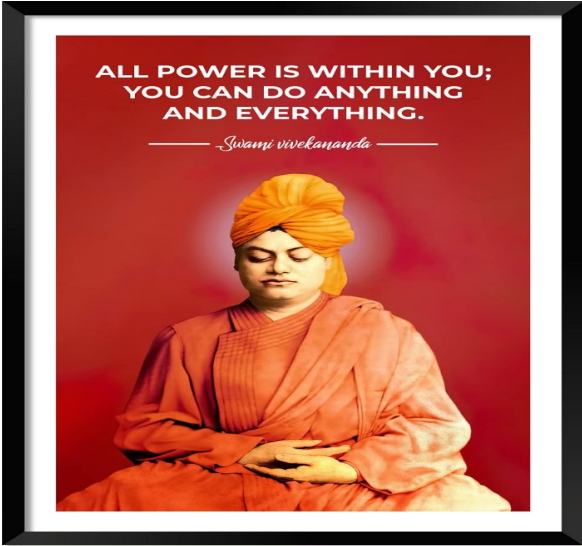
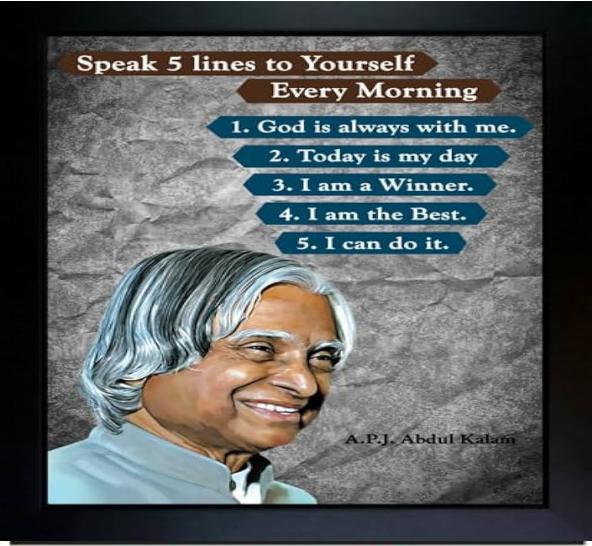




Revanth Reddy Meets Chouhan, Pushes for More VB-G Ram-G Works



Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Tuesday urged the Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to include additional works in VB-G Ram-G in the wake of the El Nino effect. Revanth Reddy, who met Chouhan, requested

to include 10 new works in VB-G Ram-G to improve farmers' livelihood and sought permission for vegetable sheds, fodder plots, mulberry gardens and silk-worm rearing sheds. He urged Chouhan to provide opportunities for development of farmers' lands, water

conservation and restoration of lands damaged by natural disasters. Revanth Reddy requested the Union Minister to include the works of Indiramma Houses in the VB-G Ram-G list and provide 90 days of work to the beneficiaries.

Telangana ACB Records Highest Quarterly Cases Since 1983

Hyderabad: Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) Charu Sinha here on Tuesday conducted a comprehensive review of cases registered and investigated by the bureau, with special focus on performance during the second quarter of 2026. During the review, the Director General expressed satisfaction over the bureau's performance and noted that the ACB had recorded the highest number of cases in a corresponding quarter since 1983, reflecting renewed focus, sustained vigilance, and professional commitment in combating corruption. It booked 10 DA cases, 34

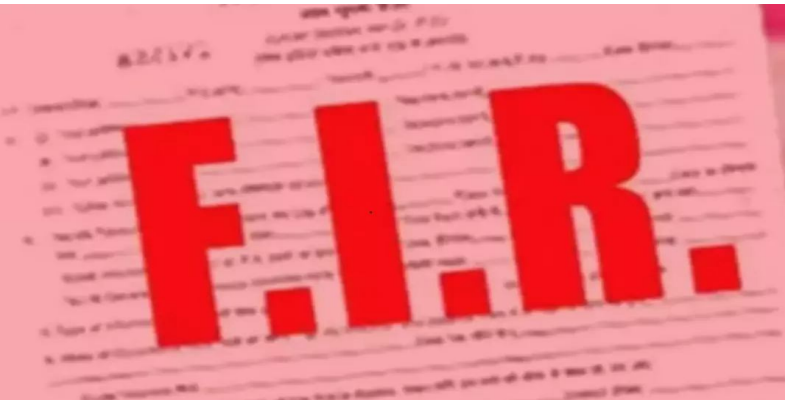


traps and 23 surprise checks. Meets Chouhan, Pushes for More VB-G Ram-G Works The Director General appreciated the efforts of officers and staff across all units

and staff who showed exceptional dedication and delivered outstanding performance during the quarter. Commendations and rewards were presented to the best performers for their contribution to the Bureau's anti corruption efforts. From July 31: Check Schedule Dates Addressing the gathering, the Director General congratulated the awardees and observed that "corruption makes a country hollow from within." Officers were urged to continue

working with integrity, determination, and a strong sense of public duty to strengthen public trust and uphold the rule of law. The Director General further emphasised that the Bureau's priority must remain professional, fair, and thorough investigation, supported by continuous capacity building, improved investigative standards, and sustained institutional vigilance. The event concluded with a collective resolve to intensify anti-corruption efforts and ensure that the ACB remains at the forefront of safeguarding integrity, accountability, and good governance.

4 Persons Booked as Telangana Woman Dies after Illegal Abortion



Hyderabad: A 35-year-old pregnant woman died in Jan gaon district of Telangana, allegedly following an illegal abortion after undergoing a prenatal sex determination test that revealed the foetus was female, police said on Tuesday. The abortion was carried out at the residence of an auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM) in Jangaon on July 21, and the woman died

in a state-run hospital here on July 25 after severe bleeding following the procedure. Cases Since 1983 Based on a complaint filed by the deceased woman's husband, a case was registered against four persons--the woman's mother, a registered medical practitioner (RMP), the ANM, and the owner of a scanning centre, a police official said. The couple were residing here

and had two daughters. After the woman became pregnant again, she went to Devuruppala mandal and her mother approached the RMP, who referred them to the scanning centre. After the scan revealed that the foetus was female, the woman's mother allegedly icial said. The accused are absconding, and further investigation is on, police added.

New Delhi: A Parliamentary panel has summoned representatives of major social media platforms, including Instagram, along with officials of the ministries of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Home Affairs, on August 3 to discuss regulation of social media and digital platforms. BJP MP Nishikant Dubey, who chairs the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology, said the panel has called representatives of Meta (Facebook, Instagram and



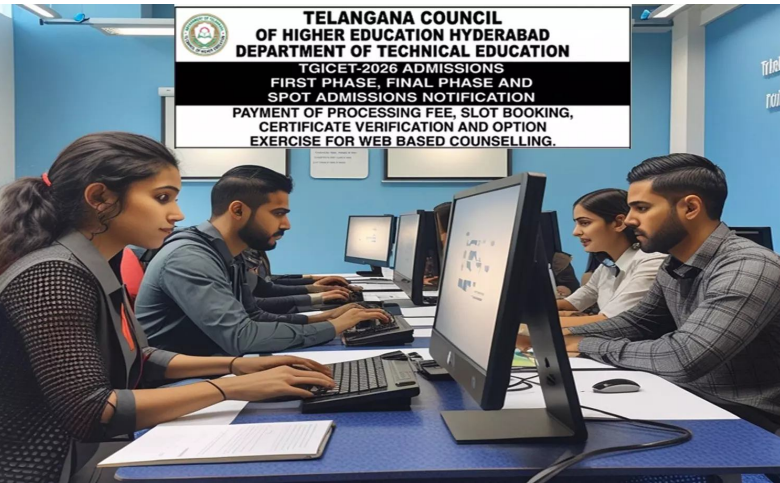
WhatsApp), Google, X (formerly Twitter) and Snapchat to explain how they protect the privacy of women, children, farmers, rural residents, labourers and the general public, and

ensure public order. Also Read - Uttarakhand: Rs 16 Cr Bridge Approach Road Caves In Within 16 Days The meeting comes days after social media, particularly Instagram, was

extensively used by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) to publicise and mobilise participants for its student protest at Jantar Mantar. The demonstrations, which were held over the NEET-UG paper leak and other issues, drew widespread attention online, with videos, reels and live updates from the protest sites being shared across social media platforms. Displaying Selective Outrage over Exam Paper Leaks: Bansuri Swaraj The 36-day CJP-led agitation at the Jantar Mantar here ended on Saturday after

the government accepted key demands of the protesters and Dharmendra Pradhan resigned as education minister. According to the notice issued on Tuesday, the agenda includes a "briefing by the representatives of (i) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY); (ii) Ministry of Home Affairs; and (iii) Social and Digital Media Platforms -- Snapchat, Google, X (formerly Twitter), Meta (Facebook and Instagram) on the subject 'Social and digital platforms and their regulation'."

TGICET 2026 Counselling From July 31: Check Schedule Dates



Hyderabad: The Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) has released the detailed notification for TG ICET 2026 counselling on its official website. Counselling for the MBA and MCA courses in government and private colleges in the state is scheduled to begin on July 31st, 2026. ICET admissions convener and Commissioner of Technical Education for Telangana, A. Sridevasena, released the schedule to this effect on Monday. Also Read - 4 Persons Booked as Telangana Woman Dies after Illegal Abortion Convener quota seats will be filled through two phases of coun-

selling. The first phase of counselling will begin on the 31st of this month and end on August 14. While the last phase of counselling will continue from August 17 to 25, and guidelines for spot admissions will be issued on August 24. Around 46,654 people who qualified will secure seats through counselling in ICET this year. The first Highest Quarterly t phase of the counselling schedule is as follows: Also Read - Telangana ACB Records Highest Quarterly Cases Since 1983 Slot booking for document verification: From July 31st to August 5th Document verifica-

tion: August 1-5th Registration for web options: August 3-8th Seat allocation to be completed by August 11th From August 11th-14th: Fee payment, self-reporting Guidelines for spot admissions: From August 24th, schedule is as follows: Highest Quarterly Cases Since 1983 Slot booking for document verification: From July 31st to August 5th Document verification: August 1-5th Along with the notification, TGCHE released the list of helpline centres, manual option form, and other details for reserved categories and category candidates.

YSRCP Seeks Nara Lokesh's Resignation



Amaravati: YSRCP workers and leaders on Tuesday staged protests across Andhra Pradesh, demanding the resignation of state Education Minister Nara Lokesh and a CBI inquiry into the alleged irregularities in the DSC-2025 teacher recruitment process. The protests, organised by the opposition party's youth and student wings, were held at district and constituency headquarters across the state. According to YSRCP, the recruitment exercise conducted under the banner of "Mega DSC" was marred by irregularities. Also Read - Jagan to Meet Ex-Minister Seediri Appalaraju in Jail "The Mega DSC recruitment was heavily publicised,

but it was marred by irregularities. The Education Minister should accept moral responsibility and resign. The Centre should order a CBI inquiry into the recruitment process." In a press release, the party alleged that student enrolment in government schools has declined by more than 5.5 lakh over the past two years and dismissed the government's claim that 1.1 lakh students had migrated from private to public schools as "misleading". u C ongratulates Ajaya Babu On CWG Weighlifting Silver It further claimed that essential textbooks are yet to reach several schools despite the academic year commencing over a month ago and Vidya

Kanuka programme has not been implemented this year. The YSRCP also alleged that over 22.6 lakh beneficiaries have been excluded from the 'Talliki Vandana m', which offers Rs 15,000 per annum per school-going child. They also sought the implementation of full fee reimbursement, restoration of the Vasathi Deevana scheme and payment of the promised Rs 3,000 monthly unemployment allowance to eligible youth. The YSRCP leaders said the protests were aimed at safeguarding public education, government schools and the interests of students while urging the government to address the concerns raised by the opposition.

BRS Has No Right To Talk About Krishna Water Issue: Vakiti Srihari



Mahabubnagar: Telangana Minister for Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Vakiti Srihari said that the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) party has no moral right to talk about the Krishna River water issue. The remarks came during a review meeting with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Congress MLAs from undivided Mahabubnagar district on issues related to the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift

Irrigation Scheme (PRLIS) on Monday. The Minister said that the Congress government is committed to protecting Telangana's share of river waters. Also Read - 4 Persons Booked as Telangana Woman Dies after Illegal Abortion He said that during the 10 years of BRS rule, the party had compromised on Telangana's rights over the Krishna River water allocation. He alleged that the BRS government

had agreed to give 512 TMC ft of Krishna water to Andhra Pradesh and took only 299 TMC ft for Telangana. The Minister also criticised that the previous BRS government did not complete any major irrigation projects in south Telangana and instead signed agreements that harmed the state's interests. Vakiti Srihari also stated that the Congress government will present all facts and documents in the Assembly and expose how the BRS had neglected Telangana's interests on Krishna and Godavari River water sharing. He added that staying away from Assembly discussions and doing politics outside was an attempt by the BRS to hide its own failures.

DSC 2025 Row: YSRCP Seeks Nara Lokesh's Resignation

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ment process." In a press release, the party alleged that student enrolment in government schools has declined by more than 5.5 lakh over the past two years and dismissed the government's claim that 1.1 lakh students had migrated from private to public schools as "misleading". Also Read - 3 Dead, 10 Injured in Road Accident in Vizianagaram It further claimed that essential textbooks are yet to

reach several schools despite the academic year commencing over a month ago and Vidya Kanuka programme has not been implemented this year. The YSRCP also alleged that over 22.6 lakh beneficiaries have been excluded from the "Talliki Vandanam", which offers Rs 15,000 per annum per school-going child. They also sought the implementation of full fee reimbursement, restora-

tion of the Vasathi Deevana scheme and payment of the promised Rs 3,000 monthly unemployment allowance to eligible youth. The YSRCP leaders said the protests were aimed at safeguarding public education, government schools and the interests of students while urging the government to address the concerns raised by the opposition.

Congress accused of double standards over student protests in Telangana

Hyderabad: What it condemns vociferously in Delhi is exactly what the Congress does in Hyderabad. The Congress party has been loudly condemning and even stalling Parliament proceedings over police action against students protesting the NEET fiasco during the Chalo Sansad march. However, the same party and its top brass, including Rahul Gandhi, have turned a blind eye to the plight of the unemployed in Telangana and resorted to police lathi-charges whenever they protest. Rahul Gandhi had, in fact, posted on X: "Peaceful protest is a sacred and fundamental right. Every police officer and govt official blindly following orders to attack India's inno-



cent students should keep in mind: The Constitution is your master. Power is not permanent. Accountability will follow." However, the Congress party's response to issues concerning the unemployed and students in Telangana has been entirely different. Since the Congress came to power in the State,

unemployed youth who staged a series of protests at Dilsukhnagar, Chikkadpally Central Library and Ashok Nagar, demanding that the government fulfil its election promises, including issuing recruitment notifications for two lakh vacancies, have been met with police action. The unemployed have

been hitting the streets of Dilsukhnagar demanding an increase in police job vacancies, a job calendar and recruitment notifications. However, whenever they take to the streets, they are met with lathi-charges and multiple police cases. In fact, during the last Assembly election campaign at Ashok Nagar, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi had sought the support of unemployed youth and posted on X, "Our job calendar is the first step in easing their pain. We will ensure two lakh govt jobs in one year. Revamp of TSPSC on UPSC lines and Yuva Vikasam, Rs 5 lakh assistance. The future of our youth is secure in the hands of Congress Prajala Sarkar, this is my guarantee."

Tribal Children Are Hidden Gems

Rampachodavaram: Describing tribal children as hidden gems, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said they could achieve extraordinary success when provided with right opportunities. He emphasised that education is the greatest asset parents can give their children and credited education for the global success of Telugu people. He urged both mothers and fathers to take equal responsibility for their children's education. Also Read - Swami Pushkarini to Remain Closed for 40 Days in Tirumala Participating in fourth Parent-Teacher Meeting at Govt upper primary school along with Minister for Education Nara Lokesh here today, the Chief Minister said Teachers and parents together should shape the future of students. He advised teachers to upgrade their teaching methods to suit changing technological advancements. He also stated that the government was giving due respect to teachers and ensuring transparent transfers through counselling. Also Read - TTD Asks SVBC To Develop Innovative Spiritual Programmes Chandrab



abu Naidu reaffirmed that providing quality education in government schools is one of the State Government's highest priority. He noted that while students had earlier shifted from government schools to private institutions, the trend had now reversed, with 1.10 lakh students enrolling in government schools from private schools, reflecting the growing confidence of parents in public education. He said students' academic performance directly reflected the effectiveness of the Education department and commended Education Minister Nara Lokesh for handling the portfolio with dedication. Also Read - State-Ranking Carrom Tournament in Nellore from July 31 The Chief Minister said that

despite severe financial challenges, the government was fulfilling the promises made to the people. He interacted with parents during the meeting to confirm that funds under the Talliki Vandanam scheme had been credited to mothers' bank accounts. He highlighted effectiveness of the veral welfare initiatives, including NTR Bharosa pensions, free bus travel for women, Deepam 2.0 free LPG cylinders, effectiveness of the nd solar power programmes. He also announced that the Sanjeevani Health Project would be launched from August to strengthen public healthcare. nment's commitment. The Chief Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan

and the coalition government were collectively working for Andhra Pradesh's development. He criticized attempts to undermine the Mega DSC recruitment process and said such actions hurt the morale of newly recruited teachers. He warned that strict action would be taken against anyone, including political leaders or officials, acting irresponsibly. He also said the government continuously sought public feedback on the implementation of welfare programmes and remained committed to honouring the trust reposed by the people. The Chief Minister said the government was taking stringent measures to eliminate ganja cultivation and drug abuse, noting that narcotics were destroying families. In tribal areas, ganja cultivation was being replaced with horticulture crops. He also recalled the successful international branding of Araku Coffee. He assured that quality education would be provided to children while attracting major industries to create employment opportunities within the State.

Forensic Science Backbone of Successful Prosecution: Anand

Hyderabad: Director-General of Police, CV Anand said that forensic science is the backbone of successful prosecution. "No matter how meticulously we investigate a crime, the case can still fail in court without strong scientific evidence and quality forensic reports," he said after distributing appointment orders to 57 newly recruited personnel of the Telangana Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) at its headquarters here. Also Read - 3 Bodies Recovered after 4 Youngsters Drown in SRSP Project in Nizamabad "I urged the recruits to upgrade their capabilities in line with the new criminal laws, which place greater emphasis on scientific and technology driven investigation," he said. According to Anand, forensic reports form the backbone of charge sheets and play a decisive role during trial unless evidence is properly collected, analyzed and presented in court, offenders may escape punishment despite thorough police work. Also Read - Waqf Board



Chairman Calls Rahul Gandhi People's Leader, Hits Back at Bandi Sanjay "I advised them to develop a strong understanding of court procedures, evidence handling and documentation and to uphold the highest standards of accuracy and scientific integrity," he added. The Telangana TGFSL received a significant boost to its scientific manpower with the induction of 57 newly recruited scientific staff. Shikha Goel, Principal secretary Home Department and Director, FSL welcomed

the newly recruited personnel and briefed on the functioning, performance, capabilities, and achievements of TGFSL. Also Read - BJP Slams Telangana Govt Over Family Register She informed that TGFSL has been consistently disposing of more than 80 per cent of its workload despite limited scientific manpower, and that the number of cases handled per forensic expert is among the highest in the country. In 2025, 18647 cases were disposed of with a disposal rate of 86 per cent. Priority and time-

bound cases are being examined and reports issued within the prescribed timelines, ensuring timely forensic support to investigations. She further informed that TGFSL is equipped with advanced forensic equipment and specialized capabilities in DNA analysis, computer forensics, narcotics, toxicology, and other forensic disciplines. Also Read - Isolated to Scattered Rainfall Likely in Telangana Till Aug 2 With the increasing volume of narcotics cases and digital evidence, the laboratory has

Upper Krishna floods revive hopes for Telangana

Hyderabad: Heavy rainfall in the upper reaches of the Krishna basin across Maharashtra and Karnataka has revived hopes in Telangana. After weeks of concern over the impact of El Nino, the steadily rising inflows into the Priyadarshini Jurla Project have now ensured there is no immediate drinking water crisis in major parts of the State. As on Tuesday, all the major reservoirs were holding 336.47 TMCft against a total storage capacity of 1,059 TMCft. As floodwaters from the Almatti and Narayanpur reservoirs continued to flow downstream, the Jurla reservoir, with a gross storage capacity of 9.66 TMCft, has been receiving steadily rising inflows. Official figures showed



inflows touching around 27,000-32,000 cusecs, prompting authorities to lift the project gates and release over 30,000 cusecs downstream towards the Srisailem reservoir. Officials expect inflows to increase further if heavy rainfall persists in the upper catchment.

ditionalise lift irrigation schemes dependent on Jurla backwaters, including the Jawahar Nettekpadu, Rajiv Bhima and Koilsagar projects, providing much-needed irrigation support to the erstwhile Mahabubnagar region, though partially. The Irrigation Department initiated pumping to the Koilsagar reservoir through the Undyala Pump House Stage-I,

lifting about 315 cusecs of water. Simultaneously, the Mahatma Gandhi Lift Irrigation Scheme has begun releasing water into the Singotam, Jonnagaboguda and Gudipalli reservoirs, further strengthening irrigation support in the region. The flood flows have also marked the beginning of hydropower generation in Telangana for the cur-

The increased flows have enabled the government to opera-

Naidu Interacts with Students, Parents in Rampachodavaram

Polavaram: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Minister for Education and IT Nara Lokesh interacted with students, their parents and teachers at the Government High School and Junior College in Rampachodavaram. The Chief Minister inspected the green passports issued to students who had planted and were nurturing saplings on the school premises. Officials explained that QR codes attached to the tags on the plants would enable people to scan them and access details about the saplings. Also Read - Naidu Calls for Reorientation of Police Workforce to Tackle Emerging Challenges Calling upon students to collectively work towards increasing the green cover in the State, Naidu also posed for



photographs with students and their parents at the Mega Parent-Teacher Meeting 4.0 photo frame, along with Minister Nara Lokesh. The Chief Minister later interacted with students, parents and teachers in a classroom and personally reviewed the students'

academic progress and report cards. He also explained to parents the students' marks, attendance percentages and health-related details. Naidu directed the district collector to send the report cards of students from ashram schools to their homes so that their

parents could review their academic performance. The Chief Minister also inspected the teaching of lessons using a smart board in another classroom. Later, he briefly took on the role of a teacher and taught lessons to the students.

Deadlock Over Anti-Paper Leak Bill In Parliament Ends; To Be Taken Up By Lok Sabha For Discussion Today

New Delhi: The deadlock between the government and the opposition over the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 in the Parliament has been resolved with major political parties agreeing to commence a comprehensive discussion on the bill in the lower house on Tuesday after outreach by Speaker Om Birla, ETV Bharat has learnt. Both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were adjourned for the day on Monday after repeated disruptions by Opposition members demanding a statement from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah over the alleged police action against student protesters during the July 20 'Sansad Chalo' march over the NEET-UG 2026 paper leak issue. During the



House proceeding on Monday, Speaker Om Birla urged all parties to recognize that this issue concerns millions of students and youths across the country, as well as the transparency of competitive examinations; therefore, a comprehensive and

meaningful discussion is warranted. The government had also been consistently appealing to the opposition to allow the House to function and to cooperate in passing this significant bill—a measure the opposition itself had previously

demand. Sources told ETV Bharat that a consensus has been reached to hold a discussion on the bill on Tuesday with the bill likely to be passed tomorrow as well. Approximately 10 hours have been allocated for the debate as per sources.

It is understood that the Speaker personally engaged with the floor leaders of various political parties, resulting in a mutual agreement between the ruling party and the opposition to hold a detailed discussion on the bill on Tuesday. The amendment bill has been introduced with the aim of effectively curbing paper leaks, cheating, organized exam mafias, and other unfair practices in public examinations. During Tuesday's discussion, various parties may present their suggestions and amendments regarding the bill's provisions. According to sources, the opposition has submitted 93 amendments; the government will respond to these suggestions following the discussion, after which the bill will be presented to the House for approval.

40 Injured As Bus Carrying Amarnath Pilgrims Plunges Into Gorge, Lands On House In Kashmir's Ganderbal

Ganderbal: Forty Amarnath Yatra pilgrims were injured when their speeding bus skidded off the road and fell on a house in the Kangan area of Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Tuesday. The accident took place near the S-Mode area of Hariganian in the Gund area. The bus, bearing registration number AR11 D5655, skidded and fell on the house while navigating a curve. The house, which was badly damaged, prevented the bus from rolling into the Sindh river. Bus carrying Amarnath yatri meets with an accident. (ETV Bharat) Officials said the 40 pilgrims, who were returning after paying obeisance at the holy cave shrine of Amarnath, suffered injuries. Twenty-two of those injured are from Rajasthan, while the remaining 18 are from Madhya Pradesh. After receiving first aid, all the injured were referred from Sub-District Hospital Kangan to SKIMS Soura in Srinagar. According to hospital sources, all the injured suffered multiple injuries and head trauma.



Visuals from the spot showed a part of the bus resting on top of the damaged house as security forces continued the rescue operation. They were evacuated by locals and security personnel to the hospital for treatment. Speaking to ETV Bharat, a local from Kangan said when they were coming home after morning prayers, they heard a massive sound. "We rushed here and saw the bus had met with an accident. We managed to rescue some of the pilgrims and rushed them to the local hospital in an ambulance. Then security forces and police also arrived and helped in rescuing everyone," the local said.

Bus carrying Amarnath yatri meets with an accident. Bus carrying Amarnath yatri meets with an accident. (ETV Bharat) He said the bus crashed into the house, which saved the pilgrims. "Thank God, the owner of the house, Din Mo hamad, was out grazing cattle," the local said. Another local said the place where the accident happened is an L-shaped curve and has led to several such accidents in the past. Soon after receiving information, Gund Police along with other personnel rushed to the spot and launched a rescue operation. A team of police led by SHO Rayees Ahmad and personnel from the

ITBP, CRPF's 118 Battalion, 2 Assam Rifles, 21 Rashtriya Rifles, Yatra Police and locals took part in the rescue operation. Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha enquired about the condition of the injured. "Spoke with Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal, and health officials and inquired about the health condition of Shri Amarnathji Yatra pilgrims injured in the unfortunate road accident earlier this morning at Ganiwan, Ganderbal. 39 pilgrims returning after Darshan of Baba Barfani sustained injuries and are currently undergoing treatment at SKIMS," Sinha posted on his X handle. A fresh batch of 3,029

Amarnath pilgrims left Jammu in the wee hours of Tuesday for Baltal. The 21st batch started its journey from Jammu around 2:30 am and crossed Udhampur at 5:30 am. The latest convoy had 151 vehicles including 57 buses, 30 medium motor vehicles, 58 light motor vehicles and six two-wheelers. Officials said that 3,029 pilgrims were part of the latest batch, including 2,310 men, 590 women, 14 children, 45 sadhus, 40 sadhis and 30 foreign pilgrims. "The fresh batch of pilgrims was despatched for the Baltal route. No pilgrim will be moving via the traditional Pahalgam route due to maintenance work," an official said. The annual Amarnath yatra crossed the 4.22 lakh mark on Monday. The yatra started on July 3 and will continue till August 28. Meanwhile, Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH44) witnessed a massive traffic jam on Monday, and till late night hundreds of vehicles were stranded between Chenani and Udhampur due to a single-lane road at the Dewal

Ex-IPS Officer, Two Victims Move SC For Decommissioning Of Pellet Guns



New Delhi: A petition was filed in the Supreme Court on Monday by a former IPS officer and two persons, who claimed to have been injured by pellet guns fired during the recent Cockroach Janta Party-led Parliament march to protest against the NEET paper leak. The petition filed by Yashovardhan Azad, Prashant Kumar and Sheikh Irshad Mansoori through advocate Vrinda Grover, sought direction for "decommissioning or banning the use of wholly or partly metallic kinetic projectiles or pellets, fired from pump action rifles or Projectile Action Guns (PAG) for dispersal of civilian assemblies by law enforcement agencies". Kumar (25), an artist, said he was present at the Sansad Chalo march on July 20 as a peaceful protester and claimed that he received pellet

injuries from firing by Rapid Action Force (RAF) personnel without provocation or aggression from his end. Mansoori (26), on the other hand, said he was at Delhi's Connaught Place after attending to passport and visa-related work and had received pellet injuries from RAF firing despite there being no provocation or aggression from his end. The plea said, "On July 20, 2026, during the 'Sansad Chalo' march organised by the Cockroach Janata Party as part of a protest regarding rampant paper leaks wrecking the credibility of higher education in India, the Delhi Police used the assistance of the CRPF's Rapid Action Force for crowd management. "Petitioner Nos 2 and 3 personally witnessed that around 4-4.30 pm on that day, the police and RAF

personnel incessantly fired tear gas shells and resorted to lathi charge and pushed the protestors towards the inner circle of Connaught Place, New Delhi." It further said pertinently, no water cannons were used, and no announcements were made about the impending use of force. While the protesters were fleeing, with many raising their arms up as if in "surrender" mode, despite no provocation, RAF personnel suddenly fired pump action gun(s), releasing a wide spray of splinter-like pellets, which penetrated the bodies of Petitioner Nos 2 and 3, causing immediate pain and bleeding. The petitioners said the Right to Freedom of Assembly is a constitutionally guaranteed fundamental right, amenable to be curbed only through reasonable restrictions imposed pursuant to Article 19(3)

Wife Can Challenge Divorce Decree Even After Husband's Death: Gujarat High Court



Ahmedabad: The Gujarat High Court on Monday ruled that a wife's right to challenge a divorce decree does not end with the death of her husband, especially when her legal status as a widow, inheritance rights, property claims and social standing are affected. The court made it clear that if a husband dies after a family court grants a divorce decree, the wife's right to file an appeal does not come to an end, citing that once a divorce decree is passed, the legal status of the husband and wife changes. Since this may directly affect inheritance and property rights, an appeal against the decree can continue even after the death of one of the spouses, the court noted. The ruling came in a case related to the Anand Family Court. The petitioner woman and her husband were involved in a marital dispute that prevailed for years. They got married in 1976 and have six children. The husband had filed for divorce under the Divorce Act, 1879,

alleging that his wife had deserted him. As the wife did not appear before the family court, the case proceeded ex parte, and the court granted a divorce decree in favour of the husband in 2022. Subsequently, the wife challenged this decision in the Gujarat High Court. However, the husband passed away in 2024 during the appeal proceedings, and his legal heirs were made parties to the case. Appearing for the woman, lawyer Akash Modh argued that the family court's finding that the wife had deserted her husband was based only on the husband's statements and not supported by sufficient and reliable evidence. "Holding the wife responsible solely on the basis of the husband's statements is not legally justified," he argued. The petitioner's counsel further contended that the wife's legal rights do not come to an end even after the husband's death. If the divorce decree remains in force, the wife loses her legal status as a widow. This directly affects

her inheritance rights in her husband's property, other legal benefits and social identity. Therefore, the matter is not merely a divorce case but is also connected to property rights and legal status, he mentioned. During the hearing, the lawyer referred to several Supreme Court rulings, which have held that the right to appeal does not end if a husband or wife dies after a divorce decree has been passed. Such cases can continue because the decree may affect inheritance rights, property claims and the legal and social status of the surviving spouse, he said. On the other hand, a division bench of the Gujarat High Court comprising Justices Ilesh J Vaffecting property rights and social standing. Therefore, legal proceedings can continue even after the death of one of the parties in such circumstances, and the concerned party has the full right to challenge the findings of the family court, the bench said.

'Removal Was An Error': Meta Restores PM Modi's Facebook Video After IT

New Delhi: Meta on Tuesday admitted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's video on Facebook was removed in error and said it has now been restored, as the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) summoned the global head of public policy of the technology giant over the brief blocking of the content. "The content was removed in error and has since been restored," a Meta spokesperson said in a statement. The video -- released on July 23 -- marked Prime Minister Modi's first address to youth during the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP)-led 36-day student protest. In the video, he said that stricter action against paper leaks will be announced at tomorrow's Cabinet meeting. The address had garnered millions of views before



access to the video was briefly restricted on Facebook in the early hours of July 28. Facebook initially restricted access to the video in response to what

appeared to be a legal request. However, Meta has now clarified that the content was taken down mistakenly and has been reinstated. The late was taken down mistakenly night video by PM Modi

added around 1 million followers to his Instagram profile overnight, taking the total number of his followers to nearly 101 million. PM Modi commands a massive digital presence on the world stage. He

ranks as the most-followed politician and world leader globally, holding more than double the followers of other prominent international figures like US President Donald Trump.

RAF Fired Multiple Munitions During July 20 Protests, 2 Rounds Of Non-Lethal Plastic Pellets



New Delhi: An official record of the police action taken during the July 20 'Sansad Chalo' march by protesters on the NEET issue has stated that the RAF fired multiple rounds of non-lethal munitions, including two rounds of plastic pellets, while controlling the mob at one location near Jantar Mantar, officials said on Monday.

The incident has been recorded on July 22 at 1:24 PM in the general diary entry of the Parliament Street police station on the informa-

tion of a Deputy Commandant of the Rapid Action Force (RAF) stating the blue dungaree donning force was on duty in the Zone 1 of the Jantar Mantar area along with a Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) rank officer of the Delhi Police, officials told PTI.

On the directions of the DCP, according to the officials quoting the police station record, the RAF fired 55 non-electrical shells, 15 electrical shells, five tear smoke grenades, two rounds

not cause much harm, the officials said.

The use of force, especially pellets, against the protesters has become another major flashpoint with the Opposition targeting the government and demanding a statement from Home Minister Amit Shah in Parliament.

There have been two to three reports of protesters suffering grievous pellet injuries during this protest march called by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) seeking res-

ignation of Dharmendra Pradhan as Union Education Minister over the NEET-UG question paper leak.

Pradhan resigned on Saturday, and the month-long CJP protest was called off. Multiple police, RAF and CRPF personnel were also injured during these protests.

The Delhi Police has said on record that the claims of use of pellets against "peaceful protesters" were completely false and misleading. The CRPF and the RAF have not commented on the subject till now.

"Now, since agitation has been called off, and assembled people have dispersed, we would make a professional post-event assessment, as we do after every major assignment, and then let you know the view of the Force Hq (headquarters)," CRPF Director General (DG) G P Singh has said.

India Weather Update: Deep Depression Set To Intensify Southwest Monsoon; IMD Warns Of Extremely Heavy Showers



New Delhi: A deep depression over north coastal Odisha and adjoining Gangetic West Bengal is set to intensify the southwest monsoon across large parts of the country. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a warning of heavy to extremely heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, lightning and gusty winds over several regions during the next few days. The weather system, which crossed the West Bengal-north Odisha coast near Digha between 12.30 am and 1.30 am on Monday, is expected to continue moving west-northwestwards across north Odisha, south Jharkhand and north Chhattisgarh over the next 24 hours, bringing widespread rainfall and increasing the risk of flooding in several states. Satellite imagery released by the IMD on Tuesday morning shows a vast cloud mass stretching from the northwest Bay of Bengal into Odisha, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand and adjoining parts of central India. Thick convective cloud bands are

also visible over the Himalayan foothills, parts of northeast India and the western coast, indicating that monsoon activity has strengthened over much of the country. The Deep Depression over north-west Bay of Bengal close to West Bengal coast moved west-northwestwards with a speed of 7 kmph during the past six hours and is very likely to continue moving across north Odisha, south Jharkhand and north Chhattisgarh during the next 24 hours," the IMD said in its Tuesday morning weather bulletin. All India Weather Alert East India: This region is expected to witness the most severe impact of the weather system. Odisha is likely to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall with isolated spells of extremely heavy rain on Tuesday, while adjoining Chhattisgarh is also expected to witness intense showers as the deep depression moves inland. Gangetic West Bengal, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim, Jharkhand and

Bihar are expected to remain under an active monsoon spell, with rainfall likely to intensify over Bihar from July 29. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds of 40-60 kmph are also expected over Odisha and Gangetic West Bengal, with the IMD warning of waterlogging, localised flooding and disruption to road transport in vulnerable areas. Northeast India: This region is also likely to remain under active monsoon conditions. The IMD has forecast fairly widespread to widespread rainfall over Assam and Meghalaya through August 3, while Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura are expected to receive widespread showers over the coming days. Isolated heavy rainfall accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning is likely across the region. The weather office has advised authorities to remain alert as heavy rain may affect low-lying areas and trigger localised

flooding, especially in districts that have already received significant monsoon rainfall.

North India: The influence of the deep depression is expected to revive monsoon activity across northern India after a brief lull. According to the IMD, fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is likely over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh over the next few days.

Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. At the same time, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and parts of Uttar Pradesh may also receive intense showers between July 28 and July 30. Moderate flash flood risk has been forecast for several districts of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, where heavy rain could trigger landslides and temporary road closures.

entral India: As the deep depression moves inland, central India is expected to come directly under its influence. The IMD has forecast widespread rainfall over East Madhya Pradesh, West Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Vidarbha, with isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall across the region. Chhattisgarh is likely to witness isolated extremely heavy rainfall on Tuesday, while thunderstorms, lightning and

Nokkuvidya Puppetry Exponent Moozhikkal Pankajakshi Passes Away At 80



Kottayam: Renowned "Nokkuvidya Pavakkali" exponent and Padma Shri awardee Moozhikkal Pankajakshi died at a private hospital in Koothattukulam on Wednesday after battling age-related ailments,

family sources said. She was 80. A native of Monipally in Kottayam district, Pankajakshi was widely credited with taking Nokkuvidya Pavakkali—a centuries-old and unique form of puppetry from Kerala--

to national and international audiences. She was conferred the Padma Shri in 2020 in recognition of her efforts to preserve and popularise the traditional art form. Pankajakshi began performing at the age of 11 after learning the art from her parents. However, advancing age and health issues later forced her to stop performing. The tradition is now being carried forward by her granddaughter, K S Ranjini. The veteran artist had often expressed concern that the rare art form could face extinction as were willing to learn and preserve it. She was also a recipient

of the Kerala Folklore Academy Award and Fellowship, besides several other honours. Her contribution to Nokkuvidya Pavakkali has also been featured on the official website of Kerala Tourism. Pankajakshi showcased the traditional puppetry art in several countries, including France, helping bring international rich cultural heritage. Traditionally performed in the courtyards of ancestral homes during Onam, Nokkuvidya Pavakkali involves balancing puppets on a stick fixed to the upper lip and animating them with strings in sync with songs and storytelling.

Retd PWD Employee, Wife And Son End Life In Rajkot; Police Suspect Mounting Debt

Rajkot: Three members of a family allegedly died by suicide in Rajkot on Monday, with primary investigation suggesting that the trio took the extreme step due to increasing financial pressure. The deceased have been identified as Dilipbhai Khakhar, a 73-year-old government official who retired from Public Works Department (PWD), his 65-year-old wife and their son aged 32 years. Police have registered a case and are investigating the matter. The incident occurred at around 5 PM in Ajanta Park area on Sadhu Vaswani Road in Rajkot. Police said, when neighbours came to know about this, they immediately informed the 108 ambulance service. The three were taken to the Civil Hospital for treatment. Smitaben died first during treatment, followed by Dilipbhai and their son Nishit. Preliminary investigation has revealed that the family had been facing financial difficulties for some time. Dilipbhai had retired from the post of clerk in the Public Works Department (PWD). His son Nishit had financial dealings with several people. "If any moneylender is found responsible for driving the family to suicide, the person should be arrested immediately. If any suicide note is found, it should be made public," they have demanded.



This is not the first time that the Khakhars have witnessed the tragedy of a suicide. Their eldest son, Parag, had died by suicide six years ago. Neighbours said that the family had been under a lot of stress for the last few years and had stopped interacting with them. Suicide Is Not A Solution: If you are having suicidal thoughts, or you are worried about a friend, or you need emotional support, then there is someone who is always there to listen to you. Call the Sneha Foundation - 04424640050 (available 24x7) or iCall, the Tata Institute of Social le. According to relatives, some people had been repeatedly pressuring him to repay loans.

"The family may have taken this step after being troubled by these problems. However, no suicide note or evidence of illegal moneylending

has been found at the spot so far," a police official said. Speaking about the case, IIC of University Police Station said three members of the same family died by suicide after consuming poisonous medicine. Initial investigation has pointed to financial difficulties as the reason. Investigation is currently underway. We are investigating the case from all angles. Statements of family members and people close to the family are being recorded." Meanwhile, the incident has triggered anger among members of the Raghuvanshi community, who have demanded that the investigation of the case be handed over to Rajkot Crime Branch. The Raghuvanshi Yuva Shakti Sangh has appealed to members of the community to gather at the Civil Hospital.

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1 Killed, Several Injured In Violent Clashes In PoK Polls

Islamabad: At least one person was killed and several others injured during violent clashes on Monday on the polling day of the first phase of elections for the so-called legislative assembly in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). India has maintained that Pakistan has been in illegal possession of the Indian Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. "Our party worker, Mukhtar Yunus, was killed and two others injured during incidents of firing by the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) candidates," the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) said in a statement. PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari expressed his grief over the death. "Where are the relevant authorities? What is the Election Commission doing?" he asked. The elections, originally scheduled for July 27, are being held in three phases from July 27 to August 10. There are 53 seats in the so-called assembly of PoK - 45 are directly elected, while eight seats are



reserved for women, technocrats and clerics. Both the PPP and PML-N accused each other of rigging in multiple constituencies. The electoral process was also briefly interrupted at some polling stations following scuffles and heated exchanges between supporters of rival political parties. While Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf has boycotted the polls, the Joint Awami Action Committee has been banned. According to the JAAC's main demand was the abolition of the 12 refugee seats. The

government, however, refused to accept its demand. Dozens of people, including security men, were killed in the violence, following which the government last month banned the JAAC. India described the protests in PoK as a "direct consequence" of Islamabad's decades-long "systemic exploitation and administrative oppression" in areas ng to Khan's party, over 100 people were killed during violent clashes in PoK following last month's JAAC protests that paralysed life in the region for some 50 days. The JAAC's main

demand was the abolition of the 12 refugee seats. The government, however, refused to accept its demand. Dozens of people, including security men, were killed in the violence, following which the government last month banned the JAAC. India described the protests in PoK as a "direct consequence" of Islamabad's decades-long "systemic exploitation and administrative oppression" in areas under its "forcible" occupation and criticised reported police brutality on the protesters.

US, India Expanding Cooperation In Defence, Civil Nuclear Sector: Senior US

Washington: The United States has imposed a 10 per cent tariff on goods imported from India and 16 other countries as part of its efforts to combat the use of forced labour in the production of such items. Last month, when the US had proposed tariffs under Section 301 of the Trade Act, India was bracketed among countries attracting 12.5 per cent levies, but Washington took note of the amendment New Delhi made to its foreign trade policy prohibiting the import of goods produced using forced labour. "As a result of these actions, the Trade Representative has advised me that the goods of these economies should be tariffed at the 10 per cent rate to further encourage these economies to effectively enforce such prohibitions," US President Donald Trump said in a memorandum on the issue on Thursday. US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer announced the new tariffs on 60 countries under Section 301 of the Trade Act on Thursday, a day before the expiration of 10 per



cent additional levies on all countries. Countries that do not have laws barring goods produced using forced labour — such as China, the United Kingdom and Japan — will face tariffs of 12.5 per cent. The forced labour tariffs will not apply to raw materials that would lead to unavailability of domestic supply; products that would cause economy-wide disruptions and on products that cannot be produced or grown in sufficient quantities in the US. Of the 60 countries facing the tariffs, the 10 per cent rate applies to 17 countries, including India, Canada, the UK,

Bangladesh and Pakistan. The other 43 will have to bear 12.5 per cent. The USTR statement said that Greer had taken the final action, at President Donald Trump's direction, under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 by imposing tariffs on 60 economies for their failure to impose and effectively enforce a prohibition on the importation of goods produced with forced labour. The latest tariffs take effect at 12.01 am Friday, just as a temporary 10 per cent import tax expires. That measure was put in place following a February Supreme Court decision

that invalidated the president's "Liberation Day" tariffs introduced in April 2025. The move to improve the welfare action will begin to correct what is both a human rights abuse and a distortive trade practice to improve the welfare of workers everywhere, Greer said in a statement here. A Federal Note in this regard took note of India's adoption of a forced labour import prohibition after the unveiling of the proposed tariffs in June. On June 14, India amended its foreign trade policy to prohibit the import of goods produced using

New US Rule Refers Some Asylum Seekers Directly To Courts

Washington: The US unveiled a new rule referring certain asylum seekers directly to courts without interviews with officials of the immigration services. The new rule, which comes into immediate effect on Tuesday, is aimed at reducing the time required to process the backlog of 1.4 million asylum petitions with the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). "America's asylum system exists to protect individuals who genuinely fear persecution and this rule will help ensure that resources are directed to the timely adjudication of those claims instead of to those seeking to use the system as a loophole," USCIS Director Joseph Edlow said in a statement here on Monday. "Currently, both USCIS and Department of Justice (DOJ) Immigration Judges adjudicate applications for asylum: USCIS adjudicates 'affirmative' asylum applications for aliens who are not in removal proceedings, while Immigration



Judges adjudicate "defensive" asylum applications for aliens who are in removal proceedings," the USCIS statement said. The change applies to affirmative asylum claims, which are filed by immigrants who are not in removal proceedings. Defensive asylum claims, in contrast, are raised before an immigration judge after the government has initiated removal proceedings. "Depending on the alien's immigration status, USCIS will usually either adjudicate the application or refer it to an Immigration Judge, who will then conduct a new review of the appli-

cation. This essentially allows an alien to get a second chance at asylum," USCIS said. "The interim final rule allows USCIS to refer asylum applications to Immigration Judges without first interviewing the alien. This rule will shorten the total time that it takes asylum officers and Immigration Judges to adjudicate asylum applications. Among other reasons, USCIS is making this change to reduce the asylum backlog," USCIS said. "For far too long the asylum system has been exploited for purposes of delay and work authorisation, not legitimate claims of pro-

tection," Edlow said. "One of the greatest barriers to effective immigration enforcement is intentional delay by illegal aliens and the open borders attorneys who represent them," Department of Homeland Security General Counsel James Percival said. More than 1,32,000 cases a year could get transferred from USCIS to the immigration courts under the change, according to DHS estimates. Overall, 31 per cent of the cases in the USCIS backlog could be affected, according to the Federal Register notice.

US Ready To Help End Senseless War In Ukraine But No Quick Deal Ahead': Rubio



Manila: Rubio met Lavrov and several other leaders, including China's foreign minister, on the sidelines of an annual gathering by foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Manila. America's top diplomat said the U.S. is focused on Asia even as it steps up fighting with Iran, seeks a pathway to end Russia's war in Ukraine and pressures the Cuban government to make changes. ASEAN talks focused on international conflicts. Three days of closed-door talks that started Tuesday have centered on the escalating fighting in the Middle East and tensions in the South China Sea, where a new clash flared Thursday. "There's always going to be a concern that America is so focused on one place that it can't focus on another," Rubio said. But he noted that the U.S. remains "engaged in Asia every single day," citing strong partnerships and economic ties across the region. After meeting with Rubio, Lavrov largely ignored questions from reporters. The Russian Foreign Ministry in Moscow said he emphasized to Rubio "the unacceptability of further arming" Ukraine and accused European countries of pursuing Russia's "strategic defeat." Lavrov reiterated Russia's readiness for "a political and diplomatic resolution of the conflict" and commitment to agreements reached at a summit between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Trump in Alaska last year, the

Russian ministry said. But Rubio said "we'll have to find new suggestions and new ideas" that are acceptable to both sides. There has been no change to Washington's military support for Ukraine, with weapons being purchased by NATO allies and transferred to the war-ravaged country, he said. Separately on Thursday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy reiterated that his priority is finding a way to get back to negotiations. U.S. efforts to end the Russia-Ukraine war have been overshadowed by the outbreak of the Iran war earlier this year. Renewed strikes by Washington and Tehran have been intensifying after an interim ceasefire deal collapsed. "The price will continue to get higher every single night until they come to their senses," Rubio said. He insisted Tehran is "begging" for talks but Trump does not see the use in responding because "Iran is clearly not ready to make a deal, at least not one they're willing to live by." Trump has warned Iran that the U.S. will destroy one Iranian bridge or power plant each time Iran shoots at a ship in the Strait of Hormuz. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi responded by saying the country's defense doctrine was an "eye for an eye." "The president's policy is a head for an eye," Rubio said. "They will pay a very heavy price for the things they're doing." China defends maritime military actions. Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong renewed her country's alarm over the

Chinese navy's recent test-launch of a missile from a nuclear-powered submarine in the region, saying the lack of notification to the Philippines and Pacific nations where the missile flew over and landed was destabilizing. "It comes in the context of a rapid military build-up of China's nuclear arsenal without the transparency or reassurance the region expects," Wong told a university forum in Manila on Thursday. "This is why Australia has described the test as provocative and destabilizing." China has defended its actions, saying the launch was part of annual exercises and that it gave countries in the area appropriate notice in advance. Rubio met Wednesday with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and said they discussed a new altercation this week between Chinese and Filipino forces in a disputed shoal in the South China Sea, which Beijing claims virtually in its entirety. Rubio called the incident "escalatory." "Those need to be managed very carefully, because obviously, a conflict — be it economic or otherwise — between the U.S. and China would have a dramatic global impact," Rubio said. He also said they talked a lot about Chinese leader Xi Jinping's planned trip in September, noting he believes Xi will have a "very positive visit when he comes to Washington." In Beijing the Chinese coast guard said it took necessary measures, including monitoring and blocking, to drive away two Philippine ships that disregarded repeated warnings from the Chinese side in a fresh confrontation Thursday. China said its operations were professional and lawful and urged the Philippines to stop its provocative actions infringing on Chinese territory. The Philippine coast guard, however, said the two fishing vessels were harassed while bringing fuel aid to Filipino fishermen in the Scarborough shoal. It said a Chinese coast guard ship tried to spray one vessel with a powerful water cannon but missed, calling these "illegal, coercive and aggressive actions." The Trump administration has repeatedly criticized China's assertive actions in the South

FS Misri Holds Talks With China's Vice FM Hua Chunying In Beijing

New Delhi: Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met China's Vice Foreign Minister Hua Chunying here on Monday and discussed the entire gamut of bilateral relations. Misri, who is currently on an official visit to Beijing, also met Sun Haiyan, Vice Minister of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC). Misri and Hua "reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations and discussed means of advancing the vision of the two leaders that India and China are partners and development opportunities for each other, including through mutually benefi-



cial outcomes across trade and economic ties, culture, and people-to-people exchanges," the Indian Embassy in Beijing said in a post on X. "Both sides acknowledged the importance of maintaining peace and tranquility in the India-China border areas," it added. Earlier, Misri met Sun and "discussed

ways to deepen implementation of the guidance of the leaders for bilateral relations, including addressing issues of priority to both sides and by promoting political, people-to-people, academic and think-tank exchanges," the Embassy said. Misri also met Hong Liang, Deputy Secretary General of the

14th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). Hong was previously the Director General of the boundary department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry. "They discussed ways to enhance bilateral exchanges at the political and people-to-people levels," the Embassy said. Misri, who was previously India's Ambassador to China, will hold a few meetings with officials on Tuesday, officials said. His visit followed the meeting between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on the sidelines of the

Canada Advances Alberta Pipeline To Pacific Coast To Expand Oil Exports Beyond The US

Toronto: Canada moved Thursday to advance a new pipeline from Alberta to the Pacific Coast as Prime Minister Mark Carney seeks to reduce the country's dependence on the United States as its main oil customer, while trying to ease separatist tensions in the energy-rich province without abandoning environmental protections on British Columbia's northern coast. Carney and Alberta Premier Danielle Smith unveiled a proposed route through southern British Columbia, saying the project would open more Canadian oil to Asian markets while preserving a ban on oil tankers off northern British Columbia. "The best route for a new pipeline is one that goes through one that already exists south through the Trans Mountain corridor, to our Pacific Coast, the gateway to the world's fastest growing markets," Carney said in

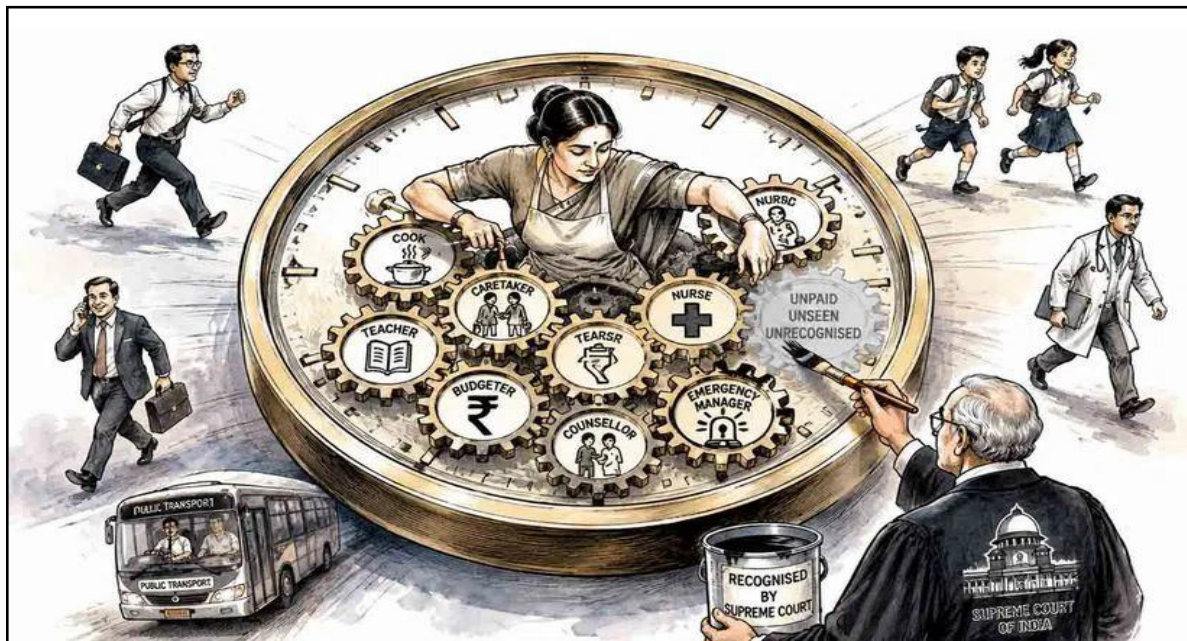


Calgary. Carney has set a goal for Canada to double its non-U.S. exports in the next decade and has said a pipeline can reduce the price discount on current oil sales to U.S. markets. Smith wants Alberta to double oil production to eight million barrels per day over the next 10 to 15 years. "The world is asking Canada to step up and provide stable, democratic and reliable energy supply that countries around the world are looking for," Smith said. "This is not just another energy project. It's a nation-building project that will unlock wealth

and opportunity." Smith said Pembina Pipeline Corporation will be involved as a partner with government. She said what the share of the private sector stake will be remains to be seen. Smith has long complained that Carney's predecessor, Justin Trudeau, hindered the province's energy industry and fueled separatist sentiment. Alberta is holding a public vote in the fall on whether to hold a referendum on leaving Canada. British Columbia and some First Nations are against a pipeline through north-

ern British Columbia. "The tanker ban will remain in place. We will be protecting the northern coast of British Columbia," Carney said earlier in Vancouver. Carney also said Thursday he will compensate British Columbia for environmental risks if a pipeline is built in the southern part of the province. A previous memorandum of understanding Ottawa and Alberta included an adjustment of an oil tanker ban off parts of the British Columbia coast, but British Columbia Premier David Eby also said Thursday he secured a commitment to keep the northern tanker ban in place, protecting the province's pristine northern coast. "It ensures that the northern tanker ban remains in place," Eby said. Trudeau opposed a pipeline that could cross northern British Columbia and the Great Bear Rainforest. He approved one pipeline

Supreme Court's homemak- er ruling marks a milestone for gender justice



'It is ironic to describe a homemaker as dependant on earning members, when, in reality, the household's functioning depends substantially on the homemaker. The earning members are in fact solely dependent on the homemaker, but alas, this reality does not receive the acknowledgement it deserves'. The above observation of the apex court epitomises the stark reality of modern life. The Supreme Court of India's decision in *Shishupal @ Shish Ram v Surjeet* (11 June 2026) arrives at a crucial juncture and marks a transformative development in the jurisprudence of motor accident claims, particularly those involving the deaths of women homemakers. Delivered by a two-judge bench led by Justice Sanjay Karol, the decision confronts the persistent problem of excessive delay in adjudication while simultaneously breaking new ground by assigning economic value to homemakers' contributions. The court underscored the disturbing reality that the matter had taken nearly 25 years to reach final resolution, despite the accident occurring in 2001. While the judgment strongly condemns the deleterious effects of judicial delay—supported by an empirical analysis of 123 appellate decisions—its most enduring contribution lies in advancing the discourse on gender justice and affirming the economic significance of domestic labour. The factual matrix of the case is that an accident occurred on 25 November 2001, in which the deceased, a homemaker, was fatally injured due to the rash and negligent driving of the respondent. The Motor Accident Claims Tribunal awarded compensation of Rs 2,42,000 in 2003; the Punjab and Haryana High Court, in 2024, enhanced it to Rs 8,43,400 with interest, initially at 7.5%, rising to 9% and 12% depending on delays in payment.

Aggrieved by the High Court judgment, the claimants approached the Supreme Court, which seized the opportunity to reflect on systemic delays and their corrosive impact on justice delivery. However, the more transformative aspect of the judgment is

its recognition of homemakers as economic entities. The deceased in this case was a homemaker, and the court grappled with the challenge of quantifying her contribution. Invoking Grihaswamini Justice Karol invoked the cultural term grihaswamini—the woman of the house—to underscore the paradox that while society venerates homemakers symbolically, it fails to monetise their labour in legal contexts. The court referred to prior judgments such as *Arun Kumar Agrawal v National Insurance Co* (2010) and *Kirti v Oriental Insurance Co* (2021), which recognised the value of domestic work. However, the apex court, through Justice Karol, went beyond, describing the homemakers as “nation builders” whose unpaid and unrecognised labour sustains families, nurtures future citizens, and contributes indirectly to the economy. Justice Karol rightly declared that the failure to acknowledge this contribution would perpetuate gender injustice and undervalue the women’s roles in the family system. The Shishupal judgment not only exposes the corrosive impact of judicial delay on justice delivery but also recognises homemakers as economic contributors entitled to meaningful legal and monetary recognition. In the Indian family system, a homemaker is a person who takes care of the entire household, including the husband, children, parents, and other family members living together. Homemakers oversee daily domestic operations—such as cooking, cleaning, childcare, children’s education, budgeting, and grocery shopping—though not necessarily employed in full-time work outside the home. A homemaker can be a spouse, a parent, or another family member, though the term is most traditionally associated with women. A homemaker may perform multiple tasks, such as a cook, babysitter, family counsellor, public relations officer, medical attendant, consort, partner in religious ceremonies, manager, accountant, and auditor. However, homemakers are not paid for the services they render without any breaks, leave, or even relaxation most of the

time. On the contrary, they are denigrated as dependants, housewives, household people, and generally no deserving acknowledgement is given to them by the family and society. Whereas a maid and an attendant are paid, the homemaker is content with her status in the family. Quantifying Contributions

While determining the value of the work performed by the homemaker who died in the instant case, the judgment proposed innovative methods for quantifying homemakers' contributions, such as minimum-wage benchmarks, opportunity-cost models, and replacement-cost approaches, to estimate the economic value of domestic work. Justice Karol emphasised that compensation should not be tokenistic but reflective of the real economic loss suffered by the family.

The apex court also introduced the concept of "loss of domestic care" as an additional head of compensation and acknowledged that, beyond financial contributions, homemakers provide emotional support, caregiving, and household management—intangibles that are difficult to monetise but essential to family well-being. By recognising this head, the court expanded the scope of compensation to include non-pecuniary losses.

By recognising homemakers as economic entities, the judgment advances gender justice. It challenges patriarchal assumptions that domestic labour is valueless and affirms women's dignity. This aligns with the constitutional principles of equality enshrined in Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution. The Shishupal judgment is a landmark in two respects: it exposes the corrosive impact of delay on justice delivery, and it elevates homemakers to the status of economic entities deserving quantifiable recognition. Justice Karol's eloquent invocation of the *grihaswami* reminds us that symbolic reverence must translate into tangible justice. The case is a clarion call for The Supreme Court's judgment situates itself within this global discourse, but with a uniquely cultural framing—homemakers as "nation builders."

The Shishupal judgment

is a landmark in two respects: it exposes the corrosive impact of delay on justice delivery, and it elevates homemakers to the status of economic entities deserving quantifiable recognition. Justice Karol's eloquent invocation of the grihaswamini reminds us that symbolic reverence must translate into tangible justice. The case is a clarion call for institutional reform and gender equity, ensuring that victims of accidents are not doubly victimised—first by tragedy, and then by delay. Though the court arrived at a modest amount of Rs 30,000 per month as the value of the services rendered by a homemaker, the same is not final and requires careful determination on a scientific basis. As rightly pointed out by the court, homemakers are responsible for laying the foundation stones on which stand the edifices of high-flying businesspersons, successful politicians, celebrated artists, sought-after lawyers and many others. Equally, they are the silent support behind the daily grind of an everyday worker who steps out each day in the hope of making a decent living. In other words, they play a role — either entirely invisible or just partially visible — in the work of all those persons as contributing to the nation. It is high time that the invisible was made visible, or that the veil was pierced to reveal what has long remained only partially seen. The "homemakers", to put it directly, are the "nation builders", and they ought to be recognised as such. This realistic judgment should serve as a guiding principle for further legislative reforms to give women their due — ethically, socially, legally, and, more importantly, economically. Claims for monetary compensation arising from domestic violence, ihaswamini reminds us that symbolic reverence must translate into tangible justice. The case is a clarion call for The Supreme maintenance, and alimony under the personal and other laws, partition of property, including matrimonial property, and compensation for crime victims under criminal laws could all be addressed more effectively by following the ratio laid down in this judgment.

From Film Soleil to Film Noir, Nolan's The Odyssey



It's a Herculean task even to attempt any work related to the classics or epics depicting myths and legends, whether on paper, stage or screen. And it could be excruciating when the attempt is to present an ancient narrative from a modern perspective. That is why Christopher Nolan's *The Odyssey* is facing criticism, both adverse and appreciative, across the world today.

The main controversy revolves around Nolan's portrayal of Helen as a dark-skinned woman, or a person of African descent, and for distorting the original source material by glorifying Odysseus as heroic and noble, whereas Homer intended him to be arrogant and conceited. This article attempts to show that Nolan has only tried to complement Homer's work by taking us back to Film Noir from the more recent Film Soleil.

Dark As Dak

Film Noir, as every film buff knows, depicts crime or anything evil in dark shadows, much like in the black-and-white crime movies of the 50s featuring bad boys in trench coats, hats covering half of the faces and so on. And essentially, the villain or the perpetrator gets punished in the end, to establish poetic justice. However, the screen narrative has evolved with modern needs. Crime is no longer portrayed through dark shadows and gloom, but in bright light. This is called Film Soleil. The French word soleil means 'sun' or 'sunlight'. This new genre also makes viewers empathise with the protagonist, who defies the law or established social norms, and even gets rewarded in the end.

Nolan, however, uses Film Noir to depict dark as dark and evil as evil without sugar-coating. He has no qualms in showing the Greek warriors as pigs, though he uses the witch Circe to convey the bitter truth, just like Shakespeare uses the clown to convey uncomfortable truths.

Criticism that Nolan distorts the original source stems from our tendency to ignore the dark side, even of the gods, who are often shown as prone to lust and evil deeds. The Greek warriors and heroes, long glorified and even deified in

many movies, are exposed as beasts by the gluttonous way they chew and swallow in Nolan's narrative. Circe's spell, which makes them behave in this way, is only to make viewers swallow the bitter truth about the bestiality of those who commit deadly sins in the name of military campaigns. Her objections to carrying weapons are not found in the original text. Nolan takes the liberty to express his loathing for war. This is a healthy breakaway from the classics, and young netizens today have begun questioning why so many soldiers' lives should be sacrificed in large-scale wars, and why things cannot instead be decided through a duel between the disputing kings, or, in today's world, politicians. The very opening scene of the film, in which the giant wooden horse is dragged by the Trojans, shows their dark greed that makes them fail to see the trick. The 40-foot-tall horse seems to block the sunlight, and in fact the Trojans' discretion. Augmented by Ludwig Goransson's gothic musical score, the scene helps viewers feel how the Trojans drag their own destruction and death into their citadel. Here, Nolan's choice of both sight and sound perfectly communicates the eeriness of the episode.

The Dark Side

The intention of Homer and all classical writers might only be to warn humans to be cautious of sinful desires. Yet evil is evil, whether committed by gods or mortals. To show this dark fact behind Helen's birth, Nolan chooses the dark complexion for her. Dark skin, or the colour black, does have its merits, like strength and beauty. Without night and a starlit sky, the glaring sun would only have a blinding effect. Lord Krishna and Lord Rama are both praised as 'neela megha', possessing the beautiful hue of dark rain clouds. Helen's depiction as an African woman also shows her strength in bearing all the blame for the ten-year long war and its devastation. It is also a much-needed departure from the archaic associa-

tion of white skin with beauty and fairness. Like Homer, Nolan also portrays Odysseus as arrogant and conceited. When the Cyclops is blinded, drunk and helpless, and Odysseus and his followers are safe, there is absolutely no need to shoot him with a vengeful arrow. Even his own men despise his defence of this act as a revenge for the killing of their companions. With his cruelty and arrogance thus established, there is no need for an anthropomorphic Poseidon to curse him with destructive storms and years of wandering at sea. All this happens as the physical fury of the ocean rather than as divine punishment. After returning to Ithaca, instead of revealing himself to Penelope immediately, Odysseus remains hidden beneath a beggar's cloak, only to satisfy his innate desire to show off his strength and humiliate the suitors during the archery contest. It is we who tend to see the character through Matt Damon's persona, while Nolan tries to portray Odysseus just as Homer intended: vile, conceited and arrogant. Thus Christopher Nolan's odyssey from Film Soleil to Film Noir succeeds in complementing, rather than distorting, Homer's classic. The criticism about Nolan distorting the original source material has its roots in the way we have always preferred to ignore the dark side, even of the gods, whotorting, Homer's classic. The criticism about Nolan distorting the origin, in most classical works, are shown as being prone to lust and evil deeds. In Ramayana, Lord Indra, the king of gods, arrives disguised as Brahmashishi Gautama to seduce his wife Ahalya. Similarly, Zeus arrives in the form of a swan to seduce Queen Leda, the wife of King Tyndareus, resulting in Helen's birth. The intention of Homer and all classical writers might only be to warn humans to be cautious of sinful desires. Yet evil is evil, whether committed by gods or mortals. To show this dark fact behind Helen's birth, Nolan chooses the dark complexion for her. Dark skin, or the colour black, does have its merits, like strength and

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Mirabai Chanu Secures India's 1st Gold At Glasgow; Rishikanta Takes



Olympic medallist Mirabai Chanu underlined her status as India's greatest weightlifter of her generation with a record-shattering third successive Commonwealth Games gold, while Rishikanta Singh battled injury to claim a historic silver as the country enjoyed a productive day at the Games in Glasgow on Sunday. Mirabai was in a league of her own in the women's 48kg competition, rewriting the Commonwealth and Commonwealth Games record books en route to lifting 190kg (85kg snatch and 105kg clean and jerk). It was India's first gold in this edition of the Games and the third medal overall so far. Para powerlifter Jhandu Kumar had opened India's medal account with a bronze in the men's heavyweight event on Friday. The 31-year-old Manipuri overcame a missed opening attempt in both the snatch and clean and jerk before

recovering in trademark fashion to finish a massive 22kg ahead of Nigeria's Ruth Asuquo Nyong, who settled for silver with 168kg. Having already secured the title and with the Asian Games less than two months away, Mirabai opted to skip her final clean and jerk attempt after breaking the Commonwealth Games records in clean and jerk and total lift. Before Mirabai's gold-winning show, Rishikanta Singh settled for a silver in the men's 60kg category after an injury denied him a realistic shot at gold. The Manipuri lifter matched the Commonwealth Games record in the snatch with a 121kg effort and entered the clean and jerk in the lead. However, he could manage only 143kg after failing his final two attempts, finishing with a total of 264kg. Malaysia's Mohamad Aniq Kasdan seized the opportunity by produc-

ing a Games record 152kg clean and jerk for a winning total of 273kg, while Kenya's Joshua Amunga Mboya claimed bronze with 260kg. Extremely Happy ChanuChanu expressed her delight after winning her third Commonwealth Games gold medal in the women's 48kg weightlifting event at Glasgow 2026, saying she was "extremely happy" to add another gold to India's tally. Speaking to reporters after her victory, Chanu said she was happy to bring the third gold medal for India and admitted that there was some pressure on her to perform well. "I am very happy that I could bring the third Gold medal for India. There were a lot of things running in my mind. There was a little bit of pressure. I wanted to perform very well for the Indian weightlifting team. I am extremely happy for my third gold medal and the fourth

medal in the Commonwealth Games," Chanu said. Came Here For Gold: Rishikanta Rishikanta revealed that a knee injury suffered a week before the competition resurfaced during the clean and jerk phase, robbing him of the power needed to complete his heavier lifts. "I came here for gold. After the snatch, I was in the leading position, but my knee created a problem. I was able to clean the weight but could not push because one thigh was not working properly. I tried my best," he told PTI. The 28-year-old nevertheless scripted history by becoming the first male weightlifter from Manipur to win a Commonwealth Games medal and the first from the state to compete in the sport at the Games. PM Modi Congratulates Winners Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed Mirabai Chanu and Rishikanta for their achievements. In a post

India's FCNR (B) Inflows Projected To Touch USD 80-85 Billion;

New Delhi: India may now receive Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) deposits in the range of USD 65-70 billion by the end of the scheme and overall USD 80-USD 85 billion, according to an SBI Research report. The total amount mobilised so far in 45 days has crossed the total amount mobilised in 2013 over a three-month period.

"Given the current trend, we believe that the total amount mobilised so far in 45 days has easily crossed the total amount mobilised in 2013 in 3 months! Overall, we believe India may now receive FCNR (B) deposits in the range of USD 65-70 billion by the end of the scheme and overall USD 80-USD 85 bn," the SBI Research report stated. The report noted that public sector banks served as the primary drivers of this mobilisation. Citing data from the Reserve Bank of India, the report noted that FCNR(B) deposits worth USD 17.41 billion were mobilised till July 17, 2026. The total deposit inflows reached USD 20.72 billion till July 17, which included USD 1.97 billion from Overseas Foreign Currency Borrowings (OFCBs) and USD 1.34 billion from External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs). The report mentioned that total FCNR deposits were expected to reach USD 26-28 billion by July 23 alone. SBI Research revised its total FCNR forecast at the end of the scheme



upward to USD 65-70 billion from an earlier estimate of USD 40-45 billion. "We also believe that a significant majority of existing FCNR deposits which are going to mature in Aug/ Sep'26 will be renewed under the new scheme (gravitated by higher interest rates) and will boost the FCNR (B) inflows," the report added. "Our preliminary estimate indicates that an amount worth USD 10 billion on a conservative basis, in addition to baseline estimates are going to be mobilised mostly through those economies where tax concessions are available," the report said. Foreign Currency Assets (FCA) increased by USD 7.6 billion from June 8 till July 17. Meanwhile, deposit mobilisation recorded USD 17.4 billion for FCNR(B) flows, possibly reflecting that the exchange process at the

RBI by the banks was happening gradually, accounting for roughly 44 per cent of the total amount. "The next reporting for FCA for July is for the week ended July 24 and the week ended July 31, and we expect for the next 15-day period (17-Jul-31 Jul) FCA inflows could touch USD 10-12 billion based on current trends," the report said. "This should make most of the overall FCA accruals/growth (till July end) of USD 17-20 billion post the RBI measure. The report mentioned that total FCNR deposits were expected to reach USD 26-28 billion by July 23 alone. SBI Research revised its total FCNR forecast at the end of the scheme upward to USD 65-70 billion from an earlier estimate of USD 40-45 billion. "We also believe that a significant majority of existing FCNR deposits which are going to

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Stock Markets Extend Losses To 4th Day On Surging Crude Oil Prices



Market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower on Thursday, extending losses for the fourth straight session, as a sharp jump in crude oil prices due to escalating tensions in West Asia weighed on investor sentiment. The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 363.66 points, or 0.47 per cent, to settle at 76,391.39. During the day, it tanked 603.07 points, or 0.78 per cent, to 76,151.98. The 50-share NSE Nifty dipped 126.65 points, or 0.53 per cent, to end at 23,869.60. From the Sensex pack, Adani Ports, Bajaj Finance, InterGlobe Aviation,

Axis Bank, State Bank of India and Tata Steel were among the major laggards. Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services, Eternal and Bajaj Finserv were among the winners from the pack. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, jumped 4.52 per cent to USD 98.32 per barrel. "Indian equity markets extended their decline as escalating tensions between the US and Iran, a sharp rise in crude oil prices and renewed concerns over global AI spending weighed on investor sentiment," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 819.20 crore on Wednesday after a day's breather, according to exchange data. "With crude oil prices approaching the USD 100 per barrel amid concerns over further disruptions to global energy supplies, investor sentiment remained subdued as markets reassessed inflation risks and corporate margins," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said. In Asian markets, South Korea's KOSPI jumped 4.40 per cent. Japan's Nikkei 225, Shanghai's SSE Composite index

and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index also ended higher. Markets in Europe were trading lower. US markets ended in the negative territory on Wednesday. On Wednesday, the Sensex tanked 715.06 points, or 0.92 per cent, to settle at 76,755.05. "Corporate margins," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Nair, Head of Research, Limited, said.

In Asian markets, South Korea's KOSPI jumped 4.40 per cent. Japan's Nikkei 225, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Nifty declined 191.45 points, or 0.79 per cent, to end at 23,996.25.

Students' Disappointment Understandable



Indian cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar on Thursday backed the students protesting against repeated exam paper leaks, saying their disappointment is understandable and it is the society's collective responsibility to ensure that they "don't feel this way again." Posting on 'X', Tendulkar said his late father Ramesh Tendulkar, who was a professor, instilled in

him certain values quite early in life, the primary one being "Failure is okay, cheating is not. Never take shortcuts." "As adults in society, we have the responsibility of shaping culture. A society which prioritises outcomes over effort will seek shortcuts over meritocracy. Today, when students feel disappointed that their hard work hasn't been rewarded, it is under-

standable," Tendulkar stated. "Collectively, we should all work together towards ensuring they don't feel this way again," he added. The protests that began on July 20 at Jantar Mantar have taken a violent turn with police resorting to lathi-charge on multiple occasions, citing law and order concerns. The agitation is being spearheaded by the Cockroach Janata

Party with support of environmental activist Sonam Wangchuk, who is on an indefinite fast in solidarity with the students. They are demanding the removal of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, holding him responsible for the NEET paper leaks that led to a re-test recently. Multiple students died by suicide across the country in the aftermath of the paper leak. Ikar said he is hopeful of a solution coming through and stressed on the need to promote a culture which rewards honesty and in which merit wins. "As a society, all of us, including parents, teachers, friends, relatives, schools, and administrators, have a massive responsibility and different roles to play in ensuring our youth remain encouraged and energised." We must create a culture where hard work is rewarded, honesty is encouraged, and merit wins. I am certain we will all find solutions that strengthen our children's future and safeguard their aspirations," he said. On Thursday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi issued a statement to say that fast track

'No Right Actor To Play Lord Rama': Ranbir Kapoor Reacts To Criticism Over His Casting In Ramayana



Bollywood actor Ranbir Kapoor has finally responded to the criticism surrounding his casting as Lord Rama in Nitesh Tiwari's upcoming film Ramayana. Ever since the film's first teaser was released, social media has been divided. While many praised the visuals and Ranbir's look as Lord Rama, others questioned whether he was the right choice for the iconic role. Now, speaking to a newswire during the Ramayana team's promotional visit to San Diego Comic-Con, Ranbir shared his

thoughts on the criticism. The actor admitted that even he had doubts when he was first offered the role. Recalling his initial reaction, Ranbir said, "The first question that popped into my head was, am I worthy? Am I the right person, and why am I being gifted this responsibility to not play Lord Rama but represent him?" He said that he soon understood the importance of the role and the responsibility that came with it. "But very soon you understand the value, the responsibility and the

noble intention of the filmmakers to present the story, which has been relevant for 4,000 years. It's deeply ingrained in our subconscious. So I don't think there's a right actor to play Lord Rama," he said. Ranbir also explained why he believes there can never be one perfect actor to portray Lord Rama. According to him, every person has a different image and understanding of the character, which naturally leads to different opinions. "All the people who have watched Ramayan, they all have

their own interpretation of Lord Ram. There is no fixed face to it. Many people will probably feel like I am the wrong casting. Some people will say I am the right casting. But the honest truth is that the right casting for Ram would be any actor who has the right intentions and who has belief and faith in the journey of Lord Ram," the actor said. During the Comic-Con promotions, Ranbir also received support from his co-star Yash, who plays Ravana in the film. Praising Ranbir's performance, Yash said, "It's not easy

Delhi HC Orders Removal Of Kala Hiran Teaser Linked To Salman Khan, Says 'Reputation



The Delhi High Court on Monday directed the removal of the teaser and other promotional content of the upcoming film Kala Hiran: The Battle for Legacy. The Court said the material appears to link actor Salman Khan to the 1998 blackbuck poaching case and could harm his reputation. Hearing Salman Khan's plea seeking an interim injunction against the film's release and promotion, Justice Jyoti Singh also indicated that the character in the film's producer, Amit Jani, would be taken down. The Court said it would pass a detailed order later. During the hearing, the Court strongly criticised the promotional campaign and orally remarked, "This must stop."

Expressing concern over the possible damage to the actor's image, the judge also said, "Reputation once lost is lost." The Court further observed that the film's promotional material appeared to connect Salman Khan with the Lawrence Bishnoi controversy. Although the teaser and posters do not mention the actor by name, they clearly identify him through visual references. The plea states that the character in the teaser resembles Khan and wears his signature blue bracelet, making him easily identifiable. The act has argued that the film is based on the 1998 blackbuck poaching case and wrongly portrays events linked to him, causing serious

harm to his reputation. He has also claimed that the makers are using his identity and public image for commercial gain without his permission. The petition further alleges that producer Amit Jani's interviews, social media posts and public statements directly connect the film to the blackbuck case and gangster Lawrence Bishnoi to attract publicity. During the hearing, the Delhi High Court also directed the removal of social media links related to the film from X and YouTube. The Court also pulled up producer Amit Jani, telling his counsel, "You seem to think you are above the law. Things are only getting worse day by day. You cannot do this even to an ordinary citizen." However,

Jani's counsel argued that the teaser does not violate Salman Khan's personality rights as it does not mention the actor by name or use any deepfake or AI-generated content. Resending to this, Salman Khan's counsel told the Court, "In three out of the four cases, my client has been acquitted. In the fourth case, the sentence has been stayed. The teaser is attempting to turn an entire community against Salman Khan." The teaser of Kala Hiran: The Battle for Legacy was released on July 17. The film is directed by Bharat S Shrinet and produced by Amit Jani. It is reportedly inspired by Salman Khan's 1998 blackbuck poaching case and also references his alleged

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Batwara 1947, Toxic, Ohh My Dog, Awarapan 2 & More Movies To Hit Screens Next Month



August 2026 has a lot of exciting movies coming to theatres. From action thrillers and family dramas to horror comedies, historical stories, and biographical films, audiences will have plenty of options to choose from. Here's a look at the major theatrical releases hitting cinemas in August 2026, including Batwara 1947, Toxic: A Fairytale for Grown-Ups, Awarapan 2, I'm Game, and more. Cast: Pankaj Tripathi, Pawan Malhotra, Rajesh Kumar, Geeta Agrawal Sharma, Maahi Rai, Vijay Mishra, Sulakhyana Baruah. Ohh My Dog is a Hindi family thriller movie that tells a story about a young boy (played by Maahi Rai) who forms a deep, unexpected bond with a stray dog. The plot takes an adventurous and suspenseful turn when dogs in the neighbourhood start mysteriously disappearing. This prompts the young boy to go on a brave mis-

sion to uncover a larger dog-trafficking ring and rescue his missing pet. The movie ?Korean Kanakaraju is a Telugu-language horror-comedy about a hot-headed, alcoholic young man named Kanakaraju (played by Varun Tej) from the Rayalaseema region of India. His ordinary life takes a wild turn when he comes across a mystical dragon vase from Korea. A supernatural Korean spirit inside the vessel possesses him, granting him immense superpowers and turning him into an unstoppable force whenever someone says the word "Korea". This cross-cultural possession leads to massive supernatural chaos, dragging him and his friends into a dangerous conflict involving the Korean mafia across both India and South Korea. Inspired by Asghar Wajahat's play Jis Lahore Nai Vekhya, O Jaiya E Nai, Batwara 1947 is set against

the backdrop of the 1947 Partition of India. The story follows a Muslim family, led by a patriarch, Sikander Mirza, played by Sunny Deol, who migrates from Lucknow to Lahore and is allotted a large house. However, they discover that the elderly Hindu owner, Mai, played by Shabana Azmi, still lives there and firmly refuses to leave her ancestral home. While the family's patriarch tries to deal with this unexpected situation with courage and compassion, a local antagonist named Yaqoob Pehalwan (played by Abhimanyu Singh) seeks to stoke communal hatred to forcefully evict the old woman. Amidst the surrounding violence, fear, and chaos of 1947, the narrative focuses on the unlikely emotional bond and shared humanity that grows between the Muslim family and the elderly Hindu woman as they choose coexistence over