 2018. The SPP told the court the victim had specifically mentioned the occurrence to have taken place only in November 2018 to the second investigating officer but had not mentioned any specific date or month to the first investigat-

ing officer. Nevertheless, it was not known as to how the first investigating officer had mentioned the month as April 2018 in the first charge sheet.

However, relying upon the forensic report regarding the video shot during the gang rape, the trial court concluded that the offence had taken place only in April and not November 2018. It also stated that the victim might have had confusion in recalling the exact month since semester examinations generally take place during April as well as November. The judge also held that the prosecution had failed to prove the use of a black colour car for abducting the victim since it had been purchased by A1 only on August 11, 2018. Nevertheless, the judge convicted all the five accused for gang rape on the basis of the victim's oral testimony corroborated by the electronic evidence.

Why SC/ST Act was not invoked with respect to Victims 'C' and 'E'?

According to the prosecution, Victim 'C' was gang raped by A2, A5 and A6 in September 2018 and Victim 'E', a MBA final year student, was raped by A1 and subjected to criminal intimidation by A2 and A5. Since both the victims belonged to a Scheduled Caste, the defence counsel contended that the entire prosecution launched against them would fall to the ground. The counsel pointed out that only an officer in the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police or above should investigate cases under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act of 1989 and since only officers in the rank of Inspector had investigated the present case, all the charges against the accused must be eschewed. However, rejecting their argument, the trial judge held that the SC/ST Act need not be invoked merely because the victims happened to be from a Scheduled Caste unless there was evidence to prove that the offence had been committed due to caste hatred.

How did A6 get convicted for raping Victims 'D' & 'H' though he was not involved in any sexual act?

The trial court found A2, A3 and A5 to have subjected Victim 'D', a second year college student, to gang rape in October 2018. A6 had waited outside when the crime was committed and then dropped the victim in a car at Pollachi bus stand. Similarly, when eight of the nine accused mercilessly raped Victim 'H', a teacher at a private school, one after the other, A6 alone had refused to indulge in any sexual act despite being asked to do so by A5. Nevertheless, the trial court convicted A6 too for the charge of gang rape of both the victims since he was a part of the gang. Similarly, the court convicted A2 to A4 too for the charge of gang rape of Victim 'G', a beauty parlour employee, though the sexual act against her had been committed only by A1. The trial judge pointed out that the Supreme Court in its latest judgement delivered on May 2, 2025 in Raju alias Umakant versus State of Madhya Pradesh had held that it was not necessary for all the persons in a gang to have indulged in overt sexual acts to be convicted for gang rape. It was sufficient even if one of them had committed the act in pursuance of the common intention among the gang members.

Why didn't Victim 'F' testify in court leading to acquittal of accused?

The prosecution's case was that the nine accused had sexually assaulted as many as eight victims in total. However, one of them (Victim F) did not come forward to testify before the court. According to the prosecution, Victim 'F' was abducted and gang raped by A1, A2, A3, and A7. The victim had written a letter to the trial court expressing her inability to depose before the court due to a situation prevailing in her matrimonial home and the continuous medical treatment required for her new born baby. Therefore, left with no option, the CBI had dispensed with her examination before the court. The court acquitted all four accused from the charge of raping her but held that no adverse inference could be drawn against the prosecution and the CBI could not be found to have deliberately withheld the witness especially when it could not convince her to testify despite best efforts.

How did the court deal with defence arguments?

The defence raised many issues such as non production of the mobile phones of the victims, non collection of CCTV footage to prove abduction from public places, prosecution's failure to secure the clothes worn by the victims at the time of the crime, the non inclination of the victims to undergo medical examination and so on to make a dent in the prosecution case. However, the trial judge rejected all such contentions by observing that in sexual offence cases, the oral evidence of the victims alone was sufficient to convict the accused if such evidence inspires the confidence of the court. "Our jurisprudential enthusiasm for presumed innocence must be moderated by the pragmatic need to make criminal justice potent and realistic... Proof beyond reasonable doubt does not mean proof beyond the shadow of doubt. The law would fail to protect the community if it admitted fanciful possibilities to deflect the

How the diet shapes healthy ageing

Across the world, the population of older adults has increased over time. And over 80% of them suffer from at least one chronic health disorder. The U.S. Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organisation (WHO) point out that promoting global health is a priority. They both point out that a better-quality diet is beneficial for the prevention of heart attacks, diabetes and premature death.

The Mediterranean Diet, much lauded by health researchers as an ideal one, uses plant-based foods — vegetables, fruits, legumes and natural oils, moderate amounts of poultry and eggs — and avoids red meat. People there who practice this diet do live longer and healthier lives. Indeed, a typical food in India, with wheat or rice, dal, sabji with lots of greens, and curd/buttermilk, (and for non-vegetarians: eggs and fish but little or no meat), is essentially Mediterranean.

Towards this, two recent articles highlight the best food that we should take



for healthy ageing. One in the April 3 issue of the journal Nature, titled 'The Best and Worst Foods for Healthy Ageing', points out that people who eat a diet rich in fruits and vegetables are more likely to reach the age of 70 without major physical or cognitive impairments. This article offers the advice that the recommendation to eat plenty of fruits and vegetables is well-founded: a large-scale 30-year study on dietary habits shows that di-

ets high in these foods are associated with healthier ageing. The massive study itself is published in Nature Medicine, titled 'Optimal dietary patterns for healthy ageing'. The message here is 'get more fibre in your diet, eat more vegetables, pulses such as beans, lentils, and eat less fats and animal meat', suggesting that this practice will help senior citizens live a healthier life. In this study, health experts from the U.S., the U.K.,

Canada, and Denmark analysed data from two major studies: the Nurses' Health Study (tracking hospital workers and medical professionals) and the Health Professionals Follow-up Study (examining men's diet and lifestyle linked to serious illnesses such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases). By looking at the records of 70,000 women and 30,000 men, they uncovered key insights into how our eating habits affect our health.

LPG price hike: Despite increase, OMCs incurring under-recovery of Rs 700/cylinder, says government



Despite the hike in price of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) for households from Sunday, public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) continue to absorb under-recoveries of about Rs 700 per 14.2-kg cylinder as the market-linked price of the fuel is over Rs 1,600 per cylinder, the Petroleum Ministry said. It also said that the price of domestic LPG in India continues to be lower than in neighbouring countries as the government and the OMCs have been shielding households from spiralling international prices amid the West Asia crisis.Effective Sunday, the price of LPG for households, or domestic LPG, was hiked by Rs 29 per 14.2-kg cylinder to Rs 942 in Delhi, with corresponding changes in other parts of the country. This is the second revision in LPG prices since the West Asia war began on February 28. On March 7, domestic LPG prices were hiked by Rs 60 per cylinder.

The latest LPG price hike follows increases in the price of other fuels like petrol, diesel, and compressed natural gas (CNG) in recent weeks. The OMCs—Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, and Hindustan Petroleum—are grappling with financial strain as they have been selling consumer fuels below market price. Like in the case of domestic LPG, the companies continue to incur losses on the sales of petrol and diesel, despite the recent price hikes.“The prices of petroleum products in India are linked to the corresponding prices in the international market. The Government, however, continues to modulate the effective price to the consumer for domestic LPG. Any household can buy as many cylinders as it needs at Rs 942. A PMUY (Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana) beneficiary will additionally receive the direct benefit transfer of Rs 300 a cylinder on the first four refills each year (down from nine a year) ...and so pays an effective Rs 642 on those refills; this support is unchanged. Even a non-PMUY household would pay about Rs 700 below the market-linked cost of the cylinder,” the Petroleum Ministry said Sunday.

There are over 33 crore households with domestic LPG connections, including 10.6 crore households that avail under the PMUY, which provides an additional subsidy of Rs 300 per cylinder.The international LPG price benchmark—Saudi Contract Price (CP)—has risen sharply through the West Asia crisis. It has gone up to \$790 per tonne in June from \$542.50 in February, marking an increase of about 46%. India depends on imports to meet about 60% of its LPG consumption, and 90% of those imports came via the

West Asia conflict: Spot market gas purchases by power plants jump over 300%

Spot market gas purchases, power plants Spot market gas purchases, Spot market gas purchases by power plants jump, US-Israel war on Iran, LPG supply disruptions, LPG shortage, oil supply, LPG supply, LPG supply crisis, LPG crisis, empty lpg cylinders, LPG distribution supply crisis, LPG distribution, LPG crisis, global energy costs, cooking gas price, west asia war, Israel-US-Iran war, Iran conflict, west asia conflict, iran and israel war, iran and israel, us israel war, war in iran, iran us, us israel iran, us israel, us iran war, iran us war, us war, israel news, israel iran war news, war news, israel iran news, israel war news, iran war news, war on iran, iran israel war today, war in iran and israel, iran attack israel, israel iran, israel us attack iran, attack on iran, iran attack on us, us and iran, us attack in iran, did iran attack us, us to attack iran, us and israel, us and israel attack iran, us attack iran today, us iran news, iran us news, us news, iran attack news, iran attack today, Khamenei newsThe purchase from the spot market further increased to 28,99,900 MMBtu from May 1 to May 26, compared with 5,88,550 MMBtu during the corresponding period last year, marking a nearly five-fold increase of 392.7%.

With Iran war hitting the imports under long-term contracts, gas-based power generators in India have sharply jacked up natural gas purchases from the spot-market this summer to fill the void.Between April 1 and May 26, power-sector entities purchased 44,67,850 million Metric Million British Thermal Units (MMBTU) of natural gas from the spot market.This was 336.5% higher than the corresponding period in 2025, more than double the volume purchased in 2024, and nearly 140 times the level recorded in 2023.Data released by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) shows that none of the country's 16 gigawatts (GW) of gas-grid connected capacity received imported LNG under long-term arrangements in April. Domestic gas availability also remained constrained.Although 30.18 million standard cubic metres per day (MMSCMD) of domestic gas was allotted to this 16 GW of gas-grid connected capacity, actual supply in April stood at just 4.33 MMSCMD.

Most of this was supplied to state government owned generating stations, while private-sector plants received only 1.07 MMSCMD, all of it supplied to a single gas-based power station. Conflict in West Asia has cast a shadow over availability of gas for the country's gas-based power plants with the government deciding to prioritise certain sectors during the shortage.While gas accounts for only a small share in India's overall generation mix, it plays a crucial rebalancing role during evening peak hours, especially during summer, when solar output drops. Typically, around 10 GW of gas-fired capacity is relied upon during peak summer — making any disruption a significant gap that needs to be filled.

Despite a sharp rise in imported LNG prices, spot-market purchases by gas-based generators reached the highest levels in recent years during April and May, data provided by Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) — the country's leading gas-trading bourse — shows.In April, power sector companies purchased 15,67,950 MMBtu of natural gas, a year-on-year increase of 260.5% from 435000 MMBtu in April 2025. The sharp increase came against the backdrop of a significant shift in fuel sourcing. In April 2025, gas-based power plants met nearly 38% of their LNG requirement through imports under long-term contracts, alongside spot-market purchases. The absence of imported LNG under long term contracts was also reflected in lower utilisation levelsThe Plant Load Factor (PLF) — a measure of actual generation as a percentage of installed capacity — of the country's 16 GW of gas-grid connected capacity stood at 11% in April, down from 15.3% in the same month last year.

Strait of Hormuz, where maritime traffic has been effectively halted since early March. The strait's closure has led to a surge in international oil and fuel prices as the waterway accounted for a fifth of global crude oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) flows.“The commercial cylinder used by hotels and businesses is revised automatically every month, because its price is a direct pass-through of the international benchmark. The domestic cooking cylinder is not. India used to import 60 per cent of its LPG requirements, and the landed cost of that import tracks the Saudi Contract Price (CP) that Saudi Aramco sets at the start of each month. This is an external price over which the Indian consumer has no control,” the Petroleum Ministry said.

Under-recovery is the gap between the international price of LPG and the regulated retail price in the country. It is absorbed by the OMCs and compensated partly by the government. The cumulative under-recovery on LPG in 2025-26 (FY26) was Rs 60,000 crore, up from Rs 41,338 crore in FY25. In August of last year, the government approved Rs 30,000 crore in budgetary support to the OMCs to partly offset their losses on domestic LPG sales.

“The under-recovery now absorbed on each domestic cylinder is about Rs 700. The scale of this is visible in the fully market-priced commercial cylinder: the 19 kg cylinder used by hotels and restaurants sells in Delhi at ₹3,113.50, about ₹164 a kg, after five increases during the West Asia crisis. The domestic household, by contrast, pays about ₹66 a kg after the revision. Commercial gas carries a higher rate of tax and larger margins, so it sits above the household's cost-reflective level; even so, the import-linked cost of a domestic cylinder works out to over Rs 1,600,” it added.According to the Petroleum Ministry, domestic LPG prices in India are lower when compared to neighbouring countries like Pakistan (Rs 1,046 per cylinder), Nepal (Rs 1,207), Bangladesh (around Rs 1,225), and Sri Lanka (Rs 1,241). In the developed world, LPG prices have shot up even further—for instance about Rs 1,755 in the US, around Rs 1,765 in Australia, and about Rs 2,411 in Canada—as per the government.

The Strait of Hormuz disruption has forced India to ration LPG supplies to industrial and commercial consumers in a bid to prioritise crores of households that depend on the fuel to run their kitchens. As a demand management tool, the minimum gap between LPG refill bookings by households has also been increased. India's LPG consumption stood at about 90,000 tonnes a day before the war. But with the disruption in flows through the Strait of Hormuz and seasonal dip in demand, LPG consumption has declined to about 72,000 tonnes a day, according to recent estimates.Moreover, domestic refineries have been maximising domestic LPG production to partly offset the loss in imports, and refiners are scrambling for LPG cargoes from alternative geographies like the US, Australia, and Russia, among others. Through diplomatic efforts, India has also managed to get a number of its LPG tankers stuck in the Persian Gulf. Domestic LPG production currently stands at about 50,000-52,000 tonnes a day, which is meeting 70% of the domestic demand, up from 40% before the war.



The purchase from the spot market further increased to 28,99,900 MMBtu from May 1 to May 26, compared with 5,88,550 MMBtu during the corresponding period last year, marking a nearly five-fold increase of 392.7%.

The rise in purchases came despite a sharp increase in spot-market gas prices amid supply disruptions due to the conflict in West Asia. The average spot gas price stood at Rs 1,606 per MMBtu in April, up 43.5% from Rs 1,119 per MMBtu a year earlier. Prices rose further to Rs 1,856 per MMBtu in May, a jump of 77.4% over Rs 1,046 per MMBtu in May last year.Struggling gas plants

Power generated from gas-based units is typically more expensive than coal and renewable energy. However, due to their flexibility, they are generally used during high-demand periods to meet evening peak demand.In the past, the government has invoked emergency measures to ensure utilities operate both gas and coal plants at full capacity when soaring temperatures push electricity consumption to record levels.However, the utilisation of India's gas-based power plants has been steadily declining, largely due to high fuel costs.

Mcap of 7 of top-10 most valued firms erodes by Rs 1.25 lakh cr

New Delhi: The combined market valuation of seven of the top-10 most-valued firms eroded by Rs 1.25 lakh crore last week, with Reliance Industries taking the biggest hit, in-line with a bearish trend in equities.

Last week, the BSE benchmark Sensex declined 532.4 points, or 0.71 per cent, and the NSE Nifty dipped 181.05 points, or 0.76 per cent.“Persistent FII selling remained the key drag on market sentiment despite supportive developments such as cooling crude oil prices and a recovery in the rupee against the US dollar. Concerns regarding the pace of monsoon advancement also weighed on investor confidence,” Santosh Meena, Head of Research at Swastika Investmart Ltd, said.From the top-10 pack, Reliance Industries, Bharti Airtel, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Bajaj Finance, Larsen & Toubro, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and Hindustan Unilever faced erosion from their valuation, while HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, and State Bank of India were the gainers.The market valuation of Reliance Industries dropped Rs 39,718 crore to Rs 17,47,321.40 crore.TCS faced an erosion of Rs 20,134.66 crore from its valuation, which stood at Rs 7,95,346.09 crore.Bharti Airtel's market valuation dived Rs 18,736.04 crore to Rs 10,96,150.49 crore and that of Larsen & Toubro tumbled Rs 16,880.2 crore to Rs 5,43,956.44 crore.

Why do sad songs feel heavier and more overwhelming when you’re already upset?



Most people have felt it: you're already low, a sad song comes on, and suddenly the emotions feel bigger, deeper, almost impossible to contain. What might have sounded simply melancholic on a normal day now feels intensely personal—as if the music is speaking directly to your inner state.Psychiatrists say this reaction is not coincidental. Music and emotion share deep neurological pathways, which is why songs can amplify whatever we're already feeling.

According to Anitha Chandra, Consultant–Psychiatry at Aster CMI Hospital, Bengaluru, emotional vulnerability lowers the mind's ability to regulate feelings in the moment. “When an emotionally vulnerable person listens to a very sad or emotional song, it feels overwhelming because their mind is already full of strong feelings, and the music acts like a trigger that opens those emotions even more deeply, making them feel everything at once,” she explains.

Ankur Warikoo will fire anyone who creates urgency at work, but can your job actually function without it?

“If someone creates urgency in my company, they are fired the next day.” That is entrepreneur and content creator Ankur Warikoo's rule when it comes to workplace culture.Speaking on the KaashSeAkash Podcast, Warikoo argued that most workplace emergencies are self-created.“Kuch urgent nahi hai. Kisi ki zindagi mein kuch nahi fatega agar humara video kal nahi gaya... agar humara course kal launch nahi hua. Sabki zindagi waisi hi chalti rahegi (Nothing is urgent. Even if our video goes live tomorrow or the course launches later, nobody's life will be affected),” he said, explaining that his company consciously avoids inflating its own importance.Warikoo's comments struck a chord with many professionals online who pointed out that late-night emails, “urgent” requests during leave and a constant sense of panic around routine tasks are common experiences in the corporate world.For many professionals, the word “urgent” has slowly lost its meaning. What was once reserved for genuine emergencies now appears on everything from presentation decks to routine follow-up emails.But is Warikoo asking workplaces to throw urgency out of the window altogether? Is that even possible? Or is it an oversimplification of an ideal workplace?When urgency becomes the defaultWhile many internet users instantly gave Warikoo's stance the green light, some questioned whether businesses can really function without urgency.

“I think there's a clear difference between panic and urgency,” Diva Bhansali, founder of DBound Media, tells indianexpress.com.According to Bhansali, Warikoo's approach may work well for creator-led businesses where audiences can wait a day or two for content, but industries such as communications, public relations and brand management often operate in real time.“We live in a world where news, conversations, and public perception move in real time, and if a brand doesn't tell its story quickly, someone else often will,” says the entrepreneur.At the same time, she agrees that urgency should not come at the cost of a healthy work culture.“The best teams are disciplined and responsive without operating in a constant state of alarm. Clients hire agencies and communication partners to maintain consistency, reliability and timely execution, so while panic is counterproductive, responsiveness and speed of

Music does not just entertain; it activates memory, mood, and bodily sensations. Certain melodies or lyrics can pull up stored emotional experiences with surprising clarity. “Music connects directly to memory and emotion in the brain, so it can bring back past moments, fears, losses, or changes very clearly, almost like reliving them,” Dr Chandra says. When someone is already upset, this recall becomes more intense because the brain is primed to focus on emotionally similar material.That's why sad songs can feel less like background sound and more like an emotional mirror. Instead of processing one feeling at a time, the brain layers personal sadness with the mood of the music. “When someone is already sensitive, their emotional control is lower, so the sadness in the song blends with their own thoughts and creates a powerful wave of feelings,” she adds. The result may be tears, a heaviness in the chest, or the sensation of being emotionally flooded.Interestingly, this overwhelm isn't always harmful. For some people, leaning into sad music can act as a safe emotional release—a way to process feelings that were already present. Crying or sitting with intense emotion can provide relief once the wave passes. The key difference lies in awareness: if the music deepens reflection and release, it can be cathartic; if it traps someone in rumination, it may worsen distress.In simple terms, sad music hits harder when you're already upset because your emotional system is wide open. The song becomes a catalyst, intensifying what's already there. Understanding this connection helps explain why certain tracks feel almost too powerful—and why choosing what to listen to can shape how we ride emotional moments.



execution remain essential.”For professionals working in communications and reputation management, that distinction becomes even more important.“You cannot look at Ankur Warikoo's perspective in isolation,” says Aakanksha Gupta, founder and CEO of The Other Circle.“Urgency isn't a universal villain. In PR and communications, a crisis doesn't wait for business hours, and a missed window in the press can cost a brand months of reputation work.”According to Gupta, the real skill lies not in eliminating urgency altogether but in distinguishing genuine pressure from manufactured panic.“We don't need to create chaos. But we do need to stay sharp enough to pre-empt it.”Not all urgency is created equalFor Karthik, a growth strategy manager, that distinction is exactly what many workplaces get wrong.“Warikoo said something that needs to be said more often. He's completely right. False urgency isn't work ethic. It's a control mechanism. Mediocre leaders manufacture pressure to feel relevant. The team pays for it — morale, quality and trust.”He believes leaders often confuse movement with progress, creating pressure around tasks that carry little real-world consequence if delayed.“A surgeon missing a window is urgency. A cardiac monitor flatlining is urgency. A video going live Tuesday instead of Monday? A calendar preference.”Maybe that is why Warikoo's comments have resonated with so many people. Not because workplaces don't need urgency, but because many employees can instantly think of a task that was labelled “urgent” — only to be forgotten about a day later.

Can you eat UP’s famous dahi-jalebi combo daily for breakfast? Nutritionist answers



Whether you are strolling through the colourful lanes of Varanasi, or taking a dip in Prayagraj, one breakfast staple that you'll come across in many Uttar Pradesh cities is the unusual combination of dahi-jalebi. Many shops start settling in even before sunrise, frying sugary jalebis, ready to be dunked in curd. The two delicacies are completely opposite in almost every aspect — temperature, taste, and texture. While the breakfast is a “must-try” indulgence, does it qualify a nutritionist's test for a breakfast staple?Dahi jalebi may look like a simple, comforting breakfast on Uttar Pradesh streets, but nutritionally it is a mix of a high-sugar, deep-fried sweet and a protein-calcium-rich dairy food. A typical plate pairs 1-2 jalebis with a katori of full-fat dahi, delivering a quick energy rush, moderate protein, and a fair amount of fat.

Nutritional breakdownNutritionist Rhea Sharma estimates that 100 g of jalebi provides around 270-300 kcal, 60-70 g of carbohydrates (mostly sugar), 4-5 g of fat, and minimal protein. In contrast, 100 g of plain dahi offers about 60-100 kcal, 3-4 g of protein, 3-4 g of fat, and 4-5 g of carbohydrates, along with calcium in the range of 80-130 mg. Put together, a modest breakfast of 75-100 g jalebi plus 100 g dahi can easily cross 350-400 kcal, with sugar making up the bulk of the energy.

Dahi brings protein, calcium, and beneficial bacteria to the plate, making the meal more satiating and slightly better balanced than jalebi alone. “Curd provides protein and calcium that support bone health and muscle recovery, which is why many people feel it 'settles' the stomach after a heavy or spicy meal,” says Sharma. The fat and protein

in curd also help slow down the absorption of sugar from the jalebi, potentially blunting extreme sugar spikes to some extent.From a metabolic lens, jalebi remains the dominant player. “Even with curd on the side, jalebi is still a deep-fried, sugar-dense food, so frequent breakfast portions can add up in terms of calories and triglycerides,” cautions Sharma. The combination is especially concerning for people with diabetes, insulin resistance, or high cholesterol, who are advised to reserve such meals for rare indulgence and keep portions small.Sharma suggests a few tweaks: opt for a smaller serving of jalebi, increase the portion of plain, unsweetened dahi, and avoid adding extra sugar on top. Pairing dahi-jalebi with some protein or fiber later in the morning, such as nuts or fruit, can also help balance the day's overall nutrient profile.

Vikrant Massey says cycling can transform health and help save the environment

Mumbai: On the occasion of World Bicycle Day, actor Vikrant Massey has highlighted the importance of cycling as a simple yet effective solution to rising pollution and health concerns.Speaking exclusively to IANS, the ‘Chhapaak’ actor emphasized that adopting cycling not only helps reduce carbon emissions but also promotes a healthier lifestyle.

Vikrant encouraged, especially the younger generation, to embrace it as a daily habit. He shared, “If we ride a cycle, there will be no pollution. And that is the solution to our pollution. Your health will also improve. The government is also incentivizing it.”

He added, “If we ride a bicycle, carbon emissions will be reduced. Health will also improve. So, I hope for this movement, especially the younger generation. Today, the youngest rider we have is a 20-month-old boy. He is not even 2 years old, but he is trying to ride a cycle. He is pedaling. It's a wonderful thing.”

Erling Haaland follows father Alf-Inge into World Cup: ‘Weird, but love his hair’



GNS News Agency, June 12

32 years after his father Alf-Inge Haaland played at 1994 World Cup, 25-year-old Erling, the flexible giant of Man City, will be in North America and Mexico – playing his first quadrennial. Being at the World Cup is not as common an occurrence for the Scandinavian nation who have only been there three times – 1938, 1994, 1998. It was in that 1994 edition where Sr Haaland was part of the squad. Nowhere near close to what Martin Odegaard, Jr Haaland and Atletico forward Alexander Sorloth bring to the team, the 1994 iteration with a Haaland has disappeared without a trace. Erling’s Norway however have singularly driven out Italy during the 2026 qualification, as the Azzurri never recovered from that early blow. In a FIFA reel shot ahead of the 2026 edition, Erling is handed a picture of his father Alf-Inge from 7 years before he was even born. “He looks so young. So weird to see him. I was thinking it was something like this,” he says ahead of his debut, adding, “It’s a bit weird to have a father who played the World Cup.”

Suryakumar’s touching note for Shreyas: ‘Boys will respond to your ideas’



GNS News Agency, June 12

Suryakumar Yadav may have lost captaincy of the Indian T20I team, and possibly his place in the side as well, on Saturday but seemed to have no qualms in congratulating Shreyas Iyer, with whom he has shared dressing rooms in domestic cricket for many a year, and wishing 15-year-old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi well ahead of India’s tours of Ireland and England. Suryakumar’s time as India captain came to an end on Friday with chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar and BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia announcing Iyer as the new incumbent in a role. “Very happy that a Mumbaikar is going to lead in T20I. Wishing you all the luck. Boys are super amazing. They will definitely respond well to your ideas,” said Suryakumar in a post on his Instagram stories along with a pic of him hugging Iyer.

What strikes him the most in the photograph handed to him is Alf-Inge’s longish locks. “Never seen him with this long hair in my life. It’s a good photo. Wish he had hair a bit longer now as well,” he laughs. The 53-year-old who went by the name Alf-Inge Rasdal Haaland played as a right back or midfielder for Norway, besides Man City, Nottingham Forest and Leeds in the premiership in the 1990s. Starting at Forest, he was part of the Leeds squad that made UEFA semis. He met Gry Marita Braut, a heptathlete, during his Nottingham stint, and Erling was his youngest of three children. He had copped a penalty for standing beside an injured Roy Keane hinting he was faking an ACL crisis in 1997. When he joined Man City, Keane tackled him viciously kicking him on his right knee three years later, and was sent off promptly for what in his autobiography was described as a “deliberate act” as revenge. “I really dislike United and I can’t stand their players,” Alf-Inge told Irish Independent. He however clarified that his subsequent long term injury on the left knee was not due to Keane. It did however seem to decide why Erling followed tradition to play at City. Senior had scored a goal against run of play in 1997 against Liverpool at Anfield, and had almost a mirror goal scored by Erling for Salzburg in 2019.

Man City was his last stint in England, after which he took a break for 8 years to tend to his injuries, and returned to play for Rosseland in Norway third division, before retiring in 2013. Speaking of the 1994 World Cup photograph, Erling would recall, “I’ve seen this shirt at home. No 18, at our house,” he would say of the white jersey with Viking horns in national colours on the side, and a typically merry vibe. When asked if his father would bring the US to watch him, Erling would tell FIFA, “Everyone’s coming. It’s gonna be a nice gathering, a nice experience.”

Suryakumar earlier also wished the Indian team that was announced all the best and reserved special words of praise for Sooryavanshi, who is the youngest to have been called up to the Indian men’s team in any format. “You have earned it and how. Super excited to follow your journey,” said Suryakumar. Suryakumar Yadav posted a series of stories on his Instagram handle after Saturday’s team announcement. (Source: Suryakumar Yadav Instagram) Suryakumar Yadav posted a series of stories on his Instagram handle after Saturday’s team announcement. (Source: Suryakumar Yadav Instagram) Saturday’s announcement was an extraordinary one – although Suryakumar has been struggling to replicate the kind of form that made him the best T20 batter in the world before he became captain in late 2024, his last act as captain was leading India to the 2024 T20 World Cup title. Moreover, Iyer’s last T20 match for India was in December 2023. While Iyer wasn’t known for being a big-hitter at the time, a lot has changed since. He led Kolkata Knight Riders to the IPL title in 2024 and then changed his game entirely to become one of the most destructive batters in the league after moving to Punjab Kings and becoming their captain the next season. If this is the end of the line for Suryakumar Yadav in international cricket, it brings the curtains down on one of the greatest ever careers for India in T20Is. SKY has scored 3272 runs in 113 T20Is at a strike rate of 162.98 and average of 36.35 with four centuries and 25 half-centuries. He is India’s third highest run scorer in the format, only behind Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma.

When India’s badminton stars turn into football fans during FIFA World Cup



GNS News Agency, June 12

Ayush Shetty names Argentina as his favourite FIFA World Cup team, but the youngster is hedging heavily on dark horses, Spain. At her home, PV Sindhu has a Portugal vs Germany rivalry going with her sports-loving husband Venkata Datta Sai, ahead of the World Cup in Mexico, USA and Canada. HS Prannoy’s favourite World Cup memory would be watching football when he was young: “Watching The Brazilian Ronaldo do his magic inside the box.” Former All England champ Pullela Gopichand digs Argentina and Messi magic too, and watched the 2006 World Cup LIVE in Germany, as a nation shrugged off its past, opening up to the world. Game recognises game, goes the saying when athletes identify with exceptional moments in sport – even another sport. But the FIFA World Cup can leave the biggest athletes in their own sport, dealing in superlatives, like crazed happy fans whose moods are regulated for one month in four years by a different sport than their own.

Prannoy grew up watching videotapes of Taufiq Hidayat and his backhand that his father procured from Singapore. But the proclivity for flair would also come from the sport the 33-year-old watched on grainy television. “I used to love the Brazil team. Ronaldo, Rivaldo, Roberto Carlos,” he says, even though he has since pivoted to the Argentina-Messi fandom. The Argentines with their talisman Messi has followers in Ayush, Ajay Jayram and MR Arjun. FIFA loyalties tend to be fluid, and more genuine – sport watched as a neutral with no binding obligations. “Favourite is Argentina. But I would want Argentina or England to win. Has always been that way,” Arjun says. Falklands veterans or those who were invested in the 1986 quarterfinals as partisans, would never understand this straddling sentiment. “Been liking the England team since the Steven Gerrard time. Love that guy. Gerrard,” he says.

Set to follow the World Cup with some melancholy but also as a flip side to the Messi devotees is Parupalli Kashyap. “Italy was my fav always. Unfortunately not qualified,” he explains the underlying glumness. “1994 was my first World Cup experience. Baggio missing the penalty and Romario and his brilliance. From then on I’ve followed every edition,” he says. He adds that Cristiano Ronaldo is probably due a stab at winning the whole thing. “Would want Cristiano to win with Portugal. Cause Messi won it. Bruno Fernandes too was outstanding this year so ya. Portugal this time.”

You might be entirely professorial about sport, but can still be driven by whimsy when it comes to football fandom. “I like Portugal’s jersey & colours. 1994 I liked blue so I liked Italy always. 2006 madness between Zidane and Materazzi was the most crazy stuff I’ve seen. Big Zidane fan,” Kashyap concludes. The perks of neutrality – you can really appreciate both teams. For senior coach Vimal Kumar who has passionately followed World Cups for over 50 years through his school and college days in the mid-1970s and early 1980s, his playing years would coincide with the ebbs and flow of his favourite football team – Brazil.

“Back then, Brazil were always among the favourites, but they left me heartbroken in both 1978 and 1982,” he recalls. “The legendary Socrates and Zico were my heroes, and the flair, creativity and joy with which Brazil played made them everyone’s favourite second team.” During the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, Vimal was attending the Asian Games training camp in Patiala, where chief coach, Mr Puri, permitted them to stay up and watch the matches. Syed Modi, Uday Pawar, Sanat Mishra, Leroy D’Sa would sit together late into the night, glued to the television. “Those were truly magical times – no smartphones, no social media, just a group of young athletes sharing the excitement, tension and drama of the World Cup,” he remembers. Then came the heartbreak yet again. Brazil lost to France 4-3 on penalties in the quarterfinals. “I was absolutely devastated. I still remember Michel Platini and that wonderful French team. In fact, I was so disappointed that I didn’t feel like training for the next two days!” Thankfully, Brazil finally gave me a moment of pure joy when they lifted the World Cup in 1994. After years of disappointment, that victory felt particularly sweet,” Vimal says who now roots for Messi. From Socrates and Zico, to Maradona, and now Messi – for five decades, football has been around alongside badminton. “The World Cup has given me memories of friendship, passion, heartbreak, celebration and inspiration. Even today, whenever the tournament comes around, I feel the same excitement I felt as a young student eagerly waiting for the next match to begin,” Vimal would say. Junes are for dribbles and dazzles in a sport, other than their own.

EAGLE Force nabs ganja suppliers, consumers in Hyd

Hyderabad: The Telangana government’s EAGLE Force apprehended two suppliers and 13 consumers following multiple complaints over consumption of ganja and causing nuisance at various places in the city.

The Elite Action Group for Drug Law Enforcement (EAGLE) Force said in a release on Saturday that an operation was conducted at the Public Gardens here, close to the legislature complex, where groups of youth were consuming ganja.

How FIFA turned the World Cup into a rich man’s game



The fact that the global body of football would capitalise on a World Cup being held on North American soil was never in doubt. But it is the varying layers of costs, added across different mediums, that have turned the 2026 World Cup across the USA, Mexico and Canada into an event where the best matches have simply become unaffordable to a significant group of fans.

For long, events have priced their tickets at a set value. People have purchased those tickets at that value and, based on demand, sold them at higher prices on secondary platforms and made a profit. Dynamic pricing essentially attempts to remove that secondary retail market by basing ticket prices on demand and supply. Dynamic pricing is a part of everyday life. The Rapido bike you book works on the same principle. The cost of a ride goes up during the rainy season or peak traffic, but drops during lunch hour. Sometimes the customer benefits, sometimes the service provider benefits – but the middleman market-place benefits all the time.

What FIFA did, though, was to create a marketplace for reselling tickets, and then decided to charge 15% from both the seller and the buyer, ensuring that regardless of demand or supply, they profit from it. “An authorized resale market enables the seller to control the exchange and charge commissions and is the seller’s best revenue-maximizing mechanism. That is the core economic logic behind FIFA’s resale platform,” Pnina Feldman, an associate professor from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia, told ESPN.

According to Ticketdata.com, the cheapest ticket available was for a Cape Verde vs Saudi Arabia Group H fixture at the Reliant Stadium in Texas, with prices hovering around the \$160-170 mark. But the real issue with dynamic pricing

FIFA allows water bottles again at World Cup 2026, but with riders

Days after banning water bottles at World Cup 2026 games, FIFA on Saturday (June 6, 2026) allowed spectators to bring along one disposable bottle each to matches in the United States and Canada. The adjusted policy comes with certain riders, as hard-sided, reusable water bottles remain disallowed. In a social media post, the global governing body said supporters will be permitted to bring one soft, plastic, 20-ounce (590 millilitre), factory-sealed, disposable water bottle into any match being held in the USA or Canada. FIFA’s chief operating officer Heimo Schirgi conveyed the announcement in a video message, citing “safety and security reasons” for barring reusable bottles. All fans will be permitted to bring in one, soft, plastic, 20 ounces (590ml), factory sealed disposable water bottle into any FIFA World Cup 2026 match in the USA and Canada. FIFA’s stadium rules had originally stated that fans could bring in a transparent, reusable bottle up to one litre, or 33.8 ounces capacity. But on Thursday, the “stadium code of conduct” update was lambasted by an English fan group, which suggested FIFA had given assurances on carrying empty plastic bottles to fill with freely available water.

The tournament is set to be played in the North American summer for the first time since 1994. Climate researchers have warned that temperatures at 14 of the 16 World Cup sites are likely to exceed dangerous levels, and the



world football body has responded to the heat safety concerns by bringing in a three-minute hydration break in each half for all matches. “FIFA is committed to protecting the health and safety of all players, referees, fans, volunteers, and staff,” a FIFA statement had read. The quadrennial showpiece, which will be held between June 11 and July 19, is already under the scanner for unprecedentedly high ticket prices. FIFA raised its top ticket price for the final to USD 10,990, months after setting it at USD 8,680 following the tournament draw in December. For context, prices were set between USD 70 and USD 1,600 in the 2022 World Cup.

Mission T20 World Cup 2028: India selectors shift from reputations to promise



India haven’t merely replaced Suryakumar Yadav with Shreyas Iyer as captain. They have broadened the player pool, invested in youth and begun the process of building towards the next T20 World Cup

GNS News Agency, June 12

Less than three months after lifting the T20 World Cup, India have already begun turning the page. The squads announced for the Ireland and England series on Saturday reflected a sweeping reset rather than minor tinkering – a World Cup-winning captain discarded, a 15-year-old fast-tracked into the senior setup and a new leadership group entrusted with taking the team into its next cycle. In their place come a new captain in Shreyas Iyer, a new vice-captain in Tilak Varma, teen sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and a crop of new names that includes Prince Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi and Nitish Kumar Reddy.

Jasprit Bumrah has not been selected for these tours, but has been picked for the Asian Games in Japan in September. Chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar admitted that the decision to move on from Surya was not easy. “It’s a tough one, having just won the World Cup. Partly his (Surya’s) own form, but also looking at the next two-year cycle or a little bit more than two years now till the next World Cup. We thought this was the best way forward,” Agarkar said in the press conference on Saturday.

The decision marks a remarkable turnaround for Surya, who was at the centre of celebrations when India lifted the trophy in March, but now finds himself out of the T20 setup. While the leadership change has grabbed the headlines, the promotion of Tilak Varma to vice-captaincy perhaps offers a bigger clue to India’s long-term thinking. The left-hander is only 23, but is already a key member of India’s white-ball plans. By making him the deputy at such a young age, the selectors have signalled that he will be central to India’s plans for the next T20 cycle.

The most eye-catching addition, though, is Sooryavanshi. The 15-year-old became one of the stories of IPL 2026 with his fearless batting and now finds himself in the senior national team. Agarkar suggested the teenager had made selection unavoidable. “He’s almost forced us to pick him with how well he’s played. I know his age and how early he is in his career. But we can all see what kind of talent he has,” he said. For Sooryavanshi, the call-up caps a rise that has been almost unprecedented in Indian cricket. The teenager made his first-class debut in January 2024 and will now rub shoulders with international stars. Alongside Sooryavanshi, uncapped pacer Prince Yadav represents another example of domestic and IPL performances being rewarded. “We saw him (Prince) in the Vijay Hazare Trophy and he looked impressive. He can move the ball, bowls towards the end of the innings. He kind of fits everything in white-ball cricket,” Agarkar said.

If Sooryavanshi’s selection points towards the future, Pandya’s omission underlines how quickly things can change in T20 cricket. The all-rounder was India’s vice-captain when they won the 2024 T20 World Cup and one of the team’s most influential players, but now finds himself outside the squad as selectors explore alternative options. “Hardik is one of our best white-ball players. It also gives us an opportunity to give someone like Nitish Reddy a few opportunities with T20 cricket. So, there will be a little bit of a separation with regards to T20. But the main objective is to see if he (Pandya) can start playing well and stay healthy with 50-over cricket,” Agarkar said. There are notable continuities, too. Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson, Ishan Kishan, Shivam Dube, Axar Patel, Varun Chakravarthy, Arshdeep Singh, Mohammed Siraj and Washington Sundar all remain part of the setup. Yet the overall message from Saturday’s selections was unmistakable. India haven’t merely replaced one captain with another. They have broadened the player pool, invested in youth and started the process of building towards the next T20 World Cup.

Squads for Ireland and England series: Shreyas Iyer (C), Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson (WK), Ishan Kishan (WK), Shivam Dube, Tilak Varma (VC), Nitish Kumar Reddy, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Varun Chakravarthy, Ravi Bishnoi, Mohd. Siraj, Harshit Rana, Arshdeep Singh, Prince Yadav, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi. Squad for 2026 Asian Games: Shreyas Iyer (C), Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson (WK), Ishan Kishan (WK), Shivam Dube, Tilak Varma (VC), Nitish Kumar Reddy, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Varun Chakravarthy, Ravi Bishnoi, Jasprit Bumrah, Harshit Rana, Arshdeep Singh, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi.

Dimple Hayathi, Ashika defend Janhvi Kapoor amid Peddi backlash: ‘Blame the system’



The controversy around Janhvi Kapoor's portrayal in Peddi has been building since the film's first show on Thursday. By Saturday, it had pulled in voices from within the Telugu film industry itself, sharing their two cents on the issue. 'Blame the system, not the actress' Dimple Hayathi, who has appeared in Telugu films, many with actor Ravi Teja, posted one of the most detailed and direct responses to emerge from within the industry on X. "I'm so glad today on this day we all are speaking about how actresses roles are being written and the instinctive response to blame actress after doing what she was offered," she wrote. "Don't blame the actress. Blame the system and makers who really think that's what sells."

She went further, describing the structural conditions that define what is available to actresses trying to build careers in the industry. "We actors get to work within the opportunities what we get trying to make it big and hoping we would be working in bigger films and reach wider audiences. If the characters are underwritten the responsibility lies more with writing and filmmaking choices than the woman playing the role."

Hayathi also addressed how actresses are reduced to the characters they play, regardless of what they are actually capable of. "Unfortunately we are stereotyped by image which and how things unfold with characters that we play without getting the opportunity to showcase our full potential to perform, whereas when the hero centered stories takeover the liberty to project." I'm so glad today on this day we all are speaking about how actresses roles are being written and the instinctive response to blame actress

after doing what she was offered ,dont blame the actress blame the system and makers who really think that's what sells .. and we actors get...Ashika Ranganath, a Kannada actress who has appeared in several Telugu productions, posted a statement that covered similar ground in fewer words. "Don't blame the actress. Blame the system and the makers who still think this is what sells. Actors often work within the opportunities available to them, hoping to be part of bigger films and reach wider audiences," she wrote. Anasuya Bharadwaj, actress and former host of ETV's Jabardasth, took a different line. In a detailed multi-slide post on Instagram on Saturday, she argued, "Cinema has always reflected society but i do not believe it should be burdened with sole responsibility of raising or educating it." She acknowledged that films are powerful and influence behaviour, perceptions and conversations, but said the responsibility for distinguishing right from wrong also lies with audiences, families and broader social structures.

She clarified she was not calling for censorship or moral policing, but for a more thoughtful, shared awareness between creators and audiences. She also reflected on her own career, writing that speaking her mind on such issues had sometimes created professional difficulties for her, but that she had stood by her beliefs regardless. "Creative freedom is essential, equally essential is the awareness that freedom and responsibility can co-exist. Perhaps the answer lies somewhere in the middle. Not expecting films to parent society, but not pretending they have no influence either." The post was widely read as a defence of the filmmakers, though Anasuya did not frame it that way. Responses online were divided, with some praising the nuance and others arguing it avoided the specificity of what had actually been shown on screen. Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana and starring Ram Charan alongside Janhvi Kapoor, released on Thursday. But within hours of the first shows, a separate conversation had broken out about the film's treatment of its female lead. The criticism centred on the romance track between the two leads. Viewers, particularly women, described the track as a normalisation of harassment presented as romance. On Saturday, director Buchi Babu Sana issued a public apology on X. "We have heard the feedback regarding certain scenes in Peddi and have taken it seriously," he wrote, adding that cinema should not make anyone feel "uncomfortable or disrespected" and that changes to the scenes in question were underway.

‘When I look at Salman Khan’s posts, I feel at least he’s being himself’: Varun Dhawan



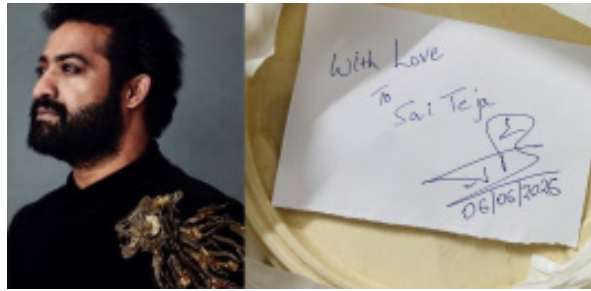
Varun Dhawan has opened up about the emotional realities of stardom, saying that many actors struggle with loneliness despite their glamorous public image. He also emphasised the importance of staying true to oneself, citing Salman Khan's candid social media posts as an example of authenticity. "Actors' lives are very lonely. Ninety percent of actors are very lonely," said Varun. But he pointed out that having been aware of that reality since the start of his career, he never bothered to manufacture an alternate public personality for himself. The actor claimed that he's tried to be his most authentic self, whether he's in front of the camera or not, right from his debut film, Karan Johar's 2012 hit campus caper Student of the Year.

"Luckily, from the beginning, I've dropped the façade. What Varun is there, Varun is here also. I'm not like, your back has to be straight all the time. I try not to do that. My mental health will go for a toss. I can't pretend because somewhere, it (the bubble) would burst," Varun Dhawan told Bombay Times. The actor recalled how he was even

more uninhibited and unfiltered in the interviews early on in his career. "If you see my earlier interviews, I was even moohfat and aur bhi bakwas karta tha main. Now, people are getting more conscious because of social media. But what's the most that can happen? They'll cancel you," he added.

Varun Dhawan then quoted the example of Salman Khan, who's been in the news recently for sharing his pictures on his Instagram handle late at night with the most unhinged captions. "When I see Salman bhai's posts at night, he's going into another zone only," said Varun, laughing. "You've got to be yourself, whether that's good or bad, but at least you'll be yourself. Otherwise you won't even realise what you've become," he added. Varun and Salman go back a long way. Salman has worked extensively with Varun's father and veteran filmmaker David Dhawan, from their 1997 hit comedy Judwaa to their 2007 blockbuster buddy comedy Partner. Varun has also starred in David's 2017 comedy Judwaa 2, a reboot of the Salman-starrer, where the latter also had a cameo. Last month, Salman Khan took to his Instagram handle late at night to share happy selfies. But the captions told a different story. He warned the paparazzi to not take advantage of his and his loved ones' misery. He claimed that he wouldn't think twice about the fate of his upcoming film, Apoorva Lakhia's military drama Maatrubhumi if the photographers decide to invade his privacy. Earlier in the night, Salman was visibly livid when the paparazzi shouted and clicked pictures of him while he exited a hospital after meeting the wife of his friend, who was gravely ill. Salman immediately lashed out at photographers, so much so that the paparazzi collectively apologized to him the next evening, when he showed up to attend the success party of Riteish Deshmukh's period war drama Raja Shivaji, in which he had a cameo.

Jr NTR sends homemade cookies to fan’s children: ‘The kids are happy’



Telugu actor Jr NTR posted photographs of his first batch of homemade chocolate chip cookies on Instagram on Friday evening. The post drew the usual wave of fan responses, but one comment in particular caught the actor's attention. A fan named Sai Teja replied in Telugu, jokingly asking the star to set aside two cookies for his young sons, Smaran and Stharaka. In his tweet, he wrote, "I have two young kids at my home, please send them some cookies, (sic)"

Jr NTR responded in the comments with a series of funny movie clips, asking Sai Teja for his address. Jokingly enough, the exchange went ahead. That same afternoon, Jr NTR baked a second batch. On Saturday, a box of chocolate chip cookies arrived at Sai Teja's home, accompanied by a handwritten note signed by the actor and dated June 6. Sai Teja posted videos of his children eating the cookies, which spread quickly across social media. In one of the clips, his daughter broke off a piece of her cookie and handed it to her uncle. Sai Teja described the gesture in a post as a bridge of kindness.

Thank you so very much @tarak9999 Mama ? with love Smaran and Stharaka ?? What started as a casual comment actually turned into the sweetest surprise. To-

day, the cookies reached home. The kids are happy, i am on cloud nine with the autograph, and we are all just smiling at... The exchange between Jr NTR and Sai Teja drew attention precisely because it was unscripted, and is very rare for an actor to do so. Fan interactions from stars of his stature are typically managed through official channels, meet-and-greet events or pre-planned social media campaigns. Responding to a casual comment with a movie clip and then following through with a personally signed box of cookies the next morning sits outside that pattern entirely.

Vijay Sethupathi unveils first-look poster of Renigunta 2

Chennai: Well known south Indian actor and producer Vijay Sethupathi on Saturday released the first look poster of director R Paneer Selvam's eagerly awaited action entertainer 'Renigunta 2', much to the delight of the fans of the franchise. Taking to his X timeline, Vijay Sethupathi released the first look poster of the film and said, "Launching the first look poster of #Renigunta2 – Best wishes to the entire team.. A Film by @Directorpanneer." For the unaware, the first part of 'Renigunta', which hit screens in 2009, went on to emerge as one of the most critically acclaimed films of the year. The film, the story of which revolved around five youngsters who escape from a juvenile home and make their way to Andhra Pradesh, won appreciation not just from critics but also from the general public. Directed by Paneer Selvam, the first part showcased a grim world of crime that was seldom seen until then by Tamil audiences. Interestingly, this time around, Paneer Selvam is not just directing the film but also producing it.

Dipika Kakar begins immunotherapy, won’t undergo another surgery, confirms Shoaib Ibrahim



Actors Dipika Kakar and Shoaib Ibrahim are going through a difficult phase on the personal front. While Dipika is undergoing treatment for liver cancer, Shoaib's father was recently hospitalised after he suffered a brain hemorrhage. In his latest YouTube vlog, Shoaib shared updates on both Dipika's condition and his father's health. He also spoke about being away from his son Ruhaan for extended periods.

On Friday, Dipika Kakar underwent her first immunotherapy session. In his latest vlog, Shoaib Ibrahim shared, "Dipika's immunotherapy has started at HN Reliance Hospital; it will take 3-4 hours. After this, I will head to Kokilaben Hospital to meet papa. We hope Dipika's immunotherapy works." Shoaib also debunked rumors about Dipika undergoing another surgery and said, "A lot of people have been asking if Dipika is undergoing another surgery. As of now, the doctor has not said anything; the surgery is not happening at the moment." Shoaib Ibrahim's update comes days after Dipika Kakar revealed that doctors had detected two new cysts. For the unversed, Dipika has undergone two cancer-related procedures so far: a major liver surgery in 2025 and a cyst-removal procedure in 2026.

Shoaib Ibrahim's father was hospitalized in the last week of May after he suffered a brain hemorrhage. Sharing the latest update on his father's health, the actor said, "My

father is doing better; his health is improving day by day. His speech and the right side of the body will eventually recover. The day before yesterday, after 10 days, he finally started speaking; he has started smiling now. His speech therapy will begin soon because when he tries to speak long sentences, he blabbers. In the last 1-2 days, things have started to get better."

He further added, "On Monday, they might shift Papa from the ICU to the normal ward, but he will be in the hospital for another 8-10 days. If these things had not happened, my latest song would be releasing now, but it will be out in a few days. I am missing Ruhaan a lot; it has been 15 days since I have gone home. Due to dad's condition, I took an Airbnb in Andheri only." While Shoaib Ibrahim has been away from television for some time, he has remained active behind the scenes as a producer. His latest music video, too, has been backed by his production house, Qalb Productions. Disclaimer:

This article covers ongoing medical treatments for serious conditions, including immunotherapy for cancer and recovery from a brain hemorrhage. This information is shared for editorial and public interest purposes and should not be used as a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Nawaz Javed Kochra is a seasoned entertainment journalist at The Indian Express Online, bringing nearly a decade of expertise to the forefront of cultural reporting. With a focus on the television and Over-The-Top (OTT) landscapes, he has established himself as a prominent voice in the industry, known for his high-profile celebrity interviews and insightful coverage of the Indian entertainment sector. Experience & Career Nawaz holds a Master of Arts in Communication and Journalism from Mumbai University, providing him with a rigorous academic and ethical foundation. In his 11-year career, he has navigated through several of India's leading media houses, building a portfolio that spans digital, print, and broadcast media: The Indian Express: Currently leads coverage of TV and OTT content, producing both written analysis and popular video interview segments. Former Roles: He began his career at the iconic Stardust Magazine and later held key positions at Zoom

Vikram Bhatt was ‘broke’ while dating Sushmita Sen: ‘Didn’t even have money to buy a CD’



Vikram Bhatt may have carved out a niche for directing memorable horror films over the years, but early in his career, he was also known for his dating life. Having separated from his wife Aditi at the time, Vikram began dating Sushmita Sen while working together on her debut film, Mahesh Bhatt's 1996 psychological thriller Dastak, where he was assisting Mahesh. While the two split soon after, Vikram has always fondly recalled the time he spent with Sushmita. He has only good things to say about her, just like her recent boyfriend, Lalit Modi. The businessman rubbished rumours of Sushmita being a gold-digger by dating him, by claiming that it was she who often took care of him whenever they went out on dates. Vikram also had a similar experience back in the day.

"I was a struggling director. Mere pas zeher khane ke paisa nahi the. I was directing Aamir Khan and dating Miss Universe so to say, but I had no money. I was broke. I remember I didn't even have the money to buy a CD. I've lived life like a fakira," Vikram Bhatt told Siddharth Kannan in a new interview. The filmmaker directed the 1998 action

film Ghulam, starring Aamir Khan and Rani Mukerji, around the same time he was dating Sushmita. "Whoever came into my life, has done something good. When I look back, I have love and admiration for everybody in my life. They've always given me something. What was there to take away anyway? Some gave me love, some gave me their time, some gave me a life lesson. But they did give me something or the other," he added. Vikram Bhatt dated Ameesha Patel from 2002 till 2007. Vikram Bhatt dated Ameesha Patel from 2002 till 2007.

Vikram Bhatt dated another actor, Ameesha Patel, from 2002 till 2007 after directing her in the 2002 romantic film Aap Mujhe Achche Lagne Lage, where she starred opposite Hrithik Roshan just two years after they made their debut together in Rakesh Roshan's 2000 blockbuster romantic drama Kaho Naa... Pyaar Hai.

"My films have survived, relationships haven't. I must have done something right in my films. For example, in the barrack, nobody knew what you did back then. Half of them weren't even born then. But everyone remembers my films. So, I know what wins. Your hard work will win," said Vikram. The filmmaker, along with his wife and art connoisseur Shwetambari Soni, were arrested last December after a complaint of cheating and criminal breach of trust, alleging that funds of around Rs 30 crore taken in the name of a film project were misappropriated. The complaint alleged that the Bhatt's prepared fake bills under various names and got money transferred from the complainant.

Since the complainant Ajay Murdia, the founder of Indira IVF and Fertility Centre, is a resident of Udaipur, Vikram and his wife were taken to a jail in Udaipur. On January 31, the Rajasthan High Court rejected their bail applications, claiming it would not be "appropriate" at the time. But the next month, the Supreme Court overturned that order and granted bail to Vikram and Shwetambari.

Salim Kumar death: Actors, politicians and members of the public pay last respects to actor



National Award-winning Malayalam actor Salim Kumar passed away in Kochi on Saturday at the age of 56 after suffering a heart attack. He had been admitted to a private hospital earlier in the day after his health deteriorated and was placed on ventilator support. A popular theatre and mimicry artiste, Salim Kumar made his film debut with Ishatmanu Nooru Vattam (1997). But he broke through only in the 2000s, particularly with his comic roles in movies.

Salim Kumar won the Kerala State Film Award for the Second Best Actor for his performance in Lal Jose's Achanurangatha Veedu (2006), followed by both a National Award and another Kerala State Film Award for his leading role in Salim Ahamed's 2011 social drama Adaminte Makan Abu, which was also India's official entry for The Academy Awards in 2011. That defining role is a demonstration of his transition from comedy to serious acting over a 22-year acting career, where he appeared in over 300 films. He also turned director, with his 2017 film Karutha Joothan winning

the Best Story at the Kerala State Film Awards. Salim Kumar is survived by wife Sunitha and their two kids. Kerala Chief Minister VD Satheesan offered his condolences for the actor, issuing a statement which read, "Salim Kumar was the pride of North Paravur. Born into an ordinary family that faced poverty and hardships, he rose to the pinnacle of Indian cinema by winning the National Award. He was a rare talent who even reached the Oscar nomination stage through his work."

Manoj Bajpayee reveals how ‘Tandav’, ‘Bhonsle’ and ‘Joram’ became a creative trilogy

Mumbai: The 3-time National Award-winning actor Manoj Bajpayee has spoken up on the connection between 'Bhonsle', 'Tandav' and 'Joram'. The actor spoke with IANS during the promotions of his upcoming film 'Governor', in which he essays the titular role of an RBI Governor. During the conversation, he was probed about how he and filmmaker Devashish Makhija put together 'Bhonsle'. Talking about the same, he shared, "Devashish Makhija made his foray into the cinema before that, I don't think they were on a cinema camera. He made 'Tandav' with me. It became very successful on YouTube. And it has gotten so many international laurels. Before 'Tandav', we were supposed to do another film, Devashish Makhija wrote it. However, we didn't get funding for it. I was busy arranging the funds because Devashish Makhija is not somebody who is resourceful. I was the one who was already popular, and working in the industry".