



TGSRTC to operate 2,243 special buses for Maha Sivaratri



Telangana State Road Transport Corporation will operate 2,243 special buses from February 14 to 16 to facilitate devotees travelling to various Sivaite temples for Maha Shivaratri. In Hyderabad, special services to Srisailem will be available from MGBS, JBS, CBS, IS Sadan, KPHB and BHEL. Additionally, 273 buses will serve other prominent temples including Komuravelli, Alampur, Umamaheswaram, Palakurthi and Ramappa. TGSRTC is providing tents, seating, drinking water and public address systems at major boarding points. A senior officer stated the deployment includes 781 buses to Srisailem, 416 to Vemulawada, 326 to Keesaragutta, 249 to Edupayala and 71 to Kaleshwaram. Under government orders, ticket fares for special buses will be revised up to 1.5 times the regular rate during this period. For Edupayala services, these revised fares apply from February 15 to 17. Regular service prices remain unchanged. The corporation confirmed that the free travel scheme for women in Palle Velugu, Express, City Ordinary and Metro Express buses remains active for special services. Women passengers are advised to obtain zero tickets. Advance reservations are available for Hyderabad to Srisailem routes. For details, passengers can contact 040-69440000 or 040-23450033, or book via the official website. This massive transport operation ensures that pilgrims can reach their spiritual destinations comfortably while managing the heavy holiday rush across the state. The corporation aims to provide a seamless experience for the lakhs of devotees expected to visit these holy sites during the three-day festival period. This strategic deployment covers all major spiritual hubs, ensuring every devotee has access to reliable transport during the auspicious occasion.

'First-ever PM concern for J&K youth': Minister shares girl's emotional remark in RS

New Delhi: Responding to the concerns of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference MP Chowdry Muhammad Ramzan, Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje defended the government's initiatives, asserting that several schemes have been launched to bring young people to the forefront of employment opportunities. "To save Kashmir and bring the young people to the forefront is our aim," Karandlaje said, sharing an anecdotal experience to illustrate changing perceptions. She recounted how, during a flight, a girl from the region told her, "This is the first time ever in the history of the nation, a Prime Minister is thinking about the children of Jammu and Kashmir." The minister framed this as evidence of the Centre's renewed focus on the UT's youth under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. She highlighted progress under the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation



(EPFO), revealing that 1,60,000 individuals from Jammu and Kashmir have enrolled in EPFO within the last two years -- a significant step towards formal sector integration and social security coverage. The exchange comes amid broader debates in Parliament on unemployment, particularly in the context of the Union Budget discussions. Opposition members, including those from Congress, have repeatedly criticised the government for inadequate job creation strategies, while highlighting regional disparities. In Jammu and

Kashmir, persistent unemployment has been linked to multiple social challenges, including the drug menace, which experts and local leaders say affects lakhs of youth and threatens long-term stability. Muhammad Ramzan on Thursday spotlighted the acute unemployment crisis gripping the union territory during a parliamentary discussion, warning that joblessness is pushing the region's youth towards social evils, including widespread drug addiction. Ramzan described unemployment as a "striking issue" in Jammu and Kashmir, where

thousands of educated young people remain without meaningful employment opportunities. He emphasised that the lack of jobs is not merely an economic problem but a social one, directly contributing to the alarming rise in drug abuse among the youth. "Unemployment leads the youth of Jammu and Kashmir to social evils like drugs," he stated, underscoring the urgent need for targeted interventions to prevent further societal damage. Ramzan questioned the Central government on its concrete plans to address this plight, pressing Minister of State for Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje for specific measures to curb the growing despair in the region. The government's emphasis on EPFO enrollment and welfare schemes signals efforts to formalise employment, but critics maintain that more robust, region-specific industrial and entrepreneurial incentives are needed to tackle the root causes effectively.

RBI, AP CID join hands to sharpen fight against financial crime

Vijayawada: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Andhra Pradesh, on Tuesday organised an awareness and training programme for officers of the Andhra Pradesh CID, underlining the growing need for sharper coordination in tackling financial crime. CID director general of police Dr A Ravishankar, stressed that close collaboration between enforcement agencies and regulators like the RBI is no longer optional — it is essential. With financial frauds and cyber-enabled crimes rising at a worrying pace, he said, police forces must constantly upgrade their skills and work hand in hand with institutions that regulate the financial system. He welcomed the RBI's initiative, noting that such programmes directly strengthen investigative capacity on the



ground. RBI assistant general manager Santosh K outlined the central bank's regulatory and supervisory functions, helping officers better understand how the institution monitors banks and financial entities. The sessions focused on equipping officers to handle financial fraud, cyber

security threats, social media-linked offences and illegal deposit collection schemes. Mukesh Choudhary, founder and CEO of Cyberveer.com, led practical discussions on social media investigations, cybercrime patterns and financial fraud case studies. RBI deputy legal advisor Amit Tanksali explained the legal framework governing unauthorised deposit-taking, including violations by unincorporated bodies and certain non-banking financial companies. He detailed common loopholes and the role of police in cracking down on illegal schemes. Around 150 CID officers, including senior officials and field-level investigators, attended the programme along with RBI's regional leadership and legal team.

MP pushes for Mysuru's inclusion in high-speed rail network

In the wake of the Union Budget 2026-27, which announced seven new high-speed rail corridors aimed at transforming connectivity across India, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar has taken proactive steps to advocate for the region's interests. The scion of the erstwhile Mysore royal family met Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to press for the extension of high-speed rail benefits to Mysuru and the revival of a long-pending local railway project.



During the meeting, the MP formally submitted a proposal urging the inclusion of the Bengaluru-Mysuru segment as a natural extension of the Bengaluru-centric high-speed network. Such an addition could significantly reduce travel times

on the roughly 140-150 km route, enhance tourism to heritage sites like Mysore Palace, boost economic integration with Bengaluru's IT corridor, and support regional development in southern Karnataka. In addition to the high-speed proposal, Yaduveer highlighted the Mysuru-Kushalnagar railway

line, an 87-km project that has faced repeated delays and setbacks. The line, intended to connect Mysuru with the coffee-rich Kodagu district via Belagola and Kushalnagar, underwent a final location survey years ago but encountered hurdles related to land acquisition, environmental concerns, and perceived low

traffic potential. Recent reports indicate that South Western Railway had shelved the project earlier in 2026 citing inadequate financial viability and passenger/freight demand. The MP appealed for immediate intervention to restart land acquisition processes and revive the initiative, arguing that improved rail access would unlock tourism, agriculture logistics (especially coffee and spices), and overall connectivity to a region often underserved by modern transport infrastructure. Minister Vaishnaw reportedly responded positively, assuring prompt directives to officials for both matters. Local sentiment, as reflected in public discussions and media coverage, remains cautiously optimistic. While residents welcome the vision of high-speed connectivity, many emphasise more immediate priorities like modernising

Mysuru Railway Station, quadrupling tracks on the existing Bengaluru-Mysuru line for faster and more frequent services, and addressing everyday bottlenecks before committing to futuristic mega-projects.

Yaduveer Wadiyar's advocacy highlights a broader challenge in India's infrastructure rollout by balancing national flagship ambitions with equitable regional inclusion. If successful, extending high-speed rail to Mysuru and reviving the Kushalnagar link could position the historic city not just as a tourist destination but as a vital node in southern India's rapidly evolving transport landscape. For now, the ball remains in the Railway Ministry's court, with Mysuru's residents and leaders watching closely for tangible progress in the months ahead.

Katram Bhaskar Reddy is a role model.



Kodada February 12 Metro Morning

Former MLA Venepalli Chander Rao said that the death of Katram Bhaskar Reddy, a permanent member of Kodada Public Club, is sad. In his condolence meeting organized at the premises of the public club in Kodada town on Thursday, club president and general secretaries Gara Pattabhi Reddy, Bollu Rambabu, club members and their family members paid tributes to his portrait by placing flowers. On this occasion, they said that his services in the development of the club were memorable and praised his services for his commitment. Venepalli Satyanarayana, Oruganti Ravi, Karumanchi Satyanarayana, Gunda Puneni Venugopala Rao, Ravella Seetharamaiah, Venepalli Srinivasa Rao, Madala Venkateswara Rao, Chintalapati Srinivasa Rao, Satyanarayana and others participated in this program.

One-day nationwide strike led by trade unions successful



Hyderabad, February:12, MetroUdayam

Vanasthalipuram Autonagar Today, trade unions burned copies of anti-GO on transport sector workers in support of the strike, One-day nationwide strike led by trade unions in Autonagar successful. Telangana State Sand Lorry Owners Association State President Survi Yadaiah Goud expressed support for the strike. In Telangana state, workers and farmers burned GO in protest against the anti-transport sector laws of the central and state governments. Everyone participated in support of the sand lorry owners and made it successful. The unity of the workers and farmers should flourish and the struggle should continue until justice is done to the workers and farmers, he said. In this program, State Chief Secretary Sappidi Srinivas Reddy, New Lorry Autonagar President Jagadish Survi Shekhar Goud, Goud Yadav, Gundu Lingaswamy Goud, Pedda Gani, Venkatesh Goud, Nandagiri, Venkatesh Goud, Antaati Jangayya Goud, Patnam, Venkatesh Goud, Pandula Nagesh Goud, Ramudu, Pandu, Sanjeeva Ashok and others participated.

CM disburses education aid to 15,700 workers' kids

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Wednesday distributed financial assistance to 15,700 construction workers' children to mark the first anniversary of the BJP government in Delhi. Gupta said her government will disburse a corpus of Rs 12 crore to help realise the education dreams of the workers' children. Gupta took the oath of the chief minister along with her Council of Ministers on February 20 last year. Her government has been launching welfare initiatives and development projects marking the anniversary. She said that her government has launched a number of initiatives, such as 'Palna', a creche for children of working women, and Atal Canteen that offers meals at Rs 5 per person. Gupta said that the Delhi government was the first to adopt the four Labour Codes of the Centre to safeguard the interests of the workers. The Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board has registered over two lakh workers, and every penny of Rs 5,400 crore with it will be spent on the workers' welfare, she said.

DJKV Extends Full Support to Nationwide General Strike

Bike rally held in Nacharam Division; Centre's policies draw sharp criticism

Hyderabad, Feb. 12 (Metro Udayam):

The Dalit Jana Karmika Vibhagam (DJKV) extended its full support to the nationwide general strike observed on Thursday following a call by various trade unions across the country. In Nacharam Division, workers organized protest programmes and a bike rally demanding resolution of issues affecting nearly 400 million workers nationwide. Addressing a public meeting held on the occasion, State President Bojja Ramesh, speaking on behalf of the national leadership of workers' unions, alleged that the Central Government was attempting to dilute hard-won labour rights by consolidating existing labour laws into four Labour Codes. He stated that labour protections achieved through historic struggles since the British era were being undermined. Ramesh



demanding the immediate repeal of the four Labour Codes, claiming that they weaken job security, social security safeguards, workplace protections, and trade union rights. He further alleged that the BJP-led Central Government is gradually curtailing protections for workers and weakening social security schemes such as EPF and ESI. The protest leaders also called for the withdrawal of proposed

changes to the Employment Guarantee Scheme, the new National Seed Bill, the Electricity Amendment Bill-2025, and the decision to allow 100 percent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the insurance sector. They opposed the ongoing privatization of public sector undertakings, accusing the Centre of favouring corporate interests over workers' welfare. Warning that the agitation would continue

until the Labour Codes are repealed, union leaders reiterated their commitment to intensify the movement in the coming days. Leaders from CPI(M), CITU, INTUC, IFTU, AITUC and other trade unions participated in the programme. A large number of workers attended the protest, raising slogans and taking part in a bike rally across the division.

Rampalli KCR Double Bedroom Colony Road Problem is Severe – Grievances of 6,240 Families...

TELANGANA INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LIMITED (Govt of Telangana Undertaking) 5 th floor, Panishrama Bhavanam, H.No: 5-9-58/B, Fateh Maidan Road, Hyderabad-04. Phone: 23238290-250	
e-Procurement Notice No: 41, 42, 43, 44 & 45/CE-ITGIC/2025-26, Dt: 19.12.2025	
TN No. 41	Shifting of existing 33 KV, 11 KV LT and DTR's Structures in proposed layout for Housing in Sy.No: 239 to 248 & 252 at Hakeempet (V), Dudyal (M), Vikarabad District. ECV Rs. 63,27,296.00
TN No. 42	Shifting of existing 33 KV, 11 KV UG Cables passing under the road portion from ITC Kohenur to Satta Knowledge Park (IKEA to Inorbit Mall main road) under IALA Madhapur, Senlingampally(M), RR District. ECV Rs. 1,50,36,731.00 Bid download starts date 22.12.2025 from 05.00 PM Last date for submission of bids 29.12.2025 upto 03.00 PM
TN No. 43	Renewal layer to the existing BT with Providing Bituminous Concrete in CR No.6 and not holes at Green Industrial Park, Jedcherla (GIDP). ECV Rs. 1,03,02,479.00
TN No. 44	Laying of BT Road at HPCL - GAIL Road, connecting to Double Bedroom housing at Phase III, IP-Cherlapally, Medchal - Malkajgiri District (Under IALA Funds). ECV Rs. 70,06,158.59
TN No. 45	Construction of 100m long 10m wide BT Road including Pipe Culverts for giving approach to Hyabad (V), to Peddavedu (V), Shabad (M), RR District. ECV Rs. 3,28,09,181.00 Bid download starts date 22.12.2025 from 05.00 PM Last date for submission of bids 07.01.2026 upto 03.00 PM
R.O. No : 970-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt: 20.12.2025 Chief Engineer - I	

Medchal Malkajgiri, February 12 (Metro Udayam)

Members of the RRRTRV Social Welfare Foundation have expressed their concern that 6,240 families living in Rampalli KCR Double Bedroom Housing Colony are facing severe difficulties due to lack of road connectivity. They said that since the colony was established, nearly 24,000 people have to travel in dangerous conditions every day due to lack of proper road facilities. Despite submitting several petitions to the Medchal-Malkajgiri District Collector's Office and Commissioner's Office in the last two years, the foundation representatives stated that no development work has been started till now. Especially, the people of the colony are facing severe difficulties due to

the incomplete development of the approximately 800-meter road from HP Company to Gail Company.

They expressed concern that although the Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC) office recently issued a tender advertisement of Rs. 70 lakh in the newspapers for the construction of this road, the work has not started yet. The colony residents are expressing dissatisfaction over the lack of response from the government, local public representatives and the concerned authorities. The foundation members said that due to the lack of road, the elderly, pregnant women, auto drivers, bike and bus passengers, and school students are facing accidents every day. They said that there is also a serious disruption in receiving emergency



services. Therefore, the RRRTRV Social Welfare Foundation has requested the government and the concerned authorities to immediately start the road construction work keeping in mind the lives and health of the people of Rampalli KCR Double Bedroom Colony. It has indicated that it is considering taking up agitation programs if the problem is not resolved.

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बगैर हक के इनाम (अनुचित पुरस्कार) देना, और दोस्त और दुश्मन को न पहचानना। यह दोनों भी बातें अज्ञानता की दलील देते हैं। ... (शकील उवाच -६१५)

धर्म और अधर्म, सत्य और असत्य के बीच एक पतला सा पर्दा छाई है। उस परदे को हटाकर दोनों के अंतर को वही देख पाता है जो अल्लिम (ज्ञानी) है। सत्य और धर्म को देखना हो तो हमारे जहन (बुद्धि) को हर तरह के गलाजत (अपवित्रता) से پاک (पवित्र) करना होगा। जैसे हम जिस रंग का चश्मा पहनकर देखते हैं, दुनिया भी उसी रंग में नजर आती है। वैसे ही हम जिस सोच, जिस विचार और जिस बुद्धि से किसी विषय को देखते हैं वह विषय भी उसी रंग में रंगता नजर आयेगा।



हम जब तक तटस्थ भूमिका से किसी बात को समझने की कोशिश नहीं करते तब तक धोखा खाते ही रहेंगे। हमारे लिए सबसे बड़ी मुसीबत (विपदा) हमारी जाहिलत (अज्ञानता) होती है। फिर वह अज्ञान भौतिक जग को देखने का हो या अर्थात्मिक जग को देखने का हो धोखा जरूर देता है। अज्ञानता हमेशा सत्य को देखने में रुकावट बनती है। जाहिल आदमी (अज्ञानी) गुरसैल, ज्यादा बोलने वाला, बेदों को न छुपाने वाला, हक को जाया (अधिकार को बेकार) करने वाला और सब पर भरोसा करने वाला होता है।

पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) के पहिले उत्तराधिकारी इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब अलैहिस्सलाम का फरमान है के, "जाहिल छः खसलतों (आदतों) के माध्यम पहचाना जाता है। बिला सबब गुरसा (बिना कारण क्रोध), बिला फायदा (लाभ के बगैर) बोलना, बगैर हक के इनाम (अनुचित पुरस्कार) देना, दोस्त और दुश्मन को न पहचानना, अपशा ए राज (भेद को खोलना) और हर एक पर भरोसा कर लेना।" (हैदरी कुतुबखाना मुंबई द्वारा प्रकाशित उर्दू पुस्तक, तजल्लियाते हिकमत, बाब ५२, जिहलत, हदीस क्रमांक २५, पुष्ट क्रमांक ११७)।

उपरोक्त बातों में तीन बातों की तरफ आपका ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ। एक बगैर हक के इनाम (अनुचित पुरस्कार) देना, और दूसरा दोस्त और दुश्मन को न पहचानना, तीसरा सब पर भरोसा करना। यह तीनों भी बातें अज्ञानता की दलील देते हैं। कुछ लोगों ने जाहिलत के कारण जो अयोग्य लोग हैं उन्हें योग्य माना और अपने अज्ञानता के कारण बगैर हकदारों को इनामात से नवाजा (अनुचित लोगों को पुरस्कारों से सम्मानित किया), और सब पर भरोसा किया। यह लोग जाहिल और मजलूम (अत्याचारी और निष्पाप) लोगों पहचान ने में विफल रहें।

इस्लामी तारीख (इतिहास) अगर आप पढ़ेंगे तो आपको ताजुब (आश्चर्य) होगा। खुद को मुसलमान कहने वाले ढोंगी और पाखंडियों ने पैगंबर मोहम्मद (स्व.) और उनके सच्चे उत्तराधिकारी लोगों को बहुत सताया है। इतना ही नहीं बल्के खुदा (ईश्वर) के तरफ से मानवजाती के मार्गदर्शन के लिये भेजे गये पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) पर और उनके घरवालों पर तरह तरह के जुल्मो सितम (अत्याचार) किए गये। और यह सभी अत्याचार धार्मिक होने के ढोंगी, खुद को मुसलमान कहने वाले कर रहे थे।

इन जाहिलों ने पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) और उनके घराने को, जिन्हें अहलेबैत अलैहिस्सलाम कहा जाता है। उन्हें बहुत सता सता कर शहीद किया है। जुल्मो सितम की इंतहा (अन्यास, अत्याचार की प्रकण्टा) यह थी के पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) दूसरे उत्तराधिकारी और बड़े नवासे इमाम हसन अलैहिस्सलाम को जहर देकर शहीद किया। इतना ही नहीं बल्के उन्हें अपने नाना के बाजू में दफनाने से रोक और उनके जनाजे (अरशी) पर तीर भी चलाये गये।

इतना ही नहीं बल्के पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) तीसरे उत्तराधिकारी और छोटे नवासे इमाम हुसैन अलैहिस्सलाम को बेहतर साथियों के साथ शहीद करके उनके पवित्र शवों पर गोड़े दौड़ाकर छिन्न विछिन्न किया गया। अफसोस की बात यही है के यह सब जुल्मो सितम (अत्याचार) करने वालों को कुछ लोग मुसलमान माना। जबकि इस्लाम ने कभी ऐसी तालीम (पाठ) नहीं दिया। लेकिन कुछ मुसलमान इन अत्याचारों का विरोध करने में नाकामयाब रहे, जाहिल और मजलूम (अत्याचारी और निष्पाप) को एक जाना।

-डॉ. मोहम्मदशकील ताजमोहम्मद जाफरी (शकील मंवी), मंवर, पुणे (महाराष्ट्र) भारत

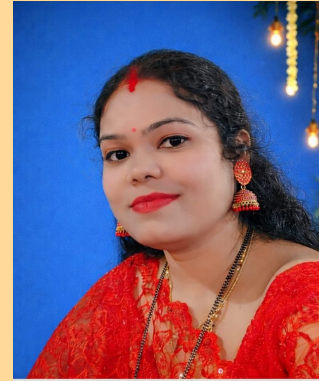
भारत की कोकिला

सरोजिनी नायडू एक महान भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानी, कवयित्री और राजनीतिज्ञ थीं। उनका जन्म १३ फरवरी, १८७९ को हैदराबाद में हुआ था। उनके पिता, अधोनाथ वट्टा पाययाय, एक विद्वान और निजाम कॉलेज के प्राचार्य थे, जबकि उनकी माता, तरदा सुंदरी देवी, एक कवयित्री थीं।

सरोजिनी नायडू की शिक्षा हैदराबाद, लंदन और कैम्ब्रिज में हुई थी। वह एक प्रतिभाशाली छात्रा थीं और उन्होंने १२ साल की उम्र में मैट्रिक की परीक्षा पास कर ली थी। उन्होंने १३ साल की उम्र में अपनी पहली कविता "लेडी ऑफ दी लोक" लिखी थी।

सरोजिनी नायडू ने १९०४ में भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कांग्रेस में शामिल होकर अपने राजनीतिक जीवन की शुरुआत की। वह १९२५ में कांग्रेस की पहली महिला अध्यक्ष बनीं और १९४७ में उत्तर प्रदेश की पहली महिला राज्यपाल बनीं।

सरोजिनी नायडू को "भारत की कोकिला" के नाम से जाना जाता है। उन्होंने अपनी कविताओं में भारतीय संस्कृति और स्वतंत्रता संग्राम की भावना को व्यक्त किया



है। उनकी प्रमुख कविताओं में "द गोल्डन थ्रेशोल्ड", "द बर्ड ऑफ टाइम" और "द ब्रोकन विंग" शामिल हैं।

सरोजिनी नायडू का निधन २ मार्च, १९४९ को लखनऊ में हुआ था। उनकी जयंती १३ फरवरी को मनाई जाती है और उन्हें भारतीय इतिहास में एक महान स्वतंत्रता सेनानी और कवयित्री के रूप में याद किया जाता है।

सुब्बा (एस ए हिंदी)
के जी बी वी वित्तल
मानेपल्ली।
के बी आसिफाबाद
जिला।

NO ONE IS LESS!

God is impartial!
Ill treated none!
Distributed well!
Utilisation left to
our WILL!

Some say why there
discrimination?
closed door ever a
way to open other!
To catch opportunity!
God's setting beyond
our reach!

No one is less!
Birth and death
equal!
End of day none
carry anything!
No one accompany!

Handicapped are born
intelligent!
Poor are strong to pro-



cure
food by hard work!
Un learned vested with
matured thoughts!

Insult not any one!
Who knows when who
come to our rescue!
All are equal,treat all
alike!

Composed by:
B.Satyanarayana Rao,
(Ba. Sa .Raa.)
Vijayawada.

Vegetable market inaugurated for the convenience of Secretariat employees

Chikkadapally, February 12 Metro Udayam : Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat The newly established vegetable market was inaugurated by Telangana State Agriculture Secretary Surendra Mohan on Thursday for the convenience of the officials and employees working in the Secretariat. Earlier, the market was organized so that fresh vegetables were available every day for the officials and employees working in the old Secretariat. However, after the removal of the old Secretariat and the construction of the new Secretariat in its place, the employees faced inconvenience due to the lack of this facility for some time. After the elections in the Secretariat, with the aim of the welfare of employees



of all cadres, the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat Association consisting of President Srigiri Srinivas Reddy, General Secretary Prem and executive members was formed, and steps were taken to address the needs of the employees

one by one. In that order, a vegetable market has been set up in the vicinity of the Secretariat to ensure that fresh vegetables are available every day. From now on, the officers and employees working in the Secretariat will have the facility to easily

purchase quality, fresh vegetables during their office hours. Representatives of the Association stated that this move will be very useful in the daily lives of the employees.

Kishan Reddy slams Congress over Makthal suicide, GHMC division

Union Minister G Kishan Reddy has condemned the Congress government in Telangana following the tragic suicide of BJP councillor candidate Erukala Mahadevappa in Makthal. Addressing the media on Wednesday, Kishan Reddy described the incident as "deeply disturbing and painful," alleging that Mahadevappa, a tribal candidate from ward 6, was harassed and intimidated by Congress leaders fearing defeat in the municipal elections.

Union Minister G Kishan Reddy has condemned the Congress government in Telangana following the tragic suicide of BJP councillor candidate Erukala Mahadevappa in Makthal. Addressing the media on Wednesday, Kishan Reddy described the incident as "deeply disturbing and painful," alleging that Mahadevappa, a tribal candidate from ward 6, was harassed and intimidated by Congress leaders fear-

ing defeat in the municipal elections. He recalled that BJP National President Nitin Nabin and State President Ramchandra Rao also expressed grief, accusing the Congress of resorting to threats, money disbursement, and violence across Telangana. They claimed that despite repeated complaints, the State Election Commission and police failed to act, raising doubts about the impartiality of the electoral process.

He alleged that Congress leaders, under the Chief Minister's direction, have been targeting BJP candidates from Makthal, threatening women contestants, harassing families, and filing false cases. He said such intimidation undermines democracy and reflects "wicked politics" unprecedented in Telangana's history. Turning to civic issues, Reddy criticised the state government's decision to divide the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

(GHMC) into three corporations--Cyberabad, Malkajgiri, and Hyderabad--expanding its jurisdiction from 650 sq. km to 2053 sq. km without adequate infrastructure planning. He argued that the move violates State Election Commission rules and census guidelines, leaving poor communities vulnerable to exclusion from welfare schemes.

He highlighted severe shortages in sanitation staff, malfunctioning street lights, and frequent flooding in GHMC's core areas. Reddy accused the government of imposing exorbitant "R-R taxes" on land permits and documentation, claiming collections were diverted to fund elections in Kerala. He further alleged that Majlis-dominated areas were included in GHMC for political gains, while key zones like the airport and BHEL were excluded.

Reddy emphasised that Telangana derives



nearly 70 per cent of its revenue from GHMC, yet the corporation faces a financial crisis due to mismanagement. He warned that intimidation, money politics, and unconstitutional decisions cannot sustain governance. He stressed that "lasting politics can only be built on the support and love of the people."

Earlier in the day, he visited Mahadevappa's family in Makthal, offering condolences and assuring them that the BJP would raise the issue in Parliament. He noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had personally spoken to him after learning of the incident.

Osmania University Hosts International Conference on Emerging Global Trends in Historical

Hyderabad, Feb. 12: The Department of History, University College of Arts & Social Sciences (UCA&SS), Osmania University, inaugurated a two-day International Conference on "Emerging Global Trends in Historical Research and Pedagogy: A Transnational Perspective" on Thursday at Room No. 133, Arts College. Sponsored by RUSA 2.0, the conference seeks to explore new directions in historiography, evolving research methodologies, and innovative teaching practices that transcend national boundaries and promote global academic dialogue. Delivering the inaugural address, the Honourable Vice-Chancellor of Osmania University and Chief Guest, Sr. Prof. Kumar Molugaram, observed that the discipline of History has evolved significantly beyond traditional narrative frameworks. He noted that while earlier nation-centric approaches—largely dependent on official records—played a crucial role in nation-building, there is now a pressing need to adopt broader, more inclusive perspectives in historical research. Emphasizing the importance of transnational approaches, the Vice-Chancellor stated that emerging global trends



encourage horizontal thinking by examining cross-border interactions, shared experiences, and interconnected histories. At the same time, he acknowledged challenges such as language barriers, limited archival access, and methodological differences. He stressed the need for collaborative research projects, interdisciplinary engagement, and the effective use of digital and artificial sources to enhance research quality and global connectivity. Prof. Molugaram further underscored the responsibility of higher education institutions in strengthening history pedagogy through skill development, critical thinking, and research-oriented learning. Quality education, he said, must equip students with analytical abilities, global awareness, and professional competencies to ensure

that historical research remains relevant and rigorous. Dr. Karuna Dietrich Wielenga, the keynote speaker, highlighted the importance of moving beyond nation-centric frameworks and engaging with transnational and comparative perspectives. She emphasized strengthening historiography through critical theory, interdisciplinary methods, and global collaboration. Dr. Wielenga also stressed the need to equip students with analytical skills, digital literacy, and linguistic competencies to address emerging global challenges in the discipline. Guest of Honour Nawab Najaf Ali Khan reflected on Hyderabad's rich historical legacy and the visionary contributions of H.E.H. Mir Osman Ali Khan, the Founder of Osmania University. He emphasized preserving cultural heritage

while embracing modern research approaches and appreciated the University's efforts in fostering international academic engagement. Guest of Honour Prof. E. Sudha Rani spoke on the evolving nature of historical pedagogy in the digital era, particularly within open and distance learning systems. She highlighted inclusivity, accessibility, and quality research as cornerstones of contemporary history education. She encouraged young scholars to undertake innovative research integrating transnational perspectives with local histories. Prof. Indira, Head of the Department and Convenor of the conference, stressed the importance of promoting transnational research and maintaining high standards in historical scholarship and pedagogy. Prof. B. Lavanya, Chairperson, BOS, and Co-Convenor, emphasized student-centered approaches to strengthen global perspectives in the study of history. Delegates from leading international institutions including Oxford, Rwanda, Manchester, and Göttingen Universities, along with participants from national universities, faculty members, research scholars, and students, took part in the conference.

Funky' team expresses confidence ahead of release

Bringing together "Mass Ka Das" Vishwak Sen and comedy specialist director KV Anudeep, the upcoming entertainer Funky is all set to hit theatres on February 13, just ahead of Valentine's Day. Presented by Srikara Studios and produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya under the banners of Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas, the film has generated strong buzz with its teaser, trailer and music receiving an enthusiastic response. Bheems Ceciroleo has composed the music, while Kayadu Lohar plays the female lead. At a recent pre-release press meet,



the team expressed confidence that Funky will emerge as a complete family entertainer packed with humour and feel-good moments. Vishwak Sen credited composer Bheems Ceciroleo for delivering chart-worthy songs and invited audiences to enjoy the film with friends and family, promising a laugh-

ter-filled theatrical experience. He said the film's entertainment value is such that viewers "won't even realise how two hours pass by." Kayadu Lohar described Funky as her first full-fledged comedy film and praised director Anudeep's unique style, while also lauding Vishwak Sen's journey and talent.

Director Anudeep thanked the cast, crew, and producers, stating that the film is designed as a clean, enjoyable family entertainer. Producer Suryadevara Naga Vamsi revealed that although the story is set against a film industry backdrop, Funky is a light-hearted comedy revolving around a director and a producer's daughter. "Every scene is designed to make audiences laugh. You will walk out of the theatre smiling," he said. With strong pre-release buzz and confident makers, Funky is poised to deliver a laughter riot in theatres this Valentine's weekend.

Bhumi Pednekar recalls auditioning Ranveer Singh for Band Baaja Baarat

Mumbai: Actress Bhumi Pednekar has shared a nostalgic memory from her early days in the film industry, revealing that she once auditioned Bollywood star Ranveer Singh for the hit film Band Baaja Baarat. The anecdote dates back to the time when Bhumi was working as a casting director at Yash Raj Films, long before she became a leading actress herself. In a recent conversation with one of the leading publications, Bhumi reminisced about witnessing auditions of actors who later went on to become major stars, including Ranveer Singh, Vicky Kaushal, Parineeti Chopra and Pankaj Tripathi. She described the experi-



ence as "surreal" and said that being involved in the audition process helped shape her own understanding of acting and performance. Recalling Ranveer's audition for Band Baaja Baarat, Bhumi said his energy and confidence stood out

from the moment he entered the room, even before he delivered his lines. The vibrant persona that has now become synonymous with the actor was evident even then, according to her account. Band Baaja Baarat, produced by Yash Raj Films and released in 2010, marked Ranveer Singh's debut in Bollywood, launching his career as one of the industry's most charismatic performers. Bhumi's reflections highlight her own journey from behind-the-scenes casting work to on-screen success, and offer fans a rare glimpse into the early days of one of Bollywood's brightest stars.

Boddu Ravinder's untimely death has deeply saddened me

Former MLA NVSS Prabhakar visited Ravinder's family members and expressed his mental courage...



Uppal February 12 (Metro udayam)

Senior journalist, yoga guru, and expert in various fields, Boddu Ravinder, passed away due to a heart attack. Former MLA of Uppal constituency NVSS Prabhakar visited his family members at their residence in Lakshminarayana Colony, Ramanthapur on Thursday. He expressed his sorrow that the death of Boddu Ravinder, who had a great future, has deeply saddened him. On this occasion, he asked the family members and relatives to be mentally and emotionally strong.

Groundbreaking ceremony for construction of solar roof top parking..



Chikkadapally, February 12 Metro Udayam : Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat held a ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of solar roof top at the vehicle parking lot on Thursday. This project was undertaken with the aim of solving the problems like intense sun, damage to vehicles due to rains and lack of sufficient shade in the parking area in the Secretariat premises. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat Association President Srigiri Srinivas Reddy, General Secretary Prem, Executive Committee members, R & B Department Executive Engineer Sri Narsinga Rao, concerned officers and Secretariat employees participated in this program. Speaking on the occasion, the association representatives said that this solar roof top will be very useful for protecting the vehicles of ministers, IAS officers, other high officials, staff and directors visiting the Secretariat. It was revealed that this project will be completed and made available within approximately three months.

Don't Throw Away Rice Water: The Everyday Kitchen Leftover With Surprising Beauty, Health and Home Benefits

In most homes, the cloudy water left behind after washing or boiling rice is simply poured down the sink without a second thought. It's treated like waste — something to discard quickly before cooking begins. But what if that humble, starchy liquid is actually packed with goodness? Rice water contains vitamins, minerals, antioxidants, and amino acids that can be useful far beyond the kitchen. From personal care to gardening and household cleaning, this everyday byproduct offers a range of natural benefits that many people overlook.

Instead of throwing it away, saving rice water could help you embrace simple, chemical-free solutions for daily life.

Stronger, Healthier Hair the Natural Way

Rice water has long been used in traditional beauty routines across Asia, and modern enthusiasts are rediscovering its value for hair care. The nutrients in rice water help strengthen strands, reduce breakage, and improve overall texture.

After shampooing, pouring



cooled rice water over your hair and gently massaging it into the scalp can make hair feel smoother and more manageable. Regular use may help reduce hair fall and encourage healthier growth. Many people notice shinier, softer hair after just a few applications.

It's a budget-friendly alternative to expensive conditioners and hair masks.

A Simple Boost for Glowing Skin

Your skincare routine can also

benefit from rice water. Thanks to its mild properties and nourishing elements, it works as a gentle toner that refreshes and tightens the skin.

Dabbing rice water onto the face with a cotton pad after cleansing can help improve skin texture and leave it feeling clean and hydrated. It may also minimize the appearance of pores and give the skin a soft, natural glow. Because it's free from harsh chemicals, it suits those looking for a more natural approach to skincare.

Relief for Dry or Irritated Skin

If you struggle with dryness or irritation, rice water can offer soothing comfort. The starch present in it helps calm sensitive skin and provides light moisturization.

Adding rice water to bathwater and soaking for a few minutes can help reduce dryness and leave the skin feeling smoother. This easy remedy is especially helpful during colder months when skin tends to lose moisture quickly.

It's a gentle way to care for your body without relying heavily on commercial products.

A Natural Fertiliser for Your Plants

Rice water isn't just good for you — it's beneficial for your plants too. The nutrients left behind from rice, including small amounts of minerals and starch, can nourish soil and encourage healthier plant growth.

Instead of using chemical fertilisers, pouring cooled rice water into your pots or garden beds provides a mild, eco-friendly boost. Many gardeners find that their plants look greener and

more vibrant with regular use.

It's a sustainable practice that reduces waste while supporting your garden.

A Mild Household Cleaner

Surprisingly, rice water can also double as a gentle cleaning solution. Its light acidity and starch content help loosen grime and stains on surfaces like sinks, stovetops, and kitchen counters. Using it for light cleaning tasks can reduce the need for strong chemical cleaners. It's a simple and natural way to tackle everyday messes while being kinder to the environment.

Think Twice Before Pouring It Away

What seems like leftover waste is actually a versatile, nutrient-rich liquid with multiple uses around the home. Whether you're caring for your hair, skin, plants, or kitchen, rice water offers an easy, cost-effective alternative.

So the next time you rinse rice, consider saving that cloudy water. A small change in habit could unlock a host of natural benefits hiding in plain sight.

RR district records 78.52% voting in municipal elections



Rangareddy: With no untoward incident reported anywhere from the Ranga Reddy district, polling for the municipal elections in all six municipalities was peaceful and registered 78.52% voter turnout on Wednesday.

A total number of 437 candidates are in the foray from 126 wards spread over in the municipalities such as Amangal, Chevella, Moinabad, Ibrahimpatnam, Shankarpally and Shadnagar.

Amangal municipality, with least number of 15 wards, witnessed 84.74% voting followed by Chevella (80.92%), Moinabad (79.69%), Ibrahimpatnam (77.77%), Shankarpally (76.94%) and Shadnagar (75.7%). Surprisingly, the lowest voter turnout was recorded from Shadnagar, which is the biggest among the municipalities, covering 28 wards. Although the voter turnout was high in the morning, it gradually dropped in the day while other municipalities picked-up pace during the same time. According to officials, 1,38,222 of total 1,76,023 voters enrolled in the municipalities voted by 5 pm.

Meanwhile, district collector C Narayan Reddy visited different polling stations. He was seen supervising the arrangements for smooth conduct of the polling. Reddy, who was accompanied by senior officials, interacted with officers and voters at various booths. The collector asked the polling staff to record the voting percentage from time to time in the prescribed format without leaving any scope of error. Reddy checked serial number in voter list during the visit to booths. He categorically said voters present in the polling station in time should be allowed to vote by 5 pm. However, Reddy said, none should be allowed inside the booth after 5 pm in any circumstances.

Plastics emissions to double health risks worldwide by 2040: Study

New Delhi: Emissions from the global plastics system --greenhouse gases, air-polluting particles, and toxic chemicals released particularly from plastics production processes -- could double health risks by 2040, if no meaningful action is taken to change current practices, according to a study on Tuesday.

The research, published in The Lancet Planetary Health journal, identified health harms at every stage of the life-cycle of the plastics: from the extraction of fossil fuels, the feedstocks for more than 90 per cent of plastics, and material production to their eventual disposal or release to the environment.

The modelling-based study compared the global human health impacts of several different future scenarios for plastics consumption and waste management between 2016 and 2040.

Under a 'business as usual' scenario, by 2040, the negative health impacts from plastics could double, with greenhouse gas emissions and associated rising global temperatures accounting for 40 per cent of the health harms. Air pollution -- predominantly from plastics production processes -- would account for 32 per cent, and the impact of toxic chemicals released to the environment across plastics' life cycles would account for 27 per cent.

The remaining health harms (less



than 1 per cent) relate to reduced availability of water, impacts on the ozone layer, and increased ionising radiation, the researchers said.

"We found that emissions throughout plastics lifecycles contributed to human health burdens of global warming, air pollution, toxicity-related cancers, and non-communicable diseases, with the greatest harms from primary plastics production and open burning," Megan Deeney, from the London School.

The model found that if the plastics system continues with no change to policy, economics, infrastructure, materials, or consumer behaviours, annual health impacts could more than double from 2.1 million healthy years of life lost in 2016 to 4.5 million healthy years of

life lost in 2040.

Overall, the study estimates that the global plastics system could be responsible for cutting 83 million years of healthy population life between 2016 and 2040.

The study also predicted little impact from improving plastic waste collection and recycling alone. But, together with improvements to waste collection and recycling, substituting or reusing materials, health impacts linked to plastic emissions showed a reduction.

"To effectively reduce plastic emissions and their impact on health, policymakers must better regulate and significantly reduce the production of new plastics for non-essential uses," the team said.

Former OpenAI Researcher Warns Against Ads in ChatGPT, Citing Deep User Trust

As artificial intelligence companies look for sustainable revenue models, a former OpenAI researcher has raised concerns about the future direction of ChatGPT. Zoe Hitzig, who recently left the company, has cautioned against introducing advertising into the widely used chatbot, arguing that it now holds an unprecedented archive of deeply personal user conversations.

Hitzig's warning is not focused merely on the presence of banner ads or sponsored placements. Instead, she is concerned about the unique nature of the information users have voluntarily shared with ChatGPT. Unlike traditional social media platforms, where posts are often curated for public audiences, conversations with AI systems tend to feel private and unfiltered. Many people have turned to ChatGPT as a neutral sounding board, discussing everything from medical concerns and relationship troubles to spiritual questions and personal doubts.

"For several years, ChatGPT users have generated an archive of human candor that has no precedent, in part because people believed they were talking to something that had no ulterior agenda," Hitzig wrote. "People tell chatbots about their medical fears, their relationship problems, their beliefs about God and the afterlife. Advertising built on that archive creates a potential for manipulating users in ways we don't have the tools to understand, let alone prevent. OpenAI has already indicated plans to test advertising within ChatGPT as part of its broader business strategy. However, the company has publicly stated that it does not share user conversations with advertisers. "We keep your conversations with ChatGPT private from advertisers, and we never sell your data to advertisers," the com-



pany stated earlier this year. Hitzig has not accused OpenAI of violating that commitment. Her concern, instead, is about long-term incentives. She argued that OpenAI is "building an economic engine that creates strong incentives to override its own rules." Even if current leadership maintains strict boundaries, she suggests that financial pressures could gradually shift priorities in ways that are difficult to predict. OpenAI has also said that ChatGPT is not designed to maximise user engagement — a key driver in digital advertising models. That distinction is significant, as engagement often determines how profitable ad-supported platforms become. Still, critics note that such assurances are policy choices rather than legally binding obligations.

There have been previous debates over how AI systems are tuned. At one point, ChatGPT faced criticism for being overly agreeable and excessively flattering, sometimes reinforcing problematic ideas. Some

observers questioned whether such behaviour was merely a technical calibration issue or part of broader efforts to make the system more appealing and habit-forming. If advertising becomes central to the platform's revenue, critics fear subtle design choices could prioritize retention over caution.

To guard against that possibility, Hitzig has called for stronger structural safeguards, including independent oversight with real authority and legal frameworks that place public interest above profit. Her argument reflects a broader concern: that trust built in private digital spaces can be fragile if commercial incentives shift.

At the same time, surveys suggest many users may continue using free AI tools even if ads are introduced, highlighting what some describe as growing "privacy fatigue." For OpenAI, the challenge lies in balancing financial sustainability with the unusually intimate trust users have placed in its technology.

APTDC invites logo design entries



Vijayawada: On the occasion of completing 50 glorious years of establishment, the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC) is set to launch its Golden Jubilee celebrations from February 18. As part of the commemorative events, APTDC has invited entries from talented designers for the creation of a special 'APTDC@50' logo. In a statement issued here on Wednesday, APTDC Executive Director (Operations) AL Padmavathi stated that the logo should reflect the rich tourism heritage and cultural vibrancy of Andhra Pradesh while symbolising the significance of the 50-year milestone. She informed that the best logo, selected by an expert committee, will be awarded a cash prize of Rs 20,000 along with official recognition and felicitation. Interested artists, designers, and students are requested to submit their logo designs on or before 5:00 pm on February 14 to the email addresses: gmmktg@aptdc.in and jayahobharathiyam@gmail.com.

Padmavathi further stated that the Golden Jubilee celebrations will be organised in a grand manner throughout the year, with events scheduled every month at prominent tourist destinations across the State.

She appealed to artists, designers, and students to participate in large numbers and make the logo design competition a grand success.

Saisree wins six gold medals in powerlifting

Vijayawada:

Surapaneni Saisree, Senior Office Assistant at Dr NTR University of Health Sciences

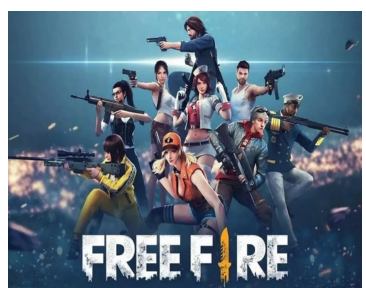
here achieved a remarkable feat by securing six Gold Medals in the 63 kg women's

category at the 2nd Krishna & NTR District Powerlifting Championship. The championship was held on February 8 at Gudivada in Krishna district where Saisree showcased exceptional strength and determination across multiple events. She competed in both unequipped and equipped categories of Powerlifting, Bench Press, and Deadlift, emerging victorious in all and bringing laurels to the University. Her outstanding performance has been widely appreciated within the university community. Vice-Chancellor Dr P Chandrasekhar congratulated Saisree on her impressive accomplishment and commended her dedication and hard work. University officials and staff members expressed pride in her achievement, stating that her success serves as an inspiration to colleagues and students alike.



Free Fire MAX Redeem Codes for February 12, 2026: Get Free Diamonds and Rewards

Garena has released a fresh set of Free Fire MAX redeem codes for players today. These February 12 2026 FF codes let you win cool in-game rewards for free. If you like playing Free Fire MAX, this is your chance to get special items without paying money. With these FF MAX working codes today, players can unlock many cool rewards. These include legendary gun skins, Gloo Walls, character bundles, rare emotes, pets, premium vouchers, and even free Diamonds Free Fire players usually have to buy with real money. In the game, diamonds help you a lot for buying special items and giving your characters upgrades. Getting these codes and having those items for free is a BIG bonus. These Garena Free Fire MAX rewards are only available for a short time. Each code can be used just one time on one account. Use these codes on the official Garena Rewards Website because it is only for Indian servers. If a code does not work, it has most probably expired or been used.



Bharat Rang Mahotsav concludes

Vijayawada: The prestigious International Theatre Festival "Bharat Rang Mahotsav" was organised for the first time in Andhra Pradesh by Vedika, in association with the National School of Drama, Ministry of Culture, Government of India. The festival was held from February 6 to 10 at Sri Venkateswara Vignana Mandir, Guntur. Theatre enthusiasts were treated to an array of performances in different languages including Manipuri, Kannada, and English, along with international productions from countries such as Poland and Russia.

One of the most captivating presentations of the festival was the Polish/English production "Umadevi - Absurd Wanda Dynowska." Unique in both theme and presentation, the visually rich theatrical work was written and directed by Lukasz Chotz of Warsaw, Poland. The play creatively blended drama with puppet theatre to depict the inspiring life of Wanda Dynowska, who was later named "Uma Devi" by Mahatma Gandhi.

The production stood out for its artistic excellence. The puppets were designed by Marcin Bikowski, while video design, lighting, and music were handled by Marcin Bartnikowski. Paula Jarnecka delivered a compelling performance in the title role. The play highlighted Wanda's tireless



efforts towards women's emancipation, her dedicated service to Tibetan refugees, and her vision of fostering cultural harmony through dialogue among religions and societies. The production was supported by the

Polish Institute, New Delhi.

The festival was organised by Vedika, a collective of cultural organisations headed by Muthavarapu Suresh Babu. Theatre lovers wholeheartedly

SA win 'The Best Gentleman's Game'



In a T20 World Cup game for the ages, South Africa somehow managed to get past a plucky Afghanistan after two wildly oscillating Super Overs here on Wednesday. Ryan Rickelton (61 off 28) and Quinton de Kock (59 off 41) put together a brilliant century stand with quickfire fifties to power South Africa to 187 for six. Rahmanullah Gurbaz (84 off 42) then singlehandedly kept Afghanistan in the run chase before some lusty hitting from the lower-order helped them tie the game in regulation time.

Lungi Ngidi 3/26 was named Man Of The Match. What followed was an incredible sequence of two Super Overs with fortunes swinging either way after every ball.

In the first Super Over, Azmatullah Omarzai struck Lungi Ngidi for two fours and a six to help Afghanistan post 17 runs, but Tristan Stubbs hit two sixes off Fazalhaq Farooqi including off the last ball to force another Super Over. Coming in to bat in the second Super Over, Davis Miller and Tristan Stubbs struck three sixes to notch up 23 runs, a steep target which was made to look very gettable by Rahmanullah Gurbaz. The opening batter smashed seasoned left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj for three consecutive sixes before getting out to complete a sensational finish.

In regulation time, the Afghans started aggressively in the run chase before losing the plot but some brilliant hitting from Omarzai, Rashid and Noor Ahmad coupled with a disastrous final over from Kagiso Rabada, in which he gave away two no balls, cost South Africa dearly.

Afghanistan made a bright start to their chase, with Gurbaz (84 off 42; 4x4s, 7x6s) smashing Ngidi for two fours in the opening over. Gurbaz continued with his attacking approach, ramping Marco Jansen over the slips for aa maximum and then hitting Rabada over the third man fence. George Linde gave away 17 runs in his opening over as Gurbaz and Ibrahim Zadran took the attack to the opposition to race to 50 in just four overs.

Brief Scores:

South Africa: 187 for 6 in 20 overs (Quinton de Kock 59, Ryan Rickelton 61; Azmatullah Omarzai 3/41, Rashid Khan 2/28). Afghanistan: 187 all out in 19.4 overs (Rahmanullah Gurbaz 84; Lungi Ngidi 3/26).

Shekhar Kapur on 'Udaan' legacy: We need that kind of TV again

Mumbai: Filmmaker Shekhar Kapur took a trip down memory lane as he recalled the immense popularity of the iconic television series "Udaan," saying the country needs value-driven content like that again.

Shekhar took to X, formerly called Twitter, where he shared a still from the TV Udaan, which had its final episode air in 1991. He recalled how "Udaan" became a big phenomenon at a time when television had only one channel. "A still from the series UDAAN. It came at a time when the only channel was Doordarshan. It became a rage. I couldn't go anywhere without being mobbed. In small towns and villages I was known as 'Collector Sahib' because that was the character I played .. such was the power of TV then."

The filmmaker revealed that the show had a deep



social impact, particularly on women who were inspired to pursue careers in civil services.

"Not just that, the number of women I meet holding such important responsibilities in the IAS, Foreign Service, and IPS .. that were inspired by the series to study for and take those positions still amazes me ..."

"Calling for a return to meaningful storytelling, the

filmmaker added: That was the power of TV then .. a TV with values, the kind of TV we need now in Bharat .. we need to find that again."

"Udaan" was created and directed by Kavita Chowdhry and was based on the real-life story of her sister, Kanchan Choudhary Bhattacharya, who went on to become India's first woman Director General of Police.

"The series was created and directed by Kavita Chowdhry, and was based on the story of her sister, Kanchan Choudhary Bhattacharya .. who became India's first woman Director General of Police."

"Udaan" followed the story of Kalyani Singh's father, who urges her to work towards gaining a respectable position in the society, she battles gender discrimination and various other problems to become a police officer.

He also spoke about an incident from the time he was shooting for "Bandit Queen" in a village in Uttar Pradesh.

He added: I was filming in a village in UP for Bandit Queen. Thousands of people turned up and I was surprised why .. and they said 'Hum Collector Sahib ko dekhney aye hain' Such was the massive popularity of the series."

Surbhi Jyoti says 'Our greatest adventure begins' as she announces her first pregnancy

Surbhi uploaded a sweet picture of her legs entangled in hubby Sumit's feet with a white pair of tiny shoes placed in between.

The 'Qubool Hai' actress further informed through her Instagram post that they are expecting their little bundle of joy by June this year.

"Om, Our greatest adventure begins...Little Love arriving this June (sic)," she captioned the post.

As the couple made the happy announcement on social media, congratulatory messages started pouring in.

Actress Shweta Tiwari wrote, "Congratulations," followed by a kissy face emoji.



'Bigg Boss 13' fame Arti Singh added, "So so so happy baby (red heart emoji) god bless you both."

For those who do not know, Surbhi tied the knot with businessman Sumit Suri in October 2024. The lovebirds got married at a hill station. The wedding ceremony was preceded

by vibrant pre-wedding festivities, including sangeet and engagement. Surbhi had treated her InstaFam with glimpses of the festivities on her social media. Many prominent names from the television industry, such as Anita Hassanandani, Rithvik Dhanjani, Asha Negi, and Karan Wahi, were a part of the celebration.

Recently, Surbhi's feed is full of fun snippets from her married life.

In October last year, the 'Naagin' actress wished her father-in-law on his birthday with a heartwarming video compilation of some precious family moments.

Thanking her father-in-law for being the most amazing person and a constant source of inspiration, she penned on the photo-sharing app, "Happy birthday to the most amazing person in the world." Thank you for being such an incredible role model and source of inspiration. I am so lucky to have you in my life. Thank you for being you. I love you so much."

Ameesha Patel relives 'Uni Days' on first visit to alma mater after nearly three decades

Mumbai: Actress Ameesha Patel took a nostalgic trip down memory lane as she revisited her alma mater, Tufts University in Boston, for the first time in 29 years since graduating.

Sharing her excitement on social media, the actress posted a video expressing her joy at returning to the campus where she completed her studies nearly three decades ago.

In the video, Ameesha said, "Hey guys, so as you know I've been in Boston for the past couple of days for work, but I couldn't go back to India without revisiting Tufts University — my university where I studied 29 years ago and graduated with a liberal arts degree, a gold medal in economics."

She added, "I'm going to be taking you all along with me on this



nostalgic trip down memory lane reels and videos, so please be prepared to get bored but relive

my memories with me."

Captioning the post, Ameesha wrote, "BOSTON — after 29 years comes the most magical day as I revisited my TUFTS UNIVERSITY for the 1st time since graduation!! Over the next week I will take all of you on my journey down memory lane with loads of reels and pictures!! Enjoy the ride with me as I relive my UNI days."

On February 11, the actress also shared glimpses of herself revisiting some of her favourite spots in the city, including Boston Commons, Faneuil Hall, Copley Square, Newbury Street, Boston Harbour and Wharf, parts of the Freedom Trail, and the Prudential Center — places she frequented during her student years.

Reflecting on the experience,

she wrote, "BOSTON — Strolling the Boston Commons, Faneuil Hall, Copley Square, Newbury Street, Boston Harbour and Wharf, doing part of the Freedom Trail and hopping in and out of the Prudential Center just seems so natural! Something I did as a student for four years whilst studying at Tufts University. The past student in me has melted into the present girl and I can't seem to feel the difference. These streets and areas make me feel like I belong here! BOSTON will always have my heart."

Earlier, Ameesha had shared another glimpse from her trip, captioning it, "BOSTON — back to my city where I studied and went to university!! Reliving my student days feels surreal."

Duffy relishes first World Cup experience at 31 after breakthrough year

Ahmedabad: Jacob Duffy is embracing his first ICC Men's T20 World Cup at the age of 31, following a breakthrough 2025 season that saw him etch his name into New Zealand cricket history. The South Island paceman took 81 wickets for the Black Caps last year, breaking a New Zealand record held by Sir Richard Hadlee for four decades. He has continued his strong form at the T20 World Cup 2026, claiming key wickets in wins over Afghanistan and the UAE.



Duffy's journey to international cricket was far from immediate. He had to wait until he was 26 to make his debut, earning a Player of the Match award after taking four wickets in a T20I against Pakistan. That patience, he says, has been crucial in shaping him into a player capable of thriving under pressure.

"There were so many times I wished I was in the team and I wasn't," Duffy was quoted as saying by ICC. "I have done a lot of A tours and when I finally got a consistent run of games, that was the most important thing. I'd had a series or a game here and there over the years, but to play regularly and be comfortable at that level and prove to yourself you belong at that level is pretty huge. I have 10 or 12 years of experience to call upon

and that has served me well. I know my game so well; I know my tactics and my action. I had all those experiences to call upon when push came to shove in those high-pressure moments in international cricket."

"It's not always nice sitting on the sidelines not getting those games but those experiences helped me when I did get there. A big part of it is proving to yourself you are good enough. A lot of sportspeople talk about imposter syndrome and not quite knowing if you are good enough. To prove time and again that you are, not necessarily to dominate, but to have a meaningful impact for New Zealand and hold your own in different formats is a great feeling," he added.

Born in Lumsden, Duffy honed his skills bowling to

his two older brothers on a back garden pitch prepared by their father using local Kakanui clay. He believes being the youngest sibling "definitely fast-tracked my progress." Off the field, he and his wife Natasha are preparing to welcome their first child in mid-June.

On the cricketing front, Duffy is set to complete both a World Cup campaign and his maiden IPL season with Royal Challengers Bangalore. He is eager to learn from Josh Hazlewood and share the dressing room with Virat Kohli, while also drawing on tips from fellow Kiwi pacemen Matt Henry, Lockie Ferguson, and Kyle Jamieson. "One of our greatest strengths is that we all get along so well. We feed off each other pretty well and

we all have different attributes. Even just this week, I've been trying to perfect my away swing to the left-hander. Kyle has come out and nailed those sort of balls for the last five or six years, so he is helping me out trying to do that.

"We are all good mates, we are all helping each other out and having a good time doing it. I am very grateful for their companionship," he said.

Having grown up watching World Cups, Duffy says being at the centre of the action is a dream come true.

"That 2015 World Cup was pretty amazing; that got a lot of people into cricket back home, and there was a real buzz after that. The pool game against Australia, Kane (Williamson) hitting the last ball six to win it when we were nine down, then obviously there was the semi-final against South Africa at Eden Park.

"I know people who were there that day, and they still say they have never experienced a crowd with that much energy in it. World Cups are pretty special things and these are the pinnacles you work towards through your career. It's very exciting to be part of it," he concluded.

West Indies beat England by 30 runs



Spinners reigned supreme as West Indies beat England by 30 runs in their T20 World Cup match here on Wednesday. Spinners Gudakesh Motie and Roston Chase took three and two wickets respectively as West Indies bowled England out for 166 in 19 overs, after setting a target of 197. Sam Curran top-scored for England with 43 not out while Jacob Bethell and Phil Salt chipped in with 33 and 30 respectively. Earlier, Sherfane Rutherford (76 not out) led the way with a blistering half-century as the West Indies recovered well from an ordinary start to post a formidable 196/6. Rutherford smacked seven sixes and two boundaries to make 76 not out off 42 balls, resurrecting a faltering innings for the Caribbean side that had crawled to an ordinary 79 for four halfway through on what remained a true batting wicket.

As many as 117 runs came in the final 10 overs as the left-handed Rutherford put on 51 runs for the fifth wicket with Rovman Powell (14), and added another 61 runs off only 32 balls for the sixth with former skipper Jason Holder (33 off 17 balls; 1x4s, 4x6s). While Rutherford was the top-scorer, the Caribbean side was also well served by Test skipper Roston Chase (34) at No. 4 when they were going through a lull, and towards the end, Holder's hit three sixes in an over from Sam Curran.

Brief Scores:

West Indies: 196 for 6 in 20 overs (Sherfane Rutherford 76 not out, Roston Chase 34, Jason Holder 33; Adil Rashid 2/16, Jamie Overton 2/33).

England: 166 all out in 19 overs (Sam Curran 43 not out, Jacob Bethell 33, Phil Salt 30; Gudakesh Motie 3/33, Roston Chase 2/39).

Mika Singh Offers 11 Lakh Support to Rajpal Yadav in Cheque Bounce Case



In big news from India, singer Mika Singh is helping actor Rajpal Yadav. Rajpal has went to jail for 6 months.

Rajpal Yadav went to jail on February 5th, 2026. This was because he gave a cheque to the bank without enough money in his account. Sadly he couldn't pay it in time so he had to go to jail.

To help him, Mika Singh announced a Mika Singh donation of ₹11 lakh. He posted on Instagram and said people should not just say they will help, but should actually give real money and support. He requested others in the film industry to help him out as well.

Actors like Sonu Sood, Guru Randhawa and Gurmeet Choudhary also showed their support towards him.

Rajpal's lawyer told the court that the actor was ready to pay ₹25 lakh right away and make a plan to pay the rest later. But sadly, the court did not agree because Rajpal missed the deadline to surrender. Now Rajpal Yadav is in jail, completing his jail sentence. Many celebrity are supporting him

India-Pak clash- We'll play with different mindset: Farhan



Colombo: Pakistan batter Sahibzada Farhan has played down the hype surrounding Sunday's T20 World Cup clash against bitter foes India, calling it a "normal match" although the mindset of his team will be "different" from previous games. Pakistan sit atop Group A with back-to-back wins over the Netherlands and the USA. Even though the victory against the Dutch team was a narrow one, Pakistan looked quite assured in their 32-run triumph over the Americans last night in which Farhan smashed a 41-ball 73 to be deservedly adjudged the player of the match. During the post-match media briefing, the opener fielded queries on the game against India that is finally on after his government withdrew its boycott call. "See, when you win two matches and are at the top of the table, you feel confident. The upcoming match is not such a big deal, we're not playing against them for the first time," he responded when asked about team's mindset. "We've played before and this time we'll play with a different mindset. You've seen us... You must have seen that Shadab (Khan) is making runs, (Mohammad) Nawaz is scoring runs. So hopefully you will enjoy our game against them," he said. "It's a normal match. We'll play like a normal match. We won't put it in our head that this is an India-Pakistan match, it is a normal match and we will play it like a normal match," he added.

Nathan Ellis shines for Oz



Colombo: Australia began their T20 World Cup campaign with a thumping 67-run victory over Ireland here on Wednesday. Riding on Marcus Stoinis' 45 and 37 each by Matthew Renshaw and Josh Inglis, Australia posted 182 for six after deciding to bat first. Pacer Nathan Ellis (4/12) and spinner Adam Zampa (4/23) then shared eight wickets between them to bowl out Ireland in 16.5 overs.

Brief scores:

Australia: 182 for 6 in 20 overs (Marcus Stoinis 45, Matt Renshaw 37, Josh Inglis 37; Mark Adair 2/44).

Ireland: 115 for 9 in 16.5 overs (George Dockrell 41; Nathan Ellis 4/12, Adam Zampa 4/23).