



Dharmavaram to get reliable drinking water

Minister Satya Kumar Yadav launches Rs 36.21 crore AMRUT 2.0 project Dharmavaram (Sri Sathya Sai district): Health Minister and Dharmavaram MLA Satya Kumar Yadav laid foundation stone for a major drinking water infrastructure project worth Rs 36.21 crore under AMRUT 2.0 scheme in Dharmavaram municipality on Thursday. The project, to be executed during the 2025-26 financial year, aims to resolve the town's long-standing water crisis.



Addressing the gathering at Ramnagar, the Minister noted that residents have been facing severe shortages for decades, with water supplied only once every four days or, in some areas, once a week. The main issues stem from inadequate pumping at Panupalli intake point and frequent power disruptions, he noted. Under the new initiative, Dharmavaram will be divided into three water supply zones to ensure

135 litres of safe drinking water per person per day. Key components include installing high-capacity pumps (17,460 litres per minute) at Panupalli and Thammapuram, construction of a new 10 MLD water treatment plant, three 1,000 KL Elevated Level Service Reservoirs (ELSRs) at Ramnagar, Shantinagar, and Giriraj Colony, and replacement of 35.73 km of old pipelines.

Satya Kumar Yadav emphasised that replacing corroded pipelines will significantly improve water quality and supply reliability. He also announced that a separate Rs 110 crore Detailed Project Report for strengthening power infrastructure is under approval, with Rs 4.6 crore already sanctioned in the first phase. The Minister directed the executing agency, JWIL Infra

Limited, to complete the project within 12-15 months instead of the scheduled 18 months to address public hardship at the earliest. Public Health Executive Engineer Suryanarayana, Municipal Commissioner Venkataramanaiah, officials of JWIL Infra Limited, municipal authorities, BJP leaders and local residents attended the programme.

AP and Telangana to receive heavy rains for three days



Heavy rainfall is forecasted across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana as the Southwest Monsoon advances. Stay updated with the latest alerts and safety advisories. Telangana news The Southwest Monsoon is advancing across Andhra Pradesh, bringing heavy rains to the state. Following heavy downpours in several districts on Thursday, the Amaravati Meteorological Centre has issued a forecast for continued heavy rainfall on Friday and Saturday. It warned that rains are expected on June 26 in the districts of Anakapalli, Kakinada, Konaseema, East Godavari, Polavaram, West Godavari, Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram Manyam, Alluri Sitarama Raju, and Visakhapatnam, urging the public to remain alert. The department also indicated a likelihood of rains accompanied by lightning in other districts, advising farm laborers, farmers, and herders to exercise caution and seek shelter in safe areas during the rainfall. The Meteorological Department stated that gusty winds blowing at speeds of 40 to 50 kmph are likely. Moderate rainfall is expected today in the North Andhra and Coastal Andhra districts. It reported that in the last 24 hours, the highest rainfall of 5.2 cm was recorded at Garugubilli in Parvathipuram Manyam district, followed by 3.5 cm at Gudivada (Krishna district), 3.5 cm at Parvathipuram (Parvathipuram Manyam district), 3.3 cm at Narsapuram (West Godavari district), and 3 cm at Bhimadole (Eluru district). Rainfall of 2.9 cm was recorded in Kaikaluru (Eluru district), 2.7 cm in Vizianagaram, 2.6 cm in Amalapuram (Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district), and 2.4 cm at Paleru Bridge (NTR district). The Meteorological Department has announced that heavy rains are expected in the Rayalaseema region over the next three days, accompanied by gusty winds blowing at speeds of 40-50 kmph. While some areas will experience rainfall, others will continue to face intense heat. Officials have advised farmers to consider alternative cropping strategies, noting that the El Niño phenomenon will impact Andhra Pradesh as well.

AP minister Ramprasad Reddy express shock over Pileru accident

Andhra Pradesh State Transport Minister
Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy



Transport Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy expresses condolences following a fatal road accident near Pileru, Annamayya district, that left three dead. Andhra Pradesh State Transport Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy expressed shock over the accident that occurred near Pileru in Annamayya district. He described the death of three people in the accident as deeply distressing and conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. He directed district officials to ensure the injured receive quality medical care. He instructed officials to provide all necessary assistance to the victims. The Minister spoke with senior officials over the phone to gather details about the incident and wished the injured a speedy recovery. A car and an auto-rickshaw collided near Pileru in Annamayya district. Three people died on the spot, and seven others traveling in the auto-rickshaw sustained severe injuries. Acting on information from locals, the police arrived at the scene and shifted the injured to the hospital in Pileru. A case has been registered, and an investigation is underway. The deceased have been identified as residents of Hyderabad; police stated that the accident occurred while they were traveling to Pamuru following the death of a relative.

Rottela Panduga commences at Barashahid Dargah in Nellore



The annual 'Rottelu Panduga' festival begins at Nellore's Barashahid Dargah. Extensive security, sanitation, and transport arrangements are in place for devotees. The prestigious 'Rottelu Panduga' (Roti Festival) at the Barashahid Dargah in the Nellore city commenced today (Friday) with great grandeur. The festivities began on the first day with the 'Sandal Mal' ritual, observed with deep devotion. Thousands of devotees from various states across the country have arrived at the Dargah to offer special prayers. Officials anticipate a massive turnout of devotees for the festival, which runs until the 30th of this month. To ensure a smooth experience for the devotees, the district administration has made extensive arrangements. Officials have specifically deployed 900 sanitation workers to maintain cleanliness in the Dargah premises, along main roads, and in the Swarnala Cheruvu area. Meanwhile, the district police have implemented stringent security measures, deploying a total of 1,743 police personnel for security duty. Continuous surveillance of the Dargah and surrounding areas is being maintained using 26 drones and 96 CCTV cameras. Extensive checks are being conducted by bomb squads and dog squads. District SP Ajitha Vejjendla has warned that strict action will be taken against any officials or staff found negligent in their duties. In view of the influx of devotees, the APSRTC is operating 69 special bus services. RTC officials stated that the benefits of the 'Stree Shakti' scheme for women and the 'Divyanga Shakti' scheme for the differently-abled are being extended to these special services. History Following directives from CM Chandrababu's government, all departments are working in coordination to ensure the festival proceeds smoothly and that devotees face no inconvenience.

Crude oil prices fall up to 2 pc, head for steep weekly losses

Global crude oil prices fall sharply as supply concerns in the Strait of Hormuz ease despite regional tensions, putting Brent and WTI on track for weekly losses. Global crude oil prices fell sharply on Friday and were on track to post steep weekly losses as easing supply concerns in the Strait of Hormuz outweighed fresh geopolitical tensions following an attack on a cargo vessel near Oman. International oil benchmark Brent crude futures fell \$1.51 or 2 per cent, to \$73.75 a barrel in early trade. Similarly, US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude declined \$1.50 or about 2 per cent to \$70.42 a barrel. Both benchmark contracts had gained more than 2 per cent in the previous session after a cargo vessel was struck by an unidentified projectile near Oman, prompting the United Nations' shipping agency to suspend its voluntary evacuation programme. According to media reports, two US officials said Iran had fired on the cargo vessel as it attempted to transit the Strait of Hormuz. Iranian authorities, however, said the security of ships sailing outside designated Hormuz routes could not be guaranteed. Despite the latest security concerns, Brent and WTI were both headed for weekly losses of nearly 7 per cent as fears of supply disruptions eased following an improvement in tanker traffic through the Strait of Hormuz. Crude shipments through the strategic waterway rose this week to their highest level since the US-Israel conflict with Iran began in February, after a ceasefire helped reopen the route. However, overall vessel traffic remained well below the pre-conflict average of around 125 ships per day. The Indian basket of crude oil -- a weighted average of Brent Dated, Oman and Dubai crude grades imported by domestic refiners -- averaged \$86.31 per barrel in June so far, after surging during the West Asia conflict.



Missed calls to the Prime Minister to implement the Women's Bill..

Chikkadapally, 26 June Metro Udayam : On Friday, Khairatabad District President Shambhula Ushasri Srikanth Goud chaired a very ambitious missed calls program of the All India Mahila Congress, demanding the immediate implementation of the bill providing 33 percent reservation for women in the legislatures (Lok Sabha and state assemblies). The meeting, held at the office of the contested MLA of Khairatabad constituency, Vijaya Reddy, was attended by the chief guests, Telangana State Mahila Congress President Errabelli Swarnakka, National Mahila Congress General Secretary, and Telangana State Mahila Congress In-charge Kamalakshi Rajanna. On this occasion, postcards



were signed demanding that Modi immediately implement the Women's Reservation Bill. Also, a missed call program was organized with a large number of women over the phone to implement the 33% reservation bill. Through these missed calls, Modi's thoughts changed and the Women's Reservation Bill was implemented immedi-

ately. This phone missed calls program was organized across the country on the instructions of All India Mahila Congress President Alakalamba. As part of that, the responsibility of working to protect our right to vote through the SIR Special Intensive Revision Report lies with all of us, including district presidents, constituency presidents, block presi-

dents, division presidents, booth level presidents. He also demanded that we all participate in this SIR program to identify and identify fraudulent votes and go to every house to ensure that there are no fraudulent votes. In this program, Khairatabad District In-charge State Vice President Suguna Reddy, Khairatabad District Secretaries Mari, Sonia, Lavanya, Consensus Presidents Kamala, Madhavi, Block Presidents Sridevi, Priyanka, Vanaja, Prasanna Bharathi, Anita, Division Presidents Anuradha, Kavita Ayesha Begum, Srilatha, Rajani, Sridevi, Madhuri, Sandhyarani, Yellamma, Anuradha, Bhavani, Roji, Durga, Sunitha, Lakshmi, Booth Committee members and others participated.

Dr. G. S. Gopal Reddy Creates New World Record on International Day Against Drug Abuse

Hyderabad June:26 (Metro udayam):

A spectacular new World Record was successfully created under the supervision of Wonder Book of Records International on the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Dr. G. S. Gopal Reddy, Founder and Director of GVR Karate Academy, demonstrated his exceptional martial arts skills by breaking 26 apples placed on the heads of six students in just 36 seconds using precise hand chops, thereby setting a remarkable new World Record. The six students who courageously participated in the record attempt were Bhargava Sai, Praneeth, Naithik Reddy, Sanjana, Thanvi, and Chinmayee Priya, whose confidence, discipline, and trust played a vital role in the successful completion of the record. The achievement was officially observed and certified by Bingi Narendar Goud, India Chief Coordinator of *Wonder Book of Records Interna.

Speaking on the occasion, *Mr. Bingi Narendar Goud* congratulated Dr. G. S. Gopal Reddy for successfully completing the World Record with outstanding precision, discipline, concentration, and adherence to safety standards. He stated that the record was much more than a display of martial arts excellence, as it carried a strong social message encouraging young people to stay away from drugs and embrace discipline, sports, fitness, and a healthy lifestyle. He further appreciated Dr. Gopal Reddy for consistently creating meaningful World Records dedicated to important national and



social causes, thereby inspiring thousands of young people across the country. He also congratulated the six participating students for their courage and commitment, acknowledging that their confidence and teamwork contributed significantly to the success of the record attempt.

On behalf of Wonder Book of Records International, Mr. Bingi Narendar Goud extended his heartfelt congratulations to Dr. G. S. Gopal Reddy, the participating students, their parents, instructors, and the entire GVR Karate Academy team. He

expressed confidence that the academy would continue to achieve many more World Records while promoting discipline, social awareness, and national values.

The event was attended by *Mrs. Mahalakshmi Ramana Goud, Former Corporator, Himayath Nagar; **Mrs. Uma Ramesh Yadav, Former Corporator, Kachiguda; **Mr. Ramesh Yadav; **Dr. A. Krishna Reddy, Founder of Vivek Hospital; **Mr. Kotla Niranjan Reddy, Founder and Director of Netaji Group of Schools; along with GVR Karate Academy Black

Belts **Karim, Amrutha Reddy, Gana Santhoshinee Reddy, Raju, Sudhakar, Anagha, Shiney, Dwaita*, other students, parents, and numerous dignitaries, all of whom congratulated Dr. G. S. Gopal Reddy and the participants on this historic achievement.

Through this World Record, GVR Karate Academy once again reinforced its commitment to spreading the message of a *Drug-Free India*, encouraging young people to choose discipline, fitness, and positive living over addiction.

Divya Vadlakonda Awarded Doctorate from Osmania University



Hyderabad, metro udayam june 26: Divya Vadlakonda has been awarded a Doctorate (Ph.D.) by the Examination Branch of Osmania University for successfully completing her research under the supervision of Dr. Ram Shepherd Beenaveni from the Department of Sociology, Osmania University.

Her doctoral thesis was titled: "Women in Welfare State: Awareness, Challenges and Implications – A Study of Selected Rural and Urban Areas of Telangana State."

Divya completed her Bachelor's degree (B.Sc. MEC Group) from Osmania University and later pursued an M.A. in Sociology, earning a Gold Medal for her academic excellence. She qualified for the UGC-NET examination and secured a Junior Research Fellowship (JRF), through which she completed her Ph.D. research. Currently, she is working as an Extension Officer in the Department of Women Development and Child Welfare, Government of Telangana.

Through her research, Divya comprehensively analyzed the gap between the accessibility of welfare schemes and the actual empowerment experienced by women.

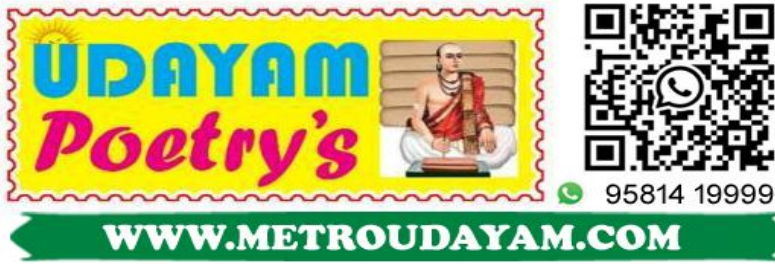
One of the significant theoretical contributions of her study is the introduction of the concept of "Unconscious Empowerment." According to this concept, many women achieve empowerment through employment, participation in social activities, and utilization of welfare schemes, yet often do not consciously recognize or identify themselves as empowered individuals.

The researcher believes that the findings of this study will be valuable for policy formulation related to women's welfare and empowerment, as well as for future academic research in the field. Divya Vadlakonda is the daughter of Snehalatha and Venkat Rao from Metpally town, Jagtial district, Telangana. Relatives, friends, and well-wishers have congratulated her on achieving the prestigious doctoral degree from Osmania University.

BRS leader Nagesh Mudiraj visited the dargah on the occasion of Muharram festival



Hyderabad, June:26, MetroUdayam BRS Leader Nagesh Mudiraj visited the Hasain and Husain Baba dargah in Kavadi guda on the occasion of Muharram festival and offered special prayers. He worshipped the Peers and took their blessings.



करबला के मार्गदर्शन में इस्लाम की वास्तविक छवि जो प्रेम, करुणा, न्याय की है, उसे बचाने की सख्त जरूरत है। समाधान पवित्र कुरान और पैगंबरी शिक्षाओं की ओर लौटने में है।... (शकील उवाच -७३९)

इस्लाम का मूल उद्देश्य इंसाफ, रहमत और समानता स्थापित करना रहा कृ. पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) और उनसे पहले वाले नबियों ने यही संदेश दिया कि किसी पर किसी तरह का जुल्म न हो और समाज में दया और न्याय कायम हो। कुरआन और पैगंबरी शिक्षाओं का सार यही है कि धर्म का अस्तित्व मानवता की भलाई के लिए है, न कि सत्ता के लिए। धर्म की बुनियाद ही मानवीय मूल्यों पर रखी होती है। जो मानव नहीं हो सकता वह कभी धार्मिक नहीं हो सकता।



इतिहास में मुनाफिकों ने धर्म के शब्दों और प्रतीकों को सत्ता तथा निजी स्वार्थ की ढाल बना लिया। उन्होंने धार्मिक पदों और मान्यताओं को अपने लाभ के अनुसार मोड़ा, जिससे धर्म की मूल नैतिकता कमजोर पड़ी और सामाजिक विश्वास में दरारें आईं। इस व्यवहार ने धर्म की असल शिक्षाओं को सार्वजनिक जीवन से अलग कर दिया। शांतिप्रिय धार्मिक मूल्यों को भ्रष्ट करते हुए जुल्मों-सितम (अन्याय एवं अत्याचार) से जोड़ने की कोशिश की गई। और इस्लाम को आतंकवाद से जोड़ने का षडयंत्र रचा गया।

करबला, और उससे पहले व बाद में हुई घटनाएं इस इस्लामिक मूल्यों के पतन की ज्वलंत मिसाल हैं। पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) के पहिले उत्तराधिकारी इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब अलैहिस्सलाम की शहादत, इमाम हसन अलैहिस्सलाम पर जहर, करबला में इमाम हुसैन अलैहिस्सलाम और उनके साथियों का कत्लेआम और उनके परिवारजनों पर अत्याचारकृद्दन सबने यह दिखाया कि किस तरह धर्म का नाम लेकर सत्ता का दुरुपयोग हुआ और मानवीय मूल्यों के हनन को धार्मिक झंडा मिल गया।

आगे के इतिहास में भी अहलेबैत अलैहिस्सलाम (पैगंबर के घर वालों) और इमामों पर लगातार दबाव और हिंसा जारी रही। इमाम जैनुल आबेदीन (अ.), इमाम मुहम्मद बाकर (अ.), इमाम जाफर सादिक (अ.), इमाम मुसा काजिम (अ.), इमाम अली रजा (अ.), इमाम मोहम्मद तकधि (अ.), इमाम अली नकधि (अ.) और इमाम हसन असकरी अलैहिस्सलाम कृद्दन महान शख्सियतों को राजनीतिक साजिशों, विषाक्तताओं और कंधे की कर दिए जाने जैसी परिस्थितियों में सताकर शहीद किया गया और इनकी शहादतें अस्थिर शासकीय नीतियों और षडयंत्रों का नतीजा रहीं। इन घटनाओं ने धार्मिक नेतृत्व की वैधता और निष्ठा पर गहरा प्रभाव डाला।

आज भी मुनाफिकों द्वारा हिंसा और धर्म का दुरुपयोग अलग-अलग रूप ले लेते हैं। आज भी आतंकवादी क्रियाएँ, साम्प्रदायिक दमन, और दमनकारी नीतियाँ इस्लाम के नाम से चलाई जा रही हैं। और मीडिया व प्रचार इनका दुष्प्रचार तेजी से करते हैं। इन सब के कारण पूरे समुदाय की छवि प्रभावित होती है जबकि अधिकांश मोमिन (सच्चे मुसलमान) इन कृत्यों से अलग खड़े होते हैं। और कुछ भोले-भाले मुसलमान मुनाफिकत (पाखंडता) को पहचान भी नहीं सकते जिसके नतीजे में यह लोग पाखंडी सत्ताधीशों के हाथों के कठपुतलियाँ बन जाते हैं।

करबला के मार्गदर्शन में इस्लाम की वास्तविक छवि जो प्रेम, करुणा, न्याय की है, उसे बचाने की सख्त जरूरत है। समाधान पवित्र कुरान और पैगंबरी शिक्षाओं की ओर लौटने में है। नेतृत्व की नैतिक जाँच, अहले बैत और पैगंबर (स्व.) की वसीयत का सम्मान, तथा धार्मिक आदेशों की सच्ची मान्यता। इसके साथ ही धार्मिक शिक्षा की गहराई, पारदर्शिता, जवाबदेही और समुदाय के भीतर मुक्त, समालोचनात्मक विमर्श भी जरूरी हैं ताकि पाखंड और दुरुपयोगों का सामना हो सके।

निष्कर्षतः इस्लाम की बदनामी मानव स्वार्थों और पाखंड का नतीजा है, न कि धर्म की आत्मा का। मोमिनों की जिम्मेदारी इन मूल सिद्धांतोंकृन्धाय, दया और इंसानियतकृको सशक्त बनाना और पाखंड के खिलाफ सक्रियता दिखाना है, ताकि धर्म की वास्तविक छवि फिर से जग में कायम हो सके। सबसे पहिले पाखंडीयों द्वारा बदले गये पवित्र कुरान के अर्थ और इस्लाम के नाम से गढ़ी गई झूठे हद्दीसों को पहचानते हुए, मुनाफिकों के चुंगल से खुद को बचाने की और हकूद के साथ चलने की हिम्मत करना हर मुसलमान का कर्तव्य है।

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

High Court adjourns BRS defection cases to July 22



Hyderabad: The HC bench of Chief Justice Apares Kumar Singh and Justice Ghouse Meera Mohiduddin on Thursday adjourned a batch of 10 writs filed by BRS legislators challenging the Assembly Speaker's orders dismissing their disqualification petitions against 10 party colleagues who defected to the Congress party. The bench fixed July 22 as the next date of hearing, directing the defected MLAs and the Speaker to file counters without further delay.

The ten BRS legislators who crossed over to the Congress without resigning from the BRS primary membership are Danam Nagender (Khairatabad), T Prakash Goud (Rajendranagar), Venkat Rao Tellam (Bhadradi-Kothagudem), Arekapudi Gandhi (Kukatpally), Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy (Jogulamba-Gadwal), Kale Yadaiah (Vikarabad), Pocharam Srinivas Reddy (Banswada), M Sanjay Kumar (Jagtial), Kadiyam Srihari (Station Ghanpur) and Gudem Mahipal Reddy (Patancheru). All 10 continued to participate in the Assembly proceedings while retaining their BRS membership.

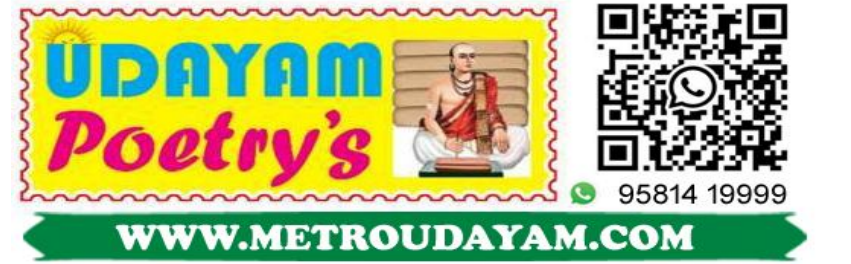
The writs were filed by sitting BRS MLAs challenging the Speaker's orders dismissing the disqualification petitions that had been filed before the Assembly.

The petitioners seek directions to set aside those orders. The writ petitions filed by Kuna Pandu Vivekanand (Medchal Malkajgiri), Kalvakuntla Sanjay (Metpally, Jagtial), Palla Rajeshwar Reddy, Chinta Prabhakar, Padi Kaushik Reddy, Gunthakandla Jagadish Reddy and KP Vivekanand (Quthbullapur). In addition, WP 8647 of 2026 filed by Kaushik Reddy and WP 8409 of 2026 filed by Alleti Maheshwar Reddy, MLA (Nirmal) representing the BJP, both pertain to the disqualification petition concerning Nagender.

The CJ bench had on April 16 issued notices to all 10 defected MLAs and the Speaker. On the last date of hearing, the bench had directed all respondents to file counters by Thursday.

When the issue came up before the court, senior counsel Vivek Reddy and senior counsel Gandra Mohan Rao, appearing for the BRS MLAs who had filed both the disqualification petitions before the Speaker and the writs before the HC, pointed out that despite the court's earlier direction, neither the defected MLAs nor the Speaker had filed responses.

The bench noted the non-compliance and adjourned the proceedings to July 22, reiterating its direction to all the defected MLAs and the Speaker to file counters before the next hearing.



Buried Feelings Always Find a Voice

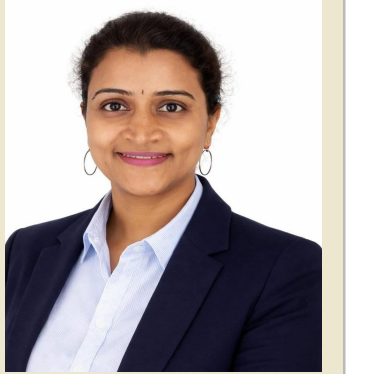
Emotions are not meant to be ignored they are meant to be felt.

Every feeling we suppress doesn't disappear it simply waits. It lingers quietly in the background, growing heavier with time. Life moves on, but our unprocessed emotions remain with us. Without a healthy outlet, they eventually find another way to surface. That's why a small inconvenience can trigger an overwhelming reaction.

You may cry over a dropped phone, a harsh word, or a minor mistake. But the tears are rarely about that single moment. They carry the weight of everything you've been holding inside. Every disappointment, every heartbreak, and every silent struggle adds to the burden. The mind may suppress pain, but the heart remembers it all. Healing begins the moment we stop pretending we're "fine." Allow yourself to feel without guilt or shame. Talk to someone, write your thoughts down, or simply sit with your emotions. Feeling deeply is not a weakness it is part of being human. The emotions you acknowledge gradually lose their power over you. The ones you bury only grow louder with time. Don't wait for a breaking point to release what you've been carrying. Process your emotions as they come with kindness, patience, and honesty.

Because what you heal today won't have to haunt you tomorrow.

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



he added.

The Assam government has launched an aggressive anti-drug campaign over the past few years, with law enforcement agencies carrying out regular operations across the state.

Hundreds of drug traffickers have been arrested and large quantities of narcotic substances, including heroin, methamphetamine tablets, ganja and other contraband, have been seized in coordinated drives by the Assam Police and other security agencies.

The state government has said that Assam's geographical location, sharing international borders with Bhutan and Bangladesh, while also serving as a gateway to the Northeast, makes it vulnerable to drug trafficking networks originating from the notorious "Golden Triangle" region. Consequently, the government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy against narcotics, combining strict enforcement measures with awareness campaigns and rehabilitation initiatives.

The observance of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on June 26 aims to strengthen global action and cooperation towards achieving a world free of drug abuse.

The day also seeks to raise awareness about the devastating impact of illicit drugs on individuals, families and communities while encouraging governments and civil society to work together in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation efforts.

Assam to continue relentless crack-down against narcotics: CM Himanta Sarma

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma reaffirms a zero-tolerance policy against narcotics. Learn about the state's intensified anti-drug campaign and efforts to protect youth on the International Day Against Drug Abuse.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Friday reaffirmed his government's commitment to intensifying its fight against narcotics, stating that the state would continue its relentless crackdown

on drug abuse and illicit trafficking to safeguard the future of the youth. Marking the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Chief Minister said the menace of drugs poses a serious threat to society and stressed that the government has been working consistently to dismantle drug networks operating in the state.

"Today, we mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit

Trafficking, a subject which our government is working on very closely with a relentless crackdown against drugs," CM Sarma said in a post on social media platform X. The Chief Minister asserted that protecting the younger generation from the harmful effects of substance abuse remains one of the government's top priorities.

"We remain committed to preserve the future of our youth and save them from this social destruction,"

Bjp National president Nithin Nabeen will be invited and welcome to Jangaon



Jangaon, June 26, Metro Udayam:

In the Janagama District Party office, Bjp District President Sauda Ramesh said that Bharatiya Janata Party National President Nitin Nabeen will come to Janagama District on 29th of this month. There is no doubt that Bharatiya Janata Party will take over Telangana in the near future. A large number of workers from various mandals of Janagama district were asked to come and welcome the President Nitin Nabeen. It was followed by District General Secretary Tokala Uma Rani, Bojjapalli Subhash Balla Srinivas, Sampath, Peddoju Jagadish, Santosh Mahipal, Dusari Sivakrishna Sai and others participated in the programme.

Chalo Bhuvanagiri Samarabheri Sabha

Janagama District Wall Posters were unveiled



Jangaon, June 26, Metro Udayam: Trp District President Katla Sadanandam attended as the Chief guest and unveiled the Bhuvanagiri samarabheri jangaon district wall posters in the district TRP office successfully. He spoke on this occasion that state, districts, mandal leaders must be appreciated for their performance, that the state leaders, district leaders and mandal leaders should be praised for the success of the meeting. It was followed by State joint secretary Gaddam Krishna, state leaders Seesha Sridhar, District Working President Jittaboina Naresh, district general secretary Udari Sathish, District vice president Renukuntla Murali Bindla, Youth President Pittala Suresh, Town Youth President Panuganti Krishna, SC Cell District President Panuganti Narsingarao, Zafargad Mandal President Kalakota Babu, Kodakandla Mandal President Sridhar Singarapu Ravi, district leaders MD Amjath Pasha, Jangaon Mandal President R Prashanth, Station Ghanpur Mandal President Neela Lingam, Lingala Ghanpur mandal president Rampe Kmaraswamy and others were participated.

BRS steps up SIR awareness drive in Tarnaka; voters urged to safeguard electoral rights

Hyderabad, metro Udayam June 26: Calling upon citizens to actively participate in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, BRS Greater Hyderabad General Secretary Jinkala Mallesh urged eligible voters to utilise the exercise to ensure their names and details are correctly reflected in the voter list. Acting on the directions of former Minister and Secunderabad MLA Padma Rao Goud, BRS leaders and booth-level workers undertook a door-to-door awareness campaign in the Tarnaka Division on Friday. During the drive, Enumeration Forms were distributed to residents, while party workers explained the significance of the SIR process and the procedure for submitting applications. The campaign covered



several localities, including OU Professors' Quarters, Fourth Class Employees' Quarters and adjoining residential colonies in the Osmania University area. Volunteers interacted with residents, encouraging them to verify their electoral details and complete the enrolment and correction process within the

stipulated time. Addressing the media, Jinkala Mallesh said the Special Intensive Revision provides an important opportunity for voters to register new names, correct existing entries, update personal details and seek deletion of ineligible names. He appealed to citizens to extend full cooperation to election

officials and participate responsibly in the exercise to strengthen the democratic process. Local BRS leaders, party activists and booth committee members took part in the programme and created awareness among voters on the importance of maintaining an accurate and updated electoral roll. -----

Heavy security deployed across MP ahead of Muharram processions today

Madhya Pradesh observes Muharram with solemnity and tight security. Get updates on the main procession routes in Bhopal, traffic diversions, and safety measures implemented across the state.

Madhya Pradesh is set to observe Muharram with religious fervour on Friday, with elaborate security arrangements in place across the state.

The main mourning procession will be taken out in Bhopal, while similar processions will be held in several other districts under tight police security.

Muharram commemorates the martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Hussain and his companions in the Battle of Karbala. The occasion is observed with mourning processions, religious discourses and the carrying of Tazias, Burraqs and ceremonial floats. Religious scholars will narrate the events of Karbala and highlight Imam Hussain's sacrifice for truth and justice.



In Bhopal, the main procession will begin from the Fatehgarh area and pass through Moti Masjid Square before reaching the Karbala grounds on VIP Road. Processions from different parts of the city will assemble at Peer Gate and later join the main procession. Thousands of devotees are expected to participate.

The police have deployed a large number of personnel along the procession route to maintain law and

order. Additional security has been arranged at sensitive locations, including Bharat Talkies, Nadra Bus Stand, Shahjahanabad, Royal Market, Kohefiza T-junction and the Karbala grounds.

Senior police officers will supervise the security arrangements throughout the day. Traffic diversions have been imposed on several roads in the city.

The movement of heavy and commercial vehicles has been restricted in the Old City during the pro-

cession. The administration has advised commuters to use alternative routes, particularly those travelling to Raja Bhoj Airport and Bhopal railway station.

Meanwhile, police conducted flag marches in several districts, including Indore, Ujjain, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Ratlam and Khargone, ahead of the Muharram processions. Security has been strengthened in sensitive areas to prevent any untoward incident and ensure peaceful observance of the occasion. District administrations have appealed to people to maintain communal harmony and cooperate with the police.

Police officials said adequate security arrangements, surveillance and crowd management measures have been put in place across the state. Police personnel will remain deployed until the conclusion of the processions to ensure the religious event passes off peacefully.

'Super Subbu' set for July 2 premiere

The quirky village of Maakipur is all set to welcome audiences into a world of misunderstandings, laughter and unexpected life lessons with Super Subbu, the first Telugu original series from Netflix. Headlined by Sundeep Kishan, the series premieres globally on July 2. At the heart of the story is Subramanyam "Subbu" Chillukuri Rao, a teacher who finds himself posted to the fictional village of Maakipur, a place no educator wishes to be assigned to. Hoping to prove himself, Subbu instead lands the most unexpected responsibility of all — teaching sex education in a conservative rural setting where every conversation quickly turns into gossip and confusion. The series blends comedy with social themes, following Subbu as he navigates awkward situations, eccentric villagers and a series of hilarious misunderstandings that slowly transform both him and the community around him. Speaking about the show, Sundeep Kishan revealed that the series approaches sensitive subjects with humour, warmth and honesty while showcasing the chaos surrounding Subbu's personal and professional life. Mithila Palkar plays an aspiring actor and influencer, while Murali Sharma appears as Subbu's father, Kukateshwar Rao. The cast also includes Brahmanandam, Getup Srinu, Maanasa Choudhary and Jeevan in pivotal roles. Written by Mallik Ram, Ramesh Eligeti and Shivani Dhobal, the coming-of-age comedy promises a refreshing mix of humour, heart and small-town charm.



NIA files chargesheet against 11 in JMB offshoot terror conspiracy in Bengal, Northeast

The NIA has filed a chargesheet against 11 individuals linked to 'Imam Mahmud Kafila' (IMK), a JMB offshoot, for a terror conspiracy to expand radical networks in India. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed charges against 11 accused in connection with a terror conspiracy orchestrated by an offshoot of the proscribed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) terrorist organisation. According to an official press release issued by the NIA on Friday, the accused have been charged under various provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UA(PA), 1967, in a chargesheet filed before the NIA Special Court in Guwahati, Assam. The agency said in its press release, "The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed charges against 11 accused persons in connection with a terror conspiracy orchestrated by an offshoot of the proscribed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) terrorist organisation."



tion with a terror conspiracy orchestrated by an offshoot of the proscribed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) terrorist organisation."

It further stated, "The accused have been charged under various BNS, 2023 and the UA(P) Act, 1967 in the chargesheet filed before the NIA Special Court in Guwahati (Assam)." NIA investigations revealed the active involvement of the accused in a conspiracy

linked to 'Imam Mahmud Kafila (IMK)' -- described as a manifestation of JMB, to expand the outfit's extremist ideology in West Bengal and the northeastern states, including Assam and Tripura. The conspiracy allegedly involved radicalisation of vulnerable youth, promotion of extremist propaganda, and expansion of the group's network in India. According to the agency, senior JMB member Imam Mahmud Habibullah had established IMK to advance

the banned outfit's agenda in India. The press release added, "NIA investigations had further revealed that the 11 chargesheeted accused had conspired to grow the presence of IMK/JMB in India through clandestine meetings, religious indoctrination programmes, circulation of extremist literature, and use of digital platforms for anti-India propaganda. They were promoting allegiance to the leadership of IMK/JMB." The agency further identified two key accused: Nasimuddin, who allegedly spearheaded IMK activities in Assam, and Jagir Mia, who was said to be leading the outfit's operations in Tripura. During the investigation, the NIA said it uncovered incriminating documents, electronic devices, and digital records used to build the case against the accused. The case, registered as RC-01/2026/NIA/GUW, remains under investigation.

JNTUH VC feted for appointing Jayalakshmi as first woman registrar

JNTUH appoints Dr. A. Jayalakshmi as its first-ever woman Registrar. The BC Welfare Association lauds the move as a landmark for social inclusion and gender equality. Hyderabad: Delegation led by Jajula Srinivas Goud, National President of the Backward Classes (BC) Welfare Association, met Dr T Kishan Kumar Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad (JNTUH), and expressed gratitude for appointing Dr A Jayalakshmi as the university's Registrar. With her appointment, JNTUH has achieved a significant milestone, as Dr Jayalakshmi becomes the university's first woman Registrar. Geographic Reference



The delegation, on Thursday, also felicitated JNTUH Rector Dr A Damodaram, describing Dr Jayalakshmi's appointment as a source of immense pride for both the university and the broader community. They lauded the Vice-Chancellor for entrusting this significant responsibility to Dr Jayalakshmi, a member of the Backwards Classes (BC) community, and highlighted that her selection marks a decisive step toward women's

empowerment and social inclusion in higher education.

Dr Jayalakshmi's distinguished career was acknowledged, with her previous roles as head of the EEE Department, Principal of UCESTH, and Director of UGC Affairs being cited as testament to her capabilities. The association emphasised that she stands as an inspiration to female professionals, symbolising new possibilities for

women in leadership roles.

The event was attended by BC Welfare Association State President K Srinivas, BC JAC convener Jajula Lingam Goud, and BC Youth Association President G Bhaskar, who joined in honouring the Vice-Chancellor, Rector, and Registrar for their efforts in promoting inclusive excellence at JNTUH.

Pulse Polio drive on June 28: Municipal Corporation appeals for full coverage

Kurnool: The Municipal Corporation has ramped up preparations for pulse polio immunisation programme scheduled for June 28. Public Health Officer Dr M Raghu urged parents to bring all children aged below five years to nearby booths to receive polio drops, stressing that immunisation is the only effective protection against polio.

An awareness programme held on Thursday at Kothapeta Urban Primary Health Centre saw doctors, health workers, ASHA staff, and medical teams review arrangements and strategies for 100% coverage. A total of 82,964 children under five will be targeted through 229 Pulse Polio booths across the city.

Trained medical teams will be stationed at all centres to ensure smooth implementation. Special door-to-door vaccination teams will visit households on June 29 and 30 to cover children



who miss the campaign day.

Special focus will be given to high-risk and mobile populations at bus stations, railway stations, brick kilns,

nomadic settlements, construction sites, and quarry areas. Dr Raghu called upon all health workers to ensure no child is left unvaccinated.

Illegal pickle unit busted in Warangal, one held



Adulterated stock worth Rs 2.25 lakh seized during Task Force raid

Warangal: The Task Force police raided an illegal pickle manufacturing unit operating under unhygienic conditions in the Kashibugga area of Warangal city and arrested one person. Adulterated food stock worth Rs 2.25 lakh was seized during the operation.

The raid was conducted at a house in Sai Street under Inthezarganj police station limits. Police found large quantities of spoiled raw materials being stored and repackaged for supply to local grocery shops and vendors. The accused, identified as Arikela Srinivas (51), was taken into custody. Officials seized around 750 kg of tomatoes, 900 kg of mangoes, 200 kg of lemons, 100 kg of gooseberries and 150 kg of ginger-garlic paste, all found to be spoiled and unfit for consumption.

The accused and the seized material were handed over to Inthezarganj Police Station for further legal action. Task Force officials appealed to the public to avoid purchasing unbranded food products and report any illegal food manufacturing or storage units to the police.

Former MLA reviews SIR process



Kurnool: Former Kurnool MLA and YSRCP leader Hafeez Khan, along with local ward leaders, visited 8th Ward Secretariat and interacted with officials and residents, listening to their grievances and concerns regarding various civic and administrative issues on Thursday.

During the visit, he took note of public's representations and assured that the issues raised would be brought to the attention of the authorities concerned for necessary action.

Later, Hafeez Khan held a detailed interaction with Booth Level Agents (BLAs) and reviewed the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process of voters' list. The BLAs informed him that at present only self-mapping and progeny mapping activities are being carried out, while the work related to Forms 6, 7, and 8 is scheduled to commence after July 15 as part of the electoral roll updating exercise.

Hafeez Khan directed BLAs to ensure that every genuine, living, and eligible voter is included in the electoral rolls without any omission, emphasising that no eligible voter should be deleted or excluded under any pressure or influence.

Minister attends Kumbhabhishekam at Dharmavaram temple



Dharmavaram: Health Minister and Dharmavaram MLA Satya Kumar Yadav participated in the Mahashanthi Pratishtha and Kumbhabhishekam celebrations at Sri Lakshmi Chennakesava Swamy Temple in Dharmavaram on Wednesday. The grand religious event, held once every 12 years, was performed with traditional Vedic rituals, including Suprabhata Seva, Swathi Punyahavachanam, various homams and Maha Purnahuti. The Minister offered prayers at the temple and received blessings from Tridandi Ashtakshari Sampath Kumar Ramanuja Jeeyar Swamy. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Satya Kumar Yadav prayed for the happiness, health, and prosperity of the people of Dharmavaram and the overall development of the constituency and the State. He emphasised that such spiritual events strengthen social harmony, faith, and cultural traditions while preserving heritage for future generations. Later in the day, the Minister distributed Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) assistance cheques worth Rs 22.66 lakh to 36 beneficiaries at the NDA office in Dharmavaram. He stated that, including the latest distribution, a total of Rs 9.89 crore has been provided to 950 beneficiaries in the constituency through CMRF and LOCs. He reiterated the government's commitment to supporting families in medical and financial distress under the leadership of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu. Prominent attendees included Jeeyar Swamy, Endowments Department officials, temple committee members, public representatives, BJP leaders, and devotees.

Implement SC/ST Atrocities Act strictly in Anantapur: MP Ambica



Anantapur: District Collector O Anand and Anantapur MP Ambica Lakshminarayana have directed strict implementation of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act in the district. Speaking at District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting held on Wednesday at the Anantapur Collectorate, the Collector instructed officials to resolve pending petitions, submit action reports on SC Commission complaints, and increase seats in Social Welfare and BC Welfare schools. He also directed issuance of ID cards to new DVMC members. MP Lakshminarayana announced that study centre in Srinagar Colony would be modernised using MP funds. District SP P Jagadeesh informed that 84 SC/ST atrocity cases were registered this year till June 15, with charge sheets filed in 50 cases. Since 2021, 721 cases have been registered. Committee members raised issues including pending petitions, encroachment of burial grounds, non-payment of sanitation workers' salaries, and demanded timely compensation, special grievance meetings, and better facilities in SC/ST hostels and Ambedkar Bhavans. Social Welfare JD and Committee Member-Secretary Srinivasa Rao, Additional SP Mahabub Basha, DSPs Srinivas and Ravibabu, RDOs Vasantha Babu and RBSK Srinivas, Markfed DM Pendeswari, DCO Aruna Kumari, Intermediate Education RIO Venkataramana Naik, Vigilance & Monitoring Committee members and others were present.

MoSPI joins GRAAM for Embark India Development Fellowship proposal

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has signed a statement of intent (Sol) with Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) for the engagement of two Fellows under the Embark India Development proposal, according to an official statement on Thursday. The initiative aims to leverage the Fellows' skills for the benefit of the Ministry while providing the Fellows with practical experience in public policy and governance. This collaborative initiative is a practical, collaborative platform between the ministry and GRAAM where highly motivated, research-driven individuals work alongside the Ministry. Through this program, Fellows will support ongoing or new initiatives, contribute to developing innovative solutions through research, and help address critical development, capacity building, and governance challenges with rigour and innovation.

The Embark India Development Fellowship (EIDF) is a national leadership and capacity-building initiative spearheaded by GRAAM in alignment with the 'Viksit Bharat at 2047' vision. The core purpose of the programme is to embed young professionals, academics, and researchers directly into government institutions (including MoSPI) and development agencies to address critical capacity-building, governance, and public policy challenges. The 18-month programme includes immersive 6-month institutional placements with hands-on training, mentorship by national experts, and grassroots data/policy research. Fellows work across domains like public finance, economic growth, public health, and climate action. The fellowship provides stipends of up to Rs 65,000 per month and opportunities to co-create high-quality, evidence-based policy solutions.



Anchored in the vision of 'Viksit Bharat at 2047', the programme offers rigorous training in development theory, public policy, and governance systems; strategic mentorship; and immersive field placements. Fellows will gain the skills, exposure, and experience to drive impactful, research-driven solutions to real-world development policy challenges. The signing ceremony was done in the presence of senior officials including PR Meshram, Director General (Data Governance), MoSPI; Basavaraju R. Shreshtha, Executive Director, GRAAM; and Prasoon Verma, Director, Training Unit, Capacity Development Division, MoSPI.

India, UK explore new opportunities to deepen economic, trade cooperation: Piyush Goyal

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and UK Secretary Peter Kyle confirm the July 15, 2026, implementation of the landmark India-UK CETA and DCC trade agreements. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Friday said that India and the UK remain committed to fostering an ecosystem that promotes innovation, investment, and holistic growth for both nations. In "meaningful discussions" with Secretary of State for Business and Trade, Peter Kyle, Goyal said that the "conversation reflected the warmth, trust and forward-looking vision that continue to define our bilateral partnership". "With the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and Double Contribution Convention (DCC) coming into effect on July 15, 2026, we remain committed to fostering an ecosystem that promotes innovation, investment, and

holistic growth for both nations," Goyal posted on X. He earlier addressed a business reception with wide participation from business leaders and investors from both India and the UK. Also Read - India won't sign US trade deal without competitive edge: Piyush Goyal Advertisement "Spoke about how the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) will unlock immense opportunities for growth & prosperity on both sides," said Commerce Minister. He also urged them to leverage the full potential of the landmark agreement to deepen collaboration, boost trade and investment flows, and drive innovation across sectors. Goyal earlier said that the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement will act as a force multiplier for the global economy by strengthening cooperation between



the two countries across trade, investment, technology and strategic sectors. Speaking at the India Global Forum's UK-India Week 2026 in London, Goyal said the partnership between India and the United Kingdom has expanded significantly over the years and has evolved into a highly strategic relationship encompassing multiple sectors. "The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement will act as a force multiplier to support the global economy," Goyal added. He noted that the bilateral relationship now extends beyond traditional trade ties to include cooperation in technology, investments, defence and critical minerals. According to the minister, the growing engagement between the two countries reflects the increasing depth and breadth of the India-UK partnership.

Pepe double helps Cote d'Ivoire into knockout stage for first time

Philadelphia: Nicolas Pepe scored a dynamic double as Ivory Coast secured their place in the FIFA World Cup knockout stages for the first time with a comfortable victory over Curacao in their final Group E match here on Friday. The African side were pushed hard, but in the end, their quality in the final third told as Pepe's brace earned them a 2-0 victory at Philadelphia Stadium. They finished second in Group E and will face either Norway or France in the round of 32 in Dallas on Wednesday. Pepe gave Cote d'Ivoire an early lead in the seventh minute, tapping in from close range after Yan Diomande won possession and

squared the ball to him. He doubled the lead in the 64th minute, taking Ibrahim Sangare's driven pass in stride before curling a left-footed shot into the top corner. Curacao pushed forward after falling behind but struggled to create clear chances, as Cote d'Ivoire held on to secure the victory. The result sent Cote d'Ivoire into the World Cup knockout stage for the first time after group-stage exits in 2006, 2010 and 2014. Curacao's maiden World Cup voyage ended in Philadelphia but will live long in the memory of the Blue Wave faithful. Pepe's seventh-minute goal is the fastest scored by Ivory Coast in their

World Cup history. "It's a source of pride and joy. We've qualified for the knockout stage, so for the people of Côte d'Ivoire, this is a source of pride. My two goals? It's all thanks to the team. On the first one, Yan Diomande did a great job setting me up with the ball. The second was a magnificent pass from Ibra' Ibrahim Sangare, and all I had to do was get my foot on it. "It's an individual honour, but also a team one. It's one game at a time. We're going to try to go as far as possible, we have the players and the quality to do it. We'll need to stay focused, rest up, and see who we'll be playing against," Pepe said after the game.

Nara Lokesh claps for Balakrishna–Koratala film opening at Amaravathi

The much-anticipated Bala krishna– Koratala Siva film launch turned into a grand spectacle as the project was officially inaugurated with a traditional pooja ceremony in Amaravati today. Backed by Sudhakar Cherukuri and Sudhakar Mikkilineni under SLV Cinemas and Yuvasudha Arts, the event marked a powerful beginning for the high-profile collaboration between actor-politician Nandamuri Balakrishna and director Koratala Siva. The launch ceremony witnessed the presence of Andhra Pradesh Ministers Nara Lokesh and Kandula Durgesh as chief guests. Lokesh emphasized the government's vision to position



Amaravati as a creative hub and promote the creator economy with world-class film infrastructure. Durgesh switched on the camera, while Lokesh sounded the clapboard. Balakrishna's

daughter Tejaswini directed the ceremonial first shot. Prominent industry figures including Suresh Babu, Gopichand Malineni, Venkata Satish Kilaru, and Sahu Garapati attended the event, symbolically handing over the script to the makers, adding further weight to the Balakrishna–Koratala Siva project launch. Speaking at the event, Koratala Siva expressed gratitude to the guests and recalled his early association with Balakrishna's films. He described the collaboration as a "blessing" and assured that the film would be a memorable treat for fans and audiences alike. Balakrishna, addressing the gathering, thanked the govern-

ment led by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan for their support in strengthening Andhra Pradesh's film ecosystem. He also highlighted plans to develop Vijayawada as a major film hub. The Balakrishna–Koratala Siva film launch event in Amaravati marks their first-ever collaboration, already generating strong buzz for its commercial appeal and emotional storytelling. Industry insiders suggest the film will combine Balakrishna's mass image with Koratala Siva's socially driven narrative style, making it one of the most awaited Telugu projects in coming years.

Mahesh Babu: 'Rao Bahadur' isn't just a film that grabs you by the collar but one that gets under your skin!

Hyderabad: Telugu star Mahesh Babu on Thursday showered praise on director Venkatesh Maha's upcoming psychological drama 'Rao Bahadur', featuring actor Satya Dev in the lead, saying this wasn't just a film that would grab you by the collar but one that would get under your skin. City & Local Guides Mahesh Babu, who is presenting the film along with his wife Namrata Shirodkar under the GMB Entertainment banner in association with A+S Movies and SriChakraas Entertainments, took to his X timeline to pen a note of praise. He wrote, "Rao Bahadur...It isn't just a film that grabs you by the collar but one that gets under your skin!!! Strange, beautiful and intensely dramatic. @mahais-notanoun builds a stunning world... @ActorSatyaDev takes over that world like only he can!!! @DeepaThomasss shines with a beautifully nuanced performance... The terrific cast and outstanding technical team have supported the film brilliantly!!! Extremely proud of the entire team. Can't wait for you all to witness #RaoBahadur and his madness on the big screens from July 3rd!!"

For the unaware, the makers had only recently released a Behind The Scenes (BTS) video of the film called 'Into The World Of Rao Bahadur', much to the delight of fans and film buffs. The BTS video -- Into the world of Rao Bahadur -- offered a fascinating window into the massive scale of the production. The video chronicled the rigorous pre-production, intricate



prosthetics work, and grand-scale filming schedules that defined the ambitious project. A major attraction of the footage was the astonishing physical transformation of Satya Dev. It captured the actor arriving on set and stepping straight into his vanity van to undergo a meticulous makeup and styling process. Complete with custom contact lenses and an elite wardrobe featuring an ornate purple sherwani, heavy pearl necklaces, and a traditional turban, Satya Dev fully embodies the majestic aura of a bygone era in the film. The video showed different looks of the actor in the movie. Beyond the actor's transformation, the glimpse shed light on the massive production values and technical craftsmanship being poured into the film. Viewers were taken onto lavish, antique-themed indoor sets, and

extensive outdoor locations. It also teased intense stunt preparation, underscoring the dynamic narrative flow planned by the director. The film is slated to hit screens worldwide on July 3. The film was originally supposed to release on June 5 this year. Deepa Thomas plays the leading lady in this film, while Vikas Muppala, Bala Parasar, Anand Bharathi, Pranay Vaka, and Master Kiran play pivotal roles. The movie has a solid technical team - Kartik Parmar has handled its cinematography while Smaran Sai has scored its music. Rohan Singh has taken care of the film's production design. Sources close to the unit of the film say that 'Rao Bahadur' will not just deliver grandeur, but a narrative that dives deep into legacy, hidden truths, and the haunting echoes of a bygone aristocratic world.

Producer MS Raju expresses happiness on 'Okkadu' re-release



Telugu cinema audiences are set to relive one of the industry's most celebrated blockbusters as Okkadu gears up for a grand 4K re-release on June 26. More than two decades after its original release in 2003, the action drama continues to enjoy an enduring legacy among movie lovers and remains a benchmark commercial entertainer. The digitally restored version will hit theatres across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and several other parts of India, offering fans an opportunity to experience the film's iconic moments on the big screen once again. Andhra Pradesh news Produced under the Sumanth Art Productions banner, the film emerged as a major milestone in the careers of both its lead actor and director. Its gripping screenplay, emotional storytelling, memorable dialogues and engaging action sequences played a crucial role in making it one of the biggest trendsetters in Telugu cinema during the early 2000s. Expressing his happiness over the latest re-release, producer M.S. Raju said the film has always received tremendous love whenever it returned to theatres. He noted that the continued celebrations surrounding the movie place it alongside timeless Telugu classics that have transcended generations. With nostalgia running high among fans, the makers are confident that Okkadu will once again recreate its magic on the silver screen from June 26.

'Mirzapur: The Movie' character posters promise a high-voltage fight for the throne

Mumbai: The makers of the upcoming film 'Mirzapur' unveiled character posters of its iconic characters of Munna Bhaiya, Guddu Bhaiya and Kaleen Bhaiya on Wednesday. Carrying the message, "Gaddi Hai Toh Hum Hain", the posters revisit the power, legacy and rivalries that have defined the Mirzapur universe, instantly sparking excitement among fans. Taking to their social media, the makers revealed Kaleen Bhaiya's (played by Pankaj Tripathi) first-Look character Poster and wrote, "Jo aaya hai, woh jaayega bhi, bas marzi Kaleen Bhaiya ki hogi. Aapka swagat karte hain bade parde par. #MirzapurTheMovie, teaser

out tomorrow at 12PM. Set a reminder and be the first ones to watch the teaser". Sharing Guddu Bhaiya's (played by Ali Fazal) character poster, the makers wrote, "Shuru majboori mein kiye the, ab maja aa raha hai. Guddu Bhaiya aa rahe hain bade parde par, taiyaar hain na? #MirzapurTheMovie, teaser out tomorrow at 12PM. Set a reminder and be the first ones to watch the teaser".

The makers also revealed Munna Bhaiya's (played by Divyenndu) character poster and wrote, "Hindi philam ke hero hain hum, kaha tha na, hum amar hain. Munna Bhaiya ka bhaukaal, ab bade parde par. #MirzapurTheMovie, teaser out

tomorrow at 12PM. Set a reminder and be the first ones to watch the teaser. Watch #MirzapurTheMovie only in cinemas in Hindi & Telugu". Presented by Amazon MGM Studios and Excel Entertainment, 'Mirzapur: The Movie' is directed by Gurmeet Singh, written by Puneet Krishna, and produced by Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar under the banner of Excel Entertainment. The film is co-produced by Kassim Jagmagia and Vishal Ramchandani. The film is all set to release in Hindi and Telugu language and is slated for a worldwide theatrical release on September 4, 2026.



'Mentally exhausted' Manika puts 'sword down', claims TTFI violated own constitution with oversized selection committee

Ace paddler Manika Batra steps back from her legal battle with the TTFI after her surprise exclusion from the 2026 Asian Games squad, citing mental exhaustion and constitutional discrepancies in the selection process.

Ace paddler Manika Batra said she is "mentally exhausted" and "putting her swords down" from her ongoing selection battle with the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI), while also expressing her dissatisfaction over the federation's reply to the three-time Olympian's demand for clarification over her exclusion from the Asian Games squad, pointing out the violation of the TTFI Constitution.

After the TTFI picked a 10-member men's and women's team led by Olympians Sreeja Akula and G Sathiyan for the upcoming Asian Games 2026, Manika questioned her exclusion from the squad for the continental event to be played at Aichi-Nagoya in Japan. Manika was named among the reserves along Swastika Ghosh. Her absence from the squad was surprising and has resulted in a controversy,



as the star athlete termed her omission "arbitrary and lacking transparency" and had requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya to intervene, warning of legal recourse if satisfactory explanations are not provided.

In response to Manika's query, TTFI had said that the selection process was carried out "strictly in accordance with the selection policy". It also rejected claims that Manika was not considered for selection, stating that "On the contrary, your candidature was specifically considered and voted upon by the selection committee."

Reacting to TTFI's reply, Manika said that there is a clear mismatch between

TTFI written laws and its execution, highlighting Article 24(C) in TTFI's constitution which says no more than seven members can be constituted in a sub-committee.

In a statement, Manika claimed that the document sent to her by TTFI claimed to show that a "9-member selection committee decided the Asian Games team." "TTFI, in its response to me, has stated that the entire selection process was conducted strictly in accordance with the rules. However, the documents available with me show that a 9-member Selection Committee decided the Asian Games team, while Article 24(C) (j) of the TTFI Constitution states that no Sub-Committee can have more than 7 members,"

Manika said in a statement. "A 9-member committee decided my fate, yet I am being told that the process was fully compliant with the Constitution and the rules. I will leave it to the people to decide, especially those who have repeatedly said that rules must be respected and followed equally by everyone," she added.

The Asian Games bronze medallist further said that she is putting her swords down as she is mentally exhausted from the fight and wants to focus on the tournament she is currently competing in and wished the selected contingent well for the continental event in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.

"I am mentally exhausted from this fight, and for now, I am putting my sword down. I have a bigger responsibility today. I am currently at a tournament representing India, and my complete focus will now be on the tournament ahead. To the selected team, I wish you nothing but success. Go and make India proud," she concluded.

The TTFI is yet to issue a formal clarification regarding the allegedly oversized selection committee.

Switzerland, Canada advance to knockout stage



Ruben Vargas and Johan Manzambi scored to give Switzerland a 2-1 victory over co-hosts Canada in Group B of the FIFA World Cup 2026 at the BC Place Vancouver, as both teams advanced to the knockout stage. Manzambi, 20, who impressed off the bench with two goals in Switzerland's 4-1 win over Bosnia and Herzegovina last Thursday, earned a start against Canada. Assisted by Manzambi, Vargas broke the deadlock early in the second half, as his strike sailed past Canada goalkeeper, hit the post and crossed the line. In the 57th minute, Breel Embolo crossed for Manzambi, whose finish made it 2-0, reports Xinhua. Geographic Reference Switzerland defender Manuel Akanji praised Manzambi after the match. "We need player like this that are creative; he sees things that maybe others don't see or are not capable of doing." Canada pulled a goal back in the 76th minute when Promise David scored with his first touch shortly after coming on as a substitute. "We did not secure at least a draw, it means that we have to leave here for the next game," David said. "We are kind of disappointed about that. But we scored a lot in all three games, I think we did show a new level of attacking football." Canada's qualification for a Round of 32 tie in Los Angeles marks the first time they have progressed from a World Cup group on the third attempt. The Canadians lost all three games on their previous two appearances in the global showpiece finals – in Mexico 1986 and Qatar 2022 now they have made history this time around in North America. Switzerland have qualified from the group stage for the sixth time in their last seven World Cup campaigns. Switzerland will be back at BC Place, Vancouver, on July 3 to take on the third-placed team from Group E, F, G, I or J in the Round of 32. For Canada, demoted to second place in the group by this defeat, they advance as runners-up and must travel south to Los Angeles for their meeting with the Group A runners-up on June 29.

Nigar's resistance in vain as India keep Bangladesh to modest 136/8

Mancheste: Captain Nigar Sultana and opener Juairiya Ferdous played composed knocks of 33 and 32 runs as Bangladesh posted 136/8 in 20 overs against a brilliant bowling effort of the Indian team, led by Radha Yadav, who took three wickets in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 at the Old Trafford Cricket Ground on Thursday.

After electing to bat first, Bangladesh endured a cautious start against a probing Indian attack. Shafali Verma set the tone with a tight opening over that yielded just three runs, while Renuka Singh Thakur, returning to the playing XI, struck early to provide India with the breakthrough.

Dilara Akter never looked settled and was dismissed for four in the second over when Renuka extracted extra bounce and forced an error, leaving Bangladesh at an early disadvantage. Despite the setback, Juairiya Ferdous continued her impressive run of form. The opener counterattacked with a series of crisp boundaries, collecting two fours in the fourth over before adding another in the next. At the other end, Sobhana Mostary gradually found her rhythm and eased some pressure with a boundary off Shree Charani.

The pair helped Bangladesh recover



steadily, with Ferdous particularly fluent through the off-side. Bangladesh reached 40/1 at the end of the Power-play, although India's fielding once again came under scrutiny as several catching opportunities went begging. Ferdous benefited from multiple reprieves during her stay, allowing Bangladesh to build momentum. With the Indian fielders unable to convert chances, Ferdous and Mostary stitched together a valuable 51-run partnership for the second wicket. The stand finally ended in the ninth over when Nandini Sharma produced a sharp return catch to dismiss Ferdous for a well-made 33 off 30 deliveries, an innings decorated with five boundaries.

Mostary and skipper Nigar Sultana then attempted to consolidate. While Mostary struggled to accelerate, Nigar looked increasingly assured at the crease and

rotated the strike effectively. Mostary's resistance came to an end in the 13th over when she miscued a slower delivery from Radha Yadav and was safely caught by Deepti Sharma. Her 22-run knock consumed 26 balls and included two fours. Nigar, however, ensured Bangladesh maintained forward momentum. The captain took the attack to Nandini Sharma in the 14th over, striking four boundaries and collecting 17 runs from the over. Her aggressive approach briefly shifted the momentum in Bangladesh's favour and raised hopes of a strong finish.

Just as Bangladesh appeared poised for a late surge, India struck a crucial blow. Nigar was stumped off the very first ball of the 17th over after advancing down the track and completely missing her attempted shot. Her enterprising innings of 32 came

off 24 deliveries and featured four boundaries.

The dismissal halted Bangladesh's progress. The middle order failed to capitalise during the closing stages, with Sharmin Akhter unable to accelerate and Ritu Moni's brief cameo ending after a quick eight runs.

India tightened the screws brilliantly in the death overs, with Radha and Charani sharing key breakthroughs. Charani capped off an impressive spell by claiming two wickets in the final over, ensuring Bangladesh were unable to finish strongly. The young spinner also entered the record books, becoming the first Indian woman to claim 12 wickets in a single edition of the Women's T20 World Cup.

Bangladesh eventually finished on 136/8 from their 20 overs, a total that appeared competitive but perhaps below par considering the opportunities they were handed through India's dropped catches.

Radha Yadav emerged as India's standout bowler with figures of 3/28, while Shree Charani picked up two wickets and continued her remarkable tournament. Renuka Singh Thakur and Nandini Sharma chipped in with a wicket apiece as India produced a disciplined all-round bowling display to keep Bangladesh's batting line-up in check.

Women's T20 WC: When and where to watch SL vs SCO, know all details

Manchester: Sri Lanka face a must-win encounter against Scotland in their final Group B match of the 2026 Women's T20 World Cup at Old Trafford on Friday, with their hopes of reaching the semi-finals hanging by a thread. The qualification picture remains finely balanced despite England already securing top spot and a place in the last four. Sri Lanka, defending champions New Zealand, and the West Indies are all still in contention for the remaining semi-final berth. However, Chamari Athapaththu's side not only need to defeat Scotland but also require West Indies to stumble against Ireland. Sri Lanka head into the contest with renewed confidence after a dominant nine-wicket victory over Ireland. Their bowlers laid the foundation by restricting the Irish batting line-up before captain Athapaththu produced a magnificent unbeaten century to guide her side home with ease and keep their campaign alive. Scotland may already be out of the race for the knockout stage, but they have shown enough throughout the tournament to suggest they will not be easy opponents. The team has produced competitive performances despite results not going their way and will be determined to finish its World Cup journey on a positive note. Players such as captain Kathryn Bryce, Darcey Carter, and spinner Kirstie Gordon have been among Scotland's standout performers and could pose a challenge to Sri Lanka in a high-pressure fixture. With qualification no longer entirely in their own hands, Sri Lanka's immediate focus will be on securing victory and giving themselves a chance. Anything less will bring their World Cup campaign to an end. When: Friday, June 26, 11:00 PM IST Where: Old Trafford Cricket Ground, Manchester Where to watch: The match will be broadcast on Star Sports channels, with JioHotstar live-streaming the game on their app and website. Squads Sri Lanka: Chamari Athapaththu (c), Hasini Perera, Vishmi Gunarathne, Harshitha Samarawickrama, Imesha Dulani, Nilakshika Silva, Kaveesha Dilhari, Hansima Karunaratne, Kaushini Nuthyanga, Sugandika Dassanayaka, Nimasha Madushani, Kawya Kavindi, Malki Madara, Mithali Ayodhya, and Chethana Vimukthi Scotland: Kathryn Bryce (c), Chloe Abel, Olivia Bell, Sarah Bryce, Darcey Carter, Priyanaz Chatterji, Gabriella Fontenla, Katherine Fraser, Kirstie Gordon, Ailsa Lister, Maisie Maceira, Hannah Rainey, Megan McColl, Rachel Slater, and Pippa Sproul