



EWS reservation does not guarantee fee concession in private colleges: SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday dismissed a plea challenging the Economic Weaker Sections (EWS) criteria in the context of admissions to private medical colleges, refusing to accept the contention that the annual income ceiling of Rs 8 lakh for EWS candidates becomes meaningless when private medical colleges charge tuition fees running into lakhs of rupees. A Bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and Joymalya Bagchi declined to interfere with a Rajasthan High Court judgment that had rejected the challenge mounted by Rajasthan candidate Harshvardhan Singh, who had argued that the fee structure of private medical colleges effectively rendered EWS reservation illusory for economically weaker students. During the hearing, the Justice Nagarathna-led Bench orally observed that self-financing private institutions could not be compelled to charge fees at par with government medical colleges merely because seats are reserved for EWS candidates.

The apex court highlighted the distinction between government and private educational institutions, remarking that government colleges receive financial support from the public exchequer while private colleges operate on a self-financing model. "These are self-financing institutes. For government ones, they get grants from the State. There is a vital difference," the Justice Nagarathna-led Bench said. It further said that while capitation fees are prohibited, that does not mean private colleges cannot charge regular tuition fees fixed under the applicable regulatory framework. When the petitioner argued that EWS candidates from families earning less than Rs 8 lakh annually could not realistically



afford annual tuition fees ranging between Rs 18 lakh and Rs 25 lakh in private medical colleges, the top court suggested that financial assistance mechanisms were available. "If you are unable to pay, get a scholarship," the Justice Nagarathna-led Bench said.

The special leave petition (SLP) arose from a Rajasthan High Court judgment delivered in May this year. The petitioner, an EWS candidate who appeared in NEET-UG 2025, had contended that private medical colleges in Rajasthan were charging tuition fees between Rs 18.90 lakh and Rs 25 lakh per annum despite the EWS income ceiling being fixed at Rs 8 lakh annually. He had argued that charging EWS candidates the same fees as general category candidates defeated the purpose of the 10 per cent reservation introduced through the Constitution (103rd Amendment) Act, 2019, and sought directions for affordable fee structures for EWS students. Rejecting the plea in May this year, a Division Bench of Justices Arun Monga and Sandeep Shah of the Rajasthan High Court had held that EWS reservation operates only at the

stage of admission and does not, in the absence of any statutory provision, create a right to concessional fees in private medical colleges.

The High Court had observed that the fee structure of private medical colleges in Rajasthan had been fixed by the State Fee Regulatory Committee in accordance with the principles laid down by the Supreme Court in the Islamic Academy of Education v. State of Karnataka judgment, and that the underlying fee fixation order itself had never been challenged by the petitioner. It further ruled that no statutory provision or binding policy in Rajasthan entitled EWS students to fee relaxation and that a National Medical Commission office memorandum relied upon by the petitioner was merely recommendatory and had not been adopted by the state government. The Rajasthan High Court also found that all available EWS seats in the concerned college had already been exhausted during earlier rounds of counselling and that subsequent allotments were made in accordance with the applicable counselling regulations.

No MLA from Mamata's Trinamool faction in Bengal Assembly's BA panel



Kolkata: The faction within the Trinamool Congress that remains loyal to former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her nephew, Abhishek Banerjee, who serves as the party's general secretary, has been further sidelined and marginalised in the West Bengal Assembly. Not a single party legislator from this faction has been provided with any berth in the newly constituted crucial Business Advisory (BA) committee of the Assembly. The BA committee is treated as one of the most important statutory committees of the Assembly. The committee members meet before every session of the House to discuss and finalise the detailed proceedings for the session concerned, including when the session would begin, how long it would last, what bills would be brought up in the session. In simple terms, the BA committee controls the proceedings of the entire Assembly.

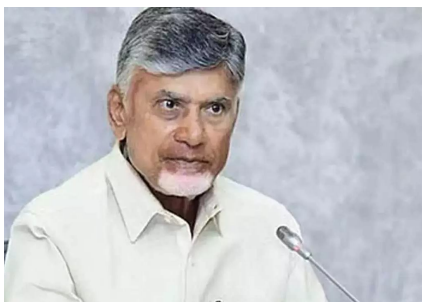
The newly constituted BA committee of West Bengal, a list of which is available with IANS, has a total of 19 "permanent members", out of whom 14 are from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and five are from opposition Trinamool Congress. However, all these five "permanent members" from the opposition bench are

from the "rebel but majority" faction in Trinamool Congress' legislative party in the Assembly, led by expelled party legislator Ritabrata Banerjee, who is now the official Leader of Opposition in the House. Ritabrata himself is one of the "permanent members" in the newly constituted BA Committee. Besides the 19 "permanent members" in the newly-constituted BA Committee, there are also 10 "invited members", out of whom four are from BJP, and two are from Trinamool Congress, with one being from the Ritabrata-led faction. Mohtab Sheikh, one of the two Congress members in the current Assembly, had also been included as an invited member. Even Md. Mostafijur Rahaman, the lone CPI(M) representative as well as the All-India Secular Front (AISF)'s lone representative, Nawsad Siddique and the lone Aam Janata Unnayan Party (AJUP), have been included in the newly-constituted BA committee as "invited members". Constitutional experts feel that since the MLAs, both from the "original but minority" and "rebel but majority" factions, are officially Trinamool Congress MLAs as per Assembly records, technically no question can be raised on the selection of the members of the BA committee.

CM Chandrababu Inaugurates Gold Mining Project in Jonnagiri

CM Chandrababu Inaugurates Gold Mining Project in Jonnagiri of Kurnool

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu today inaugurated the Jonnagiri Gold Mining Project in the district. During his visit, the Chief Minister also took part in other development activities, emphasising that the project would boost the state's economy. Andhra Pradesh news The initiative is set to accelerate development in Rayalaseema and create significant employment opportunities for local youth, serving as a benchmark for industrial growth and investment in Andhra Pradesh. The project has seen a total investment of 2405 crore from two leading mining companies, Geomysore Services and Deccan Gold Mines. The phased gold production targets include 400 kg annually in the first phase, 900 kg in the second, and ultimately 2 tonnes at full capacity. Training programmes for women and youth, using simulator machines, were also launched, with the Chief Minister praising the initiative. Senior officials and ministers attended the ceremony.



AP Home Minister Anitha thanks CM Chandrababu over BC welfare school in Nakkapalli

The Andhra Pradesh government has approved a new Mahatma Jyotiba Phule BC Welfare Residential School in Nakkapalli. Learn how this initiative, championed by Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha, aims to provide quality education to rural and fishing communities. The Andhra Pradesh state government has approved the establishment of a Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Backward Classes (BC) Welfare Residential School in Nakkapalli. Local fishermen, representatives of BC associations, and the general public had repeatedly appealed to the government to set up a dedicated BC residential school in the area. After considering their request, the government gave the green signal for the school. Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha expressed her



special gratitude to Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and BC Welfare Minister Savitha for recognising the people's needs and promptly sanctioning the school. Home Minister Anitha played a piv-

otal role in securing the sanction for the BC residential school in Nakkapalli. She stated that providing quality education to BC students is the state government's objective. She noted that the residential school would offer better educational opportunities to students from rural areas and would significantly contribute to the educational advancement of students from fishing communities. Home Minister Anitha emphasized, "The comprehensive development of the constituency is my goal." Following the sanction of the BC residential school, the people of the Payakaraopeta constituency, along with leaders of BC associations and representatives of fishermen's unions, expressed their gratitude to Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha.

Health cards should be granted immediately



- TUTF state president Tumma Lacchiram demanded..

Jangaon, June24, Metroudayam:

Telangana United Teachers Federation (TUTF) state president Tumma Lacchiram spoke at the meeting held at Kalvakurti in Nagar Kurnool district. On this occasion, he said that it is regrettable that the state government has not formulated guidelines so far, which has collected 1.5 percent EHS subscription from the May salary of employees and teachers.

He alleged that the government is trying to sidestep the problems by bringing health insurance

which no one asked for without solving the most important problems of employment and teachers like PRC and DA. They demanded that health cards should be issued in all corporate hospitals immediately. The employed teachers complained that they were paying the hospital by bringing debts.

The adjustment process should be done transparently based on the number of students as on 30th June.

They demanded that primary schools should have one teacher for 1-9 students, 5 teachers for 60 students and then one teacher for every 20 students. Each classroom was asked to have one teacher. 317 Jive asked



to make immediate transfers to the affected teachers and to complete the transfers of the remaining spouses.

The teachers were asked to carry out transfers and promotions with the cut off date of July 31. He wants to fill the posts of MEO on a regular basis and strengthen the government education system. They demanded promotion to the posts of Diet Lecturer, GHM Gr-1, Deputy EO before direct recruitment.

In view of the imbalance in the number of teachers, conducting complex meetings for new PET and PD teachers, etc., it was requested to reorganize the complex school and reduce the meetings from 6 to 3.

They demanded that the PRC be announced by June 30.

Demands to abandon the idea of shrinking schools, abolish CPS and restore OPS, and immediately sanction pending bills.

It was followed by state president Thumma Lachiram, P. Raghunandhan Reddy General secretary, D. Mallareddy Tuff founder & president, P. Mogulaiah Finance secretary, M.Gopal Audit committee convenor, Nagar kurnool president Srisailam,

Vikarabad district president P. Satyanarayana Reddy, Rangareddy district president G.David, State Executive members Ramaswamy, Venkataiah and others participated

Veterinarians saved a goat's broken leg after being hit by a bike with a rod



Kodada June 24 Metro morning.....

Kodada veterinarians operated and reborn a mute animal that was seriously injured in a road accident. A peddler selling tamarind at the local vegetable market keeps two goats for extra income. While tending the goats after the close of business on Wednesday, one of the goats got loose from the rope and ran onto the road. In this sequence, the front leg bone of the goat was broken and the skin was exposed when the speeding bike collided with it. The owner was shocked to see the life worth Rs.10 thousand writhing in pain. Immediately it was shifted to Kodada Regional Veterinary Hospital. Assistant Director Dr.P.Pentaiah responded and performed an emergency surgery along with staff Chandrakala. The fractured bone was rodd and sutured successfully. The doctor suggested that the animals should be kept safe and not left on the roads, if accidents happen, the financial burden will fall on the poor families. Staff Chandrakala participated in the surgery.

No more myths about spine surgeries.....

Malakpet Yashoda Doctors



Ibrahimpattam June 24 Metro Morning.....

Doctors at Malakpet Yashoda Hospital have clarified that the society should let go of the myths about spine surgeries and that they can be cured safely with modern technology. They were speaking at a press conference organized in Ibrahimpattam on Tuesday. A woman named Vimala (53) from Hyderabad was unable to walk due to severe back pain and leg cramps. Doctors diagnosed that her spinal nerves had become narrow ('lumbar canal stenosis'). Under the guidance of Dr. G. Srinivas Botla, Senior Neurosurgeon of Yashoda Hospital, the highly complex 'multi-level spine fixation' surgery was successfully performed on her. The woman, who was completely free from pain after the operation, is now able to walk independently without any help. Doctors expressed confidence that the idea that spinal surgery would result in paralysis was just an illusion, and that if treated in time, a full recovery would be possible. Hospital Director Gorukanti Pawan, Unit Head K. Srinivas Reddy and others participated....

National Recognition for Visakhapatnam Division: ELS and DLS Secure Second Prize at All India Level



The Electric Loco Shed (ELS) and Diesel Loco Shed (DLS), Visakhapatnam, under VISAKHAPATNAM Division of South Coast Railway, have earned national recognition by securing Second Prize in the categories of "All India Best Loco Shed Homing Electric Coaching Locomotives" and "Best

Diesel Shed Homing Electric Locomotives", respectively.

The awards were conferred for outstanding performance in achieving high locomotive availability, reducing failures, and ensuring efficient maintenance with optimum manpower utilization. The awards were presented by the Member Traction



Rolling Stock (MTRS), Railway Board, during the 43rd MSG (Loco) Meeting held at CLW/Chittaranjan on 20 June 2026.

On 24 June 2026, Shri Lalit Bohra, DRM/VSKP, congratulated Shri B. Shanmukha Rao, Sr. DEE/TRS/VSKP, Shri Shubham Saini, DEE/TRS/VSKP, Shri

Manoj Kumar Sahu, Sr.DME/DLS, Sri V. Srinivas, ADEE/DLS, Sri Sasidhar ADME/DLS and the officers, supervisors, and staff of ELS and DLS for this notable achievement. He appreciated their dedication and teamwork, which have brought pride and recognition to Visakhapatnam Division at the national level.

Osmania University Awards Doctorate to Arisham Dileep Kumar

Hyderabad, metro udayam June 24: Osmania University has awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree to Arisham Dileep Kumar for successfully completing his research on "Empowerment of Widows through Non-Governmental Organizations: A Study of Warangal District."

The research was carried out under the guidance of Prof. P. Vishnudev of the Department of Social Work, Osmania University. The study examined the role of non-governmental organizations in improving the socio-economic conditions and empowerment of widows in Warangal district. Dileep

Kumar, a native of Neerukulla village in Atmakur Mandal of Hanumakonda district, is currently serving as a Field Officer in the Department of Social Work at the Vallabhbbhai Patel Chest Institute, Delhi. The achievement has been widely appreciated by villagers,

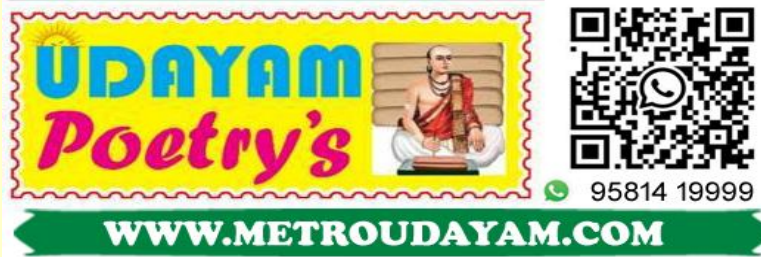
friends, colleagues, and social workers, who extended their heartfelt congratulations to Dileep Kumar on earning the prestigious doctoral degree. They lauded his dedication to academic research and his contribution to the field of social work. Headline alternatives: -----



Let Me Suffer the Wrong, But Never Become the Wrong

Peace is not found in the world free from betrayal. It is found in refusing to let betrayal change who we are. Life may deceive us, disappoint us, and wound us in ways we never imagined. Yet, if peace is what we seek, we must rise each day without allowing bitterness to become our identity.

Life may cheat you today, disappoint you tomorrow,



and hurt you when you least expect it. Still, if peace is your goal, you have only one choice to wake up the next morning and trust life again.

Not blindly. Not foolishly. But without letting bitterness take possession of your heart. Tell yourself that, "Thank God I was cheated, but I did not become the cheat."

"I was betrayed, but I did not betray."

"I was hurt, but I did not choose to hurt others."

The greatest tragedy is not being wronged it is becoming the very thing that wounded us. Be wise, but not bitter. Be cautious, but not cruel. Protect your heart, but do not poison it. The world may not always be fair, but we still have the power to decide who we become.

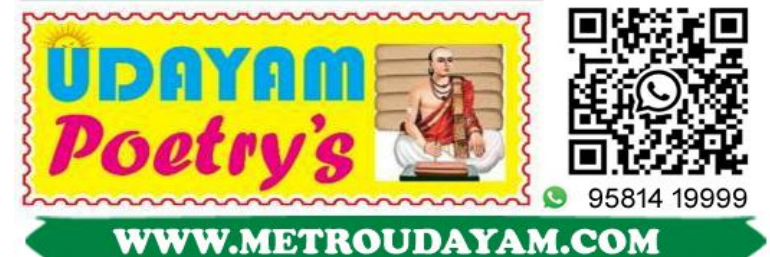
If suffering the wrong is the price of keeping my



character, then so be it.

Let me SUFFER the wrong, if I must but may I NEVER BECOME the wrong.

Kotha Viritha
Psychology, Body
Language, Human
Behavior, Psychology of
languages from IIT
Kanpur, Guwahati &
Kharagpur



कुछ लोगों ने पैगम्बर साहब (स्व.) के घरवालों को छोड़कर सत्ताधीशों को अपना रहबर माना। जिसके नतीजे में आज इस्लाम बदनाम होकर रह गया।... (शकील उवाच -9399)

आदम अलैहिस्सलाम से लेकर खातम (आखरी) पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) तक कम्बो बेश (लगभग) एक लाख चौबीस हजार नबियों का मकसद, इस्लाम का मकसद और पवित्र कुरान का मकसद एक ही था वह ये के किसी पर किसी तरह का जुल्म न हो। लेकिन अफसोस इसी इस्लाम के नाम के साथ जुल्मों सितम को जोड़ दिया गया। इसी इस्लाम के साथ दहशतगर्दी को जोड़ा गया। यह सब जालिम मुनाफिक (अत्याचारी पाखंडी) लोग करते रहे और ज्यादातर लोग इसका विरोध ना करके खामोश रहे।



अब सवाल उठता है के, आखिर इस्लाम की इस बदनामी का कारण क्या है? आज इस्लाम का चेहरा इतना मलिन क्यों हुआ? और ऐसा किसने किया आखिर? इस प्रश्न का उत्तर एक ही है के यह मुसलमान के शक्ल में मुनाफिक (दोंगी और पाखंडी) लोगों के करतूत हैं। इस वास्तव और उपरोक्त प्रश्नों का उत्तर अगर खोजना है तो पवित्र कुरान की रोशनी में इस्लाम के इतिहास पर नजर डालना होगा। कुरान में एक आयत है जिसे समझे बगैर इन सवालों का जवाब देना मुश्किल होगा।

पवित्र कुरान में आया है के, षे ईमानवालों! अल्लाह (सु.) की आज्ञा मानो, रसूल (पैगंबर साहब स्व.) की आज्ञा मानो, और उलील अम्र की इताअत करो (उन लोगों की आज्ञा मानो) जो तुम्हारे बीच साहीबाने हुक्मत हो उनकी। पस अगर तुम खुदा और रोजे आखिरत पर ईमान रखते हो तो उस काम में खुदा और रसूल (स्व.) की तरफ रुजू करो। वही (तुम्हारे हक में) बेहतर है और अंजाम की राह से बहुत अच्छा। (पवित्र कुरान, अध्याय नंबर 4, सूराह अन निसा, आयत नंबर 59)।

इस आयत में साफ साफ कहा गया है आज्ञा मानो अल्लाह (सु.) की, हर मुसलमान इस बात पर अमल किया। और कहा गया के आज्ञा मानो रसूल (पैगंबर साहब स्व.) की, हर मुसलमान इस बात पर भी अमल किया। और कहा गया के आज्ञा मानो उलील अम्र की इस बात में कुछ मुसलमानों ने खुदा और पैगंबर से रुजू करके अहले बैत ए नबी (स्व.) की इताअत कबूल किया, तो कुछ मुसलमानों ने हुक्मरानों (शासकों) को उलील अम्र मानना शुरू किया। और शासकों के मुरीद बन गये, फिर वह शासक कैसा भी हो।

जबके पैगंबर मोहम्मद (स्व.) ने अपने जीवन काल में कई बार इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब अलैहिस्सलाम का परिचय अपने जानशीन (उत्तराधिकारी) के तौर पर करवाए थे। पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) ने इस्लाम की पहली दावत दावत जुलआशिरा (सबसे पहिले पैगंबर (स्व.) द्वारा अपने पैगम्बर होने का ऐलान) से लेकर ज़िंदगी के आखरी मंजिल तक इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब अलैहिस्सलाम का परिचय अपने उत्तराधिकारी के रूप में करवाए थे।

यहां तक के अपने आखरी हज के वापसी के मौकड़े पर गदीरे खुम के मैदान में लगभग एक लाख बीस हजार सहाबीयों के सामने शैम् जिस जिस का मौला हूँ ये अली (अ.) भी उस उस के मौला हैर कहकर इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब (अ.) की विलायत (इमामत) का ऐलान फरमाए थे। लेकिन कुछ लोगों ने विलायत के बदले में हुक्मत को चुना। लोगों में इख्तेलाफ होगया जबके पवित्र कुरान के मुताबिक इस मामले (उलील अम्र मिकुम) में मतभेद करते हैं तो उलील अम्र अल्लाह (सु.) और पैगंबर साहब (स्व.) के नजर में कौन है यह देखना जरूरी था। लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हुआ।

इसके अलावा पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) ने अपनी आखरी वसीयत को (जो हदीसे सकलैन के नाम से मशहूर है) स्वीकार नहीं किया गया। हदीसे सकलैन में पैगंबर साहब (स्व.) कहे हैं के, शैम् तुम लोगों के बीच दो चीजें छोड़कर जा रहा हूँ एक पवित्र कुरान और दूसरी मेरी इतरत (औलाद), इनमें से एक को भी छोड़ोगे तो पथभ्रष्ट हो जाओगे। इस बात को भी नजर अंदाज किया गया। और कुछ लोगों ने अहलेबैत (अ.) याने पैगम्बर साहब (स्व.) के घरवालों को छोड़कर हुक्मरानों (सत्ताधीशों) को अपना रहबर (मार्गदर्शक) माना। जिसके कारण इस्लाम बदनाम होकर रह गया। (क्रमशः)

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

AP, Telangana to receive rains today and tomorrow

The Meteorological Department has announced that heavy rains are expected in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana until the end of the month. The Meteorological Department has announced that heavy rains are expected in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana until the end of the month. Rainfall is forecast for the Coastal and Rayalaseema regions over the next 24 hours. Today, rains accompanied by lightning are predicted for the districts of Polavaram, Nellore, Palnadu, Prakasam, Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram Manyam, Alluri Sitarama Raju, Tirupati, Chittoor, Nandyal, Sri Sathya Sai, Kadapa, and Annamayya. Moderate rainfall is likely in the remaining districts, and the public has been advised to remain alert. Warnings have been issued urging people to exercise caution due to the risk of lightning strikes. The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority has stated that there is a chance of heavy rains in North Coastal Andhra, Rayalaseema, and South Coastal Andhra on the 26th and 27th of



this month. It clarified that showers are expected in North Coastal Andhra and thunderstorms with rain in Rayalaseema until the 26th. The Southwest Monsoon is advancing across the state, and the Meteorological Department has confirmed that this will result in heavy rainfall.

By Tuesday, the Southwest Monsoon had covered all regions of Telangana. Due to this influence, there is a possibility of heavy rains over

the next three days. The Hyderabad Meteorological Centre stated that isolated heavy rains are likely in the Jagtial, Rajanna Sircilla, Medak, and Kamareddy districts on June 24. It also forecast rainfall for June 25 across the erstwhile districts of Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, and Medak. Furthermore, it issued a warning of heavy rains across the erstwhile Warangal district on June 26. Meanwhile, rains occurred in several dis-

tricts between Monday and Tuesday night. The highest rainfall of 17.1 cm was recorded at Kunaram in Srirampur Mandal, Peddapalli district. Heavy rains lashed Hyderabad as well as the districts of Sangareddy, Mancherial, Peddapalli, Mulugu, and Jagtial. Additionally, El Niño is strengthening in the Pacific Ocean; this is expected to lead to a rise in temperatures. Experts anticipate that the El Niño phenomenon could result in deficient rainfall conditions.

Govt girls school blown up in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Islamabad: A government girls' primary school was destroyed in an overnight blast in Sara Ghowara area of Birmal tehsil of Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Lower South Waziristan district, local media reported on Wednesday. The school building was destroyed after unidentified assailants targeted it using explosive material late on Tuesday night. District Police Officer (DPO) Muhammad Tahir Shah said that the police have lodged an initial report on the incident and launched a probe, the Dawn reported. So far, no group or individual has claimed responsibility for the attack. Attacks on educational institutions have increased in Lower South Waziristan in recent months, according to local police and residents. Two schools were earlier attacked by unidentified assailants in Birmal tehsil in February and March, according to the Dawn report.



Last week, a report, citing partial data compiled by the South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP) till June 14, revealed that 11 incidents of attacks on educational institutes have been reported in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in 2026, resulting in the death of 13 people. During the same period in 2025, only one incident of attack on an educational institution was reported in the province, in which three

children were injured, indicating a rise in the level of terrorist violence targeting educational institutions. A total of 11 incidents of attacks were reported in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in 2025, in which three people were injured, an Eurasia Review report said. "Since 2006, at least 557 attacks targeting educational institutions have been recorded, resulting in 321 fatalities and 208 persons injured. (Since media access is heavily restricted in the most disturbed areas of KP, and there is only fitful release of information by government agencies, the actual figures could be much higher.) The first documented attack on an educational institution occurred on December 25, 2006, when a bomb explosion damaged a girls' school in the Noor Ali Kalay area of Darra Adamkhel tehsil (revenue unit) in Kohat district," Institute for Conflict Management Research Associate, Tushar Ranjan Mohanty, wrote in Eurasia

Review.

"The blast, which took place at approximately 12:45 am, completely destroyed three rooms of the school building. Prior to the attack, extremists had reportedly circulated threatening letters to several middle and high schools, warning school authorities to stop girls from studying beyond Class IV or face the destruction of school facilities and the killing of school principals," he added. The deadliest attack on an educational institution took place in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Peshawar in 2014, when a seven-member Tehreek-e-Taliban (TTP) squad stormed the Army Public School (APS) in Peshawar. At least 135 students, 10 school staff members, including the principal, and three soldiers were killed, and 121 people, including 118 students and three staff members, were injured in the attack, according to the report.

Will the post of chairman of the Medipally Hanuman Temple Committee go to a Dalit this time...?

Medipally June 24 (Metro udayam)



The Medipally Hanuman Temple was incorporated in the endowment in 2017. For the first time in 2017, the post of chairman of the temple committee was given to a BC community. Later, after the formation of the Congress government, it was given to an OC community for two times. Will the post of chairman of the Hanuman Temple Committee go to a Dalit this time or not...? The discussion is going on vigorously in Medipally. Even if ten people gather, they are discussing the same internally. This time too, will it go to the OC and BC communities...? Or will it go to the Dalits...? Will the hopes of the Dalits be fulfilled or will we have to wait and see.



Young man dies due to illness, Shamirpet village of Jangaon district

Jangaon, June 24, MetroUdayam :

Purumani Naresh (36), a DCM driver belonging to a poor family in Shamirpet village of Janagama mandal, died today morning after undergoing treatment for the last 4 days. Later, the doctors examined the body in the area hospital and handed over the dead body to the family members.



Naresh's death has left his family members deeply saddened. Jangaon AMC chairman Banuka Shivaraj Yadav and many dignitaries, village elders and relatives visited their family members expressing their deepest condolences.

Power Shutdown Schedule on tomorrow's 25/06/2026)

Amberpet June:24 (Metro udayam)

Newspaper to carry out essential tree branch trimming and routine maintenance works.

Morning Schedule (09:30 AM to 12:30 PM)

Affected Feeders: 11KV Amberpet Feeder & 11KV Playground Feeder

Affected Areas: Amberpet Main Road, MRO Office Road, Purnodaya Colony, MCH Colony, Kumarwadi, Burjugalli, Turab Nagar, Mukkaram Hotel Road, Irani Hotel Back Side Lane, Akash Nagar, Raghunath Nagar, Swamy Dayanand School Lane, and Erukala Basti.

Afternoon Schedule (02:00 PM to 05:00 PM)

Affected Feeders: 11KV Chenna Reddy Nagar & 11KV Babu Nagar

Affected Areas: Water Works, Ahmed Nagar, Narendra Nagar, Patel Nagar, Rajalah Galli, Chilkamma Galli, Patel Nagar Hanuman Temple, Necklace DTR, Shivalayam Temple, Chenna Reddy Nagar, Babu Nagar, Akash Nagar, and Kakatiya Showroom.

With Regards,
AE OP AMBERPET

49 Employees Selected for Railway Seva Puraskar in Guntakal Division

Sub-headline:
69th Railway Week
Awards Ceremony to be
Held Grandly

Guntakal, June 24:

The Divisional Railway Authorities of the South Coast Railway (SCoR), Guntakal Division, have announced the selection of 49 employees for the prestigious Railway Seva Puraskar Awards for the year 2025-26. The awards presentation ceremony will be held on Wednesday at the Guntakal Railway Institute. Railway Seva Puraskar Awards are presented every year to recognize



employees who have demonstrated outstanding performance and dedication in railway services. This year, employees from various departments including Civil Engineering, Commercial,

Electrical, Mechanical, Operating, Signal & Telecommunication, General Administration, and Personnel have been selected for the awards. The division authorities have instructed all award

recipients to report by 1:00 PM and register their attendance. Employees have also been advised to carry their official identity cards. The awardees will be honored in recognition of their commitment, hard work, and exemplary service in their respective fields.

Senior railway officials, colleagues, and representatives of railway unions have congratulated the employees selected for the prestigious awards.

Photo Caption: Railway officials releasing the list of employees selected for the 2025-26 Railway Seva Puraskar Awards in Guntakal Division.

TOMO Welcomes New Outdoor Advertising Policy (G.O. No. 173)



Hyderabad, June:24, MetroUdayam

The Telangana Outdoor Media Owners Association (TOMO) has welcomed the new outdoor advertising policy (G.O. No. 173) for the Hyderabad Urban Region. Speaking at a press conference held at the Somajiguda Press Club, TOMO President Syed

Iftexhar Mehdi stated, "TOMO enthusiastically welcomes the new outdoor advertising policy introduced by the Telangana government via G.O. No. 173 for the Hyderabad Urban Region. This policy marks a significant step forward in ensuring transparency, safety, responsible management, and systematic regulation within the out-



door advertising sector." Subsequently, TOMO General Secretary K. Ramesh said, "Our association extends heartfelt gratitude to Telangana Chief Minister Sri A. Revanth Reddy for his efforts to regulate the urban advertising sector and foster economic growth while prioritizing public safety and the city's aesthetics. We also

appreciate the services of the officials from GHMC, Cyberabad, and Malkajgiri who worked on formulating and implementing these comprehensive guidelines." Following the meeting, a 'Palabhishekam' (ritual offering of milk) was performed on the portrait of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy.

TTD to release Rs. 300 special Tirumala darshans of September quota today

Special Entry Darshan (Rs. 300) tickets for September of this year will be released on Wednesday (24-06-2026) at 10:00 AM. The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has issued a key announcement for devotees planning to visit the Lord at Tirumala. It stated that the quota of Special Entry Darshan (Rs. 300) tickets for September of this year will be released on Wednesday (24-06-2026) at 10:00 AM. Devotees were advised that they could book their preferred slots in advance by logging into the official TTD website or mobile app. As these tickets are usually in high demand, TTD urged devotees to remain alert and book them promptly. In addition to the darshan tickets, TTD announced that the quota of accommodation rooms for devotees in Tirumala and Tirupati would also be made available online today at 3:00 PM. By reserving both darshan tickets and accommodation rooms in advance for their September visit, devotees can avoid any inconvenience in



Tirumala and have a peaceful pilgrimage. South Asians & Diaspora However, TTD warned devotees to be cautious of fake websites and

emphasized that bookings should be made solely through the official portal.

Speaker Narwekar expresses regret in Maha Assembly over Marathi reading lapses during obituary reference

Mumbai: Maharashtra Legislative Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar on Wednesday expressed deep regret over the pronunciation and reading errors committed during Monday's condolence motions in Marathi. Responding to severe backlash on social media and criticism from MNS chief Raj Thackeray, BJP leader Narwekar clarified in the House that the mistakes were entirely inadvertent. He attributed the lapses to a faint printout, small font size, and technical errors in the brief supplied to him. Emphasising his immense pride in the Marathi language, Narwekar stated that he never intended to insult legendary singer Asha Bhosle, adding, "If the sentiments of the state or the House have been hurt, I express my sincere regret." Narwekar said, "The text given to me for reading the condolence motion contained certain errors, which unfortunately got read out as they were. There were twelve condolence motions in total. The printout I received was faint, and the font size was very small, alongside a few technical glitches."



Defending his track record, Narwekar emphasised his respect for the state's official language. "Like everyone else, I take immense pride in the Marathi language—perhaps even more so. Over my past four years as Speaker, I have delivered numerous speeches and conducted extensive House proceedings seamlessly in Marathi. No one, let alone the Speaker of the Assembly, could ever think of disrespecting an icon like late Asha tai Bhosle. What happened was purely an inadvertent error, and it should not be misinterpreted. However, if the sentiments of the citizens of the state or the members of this House have been hurt, I express my sincere regret,"

he said. Narwekar's move comes amid controversy over pronunciation and factual errors while reading out a condolence motion. The row began during Monday's legislative proceedings when Speaker Rahul Narwekar moved a condolence resolution to pay tribute to the legendary playback singer, the late Asha Bhosle, and political ideologue Deendayal Upadhyaya. While reading the text in Marathi, Narwekar committed multiple mispronunciations and blunders, including mistakenly referring to Asha Bhosle's iconic father, Pandit Deenanath Mangeshkar, as Deendayal Mangeshkar.

The mistakes quickly triggered a massive wave of trolling on social media, with netizens questioning the Speaker's Marathi articulation. MNS chief Raj Thackeray launched a scathing attack on Narwekar, heavily criticizing the butchering of the language on such a solemn occasion and expressing dismay that no other lawmaker in the House stepped up to correct the errors. Raj Thackeray's viral criticism was highly sarcastic, mockingly questioning if someone had "eaten bhel from the paper before it was handed over to the Speaker" because the reading was so heavily disjointed. As the Assembly convened on Wednesday morning, the issue was immediately raised by Opposition benches. Ajay Choudhari, the Shiv Sena (UBT) MLA representing the Shivadi constituency, strongly condemned the incident and demanded strict accountability. "Action must be taken against those responsible for providing a print with such incorrect phraseology and errors that tarnish the image of the Speaker. The dignity of this august House must not be compromised," Choudhari demanded.

Tata Power seeks licence to distribute electricity in 19 Karnataka districts, ESCOMs oppose move



Bengaluru : A major debate has emerged in Karnataka's power sector after Tata Power Company Limited approached the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) seeking a licence to distribute electricity in 19 districts across the state. The proposal includes several districts under BESCOM's jurisdiction such as Bengaluru Rural, Ramanagara, Tumakuru, Chikkaballapur, Kolar and Chitradurga. The application has, however, faced stiff resistance from Karnataka's state-run electricity supply companies (ESCOMs), including BESCOM, HESCOM, CESC, MESCOM and GESCOM. These utilities have argued that allowing a private player into their service areas could adversely affect their financial health and disrupt the existing power distribution system. According to ESCOM officials, private companies are more likely to target high-revenue consumers such as industries, commercial establishments and large businesses. These consumers contribute significantly to the revenue earned by government-owned utilities. The income generated from such customers is often used to subsidise electricity supplied to farmers, rural households and economically weaker sections.

ESCOMs fear that if Tata Power attracts these profitable consumers, state-owned distributors could suffer substantial revenue losses. This could weaken their ability to continue providing subsidised power and maintaining infrastructure in rural and less profitable areas. Officials have also warned that the burden of sustaining the power sector may eventually fall on ordinary consumers. On the other hand, supporters of private participation argue that increased competition can improve service quality, operational efficiency and customer satisfaction. They believe private investment could help modernise the power distribution network and reduce transmission losses. KERC is currently conducting hearings and examining objections and suggestions from stakeholders before taking a final decision on Tata Power's application. The regulator's verdict is expected to have a significant impact on Karnataka's electricity distribution sector, potentially reshaping the balance between public and private participation in power supply across the state.

High security blueprint ready for Gugudu Brahmotsavams and Muharram

Police personnel and local representatives review security arrangements as devotees gather for the Gugudu Brahmotsavams in Narpala mandal, where enhanced surveillance and crowd-management measures have been put in place. Anantapur: District Superintendent of Police P Jagadish has directed officials to implement an airtight security apparatus to ensure the peaceful conduct of the annual Sri Kullaya Swamy Brahmotsavams at Gugudu village in Narpala mandal alongside district-wide Muharram processions. Reviewing the micro-level preparations, the SP noted that the Gugudu festival, which represents a unique legacy of communal harmony, commenced with the first darshan of Sri Kullaya Swamy on June 17 and will culminate on June 29. Anticipating a massive turnout of devotees for key rituals like the Chinna Sarigetti, Pedda Sarigetti, and Jaladhi programs, the police department has significantly enhanced crowd-management measures. The SP, accompanied by Additional SP M. Nagabhushanam, inspected the temple premises, fire-pit (Agnigundam) zones, queue lines, village roads, and parking lots. To facilitate



digital surveillance, a dedicated command-and-control room has been set up, linking multi-angle CCTV networks and live drone feeds for real-time monitoring. Personnel from the district headquarters, including Armed Reserve (AR) and Special Party staff, have been mobilized to assist local police. Concurrently, the SP issued a stern warning against anti-social elements attempting to dis-

rupt Muharram processions. He announced that mobile patrol units have been deployed in communally sensitive pockets across the district. Special crime-prevention teams are on high alert to curb pickpocketing and theft, while women police personnel have been stationed round the clock to ensure security for women and children.

Hyderabad: CM Revanth Reddy asks cadre and leaders to be vigilant on SIR

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy warned that there would be no leniency towards leaders who act negligently regarding the SIR process, stating that the party would not tolerate inaction that causes it harm. He clarified that non-performing leaders would be given a 10-day grace period, after which replacements would be appointed. He directed that Sarpanches be mobilised to campaign about the SSIR in villages. The Congress party has gone into alert mode as the Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls (SSIR) program is set to begin in Telangana tomorrow. Telangana news A

Zoom meeting was held in this regard, attended by TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, the Chief Minister, AICC In-charge Meenakshi Natarajan, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, AICC Secretary Sachin Sawant, as well as ministers, MLAs, MPs, and constituency in-charges.

Mahesh Kumar Goud urged MLAs, constituency in-charges, and booth-level leaders to remain vigilant and ensure there is absolutely no negligence during the SSIR process. He called upon party cadres to play a pivotal role in safeguarding voters' rights. Emphasizing that there

should be no laxity in the revision of voter lists, he highlighted the need to closely monitor the BJP's political strategies across the country. The PCC President cited the events surrounding vote management in West Bengal and expressed concern over the possibility of attempts to delete votes that are favorable to their party. He warned of the risk of conspiracies aimed at secular votes and urged party cadres to ensure that every eligible voter is included in the electoral roll. He emphasized that booth-level agents must play a crucial role.



BRAOU Opens UG & PG Admissions for 2026-27



Hyderabad: Dr B. R. Ambedkar Open University (BRAOU) has announced the commencement of admissions for undergraduate and postgraduate programs for the academic year 2026-27. Eligible candidates who have completed Intermediate or equivalent qualifications from the National Open School, TS Open School Society, 10+2, or a two-year ITI/Polytechnic course can directly enrol in UG programs such as B.A., B.Com., and B.Sc. Geographic Reference For postgraduate studies, BRAOU is offering admissions into M.A. (Telugu, English, Hindi, Urdu, Economics, History, Public Administration, Political Science, Sociology, Journalism & Mass Communication), M.Com, M.Sc. (Botany, Zoology, Physics, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Mathematics, Applied Mathematics), M.LISc, Diploma courses, and Certificate programs. The last date for registration and payment of tuition fees is August 7, 2026.

Admissions are strictly through online enrollment at learner centres across Telangana, with tuition fees payable via Credit/Debit Cards or TS Online Franchise Centres. The admission prospectus is available on the university portals www.braouonline.in and www.braou.ac.in, as well as free of cost at learner centres in Telangana. For guidance, students may contact the toll-free number 18005990101, mobile 7382929570, or information centres at 040-23680222/333/555. Additionally, students from earlier batches under CBCS (UG second and third year from 2021-22 to 2025-26, and PG batches from 2023-24 to 2025-26) who missed tuition fee payments can also utilise this opportunity to complete their payments through Net Banking, Credit/Debit Cards, or TS Online before the deadline.

INCOIS Launches Specialised El Niño Bulletins for Maritime Sectors



INCOIS has started issuing Specialised El Niño Bulletins to highlight possible impacts on India's maritime sectors. Chevela MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy unveiled the first bulletin at INCOIS headquarters on Tuesday. The bulletin says El Niño is intensifying and will peak between November 2026 and January 2027. High sea surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean will last until April-May 2027, stressing the northern Indian Ocean, including the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal. This may cause coral bleaching, more marine heatwaves, and fewer sardines and mackerel due to migration or reduced recruitment of young fish. Fish growth may also suffer. The bulletin warns that the Bay of Bengal will have rough seas during the monsoon, raising the risk of coastal erosion and flooding along the east coast. The Arabian Sea and the west coast are likely to remain calmer, helping maritime operations and reducing the risk of flooding. INCOIS urges maritime operators to monitor its advisories to reduce risks and plan operations. The next bulletin will be released in the second week of July 2026.

Telangana Ministers Seek Centre's Support for Farmers, Demand Restoration of Palm Oil Import Duty

Telangana seeks restoration of 44% import duty and MGP for oil palm farmers. Ministers demand immediate DAP and urea supplies to meet Kharif-season needs.

Call to remove 25% cap on pulses and oilseeds, ensuring full MSP coverage. Request for Centre to procure crops at MSP to support farmers facing price drops.

New Delhi: Telangana Ministers Tummala Nageswara Rao (Agriculture, Cooperation, Handlooms & Textiles) and Uttam Kumar Reddy (Irrigation & Civil Supplies) met several Union Ministers in New Delhi on Tuesday to present petitions concerning farmers' welfare and state-specific agricultural needs. Accompanied by MPs Raghuvir and Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, the delegation urged the Centre to take immediate steps to safeguard Telangana's farming community. During their meeting with Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Prahlad Joshi, the ministers highlighted the rapid expansion of oil palm cultivation in Telangana under the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm



(NMEO-OP). Telangana has already brought 3 lakh acres under oil palm cultivation, with over 70,000 farmers engaged, and aims to expand to 10 lakh acres over the next three years. They expressed concern that the recent reduction in the crude palm oil import duty from 44% to 16% has severely impacted domestic farmers, leading to lower prices for Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFBs). The ministers requested the restoration of the 44% duty and the introduction of a Minimum Guaranteed Price (MGP) to protect farmers

and ensure the success of Atmanirbhar Bharat and the goals of edible oil self-sufficiency.

Meeting Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan, the delegation sought immediate supply of DAP and urea fertilisers to Telangana, citing a sharp rise in demand with the onset of the Kharif season. They also urged the removal of the 25% procurement cap on pulses and oilseeds, arguing that farmers should be allowed to sell their entire produce at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). This, they

said, would encourage diversification, strengthen food security, and reduce dependence on imports. The ministers further raised the issue of maize and jowar procurement. Telangana has produced a record 15 lakh tonnes of maize and 3 lakh tonnes of jowar this year, but market prices have fallen below MSP. While the state government has already intervened to purchase these crops, the ministers have requested that the Centre include maize and jowar under MSP procurement to relieve farmers' distress.

Ram Mandir Donation Row: Opposition Corners UP Govt After SIT Report Reveals Loopholes In Temple Cash Handling

Amid a brewing political storm, opposition leaders demand daily display boards to track Ram Mandir donations after an SIT preliminary report flags "loopholes" in cash and gold handling. Samajwadi Party (SP) and Congress leaders raised concerns about alleged irregularities in Ram Mandir donations on Wednesday, calling for greater transparency, accountability, and an investigation into the matter. The issue came to light after a statement was issued during an interview with the media, in which SP MP Neeraj Kushwaha said the government should thoroughly review the three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) report and ensure its release. The government should carefully review any report the SIT may have prepared, make a proper disclosure, and remove the responsible persons from the management of the system if any fault is discovered. Kushwaha said that Lord Ram was worshipped by millions in this country, and if the money donated in his name was misused or looted by anyone, it would affect the nation's sentiment.

He also said the allegations had upset people all over the country. He said that members of the Sindhi community had donated about 200 kg of silver bricks, but now questions



were being raised about their location, citing media reports. He also called on the government to be transparent in the gifts given to the temples, stating that there should be display boards indicating the amount of gifts received daily and how they are being utilised. Congress leader Rudra Daman Singh also called for action in the court. While the allegations of a land scam cropped up after the Ram Temple was constructed and donations were taken, he said that an FIR be filed immediately and the case be investigated under the guidance of a sitting High Court judge after allegations of misappropriation of donations worth thousands of crores surfaced.

Furthermore, Congress leader Amit Tyagi termed the accusations as very serious and said the Ayodhya Ram Temple in

UP has a close association with the beliefs of Hindu people in the country and around the world. Earlier this Tuesday, the SIT had sent a report on the preliminary probe into the donation row to the Uttar Pradesh government. The SIT team presented a preliminary report to Uttar Pradesh Home Secretary Sanjay Prasad and is believed to have highlighted some lapses at various levels. Additionally, the SIT team, led by Lucknow Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant, Inspector General of Police Kiran S and Finance Department Special Secretary Neel Ratan, checked various registers of the temple that indicated that gold and jewellery were being offered at the temple, the manner in which cash was handled by temple staff and also looked at the CCTV footage

to reach the conclusion.

While an investigation into the alleged embezzlement is underway, the SIT team is believed to have focused on alleged weaknesses and loopholes in the management of temple funds and gold offerings. It is also thought to have highlighted irregularities in its first report concerning cash handling, the transport of cash to the Temple Trust office, and even CCTV surveillance. The SIT, which was set up on June 13 at the direction of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath after the row over donation to the temple developed into a political furore, was requested to submit its final report within 15 days. The SIT team, in its investigation, also examined many suspects, including direct cash donors to the temple. As a result, the Uttar Pradesh government is set to take tough action against the SIT team after it submits its final report in a week, as it is accused of embezzling funds and offerings meant for Lord Ram for personal use. During his visit to Ayodhya on June 19, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced that the SIT probe will bring to light the truth and expose all irregularities. He had also asked the devotees to share any 'inputs or evidence' they had about the alleged malpractices with the SIT team.

Display boards showing offerings must be installed: SP, Cong amid Ram Mandir donation row

New Delhi: Samajwadi Party (SP) and Congress leaders on Wednesday raised concerns over the alleged Ram Mandir donation irregularities and demanded greater transparency, accountability, and a thorough investigation into the matter.

Speaking to IANS, SP MP Neeraj Kushwaha said that the report prepared by the three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) should be carefully examined by the government and made public.

"Whatever report has been prepared by the SIT should be thoroughly reviewed by the government. A proper disclosure should be made, and those responsible for managing the system should be removed immediately if any wrongdoing is found. Lord Ram is worshipped by millions of people in this country, and if there has been any misuse or looting of donations offered in the name of faith, it deeply hurts the sentiments of people across the nation," Kushwaha said.

He further stated that people across the country were distressed by the allegations. Referring to media reports, he claimed that members of the Sindhi community had donated silver bricks weighing around 200 kg, but questions were now being raised regarding their whereabouts.

"I would also like to urge the government to ensure complete transparency regarding temple offerings. There should be dis-



play boards showing the amount of donations received every day and details of how that money is being utilised," he added.

Congress leader Rudra Daman Singh also demanded immediate legal action. "After donations were collected for the Ram Temple, allegations of a land scam surfaced. Now, there are allegations of misappropriation involving offerings worth thousands of crores. Despite this, no police case has been registered so far. We demand that an FIR be lodged immediately and that the matter be investigated under the supervision of a sitting High Court judge," he said.

Congress leader Amit Tyagi described the allegations as

extremely serious, saying the Ayodhya Ram Temple in Uttar Pradesh, is closely linked to the faith of Hindus across the country and worldwide.

"The issue that has come to light is known to everyone. The alleged theft involving temple offerings and donations is a matter of grave concern. Every time a Special Investigation Team is constituted, but what are the outcomes? We demand that the government make public the findings of all SITs that have been constituted so far," Tyagi said.

Earlier on Tuesday, the SIT submitted a report on its initial findings to the Uttar Pradesh government on the donation row.

The SIT team handed over a preliminary report to Uttar Pradesh Home Secretary Sanjay Prasad and is understood to have pointed out procedural lapses at multiple levels.

The SIT team, comprising Lucknow Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant, Inspector General of Police Kiran S, and Finance Department Special Secretary Neel Ratan, scrutinised various temple records about gold and jewellery offerings at the temple, handling of cash and other valuables offered by the staff and also scanned CCTV footage to arrive at the conclusion.

Though a detailed investigation

into alleged embezzlement is underway, the SIT team is understood to have zeroed in on alleged lapses and loopholes regarding the management of temple funds and gold offerings. It is also believed to have flagged discrepancies in its initial report, about the cash handling process, its transportation to Temple Trust office and also CCTV surveillance.

The SIT team, constituted on June 13 at the behest of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath after the temple donation row turned into a political storm, was asked to submit its final report within 15 days.

The SIT team, during its investigation, also grilled many suspects, including those directly involved in handling cash donations and offerings at the temple.

After the SIT team submits its final report in a week, the Uttar Pradesh government is likely to clamp down on those under the scanner for alleged financial mismanagement and siphoning off of cash and offerings meant for Lord Ram, for personal use.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, during his visit to Ayodhya on June 19, stated that the SIT probe will bring out the truth and will unmask the irregularities.

He had also asked the devotees to share any 'inputs or evidence' with the SIT team if they had any, about the alleged malpractices.

Kurnool GGH blood centre bags top national award



Collects record 13,546 units in Andhra Pradesh. Kurnool: The Blood Centre at Kurnool Government General Hospital (GGH) has been honoured with the prestigious National Award by the National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC) in recognition of its outstanding contribution to blood transfusion services. The award was presented during the National World Blood Donor Day celebrations organised by the NBTC in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, on June 16. The recognition highlights the blood centre's exceptional performance in promoting voluntary blood

donation and ensuring quality transfusion services. Kurnool GGH Blood Centre secured the top position in Andhra Pradesh by organising 42 voluntary blood donation camps and collecting 13,546 units of voluntary blood donations during the year. In recognition of this remarkable achievement and its commitment to strengthening blood transfusion services, the National Blood Transfusion Council conferred the prestigious national honour on the institution. Expressing happiness over the achievement, Hospital Superintendent Dr K Venkateswarlu on Tuesday

said the national recognition was a matter of great pride for Kurnool GGH and reflected the collective efforts of the blood centre's doctors, staff, voluntary blood donors, service organisations, and the public. Blood Bank In-charge and Head of the Department Dr G Baleswari, Associate Professor Dr S Sunitha, Assistant Professors Dr Shaik Shahanaz and Dr C Ravikanth, Counsellor Kiran, Lab Technicians Jagadishwar Reddy and team, along with Staff Nurses Gera Sujatha, Indira Vishwasamma and others, were present on the occasion.

Ekta Kapoor explains Kangana Ranaut's absence from 'Lock Upp: Sach Ya Sazaa'



Mumbai: TV Czarina Ekta Kapoor has talked about Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut's absence from the new edition of 'Lock Upp: Sach Ya Sazaa' and said that the upcoming season 2 of the reality show's format and vision have undergone a major transformation. Ekta, who is the producer of the show, revealed the reason behind Kangana's absence at the launch event here. Ekta said: "The format changed so much, the whole vision of the show changed and the demographic, the kind of jailor-judge format we had, we had changed the full dimension of the show." "So nothing of the original show has been kept, neither the jailor, nor the host. And so keeping anything from the old would not keep the fresh presentation from the brand new. So I am not sure how to answer," she concluded. The first edition of the show was hosted by Kangana in 2022. Karan Kundrra was introduced as Jailor for the entire season. Munawar Faruqui was named as the winner. The first edition of the show followed contestants, who were accused in the outside world and fought it out in jail to earn every basic necessity and win the heart of the host and audience by performing tasks and showcasing their personalities. The second installment will have fourteen inmates, two jailers, and one lock-up for 6 weeks. As per the rules, inmates must complete tasks to earn in-game currency required for even the basic necessities such as food, supplies, and privileges. Actors Ram Kapoor, Shivangi Joshi, and fiery Desi Bling breakout star Pamala Serena were unveiled as the newest inmates of 'Lock Upp: Sach ya Sazaa'. Riteish Deshmukh and Farah Khan will take charge as the Jailers of the show. It will stream on Netflix. Ekta had earlier described the show as not just another "reality show". The TV Czarina called it a "social experiment packed with entertainment, drama, and surprises at every turn."

My mother sold her jewellery; I want to make her sacrifice count: Kranti Goud

New Delhi: India pacer Kranti Gaud opened up on her early struggles and sacrifices made by her family, revealing that her mother sold her jewellery to buy a proper cricket kit for her, and she wanted to make their sacrifice count. Kranti, who hails from Madhya Pradesh, made her ODI debut in the tri-series featuring South Africa in Sri Lanka and her T20I debut on the tour of England, where she also returned stunning figures of 6-52. Andhra Pradesh news Speaking about her early struggles, Kranti said on JioStar, "I never dreamt that big about playing cricket. Coming from a small village, from a place where girls are not even allowed to step out freely. If girls go out or try to do anything, they have to face taunts and criticism from people. But I always heard that those who keep working hard never lose. "So, I just kept going. I kept bowling, kept learning and kept believing. I didn't let the noise around me stop me. I kept working hard, session after session, match after match. And today, I have reached this stage where I am representing India in the T20 World Cup. Wearing this jersey, standing on this big stage, it feels like all those struggles were worth it." Reflecting on the support she received from her fam-



ily and the sacrifices made by her parents, Kranti added, "If your family supports you, then what others say doesn't matter. Because those outsiders are not supporting you anyway. At that time, many girls were not even allowed to step out. But my parents were different. Everyone in my family always supported me. They never made me feel that I was doing something wrong. They believed in my dream. That support made all the difference."

She continued, "It gave me the strength to keep going and keep chasing my goal. When you know your family is with you, the world outside becomes easier to ignore. I am

grateful to them for standing by me through every step of this journey because there were a lot of problems. I had to go and play matches, but there was always a shortage of money. My mother sold her jewellery to buy me a proper cricket kit. That was a huge sacrifice. My family was doing so much for me, and that made me feel responsible. I wanted to give something back to them. I wanted to make their sacrifice count." The 22-year-old fast bowler also shared that India's performances in the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup and the title win led to the establishment of her native village Ghuwara. "Because of my perform-

ances for India in the ODI World Cup, a cricket academy has opened up in Ghuwara village, where I hail from. Many young girls are now coming there to play cricket. That is a proud moment for me. Their parents are now trusting their daughters and believing that they can build a career in this sport. I meet these girls regularly. "Earlier, they were not allowed to step out of their homes freely. But now, because of the academy and my journey, they practise regularly. The World Cup win has played a huge role in this change. I just want these kids to achieve whatever goals they have set for themselves," she said.

Shedge replaces Nitish



New Delhi: The promising Suryansh Shedge has replaced injured all-rounder Nitish Reddy in India's squads for the upcoming T20I series against Ireland and England, the BCCI said on Tuesday. Earlier, India were dealt a blow as Reddy was ruled out of the white ball tour of UK with a quadriceps injury that he had sustained during the recent ODI series against Afghanistan. "The men's selection committee has named Suryansh Shedge as a replacement for Nitish Kumar Reddy in India's squads for the upcoming T20I series against Ireland and England," the BCCI said in a statement. Shedge earned the call-up following a string of impressive performances for India A in the recently concluded tri-series in Sri Lanka. Batting in the middle order, the 23-year-old scored 147 runs in five matches and also chipped in with the ball, bowling 23 overs across the tournament.

FIFA WC 2026: 'We are still fighting,' says DR Congo manager after Colombia defeat



Guadalajara: Democratic Republic of the Congo manager Sebastien Desabre has urged his players to remain positive and continue believing in their chances of reaching the FIFA World Cup 2026 knockout stage despite suffering a narrow 1-0 defeat to Colombia in Group K.

The African nation, making its first World Cup appearance since 1974, now sits third in the group with one point from two matches. DR Congo must defeat Uzbekistan in its final group fixture in Atlanta on Saturday to keep alive any hope of progressing to the round of 32.

Speaking after the loss at Guadalajara Stadium, Desabre admitted the result was disappointing but stressed that his team could not afford to dwell on it.

"We need to accept the loss, keep our heads high and get back into the fight quickly," Desabre told reporters after the match as quoted by Xinhua.

Colombia secured all three points through a late goal from Daniel Munoz, who finally broke DR Congo's resistance after a disciplined defensive performance from the African side for much of the contest.

Desabre acknowledged that Colombia had been the better team on the night and deserved the victory.

"It would have been good to get a draw, but we must recognize that Colombia was superior," he said. "They have an excellent possession game. We came into the game late. Our second half was better, but that's football. We have to analyze what happened and move forward."

Despite the setback, the French coach remains encouraged by his team's progress during the tournament. DR Congo earned its first-ever World Cup point with a 1-1 draw against Portugal in its opening match, a result that also brought the nation's first goal at the global showpiece.

"We are happy to have scored our first goal, and we are using this as a learning experience. Uzbekistan will be difficult because they defend well, but we are going to give our all. Now we have to rest and recover our energy," he said.

Gill climbs to No.2 in ODI rankings; Henry draws level with Bumrah atop Test bowling charts

Dubai: India opener Shubman Gill climbed to second place in the latest ICC ODI Batter rankings, while New Zealand pacer Matt Henry joined India's Jasprit Bumrah at the summit of the Test Bowling rankings following stellar performances across formats. There was also a change at the top of the Test batting rankings, with England veteran Joe Root reclaiming the No.1 position. Root's scores of 46 and 77 against New Zealand helped him move over two places and overtake teammate Harry Brook and Australia's Travis Head to return to the summit for the 12th time in his career. Gill gained three places after his recent performances and now sits second among ODI batters, just 24 rating points behind top-ranked Daryl Mitchell. Fellow India batter Ishan Kishan also made significant progress, jumping 21 places to move to joint 43rd in the ODI batting rankings.

India's bowlers enjoyed

notable gains as well following the completion of the ODI series against Afghanistan. Left-arm seamer Arshdeep Singh rose 16 places to 22nd among ODI bowlers, while Prasidh Krishna surged 34 spots to joint 58th. All-rounder Washington Sundar climbed 17 places to joint 71st in the same list. In Test cricket, New Zealand fast bowler Matt Henry became only the third New Zealander to reach the No.1 ranking for Test bowlers, drawing level with India's Bumrah at the top following his match-winning 11-wicket haul in the second Test against England at The Oval. Bumrah had held sole possession of the top ranking since overtaking South Africa's Kagiso Rabada in November 2024, but Henry's heroics helped New Zealand level the three-match ICC World Test Championship series against England at 1-1 and earn him a share of the top spot.

Henry joins Jack Cowie, who first achieved the feat



in 1947, and New Zealand great Richard Hadlee, who held the position between 1984 and 1990. His current rating of 870 points has only been surpassed by two New Zealand players in ICC rankings history: Hadlee, who reached 909 in 1985, and former captain Kane Williamson, who attained a batting rating of 919 in 2021. Several New Zealand batters were rewarded for their performances in the same Test. Rachin Ravindra moved up two places to 10th, Daryl Mitchell climbed five spots to 16th, Glenn Phillips jumped eight places to 31st, and Henry

Nicholls gained 13 positions to reach 40th. In T20Is, Australia's Mitchell Marsh rose four places to ninth among batters after his side's series sweep over Bangladesh, while teammate Nathan Ellis climbed three spots to seventh in the bowling rankings.

Despite Bangladesh's 3-0 series defeat, Towhid Hridoy advanced nine places to 30th, and Saif Hassan moved up 13 spots to joint 35th among T20I batters. Spinner Nasum Ahmed also enjoyed a major rise, jumping 27 places to 11th in the T20I bowling rankings.