

CBI Files Case against SCR Official in AP over Railway Job Fraud

Hyderabad: Tension prevailed on the Hyderabad-Warangal National Highway on Sunday as police intercepted BRS working president KT Rama Rao and other BRS leaders at Pembarthi during their visit to the Kannepalli pump house. The BRS visit is aimed at exposing the Congress government's alleged negligence in allowing Godavari River waters to flow into the sea instead of being lifted for irrigation. Rama Rao, accompanied by several BRS legislators and senior leaders from erstwhile Warangal, Karimnagar and Nalgonda districts, left Hyderabad to inspect the Kannepalli pump house and address the media. En route, he halted at nvoiy. Heated arguments ensued as BRS cadre converged at Pembarthi in large numbers, even as the police refused to allow them further.Ktr 1The police action triggered protests



from BRS cadres, who accused the Congress pupet Stage in Yadagirigutta Mandal, where he met former MLA Gongidi Sunitha Mahender Reddy and party workers before continuing his journey. Ktr 2Police deployed heavy security at Pembarthi in Jangaon district, erected barricades on the Hyderabad-Warangal highway and intercepted Rama Rao's convoy. Heated arguments ensued as BRS cadre converged at Pembarthi in large numbers, even as the police refused to allow them further.Ktr 1The police action triggered protests of using that the visit is aimed at exposing the government's failure to utilise available river flows despite looming concerns over water availability.Simultaneously, preventive arrests of BRS cadres were carried out across Jangaon district, with several workers shifted to police stations while security personnel kept watch outside the residences of local party leaders.

4 Killed, One Injured in Bus-Car Collision in Nalgonda

Hyderabad: Four people were killed and one person sustained critical injuries after a private bus rammed into Hyderabad-Vijayawada National Highway near Peddakaparthi village in Chityal mandal of Nalgonda district early on Sunday. According to police, five people were travelling from Chennai to Hyderabad when the Odisha-based Arshiya Travels bus hit their car from behind. The impact crushed the car, killing four occupants on the spot. Also Read - Another Visakhapatnam Fishing Boat Stranded Off Odisha Coast The injured driver, identified as V.V. Prasad, was shifted to Kamineni Hospital in Narketpally for treatment. Rescue teams used a crane to remove the mangled car and



retrieve the bodies, which were sent to the Government Gwhich were sent to the eneral Hospital in Nalgonda for post-mortem. Police said the deceased include Prasad's wife, which were sent to the son, daughter and a friend. The victims were natives of Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh and were residing in Hyderabad, based on identity documents recovered from the scene. A case has been registered, and an investigation is underway. Traffic on the national highway was briefly affected before being restored by police and NHAI personnel.

Vizag Harbour: One Fisherman Rescued Safe, Search On for Six Others

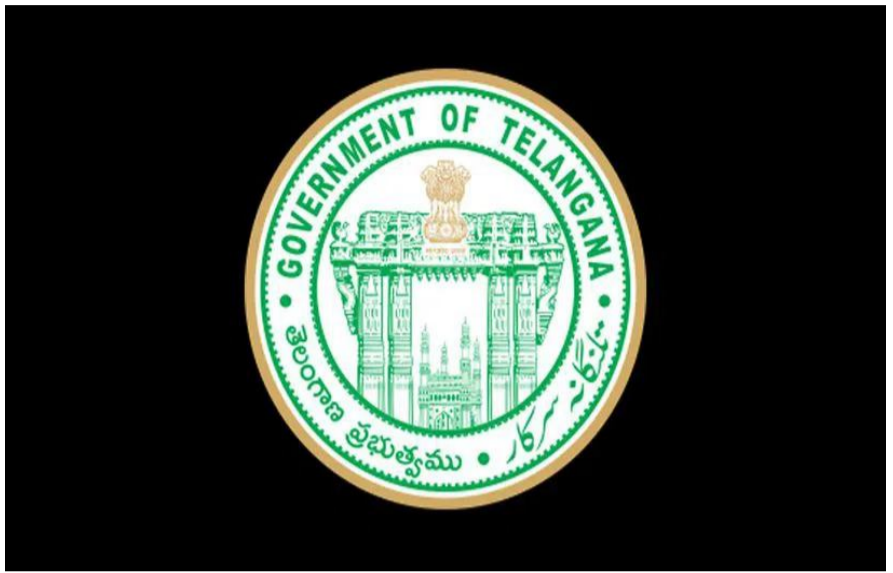
Visakhapatnam: Seven fishermen have gone missing after venturing into the sea from the Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour. One of the seven fishermen has been rescued safely and is being brought ashore by rescue teams. The search is underway for the remaining six missing fishermen. According to officials, Chinna, Appalaraju, Garagayya, K. Chinnaiah, Sithodu, Bandiyya and Chinna Ammoru set out for fishing at around 3 a.m. on June 1 in the fishing boat AP-MM-V5-83 from the Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour. Also Read - AP CM Naidu Hails 116-Year-Old Grandmother's Tirumala Trek The fishermen had been fishing at sea for some time, when weather conditions reportedly turned rough, they decided to return to the harbour. According to their family members, all seven fishermen spoke to their families on Saturday afternoon and were expected to return to the Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour by evening. However, they failed to reach the harbour, and their mobile phones



have since been switched off. Also Read - YouTuber Prashna Ravan Arrested for the Fifth Time Under UAPA The family members rushed to the fishing harbour and had been waiting since early morning, and sought the assistance of the authorities. Officialvo trace the missing fishermen. A massive search operation has been launched by the Coast Guard, the Navy, and the Marine Police to trace the missing fishermen. The search is continuing with the help of a Navy helicopter. According to the boat owner, it had undergone repairs only a few days ago. Fellow fishermen suspect that the engine failed due to the intensity of the strong winds.A morning, and sought the assistance of the authorities. morning, and morning, and sought the sought the Officials have launched efforts to trace the missing fishermen. A massive search operation has been launched by the Coast Guard, the Navy, and the Marine Police to trace the missing fishermen. The search is continuing with the help of a Navy helicopter. According to the boat owner, it had undergone repairs only a few days ago. Fellow fishermen suspect that the engine failed due to the intensity of the strong winds.A morning, and sought the assistance of the authorities. morning, and morning, and sought the sought the Officials have launched efforts to trace the missing fishermen. A massive search operation has been launched by the Coast

Telangana Government seeks feedback on The Core Urban Region (Integrated Governance) Bill, 2026

Hydrabad: The State government intends to introduce The Core Urban Region (Integrated Governance) Bill, 2026 and replace the GHMC Act, 1955. To this effect, it is seeking public feedback till July 24.The Government claims the new bill is a comprehensive legislation that will replace the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Act, 1955. The GHMC Act, enacted over seven decades ago, contains several provisions that have become outdated and no longer reflect the needs of a rapidly growing metropolitan region. The new Bill repeals these obsolete provisions and introduces a modern legal framework, officials said.It facilitates integrated governance of the core urban region through a whole-of-government approach, enabling seamless coordination across departments and agencies. Ease of living for citizens through simplified, citizen-centric service delivery, a vision



towards net zero, embedding sustainability and climate responsibility in urban governance, improved public health systems and outcomes across the urban region and easing for citizens through simplified, citizen-centric of doing business, adopting national and global bizens through simplified, est practices in urban administration, o f f i c i a l s stated.Accordingrapidly growing metropolitan region. The new Bill repeals these obsolete provisions and introduces a modern legal framework, officials said.It facilitates integrated governance of the core urban region through a whole-of-government approach, enabling seamless coordination across departments and agencies. Ease of living for citizens through simplified, citizen-centrily, the government is seeking public consultation and the draft Bill is being placed in the public domain for feedback. The draft Bill is published on the websites of the three Municipal Corporations. Citizens will have to submit their feedback and suggestions online may be submitted to the Special Chief Secretary, MAUD Department, Secretariat. All feedback mechanisms will remain open for comments and

97.7% Of Government Nursing Officers Support Revision Of Uniform Dress Code

HYDERABAD: About 98 per cent of nursing officers in government hospitals wanted a change in their uniform pattern, according to a survey that the Telangana Nurses Association (TNA) said it had conducted statewide online. It said 2,576 nursing officers (97.7 per cent) supported revising the uniform dress code and introducing a modern scrub uniform, while only 61 (2.3 per cent) preferred to retain the uniform. Also Read - Another Visakhapatnam Fishing Boat Stranded Off Odisha Coast The younger generation of nursing officers believed that they deserved a professional, comfortable and internationally



accepted uniform comparable to those used in corporate hospitals. They expressed a strong preference for adopting modern scrub uniforms that reflect professionalism, improve comfort and align with contemporary healthcare practices, the association said. GO Ms. No. 12, dated 11-01-2011, primarily prescribes the uniform dress code for female nursing staff and does not provide clear guidelines regarding the uniform for male nursing officers, who number about 1,500 in government healthcare institutions. The association urged the government to amend GO Ms. No. 12 and implement a modern, gender-inclusive scrub uniform dress code for all government nursing officers.

Heavy Rainfall Expected in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana This Week

Hyderabad: The influence of El Niño, which often affects the Indian monsoon, resulted in less rainfall in several regions this year. According to the reports, weather conditions are expected to change in the coming days, with forecasts predicting heavy rainfall over the next seven days in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely to be seen in AP and TG, while gusty winds with speeds of 40-60 kmph are also expected in some areas of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Also Read - Kerala's KSRTC Announces 5-Day Hyderabad Tour With Ramoji Visit The impact of a Low Pressure Area over Bay of Bengal is expected to be seen across Telangana from Wednesday. According to the reports, a fresh low-pressure area is likely to form over the Bay of Bengal on July 3, as a result, heavy rains are predicted across the two Telugu states.



Authorities have been instructed to remain on alert and take precautionary measures in low-lying areas to prevent flooding and waterlogging. The Meteorological Department has advised the state government over Bay of Bengal is expected to be seen across Telangana from Wednesday. According to the reports, a fresh low-pressure area is likely to form over the Bay of Bengal on July 3, as a result, heavy rains are predicted across the two Telugu states. over Bay of Bengal is expected to be seen across Telangana from Wednesday. According to the reports, a fresh low-pressure area is expected in Adilabad, Kumuram Bheem Asifabad, Jagtial, Mancherial, Peddapalli, Nirmal, Nizam abad,Karimnagar, Jayas hankar Bhup alpalpy and Mulugu districts from late afternoon until overnight.

Uttarakhand Minority Education Act Takes Effect, Introducing Dual-Shift System In Madrasas

Dehradun: Uttarakhand's Madrasa Education Board Act and rules linked to it expired on Wednesday, July 1, paving the way for implementation of the new Uttarakhand Minority Education Act. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami today announced the repealing of the old law and the rules for recognition of non-government Arabic-Persian madrasas.

He will also distribute recognition certificates to minority educational institutions starting today. A programme for this purpose has been organised at the 'Mukhya Seva Sadan' located at the chief minister's residence. Uttarakhand Minority Education Act Takes Effect, Introducing Dual-Shift System In Madrasas



education system.

In the morning shift, the madrasas mandatorily teach subjects such as Hindi, English, mathematics, science, and computer studies. Subsequently, the evening shift will cover religious education alongside lessons on the Constitution, human

rights, national unity, and moral values.

Under the new framework of the Minority Education Act, students from Madrasas that meet the Education Department's standards will also receive certificates from the State Education Board.

Per official data, nearly

452 madrasas are currently operating in the state; of these, around 400 run classes from grades 1 to 8, while 55 operate classes from grades 9 to 12.

Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Uttarakhand government is working towards an education sys-

tem in the state that is modern, transparent, high-quality, and accountable, while also being rooted in values of nation-building. This new system will ensure a uniform and transparent recognition process for all minority educational institutions," Dhami said.

The Chief Minister said that the government's resolve is to empower youth through modern education, science, technology, skills, and Indian values, enabler the new framework of the Minority Education Act, students from Madrasas that meet the Education Department's standards will play a pivotal role in building a developed Uttarakhand and a developed India. "We are continuously moving forward with the new framework of the Minority Education Act, students from Madrasas that meet the Education Department's standards will play a pivotal role in building a developed Uttarakhand and a developed India," he added.

Mumbai Wakes Up To Brief Respite After Heavy Rain; IMD Issues Red Alert For More Showers

Mumbai: Heavy overnight rain lashed Mumbai and neighbouring cities, easing slightly by morning even as the IMD on Sunday kept a red alert in place with forecasts of continued downpours and isolated extremely heavy showers, civic officials said. In view of the forecast, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has appealed to people to remain alert and venture outdoors only if absolutely necessary.

Several areas recorded more than 200 mm of rainfall, while a few areas logged a whopping 300 mm of downpour in the last 24 hours. Officials said public transport services, including Metro and buses of the Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) undertaking, were operating normally this morning, while commuters complained that suburban railway services were running with some delays. The BMC urged people to strictly follow advisories and contact the civic body's helpline 1916 for immediate assistance in case of any emergency.

It also advised citizens to exercise caution, particularly in low-lying areas and along the coastline, as a high tide of 4.19 metres is expected at 3.22 pm on Sunday. Another high tide of 3.51 metres is forecast at 3.41 am on Monday. Torrential downpours battered Mumbai on Saturday, with several parts of the city receiving nearly 200 mm of rainfall in 12 hours, inundating low-lying areas, triggering road cave-ins, tree falls and house collapses, and disrupting road and rail traffic. Incessant rains also disrupted normal life in neighbouring Thane, Palghar, Navi Mumbai as well as the Pune region that witnessed landslides, road closures in waterlogged areas and evacuation of people from flooded localities. The India Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for Sunday, predicting very heavy rainfall at a few places and extremely heavy rain at isolated locations, civic officials said.



It has also forecast occasional gusty winds reaching 55-65 kmph over the city and suburbs, they said. BMC's network of automatic rain gauges recorded more than 200 mm of rainfall at several locations across Mumbai during the 24 hours ending at 8 am on Sunday, with a couple of places receiving over 300 mm. The highest rainfall of 310.6 mm was recorded at

the Building Proposal Office in Vikhroli West, followed by Colaba Pumping Station (306.6 mm) and Tagore Nagar Municipal School in Vikhroli (301.8 mm).

Areas receiving more than 200 mm included Malabar Hill, Mandavi Fire Station, Colaba, Memonwada Fire Station, Vikhroli Fire Station, Paspoli Municipal School in Powai, Bhandup Complex, Andheri Fire

Station, Chakala Municipal School, Jogeshwari and Aarey Colony in Goregaon, according to BMC data. On Saturday, suburban services on both Central Railway and Western Railway were hit due to submerged tracks at different locations for some time in the afternoon, while metro services on line 2A were affected due to a technical snag.

27 Persons Booked In UP's Balrampur For Possessing ID Documents Of Both India, Nepal

Balrampur: Police have booked 27 people in Uttar Pradesh's Balrampur district, situated on the India-Nepal border, for allegedly possessing citizenship and identity documents of both countries and availing benefits of government welfare schemes, a police officer said on Saturday. Superintendent of Police (SP) Vikas Kumar said the action was taken following an inquiry initiated on the complaint of the district election officer-cum-district magistrate. He said the probe found that several residents of Nepal's Dang district had shown addresses in Balapur (Anwardih), Sheetalapur (Rizwan Gali) and the Tulsipur area of Balrampur to obtain Indian documents, including Aadhaar and voter



identity cards, and allegedly availed benefits under various government schemes. The SP said the names of the accused figured in the electoral rolls of both India and Nepal.

During the investigation, police also found that one of the listed persons, Abdul Rahman, did not reside in Balapur (Anwardih), while another person, Abdul Aziz

Siddiqui, had died a few months ago. Despite this, their names continued to figure in official records, making the matter more serious, Kumar said. According to a prelimi-

nary inquiry, the accused allegedly had their names added to the voter lists of both countries and obtained Aadhaar cards and other Indian identity documents, which were then allegedly used to claim benefits under government welfare schemes. Kumar said the case involves alleged misuse of official documents, concealment of identity and furnishing false information in government records. A case has been registered at Jarwa police station under relevant provisions, and a detailed investigation is underway, he said. Police are verifying the documents and matching records with the departments concerned. Further legal action will be taken based on the findings of the investigation, the SP added.

Border Economies Hope For Revival As India Resumes Tourist Visas For Bangladeshis After Nearly 2 Years



Bongaon/Cooch Behar:

New Delhi has decided to resume tourist visa services for citizens from five divisions of Bangladesh from June 28. The government had suspended movement across border for nearly two years. The ban on visas affected key border points including the Changanabandha Immigration Check Post in North Bengal and the Petrapole Land Port in North 24 Parganas. These points have heavy economic activity and had reportedly suffered due to the ban. India had stopped issuing tourist visas to Bangladeshis after the political turmoil in Bangladesh on August 5, 2024. While medical visas and limited business visas were issues, leisure travel was put on halt, which affected the local business.

Traders near the Changanabandha immigration check-post said their business volumes had fallen by nearly 50 per cent over the past two years. Mehabub Alam, a resident of Bangladesh's Gaibandha district, who travelled to India for medical treatment in Bengaluru said, "It will make travel much easier for ordinary people. Apart from medical treatment, we will now be able to visit India with our families." Another Bangladeshi traveller, Sohana Alam, who was travelling to Hyderabad for treatment, said it would make family trips to India much easier. The suspension on visa had also hit local businesses. Rekha Das, a shopkeeper in Changanabandha, said her business had almost shut down after tourist visas were halted. "I lost my husband during

this period and struggled to support my family. I hope this move will revive my business," she said. Money exchange operator Ruhul Amin said tourist movement from Bangladesh would benefit not only currency exchange services but also hotels, restaurants, transport operators, and small businesses across the region. Petrapole is in a similar situation where the decline in passenger traffic led to losses for transport services, money exchange agencies, small businesses, and workers whose livelihoods depend on the border trade ecosystem. Kartik Chakraborty, secretary of the Petrapole Clearing and Forwarding Agents Association said, "Border trade had suffered. Now that the visa will be issues, it will boost trade and create employment opportunities."

From Boardrooms To Streets: Meet Spokespersons Of Cockroach Janata Party



New Delhi: The protest by the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP), addressing issues such as education system reforms, paper leaks, and student-related concerns, continues at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on the ninth day on Sunday. The movement has appointed several young individuals from various parts of the country as its new spokespersons. ETV Bharat spoke to the spokespersons of CJP, who come from diverse backgrounds, chosen as the official voices of the party. From Boardrooms To Streets: Meet Spokespersons Of Cockroach Janata Party (ETV Bharat) An investigative journalist by profession, Saurav Das is a prominent spokesperson of the party. Based in New Delhi, he has a long track record of reporting and writing on legal and judicial matters. Saurabh was also associated with various public movements in the past.

He stated that the party is currently focusing entirely on education reforms. While the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan is a primary demand, the movement's scope extends beyond that; the party plans to launch campaigns addressing employment, education, and other critical issues affecting the youth in the Boardrooms To Streets: Meet Spokespersons Of Cockroach Janata Party. She shared that she was holding a good job after completing her MBA when she learned about the CJP's movement through social media. She said that upon closely understanding the struggles faced by students and the issues plaguing the education system, she felt that merely holding a job was not enough—she needed to contribute to soci-

ety as well. Afreen believes that every student deserves quality education and equal opportunities, free from discrimination. She mentioned that the Cockroach Janata Party organised protests in the Karnataka cities of Bengaluru and Mysuru—garnering strong support from students—despite heavy rains and inclement weather. From Boardrooms To Meet Spokespersons Of Cockroach Janata Party Afreen Wo knows the agony of a farmer better than someone raised in a family of them? Deepak Balyan, hailing from a farming family in Rajasthan's Alwar district, has also been appointed as a party spokesperson. He holds a Master's degree in Political Science and has been working on farmers' issues for several years. He stated that he decided to join this movement after witnessing students' distress and the incidents of paper leaks on social media.

Two Northern Railways Officials Among Three Held By CBI In Bribery Case

New Delhi: The CBI has arrested three accused, including a chief materials manager (CMM) and a senior clerk of Northern Railways (HQ) in an alleged bribery case, officials said Saturday. The CBI had raided the Northern Railway headquarters at Baroda House here on Friday night after registering an FIR on allegations of bribe payment to CMM (Store) Narender Singh and Senior Clerk Lenin Sharma. "It was alleged that the accused Public Servants at Northern Railways (HQ), while acting in connivance with accused representatives of the private company, were indulging in corrupt practices. They were allegedly extending undue favours for the award of railway tenders to the private company in lieu of obtaining illegal gratification," a CBI spokesperson said. The official said tenders were awarded in violation of prescribed proce-



dures and norms governing public procurement. "During the trap operation, amount of Rs 1 lakh bribe money transacted/delivered by the accused representative of the private company (Shariq Ali) to the accused Chief Materials Manager of the Northern Railways (HQ) was recovered," an official statement said. The two accused public servants and the alleged briber Shariq Ali have been arrested by the CBI, officials said.

"Searches at various locations at Delhi, Ghaziabad, Bulandshahr and Kanpur were conducted, leading to recovery of several incriminating documents and digital devices," the official said. The CBI has booked Chief Materials Manager Narender Singh, Deputy Chief Materials Manager Shuvashis Maity, and Senior Clerk (Store) Lenin Sharma -- all posted at Northern Railways (HQ), Baroda House, New Delhi. The FIR has

also named businessmen Shariq Ali and Ejaz Ali of Mash International Pvt Ltd (Mash & Co), Jajmau, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. The company has also been named as an accused. The FIR says Shariq regularly obtained "valuable and confidential information" relating to railway tenders, along with other favours, through Sharma and his associates in exchange for illegal gratification. A purchase order for the Safety Shoes was issued in favour of Mash International Pvt Ltd in April this year, for which the bribe payment was being made, officials said. "The source has further informed that Singh, and his deputy, Maity, act in tandem and close coordination, further extending undue favours to Mash International Pvt. It's either of the two that

'Uttar Pradesh Govt Has Ended Mafia Raj': Nitin Nabin Asks MPs, MLAs To Gear Up For 2027 Assembly Polls

Lucknow: Asserting that the Uttar Pradesh government has ended the 'mafia raj' and transformed the state into a model of good governance, BJP national general secretary Nitin Nabin urged BJP MPs and MLAs to ignore the opposition's negative narratives and gear up for the 2027 Assembly elections. Nabin addressed a crucial meeting of party leaders on Saturday, the first day of his visit to Lucknow. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, state president and Union Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, national general secretary (organisation) BL Santosh, and state general secretary () Dharampal Singh were also present at the meeting. Sounding the poll bugle, Nabin said under BJP's leadership, both the country and Uttar Pradesh have emerged from the era of corruption, appeasement, and anarchy that marked opposition-led governments in the past. He called upon party workers not to fall prey to misleading narratives spread by the opposition and to enter the electoral battlefield with full vigour. "Prior to 2017, Uttar Pradesh was infamous for anarchy, corruption, and casteism. At that time, deputy Chief Ministers' loyalties were zero, and strongmen and the mafias ran parallel power structures in every sector. The Yogi government put an end to the mafia raj and anar-



chy, establishing the rule of law across the state. Today, Uttar Pradesh has become a national model for law and order and good governance," Nabin said. He alleged that the Opposition seeks to divide society through the politics of caste and confusion, while the BJP works to unite society based on its 'nation first' ideology. He said that the opposition attempts to suppress the government's achievements through social media. According to Nabin, previous governments had shattered the hopes of the youth, farmers, and women, while the BJP government has provided them with opportunities, security, and respect. Central and state schemes have provided jobs to lakhs of youths and extended benefits to crores of people, he said. Citing Kashmir's example, he said that in 2011, attempts were made to stop them from hoisting the Tricolour at Lal Chowk. Now, following the abrogation of Article 370 under Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Lal Chowk is illuminated by the Tricolour. Speaking on the occasion, Adityanath emphasised the need for better coordination between the organisation and the government. "The government has provided public sector jobs to over 9 lakh youths through a transparent process. Every eligible person is receiving benefits from the Ayushman Bharat scheme and the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The next six to seven months are crucial for taking these schemes to every village," the CM said. BJP state president Pankaj Chaudhary said they are set to form the government in Uttar Pradesh for the third consecutive time. Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Maurya and Brajesh Pathak said that Deputy Chief Ministers the national president's visit would infuse new energy into the party workers. "Even today, Uttar Pradesh has become a national model for law and order and

good governance," Nabin said. He alleged that the Opposition seeks to divide society through the politics of caste and confusion, while the BJP works to unite society based on its 'nation first' ideology. He said that the opposition attempts to suppress the government's achievements through social media. According to Nabin, previous governments had shattered the hopes of the youth, farmers, and women, while the BJP government has provided them with opportunities, security, and respect. Central and state schemes have provided jobs to lakhs of youths and extended benefits to crores of people, he said. Citing Kashmir's example, he said that in 2011, attempts were made to stop them from hoisting the Tricolour at Lal Chowk. Now, following the abrogation of Article 370 under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Lal Chowk is illuminated by the Tricolour. Speaking on the occasion, Adityanath emphasised the need for better coordination between the organisation and the government. "The government has provided public sector jobs to over 9 lakh youths through a transparent process. Every eligible person is receiving benefits from the Ayushman Bharat scheme and the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The next six to seven months are crucial for taking these schemes to every village," the CM said. BJP state president Pankaj Chaudhary said they are set to form the government in Uttar Pradesh for the third consecutive time. Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Maurya and Brajesh Pathak said that Deputy Chief Ministers the national president's visit would infuse new energy into the party workers. "Even today, Uttar Pradesh has become a national model for law and order and

NEET UG 2026 Re-Exam: Union Min Pradhan Urges Candidates To Remain Fearless; Stay Calm, Trust Yourself, Says NTA

New Delhi: Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan urged candidates to appear for the NEET re-examination fearlessly and without anxiety, as nearly 22 lakh students are set to sit the exam on Sunday. Speaking at a yoga event at Delhi University on the occasion of the International Day of Yoga, Pradhan said he had complete faith in the National Testing Agency (NTA), state governments, district administrations, the education fraternity and the students. "Today, around 22 lakh students are going to sit for NEET after a short while. They should sit fearlessly and free of anxiety. They will certainly do well. My many good wishes to the students," he said. Appealing to people not to do anything that could affect children's mental health, Pradhan said the future of India's new generation should not be toyed with. Please do not play with the future of India's new generation.

Do not do anything that will impact the mental health of children. After a few hours, children are going to appear for the examination," he said. "I appeal that we must not play with the future of India's new generation. No one should make it a joke. Nothing should be done that impacts the mental health of children. In a few hours, students are going to appear for the examination," he said. Without naming anyone, the minister said some "so-called responsible people" had on Saturday behaved with "wrong intention" that affected children, and urged them not to cause any more distress. "At least if you are responsible, if you consider yourself a true citizen of India, if you represent the people of India, please take responsibility and do not give any more distress to the children," he said. Stay Calm, Trust Yourself, You've Earned This Moment: NT In a message on X, the National Testing Agency



(NTA) urged candidates appearing for the re-examination to immediately download their fresh admit cards, saying the admit card issued for the May 3 exam would not be valid for entry. The agency said admit cards for the re-examination have already been made available to all eligible candidates on its website and that it had undertaken "extensive efforts" to inform them through public notices, SMS alerts, emails and WhatsApp messages. However, some candidates had still not downloaded their admit cards as of 7 pm on June 20, it said. "It is observed that some candidates have not yet downloaded their

Admit Cards as of 7:00 PM on 20 June 2026. NTA has also sent the Admit Cards to the WhatsApp numbers of these candidates," the agency said. The NTA also reminded candidates that entry to centres would begin at 11 am and close at 1.30 pm, with no entry allowed thereafter, and advised them to carry their admit card, a valid photo ID and two passport-size photographs, avoid prohibited items, stay hydrated and reach early, keeping traffic in mind.

The NTA had cancelled the May 3 NEET-UG 2026 exam amid allegations of a paper leak, with the government

Mathura Residents Seek Inquiry Into Land Purchases With Bankey Bihari Temple Funds



Mathura: Local residents on Saturday submitted a memorandum to Goswami members of the high-powered panel monitoring functions of the Bankey Bihari temple here, demanding an independent, impartial and time-bound inquiry into purchase of land with temple funds for proposed development projects. The memorandum sought a probe into alleged disparities in valuation of properties, significant differences in per-square-metre rates for different portions of the same original property, discrepancies in records relating to road width, complaints regarding certain properties, purchase of disputed land, and alleged failure to provide records to members of the

Goswami community. A Goswami member of the Supreme Court-constituted Shri Bankey Bihari Temple High-Powered Committee told PTI that the allegations regarding financial irregularities appear to be true, and asserted that an investigation must be conducted. According to the memorandum, a review of sale deeds, records available with the registry department (IGRS) and other documents, prima facie indicate that several aspects of the land purchases require an independent inquiry. The signatories said they were not accusing any individual but sought a fair investigation into the entire process. They requested that an independent and competent agency exam-

ine the land purchases made using temple funds, including valuation reports, payment records, proceedings of the sub-committee, approvals and other related documents. The memorandum said if any financial irregularity, violation of rules or misuse of temple funds is established, legal action should be initiated against those responsible, and the sale registrations declared void. It further demanded adoption of a uniform, transparent and publicly-available valuation policy for property purchases with temple funds, saying this would strengthen faith in the temple administration. Local resident Deepak Parashar said the memorandum was not directed

against any individual but aimed at safeguarding temple funds, faith of millions of devotees and public confidence. "If an independent and impartial inquiry finds that all procedures were followed in accordance with the rules, it will further strengthen people's trust. If any irregularities come to light, it is equally important to take legal action against those responsible," he said. Speaking to PTI, Himanshu Goswami, a seawayat (servitor) and member of the Shri Bankey Bihari Temple High-Powered Committee, confirmed that traders and local residents had submitted the memorandum alleging financial irregularities in land registries.

87 Foreigners Among 6000 Yatries To Perform Amarnath Yatra Today

Jammu: Over 6,700 yatries, including 87 foreigners, are arriving in 291 vehicles in the Kashmir valley to perform the Amarnath yatra on Sunday. This will be the fourth batch of yatries to reach the valley since the yatra began on June 2. Officials said that these yatries left from the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu in the wee hours of Sunday morning under a strict security cover to reach the base camps of Baltal in Sonmarg in Ganderbal district and Nunwan in Pahalgam in Anantnag district. Officials said that 2,590 pilgrims are arriving on the 14 km Baltal route, while 4,131 will perform yatra from the 48 km Pahalgam route. Among these yatries, 4,576 are men, 1,310 women, 22 children, 572 sadhus, 154 sadhvis and 87 foreigners.



Officials said the convoy of yatra vehicles is provided with a tight security cover by Jammu and Kashmir police personnel and paramilitary forces. During this period, the passenger traffic is stopped to pave the way for the yatra vehicles for security reasons. Until today, 26,000 pilgrims have paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine during the first two days of the annual 57-day

Amarnath Yatra, which commenced on July 3. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, who is the chairman of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB), has urged the yatries to register first for the yatra. Sinha has said that yatries must get registration first before proceeding towards the cave. Officials said that an unusually large number of pilgrims have been

arriving without valid registration, which is causing long waiting times for pilgrims to conduct Yatra. Sinha said that Yatra is being conducted in accordance with the prescribed ceiling of pilgrim movement on the Yatra tracks, in pursuance of the Supreme Court's order. "Therefore, adherence to the registration schedule is imperative for ensuring the safety, security, and convenience of all pilgrims. Only pilgrims possessing valid registration for the designated date shall be permitted to proceed on the Tracks leading to the Holy Cave Shrine," Sinha said, while reviewing the arrangements for yatra on Saturday. The Lieutenant Governor appealed to the intending unregistered pilgrims to defer their travel for the next few days in order to avoid any inconvenience

Vance And Rubio Take Different Approaches As Iran Tests Their 2028 Prospects

Washington: Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio appear to be staking out differing approaches to carrying out President Donald Trump's national security agenda as the possible 2028 presidential rivals jostle for position in a divided Republican Party. With vastly different backgrounds and policy experience, they have moved along separate paths to stake out territory: Rubio, the son of Cuban immigrants with a long history in the Senate and major interest in Latin America, and Vance, a child of the Midwest and Marine Corps veteran who served in the Senate for only two years before being tapped as Trump's 2024 running mate, with a message of opposing foreign wars.

While deferential to each other — and with the White House and State Department denying any suggestion of a rift — Vance and Rubio appear the most divergent on the Middle East. In discussing Iran, Vance has several times been critical of Israel and its actions in Lebanon, saying Trump has been frustrated by Israeli actions against the Iranian-backed militant group Hezbollah that have angered Iran and made negotiations with Tehran more difficult.

Rubio, meanwhile, has remained supportive of Israel or held his tongue, particularly over the situation in Lebanon — an issue he has taken the lead on and resulted in a



preliminary framework agreement last week. Vance takes the lead on Iran negotiations and Rubio on Lebanon. "The talk about differences is not idle speculation," said Dan Fried, a former assistant secretary of state and ambassador to Poland who is now with the Atlantic Council, a Washington think tank. "There is definitely something to it." The White House fired back at any suggestions of a rift. "Why is the legacy media obsessed with driving a wedge between Vice President Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio that does not exist? There is one camp — President Trump's camp — and the entire administration is fully behind the president's efforts to ensure Iran can never possess a nuclear weapon," White House spokeswoman Anna Kelly said. Stat Department spokesman Tommy Pigott added that "Rubio and the entire administration is 100% in lockstep behind President Trump." Yet, according to Trump administration officials familiar with the matter, Rubio was so skeptical of obtaining an accept-

able deal with Iran that he declined to head the U.S. delegation to the first ceasefire negotiations in April in Islamabad, Pakistan. Vance, however, seeing an opportunity to burnish his foreign policy credentials, jumped on it, asking Trump twice to take the lead before Trump agreed, according to the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal administration deliberations. Vance did lead the U.S. delegation to the inconclusive meeting in Pakistan, then again this month to talks in Switzerland, which followed the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the U.S. and Iran. The truce agreed to in that document is very fragile, tested by repeated exchanges of fire between the sides in recent days. "It's rather unusual for the VP to be given the lead role in a negotiation, but it's quite possible that Rubio is happy to let him. It's a pig in a poke. It's a loser job," said Ian Kelly, a retired career diplomat and ambassador during the first Trump adminis-

tration. He added that both men seem to "have equal ambitions to replace" Trump, but that the president's semi-joking comments this month that he would blame Vance if the Iran talks do not succeed appeared to suggest that he was being "set up for failure." Vance and Rubio deny any division between them. Vance has talked up the chances of success for a broad agreement with Iran, albeit with caveats, while Rubio, although publicly supportive, has repeatedly taken a more agnostic line while denying any division. "We're all focused on the jobs in front of us. I think the president loves to stir the pot a little bit and loves the entertainment of it," Vance said. "I love Marco," he said. "I think he's a great secretary of state. He's become a very, very dear friend. I think both of us are very much focused on accomplishing the American people's business right now." Rubio also has rejected that there is any schism. "When it comes to foreign policy and national security, we have no drama. We have no games," Rubio told reporters last week during a trip to Bahrain, the last of a three-nation tour of the Arab Gulf countries that have been most directly affected by the Iran war.

"We have a group of people that work very well together and closely to execute on the president's directives, which

Next Round Of US-Iran Talks Likely To Be Held At Islamabad: Report

Pakistan capital Islamabad is emerging as the leading venue for the next round of technical negotiations between the US and Iran, a media report said Sunday. The US and Iran signed the memorandum of understanding (MoU) on June 18, aimed at restoring peace in West Asia. It was followed by technical-level talks in Switzerland on June 21, with Pakistan and Qatar as mediators. The resumption of the talks is part of ongoing efforts to keep the diplomatic process on track and resolve long standing disputes between Washington and Tehran, Dawn reported quoting diplomatic sources. "There are two possible venues for the technical talks — Islamabad and the Burgenstock resort in Switzerland," one diplomatic source said. "Islamabad, however, is the more likely option."

The technical talks are expected to take place on July 11, although a final decision on the venue has yet to be announced. The talks were temporarily delayed because of the multi-day state funeral ceremonies for Iran's late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Iranian officials have indicated that the composition of Tehran's delegation will be announced after the funeral ceremonies conclude. Khamenei, who ruled Iran for the last three decades, was killed on February 28, the first day of the massive US and Israeli joint air strikes on Tehran. Starting Sunday, the burial ceremonies are slated to be held in Tehran and Qom and will continue till Tuesday, July 7. The final burial ceremony will take place in the city of Mashhad on Thursday, July 9. Dawn further quoted diplomatic sources to say that the negotiations will focus on Iran's nuclear programme, sanctions relief and Iranian assets frozen abroad. The discussions are also



expected to address regional security issues, including efforts to preserve stability in the Strait of Hormuz and maintain the recently agreed ceasefire in Lebanon. The July 11 meeting is intended to advance the framework established under the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, signed two weeks ago, which gave both sides 60 days to negotiate a comprehensive agreement on Iran's nuclear programme and related issues. The latest diplomatic efforts follow indirect technical discussions between the US and Iran, with discussions focusing on ensuring freedom of navigation through the Strait of Hormuz and preserving the 60-day ceasefire agreed after June discussions held in Doha earlier this week.

US President Donald Trump described those talks as "very good", while Iranian officials said the two sides had reached an understanding on the partial release of billions of dollars in frozen Iranian assets. US officials, however, reportedly disputed that any such agreement had been reached. Diplomatic sources said mediators from Qatar and

Pakistan continued to facilitate indirect contacts during the pause in negotiations, with discussions focusing on ensuring freedom of navigation through the Strait of Hormuz and preserving the 60-day ceasefire agreed after June negotiations in Switzerland. The most recent high-level negotiations were held at Switzerland's Burgenstock resort and were mediated by Qatar and Pakistan. Those talks produced what negotiators described as a roadmap for reaching a broader agreement covering Iran's nuclear programme, sanctions relief, maritime security and regional de-escalation. Diplomatic sources said marathon negotiating sessions addressed nuclear restrictions, sanctions relief, security in the Strait of Hormuz and the Lebanon ceasefire. Although negotiators reported progress, they cautioned that the process remained fragile amid continuing tensions between Washington and Tehran. Officials familiar with the negotiations said the next round of high-level direct talks is expected to take place in Doha during the third week of July, after technical teams complete work on the of a possible agreement.

Trump Commemorates America 250 After Storms Force Temporary Evacuation Of National Mall

Washington: President Donald Trump commemorated the 250th anniversary of America's independence on Saturday after storms prompted a roughly two-hour evacuation of the National Mall, with severe weather disrupting celebrations in several East Coast cities. "There's no way we can be deterred," he said to a crowd that returned after the evacuation was lifted. Elsewhere, severe weather prompted the cancellation of celebrations in Hartford, Connecticut, along with Harrisburg and Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Spectators at Boston's fireworks and concert were told to briefly seek shelter before events later resumed. An evacuation was also ordered in Philadelphia. New York and Pittsburgh moved forward with fireworks but shifted the time to accommodate the shifting weather. Anticipation for the milestone holiday has been building for much of the year, serving as an opportunity for Americans to reflect on their complicated history as onetime colonists of an empire who became a



superpower of their own. Organizers of celebrations months in the making had to adjust or cancel activities entirely as much of the East Coast sweltered under heat that approached and in many cases surpassed triple digits. Heat is defining the big weekend in many places. The disruption was particularly acute in Washington, where signs at the Great American State Fair posted an alert shortly after 7 p.m. ET encouraging participants to leave the area. Crowds gathered in museums, subway stations and federal buildings near the Mall. At the Ronald Reagan

Building and International Trade Center they waited in chairs and sat on the floor to cool off in the air conditioning. "I'm not going to let some rain stop our 250th," Trump said in a social media post announcing his plans to still deliver a speech, which was expected to begin around 11 p.m. Crowds were building in the area several hours before the evacuation. Tina Hale, 58, of Cohoes, New York, watched three of her grandchildren children dip their hands into a pool of water near a museum. Hale pointed toward the sky and

urged them to look up as three military jets roared above the crowd. "If that doesn't make you proud to be an American," she said. David Koshko, 42, and his wife, Jennifer Kosko, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, came to Washington for a baseball game but planned to stay for the city's fireworks show. After baking in the heat for hours during the Pittsburgh Pirates' win over the Washington Nationals, they took a break in the shade of an overpass near the National Mall to plot their next stop. "Just to be a part of the 250 years (anniversary) is an amazing thing," said David Koshko, a

They Are All There: Trump Says He Can Take Down Top Iranian Leaders With 'One Shot' At Khamenei Funeral

New Delhi: US President Donald Trump has said that he has been following the funeral of former Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, adding that he could take all the leadership of Iran in "one shot", but would not do so, so that negotiations continue, Axios reported. "They are all there. One shot [and we can take them all out], but we are not going to do that because then we would have nobody to negotiate with," Trump said, according to Axios. He added that he was surprised to see mourners grieving at Khamenei's funeral, saying he had believed people disliked the former Iranian leader. "Maybe it's fake tears," Trump said, as reported by Axios. Khamenei was assassinated on the first day of the war in a joint US-Israeli operation. The US President also said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has requested a meeting at the White House that could take place as early as next week after his return from the NATO summit, Axios reported. "We get along very well. [Netanyahu] knows who the boss is," Trump said



in a brief phone interview with Axios, referring to himself. According to the report, the proposed meeting would be the first between the two leaders since their February meeting in the White House Situation Room, where Netanyahu presented a plan for a joint war against Iran. An Israeli official told Axios that next week could be too soon for the visit because of Trump's trip to Turkey for the NATO summit scheduled for July 7-8, adding, "It might take place the week after." The Israeli Prime Minister's Office said Netanyahu called Trump on Friday to congratulate him on the 250th anniversary of the United States' independence. "During their conversation, the Prime

Minister said that the United States is a guarantor of global freedom, and that Israel greatly values the close relationship between the two nations. Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Trump agreed to meet soon in the United States," Netanyahu's office said. The report said people within Trump's inner circle have become increasingly sceptical of Netanyahu in the months following their February meeting. "Many of Trump's closest advisers think that Bibi was wrong about everything," a US official told Axios. According to the report, Trump also criticised Netanyahu during a phone call last month over Israel's escalation in Lebanon, describing the Israeli Prime Minister as "crazy" and

accusing him of ingratitude. Axios reported that the differences between the two leaders have widened in recent months, with disagreements over regional security, Iran and domestic political priorities. Despite Netanyahu's reservations, Trump signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) last month extending the ceasefire with Iran and initiating fresh nuclear talks. He also urged Netanyahu to scale back Israeli military operations in Lebanon and support a framework agreement providing for an initial withdrawal from southern Lebanon. According to Axios, a White House meeting would carry political significance for Netanyahu as he prepares for Israel's October

Performer Calls For Trump's Death At Funeral For Iran's Late Supreme Leader

Tehran: A performer at the funeral for Iran's late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called for the death of U.S. President Donald Trump before a crowd of hundreds of thousands of people Sunday in the capital, Tehran. Mohammad Rasouli, a poet, drew calls of "Death to America!" and "Death to Israel!" Speaking to the crowd, Rasouli asked, referring to Trump: "Why is the most bastard man in the world still alive?" That



drew cheers. A far larger crowd for the funeral than the day before attended the ceremony on Sunday. Mourners dressed in black walked to the site, carrying banners and

flags honouring Khamenei and also calling for Trump's killing as he gave a speech in Washington for the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. The funeral for

Khamenei, who ruled Iran for decades before he was killed at age 86 in a Feb. 28 airstrike in the opening moments of the Iran war, could provide a boost for the country's theocracy and its new supreme leader, his son Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei. That is important as Iran tries to leverage its hold on the Strait of Hormuz in negotiations with the U.S. over a permanent end to the war and as concern lingers that Israel could attack again.

Stamps of Nature — India's silent ambassadors of conservation



Since Independence, Indian postal stamps have quietly blossomed into miniature ambassadors of nature, carrying the splendour of India's flora and fauna across villages, cities and continents. Tiny in size yet immense in influence, these colourful stamps transformed envelopes into travelling galleries of the wild, introducing generations to majestic tigers, graceful cranes, rare orchids, medicinal plants, coral reefs, butterflies, forests and endangered species that many people had never seen in real life.

saving wildlife and wilderness. Through every carefully engraved issue, the postal service nurtured curiosity and pride for India's extraordinary natural heritage, while subtly reminding citizens of the urgent need for conservation.

Collecting Nature Growing up in Bangalore during the 1970s was sheer bliss. The city was a cool, green paradise where towering trees seemed to outnumber people, and life moved at a gentler pace. With no smartphones, the internet and endless television channels to distract us, our days were filled with simple pleasures like reading Enid Blyton adventures, cycling through leafy lanes and, above all, collecting postage stamps. The arrival of the postman was often the highlight of the day. As letters poured in from relatives across India and from pen pals in distant places, we would eagerly gather around, less interested in the contents of the letters than in the colourful stamps adorning the envelopes.

Stamps were miniature windows to the world, showcasing wildlife, flowers, monuments, leaders and faraway countries. Almost every classmate was an avid collector, proudly trading duplicates and displaying treasured finds in albums. What began as a childhood hobby often grew into a life-long passion, with some friends eventually building remarkable collections. In an age when communication travelled at the speed of a letter, stamp collecting nurtured patience, curiosity, knowledge and a sense of connection with the wider world — qualities that seem even more

precious in today's instant digital age.

Nature Delivered

Long before wildlife documentaries, nature channels and social media flooded our screens, postage stamps were miniature windows into the wild. These tiny works of art carried the forests, mountains and grasslands of India into homes, classrooms and collectors' albums, awakening curiosity and admiration for the country's remarkable natural heritage. For generations of children, naturalists and philatelists, stamps became silent ambassadors of conservation, narrating stories of biodiversity, endangered species and environmental stewardship through the simple act of sending a letter. They transformed everyday communication into a journey of discovery, planting the seeds of awareness long before ecology became a global concern. I vividly remember how stamps shaped my own understanding of wildlife. Until my 20s, the only panda I knew was the giant panda of China, the iconic black-and-white bear admired across the world. It was through Indian postage stamps that I first discovered another enchanting cousin, the red panda, a flame-coloured, bushy-tailed marvel inhabiting the misty forests of the Eastern Himalayas. Its fox-like face, chestnut-red coat and gentle appearance instantly captivated me. A decade later, while exploring the remote mountains of India, I was fortunate enough to see a Red Panda in its natural habitat in Darjeeling. The encounter was exhilarating, sobering, and thrilling because a stamp had come alive before my eyes, yet deeply moving because this charming creature was struggling to survive in a world of shrinking forests and mounting threats. In that moment, I realised how a humble postage stamp had not only introduced me to a species but had also quietly nurtured a lifelong appreciation for wildlife conservation.

Long before the digital age, India relied on its vast postal network of stamps, postcards, letters and special postmarks to encourage people to par-

ticipate in the national census. From the first census after Independence in 1951 to today's digital census, postal campaigns have helped build public trust, spread awareness, and promote the census as a vital tool for nation-building, development, and democratic planning.

By 1970, India had more than 1,00,000 post offices delivering mail to nearly 6,00,000 villages, making the postal system the country's most extensive communication network. According to the India Post website, there were 1,64,999 post offices as of March 31, 2025.

Philatelic Nation When viewed through the lens of philately, India emerges not merely as a nation that prints stamps, but as one of the world's most fascinating custodians of natural and cultural heritage. Among the great philatelic nations of the world, India occupies a uniquely distinguished position, where every postage stamp serves as a miniature canvas portraying the country's astonishing biodiversity, ancient wisdom, wildlife wealth, and ecological treasures. India's philatelic journey began with the legendary Scinde Dawk of 1852, Asia's first adhesive postage stamp, placing the nation among the pioneers of global postal history. Since then, Indian stamps have evolved into vibrant chronicles of nature and civilisation. While collectors worldwide admire the celebrated classics such as the Inverted Head Four Annas and the rare issues of the princely States, an equally remarkable chapter lies in India's unparalleled thematic philately devoted to wildlife, forests, medicinal plants, birds, butterflies, rivers, mountains, and conservation. Few countries can rival India in the sheer diversity of subjects depicted on its stamps. From the majestic Bengal tiger stalking through dense jungles and the mighty Asian elephant wandering ancient forests, to the elusive Snow leopard of the Himalayas and the endangered red panda of the Eastern Himalayas, Indian stamps have introduced generations of collectors to creatures many would otherwise

never encounter. Delicately engraved orchids, rhododendrons, lotuses, medicinal herbs, mangroves and rare endemic plants have transformed stamp albums into botanical gardens in miniature.

For countless school-children growing up during the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, stamps became their first field guides to the natural world. Before wildlife channels and the internet existed, a colourful stamp depicting a hornbill, a lion-tailed macaque, a blackbuck, and a Siberian crane often sparked a lifelong fascination with nature. Many naturalists, bird-watchers, botanists and conservationists trace their earliest encounters with India's flora and fauna not to a forest or wildlife sanctuary, but to a humble postage stamp affixed to a letter.

On the international exhibition circuit, Indian philatelists have earned increasing recognition through numerous awards and special distinctions at exhibitions conducted across the globe. Indian exhibitors are particularly respected in thematic philately, postal history, traditional philately and philatelic literature, often presenting world-class collections that blend scholarship with storytelling.

Today, despite the decline of traditional correspondence in the digital age, Indian philately remains vibrant among collectors, researchers and exhibitors. Increasingly, these tiny pieces of paper are being appreciated not just as collectables, but as enduring historical documents and powerful educational tools. They remind us that long before social media campaigns and environmental documentaries, India's postage stamps were already carrying messages of conservation, biodiversity and sustainable living to every corner of the world. My favourite stamp is India's first scented postage stamp, honouring the prized Sandalwood (*Santalum album*), which was issued by India Post on 13 December 2006. Designed by Sankha Samanta and printed at the India Security Press, Nashik, the Rs 15 stamp

Beyond the joke — what the Rs 370 biryani row reveals



What does it take for a room full of people to laugh at the violation of a woman's bodily autonomy? Apparently, it doesn't take much. Just a microphone, a comedian willing to egg it on, and a culture that's been quietly building toward this moment for a long time. Many of us have seen the viral clip from Pranit More's comedy show where a 23-year-old Himanshu Jangra talks about expecting physical intimacy from a woman because he spent Rs 370 on a biryani for her and "paisa vasool karna tha". Not only does More egg him on, but he also rewards him with Rs 5,000 because he "made the show successful".

While there is a lot to say about both Jangra and More's actions, an important part of the puzzle has been missing from the mainstream conversation — the audience who laughed, clapped and encouraged the conversation, both in the room and online, and what that says about the beliefs we've been brought up with. Jangra did not arrive at those beliefs alone. He was taught by a culture that has spent decades building the exact conditions that make a room full of people hear a woman's "no" as a punchline. A useful lens here is Thomas Ford's work on the prejudiced norm theory. It says that sexist jokes go beyond reflecting existing attitudes and actively create structures that grant permission for those attitudes. Through his experiments, Ford (2000) found that people already high in hostile sexism displayed an increased tolerance of sex discrimination when they were exposed to sexist humour. This works through subtle ways. When we laugh at something together, we implicitly agree to let go of our critical judgement and enter a space where what is being expressed is seen as acceptable and normal.

This then brings up the question of where Jangra, More, and the audience learned this language so fluently. What stands out in the clip is not the entitlement itself, which is, unfortunately, not surprising, but how legible this conversation was to everyone involved. Everyone seemed to know the language. The more important question, however, is not simply where they

learned this language, but where they failed to learn another.

The Absence We Ignore

What we then come to is the larger conversation of what it is that we're missing in our education system, given that it is where we spend some of the most formative years of our lives, and where many of our core beliefs are formed. What stands out is that India has no national framework for consent-based sexuality education.

What was promised as a document that would reshape Indian education for the 21st century, the National Education Policy 2020 contains no framework to teach children about consent, pleasure, bodily autonomy, or healthy relationships. This communicates to children, and especially boys, that we do not discuss things such as desire, pleasure or consent. However, this does not mean that children grow up without lessons on gender and intimacy. Instead, they turn elsewhere for them. A well-evidenced framework is offered by UNESCO's Comprehensive Sexuality Education Framework. It has been adopted by over 100 countries and includes age-appropriate education about the various aspects of sexuality, including consent and power dynamics.

Research associated with it has noted a reduction in gender-based violence and changes in sexuality-related attitudes in countries which have implemented it consistently (UNESCO, 2018). This reflects not a gap in knowledge but a deliberate choice made to not engage with research supports this connection as well. Studies have found a consistent association between exposure to sexist humour and higher self-reported rape proclivity (Romero-Sánchez et al., 2010). Hence, the comedy stage is not a consequence-free zone, but a classroom too.

Begin with Classroom So where do we go from here? A job loss or an Instagram deactivation is unlikely to create the kind of cultural change we need. If we want things to be different, the work has to begin much earlier. That means we must include comprehensive sexuality and relationship education in

schools. It means teaching children, especially boys, that desire is not a transaction, that pleasure is not something that only men are entitled to, and that "no" is not the beginning of a negotia it at all.

Who Fills the Vacuum? The vacuum that is created gets filled by the manosphere. It is a sprawling content ecosystem across YouTube channels, Telegram groups, X threads, and Instagram reels. It has become an increasingly influential force on many young men, including teenagers. Much of this content tells them that men are being treated unfairly, that women are manipulative, that feminism is a threat to masculinity, and that expressing emotions openly is a sign of weakness rather than strength (Sarkar, 2025).

The National Education Policy 2020 contains no framework for teaching children about consent, pleasure, bodily autonomy, or healthy relationships

At 23, Jangra has grown up in the era of the internet. Given the lack of conversations about genuine, ongoing consent and healthy relationships, the internet often steps in to fill the gap. For many boys, these online spaces become their first lessons in masculinity. Without examples of how to handle rejection, navigate intimacy, or process difficult emotions, it becomes easier to absorb messages that frame loneliness as an injustice and portray women's choices as something that is unfairly denied to men. This is often where the continuum begins, especially in the Indian context. The belief that buying someone a Rs 370 plate of biryani entitles a man to a woman's consent is not as far removed from other forms of gender-based violence as it may seem. It stems from the same underlying belief that drives marital rape, domestic violence, and dowry-related abuse. At their core, these behaviours are rooted in entitlement and the assumption that women owe men something in return for the time or money that men have invested in. They just differ based on the degree of escalation and the legal cover available.

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Begin with Classroom So where do we go from here? A job loss or an Instagram deactivation is unlikely to create the kind of cultural change we need. If we want things to be different, the work has to begin much earlier. That means we must include comprehensive sexuality and relationship education in schools. It means teaching children, especially boys, that desire is not a transaction, that pleasure is not something that only men are entitled to, and that "no" is not the beginning of a negotia-

tion. It also means helping young people understand that loneliness, however painful, is not something another person is responsible for relieving. Intimacy can only exist when there is genuine and ongoing consent. It also means allowing boys to cry without shame and creating spaces where they can name and process their emotions before they harden into resentment and entitlement.

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Bishnoi Gifts England Easy Win On Sooryavanshi Debut

Ravi Bishnoi became the perfect party pooper on Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's much-hyped debut, conceding 29 runs in an over as England romped home by four wickets against India in the second T20 International here on Saturday. The 17th over, bowled by a profligate Bishnoi, saw him deliver two no-balls in the first two deliveries. Jacob Bethell (76 not out off 46 balls), keen to make amends for the T20 World Cup semi-final defeat, capitalised on the opportunity, smashing three towering sixes to ensure England completed the chase of 191 with an over to spare.

The afternoon began with anticipation over a 15-year-old Indian's debut and ended with a 22-year-old talented Englishman's swift counter-offensive that gave the hosts a 1-0 lead in the five-match series. The chase could not have started on a worse note for the hosts, as Phil Salt and Jos Buttler were snapped up by Arshdeep Singh. However, to his horror, skipper Harry Brook (39 off 15 balls) as brutal on the seasoned seamer, smashing him for 27 runs, which included three sixes and two boundaries. While Axar Patel (1/19 in 4 overs) had Brook caught down the leg side by Ishan Kishan, the England skipper had already set the platform for the counter-offensive. Bethell was then joined by Tom Banton (39 off 32 balls), and the duo handled the Indian spinners with relative ease during their 67-run stand for the fourth wicket. It also helped that India's spinners Ravi Bishnoi (0/60 in 4 overs) and Varun Chakravarthy (1/37 in 4 overs) did not match the English spinners, who were slower through the air and off the pitch. Only Axar Patel held his Bishnoi and Chakravarthy bowled flat and quick on a skiddy surface, which made it easier for both Bethell



and Banton to rock back and execute their shots. However, Chakravarthy did redeem himself in the final over when he removed Will Jacks which turned out to be an important moment in the game. However skipper Shreyas Iyer's tactical move to bring in Arshdeep in the 13th over for his second spell, worked wonders as Banton picked the fielder at deep extra cover to bring India back in the game. But Bishnoi's over dashed all hopes of a win. Earlier, Tilak Varma's last-over heroics ensured a decent 190 for 7 for India after Iyer opted to bat first. Tilak (24 n.o. off 11 balls), whose batting approach has been heavily criticised, smashed Jofra Archer (1/40 in 4 overs) for 17 in the 20th over to take India to a respectable total even though it might have slightly below the par score of 200. The extra bounce and cross winds on a skiddy surface did make batting difficult as the world saw the first glimpse of a 15-year-old debutant, who broke Sachin Tendulkar's nearly 37-year-old record, at international stage. However, his stay was restricted to 10 balls in which he collected two sixes and a couple of singles to manage 14 before being stumped by

Jos Buttler off off-spinner Will Jacks. Abhishek Sharma (43 off 24 balls), skipper Shreyas Iyer (37 off 22 balls) and Ishan Kishan (49 off 43 balls) all scored some runs but only looked comfortable in patches with England bowlers mixing it up quite nicely. Kishan, in particular, was exceptionally scratchy, failing to pick the slower deliveries and altered length ones bowled by the spinners. While Archer's sheer pace and the bounce extracted off the surface had Abhishek in all sorts of trouble at the onset, it was seamer Sam Curran's (3/33 in 4 overs) pace-off strategy and assortment of slower variations that made life difficult for Indian batters post power play. Jacks (1/22 in 3 overs) and left-arm spinner Liam Dawson (1/27 in 3 overs) ended with good figures. Even in all sorts of trouble at the onset, it was seamer Sam Curran's (3/33 in 4 overs) pace-off strategy and assortment of slower variations that in all sorts of trouble at the onset, it was seamer Sam Curran's (3/33 in 4 overs) pace-off strategy and assortment of slower variations that Adil Rashid (0/21 in 2 overs) wasn't exactly taken to the cleaners as boundaries were hard to come by. In his first 12 balls,

Abhishek played and missed around 10 of them. Archer cranked it up to 90 miles per hour, pitching it on hard length and got it to deviate away. At the other end, even Sooryavanshi struggled to cope with the extra bounce but got a six each -- first when Archer tried to cramp him for room and the left-hander played a no-look whip-scoop behind for a six. The shot against Josh Tongue was a more familiar IPL type hoick over long-on. However, England skipper Harry Brook rightly introduced Jacks and he bowled a wide loopy off-break which Sooryavanshi jumped out and missed by a foot and half to get stumped. Abhishek, after an initial play and miss phase, got his mojo back against bowlers with comparatively lesser pace than Archer. It was still hitting through the line that got him to 43 as he played the field admirably, targeting the shorter side. He should be cursing his luck when his snap flick off a Curran full-toss went straight to Tom Banton stationed at least 15 metres inside the mid-wicket boundary. Iyer and Kishan added 65 for the third wicket but even their biggest supporters won't claim that they could dominate

TG20 League | Hyderabad e-Champions Register Sixth Successive Win; Beat Karimnagar Diamonds



Hyderabad e-Champions yet again put up an all-round show as they thrashed Karimnagar Diamonds by seven wickets to record their sixth successive win in the ongoing TG20 League, organised by the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) here on Saturday. The Hyderabad e-Champions, who have already made the play-offs, are unbeaten in the

tournament. They play their last league game on Monday, July 6 at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium here, when they take on Anurag Nalgonda Knights. Hyderabad e-Champions Margadarsi Chit Fund Managing Director Shailaja Kiron witnessing the game between Hyderabad e-Champions and Karimnagar Diamonds at the Rajiv

Gandhi International Stadium on Saturday (ETV Bharat) In the game on Saturday, electing to bat, Karimnagar Diamonds posted a challenging 186 for 6 in their 20 overs. Hyderabad e-Champions then rode on an aggressive half-century by Vaishnav Reddy (65 not out off 42 balls) to clinch the game, rather comfortably. The team chased the target with 11

balls to spare. For Hyderabad e-Champions, openers Abhirath Reddy (26 off 16 balls) and Sai Vikas Reddy (36 off 17 balls) provided a brisk start. They added 28 runs for the opening wicket. However, it was Vaishnav, who was the cynosore of eyes, as he pummelled the opposition attack to submission. Gadagu Ganesh (21 off 13 balls) also played his part to perfection as he played second fiddle to Vaishnav. After Ganesh fell in the 12th over, Vaishnav and Pranav Varma (38 not out off 21 balls) ensured that the side did not lose any further wickets. The duo also continued to take the opposition attack to task. While Vaishnav's knock was laced with three boundaries and four sixes, Varma hit four boundaries and a maximum. Vaishnav finished the game in style as he hit a six over the bowler's head as celebrations

US-Iran Thaw To Provide Tailwinds For Growth: RBI



The Reserve Bank on Tuesday said the interim peace deal between Iran and the US can provide tailwinds to Indian economic growth. In its bi-annual financial stability report released on Tuesday, the central bank also said that the growth in gold imports has decelerated "substantially" in May 2026 over April. It, however, flagged that fiscal deficit can come under pressure because of the higher prices of energy and other commodities, their limited pass through to pump prices, excise duty cuts and higher outgo on subsidies. "...the interim peace deal has laid the foundation for cessation of this conflict and normalisation of supply chains, which could provide tailwinds to growth," the report

said. The country entered the recent bout of global turbulence triggered by the West Asia conflict with stronger macroeconomic fundamentals, it said, conceding that while India's resilience provides an important buffer, some impact is inevitable given the country's substantial dependence on imported energy. The RBI said most of the high-frequency indicators for April-May 2026 point to continued resilience in economic activity which suggests that growth has remained "firm" in Q1FY27. "Nevertheless, elevated oil and other commodity prices and weaker global growth could adversely affect India's domestic growth in 2026-27," it said. Several measures undertaken by the

Government, including support to MSME and export sectors, are expected to help sustain economic activity, while mitigating the impact of external shocks, the central bank said. On the inflation front, it said a combination of conflict-driven supply Nino can push headline inflation to the higher end of the tolerance band or around 6 per cent in Q3FY27 and also worsen inflation expectations. The recent decline in net FDI (foreign direct investment) may reflect the tightening of global financial conditions, it said, adding that foreign portfolio flows to India have also been under pressure. Asserting that India's external sector remains "resilient", the FSR said,

"The recent measures announced by the Government and the RBI are expected to bolster capital inflows. Therefore, even if the CAD widens, stronger capital inflows are likely to mitigate the funding constraint." The report also stated that fiscal deficit could come under pressure on higher prices of energy and other commodities, limited pass-through of oil price increase, excise duty cuts, and higher outgo on account of subsidies. Gross non-performing assets of banks reduced to 1.8 per cent at the end of March, a multi-decadal low, the report said, adding that banking system gross NPAs may inch up to 1.9 per cent by March 2028 under the baseline scenario.

Govt Hikes Onion Procurement Price By 13 Pc To Rs 2,125/Quintal, Fifth Revision



The government has raised the procurement price of onions for buffer stock purposes by 13 per cent, from Rs 1,875 per quintal to Rs 2,125 per quintal, in a bid to boost procurement and ensure better returns for farmers. The revised rate comes into effect from July 4, 2026, an official statement said. This marks the fifth upward revision in the procurement price this season, as the government's onion buying for the 2026 buffer stock under the Price Stabilisation Fund has got off to a slow start. Only around 2,000 tonne have been procured since June 1 despite repeated hikes in the purchase price. The procurement price has climbed in quick succession since the season

opened - from Rs 12.70/kg to Rs 15.80/kg on May 22, then to Rs 16.50/kg on June 13, Rs 17.30/kg on June 20, and subsequently to Rs 18.75/kg, before the latest increase to Rs 21.25/kg (Rs 2,125/quintal). According to the Second Advance Estimates of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare for 2025-26, onion production is pegged at 307.37 lakh tonne, broadly on par with 307.67 lakh tonne in 2024-25. The consumer affairs ministry said overall availability is not a concern at this stage, though prices may inch up in line with normal seasonal trends. Stock levels in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat remain adequate, with

no indication of shortages in stored onions. Daily mandi arrivals at the all-India level stayed robust at over 50,000 tonne, with Maharashtra alone accounting for more than 30,000 tonne at an average modal price of about Rs 18/kg. The all-India average retail price stands at Rs 31/kg. Better-quality stocks continue to be held back in storage and are expected to be released during the lean period. A delayed monsoon and below-normal rainfall in some regions have triggered speculative buying by a section of traders, even though actual demand in major consuming centres remains muted at current price levels. Production hubs such as Nashik and parts

of Madhya Pradesh are seeing speculative trading activity, driven more by expectations of a price recovery than by real demand. Onion exports remained normal in June, with about 1.50 lakh tonne shipped out during the month. However, traders expect export momentum to ease in the near term, as cheaper fresh crops from Pakistan and China are undercutting Indian onions in key markets such as the Gulf, Sri Lanka and the Far East. Meanwhile, Kharif sowing has been delayed by about 15 days in Maharashtra's Nashik region, while progress in Karnataka's Chitradurga and Challakere belt is running at around 60 per

Engineer By Degree, Odisha Singer Jyotirmayee Nayak Is Now Indian Idol 16's Top 7 Finalist



Popular Odia singer Jyotirmayee Nayak is enjoying one of the biggest moments of her career. After singing nearly 1,000 songs in the Odia music industry over the years, she is now winning hearts across the country as one

of the Top 7 contestants on Indian Idol Season 16. Known for both devotional and film songs, Jyotirmayee has received praise from audiences as well as the judges on the singing reality show. Her performance of Nimbooda

became one of the biggest highlights of her journey, earning millions of views online.

In an interview with ETV Bharat's Tejaswini Sethi, the singer spoke about her Indian Idol experience, dealing with rejection, the judges, music therapy, trolling, Bollywood, marrQ. How has your Indian Idol Season 16 journey been?

- The journey is still going on, and it has completely changed me. Before this, I mostly sang Odia songs. I also sang Hindi songs, but people did not know me for that. After coming to Indian Idol, I got the chance to perform Hindi songs on a national stage. Now, people from different parts of the country know me and give me so much love. That makes me very happy. I have learned a lot through my experience as well. My personality has changed, and I got the opportunity to meet famous artists and learn from them. This experience has been very fruitful for my singing as well as personality development. Q. You tried to get into the show before but were unsuccessful. How does it feel to finally make it? - I had auditioned three or four times earlier, but I was not selected. After that, I stopped trying for almost three years because I felt it was not meant to happen. Then one day, while I was teaching one of my students, I suddenly thought about giving it one more try. I did not have any expectations. I simply wanted to try once again. I was not afraid of rejection because I had already faced it before. I prepared my songs, gave the audition, and today I have reached the Top 7. I feel very thankful. Q. Which performance received the most appreciation? - Many of my performances have been appreciated. Songs like Saiyaan Pakad Baiyaan, Moh Moh Ke Dhaage, and Sohni Meri Sohni all received love. But Nimbooda got the biggest response. The performance crossed 106 million views, and that was a very special moment for me. Q. Which judge makes you the most nervous? Who are you closest to? - Vishal Sir makes me nervous. Everyone knows he is very strict. But after spending so much time with him, I understand that whatever he says is for our improvement. I came to this show to learn. I am not perfect. If I already knew everything, I would not need to come here. So even though I feel nervous before hearing his com-

ments, I feel nervous before hearing his com-

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Film Producer Bandla Ganesh To Move Supreme Court After High Court Upholds Property



Film producer Bandla Ganesh has announced that he will approach the Supreme Court after the Telangana High Court upheld the auction of his family's properties in Hyderabad's Jubilee Hills by Union Bank of India as part of debt recovery proceedings. Responding to the controversy, Ganesh alleged that the bank had sold his property at a price far below its market value through an unfair process. In a post on X, the producer said, "Bank officials sold my property unfairly and at a price much lower than the market value through a defaulting agreement. I approached the court in 2022 challenging this injustice. The lower Debt Recovery Tribunal ruled in my favour, but the latest verdict has gone against me in the High Court. I have full faith in the Indian judiciary and will approach the Supreme Court for justice based on my

rights."The court, on Monday, also set aside an earlier order of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT), which had cancelled the auction and directed that the sale proceeds be returned to the property owners. A division bench comprising Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya and Justice Gadi Praveen Kumar heard the matter after Union Bank challenged the DRT's order. Senior advocate BS Prasad, appearing for the bank, argued that the properties owned by Ganesh, his father, brother and other family members had been mortgaged as guarantees for loans taken by Sri Parameshwara Poultry Farm Private Limited. According to the bench comprising bank, the properties were seized in 2019 under the SARFAESI Act, and an auction held in 2022 generated Rs 8.51 crore. The bank further stated

that the petitioners had later sought a one-time settlement (OTS), and it agreed to adjust the auction proceeds against the Rs 82-crore settlement amount. As part of the arrangement, Ganesh and other petitioners had reportedly agreed to withdraw all cases filed against the bank. However, the bank alleged that instead of withdrawing the petitions, the family approached the DRT, which subsequently cancelled the auction without properly examining the records submitted by the bank. The petitioners had argued that the auction was invalid because insolvency proA division bench comprising Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya and Justice Gadi Praveen Kumar heard the matter after Union Bank challenged the DRT's order. Senior advocate BS Prasad, appearing for the bank, argued that the proper-

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From Shraddha To Sara - Meet The Actors Who Keep Fans Entertained Online



Not too long ago, celebrities mostly used social media to announce new projects, promote films, or post carefully clicked photos. That has changed. Instagram, in particular, has become a place where fans get to see the people behind the stardom. They get to see their quirks, sense of humour, everyday routines, and the moments that never make it to the big screen. On World Social Media Day 2026, here's celebrating a few Bollywood stars who have made scrolling through Instagram a lot more entertaining. Vidya Balan If there's one celebrity who can make almost any trend her own, it's Vidya Balan. From lip-syncing viral dialogues to putting her own spin on trending audio clips, the actor has entertained many with reels that feel effortless yet incredibly amusing. Her comic timing does most of the magic, but it's the way she fully

commits to every performance that keeps people coming back. Even the simplest trend becomes memorable once Vidya adds her touch to it. Sara Ali Khan Sara Ali Khan brings a completely different vibe to Instagram. Her "Namaste Darsha ko" in every video has become familiar to her followers. In her videos, one day she's taking fans along on a holiday, the next she's sharing funny poetry, family moments, or snippets from a film set. There's an easy-going charm to her content that makes it feel less like celebrity updates and more like stories from someone genuinely enjoying life. Shilpa Shetty Shilpa Shetty has managed to strike a balance that many influencers try to achieve. Fitness may be a huge part of her online identity, but she never lets it feel restrictive. Her "Sunday Binge" videos are proof of that. Whether she's

digging into desserts, enjoying street food, or savouring home-cooked favourites, she reminds followers that healthy living isn't about giving up everything you love; it's about finding balance. Shraddha Kapoor or Then there's Shraddha Kapoor, whose Instagram presence is as uncomplicated as it is likeable. She doesn't rely on flashy content or over-the-top trends. Instead, fans get funny reels, dance clips, behind-the-scenes moments, and little slices of everyday life. That simplicity has become her biggest her Bollywood celebrities to relate to online. Kubbra Sait Kubbra Sait has built her own loyal community with a style that's refreshingly honest. Her cheerful "Good Morning Hoomans" greeting has become something fans look forward to, while her videos often blend humour with candid conversations and snip-

pets from her daily routine. Watching her content feels less like following a celebrity and more like catching up with someone you've known for years. Of course, the list doesn't end there. Genelia Deshmukh continues to entertain with her playful family reels alongside her husband, actor Riteish Deshmukh. Together, they give fans plenty of laugh-out-loud moments. Kareena Kapoor Khan keeps things refreshingly real with candid posts and witty captions, while Ananya Panday offers a mix of travel diaries, fashion updates, and behind-the-scenes glimpses that let followers see life beyond the spotlight. What makes these actors stand out isn't just the number of followers they've gained. It's the way they've used social media to build genuine connections. Their posts don't always revolve around film promotions

Toxic's Ladies & Ladies Glimpse Still Ends Up Being About Yash's Raya



Months after releasing the first glimpse of Yash's Toxic: A Fairytale for Grown-Ups, the makers have now dropped another promotional video from the film. This time the focus is on the female cast from the film, which includes Nayanthara, Huma Qureshi, Kiara Advani, Tara Sutaria, and Rukmini Vasanth. Titled Ladies & Ladies, the latest promotional asset offers a glimpse of the dark universe of Toxic created by Geethu Mohandas. The video begins with a disclaimer that reads: "Kids... stay away. Parents... make sure your kids stay away. Grandparents... make sure your kids' kids stay away. Grea cigarette in her mouth. Rukmini Vasanth means business as she draws a handgun. Huma Qureshi exudes ambiguity in a blink-and-miss appearance. The Ladies & Ladies glimpse from Toxic is apparently meant to cast a spotlight on the film's female cast. However, by the end, everything still becomes about Raya, the character played by Yash in Geethu's action drama. The film is simultaneously in the Kannada and English languages. It will also be dubbed in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, and Malayalam. Jointly produced by KVN Productions and Yash's Monster Mind Creations, Toxic will hit screens worldwide on August 26. In the few frames she appears in, Tara Sutaria channels a classic femme fatale energy with a cigarette in her mouth. Rukmini Vasanth means business as she draws a handgun. Huma Qureshi exudes ambiguity in a blink-and-miss appearance. The Ladies & Ladies glimpse from Toxic is apparently meant to cast a spotlight on the film's female cast. However, by the end, everything still becomes about Raya, the character played by Yash in Geethu's action drama. The film is simultaneously in the Kannada and English languages. It will also be dubbed in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, and Malayalam. Jointly produced by

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