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Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Announces Sports University to Build Telangana's Olympic Future



Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Malu Bhatti Vikramarka has announced that the state government will soon establish a world-class Sports University aimed at identifying and nurturing talent from rural areas and preparing athletes to compete at the highest international level, including the Olympics.

Speaking at the grand inauguration of the TG-20 Cricket League at the Uppal Stadium, Bhatti Vikramarka said the government's primary objective is to discover talented sportspersons from villages and remote regions who often remain unnoticed due to a lack of opportunities and professional training facilities.

"Our goal is to identify hidden gems from rural Telangana, provide them with world-class coaching and infrastructure, and help them shine on the global stage. The proposed Sports University will play a crucial role in creating P3

Basavatarakam Cancer Hospital Celebrates 25 Years

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

The Basavatarakam Indo-American Cancer Hospital & Research Institute (BIACH &RI) marked a historic milestone as it celebrated 25 years of dedicated service in cancer care, reflecting on a journey that transformed a compassionate vision into one of India's leading oncology institutions.

The hospital traces its origins to the dream of Smt. Basavatarakam, wife of former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and legendary actor N.T. Rama Rao (NTR). After losing her battle with cancer, she envisioned a healthcare institution where no patient would be denied treatment due to financial hardship. Determined to fulfill that dream, NTR laid the foundation stone for the hospital in 1989.

Despite numerous financial and infrastructural challenges, the project gained strength through the efforts of several philanthropists, medical professionals, and organizations. Their collective commitment culminated in the inauguration of the hospital on June 22, 2000, by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in the presence of then Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

Beginning as a 120-bed facility, the institution steadily evolved into a comprehensive tertiary cancer care center. It expanded its services across surgical, medical, and radiation oncology while also establishing nursing education programs and holistic wellness initiatives such as ADDLIFE, which integrates

Ayurveda, yoga, naturopathy, and fitness therapies. A major turning point came in 2005 when the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust contributed Rs. 7 crore, helping establish a Bone Marrow Transplantation (BMT) unit. Today, that modest facility has grown into one of the most advanced BMT centers in the Telugu states, performing nearly 700 successful transplants and pioneering advanced treatments, including CAR-T cell therapy. Under the leadership of Chairman Nandamuri

Balakrishna since 2010, the hospital has expanded into a 650-bed world-class cancer center. Through Aarogyasri and PMJAY health schemes, it has extended affordable and life-saving treatment to lakhs of underprivileged patients. The institute now performs 35 to 40 complex cancer surgeries daily, administers chemotherapy to over 180 patients every day, and provides radiation treatment to nearly 500 patients daily. Equipped with cutting-edge technologies such as digital



Kolkata, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the national celebrations of the 12th International Day of Yoga at Kolkata's historic Red Road on Sunday, joining thousands of participants in performing the Common Yoga Protocol under the theme "Yoga for Healthy Ageing."

Addressing a large gathering, the Prime Minister extended greetings to people across India and the world, describing Yoga as a powerful force that connects individuals, societies, and nations. He noted that International Yoga Day has grown into one of the world's largest collective celebrations, bringing together people from diverse cultures through a shared commitment to health and well-being. Highlighting this year's



theme, Modi said Yoga is far more than a physical exercise and serves as a comprehensive approach to life. He emphasized that regular practice helps people remain healthy, active, and energetic as they age while promoting mental balance, emotional strength, and overall wellness. The Prime Minister said modern lifestyles often create imbalance and stress, and Yoga offers a practical path to harmony, discipline, and inner peace. He added that

Yoga contributes not only to personal health but also to global understanding, cooperation, and peace. Urging citizens to adopt Yoga as a daily habit, Modi encouraged people not to restrict the practice to a single day each year. Referring to the "Yoga 365" initiative and a 100-day online Yoga programme, he noted that more than 30 lakh people from 130 countries had participated, reflecting Yoga's growing global appeal. West Bengal Chief Minister

Suvendu Adhikari welcomed the Prime Minister and highlighted the enthusiastic participation of people across the state, from Darjeeling to Digha and Cooch Behar. He said the event showcased Yoga's growing acceptance as a way of life. Union Minister of State for Ayush Prataprao Jadhav said Yoga has evolved into a global movement under Prime Minister Modi's leadership. He noted that Yoga is now celebrated in more than 180 countries and that the Ministry's "Yoga 365" initiative aims to make the practice a year-round habit. This year's celebrations witnessed massive participation across India and abroad, with more than six lakh organisations registering on the Yoga Sangam Portal and over 210 Indian missions organizing events at nearly 2,500 locations worldwide.

Yoga Key to Healthy and Balanced Living: CM Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy extended his greetings to the people on the occasion of International Yoga Day and called upon everyone to make yoga an integral part of their daily lives for a healthier and happier future.

In a message released on the occasion, the Chief Minister said yoga is an invaluable practice that promotes a healthy lifestyle and overall well-being. He emphasized that yoga is not merely a form of physical exercise but a holistic way of life that helps maintain harmony between the mind, body, and soul.

Revanth Reddy noted that in today's fast-paced world, where stress and lifestyle-related health issues are increasingly affecting people of all ages, yoga offers an effective solution to achieve physical fitness and mental peace. He said regular practice of yoga helps improve concentration, strengthens the body, reduces stress, and fosters positive thinking. The Chief Minister high-



lighted that yoga, which originated in India, has gained worldwide recognition for its immense health benefits. The observance of International Yoga Day across the globe reflects the growing accept-

ance of this ancient Indian tradition and its relevance in modern life, he said. Encouraging citizens to adopt yoga as a daily habit, Revanth Reddy stated that even a few minutes of yoga

practice every day can contribute significantly to a healthier and more balanced lifestyle. He stressed that yoga not only enhances physical health but also promotes emotional stability, self-discipline, and inner peace.

The Chief Minister expressed hope that people from all sections of society, including students, youth, employees, and senior citizens, would actively embrace yoga and benefit from its transformative effects. He said a healthy population is essential for the progress and prosperity of the state and the nation. Reiterating the importance of preventive healthcare, Revanth Reddy urged people to cultivate healthy habits and make yoga a regular part of their routine. He wished that the spirit of International Yoga Day would inspire everyone to lead a life filled with good health, positivity, and happiness.

"Let us all adopt yoga and move towards a healthier, more peaceful, and joyful life," the Chief Minister said in his message.



PM Modi Pushes India's Defence Manufacturing Vision

Kolkata, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday asserted that India is rapidly transforming from a major importer of defence equipment into a global defence manufacturing hub, emphasizing that the country will no longer remain merely a buyer in the international defence market. Speaking at the commissioning ceremony of three indigenously built naval platforms - INS Agray, INS Duna giri and INS Sanshodhak - at Kolkata, the Prime Minister said India's military strength cannot be reduced to a marketplace for foreign products. He stressed that true strategic influence comes from self-reliance and domestic manufacturing capabilities.

"India wants to be a manufacturer. The day we become manufacturers, we will also become decisive," Modi said, highlighting the government's push towards strengthening indigenous defence production. The Prime Minister noted that India's defence production has increased significantly over the past decade, rising from around ₹40,000 crore in 2014 to nearly ₹1.8 lakh crore. Defence exports have also witnessed remarkable growth, jumping from ₹700 crore to ₹40,000 crore, with more than 80 countries now purchasing Indian-made defence products. Referring to the newly commissioned naval vessels, Modi said they symbolize India's growing self-reliance

in defence manufacturing. He pointed out that the ships were designed, developed and built entirely in India with the expertise of Indian industries, engineers and workers. Highlighting India's maritime ambitions, the Prime Minister said no nation can become a global power without strong maritime capabilities. He observed that trade, security, communications, energy resources and future economic opportunities are increasingly linked to the oceans, making maritime strength a strategic necessity. Modi revealed that more than 40 indigenous warships and submarines have been inducted into the Indian Navy in recent years, while another 45 major naval platforms are currently under construction. He said India has entered a new phase of maritime development with a renewed focus on shipbuilding and naval modernization. The Prime Minister also underlined the employment potential of the maritime sector, describing it as an "employment engine" for a developed India. Modern shipbuilding, he said, supports thousands of companies involved in steel, electronics, machinery and component manufacturing, generating large-scale job opportunities for the country's youth. The event was attended by Navy Chief Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, West Bengal Governor R.N. Ravi, Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari and senior defence officials.

Yoga a Priceless Gift of India's Ancient Wisdom : Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla



Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Extending warm greetings on the occasion of International Day of Yoga 2026, Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla described yoga as a priceless gift of India's ancient wisdom to humanity and called upon citizens to make it an integral part of their daily lives.

In his message, the Governor said yoga promotes physical fitness, mental well-being, emotional balance, and spiritual harmony. He noted that in today's fast-paced and stressful world, yoga serves as a powerful tool for leading a healthy, disciplined, and stress-free life.

"Yoga is the timeless bridge between the body, mind, and soul. Its regular practice helps individuals achieve inner peace, positivity, self-discipline, and holistic wellness," he said. The Governor emphasized that yoga is not merely a physical exercise but a comprehensive way of life that nurtures overall well-being and helps people maintain balance in their personal and professional lives.

As part of the International Yoga Day celebrations, Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla participated in a special yoga programme held at Lok Bhavan. Addressing the gathering, he highlighted the growing global acceptance of yoga and its significance in fostering harmony and good health across communities and nations. P3

The Governor observed that yoga, which has its roots in India's rich cultural and spiritual heritage, has evolved into a worldwide movement for health and wellness. He said millions of people across the globe are embracing yoga as a means to improve their quality of life and achieve mental and physical resilience.

He also appreciated the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in securing international recognition for the International Day of Yoga. The annual observance of Yoga Day across the world reflects the universal appeal and transformative power of this ancient Indian practice, he said.

Urging people, particularly the youth, to adopt yoga as a daily habit, the Governor stressed that a healthy and strong society can be built only when individuals prioritize their physical and mental well-being. He encouraged citizens to view yoga not as a one-day event but as a life-long journey toward wellness, balance, and self-discovery.

Concluding his message, the Governor expressed hope that the practice of yoga would inspire peace, positivity, and good health in every household, contributing to a happier and healthier Telangana. He extended his best wishes to all citizens on International Yoga Day and called upon everyone to embrace yoga for a better future.

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha Calls for Making Yoga a Daily Habit

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha urged people to make yoga an integral part of their daily lives while participating in the 12th International Yoga Day celebrations organized by the Telangana Government and the AYUSH Department at the Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad. The minister attended the event as the chief guest and joined yoga instructors and participants in performing various yoga exercises. Addressing the gathering, he described yoga as one of India's greatest gifts to the world and emphasized its importance in maintaining physical fitness, mental well-being and overall health. Rajanarasimha said the state government is committed to building a "Healthy Telangana" by promoting healthy lifestyles and preven-



Healthcare practices. He noted that a healthy society can be achieved only through healthy families and communities. Encouraging citizens to adopt yoga regularly, he said it can play a crucial role

in reducing stress and improving quality of life. The minister also highlighted the government's efforts to introduce yoga among students from school to college level. He said the AYUSH

Department has been actively promoting yoga training and awareness programmes across the state to ensure that more people understand and benefit from the ancient practice.

"We are working to spread awareness about the greatness of yoga and make it accessible to every section of society," he said while extending International Yoga Day greetings to the people of Telangana. The programme was attended by Health Department Principal Secretary Dr. Christina Z. Chongthu, Rajiv Aarogyasri Health Care Trust CEO Hanumanthu, Sports Director Sony Bala Devi, Director of Medical Education Dr. Narendra Kumar, Director of Public Health Dr. Ravindra Kumar, Hyderabad District DMHO Dr. Putla Srinivas, AYUSH officials, yoga instructors and a large number of students. The event concluded with participants reaffirming their commitment to adopting yoga as a way of life and promoting a healthier society.

Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar Leads International Yoga Day Celebrations



Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

International Yoga Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and public participation at the Ellamma Cheruvu bund in Husnabad town under the auspices of the municipal administration. Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar attended the programme as the chief guest and actively participated in the yoga session by performing various asanas along with citizens. Addressing the gathering, the Minister highlighted the importance of yoga in maintaining physical fitness and mental well-being. He emphasized that regular yoga practice helps people lead healthier and more disciplined lives. Referring particularly to Surya Namaskar, he said the sequence of postures is one of the most effective forms of exercise and contributes significantly to strengthening the body and improving overall health. Ponnamp Prabhakar noted that Surya Namaskar is a complete wellness practice that enhances flexibility, concentration and endurance. To create awareness among the public and encourage more people to take up yoga, the municipal authorities have installed statues depicting various Surya Namaskar postures at prominent locations in the town. He said these installations would serve as a constant reminder of the bene-

fits of yoga and inspire residents to adopt healthy habits. The Minister called upon citizens to pay greater attention to their health and become active participants in building an "Arogya Husnabad - Arogya Bharat" (Healthy Husnabad, Healthy India). He stressed that preventive healthcare through practices such as yoga can reduce lifestyle-related diseases and improve the quality of life. The yoga session was led by yoga instructor Anita, who guided participants through various postures and breathing techniques. Appreciating her efforts, the Minister said she played a vital role in motivating people and ensuring the successful conduct of the programme. Participants from different age groups enthusiastically followed the instructions and performed yoga exercises together. Ponnamp Prabhakar also pointed out that yoga has no age barrier and can be practiced by anyone, regardless of age or fitness level. He encouraged people to make yoga a part of their daily routine and experience its long-term benefits. Held under the theme of "Health is Wealth," the event generated widespread awareness about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. The celebrations concluded on a positive note, with participants pledging to continue practicing yoga regularly and promote wellness within their communities.

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy-Led Panel Raises Concerns Over Proposed VB-G RAM G Act

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

A Cabinet Sub-Committee constituted by the Telangana Government has expressed serious reservations over the proposed Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025, favouring a cautious and critical approach towards the Centre's proposed rural employment and livelihood legislation. The committee, chaired by Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, held its first meeting at the State Secretariat and reviewed the implications of replacing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) with the proposed legislation from July 1. During the meeting, members voiced concerns that several provisions of the new framework could weaken the role of state governments in planning and implementing employment guarantee programmes while



simultaneously increasing their financial burden. The panel observed that rural poor households, small and marginal farmers, self-help groups, and other vulnerable sections could face challenges in accessing employment opportunities and livelihood support under the proposed system. The committee also examined con-

cerns raised by several non-BJP-ruled states and some northeastern states regarding the additional fiscal responsibilities likely to emerge from implementation of the new legislation. Members noted that certain states, including Himachal Pradesh, have yet to accept the proposed framework. The panel is expected to rec-

ommend a series of amendments aimed at protecting workers' interests and preserving adequate flexibility for states to design and implement programmes suited to local socio-economic conditions. It also discussed options for formally conveying Telangana's dissent and recommendations to the Union Government after

finalising its report. Speaking at the meeting, Uttam Kumar Reddy described MGNREGA as one of the most successful social protection programmes in independent India. He recalled that the scheme was introduced during the UPA government and credited it with providing rural employment and social security on a large scale. The minister strongly opposed the proposed removal of Mahatma Gandhi's name from the programme, calling the move unnecessary and unfortunate. He noted that several farmers' and labour organisations had also objected to the change. The meeting was attended virtually by Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Danasari Anasuya Seethakka, Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, and Labour and Employment Minister G. Vivek Venkatswamy, along with senior officials led by Special Chief Secretary M. Dana Kishore.

Minister Seethakka to Tour Nagarkurnool District on June 22

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Rural Water Supply, Women and Child Welfare Minister Danasari Anasuya Seethakka will undertake a day-long tour of Nagarkurnool district on June 22 to participate in a series of development and welfare programmes. According to the official schedule, the minister will leave Hyderabad's Praja Bhavan at 7:30 a.m. and travel to Kadthal mandal in the Kalwakurthy Assembly constituency. She will inaugurate the newly constructed Mandal Parishad Development Officer (MPDO) office building. Later, Seethakka will visit Sirsawada village in Tadoor mandal of Nagarkurnool district, where she will lay the foundation stone for a High-Level Bridge (HLB) to be constructed across the Dundubhi stream at an estimated cost of ₹20 crore. The project is expected to improve connectivity and transportation facilities for residents in the region. The minister will subsequently participate in several programmes in Nagarkurnool town. As part of her visit, she will inspect the construction of the Indra Mahila Shakti Bhavan, a women's empowerment facility being built at an estimated cost of ₹5 crore. The centre is aimed at strengthening women-focused initiatives and welfare activities in the district. Seethakka will also lay the foundation stone for a Bharosa Centre to be established under the Telangana Police Women Safety Wing. The facility is intended to provide support, protection, and assistance to women and children facing distress or violence. The minister's visit is expected to focus on rural infrastructure development, women's empowerment, and the strengthening of public service delivery systems. Local Congress leaders and district officials have made elaborate arrangements to receive the minister and oversee the smooth conduct of the scheduled programmes. Following the completion of her engagements in Nagarkurnool district, Seethakka will return to Hyderabad later in the day.

Ramchander Rao Hails Modi's 12-Year Governance



Narayanpet, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Telangana BJP President N. Ramchander Rao on Sunday participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Sammelan organized in Narayanpet to mark 12 years of the Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre. Addressing party leaders, workers, and members of the public, he called upon BJP cadres to take the achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to every household. Ramchander Rao said Modi had emerged as one of India's longest-serving elected Prime Ministers and credited his leadership with transforming the country across multiple sectors. He accused the Congress party of misleading people on issues such as the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, asserting that the exercise was intended only to remove duplicate, fake, and ineligible names from voter lists and strengthen electoral integrity.

Highlighting the Modi government's record, he said India had moved away from the era of major corruption scandals and was now witnessing transparent and accountable governance. He pointed to the expansion of infrastructure, including highways, railways, airports, IITs, AIIMS institutions, and digital connectivity, as evidence of the country's rapid development over the past 12 years. The BJP leader also cited welfare initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, direct benefit transfers, and the free food grain programme benefiting millions of citizens. He claimed that India had emerged as the world's fourth-largest economy and was steadily progressing toward becoming a global economic powerhouse. Speaking on International Yoga Day, Ramchander Rao said yoga was India's gift to the world and credited Modi with securing global recognition for June 21 as

International Yoga Day. He also highlighted the Centre's efforts in national security, women's empowerment, and economic reforms. Turning to Telangana politics, he alleged that both the Congress and BRS had failed to meet public expectations and accused the state government of functioning as a "commission-driven administration." He claimed that the Centre had extended significant financial support to Telangana through infrastructure projects, tax devolution, and development programmes. Ramchander Rao urged voters to support the BJP in future elections, arguing that the party offered a credible alternative for Telangana's development. He also congratulated BJP supporters for the party's recent success in the Narayanpet Municipal Council and expressed confidence that the BJP's influence would continue to grow across the state.

Bhongir MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy Lays Foundation Stone for Rice Millers Association Building



Ibrahimpatnam (Mangalpally), June 21 | TPN Bureau

A foundation stone-laying ceremony for the new building of the Hyderabad-Ranga Reddy Districts Rice Millers Association was held with grandeur at Mangalpally village in Ibrahimpatnam mandal of Ranga Reddy district on Sunday. Bhongir MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy attended the event as the chief guest and formally laid the foundation stone for the association's new building. Addressing the gathering, he appreciated the role played by rice millers in supporting the agricultural economy and strengthening the food supply chain. He expressed hope that the new facility would serve as a platform for industry growth, coordination and welfare activities. The programme was also attended by Telangana State Road Development Corporation Chairman Malreddy Ram Reddy and Ibrahimpatnam Agricultural Market Committee Chairman Kambalappalli Gurnath Reddy as guests of honour. They congratulated the association members and extended their best wishes for the successful completion of the project. The event was conducted in the presence of association

honorary president Amaravadi Lakshminarayana, whose guidance was acknowledged by members and organizers. Association President Lari Ravinder, General Secretary Ramuni Ramanatham, Treasurer Naresh Kumar Goyal, Building Construction Committee Chairman Poore Laxman, and Vice Chairman Mittapalli Anjaiah played key roles in organizing and supervising the programme. A large number of rice mill owners, association representatives, industry stakeholders and local leaders participated in the event. Speakers highlighted the importance of strengthening infrastructure for the rice milling sector and promoting collaboration among industry members. The proposed building is expected to provide a dedicated space for meetings, training programmes and industry-related activities, further enhancing the association's ability to address the concerns and requirements of rice millers across Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts. The ceremony concluded with members expressing confidence that the new facility would contribute to the growth and development of the rice milling industry in the region.

K.T. Rama Rao Accuses Revanth Reddy of 'Destructive Politics' in Musi Project

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau
 Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President K. T. Rama Rao launched a scathing attack on Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over the Musi River redevelopment project, alleging that the state government was pursuing "destructive politics" at the expense of poor and middle-class families. Addressing a party workers' meeting in Rajendranagar constituency on Saturday, KTR said that even the soul of Mahatma Gandhi would be disturbed by the manner in which houses were allegedly being demolished in the name of development. He claimed that while the government spoke of installing a statue of Gandhi, its actions were contrary to the values of the Father of

the Nation. KTR alleged that thousands of poor and middle-class families were facing displacement due to the Musi project and said that if the government truly respected Gandhi's ideals, it should protect people's homes rather than demolish them. He also referred to criticism of the project by Tushar Gandhi, stating that the concerns raised had been ignored by the state government. The BRS leader further accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of indirectly supporting the Congress government's actions. He alleged that both the state and central governments were working in tandem on issues related to land acquisition and redevelopment along the Musi River. KTR questioned why BJP leaders and Prime Minister



Narendra Modi were not intervening to protect the interests of affected residents if they were genuinely concerned about public welfare. Criticizing the government's financial priorities, KTR said the Congress administration claimed it lacked funds to fulfil election promises but was prepared to spend massive amounts on the Musi project. He alleged that the government was focusing on large-scale projects while neglecting commitments made to citizens. The former minister also accused the Congress government of failing to deliver meaningful development in Hyderabad over the past two-and-a-half years. He asserted that despite political defections, the BRS cadre remained strong and expressed confidence that the party would return to power under the leadership of K. Chandrashekar Rao in the next elections. KTR also reviewed party membership enrolment and provided guidance to workers on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise during the meeting.

Reddy said people continued to appreciate the governance provided under KCR's leadership and alleged that the Congress government was focusing more on cases and investigations than development. She criticized Mynampally for targeting KCR and KTR and urged him to refrain from personal remarks. Former Corporation Chairman Manne Krishank also defended KTR, accusing Congress leaders of spreading misinformation regarding the Rayadurgam-SBI land controversy. He alleged that Congress leaders were attempting to divert attention from governance failures and land-related issues. Former Corporation Chairman Nandikanti Sridhar said political differences should remain within democratic limits and asserted that BRS workers would not be intimidated by threats. He maintained that Hyderabad's development under KTR was widely acknowledged and challenged the Congress government to surpass that record through performance rather than rhetoric. The BRS leaders collectively demanded that Mynampally withdraw his remarks and focus on public issues instead of personal attacks, while expressing confidence in the party's future electoral prospects.

BRS Leaders Hit Back at Mynampally Hanumantha Rao, Defend KTR and KCR

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau
 Senior leaders of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on Saturday launched a sharp counterattack against Congress leader Mynampally Hanumantha Rao, accusing him of making irresponsible remarks against the party leadership and attempting to gain political relevance through personal criticism. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Assembly BRS Legislature Party Whip K. P. Vivekanand said the party was actively conducting preparatory meetings on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise and membership



enrolment programmes. He claimed that growing public support for BRS and former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao had unsettled Congress leaders. Vivekanand alleged that the Congress government was facing increasing criticism over various issues and said BRS was exposing alleged irregularities with evidence. Referring to Mynampally Hanumantha Rao, he

claimed that the Congress leader had been given several political opportunities by BRS in the past, including positions as MP candidate, MLA, MLC, and Greater Hyderabad party president. He accused Mynampally of making baseless allegations against BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao and warned him against personal attacks. Former Deputy Speaker Padma Devender

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K.T. Rama Rao Assures Support to Hanuman Nagar Residents

Rajendranagar, June 21 | TPN Bureau
 Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President K. T. Rama Rao visited Hanuman Nagar in Rajendranagar constituency on Saturday as part of the party's "Basti Bata" outreach programme and interacted with local residents to understand their grievances. During the visit, residents informed KTR that families living in Hanuman Nagar for nearly six decades were facing uncertainty over their homes and alleged that the government was attempting to relocate them and dispose of the land. They also

claimed that land ownership documents issued during the previous BRS government were being questioned, creating anxiety among long-time residents. Addressing the gathering, KTR alleged that the Congress government was attempting to take away lands occupied by poor families instead of addressing their concerns. He said that no such issues had arisen during the ten-year tenure of the BRS government and accused the present administration of failing to fulfil its election promises. The BRS leader criticized Chief Minister A. Revanth



Reddy, alleging that despite being in office for more than two years, the government had not implemented key commitments made to the people. He further claimed that development activities in Hyderabad had stagnated

under the current administration. KTR stated that Hanuman Nagar is located several kilometres away from the Musi River and alleged that residents were being subjected to unnecessary fear and pressure regarding their properties. He urged local residents to remain united and assured them that BRS would continue to stand by them. Expressing confidence in his party's political prospects, KTR said that if BRS returned to power, it would take responsibility for providing land ownership rights and resolving the concerns of residents. He

appealed to people not to be misled by what he termed false assurances from Congress leaders. The former minister also criticized the functioning of HYDRAA, alleging that different standards were being applied to influential individuals and ordinary citizens. He further claimed that the Rajendranagar MLA, who was elected on a BRS ticket and later joined the Congress, was creating difficulties for local residents. Several BRS leaders, public representatives, party workers, and Hanuman Nagar residents participated in the programme.

Harish Rao Pays Tribute to Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar on Death Anniversary

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau
 Senior BRS leader and former minister T. Harish Rao paid rich tributes to Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar on his death anniversary, remembering him as the chief ideologue of the Telangana movement and a visionary who dedicated his life to the cause of statehood. In a message shared on social media, Harish Rao described Prof. Jayashankar as a beloved son of Telangana who laid the ideological foundations for the separate state movement. He said Jayashankar's vision, com-



mitment and sacrifices played a crucial role in shaping the Telangana movement

and inspiring generations of people to strive for self-respect and regional development. Harish Rao noted that Prof. Jayashankar remained committed to the dream of a separate Telangana until his last breath and devoted his entire life to achieving that goal. He said the academician's unwavering dedication, struggle and sacrifices continue to serve as an inspiration for present and future generations. Reaffirming his commitment to the ideals of the Telangana movement, Harish Rao said that BRS leaders and cadre remain determined to safeguard the interests of Telangana and uphold the

aspirations for which countless people made sacrifices during the statehood struggle. "Following the ideals and vision of Prof. Jayashankar, we remain committed to protecting the interests of Telangana and are prepared to make any sacrifice required for the state's progress and welfare," he said. Paying his respects on the occasion, Harish Rao concluded his message with the words, "Johar Jayashankar Sir," honouring the enduring legacy of one of the most influential figures in Telangana's history.

the commitment to create two crore jobs annually. He urged BJP leaders to explain the status of these assurances before criticizing others. The TPCC chief also remarked that if Prime Minister Narendra Modi grants time, Congress leaders would seek answers regarding promises made in the BJP's election manifestos over the years. He stated that discussions about Congress leader Rahul Gandhi could follow only after the BJP addresses its own unfulfilled commitments. Mahesh Kumar Goud advised BJP leaders to focus on implementing their promises rather than targeting political opponents.

Former Minister Niranjana Reddy Slams Telangana Government Over Rayadurgam Land Auction Row

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau
 Former Telangana Minister Singireddy Niranjana Reddy has strongly criticized the state government over the controversy surrounding the auction of lands in Rayadurgam, accusing it of ignorance, lack of transparency, and an attempt to shift blame onto others instead of rectifying its own mistakes. In a statement issued on Saturday, Niranjana Reddy questioned why the government was blaming others rather than accepting responsibility for errors committed during the auction process. He said that instead of correcting the mistakes and resolving the issue constructively, the government was adopting a confrontational approach that only worsened the situation. The BRS leader alleged that sections of the pro-govern-

ment media were publishing speculative reports in an attempt to portray the State Bank of India's legal intervention as part of a political conspiracy. He termed such efforts irresponsible and said it was inappropriate to target a premier national institution such as SBI. Niranjana Reddy also dismissed allegations linking the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) to SBI's decision to approach the courts regarding the Rayadurgam land auction. He clarified that BRS, as a responsible opposition party, openly criticizes what it considers anti-people decisions of the government and has no need to engage in covert political manoeuvres. Referring to the chairman of SBI, who hails from the Palamuru region, Niranjana Reddy said Telangana should take pride

in one of its sons rising to lead the country's largest public sector bank. He noted that extending congratulations and courtesy to such distinguished individuals was a matter of tradition and respect, and should not be misinterpreted. The former minister further alleged that the government's excessive focus on land sales had overshadowed crucial technical and environmental considerations. He argued that the Rayadurgam controversy, along with earlier disputes relating to Kancharla Gachibowli and Musi lands, exposed what he described as the government's poor understanding of land management and planning. He demanded greater transparency and accountability in public land transactions to avoid similar controversies in the future.

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau
 The Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) conducted a key review meeting at Gandhi Bhavan on the ongoing Sangathan Srujan Abhiyan organisational programme and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. The meeting was attended by TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, AICC Telangana In-charge Meenakshi Natarajan, AICC Secretary Sachin Sawant, TPCC Training In-charge Ram Mohan Reddy, and Parliament constituency in-

charges. Addressing the gathering, Mahesh Kumar Goud emphasized that strengthening the party organization remains the primary objective of the Congress. He called upon leaders and cadre to reinforce the party structure from the booth level and ensure greater grassroots engagement across the state. He urged party workers to maintain continuous interaction with the public and actively address local issues. Stressing the importance of the SIR process, he instructed party leaders to ensure that every eligible voter is included in the electoral rolls and that no genuine voter is

Basavatarakam Cancer Hospital Celebrates 25 Years

continued
 professionals who have transformed countless lives through compassionate cancer care. **CMs of duo telugu states to attend Silver Jubilee**
 Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital & Research Institute will celebrate its Silver Jubilee on Monday, June 22, 2026, at Hotel Novotel, Madhapur, Hitec City. The grand evening event is scheduled to begin at 5 PM. The celebrations will be attended by several prominent leaders. Union Health Minister JP Nadda, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, former Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu, and other Union and state ministers are expected to grace the occasion. Trust Board members including actor Nandamuri Balakrishna (Chairman), Dr. Polavarapu Raghava Rao, Dr. Gaddam Dasaratha Rami Reddy, Dr. Nori Dattatreya, and others will also be present along with senior doctors and staff of the hospital. The institute, known for its advanced cancer care and research, is completing 25 years of dedicated service. The event aims to highlight the hospital's contributions to healthcare and oncology in the region. This milestone celebration is expected to bring together political leaders, medical professionals, and dignitaries to honour the hospital's journey and future goals in cancer treatment.

Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Announces Sports University to Build Telangana's Olympic Future

continued
 Olympic medal-winning athletes from Telangana in the years to come," he said. The Deputy Chief Minister described the TG-20 Cricket League as a landmark initiative that would contribute significantly to the development of sports in the state. He expressed confidence that the tournament would create new opportunities for aspiring cricketers and strengthen the sporting ecosystem across Telangana. Bhatti Vikramarka noted that cricket was once considered a sport largely confined to urban centres. However, the present government has taken steps to expand opportunities by identifying talented players from every district and creating district-based teams for the TG-20 League. This approach, he said, has provided rural youth with a major platform to showcase their abilities. He credited the government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for giving high priority to sports development and athlete welfare. According to him, the administration is committed to building a robust sporting culture that encourages excellence and provides equal opportunities to talented youth from all backgrounds. Highlighting future plans, Bhatti Vikramarka revealed that Hyderabad would soon be home to a state-of-the-art Sports University equipped with international-standard infrastructure and training facilities. He said the institution would focus on producing athletes capable of competing at Olympic and global sporting events. The Deputy Chief Minister also pointed out that the iconic Uppal Stadium, which has hosted several international sporting events, symbolized Telangana's growing sporting ambitions. He assured full government support for the successful conduct of the 21-day TG-20 Cricket League, describing it as a festival of sports for fans across the state. He expressed hope that the tournament would inspire a new generation of athletes and strengthen Telangana's position as an emerging sports hub in India.

TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud Counters BJP State President Ramchander Rao



Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau
 TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud strongly responded to remarks made by BJP State President N. Ramchander Rao, challenging the BJP to a public debate on development and governance. Mahesh Kumar Goud said the Congress is ready to discuss the developmental works carried out by the Telangana government over the last two-and-a-half years and compare them with the BJP-led Union Government's performance over the past 12 years. He questioned the BJP on several promises made by the party at the national level, including the issue of bringing back black money and

BRS Leader Gurram Pawan Kumar Goud Stresses Importance of Yoga for Healthy Society

Secunderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Padmarao Nagar BRS Party In-charge Gurram Pawan Kumar Goud participated as the chief guest at the International Yoga Day celebrations organized at Padmarao Nagar Park on Saturday. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from yoga practitioners, walkers and local residents.

Addressing the gathering, Pawan Kumar Goud said that modern lifestyles and increasing mental stress have led to various health issues among people. He emphasized that regular yoga practice is one of the most effective ways to achieve physical fitness, mental peace and overall well-being. He urged citizens to make yoga an integral part



of their daily routine to lead healthier and more balanced lives. During the programme, he also highlighted the developmental works being undertaken in the park under the guidance of Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav. He informed participants that estimates for the

construction of public restroom facilities for walkers visiting the park had been completed and that the works are expected to begin in the first week of next month. Yoga practitioners at the event requested the expansion of the existing yoga hall in the park to accommodate

the growing number of participants. Responding positively, Pawan Kumar Goud assured them that the matter would be brought to the attention of the concerned authorities for necessary action.

As part of the celebrations, yoga instructors Janga Krishna Yadav, B. Krishna Yadav, and Shrivani Kumar were felicitated for their contribution to promoting yoga and wellness in the community. The programme was attended by senior leader and former corporator Esuri Mahesh, along with local leaders Venkata Ramana, Babu, Mukka Srinivas, Haric hari, and several others. The event concluded with a renewed commitment to promoting yoga and creating greater awareness about healthy living among citizens.

CBIT Professor Wins ISNT Best Patent Award for Innovation in Structural Testing

Hyderabad, June 22 | TPN Bureau

Dr. Kiran Kumar Amireddy, Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Hyderabad, has been honoured with the prestigious ISNT Best Patent Award for his innovative patent titled "Method and System for Detection of Delamination in a Layered Structure" (Indian Patent No. 521513).

The award was officially announced during the Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of the Hyderabad Chapter of the Indian Society for Non-Destructive Testing (ISNT) held on June 20, 2026. The recognition highlights Dr. Amireddy's significant contribution to the field of engineering research and advanced testing technologies.

The patented technology focuses on detecting delamination in layered structures, a major challenge in industries that extensively use composite materials. Delamination, which refers to the separation of layers within a material, can compromise structural integrity and safety. Dr. Amireddy's innovation offers an efficient and reliable solution for identifying such defects, thereby strengthening structural



health monitoring systems and enhancing non-destructive testing practices. Experts believe the invention has the potential to benefit a wide range of sectors, including aerospace, automotive, civil engineering, defence and manufacturing, where the durability and safety of composite structures are of critical importance. Congratulating Dr. Amireddy on the achievement, CBIT Principal Prof. C. V. Narasi mulu described the award as a proud moment for the institution. He noted that the recognition reflects the institute's strong emphasis on research, innovation and intellectual property creation. He also praised the faculty member's dedication to advancing engineering knowledge through practical and impactful solutions. CBIT Vice Principals Prof. P. V. R. Ravindra Reddy and

Prof. K. Krishnaveni also extended their congratulations, stating that the award underscores the culture of academic excellence and innovation fostered at the institute.

Head of the Mechanical Engineering Department Prof. G. Laxmaiah commended Dr. Amireddy's research efforts and said the recognition would motivate both students and faculty members to pursue high-quality research with real-world applications. The award marks another significant milestone for CBIT Hyderabad, further strengthening its reputation as a leading centre for engineering education, technological innovation and patent-driven research. The institution continues to encourage faculty and students to develop solutions that address industry challenges and contribute to scientific advancement.

DGP C.V. Anand Attends Grand Launch of Sreenidhi University TG20

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

The inaugural edition of the Sreenidhi University TG20, organized by the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA), began in grand fashion at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium, with a star-studded opening ceremony featuring actor Vijay Deverakonda and music composer Thaman S.

The glittering event marked the formal launch of Telangana's premier T20 cricket league and attracted a packed crowd, creating a festive atmosphere. Telangana Director General of Police C.V. Anand attended the ceremony along with HCA Acting President Sardar Daljit Singh, BCCI Apex Council Member V. Chamundeswaranath, HCA



Secretary M. Jeevan Reddy, Treasurer Dr. Anil Kumar, Joint Secretary Basava Raju, Governing Council Chairman V. Agam Rao, and Governing Council Member C. Sanjeev Reddy. Actor Vijay Deverakonda, the brand ambassador of the tournament, inspired aspir-

ing cricketers by expressing hope that the league would produce more cricket stars from Telangana. He said the competition could serve as a stepping stone for talented youngsters to represent India at the highest level. Former India cricketer Ambati Rayudu, who serves

as Head of Cricket Operations for the tournament, encouraged players to make the most of the opportunity and help elevate Telangana cricket. India pacer Mohammed Siraj also addressed the participants, urging them to enjoy the experience and showcase their talent on the big stage. The evening blended cricket and entertainment seamlessly, with Thaman S delivering an energetic performance that kept fans engaged throughout the programme. With enthusiastic crowds filling the stadium, the opening ceremony highlighted the growing stature of the TG20 league and its ambition to become a major platform for identifying and nurturing cricketing talent across Telangana.

Sanathnagar MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav Assures Support for Masjid Issues

Secunderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Members of the Cuba Masjid Committee and religious elders from New Boguda in Bansilalpet Division met Sanathnagar MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav on Sunday and brought several issues concerning the mosque to his attention.

During the meeting, the committee members explained that the masjid has been facing a serious vehicle parking problem, particularly during prayer times and religious gatherings. They requested the MLA to facilitate the development of a dedicated parking facility on adjacent land belonging to the masjid to ease congestion and improve convenience for worshippers. Responding to their con-



cerns, Talasani Srinivas Yadav assured the delegation that he would extend all possible support in resolving issues related to mosques and other community institutions. He said that any genuine problems affecting reli-

gious establishments should be brought to his notice and promised to work with the concerned authorities to find suitable solutions. The MLA reiterated his commitment to addressing public issues and ensuring that

essential facilities are provided to all communities without discrimination. He also assured the committee that the parking issue would be examined and appropriate steps would be taken based on feasibility and administrative approvals.

The meeting was attended by BRS Bansilalpet Division President L. Venkatesham Raju, senior leader Namala Prem Kumar, and several members of the Cuba Masjid Committee, including Sadar Jilani Bhai, Fayeem Bhai, Jafar, Firoz, Ayub, Mohammed Azeem, Mohammed Rahim, Iqbal, Imran, and Salim Bhai. The committee members thanked the MLA for giving them a patient hearing and expressed confidence that their concerns would receive due attention.

Shivashakti Dhyana Yoga Trust Celebrates International Yoga Day

Quthbullapur, June 21 | TPN Bureau

International Yoga Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm under the auspices of the Shivashakti Dhyana Yoga Charitable Trust at the Multi-Purpose Function Hall in TSIC Colony, Quthbullapur. The event witnessed active participation from residents, yoga enthusiasts, women, youth and community leaders, highlighting the growing awareness of health and wellness through yoga.

The programme was organized under the leadership of trust organizer Malleth. Former corporator Mantri Satyanarayana and BRS Division President Puppala Bhaskar attended the event as chief guests and addressed the gathering. Speaking on the occasion, the guests emphasized that yoga is not merely a form of physical exercise but a holistic practice that promotes both physical and mental well-being. They noted that yoga plays a crucial role in reduc-



ing stress, anxiety and various health issues that have become increasingly common in today's fast-paced lifestyle.

The speakers encouraged people of all age groups to dedicate a portion of their daily routine to yoga, stating that regular practice can improve flexibility, concentration, emotional balance and overall health. They also highlighted the importance of yoga in creating a disciplined and healthy society.

The guests lauded the efforts of the Shivashakti Dhyana Yoga Charitable Trust in organizing such awareness programmes aimed at promoting a healthier lifestyle among the public. They

appreciated trust organizer Malleth and other members for their commitment to spreading the benefits of yoga across the community.

As part of the celebrations, participants performed various yoga asanas and breathing exercises under expert guidance. The event created a positive and energetic atmosphere, with attendees expressing enthusiasm for incorporating yoga into their daily lives.

The programme concluded with a call for continued community engagement in health and wellness activities, reinforcing the message that yoga is a simple yet powerful tool for achieving a balanced and healthy life.

Pallavi Engineering College Celebrates International Yoga Day with Enthusiasm



Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Pallavi Engineering College celebrated International Yoga Day with great enthusiasm on its campus, with active participation from the management, department heads, faculty members, non-teaching staff and students. The programme was held under the chairmanship of Executive Director Dr. Malka Naveen Kumar, who emphasized the importance of yoga in maintaining physical fitness and mental well-being. Addressing the gathering, he said yoga plays a vital role in leading a healthy and balanced life and encouraged everyone to make it a part of their daily routine.

The highlight of the event was a special yoga training session conducted by A. Vishwakumar, founder of the Yoga & Fitness Institute, along with his team. An expert in yoga, fitness, aerobics, acupressure and Dorn therapy, Vishwakumar demonstrated various yoga postures and explained their health benefits. Participants enthusiastically took part in the session and learned techniques aimed at improving flexibility, concentration and overall wellness.

The event was attended by College Director Dr. J.V.B. Subrahmanyam, Principal Dr. M.B. Raju, Vice Principal Dr. R. Prashanth Kumar, Administrative Officer A.

Sridhar, department heads, faculty members, non-teaching staff and students.

As a special gesture, the college management arranged lunch for all participants, which was appreciated by attendees. Participants expressed gratitude to the management for organizing the programme and promoting awareness about healthy living. The celebrations concluded with a message encouraging everyone to adopt yoga as a regular practice for achieving a healthier, happier and more balanced lifestyle. The event reflected the institution's commitment to holistic education and the overall well-being of its students and staff.

BJP Leader Marri Pururava Reddy Condoles Death of BRS Leader Jitendra Nath Shukla

Secunderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

State BJP leader Marri Pururava Reddy expressed deep sorrow over the sudden demise of senior BRS leader Jitendra Nath Shukla of Ameerpet Division.

According to family members, Shukla suffered a heart-related ailment and was rushed to a hospital. However, doctors declared him dead upon arrival. His last rites were performed at the BJR Nagar Hindu crematorium in Balkampet. Paying tribute to the departed leader, Pururava Reddy participated in the funeral procession and offered floral respects to Shukla's mortal remains. He also met the bereaved family members and conveyed his heartfelt condolences.

Speaking on the occasion, Pururava Reddy recalled the long-standing association between the Marri family and Jitendra Nath Shukla. He noted that Shukla had maintained close ties with



the family for several decades and had actively contributed to the victory of for-

mer Chief Minister Marri Chenna Reddy in the 1989 Assembly elections.

He further stated that Shukla shared a strong bond with former MLA Marri Shashidhar Reddy and was widely respected for his commitment to public and political activities. Pururava Reddy described his death as a significant loss to his associates, friends and well-wishers. He also mentioned that Shukla's daughter, Naveena Shukla, is currently active in the BJP Mahila Morcha and has been contributing to the party's organizational activities.

Several BJP leaders and local representatives attended the funeral and paid their respects. Among those present were Ameerpet Division BJP President Nakka Srinivas Goud, BJP leaders Bikshapathi Goud, Raju Goud, P. Narendra, Vamsi Krishna, and others.

The gathering remembered Jitendra Nath Shukla as a dedicated political worker and community leader whose contributions will be remembered by many.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Discusses Protection of Voting Rights for Gulf Workers and NRIs

Husnabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar held discussions on measures to safeguard the voting rights of Gulf workers and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The meeting took place at the MLA camp office in Husnabad on Sunday, where Telangana Gulf Congress representative Suthari Satyanarayana and Telangana State NRI Advisory Committee Vice Chairman Manda Bheem Reddy met the minister and submitted suggestions regarding voter registration and retention of names in electoral rolls for Telangana natives residing abroad. During the interaction, the representatives highlighted the need for extensive awareness campaigns to ensure that Gulf workers and NRIs are informed about procedures related to voter registration, corrections, and



continuation of their names in the electoral rolls. They emphasized the importance of leveraging digital platforms, including online Zoom meetings and social media channels, to reach expatriate communities across various countries. The delegation urged the

government to undertake proactive outreach programmes so that eligible voters living overseas do not lose their democratic rights due to a lack of awareness or procedural difficulties. They stressed that a large number of Telangana-origin workers and professionals residing

in Gulf countries remain keenly interested in participating in the democratic process back home.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar reportedly responded positively to the proposals and assured that the concerns raised would be considered. The representatives also invited the minister to visit Gulf nations and interact directly with expatriate Telangana communities to better understand their issues and aspirations. The discussion underscored the significant contribution of overseas Telangana residents to the state's development and economy. Participants noted that protecting the democratic rights of expatriates and addressing their concerns should remain a priority for the government.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to strengthening engagement with the global Telangana diaspora and ensuring greater participation of overseas voters in the electoral process.

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha Visits Senior Journalist Kanakanti Bhoomaiah

Secunderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha visited senior journalist and Andole Press Club President Kanakanti Bhoomaiah, who is undergoing treatment after suffering a brain stroke, at the HECA Rehabilitation Centre in Boinpally, Secunderabad. During the visit, the minister enquired about Bhoomaiah's health condition and interacted with the doctors overseeing his treatment. He reviewed the medical care being provided and sought detailed information regarding his recovery and progress. Expressing concern over the journalist's health, Rajanarasimha directed the concerned district medical authorities to ensure that Bhoomaiah receives the best possible treatment and medical sup-



port. He assured the family that the government would extend all necessary assistance for his speedy recovery. The minister also conveyed his wishes for Bhoomaiah's improved health and appreciated his contributions to the field of journalism over the years. Family members and well-wishers present during

the visit thanked the minister for personally visiting the rehabilitation centre and showing concern for the veteran journalist's well-being. Kanakanti Bhoomaiah has been receiving specialized treatment and rehabilitation following the stroke, and doctors are closely monitoring his condition.

KTR Felicitates JEE Telangana Topper Vivan S. Mahishwari for Outstanding Achievement

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao on Saturday felicitated JEE topper Vivan S. Mahishwari for his exceptional performance in the prestigious engineering entrance examinations.

Vivan emerged as the Telangana state topper in the JEE Main examination by securing a perfect 100 percentile. He further enhanced his achievement by securing an impressive All India Rank (AIR) 61 in the highly competitive JEE Advanced examination. Congratulating the young achiever, KTR praised Vivan's dedication, discipline, and commitment to excellence. He lauded the student for bringing pride to Telangana through his remarkable academic success and wished him a bright future in higher education and beyond.

During the felicitation cere-



mony, Vivan expressed his gratitude and shared the inspiration he drew from KTR's words. He said that KTR's message reminded him that success is not merely about results but also about discipline, consistency, and the ability to think beyond limitations. The interaction highlighted the importance of perseverance and focused preparation

in achieving academic milestones. KTR encouraged students across Telangana to pursue their goals with determination and hard work, emphasizing that excellence is achieved through sustained effort and a positive mindset. The felicitation served as recognition of Vivan's outstanding accomplishment and as an inspiration for aspiring students across the state.

K.T. Rama Rao Meets Telangana High Court Advocates' Association Delegation

Hyderabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President K. T. Rama Rao met a delegation from the Telangana High Court Advocates' Association at Nandi Nagar on Saturday and discussed issues relating to judicial appointments and representation for Telangana lawyers.

The delegation, led by Association President S. Surender Reddy, briefed KTR on a recent resolution adopted by the association seeking that only advocates belonging to the Telangana region be considered for appointments as judges in the Telangana High Court. The representatives submitted a memorandum outlining their concerns and urged KTR to take up the matter with the government. They also stressed the need to ensure social justice and adequate representation for all sections of society in judicial appointments. During the meeting, the advocates expressed concern that even after the for-



mation of Telangana, individuals from other regions were allegedly securing opportunities in judicial appointments by claiming local status, resulting in what they described as injustice to deserving advocates from Telangana. They stated that the association had unanimously passed a resolution on the issue during an emergency general body meeting held on June 15, 2026. The delegation further informed KTR that, as part of their campaign, advocates had organized a

protest at the High Court on June 17, 2026, seeking fair consideration for Telangana-based legal professionals in future appointments. They appealed for support in safeguarding the interests of local advocates and ensuring that their concerns are addressed by the relevant authorities. Responding to the delegation, KTR said the issues raised by the advocates were legitimate and assured them of support from the BRS. He stated that the party, as the principal opposition in

Telangana, would stand by lawyers fighting for the interests and rights of the state and would raise the matter before the appropriate authorities.

Among those present at the meeting were Association Vice President D.L. Pandu, Secretaries P. Shrawan Kumar Goud and K. Niranjana Reddy, Joint Secretary P. Krishna Keerthana, Treasurer Balaji Banoth, and other office-bearers of the Telangana High Court Advocates' Association.

Pragathi School Celebrates International Yoga Day with Enthusiasm



Adilabad, June 21 | TPN Bureau

International Yoga Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Pragathi School in Ichoda mandal of Adilabad district on Saturday. The event witnessed active participation from students, teachers, and school staff, who came together to promote the importance of yoga in everyday life.

As part of the celebrations, students performed a variety of yoga postures, including Tadasana, Vajrasana, Bhujangasana, Vrikshasana, and several pranayama exercises.

Under the guidance of yoga instructors and

teachers, the students enthusiastically practiced different asanas while learning about their physical and mental health benefits. Addressing the gathering, school principal K. Praveen described yoga as a priceless gift that India has offered to the world. He emphasized that in today's fast-paced and technology-driven lifestyle, yoga plays a vital role in maintaining physical fitness, mental peace, and emotional well-being. He encouraged students to make yoga a regular part of their daily routine from a young age to build a healthier and more disciplined future.

Teachers highlighted the numerous benefits of yoga, explaining that regular practice helps improve concentration, flexibility, and overall health. They noted that yoga not only strengthens the body but also reduces stress and promotes mental clarity. Students were advised to dedicate a few minutes every day to yoga and meditation to achieve a balanced lifestyle. The programme also included an awareness session on the significance of International Yoga Day and the positive impact of yoga on overall well-being. Participants learned how

consistent yoga practice can help prevent lifestyle-related ailments and contribute to a healthier society. The event concluded with students and teachers taking a pledge to adopt a healthy lifestyle and continue practicing yoga regularly. The celebration reflected the school's commitment to promoting holistic education and encouraging students to embrace habits that support both physical and mental wellness. The programme was attended by the school's teaching staff, students, and other members of the institution, making the Yoga Day celebrations a grand success.

Health Minister Holds SIR Awareness Meeting with Booth-Level Agents

Sangareddy, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha conducted an awareness meeting with Booth-Level Agents (BLAs) from Andole, Vatpally, Pulkal, and Choutkur mandals regarding the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The meeting was held at the minister's residence in Sangareddy, where he interacted with party functionaries and BLAs to discuss measures for ensuring accurate and inclusive voter registration across the Andole Assembly constituency. Addressing the gathering, Damodar Rajanarasimha emphasized the importance of ensuring that every eligible citizen is enrolled as a voter. He urged Booth-Level Agents to take special care in identifying eligible individuals who are yet to be registered and to assist them in completing the enrollment process. He also called on them to help rectify errors in the electoral rolls and ensure that no eligible voter is inadvertently left out.



The minister described the right to vote as a cornerstone of democracy and stressed the need to create greater awareness among citizens about the importance of exercising their franchise. He said Booth-Level Agents should actively engage with residents and educate them about their voting rights and responsibilities. Rajanarasimha further instructed the agents to develop a thorough understanding of the Special Intensive Revision process and clearly explain its objectives and procedures to the public. He noted that widespread awareness would help improve participation and ensure the suc-

cess of the revision exercise. Highlighting the significance of the programme, the minister said the Election Commission's initiative aims to maintain transparency and accuracy in electoral rolls. He added that Booth-Level Agents play a critical role in achieving these objectives by serving as a vital link between voters and election authorities. The meeting was attended by Congress leaders, public representatives, and Booth-Level Agents from the Andole constituency, who discussed strategies for effective implementation of the SIR programme and enhancing voter awareness at the grassroots level.

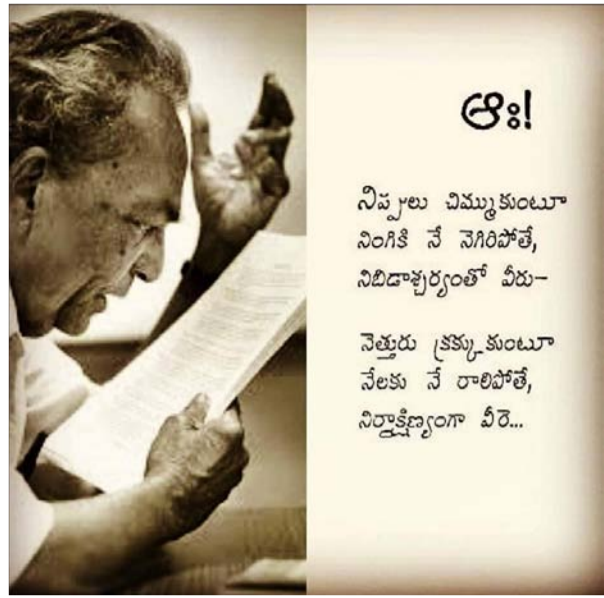
Minister Inspects Huzurabad RTC Bus Station, Reviews Passenger Facilities

Karimnagar, June 21 | TPN Bureau

Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar conducted a surprise inspection of the RTC Bus Station in Huzurabad town of Karimnagar district on Saturday and reviewed the facilities being provided to passengers. During the visit, the minister interacted directly with commuters and enquired about the issues they face while using public transport services. He sought feedback on bus punctuality, cleanliness, availability of drinking water, and other amenities being offered at the bus station. Ponnam Prabhakar inspected various sections of the bus station premises and instructed officials to focus on improving passenger services and maintaining better standards of infrastructure and

cleanliness. He emphasized that public convenience should remain a top priority and directed authorities not to show negligence in the operation of bus services or the provision of essential facilities. The minister also reviewed the implementation of welfare measures introduced by the state government in the public transport sector. Speaking on the occasion, he highlighted the government's commitment to women's empowerment and said the free bus travel scheme for women was not only providing accessible transportation but also contributing to broader socio-economic development. He stated that the government's vision extends beyond offering free travel benefits and aims to create opportunities that strengthen women's partici-

pation and leadership in various sectors. According to the minister, the state government is giving special importance to the economic and social empowerment of women and is committed to creating an environment that enables them to achieve self-reliance and progress. Ponnam Prabhakar reiterated that improving public transport infrastructure and ensuring efficient services remain key priorities of the government. He directed officials to address passenger grievances promptly and ensure that commuters receive quality services without inconvenience. The inspection was attended by the Huzurabad Municipal Chairman, councillors, local public representatives, and officials from the transport department.



ఓ! నిష్ఠలు చిమ్ముకుంటూ నింగికి నే నెగిరిపోతే, నిడిరాశ్చర్యంతో వీరు- నెత్తురు క్రమ్ముకుంటూ నేలకు నే రాలిపోతే, నిర్వాక్యంగా వీరె...

Unending long march of prolific fireball poetry: Sri Sri



Dr.T.Radhakrishna macharyulu 9849305871

Sri Sri is a doyen of Indian literature by virtue of creating poetry in which words flare like fireballs. In Telugu literature, he left an indelible signature. He remained a leftist and rendered poetry and prose. A daring and celebrated poet, he said, "This century is mine," thereby breaking the constraints of then-prevailing poetry...

He is one poet who believed that poetry is not a play of semantics and zigzag verse of phonetics. It must be a meaningful medium that uplifts the poor and revitalizes society, like a fresh breath of CPR, a life-saving cardiopulmonary technique.

Sri Sri is a great poet of all time and a literary giant in the annals of history. He was the first true modern Telugu poet to write about contemporary issues affecting the day-to-day life of the common man in a style and metre not used in classical Telugu poetry.

The essence of his personality was captured by Gudipati Venkatachalam, who compared him with the great romantic Telugu poet Devulapalli Krishnasastri. There was a saying in literary circles: "While Krishna Sastry made his anguish known to the whole world, Sri Sri spoke in his voice about the anguish of the whole world."

His book Maha Prasthanam (The Great Journey), an anthology of poems, is one of his major works. In one of the poems, Jagannathuni Ratha Chakralu, Sri Sri addressed those suffering due to social injustice and said: "Don't cry, don't cry. The wheels of the chariot of Jagannath are coming, they are coming! The apocalyptic chant of the chariot wheels! Come, realize your dreams. Rule your new world!"

His other major works include Siprali and Khadga Srushti ("Creation of the Sword"). He penned more than 1,000 lyrical poems in the film industry.

His literary style, as reflected in his body of work, establishes him as a major radical poet, as seen in the Prabhava volume and the novel Veerasimha Vijayasimhulu. He introduced free verse into socially conscious poetry through Maha Prasthanam. He wrote visionary poems in a style and metre not used earlier in Telugu classical poetry.

Such a tall and towering beacon in literature was applauded in university classrooms by poets and professors, who said, "We as poets are enjoying the laurels, and that credit goes to Sri Sri, a popular Telugu writer, because we all quenched our literary thirst under his guidance."

Srirangam Srinivasa Rao was born on April 30, 1910, in Visakhapatnam and died on June 15, 1983, leaving behind a vast treasury of poetry and lyrics.

My translation to a sri sri Telugu poem 'Aah!' 'Aah!' By spilling the fire If me were flying to the sky At deep astonishment were they... By emitting blood If me were fell on the earth Just Ruthlessly were they only...

Lok Kabi Padma Shri Haldhar Nag: The Coronation of Kosli Poetry

Varala Anand



Recipient of Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award

"I am writing a letter to you, Haldhar. The evening light is in labour, Give birth to a poem of creation. Look I am writing a letter to you, Haldhar"

The poetry of Haldhar Nag walks upon the earth just as he does. The words in his poems are the words ordinary people speak every day, yet they shimmer with the truths of lived experience. Through poetry he converses with nature. His verses greet us with the familiarity of daily life, but beneath their simplicity resonates a profound philosophy.

Haldhar Nag is lovingly known as Lok Kabi—the People's Poet. He writes in Kosli, also known as Sambalpur. For him, the greatest joy is not receiving the Padma Shri, but seeing his mother tongue attain constitutional recognition. Such is his devotion to language.

In Odisha, he is often compared to the celebrated nature poet Gangadhar Meher. Yet, in truth, there is no parallel to either his life or his poetry. His journey began amidst extraordinary hardship.

Born in 1950 in Ghens, a small village in Bargarh district of western Odisha, Haldhar Nag was the youngest child in a family that had migrated there after a cholera outbreak in their native village. His father, a cobbler, died from a snakebite when Haldhar was only ten years old.

As his elder siblings married and moved away, he became the sole support of the family. He found work washing utensils in a sweet shop and later learned cooking there. A village elder secured him a job as a cook in a school, where he worked for nearly sixteen years.

From childhood, folk songs fascinated him. He sang traditional forms such as Krishna Guru Bhajans, Dalkhai, Rasarekeli, and Mayela Jada. He later acknowledged the influence of poet Binod Nayak, particularly a poem titled Gram Pada, which inspired him to write poetry.

Gradually, emotions and observations accumulated within him and burst forth as poetry. He began composing spontaneously in Kosli. Since he had little formal education, he initially dictated his poems to others who wrote them down. Around this time, he came into contact with a literary group called Abhimanyu Sahitya Sansad, which introduced him to Odia literature.

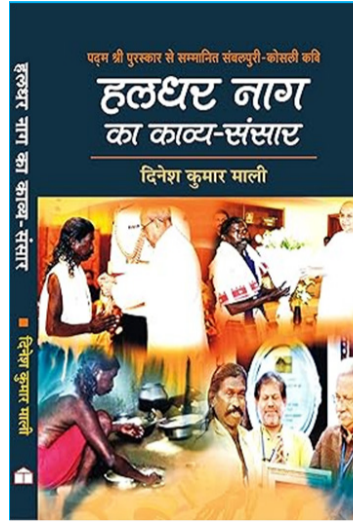
While reading Odia literature, he continued creating poetry in his mother tongue. In 1990, his first poem, Dhodo Baghcha (The Old Banyan Tree), was published in a local newspaper. Blessed with a remarkable memory, Haldhar could recite poems he had merely heard or read once.

His first published poem drew widespread attention, and many of his subsequent poems appeared in newspapers and magazines. Recognition followed.

"The appreciation and honours I received encouraged me to write even more" Haldhar later recalled.

Travelling from village to village, he read his poetry to audiences. Much of his work focused on the lives, struggles, and oppression of marginalized communities.

Haldhar Nag holds clear views on language and literature. He believes that while languages may be many, literature



is one. In his view, literature profoundly shapes human thought and emotion. His poems have been translated into Hindi and English, and after receiving the Padma Shri in 2016, translations into numerous other languages accelerated. His first poetry collection, Kavyanjali, brought together twenty-four selected poems from his Kosli writings.

One of the collection's most notable works is the long poem Great Sati Urmila, which reimagines the neglected Ramayana character Urmila. While many Ramayana traditions overlook her, Haldhar elevates her to a position equal to Sita and Mandodari.

"In seven Ramayanas she is scarcely mentioned yet to the poet within me she is a great woman, purer even than Sita"

Another celebrated poem, The Old Banyan Tree, gives voice to an ancient tree that has silently witnessed generations of village life. It has sheltered travellers, watched children grow into adults, seen weddings and funerals, observed thieves dividing their spoils, and witnessed secret meetings between lovers.

"It sees, it hears,

it knows, it understands yet speaks not a word. With its arms spread wide, it stands as a silent witness" The poem becomes a living chronicle of rural existence, transforming the tree into a storyteller.

Similarly, Ghensali River employs the river's journey to the sea as a metaphor for the human spiritual journey from birth to death and ultimately to union with the divine.

Another memorable poem, The Minister and the Beggar, is a sharp political satire presented as a dialogue. When a minister advises a beggar to stop begging and earn through hard work, the beggar responds by suggesting that the minister stop looting public wealth and use it for the people's welfare.

"I beg because my stomach is hungry, not because I am selfish. But you are selfish perhaps begging would suit you better"

In the brief but powerful poem Light and the Earthen Lamp, Haldhar expresses his anguish over the disappearance of regional languages. When a language dies, he argues, its people lose not only their words

but eventually their identity itself. The poem is a heartfelt plea for love and preservation of one's mother tongue.

Another striking poem, Why Did He Leave Home? exposes society's tendency to blame the weak while excusing the powerful.

"On every lip the same argument victory is not for the weak. Water always flows downhill blame always falls upon the powerless"

Kavyanjali won admiration from scholars and common readers alike. His second volume, Kavyanjali II, was prescribed as a textbook at Sambalpur University. Several of his

poems are now part of school curricula. Rooted in folk traditions, mythological symbolism, unadorned language, and natural spontaneity, his poetry possesses both vitality and enduring appeal.

To date, Haldhar Nag has authored around twenty-two books and numerous songs. Sambalpur University honoured him with a doctoral degree. In 2020, Pondicherry University organized a two-day international seminar on his poetry, during which the book Haldhar Nag Ka Kavya Sansar was released. His works continue to be studied and researched in universities, including the Indira Gandhi National Open University.

The man who once waited for cooking contracts is today one of Odisha's most respected literary figures, invited regularly to literary gatherings across India. Beyond literature, he appeared in the 2015 film Kaun Kitne Paani Mein alongside actors Radhika Apte and Saurabh Shukla.

The celebrated poet and lyricist Gulzar greatly admired Haldhar Nag's poetry and reportedly gifted him 50,000 from his own pocket after reading his work. Filmmaker Bharat Bala also featured him in a short film under the Virtual Bharat project. Today, Haldhar's poetry is being translated extensively into English and other languages, and more than 350 organizations have honoured him.

Yet despite his fame, Haldhar Nag continues to walk barefoot. Even when receiving the Padma Shri from Pranab Mukherjee, he chose not to wear shoes.

He says: "When you walk upon this soil, feel as though you are walking upon the entire earth"

For Haldhar Nag, the world belongs equally to all humanity. His poetry urges us to live not as isolated individuals but as part of a collective "we" He reminds us that while flaws and weaknesses reside in every human being, voices like his are needed to awaken us from time to time.

Haldhar Nag often tells young people that literature is more enduring than other art forms, including cinema. It is, he says, a torchlight that illuminates society and guides humanity forward. That is why he urges the younger generation to read literature deeply and passionately.

Love as a Universal Epic

A Review of Dr. Vinod Asudani's To My Last Love

Dr. K. Sarojadevi



HOD and Professor of English NBKR IST Vidyannagar, Nellore

Dr. Vinod Asudani's 'To My Last Love: The Epic of Love and Peace' is a remarkable poetic work that explores the profound relationship between personal love and universal peace. The book presents the thought-provoking idea that genuine human love has the power to transform society and help create a peaceful world order.

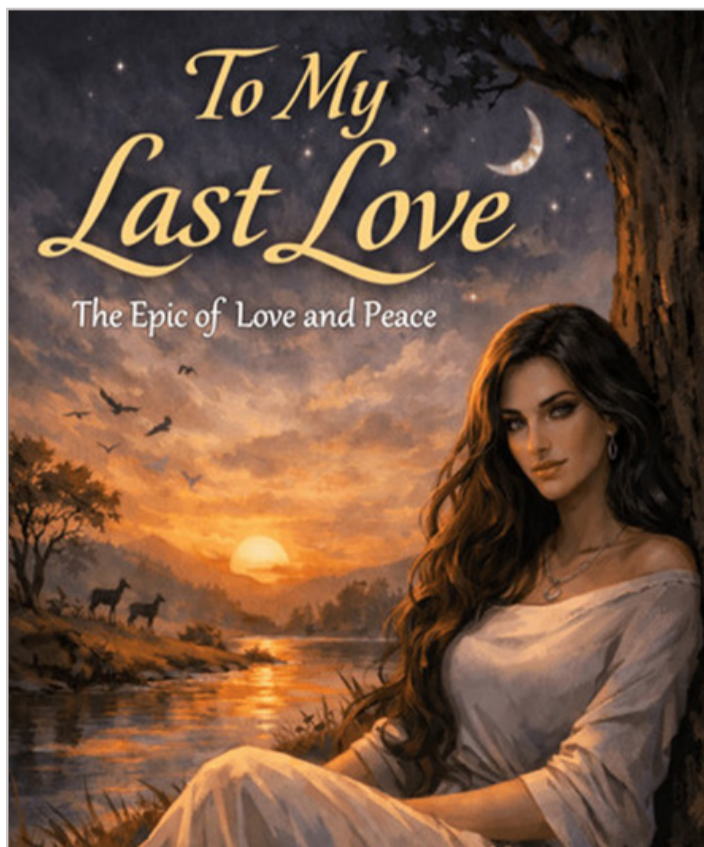
Structured as a modern epic, the work unfolds through seven cantos that trace a journey from personal emotions to broader philosophical and civilizational concerns. The poet addresses an enigmatic figure called "Oasis," who symbolizes ideal love, spiritual fulfillment, artistic inspiration, and emotional harmony.

One of the most striking features of the book is its fusion of autobiography and philosophy. Drawing from personal experiences and reflections on life, Dr. Asudani creates a poetic narra-

tive that is intimate yet universal. The poem moves between individual longing and collective human aspirations, encouraging readers to reflect on the interconnectedness of personal happiness and social harmony.

The language of the poem is lyrical, expressive, and rich in imagery. The poet employs symbolism, metaphor, and allusion to enrich the texture of the work. References to mythology, spirituality, literature, and world history provide a broad intellectual canvas.

Another significant aspect of the book is its humanitarian vision. The poet reflects on historical tragedies, wars, and human suffering, emphasizing the urgent need for compassion, empathy, and peaceful coexistence. Love is presented not merely as an individual emotion but as a transformative force capable of healing divisions and promoting mutual



Title: To My Last Love: The Epic of Love and Peace Author: Dr. Vinod Asudani Publisher: Lions Publications, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh ISBN: 978-93-7782-291-0

In conclusion, To My Last Love: The Epic of Love and Peace is a significant contribution to contemporary poetic literature. It is not merely a love poem but a visionary work that advocates harmony, compassion, and human unity. The book succeeds in elevating personal experience into a universal message and leaves the reader with a renewed faith in the enduring power of love and peace. (Author/Reviewer Dr. K. Sarojadevi is a poet, writer, columnist, and academician. She writes on social issues, ethics, communication skills, soft skills, and related themes. She has three books to her credit, along with several articles and poems. She has received national and international awards and was invited to the IATEFL International Conference in the United Kingdom in 2008. She also presented her poems at the SAARC Literature Festival in Agra in 2009.)

understanding.

The thematic range of the book is impressive. It explores love, spirituality, art, morality, civilization, memory, and hu-

man destiny. Readers interested in philosophical poetry, spiritual literature, and humanistic thought will find the work intellectually stimulating and emotionally moving.

Kharge Targets Modi, Trump; Demands Probe Into Ram Temple Fund Allegations



Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge launched a sharp attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump on Sunday, accusing them of causing harm to their respective spheres of influence and criticizing the BJP-led government over issues ranging from inflation and unemployment to alleged irregularities in the NEET examination and Ram Temple donations.

leaders as close friends, he alleged that their policies were causing hardship for people.

Kharge also blamed global developments and foreign policy decisions for rising fuel prices, arguing that India had moved away from its traditional non-aligned approach. He urged Congress workers to educate the public about issues affecting the country and strengthen the party while remaining committed to its ideology and constitutional values. The Congress chief raised concerns over allegations of financial irregularities linked to donations at the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya. Calling for a thorough investigation, he questioned why authorities needed additional time to complete inquiries if sufficient evidence was available. He alleged that religion was being misused for political purposes and demanded strict action against anyone found guilty of misappropriating temple funds.

Kharge also renewed the opposition's criticism of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET), accusing the Centre of failing to

conduct examinations properly and harming the interests of students and parents. Echoing demands made by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, he called for the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. He suggested that Karnataka's Common Entrance Test (CET) model be studied and that Class 12 marks be considered alongside NEET scores to ensure greater fairness. Targeting the BJP government over inflation, unemployment and education policies, Kharge alleged that power was being concentrated in the hands of a few while the concerns of ordinary citizens were being ignored. He further accused the government of altering educational curricula for political reasons and claimed that individuals linked to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh were being appointed to key academic positions.

Emphasizing the importance of the Constitution, Kharge said it remained a vital safeguard for the poor and marginalized sections of society and called on Congress workers to defend constitutional values.

SIT Bars Ram Temple Trust Officials From Leaving Ayodhya Amid Donation Probe

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing allegations of misappropriation of donations at the Ram Mandir has directed office-bearers of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust and temple functionaries not to leave Ayodhya while the investigation is underway, according to temple sources.

The three-member SIT issued the instruction before departing for Lucknow on Sunday. Sources said the investigation reports, including records of questioning conducted with trust officials and others linked to the case, have been digitally compiled and are being finalized for submission to Uttar

Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Daily updates are also reportedly being sent to the Chief Minister's Office.

The probe, which began on June 13 following allegations of theft and misappropriation of temple donations, has expanded beyond donation-related issues. Investigators are also examining land purchases made by the trust and procurement of construction materials for the temple. Allegations have surfaced that certain land parcels were acquired at rates higher than prevailing market prices, an issue previously raised by opposition parties, including the Samajwadi Party and the Aam Aadmi Party.

The SIT comprises Lucknow Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant, Inspector General of Police Kiran S, and Finance Department Special Secretary Neel Ratan.

Investigators are also facing challenges due to the limited retention period of CCTV footage installed at the temple complex. Sources said video recordings are automatically deleted after 45 days, restricting access to older footage that could aid the investigation. However, officials believe forensic analysis may help recover deleted data and detect any attempts to alter or tamper with recordings.

According to sources, the SIT has identified several inconsistencies in statements provided by temple staff and other individuals questioned during the inquiry. Investigators are examining these discrepancies as part of their efforts to establish the facts.

The investigation was launched after allegations raised by Akhilesh Yadav regarding possible theft of donation funds. The trust has maintained that internal audits are ongoing and has stated that no evidence supporting the allegations has been found so far.

The SIT is expected to continue its inquiry in the coming days before submitting its final report to the state government.

CJP Continues Jantar Mantar Protest, Seeks Pradhan's Resignation Over NEET Row

The protest led by Abhijeet Dipke over the alleged NEET paper leak controversy entered its second day on Sunday, with demonstrators continuing an overnight sit-in at Jantar Mantar and demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

Dipke, founder of the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), appealed to supporters and the general public to join the agitation, saying the movement required wider participation to succeed. He also urged NEET aspirants appearing for re-examinations to join the protest after completing their tests. The demonstration continued despite the Delhi Police stating that permission for the gathering had expired at 5 p.m. on Saturday. Police directed the protesters to vacate the venue, warning that continuing beyond the approved hours would violate the conditions of permission and could invite legal action.

However, protesters re-



mained at the site overnight, turning the event into a continuous sit-in. Dipke requested authorities to provide an alternative venue for the protest, saying participants would continue at Jantar Mantar until such arrangements were made.

Through a series of social media posts, Dipke appealed to police not to prevent people from reaching the protest site. He said the demonstrators were seeking justice for students al-

legedly affected by examination irregularities and demanded accountability from the government. He also claimed that access to water, food, lighting and restroom facilities had been restricted during the protest, though participants later reported that drinking water and lighting had been restored.

Hundreds of supporters, many of them young people, gathered at the venue carrying placards and raising slogans

against the education ministry. Protesters followed Dipke's call to bring plates and spoons, creating a noisy demonstration to draw attention to their demands.

Among those expressing support for the agitation was environmental activist Sonam Wangchuk, who announced that he would begin a hunger strike on June 27 if the education minister did not step down.

Dipke has demanded compensation of Rs 1 crore for families of students who allegedly died by suicide following examination-related controversies. He reiterated that the protest would remain peaceful and said dialogue with the central government remained possible if accountability was fixed and appropriate action was taken.

The ongoing demonstration is the second major protest organized by CJP at Jantar Mantar over alleged examination paper leaks and concerns regarding transparency in competitive examinations.

Yoga Is a Science for Inner Well-Being, Not a Religion: Sadhguru



Marking the 12th International Day of Yoga, spiritual leader and founder of Isha Foundation, Sadhguru emphasized that yoga is neither a philosophy nor a religion, but a scientific approach to achieving inner well-being. Addressing participants during the International Yoga Day celebrations, he said the world has now completed one full cycle of observing Yoga Day and must continue expanding awareness about the transformative possibilities of yoga.

"You know, twelve years is roughly one solar cycle. We have completed one cycle of the International Day of Yoga. It is time to take this movement further so that every human being becomes aware that there are methods to transform themselves," Sadhguru said.

Highlighting the true essence of yoga, he noted that yoga is not based on belief systems, ideologies, or physical postures alone. According to him, just as science and technology exist to

improve external well-being, yoga offers a complete science and technology for enhancing inner well-being. He stressed that many of humanity's challenges arise from a lack of understanding of the fundamental nature of human experience.

"Human experience happens from within. If we want to elevate it to its fullest potential, turning inward is the only way. This is the basic purpose of yoga," he said.

To commemorate International Yoga Day 2026, Isha Foundation organized nearly 1,000 free yoga and meditation programs across India. Around 50,000 people from corporate organizations, educational institutions, hospitals, government departments, defense establishments, and community groups participated in these initiatives. The sessions introduced simple yogic practices and meditation techniques aimed at improving physical health, mental well-being, and overall quality

of life.

At the Isha Yoga Center in Coimbatore, more than 700 people took part in the celebrations, including 500 students from the Young Indians Coimbatore Chapter and 200 personnel from the Central Reserve Police Force. Special yoga sessions were also conducted for CRPF personnel at the iconic Adiyogi. Meanwhile, at Sadhguru Sannidhi, over 2,500 participants, including NCC cadets, personnel from the Border Security Force, students, villagers, volunteers, and members of the public, attended yoga and meditation sessions.

As part of the celebrations, Isha Foundation also expanded its free guided meditation application, "Miracle of Mind," by adding six new languages—Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Bengali, Italian, and Nepali. With this addition, the app is now available in 12 languages, enabling more people worldwide to access its seven-minute guided meditation practice.

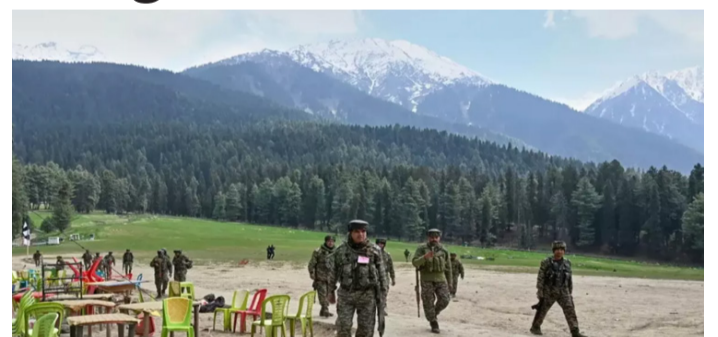
NIA Chargesheet Reveals Drone Supply Route in Pahalgam Terror Attack

The chargesheet filed by the National Investigation Agency in the Pahalgam terror attack case has revealed that cross-border drones were used to deliver arms, ammunition and cash deep inside Kashmir, highlighting a major shift in the logistics network of terrorist groups operating in the region.

According to the investigation, drones originating from across the border successfully dropped weapons and funds in the Gogal Dara forests of Baramulla, bypassing multiple layers of security. The supplies reportedly included 20 pistols, Rs 15 lakh in cash and triangular-shaped explosive devices, commonly referred to as Chinese grenades.

The NIA's probe traced the movements of the terrorists involved in the deadly attack on the Baisaran meadows in Pahalgam in April last year. The attack claimed 26 lives, most of them tourists, and triggered a major security response from India. Following the incident, Indian armed forces launched Operation Sindoor, targeting terror infrastructure across the border.

Security experts reviewing the chargesheet have pointed to



a decline in human intelligence (HUMINT) networks between 2022 and 2024 as a key factor that allowed the terror module to operate undetected. They argue that an increased dependence on technical surveillance created gaps in ground-level intelligence, enabling militants to move through mountainous and urban areas without attracting attention. Investigators believe the Gogal Dara forest area became a preferred drone-drop location due to its geographical position and direct line of sight from across the border. The chargesheet indicates that terrorists were able to receive aerial deliveries, scout targets and prepare for the attack without triggering early warning mechanisms.

Experts have also urged secu-

rency agencies to rebuild ties with the nomadic Gujjar and Bakerwal communities, long regarded as vital sources of information in the region. These communities, known for their extensive knowledge of the rugged terrain, have historically assisted security forces in tracking militant activity across the Pir Panjal ranges and other remote areas.

Analysts contend that the weakening of local intelligence networks and reduced engagement with traditional sources created operational blind spots. The NIA's findings have renewed calls for a balanced security strategy that combines advanced technology with strong human intelligence networks to counter evolving terror tactics in Jammu and Kashmir.

ED Uncovers Medical Tourism Front in Kerala Organ Trafficking Case

The Enforcement Directorate has uncovered details of a large-scale organ trafficking racket in Kerala that allegedly operated under the guise of a medical tourism company, exploiting financially vulnerable individuals and facilitating illegal organ transplants for profit.

The investigation, conducted under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), was launched based on multiple

FIRs registered by the Kerala Police. As part of the probe, the ED recently carried out searches at nine locations across Kerala, including hospitals and premises linked to the accused.

According to the agency, the racket was allegedly masterminded by Muhammed Najeeb K and his associate Rasheeda A A through their company, Kallatharas Medical Tourism Pvt Ltd. Investigators claim the network op-

erated between 2021 and 2026, recruiting financially distressed individuals as organ donors through agents and intermediaries.

The ED alleged that donors were promised payments ranging from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 15 lakh, while recipients were charged between Rs 20 lakh and Rs 35 lakh or more for transplant procedures. Authorities believe the syndicate generated substantial illegal profits through the

arrangement.

Investigators also uncovered evidence of extensive document forgery. The accused allegedly created fake altruism certificates, forged recommendation letters from public representatives, and fabricated identity documents, including Aadhaar cards and ration cards, to secure approvals for organ transplants. The forged records were reportedly prepared at two establishments

in Ernakulam district.

The agency further alleged that illegal transplant surgeries were facilitated at major hospitals in Ernakulam after obtaining approvals using forged documentation. During the searches, officials seized records related to transplant procedures, donor and recipient details, and documents submitted before district-level authorization committees.

The ED has also begun

tracing the financial trail linked to the alleged racket. Authorities have frozen several bank accounts belonging to agents and intermediaries suspected of facilitating the illegal trade and are examining banking transactions to identify the flow of funds and possible laundering of proceeds.

In addition, investigators are scrutinizing immovable properties owned by the accused and their associates to

determine whether they were acquired using proceeds of crime.

So far, Kerala Police have registered six cases related to the racket and arrested multiple accused, including alleged kingpin Muhammed Najeeb, who was apprehended in Uttar Pradesh last month. The ED said further investigation is underway to identify additional beneficiaries and establish the full extent of the network.

Poll Shows Americans Disapprove of Trump's Handling of Iran



A new poll conducted by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research has found that a majority of Americans disapprove of President Donald Trump's handling of Iran, even as his overall job approval rating remains unchanged.

According to the survey conducted between June 11 and 17, about 65 percent of U.S. adults disapprove of Trump's approach to issues involving Iran. The findings reveal a sharp partisan divide, with most Democrats and independents expressing dissatisfaction, while only 28 percent of Republicans said they were unhappy with his handling of the issue.

Trump's overall approval rating stands at 37 percent, the same level recorded in a similar poll conducted in May. The sur-

vey was carried out during a period when the president shifted from threatening escalation against Iran to pursuing renewed negotiations and eventually announcing an agreement with Tehran.

The deal reportedly allows Iran to resume unrestricted oil exports, reopens the Strait of Hormuz without tolls for two months, and revives discussions over Iran's nuclear programme. However, the agreement has drawn criticism from both political opponents and some of Trump's supporters, who argue it does not sufficiently address concerns about Iran's nuclear ambitions.

The poll also suggests that many Americans believe U.S. military involvement concerning Iran has gone too far. Fifty-three percent of respondents

expressed that view, although the figure has declined slightly from 59 percent recorded in March. Among Republicans, opinions were more divided, with some believing the actions were appropriate and others saying the administration should have taken a tougher stance.

Public opinion on other major issues remains challenging for the president. Only 34 percent of Americans approve of Trump's handling of Israel-related matters, reflecting concerns over tensions between the White House and Israeli leadership amid ongoing regional conflicts. Economic issues continue to be another area of concern. About one-third of Americans approve of Trump's handling of the economy, a figure largely unchanged from recent months. While some respondents credited his policies for positive economic conditions, others complained about persistently high prices and rising living costs.

The survey highlights continuing divisions among Americans over foreign policy and domestic economic management, with Trump's strongest support still coming from Republican voters despite growing concerns among some within his own political base.

JD Vance Calls US-Iran Talks Chance to 'Turn Over a New Leaf'

US Vice President JD Vance said the Middle East stands at a critical crossroads as American and Iranian negotiators began high-level discussions in Switzerland aimed at securing a lasting peace agreement following months of conflict.

Speaking ahead of the talks, dubbed the "Lake Lucerne Summit," Vance described the negotiations as an opportunity to reshape regional relations and move away from decades of instability.

"The question before us now is how much more can we accomplish together? Can we turn over a new leaf?" Vance said. "Can we change relations in the Middle East permanently, or do we go back to doing things the old way?"

The US delegation includes Vance, Jared Kushner and Steve Witkoff, while Iran is represented by Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi. Pakistani and Qatari mediators are also participating in the discussions. The talks are focused on implementing an interim agreement reached between Washington and Tehran that seeks to end hostilities and create conditions for a broader settlement. The agreement includes provisions for reopening negotiations on Iran's nuclear programme, easing restrictions on Iranian oil exports, and ensuring uninterrupted navigation through the strategically important Strait of Hormuz. Iranian officials, however, have



emphasized that implementation of the agreement must begin with a complete cessation of fighting, particularly in Lebanon. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said Tehran would prioritize discussions related to the Israel-Hezbollah conflict and stressed that honoring commitments was more important than signing agreements. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian reiterated that Iran would not

abandon its right to enrich uranium, signaling that the nuclear issue remains a key point of contention in negotiations.

Meanwhile, a temporary lull in fighting has been reported in southern Lebanon, where recent clashes between Israeli forces and Hezbollah had intensified regional tensions. Diplomatic efforts are aimed at preserving the ceasefire and preventing further escalation. Pakistan has also played a

prominent mediating role, with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Asim Munir holding separate meetings with both US and Iranian delegations.

The negotiations are expected to determine whether the interim agreement can evolve into a broader framework for regional stability, with both sides facing a 60-day window to pursue a comprehensive settlement.

Three Indian Oil Tankers Safely Cross Strait of Hormuz

Three Indian-flagged crude oil tankers carrying more than 8.6 lakh metric tonnes of cargo and 94 Indian crew members have successfully transited the Strait of Hormuz and are on their way to India, Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal announced on Sunday.

The vessels, Desh Vaibhav, Desh Vibhor and Sanmar Herald, crossed the strategically important waterway on Saturday and are expected to reach Indian ports over the next several days.

According to the minister, Desh Vaibhav is scheduled to arrive at Vadinar Port on June 24, while Desh Vibhor is expected to dock at Sikka Port the same day. Sanmar Herald is likely to reach Paradip Port on July 1.

In a post on social media, Sonowal said the safe passage of the vessels reflected the government's efforts to safeguard India's maritime interests and energy supply chains. He added that the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is closely



coordinating with relevant agencies to ensure the safety of Indian seafarers and the uninterrupted movement of critical cargo.

The development comes amid improving conditions in the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most important oil transit routes. Shipping activity has gradually resumed following recent diplomatic developments involving the United States and Iran.

The United States recently eased restrictions affecting Iranian oil exports as part of a broader interim agreement aimed at reducing regional tensions. The arrangement has ena-

bled commercial shipping traffic to move more freely through the Strait of Hormuz after months of uncertainty.

The safe transit of the three Indian tankers is considered significant for India's energy security, as a substantial portion of the country's crude oil imports passes through the narrow waterway connecting the Persian Gulf with global markets.

Officials said the government continues to closely monitor developments in the region and remains focused on ensuring the safety of Indian vessels, crew members and vital energy supply routes.

Iran Open to Nuclear Assurances, Rejects End to Uranium Enrichment: Pezeshkian

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Sunday said Iran is prepared to provide assurances that it is not seeking to develop nuclear weapons, but firmly ruled out abandoning its uranium enrichment programme.

Speaking ahead of a new round of negotiations between Iranian and US officials in Switzerland, Pezeshkian said Tehran was willing to formally commit to the peaceful nature of its nuclear activities.

"What the United States demands is that Iran not build an atomic bomb. This is nothing new, and we can also state in writing that we have no intention of building a bomb," he said, according to remarks published on the president's official website.

However, the Iranian leader stressed that uranium enrichment remains a sovereign right that Tehran will not surrender under any circumstances.

"We will not relinquish our right to enrichment, and the other side will have no choice but to accept this right," Pezeshkian said.

The comments come as Iranian and American negotiators prepare for high-level talks in Switzerland aimed at advancing a broader agreement following an interim understanding reached earlier between the two countries. The discussions are expected to focus on Iran's nuclear programme, regional security issues and the implementation of confidence-building measures designed to reduce tensions.

Iran has consistently maintained that its nuclear programme is intended for peaceful purposes, including energy production and scientific research. Western nations, particularly the United States, have long expressed concerns that uranium enrichment activities could potentially be



used to develop nuclear weapons.

Tehran's position reflects one of the central issues in the ongoing negotiations. While Iranian officials have indicated a willingness to increase transparency and provide guarantees regarding the non-military nature of their programme, they continue to insist on retaining domestic enrichment capabilities.

The latest talks are seen as a significant diplomatic effort to

bridge differences between the two sides and prevent further escalation in regional tensions. Observers say the outcome of the negotiations could play a crucial role in shaping future relations between Washington and Tehran, as well as broader stability in the Middle East.

Both sides are expected to continue discussions over the coming weeks as they seek common ground on nuclear safeguards, sanctions relief and regional security concerns.

Starmer Exit Speculation Grows as Trump Predicts UK PM's Resignation

Speculation over the political future of British Prime Minister Keir Starmer has intensified following reports that he could announce his resignation and outline an orderly transition plan as early as Monday. While no official confirmation has been issued by Downing Street, the reports have sparked widespread debate within British political circles and raised questions about the future leadership of the Labour Party.

The rumors come at a time when Starmer is facing mounting pressure from within his own party amid concerns over declining public support, policy challenges, and internal divisions. Political observers say dissatisfaction among some Labour lawmakers has grown in recent months, prompting discussions about whether a change in leadership could help revive the party's fortunes. Adding to the speculation, US President Donald Trump weighed in on the issue, publicly predicting that Starmer would resign. Trump criticized the British prime minister's handling of key issues, including immigration and energy policy, and suggested that his leadership had failed to meet public expectations. The comments drew significant attention on both sides of the Atlantic and further fueled discussions about Starmer's



political future. The reports have also renewed focus on potential successors within the Labour Party. Among the names frequently mentioned is Andy Burnham, the Mayor of Greater Manchester, whose recent return to Parliament has elevated his profile nationally. Burnham's economic vision, known as "Manchesterism," has gained attention as a possible blueprint for a future Labour government. Other senior Labour figures are also believed to be considering their options should a leadership contest become necessary.

Despite the growing speculation, allies of Starmer have insisted that the prime minister remains committed to his role and continues to focus on governing the country. They argue that reports of an imminent resignation may be premature and point out that Starmer has previously indicated he would contest any challenge to his

leadership rather than step aside voluntarily.

The uncertainty comes during a period of economic and political challenges for the United Kingdom, with the government facing pressure over public services, living costs, and broader economic performance. Any change in leadership at this stage could have significant implications for both the Labour Party and the country's political landscape.

If Starmer does decide to step down, Labour would be expected to launch a leadership election to choose his successor. Such a contest could reshape the party's direction and determine who leads it into the next phase of British politics.

For now, attention remains focused on Westminster as politicians, party members and the public await clarity on whether Starmer intends to continue in office or begin the process of handing over leadership.

Andy Burnham Unveils 'Manchesterism' Vision for Britain

The return of Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham to Parliament has intensified speculation that he could emerge as a future contender to succeed Prime Minister Keir Starmer, with his economic and political philosophy, dubbed "Manchesterism," attracting growing attention.

Burnham, 56, recently returned to Westminster after winning a by-election in the Makerfield constituency. He has positioned "Manchesterism" as a model for national renewal, describing it as "business-friendly socialism" that combines economic growth with stronger public services and greater local control.

A central pillar of Burnham's vision is devolution. He argues that too much economic and political power remains concentrated in London and wants to transfer greater authority over housing, transport, education and infrastructure spending to local communities. He often points to Greater Manchester's Bee Network, an integrated public transport system, as an example of



how local decision-making can improve public services and boost economic activity.

Burnham believes Britain's highly centralised financial structure has contributed to regional inequalities and slower economic growth. His proposals seek to give local governments more influence over investment decisions and public services.

On economic policy, Burnham has pledged to maintain fiscal discipline while pursuing reforms aimed at stimulating growth. He supports existing fiscal rules that require day-to-day government spending to be balanced with revenues and has ruled out increas-

ing taxes on working people, including income tax, National Insurance and VAT.

At the same time, he has criticised decades of privatisation and deregulation, arguing that they have reduced government control over essential services and increased inefficiencies. He has advocated greater public oversight of utilities and suggested public ownership could be considered in specific cases, such as financially troubled water companies. Burnham also supports retaining the "triple lock" system for state pensions, ensuring annual increases based on inflation, wage growth or 2.5 percent,

whichever is higher.

On immigration, he backs tougher measures to address illegal migration while also supporting safe and legal routes for refugees. He has argued that migrants already residing in Britain should be allowed to work while awaiting decisions on their status. A former health secretary under former Prime Minister Gordon Brown, Burnham has identified social care reform as a priority. He believes improving care services for older people could reduce pressure on the National Health Service.

Although Burnham supported remaining in the European Union during the Brexit referendum and has previously expressed support for rejoining the bloc, he has recently stated that returning to EU membership is not currently a priority, emphasizing respect for the 2016 referendum result.

His supporters view Manchesterism as a blueprint for a more balanced and inclusive economy, while critics question whether policies successful at a regional level can be effectively applied across the entire country.

Park Medi World in Spotlight as Emkay Sees 37% Upside

Shares of healthcare services provider Park Medi World are expected to remain in focus when markets reopen on Monday after brokerage firm Emkay Research projected significant upside potential for the stock. The company's shares ended Friday's trading session at 278.90 on the NSE, registering a strong gain of 9.27 percent over the previous close. The rally followed a positive outlook from Emkay Research, which assigned a target price of 350 per share, indicating a potential upside of more than 37 percent from current levels.



Effective healthcare delivery has positioned it well within India's growing healthcare sector. By keeping operational expenses under control and maximizing utilization of medical infrastructure, Park Medi World has been able to improve returns while expanding access to healthcare services. The brokerage also pointed to favorable industry trends, including rising healthcare awareness, increasing demand for organized healthcare facilities, and greater spending on

medical services. These factors are expected to support the company's growth trajectory over the coming years. Market participants will closely watch the stock's movement this week, particularly after Friday's sharp rally. Investors are likely to assess whether the positive brokerage outlook translates into sustained buying interest. The healthcare sector has remained a key area of focus for investors amid growing demand for medical services and ongoing investments in

healthcare infrastructure across the country. Small-cap healthcare companies have also attracted attention as investors search for growth opportunities beyond large pharmaceutical and hospital chains. Analysts believe that companies with scalable business models, efficient operations, and strong execution capabilities are likely to benefit from long-term structural growth in the sector. Park Medi World's emphasis on affordable healthcare and efficient asset utilization has been cited as one of its key strengths.

While the brokerage's optimistic target has boosted sentiment around the stock, market experts advise investors to consider factors such as earnings growth, valuation levels, industry competition, and overall market conditions before making investment decisions.

With a strong endorsement from Emkay Research and growing interest in healthcare-related stocks, Park Medi World is expected to remain on investors' radar in the coming trading sessions.

Markets Eye US-Iran Talks, Oil Prices in Holiday-Shortened Week

Indian equity markets are expected to take cues from global geopolitical developments, crude oil price movements, foreign investor activity, and domestic economic indicators in the holiday-shortened trading week ahead. Market participants will closely track the outcome of high-level talks between the United States and Iran, which could significantly influence global sentiment and energy markets. Trading on Indian exchanges will remain closed on Friday on account of Muharram, reducing the number of trading sessions during the week.



its energy requirements. Lower oil prices could help ease inflationary pressures and improve investor confidence, while renewed tensions may trigger market volatility.

Foreign Institutional Investor (FII) activity will also remain under scrutiny after overseas investors turned net buyers in the previous week. Continued inflows could provide support to domestic equities, particularly amid improving global risk sentiment.

Apart from geopolitical developments, investors will monitor movements in the Indian rupee against the US dollar, global market trends, and updates from the primary market. Several upcoming initial public offerings (IPOs) and listings are expected to attract attention from retail and institutional investors.

The progress of the southwest

monsoon will be another important factor. A healthy monsoon is crucial for agricultural output, rural demand, and inflation management, making it a key indicator for market participants.

Analysts believe that despite concerns over global economic growth and technology sector weakness, positive domestic fundamentals, steady institutional support, and easing commodity prices could help sustain market momentum. After posting gains for two consecutive weeks, benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty enter the new week with optimism. However, experts caution that geopolitical developments, particularly in West Asia, could determine the market's direction in the near term.

Investors are therefore expected to remain watchful as global events continue to shape sentiment on Dalal Street.

Smallcaps Extend Rally as Broader Markets Outperform for Second Week

Indian equity markets witnessed strong participation from broader market segments for the second consecutive week, with midcap and smallcap stocks outperforming benchmark indices amid sustained domestic buying, easing crude oil prices, and improving investor sentiment.

ing their winning streak for a second straight week.

Benchmark indices also posted healthy gains. The BSE Sensex rose 1,274.95 points, or 1.68 percent, to close at 76,802.90, while the Nifty 50 climbed 390.20 points, or 1.65 percent, to settle at 24,013.10.

The Nifty Midcap 100 and Nifty Smallcap 100 indices ended all five trading sessions of the week in positive territory, reflecting broad-based strength across sectors. The Nifty Midcap 100 gained 2.8 percent during the week, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 advanced 3.2 percent, extend-

Market sentiment was supported by easing crude oil prices and continued inflows from institutional investors. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) turned net buyers during the week, purchasing equities worth 3,386.33 crore. Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) remained strong supporters of the market,

investing 7,107.89 crore in equities.

Analysts attributed the rally in broader markets to strong buying in domestically focused sectors, including real estate, consumer durables, capital goods, defence, and industrial companies. Investors showed increased confidence in sectors expected to benefit from rising domestic demand and government-led infrastructure spending.

Among sectoral indices, the Nifty India Defence Index emerged as the top performer, surging 6.5 percent during the week. The Nifty Consumer Du-

rables Index followed closely with a gain of 6.4 percent, while the Nifty Realty Index jumped 5.5 percent. The Nifty Capital Markets Index also posted a solid rise of 4.2 percent.

In contrast, the technology sector remained under pressure. The Nifty IT Index declined 1.3 percent for the week, weighed down by concerns over global technology spending and weak guidance from international IT services major Accenture. Heavy selling in leading IT stocks limited gains in the broader market on the final trading day of the week.

Market experts noted that the

combination of lower oil prices, a strengthening rupee, and renewed foreign investor interest has created a favorable environment for equities. The strong performance of midcap and smallcap stocks indicates growing risk appetite among investors.

With domestic economic indicators remaining supportive and institutional flows continuing, analysts expect broader market segments to remain in focus, though global geopolitical developments and crude oil price movements will continue to influence market direction in the coming weeks.



Hawkish Fed, Uncertain Iran Truce Keep Commodity Markets on Edge

Global commodity markets remained volatile during the week ended June 18 as investors grappled with a more hawkish-than-expected US Federal Reserve and uncertainty surrounding a fragile peace process between the United States and Iran.

Market sentiment shifted sharply after the Federal Reserve kept interest rates unchanged at 3.50-3.75 percent but signaled a tougher stance on inflation under new Chair Kevin Warsh. The central bank's latest projections indicated that policymakers now expect interest rates to remain higher for longer, with several officials forecasting one or more rate hikes in 2026.

The Fed also raised its inflation outlook, projecting headline Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) inflation at 3.6 percent and core PCE inflation at 3.3 percent next year. The revised forecasts reinforced concerns that inflationary pressures remain persistent despite previous monetary tightening efforts.

Following the policy announcement, the US dollar strengthened significantly, with the Dollar Index climbing to a 13-month high of 101.1. A stronger dollar typically weighs on commodity prices by making dollar-denominated assets more expensive for international buyers.

Investors are now assigning a much higher probability to another rate increase later this year. According to market expectations, the likelihood of a December rate hike has risen sharply, reflecting growing confidence that the Fed will prioritize inflation control over eco-



nomical stimulus.

At the same time, geopolitical developments in West Asia continued to influence commodity markets. Although diplomatic efforts between Washington and Tehran have shown signs of progress, the proposed peace framework remains incomplete and subject to significant political and security challenges. Traders remain cautious about the possibility of renewed tensions that could disrupt energy supplies and trigger sharp movements in oil prices.

Despite the hawkish monetary policy signals, US equity markets ended the holiday-shortened week on a positive note. The S&P 500 gained nearly 1 percent, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.7 percent. Technology stocks led the rally, helping the Nasdaq Composite advance 2.4 percent.

Market participants will now focus on a series of key economic indicators, including the US PCE inflation report and the revised first-quarter GDP data. Comments from Federal Re-

serve officials are also expected to be closely monitored for clues about the future path of interest rates.

Analysts believe stronger-than-expected economic data could further strengthen the dollar and pressure commodities, while any setback in US-Iran negotiations may reignite volatility across energy markets. As a result, commodity traders are expected to remain cautious amid a complex mix of monetary and geopolitical risks.

Global Monetary Tightening Raises New Challenges for India

A shift in global monetary policy by major central banks is reshaping the investment landscape, with experts warning that a prolonged period of higher interest rates could have significant implications for emerging economies, including India.

According to market experts, the era of ultra-low interest rates and abundant liquidity that dominated the past decade is gradually coming to an end. Recent policy signals from the US Federal Reserve and the Bank of Japan indicate a move toward a "higher-for-longer" interest rate environment, raising the global cost of capital and influencing investment flows worldwide.

The US Federal Reserve has maintained a cautious stance on interest rates amid concerns over persistent inflation, while the Bank of Japan has resumed policy tightening after years of accommodative measures. These developments have prompted investors to reassess risk exposure, particularly in emerging markets that have traditionally benefited from abundant global liquidity.

Analysts note that tighter monetary conditions in advanced economies often lead to increased volatility in foreign portfolio investment flows. Higher returns available in developed markets can attract capital away from emerging economies, creating challenges for countries dependent on external investments.

For India, however, experts believe the situation presents both risks and opportunities. While foreign institutional investment flows may remain unpredictable, India's strong domestic demand, expanding manufacturing base, and ongoing infrastructure development continue to support its long-term growth prospects.

Market observers point out that India's economy is now more resilient than in previous cycles, supported by healthy corporate balance sheets, improved banking sector stability, and increased participation by domestic investors. These factors are expected to cushion the impact of global financial tightening.

Nevertheless, sectors heavily dependent on external funding may face pressure as borrowing costs remain elevated

Companies planning expansion projects could encounter higher financing expenses, potentially affecting investment decisions and profitability.

Experts also emphasize that investors should closely monitor global economic indicators, central bank policy decisions, inflation trends, and currency movements in the coming months. These factors will play a critical role in determining the direction of global capital flows and overall market sentiment.

Despite near-term uncertainties, analysts remain optimistic about India's long-term economic outlook. Structural growth drivers, including digital transformation, manufacturing expansion, rising consumption, and government-led infrastructure spending, are expected to continue supporting economic growth.

As global monetary conditions evolve, market participants are likely to focus increasingly on quality businesses with strong balance sheets, sustainable earnings growth, and the ability to withstand higher borrowing costs in a changing financial environment.



Delivery Job Fuels Woman's Dream of Becoming a Police Officer

A 23-year-old woman from Uttar Pradesh has won widespread admiration on social media after her inspiring journey of balancing a food delivery job in Mumbai with preparations for a police recruitment examination came to light.

Khushboo, a native of Ghazipur district, moved to Mumbai in pursuit of opportunities that would help her achieve a long-term goal—serving society as a police officer. While many young migrants arrive in the financial capital seeking permanent careers, Khushboo views the city as a stepping stone toward fulfilling her dream of returning to her village in uniform.

Her story gained attention after it was featured by Swiggy Food Marketplace CEO Rohit Kapoor as part of the company's "Chai Biskoot" series, which highlights the lives and experiences of delivery partners. Kapoor shared a video showcasing Khushboo's determination and resilience, drawing praise from thousands of viewers online.

According to the video, Khushboo is one of five siblings and left her hometown for Mumbai without initially informing her parents. To support herself financially, she began working as a Swiggy delivery partner while continuing her studies and preparing for the Uttar Pradesh Police recruitment examination.

Her daily routine involves delivering food orders across the city during the day and dedicating her evenings to



studying. Despite the challenges of balancing work and exam preparation, she remains focused on her ambition of joining the police force.

Speaking in the video, Khushboo said her ultimate goal is to wear the police uniform and serve the people of her village. Her determination to improve her future while remaining committed to giving back to her community has resonated strongly with viewers.

Kapoor noted that what impressed him most was not only Khushboo's courage in leaving home but also the clarity of purpose behind her decision. He observed that while many people migrate to cities in search of a better life, Khushboo's objective is to

turn home one day equipped to serve society in a meaningful way. In a gesture of encouragement, Kapoor presented Khushboo with a laptop to assist her preparation for the police examination.

The story quickly gained traction on social media, where users praised her perseverance, work ethic, and dedication. Many described her as an example of determination and self-belief, while others said her journey demonstrated that ambition is not merely about personal success but also about creating a positive impact on one's community.

Khushboo's story continues to inspire countless young people striving to overcome obstacles in pursuit of their dreams.

Yoga Amid Elephants Highlights Harmony Between Nature and Wellness

International Yoga Day was celebrated in a unique and inspiring manner in West Bengal's Jaldapara Wildlife Division, where Forest Department officials performed yoga in the midst of nature while elephants observed from nearby grasslands. The event beautifully showcased the connection between human well-being, wildlife conservation, and environmental harmony.

A video shared by the West Bengal Department of Health and Family Welfare captured the special celebration, drawing widespread attention on social media. The footage showed Forest Department personnel practicing various yoga asanas on mats spread across open grasslands, surrounded by the tranquil beauty of the forest landscape.

The department described the event as a symbolic gathering where "elephants walk with wisdom and we breathe with balance," emphasizing the deep relationship between nature and mindful living. The yoga session was conducted



under the theme "IDY 2026: Yoga for One Earth, One Health, One Herd," reflecting the broader message of environmental sustainability and collective well-being.

Participants performed yoga against the backdrop of the serene Torsa River and the natural sounds of the forest. Nearby elephants calmly watched the session from a respectful distance, creating a rare and memorable scene that highlighted coexistence between humans and wildlife.

Officials noted that the event was intended not only to mark

International Yoga Day but also to promote awareness about conservation and the importance of maintaining ecological balance. The presence of the elephants served as a powerful reminder of the need to protect wildlife habitats and preserve biodiversity for future generations.

According to the department, the yoga practitioners were guided by the spirit of nature itself, drawing inspiration from the calmness, strength, and resilience often associated with elephants. The session symbolized the values of pa-

trience, balance, and harmony that yoga seeks to cultivate.

The department further stated that conservation efforts are closely linked to the health of the planet, describing environmental protection as "breathwork for the Earth." By combining yoga with a wildlife setting, the event conveyed a message that personal wellness and environmental stewardship go hand in hand.

The celebration received appreciation from environmentalists, wildlife enthusiasts, and yoga practitioners alike, who praised the innovative approach to promoting both health and conservation. The event stood out as a powerful example of how International Yoga Day can be used to spread awareness about sustainable living while celebrating the bond between humans and nature.

The unique gathering in Jaldapara underscored the idea that true well-being extends beyond individual health to include the protection and preservation of the natural world.

World Music Day Strikes Different Notes Across the Globe

World Music Day 2026 brought together millions of music lovers across continents, but this year's celebrations reflected contrasting realities as climate concerns shaped events in France while India witnessed a vibrant resurgence of independent music and cultural expression.

Observed annually on June 21, World Music Day, also known as Fête de la Musique, coincides with the summer solstice and promotes the idea of making music accessible to everyone. Streets, parks, concert halls, and public spaces across the world came alive with performances ranging from classical and folk traditions to contemporary and experimental sounds.

In France, where the global celebration originated in 1982, festivities unfolded under challenging circumstances. A severe heatwave affected large parts of the country, prompting authorities to implement strict safety measures. Public alcohol consumption was prohibited in several high-risk areas as officials sought to minimize health risks associated with extreme temperatures.

Despite the restrictions, musicians continued to perform in public spaces, maintaining the spirit of the festival while adapting to safety protocols.

The contrast was striking in India, where World Music Day became a showcase for the country's growing independent music movement. Large-scale concerts, community performances, and cultural gatherings attracted enthusiastic audiences across major cities. The spotlight fell on a landmark concert in Kolkata, where celebrated musicians and artists came together for a special event dedicated to original compositions inspired by India's rich folk traditions.

Music enthusiasts in cities such as Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, and Kolkata participated in flash mobs, live performances, open-mic sessions, and collaborative musical gatherings. The celebrations highlighted a growing interest in independent artists, regional sounds, and innovative storytelling rooted in local culture.

The day also sparked broader discussions about the evol-

vement of music in modern society. Mental wellness emerged as a key theme, with many performers and organizers emphasizing music's ability to reduce stress, foster emotional connections, and promote community engagement.

At the same time, conversations around artificial intelligence in music production gained prominence as technology continues to reshape creative processes within the industry. Originally conceived by former French Culture Minister Jack Lang, World Music Day was founded on the principle that music should be freely accessible, encouraging both amateur and professional musicians to perform without charge.

While many contemporary events now feature ticketed concerts and commercial sponsorships, the festival's core message of inclusivity and cultural exchange remains intact. From intimate street performances and social media livestreams to grand concerts featuring renowned artists, World Music Day 2026 demonstrated the enduring power of music to unite people across borders, languages, and cultures. Even amid changing technologies and global challenges, the celebration reaffirmed music's unique ability to inspire, heal, and bring communities together.



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AI-Powered Scams Becoming More Sophisticated, Experts Warn

The rapid rise of artificial intelligence is transforming the digital landscape, but cybersecurity experts warn that the technology is also giving cybercriminals powerful new tools to make online scams more convincing and difficult to detect.

According to recent cybersecurity assessments, fraudsters are increasingly using artificial intelligence to create highly personalized messages, realistic deepfake videos, cloned voices, and professional-looking emails designed to deceive unsuspecting victims. While the objective remains the same—stealing money, personal information, or digital credentials—the methods have become far more sophisticated.

Experts say modern scam campaigns rely heavily on psychological manipulation. Criminals often exploit emotions such as fear, urgency, curiosity, or trust to pressure victims into taking immediate action. Artificial intelligence enables scammers to quickly generate customized content, making fraudulent messages appear more authentic than ever before.

One emerging tactic involves using publicly available information from websites, social media platforms, and online databases to craft messages tailored to individual targets. By incorporating real details into emails or messages, scammers create a false sense of familiarity and credibility.

Cybersecurity analysts note that many AI-assisted scams



no longer display the traditional warning signs associated with online fraud. Instead of sending suspicious attachments or immediately requesting money, criminals often begin with seemingly harmless conversations. Once a victim responds and becomes emotionally invested, scammers gradually introduce malicious links, requests for payments, or demands for sensitive personal information.

Another growing concern is the use of trusted online platforms to host malicious content. Fraudsters frequently utilize widely recognized services such as cloud storage platforms and productivity tools to disguise harmful links and bypass security filters. Because these platforms are commonly used by businesses and individuals, victims may be less likely to suspect foul play.

Deepfake technology has further increased the threat. Artificial intelligence can now generate convincing audio and video recordings that imitate the voices and appearances of real people. Experts warn that scammers may use these tools

to impersonate family members, colleagues, company executives, or public figures in an attempt to gain trust or demand urgent financial assistance.

The consequences of falling victim to such scams can be severe, ranging from financial losses and identity theft to compromised devices and extortion attempts.

To protect themselves, cybersecurity professionals recommend that individuals remain cautious when receiving unexpected messages, verify the identity of senders through independent communication channels, and avoid sharing personal or financial information under pressure. Experts also advise users to carefully examine links, question unusual requests, and take time to verify claims before responding.

As artificial intelligence continues to evolve, experts emphasize that awareness, vigilance, and critical thinking remain the most effective defenses against increasingly sophisticated online scams.

Google Celebrates Father's Day with Heartwarming Gardening-Themed Doodle

Google marked Father's Day 2026 with a touching and creative Doodle that pays tribute to fathers and father figures across the world. The special artwork, displayed on the company's homepage, highlights the values of love, strength, care, and guidance that fathers bring to their families.

This year's Doodle features a handcrafted pop-up card design with a warm and rustic appearance. The colorful illustration transforms the Google logo into a series of paper-cut letters arranged on folding cards. At the center of the design is a vibrant garden scene showcasing vegetables such as radishes and carrots, along with a small harvest basket, a gardening trowel, and handprint cutouts decorated with heart shapes.

According to Google, the gardening theme was chosen to symbolize the qualities often associated with fathers. The vegetables growing from the soil represent

rooted strength, unwavering support, protection, and the nurturing role fathers play in helping children grow and flourish. The imagery reflects the idea that, much like a gardener cares for plants, fathers provide guidance, encouragement, and stability throughout life. The Doodle's handcrafted aesthetic adds a personal touch, resembling a homemade greeting card created with affection and gratitude. Its design captures the spirit of Father's Day by emphasizing family bonds and heartfelt appreciation rather than grand gestures.

Father's Day is observed in many countries around the world, although the date varies from nation to nation. In countries including India, the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, the occasion is celebrated on the third Sunday of June. The day serves as an opportunity for families to recognize the contributions of fa-



thers, grandfathers, mentors, and other father figures who have positively influenced their lives.

People celebrate Father's Day in different ways, ranging from giving gifts and greeting cards to spending quality time with family members. The occasion also serves as a reminder of the emotional support, sacrifices, and dedication shown by fathers in raising and supporting their children. Google's latest Doodle has been widely appreciated for its simple yet meaningful mes-

sage. By using the symbolism of gardening and growth, the artwork highlights the enduring role fathers play in shaping lives and nurturing future generations.

As families around the world celebrate the occasion, the special Doodle offers a visual reminder of the gratitude, respect, and affection that Father's Day seeks to express, honoring fathers whose care and support continue to make a lasting difference in the lives of their loved ones.

Balcony Escape System Offers New Safety Option for High-Rise Emergencies

As high-rise fires continue to expose the challenges of emergency evacuations in densely populated urban areas, an Indian startup has introduced a technology aimed at providing residents with an alternative escape route when conventional exits become inaccessible.

Delhi-based startup Safe Skydrop has developed what it describes as India's first CE-certified personal vertical egress device, designed specifically for emergency evacuation from multi-storey residential buildings.

The innovation addresses a critical concern faced by residents of high-rise apartments. During major

fires, elevators are typically shut down to prevent accidents, while stairwells can quickly fill with smoke, making evacuation difficult or even impossible. In such situations, residents often have limited options while waiting for emergency responders to arrive.

The Safe Skydrop system is designed to function independently of electricity and batteries. Installed permanently on a reinforced balcony wall, the device consists of an aluminum hydraulic frame equipped with an automatic speed-control descender mechanism. Because it operates mechanically, it remains functional during power

outages and blackouts, conditions commonly associated with building fires. According to the company, the evacuation process can be completed within minutes. During an emergency, users wear a safety harness, connect themselves to industrial-grade steel carabiners, and descend from the balcony using the system. An internal braking mechanism automatically controls the rate of descent, allowing users to reach the ground at a steady speed of approximately 0.8 to 1 metre per second without requiring manual control.

The system has also been designed with families in mind. Specialized child safety harnesses are

available, and multiple occupants can evacuate sequentially using a single customized galvanized steel cable. Depending on building requirements, the cable can support evacuations from heights of up to 99 metres.

High-rise fires in India and around the world have repeatedly highlighted the importance of effective evacuation planning and emergency preparedness. While fire alarms, sprinklers, and emergency staircases remain the primary safety measures in buildings, technologies such as personal evacuation devices are emerging as supplementary tools that could provide addi-

tional options during extreme situations. Beyond the equipment itself, the company emphasizes user preparedness through mandatory hands-on training sessions and annual inspections. The approach aims to ensure that residents are familiar with the system before an emergency occurs.

As urban skylines continue to grow vertically, innovations focused on emergency evacuation and resident safety are attracting increased attention from housing societies, safety experts, and urban planners seeking to reduce risks and improve disaster preparedness in high-rise living environments.



Kohli Returns to India ODI Squad for England Series, Awaiting Fitness Clearance



India's star batter Virat Kohli has been named in the squad for the upcoming three-match One-Day International series against England, subject to a fitness clearance from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The 15-member squad was announced on Sunday, with selectors recalling several experienced players as India gears up for a crucial white-ball assignment next month.

Kohli, who missed the recent ODI series against Afghanistan due to a hamstring injury sustained during Indian Premier League action, is scheduled to report to the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru for a fitness assessment. His availability for the England series will depend on the outcome of the evaluation.

The return of Kohli

strengthens India's batting lineup, which will continue to be led by captain Shubman Gill. Veteran opener Rohit Sharma retains his place at the top of the order, while vice-captain Shreyas Iyer is expected to play a key role in the middle order.

One notable omission from the squad is young opener Yashasvi Jaiswal, who had impressed with two centuries against Afghanistan. Selectors opted to restore the regular combination following Kohli's return, while wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan has been retained as a backup opening option.

India have also welcomed back pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah after workload management, adding significant strength to the bowling attack. Experienced all-rounder Axar Patel returns as well, replacing emerging

left-arm spinner Harsh Dubey, who will join the India A squad for its red-ball assignment against Sri Lanka A. The ODI series against England will be played at Edgbaston on July 14, Sophia Gardens on July 16, and Lord's on July 19.

Meanwhile, spinner Varun Chakravarty has been ruled out of the T20I series against Ireland as he continues rehabilitation for a foot injury. Shreyas Iyer will captain the T20I side, with Tilak Varma serving as vice-captain.

With senior players returning and preparations intensifying, the England ODI series is expected to provide India with an important opportunity to fine-tune combinations ahead of future international tournaments and major white-ball challenges.



Spain, Belgium and Uruguay Face Crucial Tests on Exciting World Cup Match Day

Football fans are set for an action-packed day at the FIFA World Cup as several top teams take the field in crucial Group G and Group H encounters. With knockout qualification scenarios beginning to take shape, title contenders Spain, Belgium, and Uruguay will all be aiming to secure valuable points, while underdogs Saudi Arabia, Iran, Cabo Verde, and New Zealand look to spring surprises.

The spotlight will first fall on Spain national football team as they seek to bounce back from a disappointing goalless draw against Cabo Verde national football team in their opening match. Considered among the tournament favourites, Spain struggled to break down the World Cup debutants and now face added pressure against Saudi Arabia national football team.

Doku due to illness, a setback after the Red Devils were held to a draw by Egypt in their opening game. Iran, who shared points with New Zealand in a thrilling 2-2 encounter, remain firmly in contention for a place in the next round.

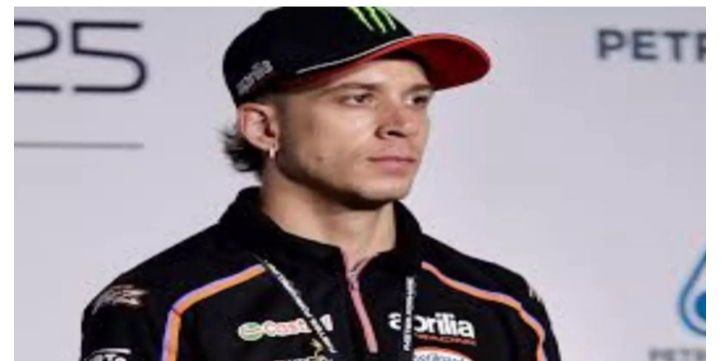
Coach Pedro Leitao Brito, known as Bubi, has vowed that his side will continue to play fearlessly against one of South America's traditional powerhouses.

Uruguay, featuring several Europe-based stars, were surprisingly held by Saudi Arabia and cannot afford another slip-up. The South Americans are expected to push aggressively for their first victory of the tournament. The day's final fixture sees Egypt national football team face New Zealand national football team. Egypt will rely heavily on captain Mohamed Salah and forward Omar Marmoush, while New Zealand hope experienced striker Chris Wood can lead them to a crucial win.

One of the most intriguing matches features Uruguay national football team against Cabo Verde. The African newcomers captured global attention by frustrating Spain and earning a memorable draw. Coach Pedro Leitao Brito, known as Bubi, has vowed that his side will continue to play fearlessly against one of South America's traditional powerhouses.

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With heavyweight teams under pressure and ambitious underdogs eager to make history, Match Day 12 promises drama, excitement, and potentially defining moments in the race for World Cup glory.



Championship Leader Bezzecchi Banned from Czech MotoGP After Steward Incident

MotoGP championship leader Marco Bezzecchi has been ruled out of the Czech Grand Prix after being handed a race ban for striking a track steward following a crash during Saturday's sprint race. The incident occurred at the Czech Grand Prix in Brno when the Italian rider, competing for Aprilia Racing, crashed out with just two laps remaining. Television footage showed Bezzecchi running toward a steward who was standing near his motorcycle in the gravel trap. The rider appeared to push the official before slapping him in the face.

significant setback for Bezzecchi's championship ambitions. The 27-year-old has enjoyed a strong season and currently leads the MotoGP standings with 180 points. However, the missed race could prove costly as his rivals close the gap in the title battle.

MotoGP officials acted swiftly, announcing that Bezzecchi would be excluded from Sunday's main race. The decision was later confirmed by the FIM MotoGP Stewards, who stated that the rider's actions constituted conduct "prejudicial to the interests of the sport."

The latest controversy comes just two weeks after another frustrating weekend for Bezzecchi at the Hungarian Grand Prix, where teammate Jorge Martin took him out in the opening corner, forcing him to retire from the race. Martin, who sits second in the standings with 165 points, will also face penalties at Brno after being handed two long-lap penalties for causing that collision. Following the announcement of his ban, Bezzecchi issued a public apology to the MotoGP community, Aprilia Racing, and his supporters.

Looking ahead, Mithali expressed confidence that star opener Smriti Mandhana has the potential to surpass her record for the most international runs scored by an Indian woman cricketer. She also praised the consistency and leadership qualities of Mandhana and all-rounder Deepti Sharma, describing them as key pillars of the current Indian team.

The Italian acknowledged that his actions were unacceptable and expressed regret toward the track marshals who work to ensure rider safety during race weekends. He admitted there was no justification for his behavior and accepted responsibility for the incident.

With India enjoying a positive start to the tournament, Mithali's backing adds further belief that the team can mount a serious challenge for the Women's T20 World Cup title.

With Bezzecchi absent from Sunday's race, the championship battle could tighten considerably. Fabio Di Giannantonio currently occupies third place in the standings with 146 points and will be among those hoping to capitalize on the championship leader's costly mistake as the 2026 MotoGP season enters a crucial phase.

Sooryavanshi Smashes Record 11-Ball Fifty, Falls Agonisingly Short of Century



Teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi produced a breathtaking display of power-hitting to rewrite the record books, smashing the fastest fifty in List A cricket history during the tri-series final between India A and Sri Lanka A on Sunday.

The 15-year-old prodigy

from Bihar reached his half-century in just 11 balls, surpassing the previous record of 12 balls set by Sri Lanka's Kaushalya Weeraratne in 2005. Sooryavanshi's explosive knock of 94 runs from only 29 deliveries left cricket fans and experts in awe, as he single-handedly dismantled the Sri

Lanka A bowling attack. Opening the innings with remarkable intent, the young batter launched an immediate assault, striking two sixes and three fours in his first five deliveries. His fearless approach and exceptional timing enabled him to dominate bowlers in all areas of the ground. He

mixed powerful leg-side shots with elegant drives through extra cover, showcasing a maturity beyond his years. Sooryavanshi's innings featured 10 boundaries and eight towering sixes. His ability to dispatch even well-pitched deliveries over the ropes highlighted the extraordinary tal-

ent that has already earned him national attention. Particularly impressive were his effortless sixes over extra cover, a stroke that became the hallmark of his innings.

The youngster appeared destined for a historic century and was within touching distance of equalling the fastest List A hundred record of 29 balls held by Australia's Jake Fraser-McGurk. However, his dream innings ended dramatically when he was caught at mid-off in the ninth over with India's score reading 132.

Despite falling six runs short of a century, Sooryavanshi's innings will be remembered as one of the most explosive knocks in List A cricket. His performance came at the perfect time after relatively modest scores during the league phase of the tournament.

The knock further strengthened his reputation as one of India's brightest cricketing prospects. Sooryavanshi is already set to make his international debut later this month following a series of impressive performances, including memorable displays during the IPL playoffs.

With heavy pressure and ambitious underdogs eager to make history, Match Day 12 promises drama, excitement, and potentially defining moments in the race for World Cup glory.

Mithali Backs India for World Cup Semis, Calls Richa Team's 'Trump Card'



Former Indian captain Mithali Raj has expressed confidence in India's chances of reaching the knockout stage of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026, despite the injury setback suffered by all-rounder Shreyanka Patil. Speaking during the JioStar Media Day, Mithali said India possess the depth and bal-

ance needed to remain strong contenders in the tournament. The former skipper acknowledged that Shreyanka's absence would require the team management to rethink its combination, with spinner Radha Yadav emerging as a likely replacement option. She noted that adapting quickly to injuries is

an essential part of success in major tournaments and backed the Indian squad to handle the challenge effectively.

Assessing the race for the semi-finals, Mithali predicted that India and Australia would advance from Group A. From the other group, she tipped England and West Indies to secure

knockout berths. According to her, India's victories in their opening two matches have significantly strengthened their position heading into crucial encounters against South Africa and Australia. While praising India's start, Mithali also highlighted areas requiring improvement. She expressed concern about the inconsistency of the middle order and stressed the need for stronger contributions from batters occupying the No. 3 to No. 5 positions. Building partnerships in the middle overs, she said, would reduce pressure on the lower order and provide a stronger platform for big totals.

Mithali reserved special praise for wicketkeeper-batter Richa Ghosh, describing her as India's "trump card" in the tournament. She pointed to Richa's ability to accelerate the scoring rate during the death overs and deliver match-winning performances under pressure. Such qualities, Mithali noted, make her one of India's

most valuable assets in the competition.

The batting legend also spoke about Jemimah Rodrigues, observing that the batter looked more composed in her second outing after appearing rushed in the opening game. Mithali believes Jemimah is gradually regaining rhythm and could play a decisive role in India's campaign as the tournament progresses.

With Bezzecchi absent from Sunday's race, the championship battle could tighten considerably. Fabio Di Giannantonio currently occupies third place in the standings with 146 points and will be among those hoping to capitalize on the championship leader's costly mistake as the 2026 MotoGP season enters a crucial phase.

The suspension represents a



Mahima Gupta

RISING STAR

Sukumar Blesses Priyadarshi-Naga Durga Film



The upcoming collaboration between Sukumar Writings and Bunny Vas Works is rapidly emerging as one of the most anticipated projects in Telugu cinema. Featuring talented actor Priyadarshi in the lead role, the yet-to-be-titled family entertainer has already generated considerable buzz among movie lovers and industry insiders.

The film brings together acclaimed filmmaker Sukumar and successful producer Bunny Vas, both of whom are known for backing distinctive and content-rich cinema. Their association has naturally raised expectations, with audiences eager to see what this promising combination has in store.

Anil Ravipudi's Funny 'Blood Tilak' Video Creates Buzz

Promotions for the much-awaited multistarrer starring Venkatesh and Kalyan Ram have begun on a highly entertaining note. Director Anil Ravipudi, known for his innovative and humorous promotional campaigns, has once again grabbed attention with a fun video released ahead of the film's regular shoot.

The promotional video, titled "Katti Lanti Idea," was shared by the makers and has quickly become a talking point on social media. In the video, Anil Ravipudi is seen holding a knife and jokingly complaining that he is always the one who comes up with ideas for promotions. What follows is a hilarious sequence in which Venkatesh playfully pretends to cut the director's hand and uses the "blood" to apply a victory tilak on his forehead.

The fun continues as Kalyan

and Keerthy Suresh, and Krithi Shetty join in, following the same ritual. The director's humorous reaction adds to the entertainment value of the video. Through the playful promo, Anil Ravipudi also made it clear that although the film is set against a Rayalaseema backdrop, it should not be mistaken for a faction-based action drama. Instead, he emphasized that the movie is a wholesome family entertainer packed with comedy, emotions, and entertainment.

The film marks the first-ever collaboration between Venkatesh and Kalyan Ram, making it one of the most anticipated projects in Telugu cinema. The project was recently launched with a traditional pooja ceremony in Hyderabad, and the regular shoot is scheduled to commence from June 22.

Produced by Sahu Garapati

Kajal Calls NBK111 a Dream Project



Actress Kajal Aggarwal has expressed her excitement about being part of NBK111, the upcoming film starring Nandamuri Balakrishna in the lead role. The actress described the opportunity to share screen space with Balakrishna and portray a powerful character as a dream come true moment in her

career. The film is being directed by Gopichand Malineni, who is reuniting with Balakrishna after delivering the blockbuster Veera Simha Reddy. Their successful combination has already created strong expectations among fans and industry circles, making NBK111 one of the most eagerly awaited projects in Telugu cinema.

Kajal's inclusion in the film has further heightened the buzz surrounding the project. The actress is making a full-fledged return as a leading heroine and is said to be delighted with the role offered to her. According to industry reports, her character has been designed with significant depth and impor-

ance, moving beyond the conventional heroine template often seen in commercial entertainers.

Sources suggest that Kajal was particularly impressed by the way her role has been written and developed. The character is expected to have a strong presence throughout the narrative, giving the actress ample scope to showcase her performance alongside Balakrishna.

The film's shooting is already underway, and the makers are progressing with key schedules. While details regarding the storyline are being kept under wraps, the combination of Balakrishna, Gopichand Malineni, and Kajal Aggarwal has generated considerable excitement

Gunasekhar Excited as Okkadu Returns in 4K

One of Telugu cinema's most celebrated blockbusters, Okkadu, is gearing up for a grand return to theatres in a stunning 4K version on June 26. Starring Superstar Mahesh Babu in the lead role, the film remains a landmark achievement in Telugu cinema and continues to enjoy immense popularity even decades after its original release.

Produced by M.S. Raju under the Sumanth Art Productions banner and directed by acclaimed filmmaker Gunasekhar, Okkadu first hit screens in 2003 and emerged as one of the biggest commercial successes of its time. The film played a crucial role in elevating Mahesh Babu's stardom and is widely regarded as one of the defining movies of his career.

Over the years, Okkadu has earned a cult following for its gripping narrative, memorable performances, and iconic action sequences. The film's connection with the historic Kondareddy Buruju became a major talking point among audiences and remains one of its most recognizable elements.

The re-release, presented by Radha Madhavi Film Distributors and being brought back to theatres worldwide by Ramakrishna, will allow audiences

across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and other regions of India to relive the cinematic experience on the big screen with enhanced visual quality.

The film features Bhumika Chawla as the female lead, while Prakash Raj delivered a powerful performance as the antagonist, a role that continues to be remembered as one of the finest villain portrayals in Telugu cinema. The ensemble cast also includes Mukesh Rishi, Telangana Shakuntala, Ajay, Geetha, Dharmavarapu Subramanyam, Rajan P. Dev and Achyuth in key roles.

Expressing his excitement about the re-release, director Gunasekhar said that Okkadu continues to gain admiration with each passing year. He noted that although the film has been re-released on several occasions, watching it in 4K on the big screen is a special experience. The filmmaker added that he is as excited as the fans to revisit the classic and hopes audiences will once again shower the film with immense love and appreciation.

With nostalgia running high and anticipation building among fans, Okkadu is set to create another memorable theatrical moment when it returns to cinemas on June 26.



pected to bring a unique charm to the screen. Industry observers believe the combination could offer a refreshing dynamic, especially within the film's rural Telangana backdrop.

The occasion became even more special as the team celebrated Naga Durga's birthday in the presence of Sukumar and other members of the production. The heartfelt celebration marked a memorable milestone for the actress as she begins her journey in the Telugu film industry.

Directed by young filmmaker Vamsi Reddy Dondapati, the

movie is set against the backdrop of a Telangana family and promises a wholesome mix of comedy, emotions, and drama. With Sukumar's creative support, Bunny Vas's production expertise, Priyadarshi's proven versatility, and Naga Durga's much-awaited debut, the film has all the ingredients of a compelling entertainer.

As pre-production activities gather momentum and shooting preparations move forward, anticipation continues to grow around what could be one of the most interesting Telugu films currently in development.



Ramam Opens Doors for Fresh Talent with Special Casting Call

The makers of the upcoming pan-India film Ramam have announced an exciting opportunity for aspiring actors and actresses to step into the world of cinema. Backed by Chitralayam Studios, the film is presented by Donepudi Chakrapani and produced by Venu Donepudi, while filmmaker Lokamanya is helming the project.

Carrying the intriguing tagline "The Rise of Akira," Ramam is being mounted on a grand scale with international production standards and high-end technical values. The film has already generated curiosity among movie enthusiasts, and the latest casting announcement has further heightened interest around the project. In a move aimed at discovering fresh talent, the makers have issued a special casting call inviting individuals from all age groups to participate in the audition process. Whether they are newcomers looking for their first break or passionate performers eager to showcase their skills, the auditions offer a platform for aspiring artists to pursue their cinematic dreams.

According to the production team, auditions will be conducted over four days, from June 25 to June 28, between 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Participants are encouraged to prepare a brief self-introduction and demonstrate their acting abilities during the selection

process. To apply, interested candidates must submit a recent photograph, biodata, and a one-to-two-minute self-introduction video. Applications can be sent via WhatsApp to 9949814280 or through email at connect@chitralayam.com. The makers have also provided an additional option for registration through a QR code, making the process more accessible for applicants.

Industry observers note that casting calls of this nature have become an important avenue for identifying new talent, especially in large-scale projects seeking fresh faces and diverse performers. By opening auditions to a broad range of participants, the Ramam team aims to bring authenticity and new energy to the film. With its ambitious vision, pan-India appeal, and commitment to discovering emerging artists, Ramam is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated projects from Chitralayam Studios. The casting initiative reflects the makers' confidence in nurturing talent and providing opportunities for individuals who aspire to make a mark in the entertainment industry.

As auditions draw near, hopeful performers are preparing to seize what could be a career-defining opportunity in a film that promises scale, innovation, and a fresh cinematic experience.



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