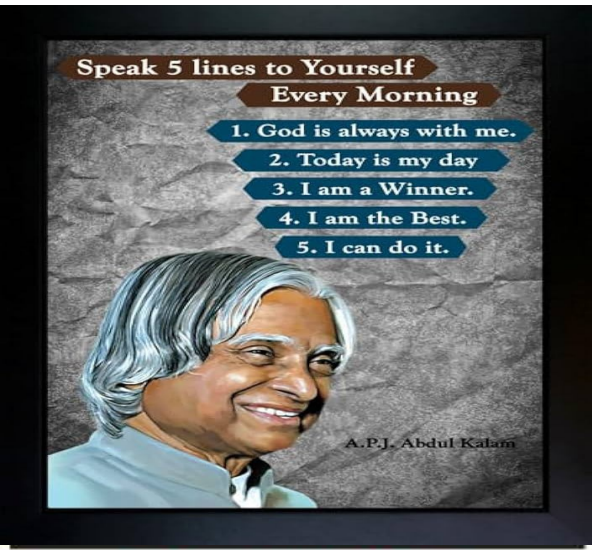


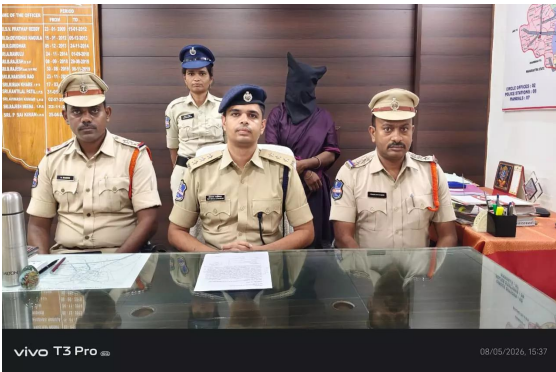


Opposition Walks Out of Rajya Sabha



New Delhi: Congress and some opposition parties on Thursday staged a walkout in the Rajya Sabha demanding statement from Home Minister Amit Shah on police action against protesting students. Although Deputy Chairman Harivansh had previously announced that the proceedings will be adjourned for one hour when it resumed after noon session at 2.15 pm, the Upper House reassembled earlier. The House continued to witness noisy scenes as Congress and other opposition parties continued to demand. The Rajya Sabha has already thrice during the day amid the Opposition's demand.

Woman Held for Enacting Husband's Murder as Accident in Nirmal



Nirmal: The Nirmal district police arrested a woman for allegedly killing her husband in Limba-B village of Kuntala mandal in Nirmal district and attempting to enact it as an alcohol-related accidental death. Bhainsa Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) P Sai Kiran, at a press conference, said Dothare Balaji (35), was addicted to alcohol and frequently used to harass his wife, Pirabai (24). Three

days ago, Balaji, in an intoxicated state, allegedly picked a quarrel with his grandfather, Piraji, and assaulted him without any provocation. Class VII Girl Student Goes Missing From School. Family members intervened, separated them and sent Balaji home. Pirabai followed her husband home, where an argument ensued. During the altercation, she allegedly strangled Balaji with his shirt, killing him on the spot. To conceal the crime, she tried to make it appear that Balaji died after accidentally putting a gas cylinder on himself under the influence of alcohol. She also destroyed evidence and made arrangements for the funeral, claiming that he had died due to excessive alcohol consumption. However, the deceased's allegedly strangled relatives grew suspicious over the circumstances surrounding the death and alerted the police. During investigation, police gathered evidence pointing to Pirabai's alleged involvement in the murder. She was subsequently arrested, and further investigation is underway.

Sanjay Jaju Participates in Bonalu Celebrations at Secretariat



Hyderabad: The Bonalu festival was celebrated with great fervour at Dr. B.R. Ambekar Telangana State Secretariat here on Thursday under the auspices of the Secretariat Employees' Association. The Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju participated in the celebrations and offered special prayers. He took part in special pujas performed at Sri Nalla Pochamma temple located within the Secretariat premises and prayed for the well-being, peace, prosperity, and good health of the people of Telangana. Also Read - Jagtial: Class VII Girl Student Goes Missing From School On the occa-

sion, Secretariat employees offered the traditional Bonam to the Goddess with devotion. The celebrations featured vibrant cultural performances, including the traditional dance of Pothurajus, drum processions, and artists in colourful traditional attire, adding grandeur to the festivities. A large number of employees and officials participated in the celebrations and offered prayers to the Goddess. Extending his Bonalu greetings to the people of the State, Sanjay Jaju expressed hope that Goddess Mahankali would bless the employees and officials with peace, prosperity, happiness, and continued development across Telangana.

Revanth Reddy to Distribute New Ration Cards on Aug. 15

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy will distribute newly sanctioned and laminated Public Distribution System (PDS) ration cards on August 15 on the occasion of 79th Independence Day. In an office memorandum, Minister for Irrigation, Food & Civil Supplies, N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the Chief Minister has approved the programme schedule for the State-wide launch. The State-level inaugural function will be held at Sangareddy, where the Chief Minister will formally commence the distribution of the new ration



cards. Also Read - Jagtial: Class VII Girl Student Goes Missing From School. Simultaneously, similar distribution programmes shall be organized in all the 119 Assembly Constituencies across Telangana. In every constituency, the programme shall be coordinated by a designated Revenue Divisional Officer. The State-level inaugural function will be held at Sangareddy, where the Chief Minister will formally commence the distribution of the new ration cards (RDO), with all necessary support from the District Administration

and the Civil Supplies Department. Since the Independence Day flag hoisting celebrations will be held during the morning hours and the Chief Minister is required to attend the At Home function at Raj Bhavan at 5.30 pm, all constituency-level ration card distribution programmes shall be conducted between 2 pm and 4 pm on August 15. Accordingly, all officers concerned are requested to make comprehensive arrangements well in advance and ensure the successful conduct of the programme.

KT Rama Rao accuses Congress, BJP of compromising Telangana's interests

Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao charged the Congress and the BJP with failing to protect the interests of Telangana and pushing the State once again into a subordinate position under Delhi's control. He called for a renewed fight for Telangana's identity, self-respect and self-rule. Speaking at Telangana Bhavan on the birth anniversary of Telangana



ideologue Prof K Jayashankar on Thursday, Rama Rao said Andhra Pradesh was attempting to undermine Telangana's

water interests by influencing the Centre. He said such a situation would not have arisen if the BRS, which was formed for Telangana, had been in power. Referring to the proposed review of clearances for seven Telangana projects by the Godavari

River Management Board (GRMB) following Andhra Pradesh's request, he said BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao had already explained how Telangana's interests were being compromised. "Delhi parties have once again left Telangana struggling," he said. Rama Rao stated that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy had travelled to Delhi 75 times in 32

months, terming his frequent visits a sign of dependence on his Delhi bosses. He accused the Chief Minister of failing to protect Telangana's water, financial and employment interests, while even the available water was not being utilised as the pumps of the Kaleshwaram and other lift irrigation projects remained inactive. "Revanth Reddy appears

Rajya Sabha Clears Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2026



New Delhi: The Rajya Sabha on Thursday cleared the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2026, which seeks to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on March 31, 2023, in excess of the amounts granted. Replying to the debate on the Bill, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said, "This is the demand for excess grant for expenditures undertaken in the year 2023 on just two accounts. These two accounts were a part of what the Public Accounts Committee in its 39th report presented to the Lok Sabha this year in April". Also Read - Three Held in Assam Over Alleged Gang Rape, Murder of Class 10 Student. Explaining further, she said one excess

demand arises from a particular court order that was on the Railway Ministry for Rs 196.44 crore. The second demand pertains to a larger amount of Rs 53,871 crore pertaining to the repayment of debt. However, Sitharaman said the nature of debt receipts is against the issuance of securities and therefore has no fiscal impact. The Bill was returned to the Lok Sabha after the Upper House gave its nod to the legislation with a voice vote, thus completing the process for the Money Bill. "As has been previously highlighted, the Modi Government has not even implemented 27 of the Radhakrishnan Committee's 101 recommendations so far. It didn't even appoint a full-time Director General of NTA for the 2 years between the 2024 and 2026 paper leaks," Ramesh

said. The Modi government showed no political will or sincerity in implementing the Committee Report, he alleged. "The Nilekani Task Force is simply a damage control exercise by a PM whose image has taken a battering even within his ecosystem," the Congress leader said. The Modi government showed no political will or sincerity in implementing the Committee Report, he alleged. "The Nilekani Task Force is simply a damage control exercise by a PM whose image has taken a battering even within his ecosystem," the Congress leader said. Last month, Prime Minister Modi has announced the constitution of a high-powered six-member task force headed by Infosys co-founder Nilekani to recommend reforms to make the exam system leakproof.

AP Planning to Rob Telangana's Godavari Water, Revanth Must Answer



Hyderabad: Former irrigation minister and senior BRS leader T. Harish Rao on Wednesday alleged that Andhra Pradesh was pushing to rob Telangana of its Godavari river water rights and questioned the silence of the state government on this issue. Addressing a press conference, Harish Rao accused the Congress government, particularly Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, of watching silently as AP sought a review of clearances granted to several major projects in Telangana on Godavari river. Also Read - Jagtial: Class VII Girl Student Goes Missing From School. He said the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) was scheduled to meet in Hyderabad on August 18, and the agenda proposed by AP, was a direct threat to

seven projects of Telangana —including the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation scheme, Choutuppal Hanumantha Rao project, Chinna Kaleshwar am, Chanaka-Korata, Modikunta Vagu, Kadem Gudem and the Sitarama lift irrigation scheme. "In all, AP is threatening to rob Telangana of 383 tmc ft of water from the Godavari," Harish Rao alleged. Also Read - Sanjay Jaju Participates in Bonalu Celebrations at Secretariat. On the one hand AP Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu publicly states he is not opposed to Telangana projects but AP's official public states he is in communications convey a different position, the BRS leader said. "Andhra Pradesh had written to the Government

seeking intervention regarding Telangana projects and had now incorporated similar proposals in the GRMB agenda," he said. The Sitarama scheme was crucial for Khammam district, while Kaleshwar am, Chinna Kaleshwar am, Modikunta Vagu and the Sammakka barrage were vital for irrigation and drinking water requirements across several districts, including Hyderabad, Harish Rao said. "Revanth Reddy must immediately clarify Telangana's position on the GRMB meeting agenda. The two Union ministers from the state, G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi S. Government seeking intervention regarding Telangana projanjay Kumar, must also publicly state their stand on the issue and protect Telangana's water interests," he said.

AP’s SIR Finds 7.37 lakh Electors Enrolled at Multiple Places

Vijayawada: The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Andhra Pradesh has identified 7.37 lakh electors enrolled at multiple places, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Vivek Yadav said on Saturday. In a statement, the CEO said all 4,16,27,694 electors in the state had been covered under the exercise. Enumeration forms have been received from 3,71,38,206 electors, accounting for 89.22 per cent of the electorate. Also Read - Kargil Vijay Diwas: AP CM Naidu, Pawan Kalyan Pay Tribute to Brave Soldiers According to the SIR findings, 44,89,488 electors (10.78 per cent) were not found at their registered addresses. The exercise has so far identified 15,22,174 deceased electors (3.66 per cent), 14,43,886 electors who have permanently shifted (3.47 per cent),



7,37,216 electors enrolled at multiple places (1.77 per cent), 7,77,885 In a statement, the CEO said all 4,16,27,694 electors in the state had been covered under the exercise. Enumeration forms have been received from 3,71,38,206 electors, accounting for 89.22 per cent of the electorate. untraceable electors (1.87 per cent) and 8,327 electors (0.02 per cent) who refused to accept enumeration forms. Also Read - Gold, Cash Stolen from RDO's House in Kakinada The CEO said the authorities had completed the coverage of all targeted electors under the SIR exercise. Vivek Yadav said every effort had been made to ensure that

all eligible electors are included in the draft electoral rolls, which are scheduled to be published on July 31. He said that, in accordance with the SIR guidelines, the period from July 31 to August 30 would be available for members of the public to file objections regarding additions, deletions and corrections in the draft elec-

Keshav Maurya's Statements, Divisive and Unconstitutional

Hyderabad: The AIMIM Chief Asaduddin Owaisi slammed UP's Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya's comments on madrasas, calling them 'divisive and unconstitutional'. The Hyderabad MP defended madrasas by highlighting their role in India's independence movement. In a post on X, Asaduddin cited Article 30 constitutional protections of the madaras and accused the BJP of weaponising hatred for political advantage. "How could those who love the British possibly like madrasas ? Madrasas were the centers of conspiracies against the British and the struggle for freedom. They produced countless mujahideen of independ-



ence, while Savarkar was writing mercy petitions to the British," the MP hit back through his post. Also Read - Revanth Reddy to Distribute New Ration Cards on Aug. 15 Questioning the relevance of the position

Keshav Maurya held in the UP government, Asaduddin Owaisi noted that Keshav Maurya can only attack madrasas because "his chair is, in fact, just a stool." He added by stating, "But when chairs are scarce, those with stools have

no choice but to spew venom to maintain their political relevance." According to the Hyderabad MP, the first terrorist of independent India was Godse, who was no talib-e-ilm (educated) from a madrasa. "But India's first President, Rajendra Prasad, had studied in a madarsa. Munshi Premchand and Raja Ram Mohan Roy had also received their education in madrasas. Article 30 of the Constitution grants every minority community the right to establish and run its own educational institutions. It is utterly shameful that a person holding a constitutional office should use such poisonous language," he charged.

NIA Nabs Another Accused in Karnataka BJP Leader Praveen Nettaru Murder

Hyderabad: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested another key absconding accused in the 2022 murder of Karnataka BJP leader Praveen Nettaru, taking the total number of arrests in the high-profile case to 25. The accused, identified as Ummar Farook M.R., was apprehended from Kochi, Kerala following a targeted operation based on credible intelligence inputs. Ummar Farook, an absconding accused had a Red Corner Notice (RCN) and a non-bailable warrant for arrest against him. The investigating agency had also announced a reward of Rs.4 lakh for information leading to his arrest. Also Read - Yadgir Gas Leak: State Orders Detailed Inquiry, Assures Compensation The NIA had earlier chargesheeted Ummar Farook in connection with the conspiracy behind the murder under various provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Unlawful Activities



(Prevention) Act. Investigations revealed that he attended a conspiracy meeting at the office of the banned Popular Front of India (PFI) in Sullia town along with other accused. Investigation revealed that Ummar Farook had agreed to provide his motorcycle to a co-accused for identifying potential targets and conducting reconnaissance in Bellare village before the murder. Also Read - Santosh Lad Reviews Drought Preparedness, Stresses Timely Farm Input

Supply He is also accused of participating along with other co-accused persons in an attempt to eliminate a protected witness in the case. The latest arrest comes weeks after the NIA, in July this year, apprehended two other absconding accused Abdul Nasir P. alias Nasir, and Naushad a coordinated operation based on information received from the Andhra Pradesh police. Also Read - CM Goes Soft On Disgruntled MLAs, Succeeds To Pacify Them The murder

of Praveen Nettaru, a local BJP leader from Dakshina Kannada district, on July 26, 2022 had triggered widespread outrage and led to the NIA taking over the investigation. NIA probe has revealed that the killing was part of a larger criminal conspiracy orchestrated by cadres of the banned PFI. In this case, two accused remain absconding. Efforts are continuing to trace and arrest the remaining absconding accused and to bring the investigation to its logical conclusion.

BharatNet Connects 10,833 Gram Panchayats in Telangana

Hyderabad: As many as 10,833 Gram Panchayats had been connected in Telangana under BharatNet project as on June 30, 2026, according to Union Minister for Telecommunications Jyotiraditya M. Scindia. In Telangana, around 10,022 villages have mobile coverage, out of which 9,929 villages were covered with 4G/5G connectivity. As on June 30, 2026, 412 mobile towers have been commissioned in Telangana under Digitla Bharat Nidhi (DBN) funded projects, covering 493 villages. Also Read - Revanth Reddy to Distribute New Ration Cards on Aug. 15 The Central government has approved the proposal of the Telangana government for implementation of Amended BharatNet Program (ABP) in the State and communicated in-principle approval to the State government. The BharatNet project has been approved for provision of broadband connectivity in a phased manner to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country, including in the State of Telangana. Further, the government has approved the ABP under a design, built, operate and maintain



model to upgrade the existing network created under Phase-I and Phase-II of the BharatNet Project and to create an incremental network for new GPs, its operation and maintenance and provision of 1.5 crore fiber-based internet connections. Also Read - Srisailem Gets 2.20 Lakh Cusecs Inflow; Outflows Remain Nil The Department of Posts has also Read - Keshav Maurya's Statements, Divisive and Unconstitutional: Asad Additionally, UPI services are also being provided to improve postal infrastructure in

Telangana. Advanced Postal Technology (APT) has been rolled out in all the Post Offices in Telangana Circle. Around 5,427 Branch Post Offices have been equipped with mobile devices, providing a unified digital platform for postal, banking, insurance and citizen-centric services. Post Office Savings Bank has been fully computerized on a Core Banking Solution platform offering modern digital services, including ATM access, DBT payment, internet banking, mobile banking, NEFT/RTGS, e-Passbook and e-KYC. Also Read - Keshav

Maurya's Statements, Divisive and Unconstitutional: Asad Additionally, UPI services are also being provided through India Post Payments Bank -Post Office Savings Account linkage, in all Post Offices in the State of Telangana. Further, 24/48 Speed Post services have been launched in six metro cities, including Hyderabad. Scindia said this while responding to a question raised by MP Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy in Lok Sabha on Wednesday on ' B r o a d b a n d Connectivity under Bharatnet in Telangana.

Farmers demand uninterrupted power supply for agriculture

Nalgonda: Farmers from Palakaveedu mandal in Suryapet district staged a protest at the 33/11 KV substation in the mandal headquarters on Thursday, complaining frequent power disruptions and inadequate electricity supply for agriculture. Electricity department officials maintained that uninterrupted power supply was being provided from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. However, farmers said the ground reality was different. The farmers charged that power supply was frequently interrupted and



power cuts were imposed for various reasons, affecting agricultural operations. They said farmers were already struggling with deficient rainfall and were relying heavily on

borewells for irrigation. In such circumstances, they accused the electricity department of worsening their problems by failing to provide uninterrupted, quality power supply.

The farmers also complained of low voltage, saying it was damaging pump set motors and forcing them to spend more on repairs. They demanded that the government ensure reliable and quality electricity supply without disruptions. The ryots warned that they would intensify their agitation if the authorities failed to resolve the issue. Similar protests over frequent power cuts have been reported from different parts of the State in recent weeks.

Law Equal for All: TDP MP Seeks Speedy Trial of Political Cases

Amaravati: Raising the issue during parliamentary proceedings, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) Rajya Sabha member Chintakayala Vijay has called for faster trial proceedings related to political leaders, saying that the rule of law must prevail equally for ordinary citizens and individuals holding public offices. Highlighting that numerous criminal matters against political leaders have remained unresolved for over a decade due to frequent judicial transfers and shortages, he urged the government to expand the capacity of Special CBI Courts. Chintakayala Vijay, TDP Rajya Sabha MP, said that the law is equal for everyone, regardless of whether a person holds public office or is an ordinary citizen. Also Read - AI Surveillance Helps Trace Missing Students In 90 Minutes The Member of

Parliament raised concerns in Parliament over delays in the disposal of criminal cases involving public representatives and called for strengthening the capacity of Special CBI Courts. Addressing the House, the MP said the issue was not about any one individual but about ensuring timely justice and maintaining public confidence in the judicial system. Citing the case of former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSRCP President YS Jagan Mohan Reddy as an example, the MP said around 31 criminal cases have been registered against him since 2013 and that nearly 13 years have elapsed since the cases were filed. Also Read - Sindhu's Sports Centre In Vizag Picks Up Pace The MP further stated that discharge petitions in these cases



have reportedly been heard by around eight different judges over the years. However, owing to frequent judicial transfers and a shortage of judges, the petitions are yet to reach a final decision. Questioning the pace of judicial proceedings, the MP asked, "If discharge petitions alone take 13 years, when will the actual trial be completed?" Noting that delayed judicial proceedings severely

impact public confidence in the justice delivery mechanism, the MP remarked on the state of long-pending litigations. The MP urged the government to strengthen the capacity of Special CBI Courts to ensure speedy disposal of cases involving public representatives. Delays in judicial proceedings undermine public faith in the rule of law and the justice delivery system, Chintakayala Vijay said.

Early Onam Gift: Ramoji Group, Kerala Vision Join Hands To Launch Film City

Thiruvananthapuram: In what could be an early Onam gift for Keralites, the Ramoji Group has partnered with Kerala Vision, the state's largest cable network provider, to launch exclusive tourism packages to the world-famous and iconic Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad. The specially curated packages are expected to make visits to the world's largest integrated film studio complex easier and more attractive for travellers from Kerala. The initiative will be implemented through the 'Yes to Go – Kerala Vision Tourism Club', which has been launched across all 14 districts of Kerala and has already enrolled over 5,000 members. Ramoji Group partners with Kerala Vision to



launch tourism packages to the iconic Ramoji Film City. (ETV Bharat) The partnership was formalised with the exchange of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

between representatives of Ramoji Film City and the Kerala Vision Tourism Club during the club's inauguration here on Wednesday. The event also witnessed

the unveiling of the Ramoji Film City Exclusive Tourism Package. Inaugurating the Tourism Club, Kerala's Tourism Minister P C Vishnunadh said Kerala's

future growth lies in tourism and announced that the government would accord industry status to investments in the tourism sector. Stating that Kerala has immense potential to develop tourism in every region, the minister recalled that despite spending nearly three years in Hyderabad as the AICC secretary in charge of Telangana, he never had the opportunity to visit Ramoji Film City. "I hope to visit very soon," he added. The function was presided over by COA president Praveen Mohan. Kerala Vision Tourism Ltd. managing director Jyothikumar V S, CIDCO president K Vijayakrishnan, and COA general secretary Suresh P B, among others, also addressed the gathering.

Puducherry Portfolio Allocation: Rangasamy Retains Finance And BJP Namassivayam Gets Home

Puducherry: The territorial administration issued a notification on Wednesday allocating portfolios to the Chief Minister N. Rangasamy and all five ministers of the AINRC- BJP coalition government in the UT. The much-awaited allocation was published in the Gazette of Puducherry. The notification stated that Chief Minister Rangasamy has been allocated Planning and Finance, Cooperation, Revenue and Excise, Health and Family Welfare, Hindu Religious Institutions, Wakf Board, Local Administration, Transport, Science & Technology and Environment, Information and Publicity, Fire Service and other subjects not allocated to any other ministers. The cabinet has a total of six ministers, including the chief minister. While the AINRC got three ministers apart from the chief minister, the BJP has two representatives. A Namassivayam, the BJP Legislative party leader, is number two in the cabinet.



He has been allocated Home, Electricity, Education including Collegiate Education, Law, Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare, Forest and Wildlife. Namassivayam was holding the portfolios of Home, Electricity, and Higher Education in the previous AINRC-BJP coalition ministry (between 2021 and 2026) headed by Rangasamy.

Malladi Krishna Rao, elected from Yanam constituency, an enclave of Puducherry inside Andhra Pradesh, returns to the cabinet after a Labour and Employment. P Rajavelu, an AINRC member, has been allocated Adi Dravidar Welfare, Art and Culture, Housing, Information Technology, Economics and Statistics and Stationery and Printing. V

Sivakolundhu (AINRC) has been allocated the gap of ten years. He is now an AINRC representative in the cabinet, while he was previously a Congress minister between 2016 and 2021, in the V Narayanasamy government. Rao has been given Public Works, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Ports, Industries and Commerce and

Labour and Employment. P Rajavelu, an AINRC member, has been allocated Adi Dravidar Welfare, Art and Culture, Housing, Information Technology, Economics and Statistics and Stationery and Printing. V Sivakolundhu (AINRC) has been allocated the Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs department, Social Welfare, Backwards Class Welfare, Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs. He was Speaker in the 2016-21 government led by Congress.

Narayanasamy govern G N S Rajasekaran (BJP), who is a first-time entrant in the cabinet and elected from the Karaikal region, has been allocated Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Sports and Youth Affairs, District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), Community Development, Rural Development and Sainik Welfare.

Nainital Verification Drive Hits High Profile: Kumaon Commissioner, MLA

Nainital: Among the people who have received the notice from the Election Commission in its ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) voter verification exercise are some prominent personalities like Kumaon Commissioner Deepak Rawat and Nainital MLA Sarita Arya. This drive, which is meant to prepare an accurate and updated electoral roll that will be devoid of errors, has seen Booth Level Officers (BLOs) visiting houses across the district. As per the officials, the SIR notice sent to MLA Sarita Arya's house is related to gathering the required information about her and her younger son, whereas a similar notice was given to the house of Kumaon Commissioner Deepak Rawat. The officials from the Election Department have made it clear that the drive is a regular process that is being carried out irrespective of the fact whether the person is a citizen holding constitutional office or not. Conducted



under the Election Commission's directives, this campaign aims to make the voter list accurate, up-to-date, and error-free. Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are visiting homes to verify voters and gather the required information. The campaign applies equally to all voters in the district, whether they are ordinary citizens or individuals holding constitutional or administrative positions. According to Election

Commission officials, the campaign is part of a standard, routine procedure. Its objective is to ensure the accuracy of details for every eligible voter. Consequently, officials are reaching out to all families in the district and collecting information via prescribed forms. Nainital SDM Nawazish Khalik said, "Hearings regarding complaints filed under the SIR process have commenced in the Nainital Assembly constituency to

rectify existing discrepancies. Most cases involve errors in names and addresses, and the individuals concerned have been asked to provide the necessary documentation. The goal of the SIR is to create a new and accurate voter list. The system automatically flags errors in names and addresses, and notices have been issued to the concerned individuals, directing them to rectify these discrepancies." The procedure for filling out Forms 6, 7, and 8 has been ongoing since July 14 and is scheduled to continue until August 13. During this period, eligible citizens can submit their claims and objections. The Election Department aims to ensure that the final published electoral roll is completely accurate and up-to-date. Vijay Kumar Jogdande, additional chief electoral

officer of Uttarakhand, said on July 30 that voters can rectify errors regarding their name, address, age, or other details in the electoral roll by filling out Form 8. Eligible citizens whose names are not yet included in the electoral roll can register anew using Form 6. Form 7 is available for matters concerning the deletion of a name or other objections, he added. Jogdande said that approximately 1.9 million voters in the state have been identified as having some form of error in their records. Notices are being issued to these voters in a phased manner so that they can present their case with the necessary documents within the stipulated timeframe and have their records corrected. He mentioned that, during the campaign, the mapping of approximately 526,000 voters remained incomplete. Continuous efforts are being made through Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to reach these voters and verify their information.

Netflix Co-CEO Ted Sarandos Meets PM Modi, Pledges To Deepen Investment In India's Creative Ecosystem



New Delhi: Netflix Co-CEO Ted Sarandos on Wednesday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi here, during which both of them discussed the "immense potential" of India's media and entertainment sector. PM Modi said India has a rich tradition of storytelling and an extraordinary pool of creative talent, which can be leveraged to strengthen the nation as a global hub for content creation. "Glad to have met Mr. Ted Sarandos. Discussed the immense potential of India's media and entertainment sector," PM said in a post on X. Netflix India said Sarandos discussed with the Prime Minister their shared vision to take India's media and entertainment industry global. He also discussed the expanding global influence of Indian storytelling and reaffirm Netflix' long-term commitment to India's creative economy, the company said in a statement. "Celebrating 10 years of Netflix in India! It was an honour for our Co-CEO Ted Sarandos to meet Hon'ble Prime

Minister Shri Narendra Modi to discuss their shared vision to take India's media and entertainment industry global," Netflix India wrote. The OTT giant said it has unveiled the 'Netflix India Initiative', an investment that will help nurture the next generation of the country's creative talent through partnerships with IICT and NFDC. "We can't wait to see what India creates next," it said. Further, Netflix committed to deepening investment in India's creative ecosystem as part of its expansion plan, a senior official of the company said.

Sarandos said that India has always been one of the world's greatest storytelling nations. "Over the past decade, we've had the privilege of seeing Indian stories connect with audiences not just across India, but around the world. As we begin our next decade here, we believe our greatest investment is in the people who will tell India's next generation of stories," he said. The company said it will have a multi-phase investment in India's creative

talent pipeline and will create strategic partnerships with key Indian institutions to help build the next generation of Indian storytelling talent. The initiative will help equip the next generation of storytellers with industry-relevant skills across the animation, visual effects, gaming and comics (AVGC) ecosystem, which serves as a key driver of India's 'Orange Economy', the statement read. "The Netflix India Storytelling Initiative reflects our long-term commitment to strengthening India's creative ecosystem by creating more opportunities for emerging creators, because investing in creators is investing in India's creative future," Sarandos said. India's creative community has created over 200 originals and filmed across more than 100 locations across the country for Netflix. Netflix India has announced a partnership with the Indian Institute of Creative Technologies (IICT) to co-develop an industry-ready curriculum in Visual Effects Mastery and

Arrests Five More Over Exam Irregularities



Ranchi: After days of agitation over alleged irregularities in the examinations conducted by Jharkhand Public Service Commission (JPSC) and the Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission (JSSC), the protesting students led by JPSC-JSSC Reform Forum here opened the door for talks with the government, stating that they would end the stir if all major demands are fulfilled. The decision was announced at a press conference organised by the JPSC-JSSC Reform Forum in presence of core committee members Ravindra Paswan and Piyush late on Wednesday night. However, the Forum has made it clear that the movement will not be called off merely because talks

are being held. Jharkhand JPSC-JSSC Row: Protesting Students Agree To Hold Talks With Govt (ANI) Govt Sends Message Protestors According to the student leaders, the state government sent a message through the SDM and SDO that it wants to hold talks with representatives of the protesting students. The Reform Forum's core committee discussed the proposal and unanimously agreed to hold talks with the government. "The government has not yet shared the official date, time or venue for the meeting. The forum will send a delegation as soon as the government fixes the schedule," Ravindra Paswan said. Five representatives will take part in the talks, although their

names have not yet been finalised. An official announcement will be made soon. Talks Alone Won't End Protest' Paswan said the forum is ready for dialogue but expects the government to take concrete and positive decisions on the students' demands. He also assured that if the government accepts all the major demands, the forum will consider ending the protest immediately. However, if no concrete decision is taken, the agitation will continue as before, Paswan added. Meanwhile, Piyush said the movement is not politically motivated. According to him, students are protesting for transparency in competitive examinations and to protect the future of young

SC Acquits Man After 22 Years, Slams Justice System for Erasing

New Delhi: In a scathing indictment of systemic failures, the Supreme Court acquitted a man who had spent 22 years in prison for murder, holding that his conviction rested on "highly improbable" eyewitness testimony and a flawed investigation. The apex court also lamented that access to justice continues to elude the marginalised, with delay and indifference erasing decades of liberty. A bench comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and K Vinod Chandran delivered the judgment on August 4. "We are deeply dismayed, and equally perturbed by the order which rejected an application seeking condonation of delay of 3157 days and as a consequence dismissed the 'Jail Memo of Appeal' against the order of conviction under Section 302, with sentence imposed of life imprisonment where the convict had, at the time of the impugned order suffered incarceration of 12 deprived—constitution-



years and now a further period of 10 years; a total of 22 years", said Justice Chandran, who authored the judgment on behalf of the bench. He said access to justice still eludes the marginalised sections of our society, especially those convicted and imprisoned from amongst them. The bench observed that when the three pillars of democracy strive to deliver legal aid to every citizen—especially the poor and

al courts must introspect and adopt a more sensitive approach. The bench observed that delay in filing appeals against convictions cannot be allowed to rob a person of the most fundamental right: liberty. It added that what is required is not just a liberal view, but a proactive one—condoning delay, however long, when a convict seeks justice through appeal. The bench said the present case starkly illustrates the concerns that arise when such sensitivity is absent. The bench observed that three lives were snuffed out, having been bludgeoned to death; a person was taken into custody on mere suspicion from whom a confession, though not admissible, was extracted employing third-degree methods. "The trial court fails to evaluate the evidence properly, and the High Court remains a moot spectator while adding to the tally of disposals; cumulatively resulting in 22 years being erased out of a person's life without any reliable evidence", said the bench.

Allowing the appeal filed by Arjun Jani, the bench said: "We deem it appropriate to direct the District Legal Services Authority, Koraput, State of Odisha to attempt rehabilitation or resettlement of the appellant for which the District Administration, headed by the District

Transparency, Affordable Education, Strong Public School System: Students' Demands From Pradhan's Successor

New Delhi: With Dharmendra Pradhan no longer heading the Education Ministry, several students part of the CJP protests on Saturday said they now hope the new incumbent will bring about concrete changes to the system. Among many demands, three repeatedly emerged: transparency in the exam system, affordable and quality education, and strengthening of government schools and primary education. Raj Yadav from Ghaziabad, who has been part of the sit-in since the protest began nearly a month ago, said that the government must implement and if a paper leak occurs, its consequences are far-reaching. Srishti urged the new minister to ensure adequate teachers are appointed in all schools, education becomes affordable, and emphasis is on skill development for children in govern-



ment schools. Vikram Chaudhary from Rajasthan, who has been participating in the protest for at least a fortnight, demanded that reforms begin at the primary school level. He emphasised the need to improve the quality of education in government schools, increase the education budget, and provide better facilities for preparing for competitive exams like UPSC, NEET, and JEE. "Education has become very expensive in this country. The government needs to address this seriously,"

said. Students maintain that the change of the minister is merely the beginning. Srishti, a resident of Laxmi Nagar in Delhi, said the high cost of education has turned studying into a struggle for many students. She said she has to work to fund her own education and if a paper leak occurs, its consequences are far-reaching. Srishti urged the new minister to ensure adequate teachers are appointed in all schools, education becomes affordable, and emphasis is on skill development for children in govern-

Chaudhary said.

Shaurya, a class 11 student preparing for NEET, said Pradhan's resignation has given him hope that not all is lost. "I am happy that our voices have been heard. I am confident that the new Education Minister will not allow incidents like paper leaks to happen again," he said. Gaurav Tomar, a resident of Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh, who has been a part of the protest since July 20, demanded the strengthening of primary education, the promotion of skill development in government schools, and curbs on the rising cost of education. "Education is not a business; it is every child's right, and they must receive it," he said. Shravan Kumar, a resident of Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, said students should not be forced to take re-exams repeatedly and that issues such as

India Weather Update: Heavy Rain Alert For Uttarakhand, Kerala, Assam, Odisha



Delhi: Active monsoon conditions are set to continue across large parts of the country over the next five days, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasting widespread rainfall, thunderstorms and isolated very heavy rainfall in several states till August 11. IMD scientist Naresh Kumari said the weather activity is being driven by an active monsoon trough stretching from Punjab to the northeast Bay of Bengal, multiple upper-air cyclonic circulations over north, east and south India, and a western disturbance affecting the western Himalayan region. **Northwest India:** Heavy Rain Over Hills The IMD has forecast fairly widespread to widespread rainfall over Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir-Ladakh, and Uttarakhand between August 6 and 11. East Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi and West Uttar Pradesh are likely to receive widespread rainfall on August 6, while Rajasthan is expected to witness increased rain activity between August 7 and 10. The forecast comes as schools up to Class 12 have been closed in Uttarakhand's Chamoli and Bageshwar districts due to heavy rain warnings. Authorities are also monitoring the Mandakini River in Rudrapur amid continuous rainfall in the

upper Himalayan catchments. **Central India:** Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh Under Heavy Rain Watch Rainfall activity is expected to intensify over central India during the next few days. Fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is likely over West Madhya Pradesh from August 7 to 9 and over Chhattisgarh and East Madhya Pradesh on August 6-8. The IMD has warned of isolated heavy rainfall over West Madhya Pradesh on August 6 and 8, Chhattisgarh and East Madhya Pradesh during August 6-7, while isolated very heavy rainfall is likely over West Madhya Pradesh on August 7. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning are also expected over Chhattisgarh between August 6 and 9. **Rain People** wade through a waterlogged street amid heavy rainfall, in Agartala, Tripura on Wednesday. (PTI) **East India:** Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand To Receive Intense Rain Eastern India is likely to remain under active monsoon conditions throughout the forecast period. Fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is expected over Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim from August 6 to 11, while Jharkhand is likely to receive widespread rainfall during August 6-8 and August 10-11.

high alert as widespread flooding continues across several areas. **West India:** Konkan, Goa and Gujarat To Receive More Rain The IMD has predicted fairly widespread rainfall over Konkan and Goa during August 6-11 and over Gujarat region from August 8 to 10. Heavy rainfall is likely over Konkan and Goa on August 7 and over Madhya Maharashtra on August 6-7, while isolated very heavy rainfall is expected over Konkan and Goa on August 6. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning are also likely over Madhya Maharashtra and Marathwada during the week. **South Peninsula:** Kerala Under Orange Alert Rainfall activity is expected to remain vigorous over southern India. Fairly widespread rainfall is likely over Kerala, Coastal Karnataka, Lakshadweep and adjoining regions through August 11. The IMD has issued an orange alert for seven districts of Kerala, Kasaragod, Kannur, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kottayam, Pathanamthitta and Alappuzha for August 6, while the remaining districts remain under a yellow alert. Heavy rainfall is forecast over Arunachal Pradesh on August 7 and August 10-11 and over Assam and Meghalaya from August 6 to 11. The forecast comes as the flood situation in Assam remains serious. According to official reports, the death toll in this year's monsoon floods has risen to 95, with 14 districts remain in the year's monsoon on high alert as very rainfall is also likely over Tamil Nadu, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka, accompanied by thunderstorms, lightning and gusty winds reaching 40-60 kmph. Very heavy rainfall is expected August 6-7.

President Murmu, PM Modi Pay Tributes To Kargil Heroes On Vijay Diwas

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday led the nation in paying tributes to the soldiers of the Indian Armed Forces on the occasion of the 27th Kargil Vijay Diwas, remembering their extraordinary courage, sacrifice and unwavering commitment to safeguarding the nation's sovereignty. In a post on X, President Murmu paid homage to the soldiers who laid down their lives in defence of the country, saying the saga of valour of those heroic warriors will continue to inspire future generations to tread the path of national service and steadfast duty. "On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas, I pay humble tribute to those valiant warriors who laid down their lives for the protection of our motherland. Their unparalleled valour, unwavering resolve, and unparalleled patriotism stand as exemplary models of our army's glorious traditions," she said,



adding that the nation shall forever remain indebted to them. PM Modi also paid tribute to the Kargil heroes, expressing the nation's gratitude to the soldiers for their extraordinary courage and commitment to India's security. "On Kargil Vijay Diwas, our nation expresses gratitude to the brave soldiers for their extraordinary courage and commitment towards securing India. Their valour in

the face of the most formidable conditions will forever remain a source of national pride. Their unwavering patriotism and devotion to duty will continue to inspire generations," the Prime Minister said in a message on X. Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, among others, also remembered

the martyrs of the Kargil War and paid heartfelt tributes to them. Observed every year on July 26, Kargil Vijay Diwas commemorates India's victory in the 1999 Kargil War, when the Indian Armed Forces successfully evicted Pakistani intruders from strategic heights in the Kargil sector under Operation Vijay, reaffirming the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Accept Responsibility With Humility: Pralhad Joshi On Appointment As Education Minister

New Delhi: Newly appointed Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi said he accepted the responsibility with a sense of duty and humility. Joshi has been appointed as Education Minister after President Droupadi Murmu accepted Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation from the Union Council of Ministers following widespread student-led protests across the nation over the NEET paper leak. Joshi has been given additional charge of the Education Ministry besides his role as Consumer Affairs Minister. "I have just got to know that the Prime Minister has given me a responsibility. I accept this responsibility with a sense of duty and humility," he told reporters on Saturday night. "In the last 12 years of Prime Minister Modi's government, many his-



torical achievements have been made. In the last four to five years, Dharmendra Pradhan also implemented the National Education Policy, and several important initiatives were undertaken," Joshi said. "Under the guidance of the Prime Minister, I will try to perform to the best of my ability and fulfil my responsibilities with dedication," he added. Earlier in the day,

Pradhan resigned from his post following the Cockroach Janta Party-led student protests across the country, demanding his ouster over the NEET paper leak controversy. Pradhan said it was not a matter of "individual prestige" for him and he was disturbed to see the series of events that have unfolded in the last 10 days. In response to Pralhad Joshi receiving the additional charge of

the Education Ministry, Saurav Das, Chief Spokesperson of the Cockroach Janta Party, warned that anyone becoming the Education Minister should understand that the youth are watching closely. "Our concerns and have been addressed. Those demands resonated with the youth across the country, which is why this movement gained nationwide support," Saurav Das said.

Bangladesh Expresses 'Outrage' Over Hasina's Media Interaction

Dhaka: Bangladesh on Wednesday expressed outrage over deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina's media interaction in New Delhi, saying the event has hurt the sentiments of its people and could adversely affect efforts to improve bilateral ties with India. During an audio-only virtual press conference, her first public media interaction since fleeing to India on August 5, 2024, following a massive protest, Hasina declared that she is determined to return to Bangladesh in December to put the country on the "right track". Attendees were unable to see the former prime minister and heard only her voice. Reacting to the press conference, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) in a statement said Bangladesh is "outraged" that the "absconding convicted" Hasina was allowed to engage in live interaction with the media in New Delhi. The ministry said it had conveyed its concerns to the Government of India in advance about the "likely ramifications" of the event for bilateral rela-

tions, but the interaction Treaty signed in 2013 ings documented by the



was allowed to take place. The statement said Bangladesh desires to maintain a "constructive, mutually beneficial, and forward-looking relationship with India based on sovereign equality, mutual respect, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and national dignity". On the contrary, it said, permitting Hasina to publicly interact with the media has hurt public sentiment in Bangladesh and was "detrimental to the development of harmonious bilateral relations" between the two neighbours. The MoFA expressed disappointment that its requests seeking Hasina's return under the India-Bangladesh Extradition

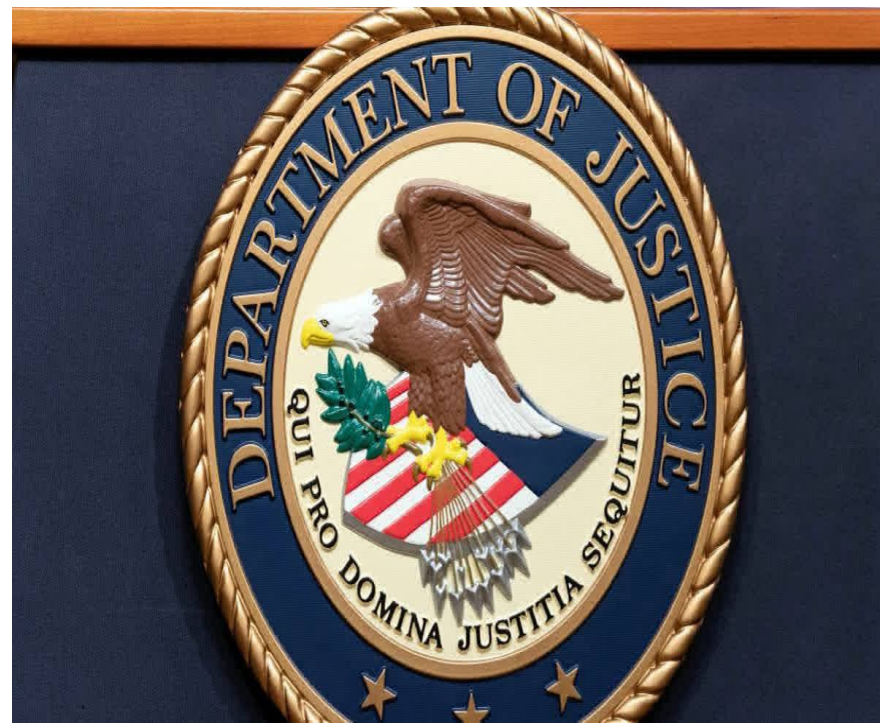
had not yet received a response. Last November, Hasina was sentenced to death in absentia by a special tribunal in Dhaka for alleged "crimes against humanity" over her government's brutal crackdown on student-led protests in 2024. Since the verdict, Dhaka has been urging New Delhi to extradite her to face the law. The statement described Hasina's remarks from India as an "affront" to Bangladesh's sovereignty and an insult to those who lost their lives during the July Revolution. The ministry also rejected Hasina's comments on the July-August 2024 violence, alleging that they sought to deny find-

United Nations regarding civilian casualties during the unrest. During her virtual media interaction, Hasina alleged that the protests in Bangladesh in July and August 2024 that resulted in the collapse of her government were not a peaceful student movement. She alleged that "organised groups" worked to turn the movement into a "violent political instrument".

"It was not simply a spontaneous student protest. There was no visible or responsible leadership. Instructions were given invisibly. It was organised and used to create a path to power outside the ballot box,"

Indian-Origin Landlord In Pennsylvania Sued For 'Sexually Harassing' Female

Washington: The federal government in the United States has sued Venkatchalam Mani, the owner of a Pennsylvania rental property, alleging that he sexually harassed a female tenant and retaliated against her when she refused his advances. The lawsuit, filed in the US District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania on Wednesday, alleges that Mani, a landlord in the State College borough, made unwelcome sexual advances toward a female tenant, including sexual touching. After the tenant rejected his advances, Mani failed to respond to her repeated requests for maintenance, including repairing a broken furnace in the middle of winter that eventually caught fire. "This conduct is illegal. The Justice Department will uphold the rights of female tenants to housing without the threat of sexual harassment by a landlord," said Assistant Attorney General Harmeet K Dhillon of the department's Civil Rights Division. The lawsuit seeks monetary



damages for the tenant and her children, and a court order barring future discrimination. "Attempts to exploit tenants for sexual favours, sexual assault and retaliation by landlords will never be tolerated in the Middle District of Pennsylvania," said US Attorney Brian D Miller for the Middle District

of Pennsylvania.

The case was referred to the Justice Department after the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) received a complaint, completed an investigation and issued a charge of discrimination. The tenant had filed a complaint against Mani with

HUD. After an investigation, HUD determined that Mani discriminated against the applicant in violation of the Fair Housing Act and issued a charge of discrimination. After the tenant chose to have the matter decided in federal court, the HUD referred the matter to the Department of Justice.

| Trump Claims US Has Massive Amounts Of Weapons; Iran's Hormuz Deal With Oman In 'Final Stages'



Commander-in-Chief of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Ahmad Vahidi has said that Iran will continue working on nuclear weapons as long as the United States and Israel possess them, Israeli media reported. "As long as the United States and Israel possess nuclear weapons, we will continue working on them for our national security. If they disarm, we will disarm," Vahidi was quoted as saying, according to Israeli media, calling it a "direct admission" by an Iranian official of pursuing a nuclear bomb. Earlier, US President Donald Trump on Wednesday (local time) said "a lot of progress" had been made and claimed that Iran had reached out seeking talks, adding that the situation would become clearer within the next 48 hours, Fox News reported. "We're moving along very nicely. We'll find out. We'll know in 48 hours, I would say," Trump told reporters as he departed Los Angeles for Las Vegas as part of a two-day West Coast trip. Trump said that Iranian officials had contacted the US and expressed an interest in talks, while suggesting that Tehran would be "very smart" to reach a deal. "A lot of progress has been made. They called me, and they said, 'Please, let's talk.' They want to talk. The funny thing is, they never mention that... I think they'd be very smart to make a deal. We'll see what happens," he said.

Earlier, Trump said that the Strait of Hormuz would be opened "very soon" as part of a deal with Iran and Oman, while warning that the Islamic Republic would be "hit really hard" if it fails to reach an agreement amid talks over an interim arrangement to ease tensions in the region. 11:39 AM, 6 Aug 2026 (IST) White House Denies Report Of Trump-Hegseth Clash Over US Missile Stockpiles The White House has denied a report claiming US President Donald Trump confronted Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth over shortages in the country's missile stockpiles during a meeting at Camp David. A report mentioned that Trump had demanded answers over why he was allegedly misled about shortages of long-range guided missiles and air-defence interceptors. According to the report, the depleted stockpiles had influenced Trump's decision not to carry out additional large-scale attacks on Iran. However, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt, who said she was present at the meeting with Trump and Hegseth, dismissed the report as "fake news". Leavitt said, "This literally never happened, and we told the Washington Post that repeatedly." She also defended Hegseth, saying Trump "loves the Secretary and thinks he's doing a tremendous job". 10:33 AM, 6 Aug 2026 (IST) Trump Claims US Has Massive

Amounts Of Weapons, Says 'Leakers Being Hunted Down' US President Donald Trump on Thursday (IST) rejected media reports that the Pentagon's missile stockpiles are running low, insisting that the military maintains massive reserves and is rapidly expanding production. "The US has massive amounts of 'munitions,' especially of certain types," Trump wrote in a post on Truth Social. "Additionally, large amounts are being manufactured and shipped to the US as needed. Defense companies are building the largest number of plants and factories in our country's history," he wrote. The US President also lashed out at the sources behind the media reports, warning that those responsible would face legal consequences. "The 'leakers' of these treasonous statements are being hunted down. Long term jail sentences will be sought!" he added. Trump Claims US Has Massive Amounts Of Weapons; Iran's Hormuz Deal With Oman In 'Final Stages' Trump says leakers of U.S. munitions statements are being hunted, long prison sentences will be (Screenshot/@realDonaldTrump) 9:28 AM, 6 Aug 2026 (IST) Houthis Claim Missile Attack On Saudi Oil Tanker In Gulf Of Aden Hours after claiming a missile attack on a Saudi tanker in the northern Red Sea, Yemen's Houthi group said it has targeted another Saudi oil tanker with a ballistic missile in the Gulf of Aden. In a statement posted on X, Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Saree said the tanker, identified as "Daisy," was hit by a ballistic missile and "forced to turn back". Saree said the attack was part of the group's declared maritime blockade against Saudi Arabia under a "blockade-for-blockade" policy. "The Yemeni Armed Forces, by the grace of God, were able to target the Saudi oil tanker 'Daisy' in the Gulf of Aden using a ballistic missile, and the operation achieved its objective successfully by the grace of God, with the ship sustaining damage and being forced to turn back," he said.

Saree said Houthi forces are

Washington: Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna, a 2028 US Presidential aspirant, on Saturday said he was detained by gun-wielding Israeli settlers while on a visit to Palestine. Khanna, a Democrat from California, was visiting on Wednesday the ruins of Khirbet Zanuta, a Bedouin village in the southern West Bank that was abandoned after attacks from Israeli settlers when the incident took place. "Israeli settlers, brandishing American-made M4s, detained me and other Americans on my trip to Palestine. When the IDF (Israeli Defence Forces) arrived, they sided with the settlers and continued our detention. They made a huge



mistake," Khanna said in a post on X. Khanna's experience was reported by a photographer of The New York Times, who was accompanying the Congressman. "I felt powerless in that situation, which is not an easy thing, as I have a lot of privilege in life," the New York Times quoted Khanna as saying.

The report said Khanna was eventually allowed to continue his journey after calls to the US embassy and Israeli police. "Imagine how people feel every day, Palestinians under the occupation, if they could make an American congressperson feel powerless for 90 minutes," Khanna said. US politi-

cians – Democrats and Republicans alike – have been visiting the West Bank from time to time since the October 7, 2023, attack on Israel by Hamas started a war in the region. Republican Mike Johnson, the House Speaker, and Democrats – Chris Van Hollen and Jeff Merkley visited the region last year. Former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel is also on a visit to Israel. Emanuel, who briefly served as the White House Chief of Staff during President Barack Obama's tenure, is also considered a presidential aspirant.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri Seeks Lanka's Cooperation For Early Release Of Indian

Colombo: India on Wednesday urged Sri Lanka to cooperate in the early release of Indian fishermen and their boats detained by its authorities, while reiterating that a humanitarian approach should guide the handling of the long-pending issue.

The matter figured prominently during Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri's discussions with the Sri Lankan leadership during his official visit to Colombo, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Misri arrived in Colombo for a day-long visit. It was his first stand-alone visit to Sri Lanka as Foreign Secretary. He held separate meetings with President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, Prime Minister Harini Amarasinghe, Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath and Foreign Secretary Aruni Ranaraja. During the talks, Misri discussed issues about fish-



ermen and requested Sri Lanka's cooperation for the early release of fishermen and boats detained in the island nation, the MEA statement said. "He also requested that even as bilateral mechanisms continue to work towards finding a resolution of the various issues, a humanitarian approach keeping in view the livelihood requirements of fishermen should continue to guide our approach," it

said. The fishermen issue is a contentious one in the ties between India and Sri Lanka, with Lankan Navy personnel even firing at Indian fishermen in the Palk Strait and seizing their boats in several alleged incidents of illegally entering Sri Lankan territorial waters. The Palk Strait, a narrow strip of water separating Tamil Nadu from Sri Lanka, is a rich fishing ground for fishermen from both countries.

Fishermen from both countries are arrested frequently for inadvertently trespassing into each other's waters. In the last week of July, the Sri Lankan navy arrested nine Indian fishermen and seized their trawler for allegedly poaching in the island data, this year, as of April 15, 128 Indian fishermen were arrested, with 18 trawlers being seized by the Sri Lankan Navy for alleged poaching.

Beyond the coding boom—the silent evolution of technology and entry-level work



Every year, thousands of young graduates flood the bustling tech corridors, clutching degrees long viewed as a definitive passport to economic security. For decades, the unwritten contract of the corporate and IT sectors was simple: you started at the bottom, handled the tedious “grunt work”, sorting databases, drafting basic reports, testing standard lines of code, or writing repetitive summaries, and gradually worked your way up the ladder. It was an essential corporate apprenticeship in which professionals made low-stakes mistakes and gradually learned the nuances of their industry.

Also Read
Opinion: Fear of being replaced — Navigating value in an AI-driven workplace
Opinion: Automation and future of work
Today, however, that traditional career ladder is facing a profound structural disruption. The bottom rungs are missing, and the entry-level white-collar job is rapidly transforming or, in some cases, evaporating entirely.

Beyond Prompt

Until recently, public anxiety surrounding artificial intelligence was largely focused on basic generative tools. We marvelled at chatbots that could write a quick email, answer simple queries, or draft a generic marketing paragraph on command. These tools still required a human operator to constantly sit at the screen, type in specific prompts, and piece the outputs together. AI was treated merely as an efficient digital assistant.

But the technological landscape has moved far beyond simple prompt-and-response mechanisms. We have entered the era of autonomous ‘Agentic AI.’ These are independent software systems capable of executing complex, multi-step workflows entirely on their own.

Instead of asking a system to write a single email, companies can now assign an AI agent a broad, complex objective, such as auditing a logistics budget, running a localised marketing campaign, or writing an entire software patch. The agent works inde-

pendently for hours, diagnoses its own bugs, refines its methods, and delivers a completed project without human intervention.

Immediate Casualty

The immediate casualty of this operational shift is the traditional entry-level white-collar worker. From a purely corporate standpoint, the mathematics are stark. Why hire a team of junior analysts to spend 40 hours compiling and processing market data when an autonomous digital agent can complete the task in 40 seconds for pennies? The machine wins on speed, volume, and cost every single time. As a result, Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and IT service providers are quietly restructuring their hiring practices, leaning away from mass entry-level recruitment.

This creates a massive paradox for a rapidly developing tech ecosystem like India’s. If the entry-level ‘cognitive grunt work’ is automated, how do we train senior leaders, architects, and managers of tomorrow? If young professionals are never given the chance to learn the foundational, routine aspects of an industry, how will they develop the institutional intuition required to make high-level decisions? One cannot effectively govern a system without ever understanding how its core pieces fit together.

The future of white-collar work lies not in creating content from scratch but in exercising judgment over what automated systems produce. In the AI era, the defining skill will be serving as the ‘human in the loop’.

To navigate this transition, both our skill development models and educational frameworks must move away from past metrics. For too long, professional success has been measured by volume, how fast a person can code, how many pages of a report they can generate, or how efficiently they can manage a spreadsheet. We are currently training young minds to excel at tasks that machines have already mastered. Ates a financial strategy, a legal brief, or a technical design, it operates entirely on patterns, his-

torical datasets, and probabilities. It completely lacks empathy, contextual awareness, and an understanding of human consequences. It cannot look a client in the eye, navigate the delicate political dynamics of a boardroom, or determine if a decision is commercially sound but socially or ethically bankrupt. These deeply human elements—critical thinking, ethical scepticism, and emotional intelligence—are the true safe havens against automation.

Consequently, a young professional’s value will no longer be determined by output speed, but by their ability to audit, stress-test, and find the subtle flaws within an algorithmically generated solution. Their job will be to locate the rot in the digital foundation before it compromises the structure.

Shifting Focus

This shift underscores a broader reality that policymakers and industry leaders are increasingly acknowledging: traditional white-collar roles can no longer rely on rote academic certification. The focus must pivot drastically toward high-value skill development and practical problem-solving. Corporations must view entry-level positions not as a source of cheap, repetitive labour but as an essential long-term investment in human capital, restructuring junior roles so that young professionals spend less time on data entry and more time learning to govern automated systems.

The anxiety among today’s youth is understandable, but it shouldn’t lead to despair. The world of work is not ending; it is merely being rewritten. The traditional, predictable entry-level desk job may be fading, but the societal demand for human wisdom, oversight, and strategic vision has never been higher. To ensure our young work force thrives, we must stop preparing them to compete against machines and finally teach them how to command them.

When an AI agent generates a financial strategy,

a legal brief, or a technical design, it operates entirely on patterns, historical datasets, and probabilities. It completely lacks empathy, contextual awareness, and an understanding of human consequences. It cannot look a client in the eye, navigate the delicate political dynamics of a boardroom, or determine if a decision is commercially sound but socially or ethically bankrupt. These deeply human elements—critical thinking, ethical scepticism, and emotional intelligence—are the true safe havens against automation.

Consequently, a young professional’s value will no longer be determined by output speed, but by their ability to audit, stress-test, and find the subtle flaws within an algorithmically generated solution. Their job will be to locate the rot in the digital foundation before it compromises the structure.

Shifting Focus

This shift underscores a broader reality that policymakers and industry leaders are increasingly acknowledging: traditional white-collar roles can no longer rely on rote academic certification. The focus must pivot drastically toward high-value skill development and practical problem-solving. Corporations must view entry-level positions not as a source of cheap, repetitive labour but as an essential long-term investment in human capital, restructuring junior roles so that young professionals spend less time on data entry and more time learning to govern automated systems.

The anxiety among today’s youth is understandable, but it shouldn’t lead to despair. The world of work is not ending; it is merely being rewritten. The traditional, predictable entry-level desk job may be fading, but the societal demand for human wisdom, oversight, and strategic vision has never been higher. To ensure our young workforce thrives, we must stop preparing them to compete against machines and finally teach them how to command them.

The polygraph puzzle: Can lie detectors really detect lies?



Perched high above the lush Indrayani Valley, Lohagad Fort is known for its breathtaking views, mist-covered hills, and dramatic green landscapes. The historic hill fort is a well-known weekend trekking destination in the Mumbai-Pune corridor. The fort’s beauty was overshadowed by an alleged murder that took place there. On June 18, a 26-year-old man fell to his death from Lohagad Fort while visiting the site with his fiancée. Initially believed to be an accident, the case later turned into a murder investigation, with police arresting the woman and her friend for allegedly pushing him to his death.

The investigation has relied on CCTV footage, digital forensics, crime-scene reconstruction, witness examination and physical evidence to determine whether the death was accidental or homicidal. With no eye-witnesses or direct proof, police are now seeking the help of AI-assisted forensic gait analysis and a polygraph test to examine conflicting accounts, assess alleged premeditation and identify concealed information.

Although polygraph results can only be used as an investigative aid and are not admissible as conclusive evidence in court, they can help guide further forensic and digital evidence collection. Polygraph tests have been used in several high-profile Indian investigations, including the RG Kar Medical College rape case, the Hathras case, and the Aarushi Talwar-Hemraj deaths. In the Sheena Bora murder case, Indrani Mukerjea offered to undergo a polygraph test, but the CBI declined, stating that it already had sufficient evidence.

Polygraph Test
A polygraph test, commonly called a lie-detector test or a test to detect deception, is a forensic investigative technique used to record a person’s physiological responses while they answer a series of questions. The origins of polygraph testing can be traced back to the 19th century, when Italian criminologist Cesare Lombroso used a hydrosphygmograph to record changes in the blood pressure of

criminal suspects during questioning. The modern polygraph emerged in 1921, when American police officer and physiologist John Augustus Larson developed a device capable of simultaneously recording multiple physiological responses. While lie detector tests may help investigators develop leads, scientific limitations and legal safeguards mean they cannot conclusively establish guilt or innocence in court. During a polygraph examination, instruments such as cardio cuffs and sensitive electrodes are attached to the subject to measure physiological indicators, including blood pressure, pulse, respiration, blood flow, and sweat gland activity.

The examination begins by establishing a baseline through simple factual questions, after which the recorded responses are compared with those elicited by relevant questions. Significant physiological deviations may indicate stress or possible deception, although they do not conclusively establish that the person is lying. A polygraph examination is generally conducted in three stages: the pre-test interview, the testing stage, and the post-test interview. During the pre-test interview, the examiner explains the procedure, obtains the subject’s informed consent, discusses the case, and reviews the questions to be asked. In the testing stage, relevant questions are asked alongside neutral or control questions, and the responses may be recorded over multiple rounds for comparison. In the post-test stage, the examiner analyses the recorded physiological responses to determine whether the subject exhibited stronger and more consistent reactions to relevant questions than to control questions. A consistent pattern of heightened responses to relevant questions may be interpreted as indicating deception, whereas stronger responses to control questions or the absence of any discernible pattern may be classified as no deception indicated or inconclusive. Limits of Lie Detection

Experts caution that polygraph examinations

are not infallible and remain susceptible to manipulation. Under the prevailing legal framework, such examinations may be administered only with the informed, free, and voluntary consent of the individual concerned, and must not be conducted under coercion, duress, or on the basis of any inducement, threat, or promise of release.

Nonetheless, a polygraph does not directly detect lies; its conclusions are based on the interpretation of patterns of physiological arousal. A person may use several countermeasures such as controlled breathing, muscle tensing or mental calculations to create artificial stress during comparison questions. The reliability of a polygraph examination may be influenced by several factors. Physiological responses may be affected by the use of certain medications, underlying medical conditions, the influence of drugs, or psychological stress, thereby compromising the accuracy of the results. Additionally, individuals trained in deception or countermeasure techniques may be able to regulate or manipulate their physiological responses, potentially resulting in false negatives or otherwise misleading outcomes. The accuracy of the examination also depends on the competence of the examiner, the testing methodology employed, the subject’s physical and mental condition, and the timing of the examination, particularly where it is conducted after prolonged detention or incarceration.

These limitations have contributed to continuing scepticism regarding the reliability and evidentiary value of polygraph testing in both scientific and legal circles, and its overall accuracy remains the subject of ongoing debate and research.

The Legal Stand
In *Selvi & Ors v State of Karnataka* (2010), the Supreme Court held that polygraph and other lie-detection tests cannot be administered without the individual’s free and voluntary consent, as compulsory administration violates the constitutional protection against self-incrimination under Article 20(3)

and the right to a fair trial. The court also endorsed the National Human Rights Commission guidelines, which require that the individual be informed of the physical, emotional and legal implications of the test, have access to legal counsel, record consent before a Judicial Magistrate, and undergo the examination through an independent agency with proper documentation. Any statements made during the examination are treated only as statements made to the police and not as confessions. The court further clarified that an individual’s consent to or refusal to undergo a polygraph test cannot be construed as evidence of either guilt or innocence. The safeguards governing a polygraph examination should ideally extend beyond voluntary consent and legal representation to include a prior medical evaluation. Although no published scientific guidelines in India currently prescribe a standard medical assessment protocol for polygraph examinations, it is desirable that, before the test, a qualified medical practitioner assess whether the individual is physically fit and of sound mental capacity (compos mentis), and identify any medical condition, medication, or other factor that may influence physiological responses. The medical practitioner’s role should be confined to certifying the individual’s fitness for the procedure and ensuring medical safety, while the assessment of deception should remain the responsibility of the trained polygraph examiner. Such safeguards would enhance the reliability of the examination and better protect the rights and well-being of the individual undergoing the test.

The proposed polygraph examinations in the Lohagad Fort murder case have once again brought the controversial science of lie detection into public focus. While the technique may assist investigators by narrowing leads and resolving inconsistencies, it cannot establish guilt or innocence. The central scientific criticism remains that no physiological response is unique to deception; fear, anxiety, embarrass-

Brock Lesnar Confirms WWE Retirement After Defeat Against Oba Femi At SummerSlam

: World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) icon Brock Lesnar bid adieu to professional wrestling as he revealed his decision after a defeat against Nigerian wrestling star Oba Femi at the 'Summerslam' event held on August 1. The 49-year-old has been a multiple-time WWE Champion and also had stints in the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) and New Japan Pro Wrestling (NJPW), which comprised an illustrious combat sport career. The wrestler confirmed his decision on 'The Pat McAfee Show'. While speaking on the show, he said that the bout against Femi was the last of his career. Following the match with Oba at SummerSlam, Brock raised his opponent's hand as a sign of respect. "I am here today to let the world know that I am retired," Lesnar said at the show as quoted by ESPN. "Saturday was a very emotional day for me. It was kind of weird. When Oba Femi slammed me at



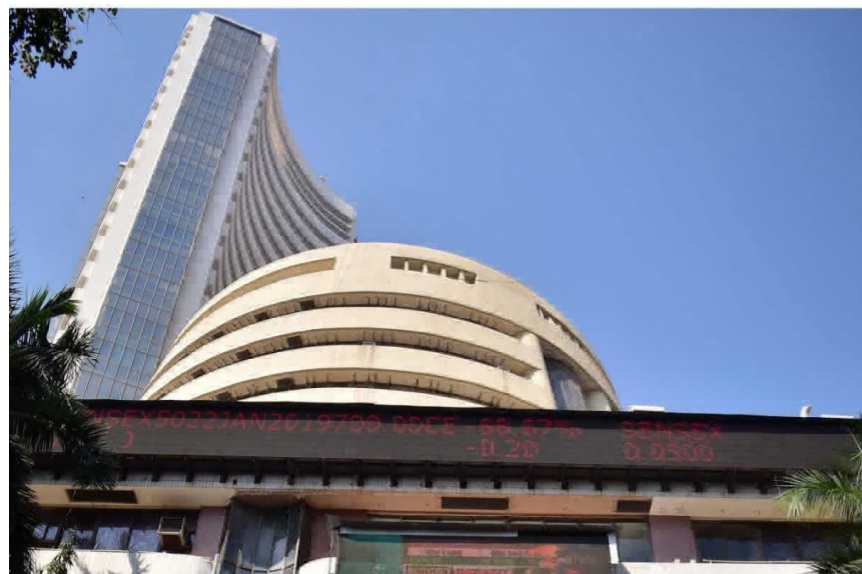
WrestleMania, I said, 'I cannot do this anymore. I think I am done.' But the business called, and I still had some fuel in the tank. Saturday, for Brock Lesnar, that is it. That is it for me in the squared circle and everything else," he signed off. Lesnar signed off one of the greatest careers in the world of combat sports. He was a two-time All-American and a two-time Big Ten champion. Also, he won an NCAA Division I national championship in wrestling for the University of Minnesota

in 2000. Lesnar's WWE journey has won 10 WWE Championship titles. He debuted in 2002 and won two 'Royal Rumble' matches (2003 and 2022), won the 'King of the Ring' tourna in the National Football League (NFL). In 2007, Lesnar entered the Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) ring and also clinched the UFC Heavyweight title. He returned to the WWE again in 2012 but lost to John Cena in an 'Extreme Rules' match. "I was just a farm kid

from South Dakota with a big dream, a big heart and a big-ass chip on my shoulder. I am just grateful to be 49 years old and have been able to do what I did in this lifetime. I thank God and everybody that supported me," he stated. "I want to say to the little kids, I was a little farm kid with a bunch of lint in my pocket. I had big dreams, and I just worked. I think a lot of people with social media platforms see athletes doing things and they leave out the hard work. If kids just stay focused

Mcap Of Five Of Top-10 Most Valued Firms Jumps Rs 1.54 Lakh Cr; TCS Biggest Winner

The combined market valuation of five of the top-10 most valued firms jumped Rs 1.54 lakh crore last week, with IT major TCS emerging as the biggest winner, in line with a positive trend in equities. Last week, the BSE benchmark Sensex climbed 582.06 points, or 0.75 per cent, and the NSE Nifty went up by 127.4 points, or 0.52 per cent. "Indian equity markets ended the week on a firm footing, extending their recovery despite heightened geopolitical tensions, elevated crude oil prices, and persistent uncertainty surrounding the global interest-rate outlook." Sentiment remained supported by encouraging Q1 FY27 earnings from the IT sector as TCS closed with nearly 10 per cent of weekly gains, renewed buying interest in financial stocks, and resilience in domestic economic fundamentals," Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said. While Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Bajaj Finance emerged as the gainers, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Larsen & Toubro and Hindustan Unilever faced erosion in their valuations. TCS added Rs 72,072.3 crore, taking its market valuation to Rs 8,20,672.70 crore. The country's largest IT services company reported a 4.61 per cent increase in its June-quarter net profit to Rs 13,349 crore, and guided towards an improvement in demand, impacted by the West Asia crisis, returning in the ongoing



quarter. ICICI Bank's valuation surged Rs 29,062.06 crore to Rs 10,34,441.77 crore, and that of Reliance Industries jumped Rs 23,884.93 crore to Rs 17,95,091.26 crore. The valuation of Bajaj Finance climbed Rs 21,946.5 crore to Rs 6,57,274.28 crore, and that of State Bank of India went up by Rs 7,338.34 crore to Rs 9,63,768.78 crore. However, the market capitalisation (mcap) of Larsen & Toubro eroded by Rs 18,097.72 crore to Rs 5,24,840.68 crore. The valuation of LIC declined by Rs 12,080.75 crore to Rs 5,48,124.30 crore. Bharti Airtel's mcap tumbled Rs 7,706.45 crore to Rs 11,91,067.77 crore, and that of HDFC Bank edged lower by Rs 7,084.61 crore to Rs 12,62,369.81 crore. The mcap of Hindustan Unilever dipped Rs 1,221.79 crore to Rs 5,03,775.86 crore.

Reliance Industries remained the most valued firm, followed by HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, State

Bank of India, TCS, Bajaj Finance, LIC, Larsen & Toubro and Hindustan Unilever. The combined market valuation of five of the top-10 most valued firms jumped Rs 1.54 lakh crore last week, with IT major TCS emerging as the biggest winner, in line with a positive trend in equities. Last week, the BSE benchmark Sensex climbed 582.06 points, or 0.75 per cent, and the NSE Nifty went up by 127.4 points, or 0.52 per cent. "Indian equity markets ended the week on a firm footing, extending their recovery despite heightened geopolitical tensions, elevated crude oil prices, and persistent uncertainty surrounding the global interest-rate outlook." Sentiment remained supported by encouraging Q1 FY27 earnings from the IT sector as TCS closed with nearly 10 per cent of weekly gains, renewed buying interest in financial stocks, and resilience in domestic economic fundamentals," Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said. While Reliance

Industries, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Bajaj Finance emerged as the gainers, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Larsen & Toubro and Hindustan Unilever faced erosion in their valuations. TCS added Rs 72,072.3 crore, taking its market valuation to Rs 8,20,672.70 crore. The country's largest IT services company reported a 4.61 per cent increase in its June-quarter net profit to Rs 13,349 crore, and guided towards an improvement in demand, impacted by the West Asia crisis, returning in the ongoing quarter. ICICI Bank's valuation surged Rs 29,062.06 crore to Rs 10,34,441.77 crore, and that of Reliance Industries jumped Rs 23,884.93 crore to Rs 17,95,091.26 crore. The valuation of Bajaj Finance climbed Rs 21,946.5 crore to Rs 6,57,274.28 crore, and that of State Bank of India went up by Rs 7,338.34 crore to Rs 9,63,768.78 crore.

Sarvesh Kushare Dazzles In Diamond League Debut With Third-Place Finish In Monaco

Indian high jumper Sarvesh Kushare shone on his Diamond League debut, securing a podium finish with his performance. He finished in third place in Monaco on Friday and became only the fourth Indian athlete to finish in the top three at a Diamond League meet. He has joined the elite list of Neeraj Chopra, Vikas Gowda and Murali Sreeshankar, who all have secured a podium finish at least once in a Diamond



League meet. The 31-year-old registered his best successful try of

2.26m to occupy the third position in a field including world-class

performers. He cleared 2.12m, 2.16m, 2.20m, 2.23m and 2.26m, clearing every height in his first attempt before falling short of clearing 2.28 m height. The Maharashtra-based athlete is having a breakthrough season so far. He recently jumped 2.31m at the National Championships in Bhubaneswar and rewrote Indian athletics history. He broke Tejaswin Shankar's eight-year-old national

At 67, This Veteran Hyderabad Athlete Is Winning Medals At International Marathons, Aims 'Ironman' Title



At an age when most of the people retire and start fading into oblivion, Chandupatla Satyanarayana Reddy of Hyderabad started a new journey by following his passion for running. He continues to be a competitor in international marathons winning medals. In the process, he has overcome health problems that plagued him for 20 years. This 67-year-old athlete had settled down in the Gachibowli area of the city after retirement in 2020 till the software professionals around him ignited his passion for running and trekking. Despite his enthusiasm for running, his feet stopped twenty times during his first run. But after that, he

never looked back. With proper training, Satyanarayana has grown to the point of running half marathons and marathons with ease. He has also trekked to the Everest Base Camp and has even been swimming in the Krishna River at Vijayawada. He has won 160 medals in India and abroad so far. He completed the Sydney Marathon in under four hours and was selected for the Boston Marathon. Out of the 744 participants at the prestigious Bthis run in 14 hours, I set a goal to achieve it in 12 hours. My ultimate goal is to win the Ironman title, which is held across seven continents in seven days," he said.

Satyanarayana disclosed that he used medicines for some ailments before starting his running journey. He has become completely healthy since then. He said that he oston Marathon, he secured 343rd rank in the above 65 year category. Satyanarayana created a record by becoming the first Indian to achieve this feat in this age group. He said rom Pune to Baramati. While I had to complete this run in 14 hours, I set that he is now preparing for the 'Ironman' title which involves 3.8 km swimming, 180 km cycling and 42.2 km running. "Initially, I used to take 10 breaks while running 5 km. But now I can run 42.2 km. I am participating in the 100 km run

from Pune to Baramati. While I had to complete this run in 14 hours, I set a goal to achieve it in 12 hours. My ultimate goal is to win the Ironman title, which is held across seven continents in seven days," he said. Satyanarayana disclosed that he used medicines for some ailments before starting his running journey. He has become completely healthy since then. He said that he takes a special diet three times a day. He said that if one focuses on something, one can achieve success. Through his journey, he has proved that the real innings of life begin only after retirement. He has set an example not for the elderly but for the youth as well.

Vizhinjam Seaport Gets Final Customs Clearance For EXIM Operations



Vizhinjam International Seaport has secured Customs approval to commence EXIM operations, its operator, VISL, said on Saturday. Vizhinjam International Seaport Ltd said the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs has granted final approval for the port to officially commence EXIM cargo operations from August 18. "While Vizhinjam International Seaport, Thiruvananthapuram, has so far functioned exclusively as an international transshipment hub, export-import cargo operations shall commence with effect from August 18, 2026. "Customs regulation of EXIM cargo will be carried out in coordination with various government and facilitating agencies, such as VISL, AVPPL,

the Mercantile Marine Department, the Port Health Organisation, the Bureau of Immigration, the Coastal Police, authorised banks and port security agencies," the CBIC order dated July 24 said. As there is currently no designated Container Freight Station attached to the port, the CBIC has imposed several conditions governing EXIM cargo handling. It said import operations would be restricted to Full Container Load containers eligible for Direct Port Delivery, and such containers must be moved directly from the port terminal to the importer's premises within 48 hours of landing. The CBIC has directed that no Less-than-Container Load cargo, loose cargo or containers requiring de-

stuffing or CFS examination be allowed at the port until a designated CFS becomes operational. Regarding exports, the CBIC said operations would be restricted to Direct Port Entry of factory-stuffed, self-sealed or Customs-sealed FCL containers. However, cargo requiring loose stuffing, examination or carting within the port yard will not be permitted, it said. Besides direct DPD and DPE container movement, road transshipment between the seaport and other notified Customs stations, such as Inland Container Depots, Container Freight Stations, Special Economic Zones and Land Customs Stations, will also commence, the CBIC said. It directed that all operations at the port must

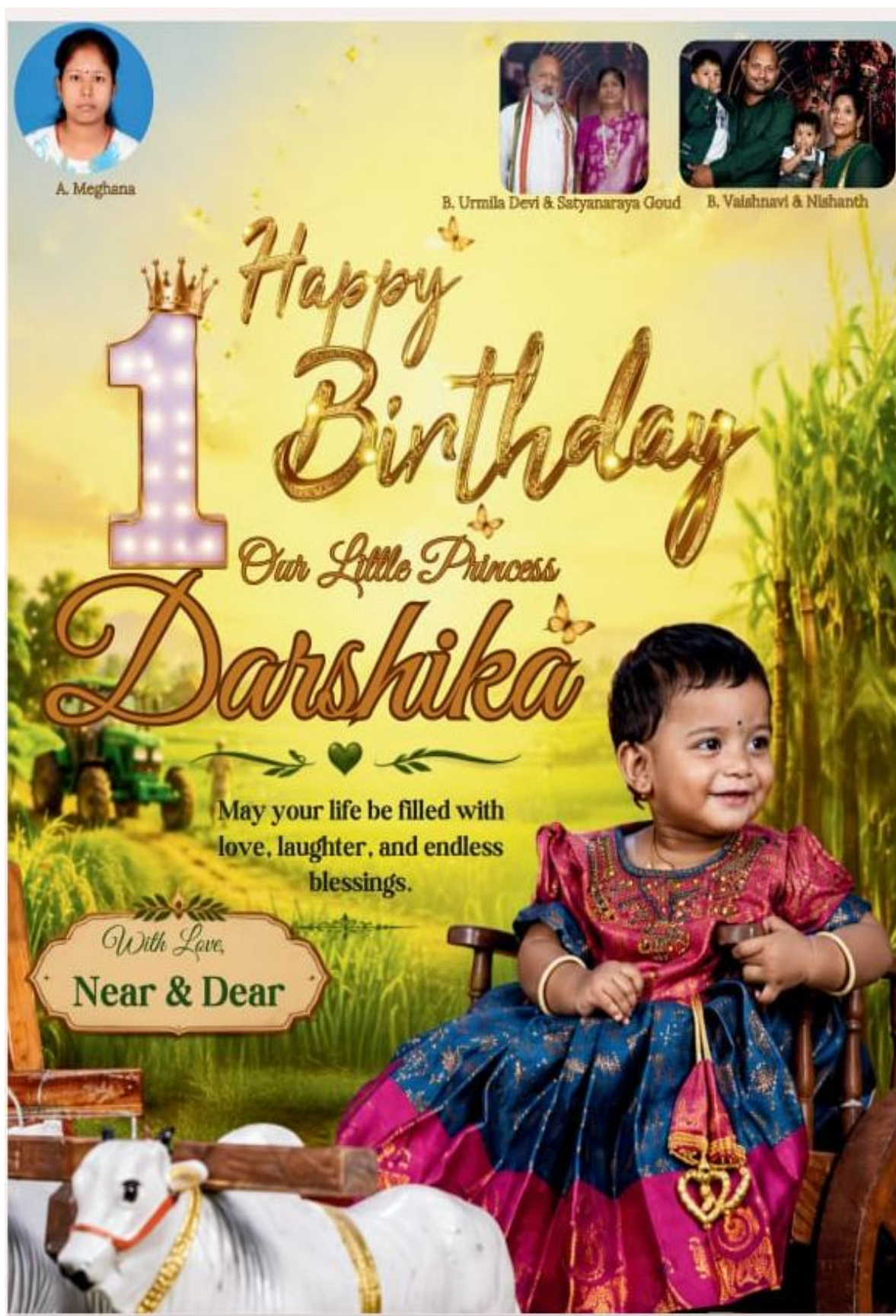
fully comply with the Sea Cargo Manifest and Transshipment Regulations, 2018. Developed under a public-private partnership model by the Kerala government and Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, the seaport has emerged as one of the world's fastest-growing container ports. The port handled two million TEUs within 18 months of commencing commercial operations and has received some of the world's largest container ships. The launch of EXIM operations will be a major milestone for the state government's Mission Samudra, which aims to position Kerala as a leading maritime and logistics hub by integrating ports, logistics, manufacturing, inland waterways and multimodal

Shreya Kalra Takes Home Trophy And Rs 1 Crore



Social media influencer emerged as the winner of Lock Upp Season 2. Shreya Kalra has got into arguments with fellow contestants,

She lifted the winner's trophy and took home the cash prize of Rs 1 crore during the grand finale held on August 5. Hosts Riteish Deshmukh and Farah Khan announced her name as the winner, while actor Shivangi Joshi finished as the first runner-up. The finale featured five contestants: Shreya Kalra, Shivangi Joshi, Yogesh Rawat, Ram Kapoor, and Shilpa Shinde. After weeks of tough competition, the title came down to Shreya and Shivangi. When the winners were announced, Shreya hugged Shilpa Shinde before receiving the trophy from the hosts. Shreya was one of the most talked-about contestants throughout the season. She grabbed attention with her outspoken nature, fearless attitude, and strong gameplay. She often got into arguments with fellow contestants, including Shilpa Shinde and Akanksha Chamola, but managed to stay in the spotlight from the beginning until the finale. As the game progressed, Shreya also showed smart strategy inside the house. She made important decisions at crucial stages and used her special advantage to protect herself from elimination. Her gameplay divided opinions, but it helped her reach the final and eventually win the show. View this post on Instagram A post shared by Shreya kalra (@shreyakalraa) The final voting also went in Shreya's favour. The "Janta Ki Jury" gave her 18 votes, while Shivangi received five. Overall, Shreya secured 23 votes compared to Shivangi's 16, sealing her victory. Yogesh Rawat finished as the second runner-up. His journey was remarkable as he re-entered the competition through a wild card entry after being eliminated earlier. Ram Kapoor and Shilpa Shinde also made it to the top five after putting up strong performances throughout the season. Ahead of the grand finale, actor Harshad Chopda was eliminated after choosing to make Shivangi Joshi the show's first finalist. Lock Upp Season 2 is



Raveena Tandon Says Today's Comedy Is A 'Tightrope Walk': 'Someone Always Gets Offended'



Raveena Tandon believes making people laugh has become much harder than it was during the 1990s. The actor, who starred in several popular comedy films in that decade, says today's filmmakers have to be extra careful because even a small joke can lead to criticism on social media. In a recent interview with a news agency, Raveena spoke about how comedy has changed over the years. According to her, the fun,

carefree humour that audiences enjoyed in the 90s is now difficult to recreate. "Making people laugh without someone getting offended is probably the ultimate tightrope walk today; it is tough... In the 90s, there was an uninhibited, innocent, and totally unapologetic madness to our films. Chi Chi (Govinda) and I would react purely on instinct," she said. "We weren't overthinking how a joke would look on a 15-second

internet clip or if a line would trigger a social media debate. That raw, purely character-driven, loud-and-proud humour of the 90s is rare now because filmmakers are constantly second-guessing themselves. We've become a bit too cautious, and comedy desperately needs freedom to breathe," she said. Raveena was part of many successful comedy films, including Bade Miyan Chote Miyan, Aunty No. 1, Dulhe Raja and Pardesi Babu. These films, many of them featuring Govinda, remain fan favourites even today. The actor has now returned to the comedy genre with Welcome to the Jungle, directed by Ahmed Khan. The film also reunites her with her Mohra co-stars Akshay Kumar and Suniel Shetty. Talking about her comeback to comedy, Raveena said the genre has played an important role in her career and helped her grow as an actor. "Comedy taught me spontaneity, improvisation, and the importance of losing all inhibitions on screen. It is an incredibly giving genre; if you can successfully make people laugh, they keep you in their hearts forever. Returning to it now with Welcome to the Jungle is the third film in the Welcome franchise. Directed by Ahmed Khan, the film features a massive ensemble cast, including Akshay Kumar, Suniel Shetty, Paresh Rawal, Johnny Lever, Rajpal Yadav, Arshmany of them featuring Govinda, ad Warsi, Tusshar Kapoor, Shreyas Talpade, Jackie Shroff, Lara Dutta, Jacqueline Fernandez, Disha Patani, Urvashi Rautela and several others. The comedy entertainer has also the mark since its release.

