

KTR confident of retaining Hyderabad-Rangareddy-Mahbubnagar MLC seat

Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao expressed confidence that the party would retain the Hyderabad-Rangareddy-Mahbubnagar Graduates' MLC seat in the forthcoming elections and called on party leaders to focus on voter enrolment. He said the party had a favourable environment to retain the seat and urged leaders to ensure that every eligible graduate was enrolled as a voter.

Rama Rao held district-wise meetings with party leaders from Hyderabad, erstwhile Rangareddy and Mahbubnagar districts at Telangana Bhavan on Monday.

Revanth Reddy recalls ABVP past, advises Modi ahead of 2029 polls

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has once again put the Congress high command in an awkward position by recalling his association with the ABVP and suggesting that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should win people's hearts to emerge victorious in the next Lok Sabha elections.

"If Modiji wants to form the government for the fourth time, he needs to win hearts but should not divide the nation. As an ABVP karyakarta, this is my concern," he said while participating in a conclave in New Delhi on Monday.

Telangana HC directs medical college to refund Rs. 3.32 lakh to student

Hyderabad: Justice Juvvadi Sridevi of the Telangana High Court has directed Guru Nanak Homoeopathic Medical College to refund Rs. 3.32 lakh to a student whose admission was cancelled after she had already been allotted a seat and permitted to pursue the course. The writ petition was filed by Done Shabari Priya, challenging the cancellation of her admission by the Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences. She sought setting aside of the cancellation proceedings and, alternatively, a direction to refund the Rs. 3.32 lakh tuition fee paid by her. The petitioner had been allotted a BHMS seat in the Guru Nanak Homoeopathic Medical College under the Management Quota pursuant to an allotment letter issued by the University on October 27, 2025.

Telangana: Voter enrolment begins for two Graduate MLC constituencies

Hyderabad, Sep 28 (IANS) Enrolment of voters for the Mahabubnagar-Rangareddy-Hyderabad and Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda Graduate constituencies of the Telangana Legislative Council began on Monday.

The process began with a public notice under Rule 31(3) of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) C. Sudharsan Reddy urged eligible graduates to register as voters.

The electoral rolls will be prepared afresh with November 1, 2026, as the qualifying date. Those previously registered must re-register. The Election Commission of India has announced that two vacancies are due in March 2027 and will be filled through biennial elections.

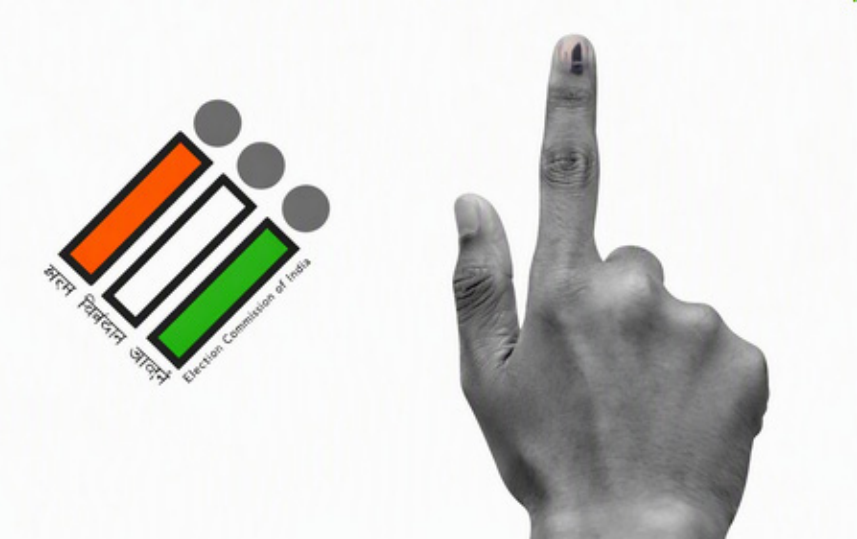
Applicants must have completed a degree or equivalent diploma at least three years before the qualifying date and be ordinary residents of the

area covered by the relevant Graduates constituency.

As per the schedule, draft electoral rolls will be published on November 25, 2026, and final rolls on December 30, 2026.

Meanwhile, Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President K.T. Rama Rao registered his vote in Hyderabad. He urged all eligible graduates in the two constituencies to register before November 6, stressing that every vote is crucial in the Graduate MLC elections.

KTR asked BRS leaders and activists to prioritise voter registration, raise awareness among family members, friends and eligible graduates, and ensure registrations are completed by the deadline.



Telangana CM congratulates Esha Singh on Asian Games Silver

Hyderabad, Sep 28 (IANS) Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday congratulated Esha Singh, star Indian shooter from Hyderabad, for winning the silver medal in the women's 25m pistol individual event at the ongoing Asian Games in Japan.

The Chief Minister praised Singh for her outstanding performance, noting that she bravely handled the pressure of five shoot-offs and missed the gold medal by a narrow margin.

He said her fighting spirit inspired the sports world and expressed hope that she would record many more victories on international stages, bringing laurels to both the country and Telangana.

The 21-year-old shooter clinched silver after battling through five shoot-offs. The reigning world number one won three shoot-offs to rise into medal contention before being engaged in two more in the gold medal clash with China's Xiao Jiariuxuan.

She missed the gold by one shot.

"I am really happy with the way everything went. I'm so grateful for this medal, I'm so grateful for the whole experience that I went through," Singh told IANS.

Her father, Sachin Singh, said she had played almost 25 more shots than in a regular final, which took a



toll on her body.

He explained that the Chinese opponent was comparatively more relaxed, making the contest extremely tight.

"Till the last shot, nobody knew who was going to win the gold. It was a great match. I think it's the first time in the history of the Asian Games that five shoot-offs were held in a final of a 25m sports pistol," he remarked.

Khairatabad Assembly seat declared vacant after Nagender's disqualification

Hyderabad, Sep 28 (IANS) The Khairatabad Assembly seat has been officially declared vacant following the disqualification of Danam Nagender as a member of the Telangana Legislative Assembly.

The Legislative Assembly issued a gazette notification stating that Nagender stood disqualified with effect from April 23, 2024, under Paragraph 2(1)(a) of the Tenth Schedule read with Article 191(2) of the Constitution. Consequently, the seat stands vacant.

Rendla Thirupathi, Secretary to the Legislature, issued the notification dated September 26 in pursuance of the Telangana High Court judgment delivered on September 18.

Nagender was elected from Khairatabad in the 2023 Assembly elections as a Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) candidate. He later switched loyalties to the ruling Congress and contested the Lok Sabha elections from Secunderabad constituency on a Congress ticket.

Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar had dismissed petitions filed by BRS MLAs and a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA seeking Nagender's disqualification. The petitioners challenged the Speaker's decision in the High Court.

On September 18, a Division Bench of Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin held that Nagender stood disqualified under Paragraph 2(1)(a) of the Tenth Schedule read with Article 191(2) of the Constitution, after contesting the 2024 Lok Sabha elections as a Congress candidate despite being elected as a BRS MLA.

The High Court declared the Khairatabad seat vacant. It directed that a copy of its order be communicated to the Secretary of the Telangana Legislative Assembly and the Election Commission of India.

The judgment came on petitions filed by BJP Legislature Party leader Alleti Maheshwar Reddy and BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, challenging the Speaker's March 11, 2026 decision dismissing the disqualification petitions. The High Court recorded that Nagender was elected as a BRS MLA in December 2023 and subsequently filed his nomination on April 23, 2024, as a Congress candidate for Secunderabad, where he campaigned against the BRS nominee.

Nagender approached the Supreme Court challenging the High Court order, but the apex court dismissed his petition, finding no ground to interfere.



Hyderabad, Sep 28 (IANS) The ruling Congress party in Telangana on Monday staged a huge protest in Hyderabad, demanding resignation and arrest of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in electoral rolls during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) by the poll panel.

On a call given by the All India Congress Committee (AICC) for nationwide protests, leaders and cadres of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) took out a rally to the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO).

Telangana Congress stages protest demanding CEC Gyanesh Kumar's resignation

Deputy Chief Minister, Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud, ministers Ponnam Prabhakar, Sridhar Babu, MPs Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Anil Kumar Yadav and other leaders participated in the protest.

They later met CEO C. Sudharsan Reddy and submitted a memorandum, demanding that the CEC immediately resign from his post.

The protestors gathered at Indira Gandhi statue on Necklace Road and raised slogans against the CEC and the BJP-led government at the Centre. They were carrying placards with slogans like 'Vote Chori' and 'Democracy Ke Dushman'.

The protestors marched to the CEO's office at BRK Bhavan near the Secretariat and set afire an effigy of the Election Commission.

Deputy Chief Minister Vikramarka, who was carrying a copy of the Indian Constitution, called upon all democratic forces to join the Congress party's struggle

?He asserted that the repeated warnings issued by Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, that a "vote theft" involving the systematic trampling of citizens' voting rights has been occurring across the country for years, has been proven true.

He expressed deep anguish over the fact that the two other Election Commissioners themselves have admitted to the manner in which citizens' votes are being deleted under the guise of SIR, describing it as an unfortunate development for the nation's democracy.

The Deputy CM highlighted that LoP Rahul Gandhi has been fighting from the very beginning to safeguard the Constitution and the citizens' right to vote.

He noted that even Election Commissioners themselves have now had to acknowledge the validity of Rahul Gandhi's remarks regarding "vote theft".

He questioned the state of democracy in the country

if the right to vote—the very lifeblood of democracy—is trampled upon.

He urged all political parties that believe in democracy and the Constitution to set aside their differences and join hands with the Congress, criticising those who lack faith in the Constitution for staying away from this movement.

Asserting the Congress party's unwavering faith in Indian democracy and citizens' rights, he made it clear that the struggle would not cease until every citizen secures their right to vote.

Addressing the protestors, Mahesh Kumar Goud said that the Election Commission of India, which is an autonomous body, had become a tool in the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. He said that such a despicable thing had not happened since Independence.

Former minister Danam Nagender said the Supreme Court should suo moto take up the case relating to the allegations against the CEC.



‘Deeply disturbing’: SC takes note of rapes in Delhi-NCR, seeks report on safety measures

New Delhi, Sept 28

Taking suo motu cognisance of “deeply disturbing” news reports of recent cases of rape of minor girls and women in Delhi-NCR, the Supreme Court on Monday directed the authorities concerned to submit a comprehensive status report on measures undertaken to ensure adequate safety and security in public places.

"One cannot help but draw painful parallels to the 2012 Nirbhaya case, calling into question whether systemic law enforcement mechanisms have made any meaningful progress in the decade since then," a Bench led by Justice JB Pardiwala said, referring to the gang-rape of a minor girl in a moving sleeper bus on her way from Greater Noida to Delhi.

"The harrowing account given by the 17-year-old victim of the alleged gang-rape at Aastha Kunj Park in Delhi is a stark reminder of the persistent vulnerabilities faced by women and children in spaces that ought to be safe and accessible to all. The safety concerns emerging from this incident, however, cannot be viewed in isolation," it noted.

"This incident has also brought to light pre-existing complaints of recurrent sexual harassment faced by students of Lady Shri Ram College for Women, situated in the immediate vicinity of Aastha Kunj Park. Regrettably, these prior grievances failed to serve as a wake-up call for the police or the local administration to rectify institutional security lapses through enhanced patrolling and vigilance before yet another victim fell prey to unscrupulous perpetrators," said the Bench which also included Justice K Vinod Chandran."

Indian Chronicle

English Daily

Five-day banking: Reform or disruption?

The banking sector acts as the financial backbone of a nation. The impending three-day bank strike proposed for September 28–30 poses a million-dollar question: after years of consultations and a formal agreement, how long should a workplace reform remain pending? Plausibly, the proposed strike may cause temporary inconvenience to customers. However, the strike also raises a larger question—one that goes beyond three days of industrial action.

The banking industry's negotiations over the years had the demand for five-day banking as its main component—the United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU) has made one of its principal demands. It is evident that the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) conceded to the proposal under the 12th Bipartite Settlement/9th Joint Note, signed on March 8, 2024.

The proposal envisaged compensating for Saturdays by extending working hours from Monday to Friday by 40 minutes. It was subsequently recommended to the Union government. Nonetheless, the implementation remains stalled and warrants a closer look.

The public debate mostly treats the five-day banking proposal as a straightforward demand for an additional holiday. However, this is an incomplete picture. The negotiations between stakeholders involve redistributing working time during the week.

The question, therefore, is not simply whether bank employees should work fewer hours, but whether the outdated distribution of those hours still makes sense, considering that banking today is very different from the banking of yesteryear, with many digital methods available 24x7.

Youth Must Strive to Uphold Bhagat Singh's Ideals

DYFI District Secretary Durgam Raj Kumar



Kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporter "Indian Chronicle" September 29. "Asifabad: DYFI Kumram Bheem Asifabad District Secretary Durgam Raj Kumar called upon the youth to draw inspiration from Shaheed Bhagat Singh and work for social justice, employment opportunities, women's empowerment and the development of the country, rising above caste and religious differences. Bhagat Singh's birth anniversary was observed at the DYFI district office in Asifabad on Monday. Leaders and members paid floral tributes to his portrait and recalled his contribution to India's freedom struggle. Speaking on the occasion, Durgam Raj Kumar said Bhagat Singh did not fight only for freedom from British rule, but also envisioned a society free from caste discrimination, religious divisions and discrimination against women. He said Bhagat Singh strongly advocated equality, freedom and social justice. He said Bhagat Singh explained his thoughts and ideology through his writings, including his well-known work 'Why I Am an Atheist.' He urged people, particularly the youth, to read Bhagat Singh's life, writings and ideas and understand the principles for which he stood. Raj Kumar said today's youth should come forward to raise their voice for employment and job opportunities, women's empowerment and social equality. He called upon young people to remain united beyond caste and religion and contribute to the progress of society and the nation. He further said the DYFI would continue organising programmes to take Bhagat Singh's ideals among the people and inspire the younger generation to participate in movements concerning public issues. DYFI District President Gadam Teekannand, KVPS District Secretary Durgam Dinakar, TAGS District Secretary Nerpelli Ashok, TAGS District Vice-President Kota Srinivas, and leaders Murali, Chinnu, Vijay and others participated in the programme.

EC Acting in BJP's Interest, Alleges Atram Sugunakka

Kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporter "Indian Chronicle" September 29. "Asifabad: DCC President Atram Sugunakka alleged that the BJP government at the Centre was attempting to influence the electoral system for political gains. She demanded transparency in the voter-list revision process and said the Congress would continue its fight to protect democracy and voting rights. "Following the call given by the AICC and TPCC, the Congress party organised a massive protest in Asifabad on Monday. Congress leaders first submitted a memorandum at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar statue at Ambedkar Chowk and later took out a rally to the District Collectorate. Speaking on the occasion, Sugunakka alleged that the Election Commission's procedures regarding new voter registrations, deletion of names, database management and software were raising several doubts. She demanded that the reasons behind the decisions being taken in the voter-list process be made clear to the public. She said people should have complete confidence in the electoral system and stressed the need to maintain the independence and transparency of the Election Commission. She demanded that genuine voters' rights be protected and that all concerns regarding changes in the electoral rolls be addressed transparently. Later, Congress leaders and workers staged a protest outside the Collectorate. They raised slogans against the Central government and the Election Commission and burnt effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. MLC Dande Vittal, District Library Corporation Chairman K. Anil Kumar, former DCC president Vishwaprasad Rao, former MLA Atram Sakku, former ZP chairman Sidam Ganapathi, TPCC General Secretary Durgam Bhaskar and several other Congress leaders and workers participated in the programme. Market committee chairpersons, municipal councillors, mandal presidents, DCC office-bearers, sarpanches,

Vikram will become a big hero, I hope Anakapalli becomes a huge hit:

Sensational Director VV Vinayak at Pre-Release Event



"I have a strong emotional connection with Anakapalli. Thrinadha Rao did not give me that opportunity: Shiva Nirvana " "Anakapalli is a raw and rustic film produced under the banners of Bhavya Sri Movie Makers and Nakkina Narratives by Kandregula Naidu and Thrinadha Rao Nakkina, who also played key roles in the film. Vikram Sahidev, Sandhya Vasishtha and Tarak Ponnappa play the lead roles. The film is directed by Khagesh Tammineni. Kandregula Kumar Raja is the co-producer, while Thrinadha Rao Nakkina has provided the story and screenplay. " "The movie is slated for theatrical release on October 2. Ahead of its release, the makers held a grand pre-release event on Sunday, which was attended by several prominent personalities from the Telugu film industry. " " VV Vinayak said , "Lagadapati Sridhar has a greater passion for cinema than all of us. I know how passionate he is about films. Vikram will become a big hero and fulfil Sridhar garu's dream. Tarak Ponnappa is frightening everyone with his performance. I wish the director and producers will have great profits. Vikram will become a big hero. I hope Anakapalli becomes a huge hit. " " Mythri Ravi said , "Lagadapati Sridhar is a very good friend of ours. I hope Vikram becomes a big hero. Tarak is frightening everyone with his intense performance. All the best to everyone who worked on this film. I never expected Sridhar anna to turn his son into a hero so soon. We thought he would become a hero first and then introduce his son," he said jokingly. " " "During the time of 'Rangasthalam', Pawan Kalyan garu said that filmmakers should tell rooted stories. Anakapalli also has that rootedness and depth. Shooting the entire film in Anakapalli itself is a great achievement. We also made 'Irumudi' largely with newcomers and shot it at live locations. I hope Anakapalli receives great support from audiences. " " " Shiva Nirvana stated , "I have a strong emotional connection with Anakapalli. I studied for my degree there. I too wanted to write a story based on the emotion of Anakapalli, but Thrinadha Rao garu did not give me that opportunity. With Anakapalli, Thrinadha Rao garu has attempted something different. I hope he will also become busy as an actor from now on. " " Vikram will become a big hero. Tarak is frightening everyone. Seeing Sandhya garu and Indrāja garu brings positive vibes. I wish the director and producers great success with this film. The movie is arriving on October 2, and I hope the sound of Anakapalli is heard loudly across both Telugu states. " " Sai Rajesh affirmed , "I was surprised when I came to know that Thrinadha Rao garu was producing the film and also acting in it. He looked amazing in the trailer. I hope Naidu garu continues making good films like this. I like Sridhar garu a lot. After Hrudaya Kaleyam, he was the first person to call me and offer me a film. He always appreciates every piece of content that comes from

my movies. Vikram will become a big hero in a very short time. All the best to the entire Anakapalli team. " " RP Patnaik said, "Anakapalli is the result of Thrinadha Rao garu's vision. I have already watched the film. The industry has found another great artist in the form of Thrinadha Rao garu. Khagesh will receive some big offers. Davzand's music is very good. Indrāja garu will impress everyone in the role of the mother. Sandhya genuinely looks like a girl from Anakapalli in this film. I came here especially for Vikram. He has performed a very difficult role in Anakapalli with great dedication and delivered an excellent performance. I felt scared watching Tarak on screen. All the best to the entire team. " " Vikram Sahidev avowed , "Thanks to all our guests who came to the Anakapalli event, including Vinayak garu, Shiva Nirvana garu, Mythri Ravi garu, Sai Rajesh garu and RP Patnaik garu. Thanks to everyone who stood by me throughout this journey. I also thank my friends who have always supported me. Anakapalli is a love story, a friendship story and a family story. I am eagerly waiting for the audience response. Our film is arriving on October 2. Please watch it. " " Thrinadha Rao Nakkina stated, "When a game becomes exciting, we watch it with even more interest. There is a similar competition between every character in Anakapalli. Each actor competed with the others and delivered their best. You will watch Anakapalli without getting distracted even for a second. The songs, dialogues and fights are all one better than the other. Our film is arriving on October 2. There should be no doubt about it. Everyone must watch our film in the theatres. " " Lagadapati Sridhar said, "We have already watched Anakapalli. It is going to be something fresh. Remember the lines, 'Prema entha madhuram.. priyuraalu antha kathinam' (Love is so sweet, but the beloved is equally difficult). What happens when the lover becomes even more violent? The film presents those consequences beautifully. It also shows what a lover should be like in a compelling manner. " " Tarak Ponnappa has performed brilliantly. A villain is very important for any film, and Tarak will surprise everyone. Sandhya has also done a great job. Indrāja garu has given life to the film. Trinadha Rao garu appears in a completely new avatar. " " Thanks to Vinayak garu, Shiva Nirvana garu, Sai Rajesh garu and Mythri Ravi garu for coming here to support us. Vikram started his career as a child artist. He has a tremendous commitment towards cinema, and he surprised me with his performance in this film. Anakapalli is arriving on October 2. Please watch and support the movie. " " Tarak Ponnappa said , "Thanks to everyone who gave me the opportunity to be part of Anakapalli. Everyone will enjoy this movie. It is a cult story that explores emotions including love and friendship. Let's all meet in theatres on October 2. " " Indrāja acknowledged , "We will speak more at the success meet of Anakapalli. The story that unfolds between Vikram, Sandhya and Tarak is something you have never seen before. The film will surprise everyone. Vikram has performed brilliantly. He communicates through his eyes. He will rise to great heights. Along with love, friendship and family emotions, Anakapalli also carries a strong message. " " Sandhya Vasishtha said, "Thanks to the director and producers for giving me the opportunity to be part of Anakapalli. Khagesh garu supported me tremendously throughout this journey. I am happy to have worked with Vikram. I am also delighted to share the screen with Thrinadha Rao garu and Indrāja garu. Our film is arriving on October 2. Please watch and support us. " " Kiran Shah Hussain said, "I have already watched Anakapalli, and it is excellent. The music has come out wonderfully. The scenes between Tarak and Vikram are going to be terrific. . .

Welfare Schemes Aim to Reach the Poor: RAJITHA PARAMESWAR REDDY



"UPPAL, SEPTEMBER 28 (INDIAN CHRONICLE): " The Telangana government organised a programme for the distribution of Smart Ration Cards at the Uppal Ward Office. Former Uppal Corporator Mandumula Rajitha Parameswar Reddy attended the programme as the chief guest and distributed Smart Ration Cards to the beneficiaries. Speaking on the occasion, Rajitha Parameswar Reddy said the government was taking steps to ensure that welfare schemes reach eligible poor and middle-class families across the state. She recalled that the government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy

had sanctioned 15 lakh new ration cards in the state. She said ration cards not only enable eligible families to receive essential commodities but also help beneficiaries access various welfare schemes being implemented by the government. She stated that welfare initiatives such as cooking gas cylinders at Rs. 500, distribution of fine rice, free bus travel for women, and 200 units of free electricity for eligible households were providing significant support to economically weaker families. She called upon officials to work in coordination to ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach every eligible family. "Rajitha Parameswar Reddy said Smart Ration Cards would make government services more accessible and transparent to beneficiaries. She advised families who are eligible but have not yet received ration cards to approach the concerned officials and submit their details. "Uppal Division President Eega Anjaiah, Beerappagadda Division President Akiti Aagam Reddy, Lingampally Ramakrishna, Tummalā Devi Reddy, DCC Vice-President Bottu Rajesh, Salla Prabhakar Reddy, Boosam Raghunath Reddy, Goode Bhaskar, A. Surya Yadagiri, Shameerpet Balwanth Reddy, Raghu, Hanumanthu, D. Srinivas, Palle Ramesh, Mallish, Bacha Ramu, Babu, Atif, Adil, Eega Vasu, Akhil, Wahid and others were present. Congress leaders and workers, ration card beneficiaries and local residents participated in the programme.

VALLAPU SRIKANTH YADAY Launches 22 Lakh Storm Water Pipeline Works in Bhavani Nagar Colony

"RAMANTHAPUR , SEPTEMBER 28 (INDIAN CHRONICLE): Congress Party Working President Vallapu Srikanth Yadav, along with the residents of the colony, launched storm water pipeline works costing ₹22 lakh in Bhavani Nagar Colony, Ramanthapur.

The colony residents expressed their gratitude for the sanctioning of funds for the works with the support of Uppal Assembly Constituency Congress Party In-charge Parameswar Reddy. They stated that the storm water pipeline works were being taken up to provide a permanent solution to the rainwater drainage problem in the colony. "Speaking on the occasion, Vallapu Srikanth Yadav assured that efforts would be made to



develop Ramanthapur Division in all sectors and transform it into a model division. He said priority would be given to improving basic infrastructure by identifying and addressing the needs of

the people. Dr. Raghunandan, Colony President Muthyalu Anand, Yadaiah, Mallesha Yadav, Laxman, Naveen Chari, Satyam Chari, Lakan Pal, Lakshamma. Srinivas,

Ravi, Praveen, Veeranna Goud, Rafi, Ramesh Yadav, Congress leaders Jangaiah, Baburao, Sridhar, Yogi, Shankar, Shiva and others participated in the programme.

CP congratulated the police officers who got promoted as Head Constable



" "INDIAN CHRONICLE KHAMMAM " " "Police Commissioner Sunil Dutt felicitated 13 police officers of 2000 batch who have served continuously as constables in various police stations and were promoted as head constables at the police commissioner's office. Those promoted were transferred to other districts. Six people will be transferred to Mahabubabad district and seven to Bhadradi Kothagudem district. " "Among those who are employed "T. Srinivasa Rao "K Srinivas "M. Ravi Kumar "K. Muthiah "T. Vadde Kishore "N Karunakar Rao "M. Navjeevan Kumar "d. Sushil Kumar "D. Alu "D. Srinivasa Rao "G. Ravi Kumar "M. Sitarama Raju

UPPAL MLA BANDARI LAKSHMA REDDY Stands by Poor Family--



Speaks to NIMS Director and Directs Immediate Emergency Treatment; Assures Medical Expenses Through LOC " "CHILKA NAGAR , SEPTEMBER 28 (INDIAN CHRONICLE): Ponnaboyina Laxman, brother of Ponnaboyina Sudhakar of Chilkanaagar Division in Uppal constituency, has been undergoing treatment at NIMS Hospital in Hyderabad for the past few days after being diagnosed with a serious brain tumour. Uppal MLA Bandari Lakshma Reddy came to know about Laxman's condition through Gudi Madhusudan Reddy of Chilkanaagar Division and immediately responded. After enquiring about the patient's health condition, the MLA spoke to the Director of NIMS and requested that Laxman be provided with immediate emergency medical treatment. The MLA assured the family members that they need not worry about the medical expenses and stated that steps would be taken to provide financial assistance through a government Letter of Credit (LOC), along with the necessary medical support. Later, Bandari Lakshma Reddy visited the hospital, met the family members of the patient and offered them moral support. The family members expressed their special gratitude to the MLA for standing by them during their difficult time and taking steps to ensure that Laxman receives the required medical treatment.

Hyderabad's Future Lies in Protecting Musi River : FBH



Hyderabad, September 28 (Indian Chronicle) : The future of Hyderabad can be secured only by protecting the Musi River, its natural flow channels and water bodies, said Forum for a Better Hyderabad (FBH) Chairman Prof. Manikonda Vedakumar. An event was organised by FBH on Monday at the historic Chintachettu tree on the premises of Osmania General Hospital (OGH) to pay tribute to the victims of the devastating Musi floods of 1908. On the occasion, Vedakumar and Parashar unveiled the book 'Eye-witness Accounts on River Musi Floods of 1908.' Published by the Deccan Heritage Academy Trust, the book was authored by Dr. Dyavanapalli Satyanarayana. Parashar Lavani presented a performance based on the 1908 Musi floods. Vedakumar stressed the need to introduce the younger generation to historical events through photographs, maps and animations. FBH General Secretary Shobha Singh, member Adarsh, coordinator Syed Kaiser, Harikishan, Venugopal, architect Ram Raj, JBR Architecture, Pharmacy and Engineering faculty members Sonu Kumar, Pratyusha and Sirisha, along with faculty and students of Oxford Grammar School and members of the Deccan Heritage Academy Trust, participated in the programme.

Aristotle PG College holds 22nd graduation day in Moinabad

Hyderabad: The Aristotle PG College, School of Business Management, Moinabad, held its 22nd Graduation Day ceremony on the college campus, marking a significant milestone for 134 MBA students who completed their programmes. Graduates who excelled academically were recognised for their achievements. Shreethi and Asma Fatima were awarded gold medals for outstanding academic performance. Several other students were presented with awards, certificates of appreciation and honours for their performance during the MBA programme.

Everyone Should Be Aware of Heart Health

“108 Ambulance Staff’s Message on World Heart Day”



“Kumrambheem, Asifabad,District.Reporter "Indian Chronicle"September.29."Asifabad: On the occasion of World Heart Day, 108 ambulance staff stressed the need to create greater awareness among the public about heart health and urged people to remain alert to heart-related problems. They advised everyone to adopt a healthy lifestyle and seek immediate medical assistance whenever symptoms related to the heart are noticed. This year’s World Heart Day message, “Don’t miss a moment,” highlights the importance of not ignoring even minor changes in heartbeat or discomfort in the chest. The 108 staff said that in heart-related emergencies, the initial period, commonly referred to as the “Golden Hour,” is crucial. Timely medical intervention and quick transportation to a hospital can play an important role in saving lives.“Call 108 Immediately for Chest Pain The 108 staff advised people not to ignore symptoms such as chest pain or tightness, difficulty in breathing, excessive sweating, dizziness or sudden weakness. If chest pain begins, people should immediately call 108 so that the emergency medical team can reach the patient, provide necessary pre-hospital care and transport them to the nearest appropriate hospital as quickly as possible. The 108 emergency ambulance service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, providing emergency medical assistance to patients. Ambulance personnel play an important role in providing immediate care and ensuring that patients reach hospitals without unnecessary delay.“22,699 Heart-Related Cases Recorded“According to the informa-

tion shared by the 108 staff, out of a total of 8,08,755 emergency cases responded to, around 3 per cent, or 22,699 cases, were related to heart problems. Cases involving chest pain were recorded at an average of 1,892 per month, or around 62 cases per day. The figures underline the need for greater public awareness about heart-related emergencies and the importance of seeking medical assistance without delay.“Heart Problems Are Not Limited to the Elderly The 108 staff said that heart-related problems were once generally considered to affect mainly elderly people, particularly those above 60 years of age. However, the situation has changed, and people across different age groups are now experiencing heart-related problems. They stated that nearly 60 per cent of the recorded cases were among people between 31 and 60 years of age, highlighting the need for people in the working-age population to pay greater attention to their heart health.“Healthy Lifestyle Is Essential The 108 staff advised people to make healthy lifestyle choices to reduce the risk of heart-related complications. They recommended following a balanced diet, engaging in regular physical activity, avoiding smoking and excessive alcohol consumption, managing stress and getting adequate sleep. People with conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes or high cholesterol should undergo regular medical check-ups and follow the advice of healthcare professionals. They also stressed that time is extremely important during a heart-related emergency. People should not ignore symptoms or wait for them to subside on their own. Calling 108 immediately can help ensure that emergency medical assistance is provided at the earliest possible time. 108 Staff Providing Emergency Services In Asifabad, 108 ambulance pilot Ramesh has been providing emergency services for the past six years, while Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Praveen Yadav has been serving for the past two years. They have been providing emergency medical assistance to patients and transporting them to hospitals as quickly as possible.“On the occasion of World Heart Day, the 108 staff appealed to the public to remain aware of heart health and not ignore any warning signs. They said that timely recognition of symptoms, immediate medical assistance and rapid transportation to a hospital can help save lives.

Praja Vani for Resolution of Public Grievances“

“District SP Nithika Pant,IPS““Kumrambheem, Asifabad,District.Reporter "Indian Chronicle"September.29.“Asifabad, September 28: A Praja Vani programme was conducted under the leadership of Kumuram Bheem Asifabad District Superintendent of Police Nithika Pant, IPS, on Monday with the objective of directly understanding public grievances and providing legal solutions to their problems. People from different parts of the district attended the programme and directly brought their issues to the notice of the SP. She patiently heard the grievances and petitions submitted by the public and discussed the issues with the concerned police officials. The SP directed the concerned officers to take necessary legal action for resolving the grievances and ensure that every complaint is examined carefully. She instructed the officials not to show any negligence in dealing with public complaints and to take appropriate action within the stipulated time. She further directed the police officials to give priority to every genuine complaint and ensure that justice is provided to the victims. Officers were also instructed to follow up on the



complaints and take action in accordance with the law. The SP said that the Praja Vani programme provides an opportunity for people to bring their problems directly to the notice of the police department. She appealed to the public to make use of the programme for resolving their grievances and assured that the police department would continue working to address public issues within the legal framework.

Security arrangements reviewed ahead of CM’s Karimnagar visitCollector, CP and security officials inspect key locations.

Karimnagar September 28, Khaja Sikandar Mohiuddin (Correspondent): Security arrangements have been stepped up in Karimnagar ahead of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy’s visit to the district on September 30 to inaugurate the new Collectorate building. District Collector Chitra Mishra, Police Commissioner Gautham Alam and officials of the Chief Minister’s security team inspected the helipad, the new Collectorate building and other locations connected with the visit on Monday. They also reviewed the arrangements for the Chief Minister’s convoy and the proposed programme.

The officials inspected the Telangana Thalli statue, conference hall, Collector’s chamber and areas surrounding the Collectorate. They subsequently held a review meeting at the Collectorate conference hall as part of the Advanced Security Liaison (ASL) exercise. Security deployment, the helipad, convoy route, traffic regulation, parking, emergency medical services, fire safety and protocol arrangements were among the issues reviewed at the meeting. Officials were instructed to adhere to the prescribed security protocols at all locations to be visited by the Chief Minister.

Ms. Mishra directed officials of all departments to complete the arrangements within the stipulated time and coordinate with one another. She asked them to verify the arrangements at their respective locations and remain alert to prevent any lapses. The Collector also directed personnel of the Roads and Buildings, Forest, Electricity, Excise, Police and Revenue departments, among others, to complete their assigned responsibilities on time. Mr. Gautham Alam said adequate security arrangements were being made for the visit. He directed police personnel to remain alert from the Chief Minister’s arrival at the helipad until his departure. Instructions were issued on the movement of the



Chief Minister’s convoy, ceremonial guard of honour and security deployment along the route. Route officers and rope-party personnel were asked to maintain heightened vigilance. Traffic police were directed to regulate traffic, oversee parking arrangements and install barricades at required locations. Municipal Commissioner Praful Desai, Additional Collector Srinivas Reddy, RDO Sharmila, CMO Intelligence and security officials, including SP Ramachandra Rao, DSPs Dursheti Raghuchander and Shyam, and district officials of various departments attended the meeting.

Congress Holds Massive Protest Rally Over Alleged SIR Irregularities

Large Number of Congress Leaders and Cadre from Uppal Join Rally Under the Leadership of PARAMESWAR REDDY““UPPAL, SEPTEMBER 28 (INDIAN CHRONICLE)“The Congress party organised a massive protest rally in Hyderabad against the alleged irregularities and discrepancies in the SIR (Special Intensive Revision) process and the functioning of the Central Election Commission. The protest rally began at the Indira Gandhi statue on Necklace Road and proceeded towards the State Election Commission office at Basheerbagh. The rally was organised in opposition to what Congress leaders described as the alleged unilateral approach of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. A large number of Congress leaders and workers participated in the protest. From the Uppal Assembly constituency, a large number of Congress leaders and cadre participated in the rally under the leadership of Uppal constituency in-charge Mandumula Parameshwar Reddy. TPCC President Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud, District In-charge Minister Sridhara Babu,



Uppal constituency division presidents, former corporators, senior Congress leaders, youth leaders, women leaders and party workers participated in large numbers. “Congress leaders demanded that the Election Commission respond comprehensively to the alleged irregularities in the SIR process and ensure transparency in the democratic electoral process.

Congress stages protest over electoral rolls in Karimnagar

Party leaders allege irregularities in SIR; demand removal of CEC Gyanesh Kumar.



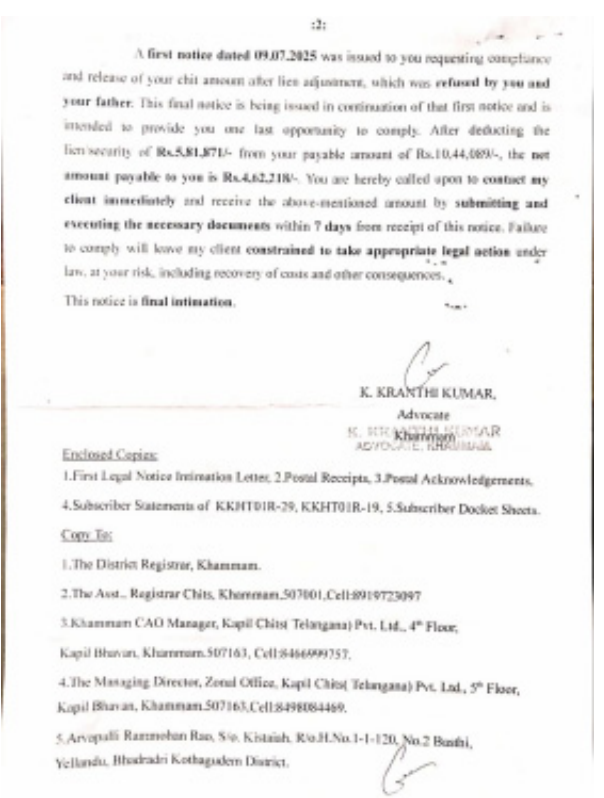
Karimnagar September 28, Khaja Sikandar Mohiuddin (Correspondent): The Karimnagar district unit of the Congress organised a rally and protest outside the Collectorate on Monday, demanding that alleged irregularities in the electoral roll revision process be addressed and democratic in-

stitutions protected. Led by Choppadandi MLA and district Congress president Dr. Medipalli Satyam, hundreds of party workers wearing black ribbons marched from Indira Chowk to the Collectorate. Effigies of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah were burnt during the protest.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Satyam alleged that the Election Commission had lost its independence under the present Union government and demanded the dismissal of Mr. Gyanesh Kumar. Manakondur MLA Dr. Kavvampalli Satyanarayana alleged that two Election Commissioners had raised objections 14 times over decisions relating to electoral rolls and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR). The allegations came against the backdrop of a recent Indian Express investigation which reported that Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi had formally objected at least 14 times over 10 months to decisions and orders concerning electoral rolls. The Election Commission, however, has maintained that all its decisions, including those relating to the SIR exercise, were unanimous and approved by all three Commissioners. Karimnagar Assembly Congress in-charge Velichala Rajender Rao, former MLA Arepalli Mohan, former SUDA chairman Komatireddy Narender Reddy, Corporation Congress president Vaidyula Anjan Kumar and other leaders participated in the protest. The leaders demanded restoration of deleted names, action on alleged irregularities and accountability in the electoral roll revision process.

“Kapil's chit fund is all fraud“Even if the note is cut.. Tears for payment!

--- Pain of not getting Rs. 7 lakhs even after 16 months of singing the song.. --- The victim Arvapalli Rammohan Rao and Revanth allege that they are serving time in the name of high penalties and fines. ---Khammam, September 28 : If Kapil hides his hard-earned hard earned money in a chit fund with the belief that “it will help in times of need. It will support in times of trouble”, finally the family is left with nothing but heart. Arvapalli Rammohan Rao and Revanth of Ilandu were moved to tears saying that they have been trying to find the money they need to support them for months but to no avail. “In a press conference organized at Khammam Press Club on Monday, the victim Rammohan Rao expressed his grief. Kapil Chit Fund in Ilandu branch Rs. He said that he has given two notes worth 15 lakhs and has been paying installments regularly. However, he complained that once the money owed to the branch manager was delayed without being deposited in the company's account and a heavy penalty was imposed on him. For protesting this injustice, he was transferred from Ilandu branch to Khammam branch without giving any information to him and two others were added as sureties without his knowledge. Not stopping at that, he expressed his concern that money was illegally transferred from an unsung chit to a sung chit, and that they were causing serious psychological problems by playing in the name of notices on blank papers. Even though 16 months have passed since the receipt of the letter, the amount due is Rs. 7 lakhs (including interest) is being passed around the office without payment and tears are welling up. He said that he has already written a complaint to the chit registrar, district registrar, IG and DIG about the management of the chit fund. The superiors responded and conducted a thorough investigation and pleaded for justice to be given to him along with interest. If justice is not done immediately, the other victims of Kapil's



chit fund, They warned that they would take out a grand dharna in front of the Khammam Chit Fund office along with their family members.

Entertained public art forms and performances “Red stick that trampled on the red stick“

“A huge display from the pavilion ground““Khammam, September 28: Public artists from both the Telugu states, Tamil Nadu and Orissa gave an impressive performance in an open meeting held in the premises of SR & BGNR College on the occasion of All India Kisan Mazdoor Sabhas. These performances were organized by Arunodaya Cultural Association. Above, they displayed their art skills. First, the horn artistes from Jangareddy Gudem Agency area danced rhythmically beating drums. Oggu Nai Mallakka Adilabad team performed, “Annadata Raitanna Annanrityam, the women's group performed wonderfully to explain the sufferings and exploitation of farmers. The tribal artists from Bhadrachalam area dressed in arrows and performed admirably. Impressive. The performance of Okalabrundham dressed as Gangireddu was impressive, the performance of Kolatam Dalam from Khammam region, the performance of Mahila Dappudalam pyramid from Mahabubabad was impressive. The Banjara performances of women from Tekulapally were impressive. After that, the story of Sikkolu Yuddam Jamukula was depicted visually by artists of Andhra Pradesh and Uttarandhra. Performed. Hyderabad artistes poetically performed a modern silent dance in memory of the immortal Naganna saying, “A man may die but a song does not die” and presented a wonderful visual on Naganna's immortality. The audience was impressed by the red flag songs sung in Tamil by artists from Tamil Nadu's Kolam district. Public artists from Orissa as well as various states sang songs on stage. For the first time in Khammam, artists from different districts and states. The art troupes not only entertained people but also impressed the people of Khammam. Arunodaya Telangana artists led the performances. P. Venu, Udayagiri, Srisailam, Waddenna, B., Lakshmanna, Jyoti, Manga, Umesh,



Mallanna Dadi and others led these performances. Thousands of people who came to the outdoor hall enjoyed the public art forms.

Banjara JAC wants public toilets built at Yellandu cross roads in Kothagudem

GNS News Agency, Sept 28Kothagudem: The Kothagudem Banjara Associations JAC has urged the district administration to construct public toilets at Yellandu crossroads, a major transit point near Kothagudem. JAC leaders staged a demonstration at the crossroads and later submitted a representation to the district Collector at the Prajavani meeting on Monday, requesting the construction of public toilets for the convenience of passengers. Speaking on the occasion, JAC chairman Banoth Veeru Naik said thousands of passengers commute daily through Yellandu crossroads in Laxmidevipalli mandal. The major junction connects Paloncha, Bhadrachalam, Manuguru, Yellandu, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Kothagudem and Khammam via National Highway 30. Passengers often have to switch RTC buses or auto-rickshaws at the crossroads instead of trav-



elling all the way to the Kothagudem bus stand, located nearly four kilometres away.

33 years after last campus vote, Maharashtra moves to revive student elections



Maharashtra moves to revive student elections, Maharashtra student elections, campus elections Maharashtra, student union elections, Maharashtra colleges, student politics, NEET paper leak protests, Lyngdoh Committee, Maharashtra Public Universities Act, campus politics, student protests, youth politics, Mumbai University, Indian express The committee has now been tasked to address concerns that have kept elections suspended while also working out a system that can bring them back without external political interference. (File) Students in Maharashtra last took part in a campus election in 1993. Thirty-three years later, the state government has taken a fresh step towards bringing back student elections, setting up a 12-member committee to examine how campus polls can be held across higher education institutions.

The Higher and Technical Education Department issued a Government Resolution (GR) on Thursday appointing the committee, headed by former Mumbai University Vice-Chancellor Prof Suhas Pednekar. It has been given a month to submit its report. The committee will consult stakeholders and recommend measures for peaceful, transparent and inclusive elections, with safeguards against external political interference and commercialisation of the process.

It will also examine the management and audit of student council funds, orientation and training of elected representatives, and the use of digital systems for nominations, scrutiny and grievance redressal. Why Maharashtra's campuses have gone 30 years without a student vote NSUI activists staged a demonstration at vice Chancellors office

at Mumbai University. (Express archive photo by A Srinivas 30.5.2000) Representation will also be examined, including mechanisms for women, students from all reserved categories and those involved in the National Service Scheme (NSS), National Cadet Corps (NCC), sports and cultural activities. The committee comprises former vice-chancellors and pro-vice-chancellors, principals, a senior law officer and university officials. Maharashtra's student elections were banned in the early 1990s following a series of incidents of campus violence, including the 1989 killing of NSUI student leader Owen D'Souza outside a Mumbai college during campaigning. The Maharashtra Universities Act, 1994, subsequently barred direct, competitive student elections, bringing an end to a system that had allowed students to elect their representatives on campuses. The first formal attempt to revive student elections came in 2016, when the Maharashtra Public Universities Act provided for elected Students' Councils in universities, colleges and departments.

Why Maharashtra's campuses have gone 30 years without a student vote NSUI activists burnt the effigy of AP Pradhan, Pro VC of Mumbai University, in protest against centralisation of admission by government at University campus. (Express archive photo by Vinayaka Prabhu) Detailed rules were framed in 2018, and universities prepared to hold elections in 2019. The state cabinet, however, deferred the polls citing law-and-order concerns and their proximity to the Assembly elections. The elections were never held. The issue remained dormant through the Covid-19 pandemic. It returned to focus after the recent Gen Z protests, which saw significant participation by young people across Maharashtra. The Indian Express reported in August on the renewed demand for student elections, as youth and student organisations stepped up membership drives after the protests. Why Maharashtra's campuses have gone 30 years without a student vote Members of ABVP demonstrating in front of Mumbai University demanding resignation of Vice Chancellor on 7.4.99. (Express archive photo by Vinayaka Prabhu) The latest move is therefore the first formal exercise towards revival since the 2019 postponement. The committee has now been tasked to address concerns that have kept elections suspended while also working out a system that can bring them back without external political interference.

IIT Bombay rethinks disciplinary action, mentor support after Sahil Wakode's suicide

GNS News Agency, Sept 28

Days after Sahil Wakode's suicide at the IIT Bombay hostel after being allegedly caught using his mobile phone for answers, the newly formed committee at the institute has proposed ways to handle such cases — which include allowing students to speak to their mentors before a disciplinary action is taken against them. Among other things is listing consequences for exam malpractice on the first page of answer sheets. The proposals are part of a planned overhaul of how such cases are handled at IIT Bombay. These are among the measures being discussed by a newly constituted committee at IIT Bombay that will frame student-friendly Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for invigilators and review the manner in which incidents of suspected academic misconduct are dealt with.

The committee will have equal representation of faculty and students, a move that comes days after students included greater representation in decision-making bodies among the 18 demands in a charter submitted to IIT Bombay director on September 20. The move comes days after the death of Sahil Wakode, a second-year BTech student, who was allegedly found with a mobile phone inside an examination hall during the mid-semester examinations. IIT Bombay's initial statement had said he was allegedly found using an AI platform to seek answers to questions. The institute has also further postponed the remaining mid-semester examinations. The papers, earlier rescheduled for September 26 and 27 after being postponed on September 18, will now be held on October 10 and 11, according to a communication from the Dean Academics Programmes (AP) to students. A separate email from the General Secretary (Academics) informed students about the constitution of the new committee.

The postponement allows time for the newly constituted committee, which has equal student representation, to prepare a clear and student-friendly Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for invigilators, along with revised rules regarding academic misconduct. The aim is to ensure fair and consistent conduct of examinations, with due consideration for students' concerns," the email said. It added that student stakeholders had been consulted before the changes to the examination schedule. The committee is also expected to lay down clear, step-by-step procedures for invigilators dealing with suspected academic misconduct, including the action to be taken at each stage. The revised SOP and rules will be placed before the Senate for approval before they are implemented, the email said. According to sources, the institute is reviewing the rules on disciplinary



action for academic malpractice notified in July 2026. While those rules lay down the consequences of various forms of misconduct, the new committee is expected to focus on how these rules are implemented, with an emphasis on ensuring that the process does not unnecessarily add to the stress faced by students.

One proposal under discussion is allowing a student caught allegedly copying or committing another form of examination malpractice to speak to their student mentor before appearing before a disciplinary committee. "Every fresher at IIT Bombay is connected with a student mentor, who is essentially a senior student who has spent three to four years on campus. Getting caught copying, particularly when it can lead to serious consequences, can cause considerable mental stress. Speaking to a mentor can help reassure the student that it does not necessarily mean the end of their IIT journey. They can be shown examples of students who have faced similar situations and bounced back. This could help the student relax, reflect and avoid isolating themselves," said a source.

Another proposal is to print the rules and possible consequences of examination malpractice on the first page of the answer sheet. "Many students are still unaware of the consequences of examination malpractice. As a result, they may either overestimate or underestimate its impact on their academic journey at IIT Bombay. Having the consequences clearly stated on the answer sheet will give students greater clarity and can also act as a deterrent," said a source. Faculty members have also stressed the need for clear instructions for invigilators on conducting examinations and handling suspected cases of academic misconduct, the General Secretary (Academics) said in the email. The institute is also recirculating information among students about the mental health support available on campus.

Vishal, a former employee at Vineet's pharmacy on Birhana Road, told police that Shalu had allegedly hired him for Rs 6 lakh to kill her father-in-law. Shalu had denied the allegation during questioning. The case took a turn during the police custody remand of the three accused, when investigators confronted Subrat with the others. After several rounds of questioning and cross-examination, police said Subrat admitted to his role. Police now allege that Subrat had paid the two men to kill Vineet and had instructed them to pin the blame on Shalu if they were caught. 'Arranged marriage' Shalu, 30, is the youngest of three siblings. Her family runs a bakery business in Lucknow. She holds a B.Ed degree. She and Subrat got married in 2020 in an arranged marriage, Dheeraj said. After the wedding, she moved into her in-laws' flat in Kanpur. The family had considered it a good match. Vineet was among Kanpur's leading pharmaceutical businessmen, with a retail and wholesale medicines business, while Subrat worked for his father. Shalu had never told her family about facing any problems at her in-laws' house. "There may have been minor issues, as in any family, but she never shared any such concerns with us. She never told us about any dispute between her and her father-in-law," he said. In the days after Vineet's murder, Subrat neither met nor spoke to members of Shalu's family.

Surat medical college PG student 'dies by suicide'



Surat medical college suicide, Surat medical college student dies by suicide, Surat medical college PG student dies by suicide, Ahmedabad news, Gujarat news, Indian express, current affairs On August 9, a 30-year-old student identified as Harsh Pandya allegedly died by suicide at his hostel room. A 28-year-old postgraduate student at the Government Medical College in Surat allegedly died by suicide by slitting both his hands on Thursday afternoon, police said.

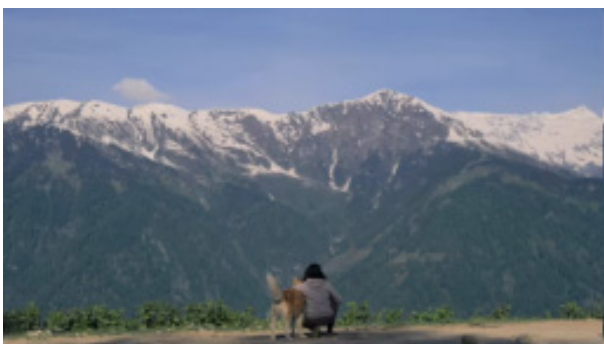
Dr Yogendra Prajapati, who was a third-year student in the anatomy department, allegedly injured himself at the dissection hall of the department, the Khatodara police added. This was the second such incident at the Surat medical college in under two months. "Dr Prajapati had been in the dissection hall since morning and was involved in the undergraduate students' examination. His own third-year

exams had concluded last week, and he was completing some remaining terms," in-charge Medical Superintendent Dr Parul Vadgama was quoted as saying by PTI.

Dr Prajapati lived with his wife, four-year-old son and parents at the college's hostel quarters. Police sources said Dr Prajapati, a resident doctor at New Civil Hospital, had been at the dissection wing since the morning. When alone after his colleagues left in the afternoon, he allegedly used a sharp object to cut blood vessels near the elbows of both his hands, they added. The reasons for his extreme step were not clear, the officials said. Dr Prajapati was found unconscious on the floor by one of the students. Dr Vadgama, Dean Dr. Jayesh Brahmabhatt and the police control room were then informed.

The police said a case of accidental death had been registered against the incident and that they spoke to the family members. Khatodara police inspector N V Bharwad said, "We have not found any suicide note. The reason behind him taking such a drastic step is not yet known. This year was his last of his MD in anatomy. At present, it is difficult to say anything, but we are probing the case." On August 9, a 30-year-old student identified as Harsh Pandya allegedly died by suicide at his hostel room. A probe found that the first-year student of the microbiology department had faced verbal abuse and humiliation, and four senior resident doctors were subsequently booked in a criminal case and suspended. The four accused, however, were yet to be arrested by police.

At IIC today, a film on how a Husky from Pune took his human to the snow



Oslo: Tail of Promise, film on how a Husky from Pune took his human to the snow, The Farm, Protecterra Ecological Foundation, National Defence Academy (NDA), Pooja Bhale, delhi news, India news, Indian express, current affairs During one shoot, with the cameras positioned for Oslo's first encounter with snow, a group of goats decided to tag along. Oslo simply bypassed the snow and took off in the opposite direction, leaving the crew in splits.

"Private: Farm Residents Only. Basically dogs, cats, animals, witches and angels may enter." A notice board with these words, mounted in an enclosure of bamboo, boards, nets and creepers near Pune's National Defence Academy, sets the tone for 'The Farm', a flagship project of Protecterra Ecological Foundation, an environment advocacy organisation founded by Pooja Bhale, a Pune-based conservation biologist. "We have 20 cats, 11 dogs and, as of 2026, 11 goats," says Bhale. Recently, a new mud structure has come up on the campus — dedicated to Oslo, a Siberian Husky who died after living with Bhale for 13 years. Draped over it are his blue towel, woollen socks he collected as arthritis stiffened his limbs, and the charpy on which he used to sprawl. On Friday, Oslo: Tail of Promise, a documentary about the dog and Bhale, will be screened at the India International Centre in Delhi.

Oslo: Tail of Promise, film on how a Husky from Pune took his human to the snow, The Farm, Protecterra Ecological Foundation, National Defence Academy (NDA), Pooja Bhale, delhi news, India news, Indian express, current affairs The film, she hopes, will help spread awareness. Directed by Pune-based Isha Pungalaya and produced by actor John Abraham, Minnakshi Das and Amey Gosavi, the documentary follows Bhale and Oslo on a 5,000-km journey from Pune to the Himalayas. It is, says Pooja, about a promise. "The promise that I made to Oslo or he made to me is that we will go to the snow every year,

that he belongs in the snow," says Bhale. Oslo came into Bhale's life when he was five-and-a-half months old. By then, he had already moved through six houses. His blue eyes reminded Bhale of the Northern Lights, so she named him Oslo. "The word Oslo, in ancient Norse, also means the stream by the bottom of a mountain. It also means God of the mountains in ancient Norse cultures," says Bhale.

From 2014, the two travelled to the snow every year. The idea for the documentary came during a 2022 trip. "On one of the trips, while we were stuck in a traffic jam, Oslo was cranky and put his head out of the window. Immediately, all the windows around me rolled down and people started talking and children were giggling. I thought that we must document this impact that he has on people, how he makes people happy, and that became this incredible film," says Bhale. In 2015, she moved to The Farm full-time, living in a tent. "I felt that I was hypocritical by living in a swanky penthouse in the city. I can't talk about sustainability and consciousness and living with the earth if I did not walk my talk. The tent is my only home," she says, pointing to the tent that holds a bed and work table, among other basic necessities. There are few locked doors at The Farm. "We don't have boundaries at The Farm. Animals can go in and out, wild animals can come in and out. I don't own any keys except my car key. I have not locked a door for a long time. I am dating a woman. I am divorced. I prefer the company of nature to anything else. But, I am true to myself. The person that I see in the mirror is happy," she says. The documentary carries three messages — 'Shared Planet', 'Adopt, Don't Shop' and 'Nature is Sentient'. It was shot in May 2023 and January 2024. Pungalaya was firm that they were "not going to even consider making an animal perform because it's unethical and problematic". "As filmmakers, we have to be watchful and observant. Visiting The Farm helped me see patterns before the shoot," she says. The film uses archival material as Bhale had been recording her trips. During one shoot, with the cameras positioned for Oslo's first encounter with snow, a group of goats decided to tag along. Oslo simply bypassed the snow and took off in the opposite direction, leaving the crew in splits.

Bhale says that Huskies are among the most abandoned breeds because people don't understand what they require. "Everybody thinks that it has to do with weather and air-conditioning. Of course, they don't belong to the climate of the plains but the greater challenge is that Huskies are working dogs who require high-energy activity. Their brain has evolved to traverse thousands of kilometers through snow pulling sleds," says Bhale.

Followed by men who tried to pull me, friend into car: Hindu College student alleges



Amid growing concerns over women's safety in the Capital, a postgraduate student of Delhi University's Hindu College has alleged that a group of men in a car followed her and her friend, while also attempting to pull them into the vehicle in Mukherjee Nagar, police said. The incident took place around 9:30 pm on Wednesday. Police said the car allegedly involved in the incident has been traced and that an FIR has been registered at the Mukherjee Nagar police station. As per a video posted on social media by the complainant, the first-year master's student said she and her friend were walking when a white car approached them.

The men inside allegedly passed comments at the two women. When they objected, the men allegedly abused them and began following them, she said. As per police, the car was being driven by one Naman, a Delhi University student, and two to three other people were accompanying him at the time of the alleged incident. The student further alleged that when she and her friend stopped to record the incident, the men also stopped their vehicle and attempted to pull them inside. The men fled after her friend began recording the car, she claimed. The student also alleged that the two women approached three police stations over nearly four hours before their complaint was registered. They were initially told that the matter did not fall under the jurisdiction of the police station concerned, she alleged. Police said they are looking into the allegation regarding the delay and the

women's visits to multiple police stations. "Police... traced the car allegedly used in the incident," DCP (Northwest) Akanksha Yadav said. The FIR has been registered under sections 78 (stalking), 79 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) and 3(5) (common intention) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Further investigation is underway, police said.

Telangana sets up TG-TMARS bureau for traffic management, road and rail safety

Hyderabad: The State government has ordered the establishment of the Telangana Traffic Management, Road and Rail Safety Bureau (TG-TMARS) as a specialised wing of the State Police to bring traffic management, enforcement, highway patrolling and road crash investigation under a common framework.

The order said the existing Traffic Wings in commissionerates and districts lacked a common command for standards, technology, training, analytics and review. Headquartered in Hyderabad with jurisdiction across Telangana, TG-TMARS will be headed by an officer of the rank of Additional Director General of Police or Inspector General of Police, designated as Director. The Bureau will function under the administrative and disciplinary control of the DGP, while implementing decisions of the State Road Safety Council.

The new bureau will have two principal wings — Traffic and Road and Rail Safety. Its responsibilities will include statewide traffic management, electronic and physical enforcement, operation of traffic control rooms, highway patrolling, road crash investigation, enforcement analytics and prosecution monitoring.

Enabling voting rights for migrants



Bihar, a State with one of the largest out-migration populations in India, is going to the polls later this year. This time, again a significant proportion of the State's population will be unable to exercise their franchise.In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, voter turnout in Bihar was 56%, significantly lower than the national average of 66%. Since more than half the households in Bihar are exposed to migration in some form, a likely factor to have significantly influenced low voter turnout was the large migrant population, which was unable to return home to vote.Patterns of migrationIn 2021, the overall migration rate in India was 28.9%. A significant portion of migration in India is for marriage, especially among women. Around 10%, however, migrate for work. This number is significantly higher in certain northern and eastern States such as Bihar. With an ever-increasing number of migrants travelling from poorer to richer areas in search of employment, the number of those effectively disenfranchised will only increase, unless mechanisms are put in place to facilitate voting by migrants. In an attempt to solve the issue, public discussions have been held. The Election Commission of India (ECI) put forth a concrete proposal in 2024. But no single mechanism for voting for migrants has been implemented.

Different kinds of policies and mechanisms are needed to enable voting for different kinds of migrants (intra and inter-State migrants). Intra-State migrants (around 85% of migrants) working in the informal sector could be encouraged to travel relatively shorter distances to vote in their original place of residence. However, they would need a measure of support from the government. Stricter enforcement of the statutory holiday on polling day would ensure that these workers are able to travel to vote without loss of wages. Special bus services could also be scheduled on the eve of and on polling day.

Inter-State migrants working in the informal sector are a large, growing and vulnerable population and need a different set of voting mechanisms. Three possibilities can be explored for this section. The first is an option designed to cater to the large population of migrants in irregular and low-paying jobs, such as in the construction sector. Workers in

these jobs may not have permanent residences with address proofs. In 2023, the ECI showcased a pilot project of remote electronic voting machines (RVMs). Each of these was an EVM modified to cater to up to 72 constituencies. Political parties objected to this project. They said there was ambiguity over its functioning. They also cited issues such as problems in identification of migrants and the Code of Conduct being in place in the constituency where the migrant was residing. The project also appeared to be administratively difficult to implement at scale: when a large State with a large out-migration population goes to the polls, migrants from the State who currently reside across the country would be required to notify the ECI months in advance so that the ECI can make the necessary arrangements on polling day. If the ECI finds that in a given city, there are migrants from all 243 constituencies of Bihar, it would need to set up at least four RVMs across the city. The administrative difficulties would only be compounded during the Lok Sabha elections. As complex and challenging as the RVM proposal seems, it was the first major attempt by the ECI to facilitate voting for migrants. With more consultation and fine-tuning, this system could benefit many.Another option is postal ballots. This system is already being implemented by the ECI for members of the armed forces. An extension of this model could help many migrants. Here, too, the ECI would require migrants to register with the body well in advance, so the postal ballots can be issued. Operationally, this appears to be the easier form of remote voting to implement. However, the ECI would have to organise registration, issue ballot papers, and despatch these ballots to counting centres after voting — all major administrative efforts.

The last option — switching voting constituencies — is suitable for the longer term for more permanent migrants who can prove their residence in a constituency for at least six months. The argument here is that longer-term migrants of an area would likely be more concerned about the politics and policies of their current place of residence. The ECI should also take extra effort to enrol longer-term migrants of the informal sector in their current place of residence. This will empower them to pressure governments to implement more migrant-friendly policies. While this move may face significant opposition from longer-term residents of the area, it would empower one of the most vulnerable sections of the population.Separately, as a significant number of migrant populations across the country are women who migrate after marriage, voting drives could also be carried out to enrol these women on the voter lists of their new place of residence.A mixed approachEach of these options has its advantages and disadvantages. Enabling voting by migrants is a complex task and is made more complex by the heterogeneity of migrants. Therefore, an approach that uses all these options will enable a significant share of both inter- and intra-State salaried and casual migrants to exercise their right to vote.

Trouble from within

During its campaign for the 2023 Assembly elections in Karnataka, the Congress focused on the alleged corruption of the previous Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government and on claims that contractors had to shell out a “40% commission” for all government works. This catapulted the party to power.Two years later, ironically, the Siddaramaiah-led Congress regime is facing the same stigma of corruption. The party is struggling to fend off charges not from contractors but its own party legislators, much to the glee of the two Opposition parties — the BJP and Janata Dal (Secular).

An audio clip, allegedly featuring a conversation between B.R. Patil, a senior Congress MLA and State Planning Commission Deputy Chairman, and Sarfaraz Khan, a close associate of the Housing Minister, B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan, has put the Congress government on the back foot.In the clip, Mr. Patil is heard alleging that houses were allotted under the Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Ltd. in exchange for bribes, which had embarrassed the Chief Minister. Mr. Siddaramaiah is himself facing allegations of corruption in connection with the illegal allotment of 14 sites (now surrendered) by the Mysore Urban Development Authority to his wife Parvathi. The Congress had to earlier deal with a scam in the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation, which led to the resignation of Minister B. Nagendra.

As loyalists of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah appear to have taken a break from dissident activities, which included the demand that Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar be removed from the multiple posts he holds, it seems to be the turn of senior party legislators to voice discontent over the alleged corruption and administrative inaction.Even before the Opposition could intensify its call for the resignation of Mr. Zameer Ahmed Khan, who is one of the Chief

Minister's key loyalists, Congress MLAs Raju Kage and Belur Gopalkrishna expressed outrage over the alleged corruption in the allotment of houses to eligible beneficiaries, and sought the Minister's resignation. Mr. Kage said that the State administration had collapsed.The alleged housing scam has provided more fodder to the BJP and JD(S). The Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, R. Ashok, accused the government of collecting ₹25 crore from each Minister for meeting the party's expenses in the upcoming elections in Bihar. JD(S) leader and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy claimed that whenever a legislator wishes to implement a scheme in their constituency, they have to make a “payment”. Similar complaints had emerged earlier. Yelburga MLA and the Chief Minister's Economic Adviser, Basavaraj Rayareddy, had claimed that Karnataka is “number one in corruption”. Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda had candidly acknowledged helplessness in curbing corruption at the lower levels in his department.Raids by officials of the Karnataka Lokayukta across the State have added heft to the corruption charges. Recently, Home Minister G. Parameshwara and former MP D.K. Suresh, who is Mr. Shivakumar's brother, came under the scanner of the Enforcement Directorate (ED). While ED sleuths raided institutions linked to Mr. Parameshwara in connection with actor Ranya Rao's gold smuggling case, they questioned Mr. Suresh in a money laundering case against city-based businesswoman Aishwarya Gowda.Unlike his first term (2013-18), Mr. Siddaramaiah has apparently been denied a free hand to take decisions. Several factors are affecting the quality of governance and feeding the alleged corruption — the inept handling of administrative duties owing to factionalism within the party, the existence of multiple centres of power (Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, and the party high command), and the compulsions of implementing the Congress's five guarantees.Already under fire from the Opposition for “halting” developmental work, the government is now facing growing criticism from its ranks for denying funds. Public cynicism that corruption has become “normal” in State politics, irrespective of the party in power, is also growing. If deep-rooted corruption goes unchecked, it will retard the growth of the State and cause more suffering among socially and economically disadvantaged communities.

Gazans burn plastic waste to cook in makeshift shelters

United Nations: Civilians in Gaza face another deadly hazard, alongside hunger, gunfire, and bombardment — burning plastic waste just for cooking, UN humanitarians said.The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in a report on Wednesday stated, “Shelling and bombing across the (Gaza) Strip continue to have a devastating impact on civilians, reportedly killing and injuring scores of people, many of whom were seeking aid.” Partners report that in the absence of fuel, cooking gas, and electricity, people are burning plastic waste.”OCHA said that when such fires occur in makeshift shelters or tents, poor ventilation poses tremendous safety and health risks to vulnerable family members, including children and older individuals. The Red Cross Field Hospital in Rafah received a mass casualty influx of 149 cases, as reported by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), on Tuesday.

“All responsive patients reported they were wounded while on their way to an aid distribution site,” the ICRC said. “Sixteen people were declared dead on arrival, and three more died of their wounds shortly after. The vast majority of patients reportedly suffered gunshot injuries.”The casualties among food-seeking Gazans usually occur at distribution centers of the non-UN, US-operated, and Israeli-approved militarised Gaza Humanitarian Foundation. The ICRC reported that it had to activate its mass casualty procedures 20 times since May 27, adding, “The scale and frequency of

these incidents is an alarming testament to the intolerable dangers civilians face as they attempt to access assistance.”The UN Population Fund reported that 80 percent of critical care units, including those used for childbirth, are at a risk of shutting down, when there is a daily average of 130 births in Gaza. The humanitarian office said that community kitchens were able to prepare more than 200,000 meals every day this week. However, compared with the over 1 million meals distributed daily at the end of April, it represents a reduction of about 80 percent, a trickle offered to people on the brink of famine. “To facilitate the orderly distribution of aid, supplies must be channeled daily through multiple crossings and land routes simultaneously, thereby ensuring people that the flow of essential support is steady, sufficient, and reliable,” the Office said.OCHA also reported that the world body and its partners attempted to coordinate 15 humanitarian movements inside Gaza on Tuesday, but only four were fully facilitated by the Israeli authorities. Seven other attempts were denied outright, preventing teams from trucking water, retrieving broken trucks, or repairing roads.According to the Office, three other missions were initially approved, which later impeded on the ground, although one was ultimately accomplished on Wednesday. Another mission had to be canceled by the organisers. OCHA said tens of thousands of students were unable to sit for this year's general secondary examination,

A quiet oasis in Egmore, Mayor Sundar Rao Park could do with better maintenance



If you're looking for a park in the heart of the city where you can walk, walk some more, and then perhaps rest on a bench, Mayor Sundar Rao Park in Egmore might fit the bill.Nestled between the Cooum River and Rukmani Lakshmiapathi Road, the park is a long, narrow stretch that doesn't seem like a park at first glance. However, enter it, and old, drooping green trees sag comfortably over benches, a large, raised stone circle offers a cool spot for naps, and the sounds of traffic from outside, dip.Facilities-wise, the park does not boast of much — there is no children's area, no exercise equipment, no waterbody or fountain. The park only

has an approximately 400-metre-long walking track, assiduously used by a number of local residents.M. Abbas, a regular user for the past three years, says the park offers a cool respite from the heat outdoors and serves as a convenient spot for a quick walk. One thing that walkers would like to see, he says, is drinking water facilities and better maintenance of the toilets.Some more greenery too, would not go amiss. Though there are plants and shrubbery on both sides of the walking path, some spots in between it remain bare.Lack of cleanlinessOverall, the park is well maintained, though the lack of an afternoon clean leads to some garbage piling up, says 19-year-old Yogith Kumar, also a daily walker. “

The park is cleaned in the mornings, and the plants are watered, but people come in here in the afternoons and eat and snack and there is spillage and trash that remains on the walking path because there is no second round of cleaning,” he points out.Earlier, says Raja P.P.S., a 74-year-old who has been coming to the park for 10 years, the food waste used to attract rats and snakes, and though this has considerably declined, it still remains an issue. Ideally, he says, there should be more civic responsibility amongst residents; food waste and garbage should not be thrown in the first place, and everyone should be involved in keeping the greenspaces of the city clean.

Hair colour and scalp health: what you should know before you dye your hair

From covering greys to making a bold style statement, hair colouring is now a common part of everyday life. For many people, it is more than just beauty: it is about confidence and self-expression. But few pause to think about what these hair dyes are doing to their scalp, hair, and long-term health.

“Most hair colours work using strong chemicals like paraphenylenediamine (PPD) and hydrogen peroxide,” explains S. Suresh Gautam, a consultant dermatologist at Dr. Mehta's Hospitals (Global Campus), Chennai. These ingredients allow the colour to go deep into the hair shaft and stay for long periods. However, they can also irritate the scalp and cause allergic reactions, especially if used frequently or without proper precautions.

PPD is one of the most common causes of such reactions. Dr. Suresh says that in his clinic, he often sees people with oozing scalps, eye swelling, or intense itching within a day of applying hair dyes. Some develop dark patches or rashes on their skin after months or even years of regular use. The problem, he says, is that many people do not realise that their symptoms are linked to their hair dye. They may believe it is a new shampoo or stress, when in fact, the allergy builds up gradually through repeated exposure.In recent years, many brands have started advertising “herbal” or “ammonia-free” dyes as gentler alternatives. But Dr. Suresh cautions that these products are not always as safe as they sound. While they might reduce scalp irritation or dryness to some extent, they can still cause allergic reactions. Some so-called herbal dyes contain hidden synthetic chemicals that are not listed clearly on the packaging. Since there is little regulation in this area, consumers often assume these products are harmless when they are not.Choosing the right hair dyeWhen choosing a hair dye, it is important to read beyond the branding. Look closely at the ingredients list, especially for compounds like PPD, ammonia, and resorcinol. While darker shades usually contain more PPD, some brands now offer low-PPD or PPD-free options, which may reduce the risk of allergic reactions. Semi-permanent or plant-based dyes are often gentler, though they may not last as long. “If a product does not clearly list its ingredients or makes vague claims like ‘100 percent natural’ without backing, it is better to be cautious,” says Dr. Suresh. He also warns against buying unregulated dyes from informal markets or social media sellers, where product safety is harder to verify.It also helps to be realistic about the hair's condition and your expectations. Damaged or previously-treated hair absorbs colour differently, and may become more brittle with repeated chemical exposure. Consulting a trained hair professional, especially for processes like bleaching or frequent touch-ups, can make a big difference. A salon that prioritises scalp protection, uses



gloves and barrier creams, and does not overlap dye on already-coloured hair can help reduce long-term damage. For those with sensitive skin or existing skin conditions, it is best to consult a dermatologist before starting, or switching hair colour products.Steps to protect scalp and hairTo protect the scalp and hair, dermatologists recommend a few important steps. Dr. Suresh advises that before using any new hair dye, even one that has been used before, people should do a patch test to check for any allergic reaction. Hair should not be washed just before colouring, and if the scalp is already itchy, red, or injured, it is best to wait. Applying a little petroleum jelly along the hairline and behind the ears can also help prevent the dye from irritating the skin. After colouring, it is important to rinse the scalp thoroughly and wash it with a mild, sulfate-free shampoo. Using a nourishing conditioner can help keep the hair soft and reduce damage caused by chemicals.Long-term exposure and related health concernsSome people worry about whether long-term hair dye use could raise the risk of cancer. While early studies raised concerns, especially for hair professionals with regular exposure, the risk for occasional personal use is considered very low today. Dr. Suresh explains that modern dyes are generally safe, and many other factors like family history, smoking, and overall lifestyle have a greater impact on health. He still encourages people to choose safe dyes when possible, use them less frequently, and avoid keeping them on longer than necessary.Hair colour can be a powerful way to express yourself and boost your confidence. But it is not without risks, especially for the skin and scalp. What you put on your hair comes into close contact with your skin, and that skin deserves the same care and attention as the rest of your body. “As dermatologists, we are not telling people to stop colouring their hair,” says Dr. Suresh. “We just want them to do it safely, with a little more awareness.”Ultimately, beauty and health do not have to be at odds. With the right knowledge and careful choices, it is possible to enjoy hair colour without putting your scalp or well-being at risk. Colour can be bold, expressive, and fun, but it should also be informed.

‘Space travel alters worldview, Earth belongs to everyone,’ says Rakesh Sharma as Shubhanshu Shukla’s Axiom-4 mission makes history for India

Astronaut Rakesh Sharma, the first Indian to journey into space in 1984, said that space travel alters the mindset of humans, making them see the world from a perspective where “this planet belongs to everyone” and is not the sole preserve of anyone.He shared his thoughts in a recorded podcast shared by the Ministry of Defence on the day India returned to space after 41 years, as Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla from India and three other astronauts set forth on a landmark space odyssey on Wednesday (June 25, 2025).Mr. Sharma had spent eight days in orbit in the erstwhile Soviet Union's Salyut-7 space station in 1984.The Axiom-4 crew, Pilot Shubhanshu Shukla of India, Mission Specialist Tibor Kapu of Hungary, Commander Peggy Whitson of the U.S., and Mission Specialist Sławosz Uznanski-Wisniewski of Poland, react as they greet their family members before their mission to the International Space Station, in Cape Canaveral, Florida, U.S., June 24, 2025.The Axiom-4 crew, Pilot Shubhanshu Shukla of India, Mission Specialist Tibor Kapu of Hungary, Commander Peggy Whitson of the U.S., and Mission Specialist Sławosz Uznanski-Wisniewski of Poland, react as they greet their family members before their mission to the International Space Station, in Cape Canaveral, Florida, U.S., June 24, 2025. [Photo Credit: Reuters]Mr. Shukla scripted history by embarking on a space travel mission, along with three others from the U.S., Poland, and Hungary, to the International Space Station as part of a commercial mission by Axiom Space.Sharma recollects historic flightIn the podcast released Wednesday night, Mr. Sharma, who had famously said, ‘Sare Jahan Se Acha...’ during his time in the orbit, said he was a test pilot in the Indian Air Force when the selection happened.He later retired as wing commander from the IAF. “Because I was a test pilot when the selection happened... that time, I was young, I was fit, and I had the qualification, so I was lucky enough to have been chosen. Then, after selection, we moved to Star City, just outside Moscow, for our training.Qualified cheer: The Hindu editorial on Shubhanshu Shukla, Axiom-4 mission “The training went on for 18 months, which culminated in the Indo-Soviet spaceflight in 1984. It was an eight-day mission, and we carried

out experiments which were designed by Indian scientists,” he said.Mr. Sharma recalled that the entire training and communication with crew members and mission control while they were in orbit was in Russian.“We had to learn the language before we started training, and that was not easy because of the paucity of time. So, we took about two months to learn the language,” he said.Different eraWhile the Indo-Soviet spaceflight took place in an analogue era when very few owned a television, the Axiom-4 mission lift-off was watched by people on TV screens and mobile phones live across the globe.After multiple delays, Elon Musk's SpaceX launch vehicle with Crew Dragon spacecraft atop a Falcon-9 rocket blasted off from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida at 12:01 pm (IST) carrying mission pilot Shukla, former NASA astronaut Commander Peggy Whitson and mission specialists Tibor Kapu of Hungary and Sławosz Uznanski-Wisniewski of Poland.“Kamaal ki ride thi (It was an amazing ride),” Mr. Shukla said 10 minutes after the Dragon spacecraft was placed in orbit around the Earth at an altitude of 200 km as part of the Axiom Mission 4(Ax-4).In the podcast, Mr. Sharma, when asked how he felt watching the world and India from space, exclaimed, “Oh dear! Beautiful.” “In our country, we got everything: we got a long coastline, we got the ghats section, we got plains, we got tropical forests, we got mountains, Himalayas. It's a beautiful sight, different colours, different textures,” he said.Mr. Sharma said in space, days and nights are very unusual, as sunrises and sunsets happen at an interval of just 45 minutes.Mental impactHe said while space travel technology has changed, “as humans, we haven't changed much.” “The mental impact will always be there because humans will be able to get a different perspective. It does kind of alter the world view... (shows) the vast place in universe,” the veteran astronaut said.It changes the mindset, he emphasised.The IAF, in a post on X, said Mr. Shukla has set forth on a landmark space mission, carrying the pride of the nation beyond Earth.It also said, “This is a déjà-vu moment for India, 41 years after the mission of Sqn Ldr Rakesh Sharma, who first carried our Tricolour beyond Earth. Being more than a mission - it is a reaffirmation of India's ever-expanding horizon.”

Former Supreme Court judges back N Chandrasekaran’s reappointment as chairman



Two former Supreme Court judges have backed Tata Sons’ position on two contentious issues surrounding N Chandrasekaran’s reappointment as chairman — the validity of the September 17 board decision and the casting vote exercised by the chairman at the meeting.The September 17 board meeting saw four Tata Sons directors vote in favour of Chandrasekaran’s reappointment, while Tata Trusts Chairman Noel Tata opposed the proposal. Noel Tata subsequently wrote to Tata Sons questioning the validity of the decision and the use of the chairman’s casting vote.

Tata Sons has pushed back against the objections, citing legal opinions from two former Supreme Court judges, Justice B N Srikrishna and Justice Uday U Lalit. Their opinions support the company’s position on the validity of the reappointment process and the casting vote used at the board meeting.Justice Uday U Lalit, former Chief Justice of India, said, “In the present case, out of five Members of the Board who cast their vote on the proposal, except Noel Tata, other four Members had voted in favour of grant of Chairmanship to Chandrasekaran. Since there was equality of votes among the Directors appointment pursuant to Article 104(B), the presiding or the officiating Chairman, by putting his casting vote, satisfied the requirement under Article 121.”

In his legal opinion, Justice BN Srikrishna, former Supreme Court judge, said, “In my opinion, what has been done is perfectly consonant with the letter and spirit of Article 121.”“The proceedings before the Board were not intended to be deadlocked in any event, and that is why it is necessary to read this Article in a manner so as to ensure that the proceedings before the Board and the Querist’s business are taken forward and satisfactorily concluded,” Srikrishna said.“I am of the opinion that every Director has two duties — one his fiduciary to the company under the Companies Act and the other to the nominating entity. There is no doubt that the former duty must override the latter in

case of a conflict. That is because the former duty is statutory and the latter is only contractual. In the circumstances, Venu Srinivasan rightly acted pursuant to the statutory fiduciary duty,” Srikrishna said.

“Upon there being equality of votes amongst the Directors appointed pursuant to Article 104B, there was certainly an occasion for the Chairman to have a casting vote. In my view therefore, the resolution dated September 17, 2026 for approving the agenda was validly passed,” Lalit said. Harish Manwani who chaired the meeting after Chandrasekaran recused himself when the proposal came up, put his casting vote favouring his reappointment.Earlier, supporting the stance of Tata Trusts, former Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud separately provided a legal opinion saying the affirmative support of Tata Trusts’ nominee directors was required and that a chairperson’s casting vote could not replace a missing majority.According to Tata Trusts, the chairman’s casting vote is available only where there is equality of votes at the overall board level. “It does not apply among Tata Trusts’ Nominee Directors. Whether the result of the vote was 4:1, or any other figure, is irrelevant. A condition is either met, or it is not. In this case the condition was not met,” it said.

“AoA (Articles of Association) of Tata Sons do not leave any decision of the board to a mere head count of Directors. They provide that no decision can be taken unless it has the affirmative support of at least a majority of the Directors nominated by the Tata Trusts, who hold approximately 66% of the company. This is a separate condition under the AoA,” Tata Trusts said.A decision on reappointment will emerge only in the annual general meeting of Tata Sons which is expected in the coming weeks.According to the legal opinion of Senior Advocate Sudipto Sarkar, on a plain reading of Article 121, it can be said that the Chairman’s casting vote can be invoked in either of the following situations: where there is an equality of votes amongst the directors appointed pursuant to Article 104B; and where there is an equality of votes of the Board as a whole after taking into account the votes cast by all directors.

Accordingly, the expression “in the case of an equality of votes” may reasonably be construed as applying to either situation, Sarkar said.He said Article 118 would not apply to the proposed re-appointment of the Chairman. “Article 118 is expressly concerned with the selection of a “new Chairman”. The Chairman’s announcement that he will not offer himself for a further term does not alter his status as the incumbent Chairman, and he continues in office until the expiry of his current term in February 2027,” Sarkar said.

‘NSE belongs to entire nation’: Stock exchange lists at 1% premium in historic debut



The National Stock Exchange (NSE) made its historic market debut on Thursday, with its shares listing at Rs 1,800 apiece — an around 1% premium over its IPO price of Rs 1,785. Analysts had expected the shares to list at a 4-5% premium, based on their performance in the unlisted market over the past few days. The stock gained further on listing, ending the session at Rs 1,818, up 1% from its listing price, even as the overall market slumped nearly 2%. In fact, the stock had gained as much as 4.3% from its listing price intraday, before paring back some gains.

“Finally, the day we were all waiting for has arrived. NSE does not belong just to its shareholders, directors, and employees. It belongs to the entire nation,” said Srinivas Injeti, Chairperson of the stock exchange at its IPO press conference on Thursday. Despite the challenging market conditions, the exchange swiftly launched its public issue after clearing regulatory challenges due to its focus on “inherent value” instead of “market valuation,” he added.

The exchange listed with a market capitalisation of Rs 4.45 lakh crore, significantly higher than BSE’s current market-cap of Rs 1.33 lakh crore. While listing-day gains remained relatively muted, the stock’s performance in the near-to-medium term also depends on the additional equity that may be available to trade once the lock-in period for current shareholders ends, an analyst at a domestic brokerage said.According to current regulations, pre-IPO shareholders are not allowed to sell their shares for a period between 6-18 months after the public issue to protect investor interests. Notably, the NSE had reduced its issue size as many selling shareholders decided to hold onto their

shares due to lower-than-expected valuations and growth potential post-listing.Only about 5% of the exchange was sold during the IPO, with a large portion of it being lapped up by institutional and anchor investors, currently leaving a very slim portion to be freely traded in the open market at the moment.

While NSE’s shares got listed on the BSE, they were also admitted into the Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India (MSEI) through the ‘permitted to trade’ category. This category allows investors to trade a stock on a particular exchange without listing on it. The development came after NSE Managing Director and Chief Executive Ashishkumar Chauhan clarified it hasn’t reached out to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for permission for its shares to trade on its own platform. Under current regulations, the regulator does not allow shares of exchanges to trade on their own platform.

The much-awaited IPO saw high demand from investors and was oversubscribed by 5.71 times by the end of bidding for the issue. The retail portion of the issue was oversubscribed 1.39 times, while the institutional section saw even more demand, being oversubscribed by 12.68 times.A handful of broking firms started coverage on the stock with a positive view post-listing. “While revenue grew at 25% CAGR in FY21- 26, we build a CAGR of 11% over FY26-29 due to shrinking share in index options. We expect EBITDA margin to recover to 76% by FY29 (vs 71% in FY26) as one-offs get adjusted, in-line with PAT CAGR of 11%,” Prabhudas Lilladher said in a report.Despite shrinking volumes in the “cash-cow” derivatives segment, the firm expects revenues to be driven by listing services, colocation, data feed, and index licensing going forward.Moreover, the markets saw a sharp slump on Thursday as participants grew wary of surging crude oil prices, the resultant inflationary concerns, and rising bond yield — all exacerbated by the West Asia war that has continued since late February.The benchmark Nifty 50 index ended at 23,063.10, down 383.70 points or 1.6%. The Sensex slumped 1.7% or 1,247.71 points to close at 73,580.54. All sectoral and broader market indices ended in the red, with India VIX volatility indicator skyrocketing nearly 23%. This surge indicates that participants are plagued by uncertain market conditions, leading to volatility.

Brent crude hovers around \$106 amid hopes of Strait of Hormuz deal

New Delhi: Oil prices saw a drop on Friday after reports surfaced that the United States and Iran were exploring a phased agreement that could reopen the Strait of Hormuz, easing fears over supply disruptions linked to the conflict.Brent slipped toward \$105.6 a barrel after rising over 7 per cent over the previous two sessions, while West Texas Intermediate traded below \$94, amid hopes of restored Middle East flows as discussions were reportedly taking place on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly.Physical markets showed acute tightness, with record premiums paid for prompt barrels at Cushing, Oklahoma, the main US storage hub, according to multiple reports. Dated Brent has been trading at a wide premium to futures in Europe, underscoring scarce near-term supply.

Brent remains over 70 per cent higher for the year, adding to global inflationary pressure. White House informed that US President Donald Trump remained open to discussions with Iran while stressing the US would not negotiate from a position of weakness.Oil markets remain highly volatile with the US-Iran conflict approaching its seventh month. Changing expectations around the war, and speculations around Washington restricting diesel exports kept the prices volatile. Iran has maintained that it has sovereign control over the Strait of Hormuz, while the US has said the status



of the waterway should revert to normalcy before the conflict and imposed a blockade on Iranian ports.Saudi Arabia on Thursday intercepted missiles headed toward Yanbu and Taif, while Iran-backed Houthi militants launched further strikes against the Arabian kingdom.Around six ballistic missiles were reportedly intercepted and Saudi cautioned that further flare-up from the Iran-backed militants in Yemen would be dealt with firmly. Meanwhile French President Emmanuel Macron said France would deploy troops to help secure a Saudi energy facility.

Orry shares ‘harsh reality ’ he learned on ‘KKK 15’: ‘Sometimes, the trust we build is an illusion’



Mumbai: Social media personality Orry has opened up about the bonds he formed during his stint on the reality show ‘Khatron Ke Khiladi 15’, describing the experience as a lesson in trust, friendship and survival.Taking to Instagram, he addressed filmmaker Rohit Shetty and reflected on the intense environment of the show, where contestants spent

weeks together while navigating physically and emotionally challenging tasks.

Sharing his video with Ruhaanika Dhawan, Orry wrote, “Dear Rohit Ji, a harsh reality check...We all formed this intense, unbreakable bond in a claustrophobic envelope of shared psychological distress and emotional turmoil.”He said the shared experiences made the contestants feel like a family and turned them into each other’s “ultimate safe space”. “We started to feel like a family. We became each other’s ultimate safe space,” he added. However, Orry said returning to everyday life after the show made him realise that relationships formed under extreme circumstances can sometimes change once the environment changes.

It’s so easy to walk away from this journey of surreal suffering and never ending climaxes, thinking that the people you trusted out there in the wild will have your back forever. But stepping back into the real world brings a sobering and haunting realization: 40 days of intense communal trauma and triumph is just a tiny fraction of a lifetime.”He added, “Sometimes, the trust we build in high-pressure environments isn’t quite what it seems. It can be an illusion, a temporary oasis that dries up the second you re-enter reality. You think you know someone inside and out, but outside the show, they aren’t you the person you knew them to be. A little lesson in survival that I learnt the hard way: Not everyone who shares a tent with you in the wilderness is meant to sit at your table back home #KhatronKeKhiladi.”Orry was eliminated from ‘Khatron Ke Khiladi 15’ after sustaining an injury during a challenging stunt.

Angad Bedi remembers father Bishan Singh Bedi on his 80th birth anniversary

Mumbai: Actor Angad Bedi has remembered his late father, legendary cricketer Bishan Singh Bedi, on his 80th birth anniversary on Friday. He spoke about his legacy and the changes in their lives since his passing.Angad shared a video montage featuring his late father from his cricketing days, moments with family, photographs with daughter-in-law Neha Dhupia and hid grandchildren.Angad wrote in the caption: “Happy 80th today, Dad. Hope you are at peace with yourself. Mehr and Guriq are growing up well. Guriq has taken to cricket and football and Mehr is pushing herself in swimming and track n field.. Both the Nehas are fine (sic).”

He added: “Suhavi is shaping up well under gush pa guidance.. wished to share that your mrs is launching your book today.. and has done a splendid job in carrying the entire event on her shoulders.. giving credit where its due.. Gautam too is well (sic).”Angad said that he celebrates his father every day. “We all celebrate you everyday.. today just is extra special. I miss you, and you will be happy to know that im still running. Been a while since i filled you in.. We moved to a new house.. what else!!! yes everything else is still the same (sic)..”

Angad revealed that he has now added his father’s name to his. “Oh one more thing.. I added your name to mine.. Speak soon... Your Son..Angad Bishan Singh



Bedi(sic).”Bishan Singh Bedi passed away in New Delhi on 23 October 2023, at the age of 77. As for Angad, he was last seen in the 2023 Telugu romantic drama Hi Nanna, directed by Shouryuv. The film stars Nani and Mrunal Thakur in lead roles alongside Kiara Khanna, Jayaram and Priyadarshi Pulikonda.

The plot follows six-year-old Mahi, a girl battling cystic fibrosis, who lives with her loving father, Viraj.Her quest to learn about her absent mother leads to a chance encounter with Yashna, a woman unknowingly connected to her past, unraveling a heartfelt story of lost memories, love, and destiny.

Apple’s new watches are always listening



Melbourne: The latest Apple Watch models have some new features: They can listen to the sounds around you all day, transcribe snippets of conversation on demand, and write up summaries of everything they heard.This kind of ambient, always-on surveillance raises privacy concerns, which Apple addresses well. The company says audio is never “recorded” or stored, that nothing is attributed to any speaker, and all content is encrypted so even Apple cannot read it.I have no reason to doubt any of that. But my reaction to these features is still clear: ick.I’m not the only one who feels that way, and the ick deserves to be taken seriously. Let me explain why.

The conversation belongs to the roomThe new features may run into problems with privacy laws, particularly those that require consent from people being recorded, but also with unspoken social conventions about speech.When we talk with other people, we have some expectations about what happens to our words. Our comfort comes from what information scientist Helen Nissenbaum calls contextual integrity: the expectation that information moves around according to the norms of the setting in which it is shared.

What you say across a cafe table, in a bathroom, at a dinner party, at a town hall meeting or during a television broadcast is said for the people present and for the purposes apparent in that moment. Until now, our ambient conversations were not said for a auto-magical-summariser to fold into someone else’s searchable life records.Apple can encrypt, minimise and delete all it likes, but data protection isn’t the problem. The problem is a conversation has been quietly re-routed from the room where it happened into a device and service and product.These features are marketed as “opt-in”. But only the person wearing the Apple Watch gets to opt at all. Nobody else in the room has a choice.Apple seems to know this is a problem, so Live Rewind â•“ which transcribes the previous 15 seconds of speech on demand â•“ announces itself with a chime, an animation and a microphone indicator.

Siri Recap, the feature that runs all day and makes on-device summaries later, affords no such notice. You can see how a continuous chime and blinking light would make the feature unusable, and any watch unwearable.In places where confidentiality is expected â•“ whether for personal, commercial, or legal reasons â•“ devices with ambient recording features are likely to be unacceptable.Right now, the Apple Watch is welcome anywhere, like AirPods. The new features may change that â•“ and the cameras Apple reportedly plans to add to AirPods may do the same for the now-ubiquitous earphones.Meta’s video-recording smart glasses have already been banned in some workplaces and venues. The media often frame the problem with individual users, as with Meta’s so-called “pervert glasses”, but the tech industry has earned public distrust in its own right.Dictionaryes & EncyclopediasIt’s the trust, stupid

Tech companies have a reputation for misusing user data. One study of 14,000 apps found almost half violated their own privacy policies. Another study of almost 6,000 children’s apps found most may have been in breach of privacy law.Norms about ambient recording are already being set by other devices.

Meta’s smart glasses are one, and a recent crop of AI

pendants and pucks are in similar territory. These devices and services have broken integrity expectations (and privacy laws) again and again and again and again.Apple iOSurveys show most people already think their phones are listening to what they say in order to serve them ads. The irony of introducing a similar feature to everyone’s wrist should not be lost on Apple.

Nor are they unfamiliar with the need to get it right. The company paid out US\$95 million to settle a court case in 2025 over claims that Siri activated by accident and sent private audio to contractors, but did not acknowledge wrongdoing and maintains their focus is

A private way to record your day?

Apple is handling privacy in ways that are demonstrably better than others. Apple’s Private Cloud Compute, which powers the new features, is built so the company’s own staff cannot read what passes through it. The servers keep no logs and retain nothing after a user’s answer is returned.WatchesApple has promised to publish the software used in each Private Cloud Compute instance, so independent researchers can check it works as described.So, Apple’s privacy policy and software experience is backed by hardware open to inspection. It shows a precedent that others can follow. Seen in this way, the Rewind and Recap features demonstrate that always-on listening can be done without giving the data to anyone but the user.

Apple products have set social precedents in the past, as well. The iPod changed ideas about music piracy, and AirPods made it okay to have weird white sticks hanging out of your ears at all times.Consumer ElectronicsThe socialisation of Apple tech is not guaranteed, however. The futuristic Vision Pro goggles launched in 2024, for example, are still not cool.Nope is still a choiceDespite Apple’s efforts, the basic problem of a device that is always listening in public remains. It still violates our expectations about the integrity of a conversation belonging to the room.The ick feeling about Recap and Rewind comes from what Apple is actually selling: a new default understanding that a conversation is something that may be casually captured, analysed and used elsewhere by others.Apple is one of the most credible companies to ask us to accept that new default. Which is why those saying “nope” to breaking the contextual integrity of our conversations should be heard. If we don’t want that kind of tool in our lives — or the lives of others — we need to say it out loud: ick.

Joshna-Senthilkumar, Anahat, Abhay lead Indian squash's medal surge at Asian Games



Nagoya: Indian squash players assured themselves of three medals as Joshna Chinappa and Velavan Senthilkumar entered the mixed doubles semifinals, while Anahat Singh and Abhay Singh advanced to the last four in singles event at the Asian Games here on Friday. Joshna, playing in a record seventh Asian Games, and Senthilkumar began the winning spree with an 11-3, 11-5 victory over the Philippines' David Pelino and Jemyca Aribado in the mixed doubles quarterfinals. Junior world champion and medal favourite Anahat breezed past compatriot Tanvi Khanna 11-2, 11-5, 11-3 in the women's singles quarterfinals to stay on course for a coveted Olympic berth. Abhay, meanwhile, dispatched local favourite Ryonosuke Tsukue 11-4, 11-3, 11-6 to set up a semifinal clash with Pakistan's Irfan Muhammad, who got the better of Veer Chotrani. Chotrani squandered a one-game lead to go down 11-6, 8-11, 3-11, 3-11 to the Pakistani in 41 minutes. The men's and women's singles gold winners will directly qualify for 2028 Los Angeles Olympics where squash is set to make its debut. Joshna's sixth Asian Games medal, Joshna and Senthilkumar took less than half an hour to register a dominant win in the quarterfinal. They will take on Hong Kong's Yo Ka Lee and Ming Hong Tang in the semifinals.

It is the sixth Asian Games medal for 40-year-old Joshna. She already has a haul of two silver and three bronze medals at the continental event. She won a singles bronze in 2018 edition, a team silver each in 2014 and 2018,

and team bronze each in 2010 and 2022. Joshna, who is playing in her seventh successive Asian Games since the 2002 Busan edition, surpassed the earlier record of another Indian squash great Saurav Ghosal who retired last year after playing six times in the continental multi-sport event. The Indian duo completely dominated the quarterfinal match at the Nagoya Kinjo Futo Arena Court Number 6 with their power and clinical display. The experienced Joshna and the 28-year-old Senthilkumar, both from Tamil Nadu, complemented each other.

Joshna and Senthilkumar hardly broke a sweat to take the first game in nine minutes with the Philippines pair coming short in all departments of the game. The Indians were 3-0 up quiet early and they made it 9-2 in no time. The Filipinos took a point after that but Joshna and Senthilkumar were in a hurry, as they took the next two points and take the first game 11-3. The second game was a little bit tougher for the Indians as Pelino and Aribado tried a comeback after the Indians took a 3-0 lead. It was 4-2 midway in the second game, but that was the smallest gap the Philippines pair could muster. Thereafter, Joshna and Senthilkumar stepped to another gear, moving to 7-2 and then 8-4, before winning the second game 11-5 in 10 minutes to seal the match. "Winning a medal for your country is always very special. And that's been my motivation all my career," Joshna told PTI after the match.

On her preparations for the Asian Games, she said, "Well, I train abroad quite a bit. Like, I was in USA before the Asian Games. So I try to do it as much as I can. "Otherwise, I train at the Indian Squash Academy in Chennai. I work with all the coaches there. And before the Asian Games, I was working with (Australian great) David Palmer in USA." Senthilkumar, who is playing in his first Asian Games, said he and Joshna executed their pre-match plans to the "T". "It was a very good match, we played aggressive from the start till the very end. We executed our plans perfectly and both of us played really well," he said. "We have not played our opponents earlier, so we watched the videos of the matches they had played earlier and made our strategy."

PM Modi hails India's mixed 4x400m relay silver at Asian Games

GNS News Agency, Sept 28

Nagoya: The Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed India's mixed 4x400m relay team for an "exceptional performance" after the quartet clinched the silver medal at the 2026 Asian Games in Nagoya on Thursday. The Indian quartet of Machettira Poovamma Raju, Vishal Thennarasu, Vithya Ramraj and Thekkinalil Manu timed 3:14.46 to finish second in a closely fought final at the Nagoya City Mizuho Park Athletic Stadium. "An exceptional performance by our Mixed 4x400m Relay team! Congratulations to Manu TS, Poovamma MR, Vishal TK and Vithya Ramraj on winning the Silver medal at the Asian Games. Their speed, coordination and determination made for an exciting race and a proud moment for Indian athletics. May they continue to scale greater heights," PMO posted on X.

Bahrain took the gold in a Games record time of 3:12.87, with Vietnam narrowly missing out on silver after finishing in 3:14.54. Japan finished fourth in 3:15.52. India's 0.08-second advantage over Vietnam was the difference as the quartet held its nerve in a thrilling battle for the podium. The silver extended India's good run in the mixed 4x400m relay at the Asian Games. India had won gold in the event at Jakarta 2018 before settling for silver at Hangzhou 2023. Vishal had earlier won gold in the mixed 4x400m relay and silver in the men's 4x400m relay at the



2025 Asian Athletics Championships in Gumi, South Korea, where he also finished fourth in the individual 400m. Vithya, another key member of India's relay programme, has represented the country at the Olympic Games, including in the 4x400m relay at Paris 2024. She won silver in the mixed 4x400m relay at the 2022 Asian Games and bronze in the 400m hurdles at the 2023 Asian Games. With another silver in Nagoya, India have now won a medal in the mixed 4x400m relay in three successive Asian Games, underscoring the quartet's consistent performance on the continental stage.

Asian Games: Suruchi, Kamaljeet redeem Indian shooting with 10m pistol mixed team gold

Nagoya: National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) president Kalikesh Singh Deo hailed 10m pistol mixed team gold, stating that the Indian pistol shooters redeemed themselves well after a little after a bit of a disappointment in men's and women's teams and individual events. India's Suruchi Singh and Kamaljeet won the gold medal in the mixed 10m air pistol final with an Asian-record score of 484.6 points, securing India's second gold medal at the Asian Games after the women's cricket team. "Great day for Indian shooting; we finally got the elusive gold after a bit of a disappointment. However, our shooter redeemed themselves well with an Asian record and a gold. Amazing performance from Suruchi and Kamaljeet. We have a lot of shooting left here, and I am hopeful India will do well in the remaining events," Kalikesh told IANS on Friday.

Earlier, India drew a blank in the men's and women's 10m pistol team, and in the individual event, Kamaljeet, Kedarling Balakrishna and Aakash Bhardwaj missed out on a medal in the men's 10m air pistol team and also failed to qualify for the individual finals. Moreover, there was an agonising end for the Indian trio Esha Singh, Manu Bhaker and Suruchi Inder Singh in the team final as they lost the medal as the two inner-10s stand between them and bronze medallists Vietnam. Later, Manu finished fifth in the individual final. But the mixed team of Suruchi and Kamaljeet broke the draw and got India the elusive gold on



Friday. Reflecting on India's disappointing show in the pistol team and individual event, the NRAI chief added, "In the first two days we got five medals, then skeet contributed three, and today we got two medals. This is a fairly big number of medals, but what we were missing out on was gold. When you go zero in the finals, it depends on the the performance at that time of that athlete. We have to figure out how we have to work with an athlete, coaching and performance team so that we can get more golds." Manu and Esha next join the 2018 Asian Games champion Rahi Sarnobat in the 25m pistol event to open their respective medal accounts. "We have a great team of Esha, Manu and Rahi, an experienced team. They will do well," Kalikesh concluded.

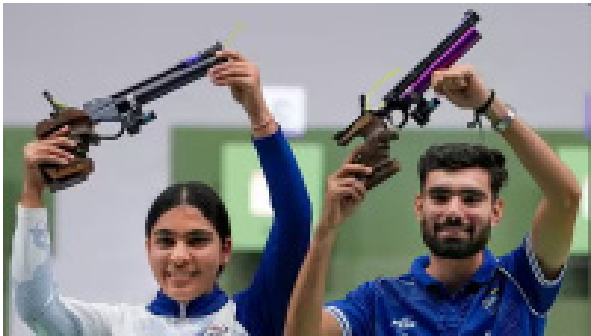
Manush Shah and Diya Chitale enter Asian Games mixed doubles semifinal

Nagoya: Indian table tennis stars Manush Shah and Diya Chitale have secured a medal in the mixed doubles event after a stunning win over world No. 4 Wong Chun-Ting and Doo Hoi Kem of Hong Kong in the quarterfinals here on Friday.

The Indians registered a 3-1 (11-6, 13-15, 11-9, 11-5) to enter the semifinal and secure a medal in the Table Tennis Mixed Doubles event. Manush and Diya will take on Chinese world No. 2 Wang Chuqin and Sun Yingsha in the semifinals later in the day, aiming to make India's first final of an Asian Games table tennis event. This would be India's second mixed doubles medal at the Asian Games after Sharath Kamal and Manika Batra bagged bronze in the 2018 edition in Jakarta, and only Indian table tennis' fourth medal overall at the continental showpiece. Manush-Diya made a strong start and took the first game 11-6, then pushed the Hong Kong pair all the way before losing the second narrowly, 13-15. When the best-of-five affair was tied 1-1, the

Indian showed encouraging signs as they pocketed the third game, 11-9, leaving them just a one-game away from securing a medal. Manush and Diya ran and then went all guns blazing as they ran away with the fourth game convincingly 11-5 and assured a medal. Meanwhile, Harmeet and Yashaswini bowed out of the mixed doubles quarterfinals after a straight-games defeat (5-11, 10-12, 9-11) to Lin Shidong and Kuai Man. To date, India have won only three Asian Games medals in table tennis – all bronze. Manika Batra, along with Olympian Sharath Kamal, had won a mixed doubles bronze at Jakarta 2018. Harmeet Desai, G Sathiyam and Manav Thakkar – all part of the squad for Aichi-Nagoya 2026 – were also members of the men's team which bagged bronze in Jakarta. Suthirna Mukherjee and Aynika Mukherjee accounted for the other bronze in women's doubles at Hangzhou 2023. Meanwhile, Indian shooters Kamaljeet and Suruchi Inder Singh secure their place in the 10m air pistol mixed team final after topping the qualification here on Friday.

From junior prodigies to Asian Games gold medallists: Meet Suruchi Singh and Kamaljeet, India's golden duo in Japan



Shooting ended India's wait for a second gold medal as Suruchi Singh and Kamaljeet produced an incredible performance in the 10m air pistol mixed-team event at the Asian Games. The Indian pair stayed in control throughout the final and finished on top with a score of 484.6 to secure gold for India. The top four pairs qualified for the medal round, but Suruchi and Kamaljeet quickly established themselves as the pair to beat. South Korea's Suhyeon Hong and Gaeun Choo finished second with 478.0, ending 6.6 points behind the Indian duo. The gap underlined how well Suruchi and Kamaljeet performed when it mattered most, giving India its second gold medal of the Games.

Who is Suruchi Singh?

Suruchi has been making a name for herself on the international shooting circuit with a string of impressive performances in ISSF World Cups in 2025 and 2026. Born on April 28, 2006, in Jhajjar, Haryana, Suruchi took up shooting at the age of 13 after initially trying her hand at wrestling. Coming from a family with a wrestling background, including her father Havildar Inder Singh, she was encour-

aged to pursue the sport. But it did not take long for Suruchi to find her calling in shooting, and she soon began making her mark at the junior level.

Her breakthrough came in 2025 when she won three successive individual ISSF World Cup gold medals in Buenos Aires, Lima and Munich. She also won gold in the mixed team event at the Lima World Cup. Suruchi capped a memorable 2025 season by winning gold at the ISSF World Cup Final in Doha, where she set a Junior World Record of 245.1 in the 10m Air Pistol final. This year, she also followed the 2025 performances with a solid show and won the gold at the ISSF World Cup in Munich, making her one of India's leading international 10m Air Pistol shooters. She also won silver in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event at the 2026 Asian Championships.

Who is Kamaljeet?

Kamaljeet also comes from Haryana, from Sulkha in Rewari. He started shooting in 2019 after an injury brought an end to his track and field career. The early years were not easy. Coming from a middle class family, he faced financial problems while trying to build a career in shooting. He had to take care of his own expenses for coaching, course fees and competitions, and there were moments when he thought about giving up the sport. His parents, though, continued to stand by him and made sure he had what he needed to keep going. Over the next two to three years, Kamaljeet kept pushing through the difficulties and gradually established himself as a competitive shooter. He first made a mark on the junior international circuit with gold in the 50m Pistol Junior Men event at the 2023 ISSF Junior World Championships in Changwon, South Korea. He then moved up to the senior circuit, competing in both the 10m Air Pistol and 50m Pistol events.

Seema wins Asian Games bronze her mother knows nothing about

She has no idea her daughter is in Japan, or that on Thursday night Seema was standing on the start line of the biggest race of her career, alongside Olympic champion Winfred Yavi and Japan's Nozomi Tanaka. "I didn't tell her because she is old and gets very tense," Seema said after winning bronze in the women's 10,000m. "So she still thinks I am in India. Maybe she will find out now." There was little time to think about home once the gun went. The first 400m took 83 seconds. Then came the surges and slowdowns, the kind of stop-start rhythm that can turn a 10,000m into a test of patience as much as endurance. The field went through 1,000m in 3:18 and 5,000m in 16:52, still a remarkably slow pace for runners of this calibre. From the stands, Seema's coach Scott Simmons realised the race wouldn't be fast, also because Yavi had two more events to run and Tanaka another race to come. On the track, Seema had seen the same thing. She led for only a couple of laps before realising nobody wanted to take responsibility for the race. "I came to know that no one will lead the race," she said. "Because the best runners will wait for the final stretch. So I also changed my strategy," Simmons adds: "You just have to be fit to begin with, so then you can handle whatever happens."

Seema stopped chasing every move and stayed with the pack. One runner would accelerate, another would ease off. The field would stretch, then come back together. It was less about running at a steady pace than surviving everyone else's changes. "Players do that so that we get tired and no one can finish the race," Seema said. "So we have to work out with that strategy. So we did that. That was more beneficial." By 8,000m, the group had begun to shrink. Seema was fifth with three laps left, and moved up a notch. She went past Ruth Jebet, the Bahraini great, and Daisy Jepkemei of Kazakhstan. Three women were left in the medal fight, and Seema was one of them. For a moment, she thought she could win it.

Then Yavi and Tanaka, backed by the sparse crowd, found another gear. "I felt that I couldn't win the race," Seema said. "I also pushed. But I couldn't push as much as they did." She did not need to win it. She stayed with them as long as she could, then held on to third as the two leaders pulled away. Her time was 32:50.05, nearly 48 seconds slower than the personal best she had set in March. Yavi kicked into an incredible pace in the final lap to take gold in 32:39.18. But this race was never really about the clock. It was about reading the race, surviving its swings and being there when the medals were decided. Seema was. She became India's first women's 10,000m medallist at the Asian Games since 2010. Simmons, she suspects, will be happier than she is. For three years, he has trained her at Colorado Springs, where she works in tough conditions alongside Olympic champions. "He has always told me, 'Seema, you are the best. You are the fighter,'" she said. "So today I thought that I will fight very well. And I did it till the end." The location has another significance. Los Angeles will host the 2028 Olympics, giving Seema a daily reminder of where she wants to be. "We train with Olympic champions. So our mindset is also the same. To compete." Her mother still thinks she is in India. Maybe now, finally, Kesari Devi will know she was in Japan all along. India's Seema and others



run in the women's 10,000m final during the Asian Games 2026, in Nagoya, Japan, Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026. (PTI Photo) India's Seema and others run in the women's 10,000m final during the Asian Games 2026, in Nagoya, Japan,

Devi was watching the telecast on the TV in their home — half of which has mud walls and the rest made from cement — in Retta village in Himachal Pradesh. Three of her brothers work for a daily wage. Her father, who once sold a goat to buy Seema running shoes, died of a snakebite in 2012.

"Seema was fond of running and would practice with her elder brother Surinder in the village. My husband used to work as a labourer, apart from managing the livestock. Before he died in 2012 due to a snakebite, he sold a goat to get Seema shoes. Post his death, when she was to appear for the SAI (Sports Authority of India) trials in Dharamshala in 2015, her brothers sold another goat to get her new shoes. Jhoote kharidne ke paise nahi hote the hamare pass aur aaj dekho Seema ne India ke liye medal jita hai Japan main (We did not have money to get her shoes, but today my daughter has won the medal for India in Japan)," an emotional Kesari Devi told The Indian Express. Youngest of six siblings, Seema's talent of running was spotted by PT teacher Hansraj in 2010 at the Government Senior Secondary School at Bhatka, which is a 45-minute uphill walk from her village. "While another brother Tej Singh and I work as labourers, my younger brother Surinder Kumar manages livestock," 51-year-old Raj Kumar, the eldest of the six siblings, said. Seema would begin formal training under coach Kehar Singh Patial at Dharmshala. Within six months, she would win the gold in 2000m in the junior Under-16 championships in Ranchi. "When I first saw Seema in the talent hunt, I was impressed by her stamina and endurance level to compete in longer distance races. When we carried out the physical tests, her speed was also good for long distance and we worked on her running style as well body mechanics and strength," said Patial said. Seema made progress at the national level over the past few years. A gold in the 10,000 metres at the 2022 National Games and bronze medals in the 5,000m and 10,000m at the Federation Cup the next year. In 2024, she also won a silver in 5,000m at the World University Games in Germany with a timing of 15 minutes and 35.86 seconds, her second-quickest time in 5,000m. "Whenever she breaks a record or wins a medal, she makes sure to send me a picture and tells me to show it to the young athletes to motivate them," Patial said. He expects a ping on his phone soon. This time from Seema, an Asian Games medallist.

TCA asks HCA to produce records of BCCI AGM participation

Hyderabad: Telangana Cricket Association (TCA) general secretary Dharam Gurusu Reddy has questioned Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) secretary M Jeevan Reddy's claim of attending the 95th BCCI Annual General Meeting held on September 18, seeking documentary evidence to establish his participation. Gurusu Reddy described the claim as the "crudest joke of the decade" and questioned why the HCA had issued a clarification about the meeting.

"If the HCA Secretary actually attended the AGM — though nobody had asked the HCA to issue such a clarification in the first place — why did a 93-year-old association have to come out with this clarification?" he asked. Gurusu Reddy sought documentary evidence showing how the BCCI permitted Jeevan Reddy to participate, under which rule he was allowed to attend and whether he voted at the meeting. "How can an association which, according to the TCA, was excluded from the final electoral rolls released by the BCCI Electoral Officer claim participation in the AGM? Under which rule was he permitted to attend? And did he vote in that meeting?" he asked. He said the issue could be conclusively established through the BCCI electoral roll, attendance records, minutes book and CCTV

footage of the meeting venue. A photograph with a senior BCCI functionary, he added, could not by itself constitute proof of participation in the proceedings of the AGM. The TCA also challenged the HCA's claim that it is promoting cricket across Telangana. Gurusu Reddy pointed out that the association remains registered as the Hyderabad Cricket Association and said its claimed expansion beyond Hyderabad is the subject of proceedings before courts and competent authorities. Gurusu Reddy further alleged that the HCA had failed to qualify for annual grants from the BCCI since 2017, and claimed that the BCCI had consequently been spending funds and making certain payments whenever invoices were raised by the HCA. He also referred to criminal cases registered by the CID, a Vigilance and Enforcement report submitted to the State Government and awaiting disclosure, and pending ACB and ED cases, saying "the list is endless". On player selection, the TCA questioned HCA's claims of providing opportunities to district cricketers. Gurusu Reddy said selection records indicated that several high-performing players from rural districts continued to be overlooked for organised State U-19 and Ranji Trophy teams despite, according to the TCA, having strong statistical records. Among the women cricketers cited by the TCA were D Sri Sahasra Raj of Warangal.

Swades’ Gayatri Oberoi quit films; married to 59th richest Indian with Rs 48,100 cr worth



The latest Hurun India Rich List 2026 declared the net worth of some of the wealthiest individuals in India. Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan is the richest Indian actor with a net worth of Rs 10,000 crore but a former co-star of the actor actually has a bigger net worth than him. Gayatri Oberoi (née Joshi), who worked alongside Shah Rukh in Swades, is married to real estate entrepreneur Vikas Oberoi, and as per this year’s list, Vikas’ net worth is listed at Rs 48,100 crore, and he is the 59th richest individual in India.Vikas was on the same list last year as well and back then, his wealth was listed at Rs 42,960 crore. At the time, he was the 58th richest individual in India.Gayatri and Vikas’ 9-storey Juhu home spread across 75,000 sq ft

Gayatri and Vikas reside in a nine-floor bungalow that is spread across 75,000 sq ft in the Juhu neighbourhood of Mumbai. The couple’s home was designed by Italian architect and designer Piero Lissoni.In an earlier chat with Architectural Digest India, Gayatri opened up about her home. The two basement levels are for parking and fitness. There is a separate floor for the gym, spa and a 12-seater cinema. The four floors above that – from ground to the third – are all for entertaining. The area starting from the fourth floor is their private living area. The rooftop has an infinity pool with a

Bollywood actor Mushtaq Khan dies after battle with cancer

The actor passed away on Thursday, with son Mohsin confirming the news. “He passed away due to cancer at Nanavati hospital at around 7 pm. He had complained of stomach pain, so we took him to the hospital where doctors discovered that he has cancer. His health worsened in the last few days. He was perfectly fine, he had no major issues, rather he was shooting for the debut film of Shera’s (Salman Khan’s bodyguard) son prior to his hospitalisation,” Mohsin told PTI.All Indian Cine Workers Association (AICWA) president Suresh Shyamal Gupta told SCREEN that Mushtaq Khan had been diagnosed with cancer five years ago and had recovered, but the disease relapsed two weeks ago.

“He passed away less than an hour ago. He was sick since many days. I am trying to get in touch with his family,” Federation of Western India Cine Employees (FWICE) president BN Tiwari told SCREEN.Recalling his decades-long friendship with Mushtaq Khan and their early struggles in the industry, filmmaker Ashoke Pandit said, “Mushtaq and I were very old friends. We did theatre, plays and TV shows together. He was like a part of our family and was very close to me. His loss is unbelievable. He was an example for the industry — coming to Mumbai from a small town, studying theatre, being passionate about his craft and being a very good human being. It’s a loss to the industry and a personal loss to me.”“We were both groomed together. We grew up together like brothers. Despite the scarcity of money, we lived through difficult times together. It’s the loss of a dear friend, a brother, and an actor who mastered the art of performance. He was brilliant on stage. We lost Satish Shah, Satish Kaushik, and now Mushtaq. One after the other, it is becoming really difficult to face these kinds of losses,” he added.

Mushtaq Khan made his screen debut with Albert Pinto Ko Gussa Kyon Aata Hai in 1980 and went on to build a career spanning more than four decades. His supporting performances and comic timing made him a recognisable presence in Hindi films.He appeared in films like Aashiqui, Hum Hain Rahi Pyar Ke, Raja, Hera Pheri, Gadar: Ek Prem Katha, Jodi No. 1, Mujhse Shaadi Karogi,

‘Hero’s wife didn’t like me’: Taapsee Pannu recalls worst reason for being dropped from film

Taapsee Pannu has spoken about some of the uncomfortable experiences she encountered in her acting career, from realising that she had been presented in a hypersexualised manner on screen to being removed from a film without being given a clear explanation. In a recent conversation with Nayandeep Rakshit, the actor shared how her lack of experience initially made her accept certain things as part of the job, only to understand their implications later. She also recalled being told that a hero’s wife did not want her in a film.

Taapsee spoke about being removed from a film after she had already committed her dates. Taapsee said she was never given a concrete reason for the decision and was left wondering what had actually happened behind the scenes.“I have been told that I was replaced by the hero of the film. God knows the reason. I keep imagining the reasons. I can imagine the insecurity, I can imagine that he wanted someone else whom he was closer to. I can imagine various reasons, but I wasn’t given any solid reason. I was just told that he didn’t want me in the film because I kept asking the reason for my removal.”This is not the first time Taapsee has spoken about being dropped from a project. In a 2021 conversation with Siddharth Kannan, she recalled being finalised for a film before being removed and said she found out about the decision through the media.“I was just removed. I got to know through the media. They called me, just to apologise, after I had spoken out. But still, they were hesitant to reveal the real reason behind the decision.”The episode appeared to relate to Pati Patni Aur

view of the Arabian Sea.Gayatri shared that her husband wanted their home to run like a boutique hotel but she hated that analogy. “Vikas always said the house should run like a boutique hotel—and initially, I hated that comparison. It’s a home, not a hotel! But in function, it truly does run that efficiently,” she told the publication. The residence also houses art by Ravinder Reddy, MF Husain and Manjit Bawa.

Vikas knew Gayatri was the ‘the one’Gayatri started her career in the entertainment industry in the late 1990s as a VJ for Channel V. The next year, she participated in Femina Miss India International and went on to represent India at Miss International 2000. Gayatri’s big break came in 2004 when she landed the lead role opposite Shah Rukh Khan in Ashutosh Gowariker’s Swades. In 2005, she married Vikas.While not much is known about their love story, Vikas spoke a bit about her in a chat with Economic Times back in 2014. “I had known Gayatri for a long time before we got married. We were just friends, more like acquaintances. Luckily, we kept bumping into each other and I strongly felt she was the one I wanted to spend the rest of my life with,” he said.Gaytri Joshi in a still from Swades Gaytri Joshi in a still from Swades.Why Gayatri quit films after Swades’ successAfter tying the knot, Gayatri quit films and in a chat with Bollywood Hungama in 2019, she elaborated on that decision. She said that after the success of Swades, she was very selective about the kind of roles she took on. She recalled winning several debut awards for the film as well, but it was right around that time that she met Vikas.

“I met my husband, Vikas Oberoi, and I was very satisfied with where my career had taken me. And when I met Vikas, I realised that this was something that I wanted more than doing movies and being in Bollywood. That’s why, it was quite easy to give up that thought. I could have continued to work yet be married. But I consciously made that decision because if I am committing to something, I want to give my hundred percent to it. And I always wanted to commit my hundred percent to my marriage, to my family and to my children,” she said.Gayatri said that she felt that she had been “lucky” and had a “great opportunity” but she wanted to move on to something that was also a part of her dream life, “having a wonderful family.”“I met my husband who’s like my soul mate in every way. I guess life sometimes has other plans and better plans,” she said.



Welcome, Wanted and Oh My God!.Mushtaq Khan continued to work across generations, appearing in more recent films such as Stree, Badhaai Do, Gadar 2 and Stree 2. His later credits also included Vanvaas, Baby John, Dhoom Dhaam and Jaat. He worked in television as well in shows such as Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise Bhi.Among Mushtaq Khan’s most remembered performances was his role in Anees Bazmee’s Welcome (2007). His comic monologue about having a fake leg after being injured by Uday Bhai became one of the film’s most quoted sequences.Despite having a supporting role, Khan’s performance stood out in a film packed with established comic actors and stars including Akshay Kumar, Nana Patekar, Anil Kapoor and Katrina Kaif.Mushtaq Khan also played Gul Khan in Gadar: Ek Prem Katha (2001). He returned to the franchise more than two decades later with Gadar,2 in 2023.

Woh, which eventually starred Kartik Aaryan, Bhumi Pednekar and Ananya Panday. At the time, Taapsee had publicly questioned the way she was removed from the project, while the producers said she had been among several actresses considered for the role and that they had not made a commitment to her.‘The hero’s wife doesn’t like you’

Taapsee also shared one of the reasons she was given for being replaced in another film. Recalling what she described as the worst explanation she received, she said it involved the hero’s wife.“The worst reason given to me when I was replaced was, ‘The hero’s wife doesn’t like you.’ I don’t know why she didn’t like me.”Taapsee Pannu on realising she had been hypersexualisedTaapsee said that when she was starting out, she did not always have the experience or understanding to recognise when a scene was being hypersexualised or how it would eventually be presented. She said it was often only after watching the finished film that she could see the difference between what she had expected on set and what appeared on screen.“I didn’t know it was hypersexualised. You only realise it when you see the output. When you are shooting, you don’t realise that it is going in that direction. I thought it was going to be very aesthetic and not too focused on that. When I saw it, I felt like it was unnecessary.”The actor said being new to filmmaking, she relied heavily on the people around her to understand what was considered normal on a film set.“You have been told by people around you that it is normal, everybody is doing it, so you feel maybe you are coming from a different background and you don’t know. I didn’t have a clue about acting or filmmaking.

How The Paradise objectified Kayadu Lohar in a film about fighting for dignity



There is a moment early in The Paradise where Nani’s character, Jadal, fights for the right of his tribe to exist. To have names, documents and be counted as citizens of a country that has pretended they do not exist for decades. It is a powerful scene. It is the moral foundation of the entire film. Every person in that tribe deserves to be seen as a human being. That is the argument. Now here is what the same film does with its heroine, played by Kayadu Lohar.The actress plays Subbalakshmi, a young woman from a poor family who makes suggestive videos of herself and sells them to survive. The film does not explore why she does this. It does not give her a moment of agency or resistance. It does not use her story to comment on the exploitation of women in the same communities the film claims to champion. It simply shows her, lingers on the visual, gives the hero a reason to feel protective, and moves on.

If you removed every scene Kayadu Lohar appears in, the story of The Paradise would not change. The rebellion would still happen. The tribe would still fight. The only thing that would be missing is the eye candy. And that tells you everything you need to know about where women stand in a Telugu film about people fighting for their right to exist.To makes suggestive videos of herself and sell them to survive would be enough to raise questions about how the character is conceived. But the film goes further.

In one scene, Subbu’s own mother refers to her as a “single shot actress.” The dialogue is played for laughs. The audience is meant to find it funny. A mother, looking at her daughter, reducing her to the number of shots it takes to film whatever it is she is doing on camera. The implication is clear: the mother knows what her daughter does, participates in facilitating it and has developed a shorthand for it that treats it as a job description rather than a tragedy.In a different film, with a different writer, this could have been a devastating moment. A mother who has been so ground down by poverty that she can refer to her daughter’s exploitation in shorthand, without flinching, without the sentence catching in her throat, that is a character detail that could have opened a window into the economic violence women in these communities face. It could have made the audience uncomfortable. It could have forced them to sit with what it means when a parent becomes complicit in their child’s exploitation because there is no alternative.

Writing a female character as a woman who does B-grade work or makes suggestive content for money is not inherently wrong, it is close to reality. Women in the entertainment industry, particularly those from economically vulnerable backgrounds, face situations where financial desperation leads to work they would not otherwise choose. A sensitive, well-written portrayal of that reality could be powerful, empathetic and genuinely progressive. It could interrogate the structures that push women into that position. It could allow us to understand her choices and what it costs her to survive. It could make the audience uncomfortable in the right way.The Paradise does none of that. It does not

Ajay Devgn says there would be no Drishyam if it starred Kajol



The Great Indian Kapil Show is set to return with its fifth season on Netflix and its launch will coincide with the festive season. The first episode of the Netflix show will premiere on September 26 with the cast of Drishyam, including Ajay Devgn and Shriya Saran. The first trailer of Kapil’s show gives a sneak peek at the star-studded line-up, which includes faces from Bollywood, OTT, and cricket.

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Ajay Devgn will also appear on the show with his Drishyam 3 co-stars Shriya Saran, Esha Dutta, Jaideep Ahlawat and Mrunal Jadhav. The trailer shows the cast engaging in the show’s trademark fun and banter, with Ajay also addressing a question about casting Kajol in the Drishyam franchise.

The conversation then turns to Kajol’s absence from the franchise, with Kapil asking about Drishyam 3 directed by Abhishek Pathak, “Abhishek sir, if you had cast Kajol

explore why Subbu makes those videos. It does not examine the economic structures that force women into that work. It does not give her an inner life, a moral conflict or a moment of agency where she chooses something for herself rather than being acted upon by the world around her. It simply presents her doing it, uses the visual for what it is worth, and returns to the next action sequence featuring the male lead.The B-grade actress detail acts as a licence. It gives the filmmaker permission to shoot certain frames, to place the actress in certain positions, to frame her body in certain ways, all under the protective cover of “this is what the character does.” The motivation exists to service the gaze, not the story. And the story, conveniently, never questions the gaze.

This is a technique that Telugu cinema has refined over decades. The woman is a bar dancer, so we can show this. The woman is an item girl, so we can show that. The woman makes suggestive videos, so the camera can do what it wants. The justification changes with every decade. The result never does.The Paradise positions itself as a story about dignity. About a community that has been denied identity, citizenship and basic human recognition for decades. About people who have been treated as less than human by a feudal system that profits from their invisibility. The film’s entire moral argument, from its opening title card to its climactic rebellion, is that these people deserve to be seen. Not as property. Not as labour. Not as bodies to be exploited. As people.And yet, when it comes to Subbalakshmi, the film reduces her to a body. It uses her for visual value. It discards her when she is no longer needed by the plot. It gives her no voice in a story that is literally about people demanding a voice. It gives her no identity in a story that is literally about people fighting for identity.The film does not see this contradiction. That is the problem. Not that a filmmaker made a creative choice. But that the creative choice undermines the very thesis of the film, and nobody in the writing room, the direction team, the editing suite or the production office noticed. Or if they noticed, they did not care. Because in Telugu cinema, the heroine has never been part of the thesis. She is part of the packaging.

The Paradise is not an outlier. It is the latest data point in a pattern so entrenched that pointing it out feels repetitive. But the pattern does not stop being a problem because people are tired of hearing about it.The structural problem is not difficult to diagnose. Telugu commercial cinema is built around male stardom. The hero is the sun, everything else orbits. The villain exists to challenge him while the comedy track exists to relax him. The songs exist to glamourise him and the heroine exists to give him a romantic subplot which the audience tolerates and the story does not need. She feels less like a character and more like a box the film needed to tick.Nobody in that conversation will talk about what The Paradise did to its heroine. Nobody will ask how a Rs 200 crore film so deeply concerned with restoring dignity and humanity to the dehumanised could deny the same depth and personhood to its female characters. Nobody will hold the writing room accountable for a heroine track that the star’s own fan base defends as “bold” and “realistic”, even as they share clips from it for precisely the kind of attention Kayadu Lohar has said she never wanted to invite.That is Telugu cinema’s heroine problem. The film can be about revolution, liberation, and a community demanding to be treated as human. And the woman in it can still be written as though she is not one.The audience will not notice because they have been trained not to. The industry will not change because the box office does not punish it. And Kayadu Lohar will move on to her next film and hope that the next filmmaker sees in her what this one did not: a person, not a prop.The Paradise is a film about people fighting to be seen.