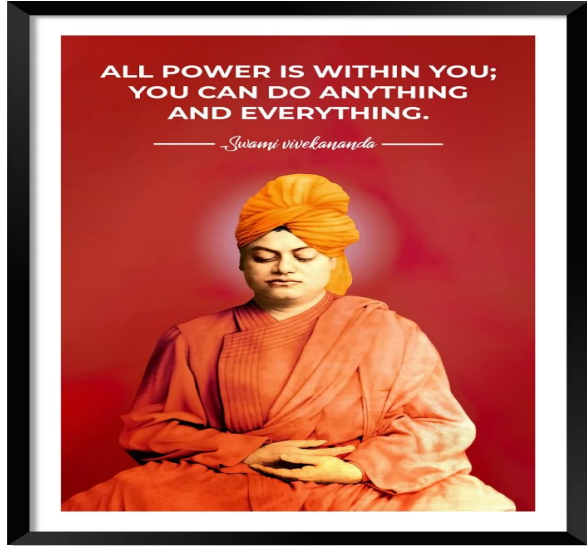
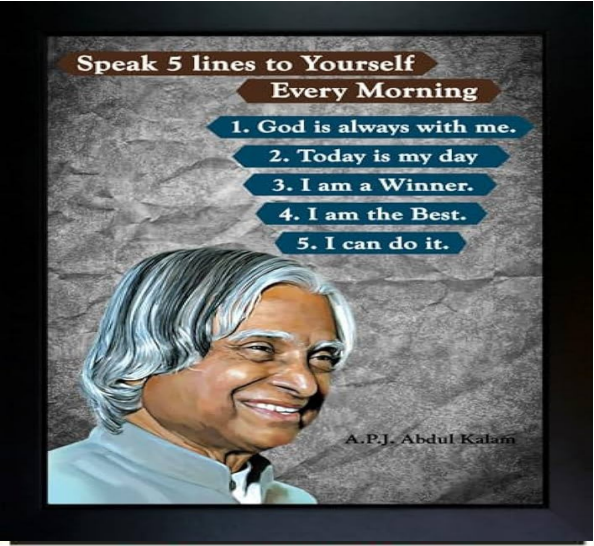




3 Injured in Building Collapse Incident in Tirupati

Hyderabad: A four-storey building collapsed in Tirupati, leaving three people seriously injured. The incident occurred at Vani Nagar, near M.R. Palli Junction in the city, while foundation trenches were being excavated for the construction of a new building. Meanwhile, cracks developed in the four-storey building during the excavation work, prompting the residents to alertly evacuate the premises. Their timely evacuation averted a major loss of life. On receiving the information, police and officials of the



D i s a s t e r M a n a g e m e n t Department reached the spot and launched rescue and relief operations. The injured were shifted to a hospital, where they are undergoing treatment. Disaster M a n a g e m e n t Department personnel cleared the debris from the site.

Adi Srinivas Orders Probe Into Vemulawada Goshala Cattle Deaths



Rajanna Sircilla: T e l a n g a n a Government Whip Adi Srinivas on Wednesday reacted to the death of five cattle at Tippapur Goshala in Vemulawada of Rajanna Sircilla district and directed officials to take all necessary measures to ensure the proper maintenance and protection of cows at the facility. Adi Srinivas visited the goshala and took stock of the situation. He said strict action would be

taken if any lapses were found in the maintenance of the goshala. He directed officials to remain vigilant and ensure that the cattle are provided proper care and protection. Also Read - Keychron Keyboards Make Grand India Debut at Vishal Peripherals He said the goshala must be maintained properly and that the trust of devotees who donate cows to the temple should not be violated. Adi Srinivas said the State Cabinet

had decided to construct a new goshala on 40 acres of land. He added that the existing facility was also being expanded based on the present number of cattle. He suggested that cows donated by devotees to the temple be kept in quarantine initially and that their health be closely monitored for the first few days. He said this would help prevent the spread of diseases, as newly brought cattle could potentially carry infections that

Rahul Gandhi Slams Bihar Govt Over Student Protests, Police Action

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday lashed out at the BJP-led Bihar government over the student protests there, accusing it of turning the police into a weapon to evade accountability. Gandhi's remarks came over the viral video of a six-year-old slum-dwelling boy, in which he is heard making bold and sharp comments at a students' protest in Patna before being taken away by police to be handed over to his parents. Also Read - 65-Year-Old Woman Dies In Howrah Building Fire, 12 Rescued Social media was abuzz with rumours that the boy -- Aditya, a resident of



Punaichak locality in Patna -- had been "arrested" for taking part in the protests. Police have dismissed the claim, stating that the boy was kept at the police station "for his own safety" but was later handed over to his mother, a house help. In an X post in Hindi, Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, said the students in Bihar have a very straightforward question: Why are

there irregularities in recruitment exams? Also Read - Modi Reviews Key Infra Projects across Railway, Road and Power Sectors "Why no action on allegations of paper leaks? And how long will this tampering with the future of the youth continue?" he asked. "The controversy over BPSC exams is not of today. Students have been on the streets for a long time over the

Revanth's push, Congress's pause: A disciplinary move that won't move

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy appears to have pushed hard for disciplinary action against Minister Konda Surekha and senior Congress leader G Chinna Reddy. Yet, at every stage, the party leadership has stopped short of moving with the urgency he appears to want. The gap between the Chief Minister's pressure and the high command's caution has exposed the political limits of Revanth Reddy's attempt to contain growing dissent within the Telangana Congress. The sequence is telling. Revanth's camp mobilised



18 MLAs to publicly oppose Surekha. MLA Megha Reddy also lodged a formal complaint against Chinna Reddy with AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge himself. The TPCC disciplinary committee then recommended action against both. On paper, the party

machinery appeared set for a decisive response. But once the issue moved to the Congress high command, the urgency appears to have evaporated. The disciplinary committee's recommendation does not automatically translate into action. The final call, particularly on

Surekha's continuation in the Cabinet, rests with the central leadership. Sources said the TPCC will forward its recommendation to the AICC, leaving the matter with the national leadership. That is where Revanth's political calculation has run into a larger Congress calculation. Surekha is not merely another dissenting leader. Action against her could have wider political consequences. Party leaders are wary of a backlash among BC leaders, particularly sections that believe Revanth is targeting Surekha in erstwhile Warangal, where most leg-

islators are seen as aligned with him. Her suspension could turn a disciplinary issue into an anti-BC political campaign. The Konda family has reportedly sought appointments with the central leadership. If suspended, they could take the battle to Delhi and mobilise support among BC sections against Revanth. For the high command, that is a risk without an obvious political gain. The more likely option is to wait. A Cabinet expansion or reshuffle, whenever it takes place, could provide a quieter way of dealing with Surekha

Modi Reviews Key Infra Projects across Railway, Road and Power Sectors

Hyderabad: Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 53rd meeting of PRAGATI, the ICT-enabled, multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, at Seva Teerth on Wednesday. During the meeting, Prime Minister reviewed six key infrastructure projects across the Railway, Road and Power sectors, spanning nine States with a cumulative cost of more than Rs.30,000 crore. The projects, significant for strengthening connectivity, supporting industrial and economic activity and

improving public services, were reviewed with particular emphasis on adherence to timelines, inter-agency coordination, resolution of pending issues and expeditious completion. Also Read - 65-Year-Old Woman Dies In Howrah Building Fire, 12 Rescued Prime Minister emphasised that delays in infrastructure projects have consequences beyond cost escalation, as they also postpone the benefits intended for citizens, businesses and the economy. He said that infrastructure projects should be viewed and



monitored as an integrated whole, rather than as isolated sections, stretches or packages. He noted that progress in individual

packages should ultimately translate into timely completion and operationalisation of the entire project. Ministries and

States were therefore asked to adopt an end-to-end approach, and address critical gaps that could delay the overall commissioning and delivery of benefits. Also Read - Rahul Gandhi Slams Bihar Govt Over Student Protests, Police Action He called for fostering a proactive work culture across Ministries and State Governments, with greater ownership at every level of project implementation. Prime Minister stressed the need to explore common utility corridors for infrastructure services, wherever feasi-

Jagan Accuses AP Govt of Leaving Farmers in Lurch, BCs Ignored



Amaravati: YSRCP president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Wednesday criticised the NDA government in Andhra Pradesh over its alleged failure to prepare a contingency plan to tackle drought conditions, its stand on BC reservations in local body elections and the alleged involvement of police personnel in ganja peddling. Addressing a press conference at YSRCP central office in Tadepalli, the former chief minister said the state had recorded an average rainfall deficit of 51 per cent over the past two months and alleged that farmers were worried about the Kharif crop while Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu had remained silent and the government had not given any assurance on alternative measures. Also

Read - Ramanaidu Inspects Veligonda Works For Inauguration "Your (Naidu's) NDA coalition government has failed to prepare a contingency plan to tackle drought conditions, is playing the same old game on BC reservations ahead of local body elections and has allowed ganja peddling by police personnel," said Jagan. He alleged that Naidu had dismantled the Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs) and farmer welfare measures such as free crop insurance, e-cropping and continuous monitoring of market dynamics, leaving the agriculture sector in the lurch. Also Read - YSR Kadapa: Tomato, Sweet Lime Prices Crash Jagan alleged that no relief plan has been announced to farmers during the Kharif sea-

son and distribution of seeds for alternative crops has not begun. He also claimed that the CM was allowing water to be drawn by the neighbouring state from Srisailem while ignoring Pothreddypadu and stalling the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme. Jagan further alleged that Nagarjuna Sagar waters were also being taken away through lift irrigation projects by the neighbouring state while Naidu remained a "mute spectator", which he said reflected the government's anti-farmer stand. Also Read - 3 Injured in Building Collapse Incident in Tirupati Citing a written reply in Parliament, Jagan said that there were 1.18 crore crop insurance applications during 2022-23, while the number had now fallen to 40 lakh. Further, on BC reservations, Jagan alleged that Naidu had encouraged litigation when the previous YSRCP government sought to provide reservations to BCs and was now playing the same game with local body elections approach-

Harish Rao accuses Revanth Reddy of running land-centric government in Telangana



Hyderabad: BRS Legislature Party deputy leader T Harish Rao on Wednesday accused Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy of running a land-centric government, but not a people-centric government in Telangana. He said the Congress government's sole objective was to sell government lands and encroach upon private properties. Addressing families affected by restrictions under the 22A prohibited properties list at KPHB Colony, Harish Rao called Revanth Reddy a land grabber. He stated that the government was harassing ordinary landowners by placing their properties on the 22A list while allegedly handing over valuable government properties to the Chief

Minister's relatives and associates. "Under KCR, governance was people-centric. Under Revanth Reddy, it has become land-centric," he said. He said the government was focusing on government properties instead of addressing issues concerning education, health-care, drinking water, power, transport, employment and farmers' welfare. The BRS deputy leader pointed out that the government had already sold government lands worth around Rs 30,000 crore in a short period. Housing Board and TGIIIC lands were being put up for sale wherever government land was available, he alleged. Harish Rao cited the proposed sale of a 1,000-square-yard park site in Hyder

Nagar as an example. He said the land was earmarked during the BRS government for children to play after residents, led by Kishan Rao, fought for the facility. However, the Congress government had now put the site up for sale, he alleged. "Government land is an asset for future generations and not for sale," he said, warning that indiscriminate disposal of public land would leave little space in future for schools, hospitals, water tanks, places of worship or burial and cremation grounds. Harish Rao said while government lands were being sold, the government was also targeting assigned lands given to Dalits, tribals and BCs. At the same time, properties purchased by ordinary people with their hard-earned money were allegedly being placed on the 22A list, he said. Harish Rao assured 22A-affected families in Kukatapally that the BRS would stand by them and wage an uncompromising fight for protection of their properties. "Even if it means forcing the Congress

BRS to raise Revanth Reddy, Congress MLAs’ remarks before Assembly Ethics Committee

Hyderabad: The BRS has decided to turn the tables on Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Congress MLAs over their alleged unparliamentary remarks and conduct in the Assembly. The party will raise the issue before the Assembly Ethics Committee at its August 29 meeting, which is scheduled to examine the conduct of BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy towards Kadiam Srihari in the House. “The BRS will attend the meeting and demand that the Chief Minister, Ministers and Congress MLAs be questioned first for their unparliamentary language and behaviour within the Assembly,” said BRS MLA and former Minister Vemula Prashanth Reddy on Wednesday. Speak in to mediapersons at Telangana Bhavan here, Prashanth Reddy said Revanth Reddy had



announced that Kaushik Reddy’s conduct would be referred to the Ethics Committee even before the panel was constituted. He questioned whether the committee was being selectively used against Opposition members. Citing instances involving Congress members, he said Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender had threatened to “strip the skin” of a fellow member and see how he would move around Hyderabad. Congress MLA Mandula Samuel had spoken of “a sword

fight”, while Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar and Shadnagar MLA K Shankaraiah allegedly made objectionable gestures. MLA Vemula Veeresham had also behaved inappropriately, he alleged. Targeting Revanth Reddy, Prashanth Reddy alleged that the Chief Minister had repeatedly used unparliamentary language in the House, including threats to beat members after stripping them, tie them to a tree and beat them. He also cited Revanth’s alleged

remark that members would have to beg at Jubilee Bus Station. The BRS leader demanded that the Ethics Committee first summon the Chief Minister, Ministers and Congress MLAs before examining Kaushik Reddy’s case. He asserted that the Ethics Committee should not become a political committee. He also demanded inquiries into allegations made by Congress leaders against Revanth Reddy, his family and Ministers, including those concerning alleged corruption, ticket-related payments, commissions, Future City, 22A land issues and HYDRA. He said the Kaushik Reddy issue was being used to divert attention from public issues in the Assembly. MLAs Mutha Gopal, Padi Kaushik Reddy, Dr K Sanjay and Anil Jadav, besides former MLA Balka Suman, were present.

Search intensified for seven missing fishermen: Atchannaidu

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Agriculture and Fisheries Minister K Atchannaidu on Tuesday said the search operation to trace seven fishermen who have been missing for nearly three weeks had been intensified, with the Indian Coast Guard, Navy and other departments coordinating efforts. The fishermen from Odalarevu, Dummalapeta and Vasalathippa villages had departed from the Odalarevu Fish Landing Centre jetty at around 10 am on August 3. The families lost contact with them an hour later. The boat failed to return by August 12, prompting authorities to launch search operations. “Search efforts to trace the seven fishermen missing from the Amalapuram region

have been intensified, with the Indian Coast Guard, Navy and other agencies working in coordination with the Centre to locate them and bring them back safely,” Atchannaidu said in an official press release. The minister said Amalapuram MP Harish Balayogi took up the matter with Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, following which the Union Defence Ministry alerted the Indian Coast Guard. Based on directions from the Deputy Director General (Operations) at the ICG headquarters, the Eastern and North-Eastern commands based in Kolkata have also joined the mission. Fifteen Coast Guard vessels and four helicopters



operating in nearby waters were deployed to expand the search area and speed up the operation, he said. Electronic surveillance is also being carried out simultaneously under the Marine Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC), while maritime authorities in Myanmar and Bangladesh have been alerted in

view of the possibility of receiving information about or locating the missing boat, the minister said. The Indian Coast Guard was examining the possibility that the boat may have drifted into international waters or could have become stranded at sea due to a technical with its engine, he said.

Fake Liquor Factory Busted In Gujarat's Kutch; 10,000 Bottles Of IMFL Brand



Aug 26: Days after a hooch tragedy claimed 13 lives in Gujarat’s Bhavnagar, police have unearthed a fake liquor factory in Kutch district and seized nearly 10,000 empty and filled bottles of a popular IMFL brand, officials said. On the operation in Kutch, Inspector General of Police, Border Range, Chirag Koradiya said, “Around 9,400 empty bottles and 600 filled with 180 ml liquor were seized along with 600 litres of chemicals from a makeshift

factory at Adipur in the district.” “We have detained two accused. Further action is underway,” the official said on Wednesday. The accused have been identified as Hitesh Bamaniya, a resident of Mumbai, and Vijendra Jat, who is from Mathura in Uttar Pradesh, he added. In the Bhavnagar incident, 67 persons had consumed the liquor containing methanol, a highly toxic substance, packed in bottles bearing the name of a popular

IMFL brand, according to officials. The Gujarat Police’s State Monitoring Cell (SMC), a special unit that tracks state-wide illicit liquor and gambling operations, is carrying out a multi-state investigation in the hooch tragedy. It is investigating the source of methanol and other chemicals, the transporters involved, and all those linked to procuring and moving raw materials used in manufacturing spurious

factory at Adipur in the district.” “We have detained two accused. Further action is underway,” the official said on Wednesday. The accused have been identified as Hitesh Bamaniya, a resident of Mumbai, and Vijendra Jat, who is from Mathura in Uttar Pradesh, he added. In the Bhavnagar incident, 67 persons had consumed the liquor containing methanol, a highly toxic substance, packed in bottles bearing the name of a popular

Hyderabad celebrates Milad-un-Nabi with peace juloos, religious meetings

Hyderabad: Muslims across Hyderabad celebrated Milad-un-Nabi, marking the birth anniversary of Prophet Mohammed. The occasion is observed on the 12th day of Rabi-ul-Awwal, the third month of the Islamic Hijri calendar. To mark the occasion, religious meetings were organised at various places across the city. A big public meeting was organised at the Numaish Grounds by the All India Tameer-e-Millat. Several eminent personalities attended the meeting. On the other hand, All India Bazm-e-Rehmat-e-Alam presented Deepak Kumar, popularly known as ‘Muhammad’ Deepak, with the Rehmat-e-Alam Peace Award at a function on Wednesday. Several socio-religious organisations conducted blood donation camps. The FOCUS organisation is holding a camp at the Asafia Library in Afzalgunj. Blood donation camps are also being held at the Charminar Bus Stand and Vijay Nagar Colony. The major attraction of the celebrations was the



Milad Peace Juloos, a procession that began from Charminar at 1 pm and was flagged off by Charminar MLA Mir Zulfeqar Ali. Thousands of people participated in the procession, which will pass through Charminar, Gulzar Houz, Pathergatti, Madina Building, Nayapul, Darulshifa, Mandi Mir Alam and Alijah Kotla before culminating at Moghalpura. Hyderabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar welcomed the

procession at Charminar in the presence of other senior police officials, including Additional Commissioners Tafseer Iqbal (South Range), M Srinivas (Crimes), and Deputy Commissioners of Police Kiran Kharen (Charminar), Chaitanya Kumar (Detective Department) and Vaibhav Gaikwad (Task Force). Sajjanar said around 2,000 policemen from different wings were deployed to oversee security and traffic management.

Several small processions from different parts joined the main procession. Similar local processions were taken out at Golconda, Borabanda, Erragadda, Sanathnagar, Hafeezpet, Bowenpally and other areas. The police made elaborate arrangements by deploying special teams and surveillance personnel. Drone-based surveillance, CCTV cameras and camera-mounted vehicles are being used to monitor the procession routes

Bhadrachalam ganja case: Excise CI, constable face departmental action

Kothagudem: A prohibition and excise inspector as well as a constable faced action for allegedly altering and forging panchanama and other case records related to the arrest of two persons accused in a ganja case at Bhadrachalam excise police station in the district. It was said that an excise enforcement team caught two ganja smugglers from Odisha on August 4 and handed over the accused to Bhadrachalam excise police station. The

accused were supposed to be produced in court and remanded to judicial custody that same day. But, acting negligently, the excise Inspector assigned a constable to guard the two accused and kept them at the station overnight. Seizing the opportunity, one of the accused, Madhaba Hantal, escaped from the station during the early hours of August 5. Alarmed at the development, the excise CI was said to have brought the matter to the attention of



the Superintendent. Subsequently, the CI altered the panchanama report by forging the signatures of the enforcement officials to falsely indicate that only one person was arrested instead of two and misled the court by produc-

ing the single individual in court. When the enforcement officials learned of this, they lodged a complaint with higher authorities. The Prohibition and Excise Commissioner, C Hari Kiran, in a memo dated August 24,

13-YO Noida Boy Lured Out On Pretext Of Birthday Party, Found Dead In Park Days Later; Two Minors Detained

New Delhi/Noida: A 13-year-old boy who had gone missing in Noida on August 17 was found dead under mysterious circumstances in a park in Sector 54. Police said two minors have been detained for interrogation in connection with the case. According to the family, the boy was taken away on August 17 by his friends on the pretext of a birthday celebration. When he did not return home until late at night, his family began searching for him frantically, but in vain. The boy’s mother alleged that the family approached the Sector 12/22 police outpost and the Sector 24 and Sector 20 police stations, but police did not even register a missing persons report for four days. She alleged that police cited a jurisdiction dispute and asked the family to wait for the boy’s intoxication to wear off. After the boy’s body was found, his mother identified him at the post mortem room from the



kalawa (thread) tied around his hand. She alleged that her son was brutally murdered and his body was dumped in the park in Sector 54. “I want justice for my child. They took him away on the pretext of a birthday party and killed him,” the mother alleged. Angry over the death, the family staged a protest at the post mortem house and demanded the encounter of the accused.

Meanwhile, ADCP Manisha Singh said a suspect has been detained and interrogation is underway. “A body was found on August 21 and kept in post mortem house for identification. After confirmation, a woman from Sector 20 informed police and lodged a complaint. Police immediately registered a case. The woman, in her complaint, expressed suspicion against two people. Two minors have been

detained in this connection, while a team is carrying out search to apprehend others involved.” “The body found in the forest area of Sector 54 was identified by the woman as her son. No visible injury was found on the teenager’s body during the postmortem. His viscera has been pre-seized to determine the exact cause of death,” Singh added.

BJP Names Sukanta Majumdar In-Charge Of Kolkata Civic Polls, Rahul Sinha To Oversee Howrah Elections

Kolkata: The Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) has appointed Union Minister of State and former West Bengal party president Sukanta Majumdar as in-charge of its Kolkata Municipal Corporation election preparations. According to a party notification issued on Tuesday, Majumdar will be assisted by state BJP vice-president Anindya Banerjee, who has been named co-in-charge. State minister and Maniktala MLA Tapas Roy will be the convenor, while Kashipur-Belgachia MLA Ritesh Tiwari will serve as co-convenor. The BJP also constituted its election management team for the Howrah Municipal Corporation polls, appointing former state party president and Rajya Sabha MP Rahul Sinha as in-charge and



Bally MLA Sanjay Kumar Singh as convenor, as per the notification. The appointments formally mark the beginning of the BJP's election-specific organisational preparations for the two key civic bodies. The announcement was made within a fortnight of the West Bengal Assembly, in a special one-day session on August 12, passing twin legislations proposing to increase

the number of civic body wards in Kolkata from 144 to 209 and in the adjacent city of Howrah from 50 to 68, by amending the Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Howrah Municipal Corporation Acts. Although the formal election schedule is yet to be announced, Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari had said that the polls for two civic bodies are planned

for late this year, following the end of the festive season. A high-level meeting of the state BJP leadership and legislators representing areas under the Kolkata Municipal Corporation was held at the party's state headquarters in Bidhannagar on Tuesday. BJP national general secretary and West Bengal organisational in-charge Sunil Bansal, organisational general secretary Amitava Chakravorty and Majumdar, among others, attended the meeting. The decision to put Majumdar in charge of Kolkata is being viewed within the party as an indication of the importance it attaches to the civic contest. The committee is expected to oversee the party's preparations, including its campaign, poll manifesto and candi-

date-selection process.

BJP's choice of Majumdar also assumes significance against the backdrop of his continuing role in the state organisation despite having stepped down as state party president.

Majumdar had taken over as the state BJP president from Dilip Ghosh in 2021, a few months after the party's defeat in the Assembly elections. The BJP had won 77 seats in that election after campaigning aggressively for a change of government in the state. His tenure as state president coincided with a difficult phase for the party organisation when the BJP alleged widespread post-poll violence unleashed on its workers across the state by the then-ruling TMC.

In the 2021 Kolkata civic elections, the BJP contest-

Bihar Govt Missive To Officers To Follow Protocol And Etiquette Towards Legislators



Yamunanagar: A mother's homemade remedy has turned four government school students in Yamunanagar into young entrepreneurs and how! Renuka, Siya, Nancy and Divya, all aged between 15 and 17, are producing herbal haircare products under their startup, Harvol. Their products, first sold in nearby villages and local shops, have now found users as far away as Australia, while an order has reportedly also arrived from Italy. All four being students of Government School, Laharpur manage the venture alongside their studies. Their journey began in November 2025 when their teacher, Kanwaljit, introduced them to the Kushal Business Challenge, or KBC, which encourages government school students to develop practical business ideas. During a discussion on possible products, Siya spoke about the herbal oil her mother, Reena Devi, prepares at home. The teacher saw business potential in the remedy and encouraged the girls to turn it into a mar-

ketable product. Classroom Challenge Makes Four Haryana Schoolgirls Turn Herbal Hair Oil Into A Growing Business. Laharpur government school (ETV Bharat) "The increasing incidence of premature greying among children made them realise that it is important to create a natural hair oil," Siya said. After customers responded positively to the product, the girls added herbal shampoo and hair serum to their range. They are now preparing to launch herbal henna. The idea also brought them recognition in the Kushal Business Challenge. Harvol secured first place at the school, block and district levels and later finished among the top 10 teams in the state-level competition. The team received prize money totalling Rs 1 lakh. Renuka said the students received Rs 25,000 at the district level and another Rs 75,000 at the state level. Instead of dividing or spending the prize money, they invested it in the fledgling business. "We initially prepared and packed the products at home. As

sales increased, we took a shop on rent and shifted our operations there. The space now serves as their production and business centre," she added. Finding customers was not easy at first. Nancy said the team organised meetings in villages, where they explained how the products were prepared and spoke to residents about their ingredients. The girls then approached small local shops to stock the products. Word-o-mouth publicity gradually helped the venture grow. As more customers tried the oil and shared their experience, the products began moving beyond neighbourhood shops and reaching bigger markets. The students also created an Instagram page for Harvol. Photographs, product details and customer feedback posted on the platform helped them connect with buyers outside their immediate surroundings and brought in regular orders. Their first overseas connection, however, came through a customer who bought a Harvol product for a relative

AISA Chief Neha Bora Supports 'Aspirations' Of Kashmiris; Terms Education

Mumbai: All India Students' Association (AISA) national president Neha Bora on Tuesday said she supports the "aspirations of Kashmiris" even when the BJP claims the people of Jammu and Kashmir are happy under its regime at the Centre.

Speaking at an interaction organised by the Network of Women in Media, India (NWMi) at the Mumbai Press Club, the Left-wing student leader addressed a range of pressing social and political issues, placing special emphasis on the state of the country's education system.

When asked whether she supported "azaadi" (freedom) slogans raised in connection with Kashmir, the AISA chief stated her stance on the region. "I support aspirations of Kashmiris. The BJP says Kashmiris are happy under its regime," Bora said.

The JNU PhD scholar, whose student outfit is affiliated with the CPI (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation, also praised Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during the session for supporting the aspirations of the youth. Bora



maintained that education is a key common factor behind the progress of societies and countries, and keeping a major section of the population out of the learning system only ensures they lag behind.

She noted that several studies comparing societies and countries on parameters such as mortality rates, literacy, happiness and press freedom have found education to be a common factor influencing progress.

"One common factor is education. If you are trying to hold on to disparities and trying to keep a major section of your soci-

ety out of education, you are also ensuring that you keep staying behind," insisted Bora.

The AISA chief, who was on a hunger strike for 23 days along with climate activist Sonam Wangchuk in Delhi over the NEET paper leaks in July, claimed that barring Left parties, other political outfits do not give priority to education.

She questioned the tendency to ask why the country is lagging while simultaneously denying a large section of society access to education. Bora, who also took part in the protest against the alleged recruitment exam irregularities in Jharkhand,

emphasised that inclusive access to education is essential for reducing disparities and ensuring broader social development.

Education is for people's good and the government has a responsibility to ensure quality education for all, she said. "The dream was to build a country based on equality. Democracy is, at its heart, about equality. We must honour our ancestors who fought for this ideal and carry their vision forward. Equality is a beautiful thing, and it is the foundation of a just society," Bora said.

"The problems we see today have been building up for years as education has steadily given way to privatisation. What is needed is a comprehensive overhaul of the system based on practical solutions," the AISA president argued.

Speaking on the occasion, model Riya Ahir, who gained nationwide fame after blocking a Mumbai police van to stop the detention of student protesters last month, said politics had always been a

part of her life and that she had been vocal about social and political issues.

About her participation in student protests, she emphasised standing up for pupils did not feel like an act of courage or bravery to her. "It is something that comes very naturally to me," she said.

Recalling the protests in Mumbai, held in solidarity with the CJP-led stir in Delhi, Ahir said she had initially sent emails to the UN, the National Human Rights Commission, the Supreme Court and the Bombay High Court after witnessing what had happened to students. However, the model-activist stressed she was not satisfied with simply sending emails and subsequently joined the protests independently.

Ahir insisted criticism of the government is a democratic right of citizens and does not mean people do not love their country. "Our parents criticise us because they want us to do better. They criticise us because they love us. In the same way, questioning and criticising the government does not mean we do not love our country. It is

NIA Raids In South Kashmir's Anantnag In Terror Case

Srinagar: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday carried out raids at two locations in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district as part of its investigation into a terror case. The raids were carried out at Bijbehara and Dooru in the south Kashmir district, officials said. Accompanied by Jammu and Kashmir Police and Central Reserve Police Force, NIA officers searched two residential houses as part of its probe, they added.

The operation was carried out in connection with an ongoing investigation by the NIA, but the nature of the case and the details of the search were not immediately available. According to sources, searches and other legal proceedings were underway at both locations, but it was not yet clear whether any arrests have been made or any objectionable material or other items have been seized during the operation. More details and an official statement are awaited from the NIA regarding the two raids. Saturday's operation by the agency comes a day after J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha highlighted the vital role of community solidarity in eliminating terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. Sinha was speaking after laying the foundation stone of Amr iteshwar Sarovar under the 'Jan Sanchay Jan Bhagidari' initiative at Dharpur in Sunderbani area of Rajouri district. During his visit, the Lieutenant Governor paid obeisance at the Shri Amr iteshwar Shiv temple. Addressing a public gathering, LG said that community solidarity has a crucial role to play in eliminating terrorism, substance abuse and corruption, besides driving economic development and ushering in a spiritual renaissance in Jammu and Kashmir. "India is going through a great spiritual revival. This cultural wave is felt across Jammu-Kashmir, bringing people closer together and strengthening our community bonds," he said.



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The Lieutenant Governor urged people to remain vigilant against the nefarious designs of anti-national elements, report suspicious activities and completely isolate terror sympathisers. "Security forces alone cannot defeat terrorism. Eradicating this threat demands a whole-of-society approach. United societal effort is required along with police and security agencies to dismantle the illicit financial and logistical webs of narco-terror networks," he said. Sinha aid a concerted security and societal effort involving the Army, security forces, J&K Police, local administration and residents has significantly degraded terrorism and transformed the security landscape of the region.

Supreme Court Special Lok Adalat Settles Over 400 Cases on 1st Day of 3-Day Exercise

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday settled more than 400 cases on the first day of a three-day Special Lok Adalat being held as part of the "Samadhan Samaroh" initiative aimed at promoting an amicable resolution of disputes.

More than 600 cases were listed before 16 Special Lok Adalat benches, each comprising two Supreme Court judges, along with senior advocates, advocates-on-record and other lawyers.

The Special Lok Adalat, which began on Friday, will continue till August 23. The cases taken up included matrimonial and property disputes, motor-accident claims, land-acquisition and compensation matters, tax disputes



as well as service and labour matters pending before the apex court.

The initiative, being held under the guidance of

Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant, involves a pre-settlement process in which litigants and their counsel are engaged to explore the possibility of

resolving disputes amicably. The benches facilitated dialogue between the parties and assisted them in exploring the possibility of a settlement through

consent rather than prolonged litigation.

The Supreme Court said the exercise reflects its continued efforts to promote mediation and other consensual methods of dispute resolution as an important process in which litigants and their counsel are engaged to explore the possibility of resolving disputes amicably. The benches facilitated dialogue between the parties and assisted them in exploring the possibility of a settlement through tant part of the justice-delivery system. The Special Lok Adalat provides litigants an opportunity to resolve their disputes through dialogue and settlement, while helping reduce the burden of prolonged litigation.

No Cases Registered Against RSS, Says Karnataka Home Minister Priyank Kharge

Bengaluru: Karnataka Home Minister Priyank Kharge has said that no cases of communal riots or other crimes were registered against the RSS. Kharge's remarks came in response to a question by Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayan Daswamy, who sought details of cases registered against the RSS, its involvement in communal riots and any untoward incidents reported during its route marches (pathasanchalan) and daily gatherings (shakhas). "There are no cases registered," Kharge said in a written reply in the Legislative Council. The reply was seized upon by the BJP to target Kharge, a vocal critic of the RSS, who has been pursuing issues concerning the legal status of the organisation.

Kharge has also hit back at the Opposition on the matter.



Posting Kharge's written reply on 'X', Narayan Daswamy said, "The documents themselves speak the truth: Home Minister's political vendetta against the RSS laid bare!" "Home Minister Priyank Kharge, who has consistently pursued a politics of hatred, jealousy and hostility against the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), an organisation that has patriotism as its guiding principle, has now been confronted with official records from his own department," he said.

The LOP further asked Kharge that when his

own department has officially stated that there are no cases and no record of any untoward incidents, why does he continue to pursue political vendetta against the RSS? "As the person responsible for effectively leading the state Home Department, why are you engaging in political allegations and counter-allegations targeting the RSS instead of focusing on serious issues such as law and order? Why is your attention focused on political vendetta against the RSS when the state faces several serious law-and-order challenges," he asked.

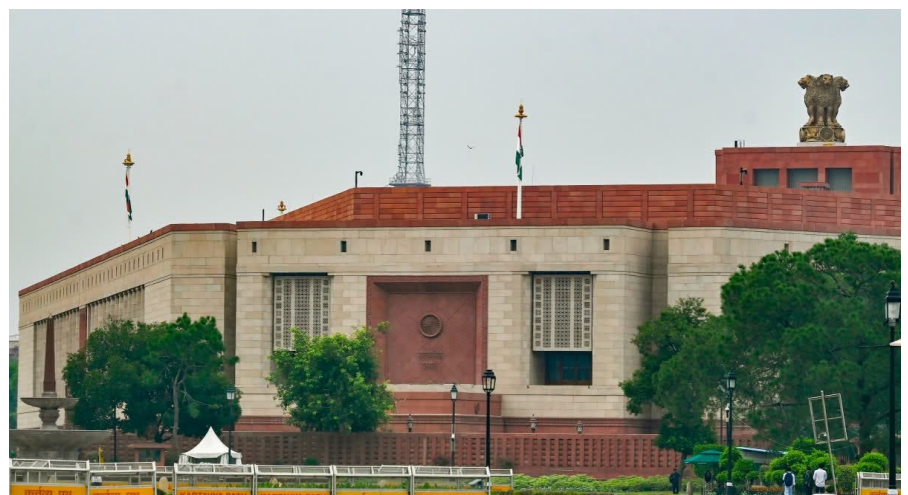
"There are thousands of problems in your department and in your own district (Kalaburagi). First, focus on resolving them," he added.

Former Minister and BJP MLA Sunil Kumar, pointing at a similar response given by then Home Minister G Parameshwara in the Assembly in December, 2025 along with Kharge's reply in the Council, said, "Two Home Ministers, one organization! Mr. Priyank Kharge, the Home Minister who spews hatred against the RSS day in and day out, here is what you have written about the organization in the Council." "Goebbels' Congress' leaders, no matter how many lies you tell, you cannot tarnish the values and culture of the RSS," he posted on 'X'. The Karnataka BJP, on its official 'X' handle too took a dig at Kharge and said, "Imagine hating a patriotic organization so

Lok Sabha Secretariat Issues Notices To 20 Rebel TMC MPs On Disqualification Pleas; Seeks Replies Within 7

New Delhi: The Lok Sabha Secretariat has issued notices to 20 rebel Trinamool Congress MPs and sought their replies within seven days on petitions filed by TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee seeking their disqualification under the anti-defection law, sources said.

The notices, dated August 25, forwarded a copy of Banerjee's petition dated June 18 filed against the MPs, who joined the NCPI, under Rule 6 of the Members of Lok Sabha (Disqualification on Ground of Defection) Rules, 1985. The Secretariat has asked the MPs to furnish their comments on the petition within seven days of receipt of the notice, the sources said. The development comes a day after the Supreme Court agreed to hear Banerjee's plea seeking an expeditious decision on the disqualification petitions. A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joydalya Bagchi and V Mohana agreed to hear Banerjee's plea questioning the alleged delay in deciding the disqualification proceedings. The apex court, while issuing notice to the 20 rebel MPs,



declined to issue notice to the office of the Lok Sabha Speaker and the secretary-general of the House after Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said he was representing them. During the hearing, the court observed, "It is not a question of issuing notices; it is a question of concluding the proceedings within a time frame." Banerjee had earlier submitted separate disqualification petitions against the 20 MPs and subsequently sought expeditious disposal of the proceedings. He had also met the Lok Sabha Speaker on August 12 over the issue after sending a written reminder on July 27.

The dispute follows a

rebellion within the TMC parliamentary party after 20 of its Lok Sabha MPs announced that they had joined or merged with the Nationalist Citizens Party of India (NCPI), a Tripura-based political outfit, and sought separate recognition in the House. The rebel MPs have subsequently been treated as an NCPI group in Parliament and have participated in NDA parliamentary activities.

The TMC has maintained that the MPs were elected on its symbol and that their decision to align with another political formation amounts to voluntarily giving up membership of the party, attracting disqualifica-

tion under the anti-defection law. The rebel camp has maintained that its move constitutes a valid merger. The 20 MPs named in Banerjee's petition are Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Satabdi Roy, Prasun Banerjee, Rachana Banerjee, Jagadish Chandra Barma Basunia, Partha Bhowmick, Arup Chakraborty, Adhikari Deepak Dev, Sayani Ghosh, Bapi Halder, Md Abu Taher Khan, Kalipada Saren Kherwal, Asit Kumar Mal, June Maliah, Mitali Bag, Khalilur Rahaman, Mala Roy, Sharmila Sarkar and Yusuf Pathan.

Transfers, DPCs And Filling Up Of Vacancies To Be Given Priority: Omar Abdullah To Jammu Kashmir Teachers

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Tuesday has assured teachers that the Jammu and Kashmir government will address their service grievances related to transfers, promotions and filling up of vacancies. Abdullah has also said that government will work to improve the infrastructure of schools in the Union Territory. Addressing an educational conference organised by the JK Teachers Forum at the Sher Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar on Tuesday, Abdullah said that transfers, Departmental Promotion



Committees (DPCs), vacancies and other administrative matters "will be considered with urgency and fairness." Acknowledging the infrastructure gaps in many schools especially in rural areas and institutions operating from rented or temporary premises, Abdullah said the government was working to modernise

facilities including through smart classroom initiatives. Regarding the Teachers Eligibility Test (TET), Abdullah said that the government will pursue the matter in accordance with the "current legal position" while keeping in mind the period up to August 2028 as reflected in the relevant judicial observations.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the new challenges facing teachers including maintaining "student attention amid the widespread use of smartphones and social media" and addressing the emerging role of artificial intelligence in education and assessment. He said that the responsibility of providing a better future to the youth of Jammu and Kashmir lies not only with the teachers but also parents and the administration. Abdullah also expressed concern that students who are admitted to government schools mainly for board exams have to attend private coaching

Onion Prices Soar To Rs 60-65 Per Kg In Delhi, Kitchens Feel Price Pinch As Supplies Tighten

New Delhi: Onion prices have been steadily rising in the national capital. A month ago, onions were selling for Rs 35-40 per kg, but prices have now risen to Rs 60-65 per kg. The rising price of onions has become a concern for people in Delhi, as onions are an essential part of everyday cooking. The increase is putting additional pressure on household kitchen budgets. When the ETV Bharat team visited the Tekhand vegetable market in Okhla, it found that green vegetables were still relatively affordable, but onion prices had been rising continuously. Customers were seen buying onions despite the higher prices. According to one seller, Arif, onions are currently being sold at Rs 60 per kg, compared with Rs 35-40 earlier. He said onion supply in the market has declined, driving prices up, and warned that prices could rise further. A customer, Shatrughan, said he bought onions for Rs 60 per kg, whereas they were available for Rs 40 just a few days ago. He said shopkeepers indicated prices could rise further, while other



green vegetables were also gradually becoming expensive. Vegetable seller Ramnath said customers who earlier bought onions by the kilogram are now purchasing only half a kilogram. "This also affects our business, but what can we do? Inflation is rising. People who eat onions will continue to eat them, though those who used to consume more may now buy less," he said. Another customer, Surendra, said sugar prices had also increased from around Rs 40 per kg to Rs 65-70 per kg, while onions had reached Rs 60 per kg. He alleged that prices of essential items were rising rapidly while people's incomes were not increasing. Delhi Government Plans Action If Prices Rise Further The Delhi government has decided to monitor the

availability and prices of onions and sugar. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has directed officials to prepare an action plan to make onions available through camps at different locations if prices rise further. The government said it will procure onions from NAFED if needed and sell them at the procurement price, while covering transportation and related expenses. Officials have also been directed to monitor onion supplies reaching Delhi, ensure stocks reach markets and take action against hoarding. The government said there is currently no shortage of onions or sugar in the capital. By Onion Prices Are Rising The rise in onion prices is linked to the end of the current season, lower arrivals than last year, and weather-related disruptions. Farmers have also suffered greater losses due to changing weather conditions. Rain in Maharashtra has further affected transportation

and supplies to Delhi.

Traders said if onion supplies from Maharashtra do not return to normal in the coming days, retail prices in Delhi could rise further. The Centre has started moving onion buffer stocks from Maharashtra to Delhi through dedicated railway rakes under the "Kanda Express" initiative. The first consignment of around 800 tonnes is scheduled to reach Delhi on Wednesday, with onions to be sold at Rs 35 per kg through NAFED, NCCF and Kendriya Bhandar outlets. The move comes as rain in Maharashtra has disrupted transportation and affected onion arrivals in Delhi. Traders said wholesale onion prices have risen to around Rs 50 per kg from Rs 25 earlier, while alternative supplies from Alwar and southern states remain limited. The Centre maintains onion buffer stocks to control prices when supplies tighten. The Centre has maintained about 1.21 lakh tonnes of onion buffer stock for 2026. The government has said onion availability remains comfortable for domestic demand,

Air New Zealand Appoints Outgoing Air India CEO Wilson As Board Member

New Delhi: Air New Zealand has appointed outgoing Air India CEO Campbell Wilson as a Director on its board. Wilson, who has been steering loss-making Air India and its transformation efforts, will be stepping down as CEO and MD of the airline in September. Air India had announced his resigna-



tion on April 7. "Former airline executives Campbell Wilson and Robert McDonald have

been appointed by the Board with effect from, and subject to their re-election by vote at the ASM," Air New Zealand said in a regulatory filing on Wednesday. The airline's Annual Shareholders' Meeting (ASM) is scheduled to be held on September 24. Wilson is a native of New Zealand.

Robert McDonald is a former Chief Financial Officer of Air New Zealand and is currently the Chair of ntlly, the Air New Zealand Therese Walsh. One member, Larry De Shon, is set to retire next month of experience in aviation and has held various senior executive roles at Singapore Airlines.

Delhi Police Register Abetment To Suicide Case In IIT Delhi Student's Death



Aug 26: Police have registered a case of abetment to suicide against unidentified persons in connection with the death of a 31-year-old M.Sc. Physics student of IIT Delhi, who allegedly jumped from a building on the institute campus last week, officials said. The student allegedly died by suicide after jumping from a building on the institute's campus on August 22. According to preliminary inquiry, the student had entered the IIT Delhi campus through the main gate around 8 am and subsequently went to the Lecture Hall Complex, where he took a lift to the sixth floor. He allegedly jumped from the front side of the building. He was rushed

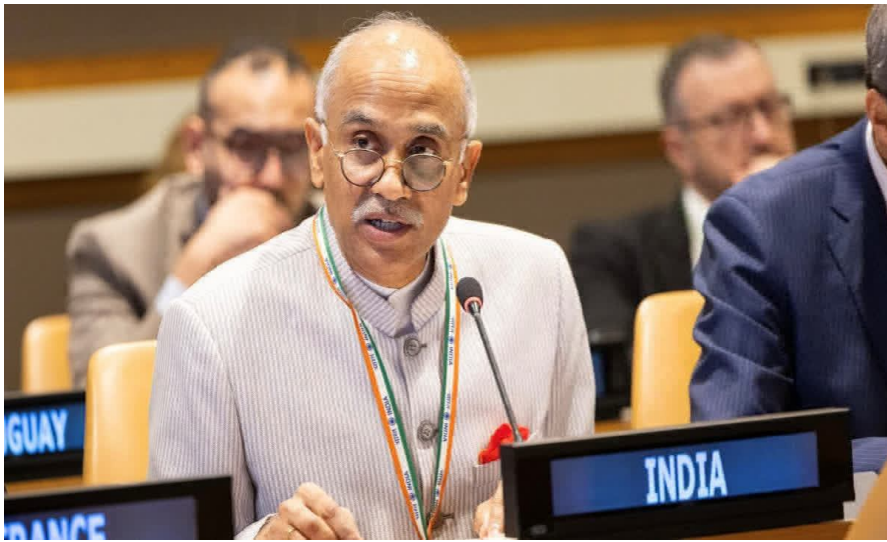
to the institute's campus hospital, where he was declared brought dead. A PCR call regarding the incident was received around 8.30 am at Kishangarh police station, following which a police team reached the campus. A crime team and a forensic science laboratory unit were also called to collect evidence. Police had earlier said that no suicide note was recovered from the spot. A mobile phone found in the deceased's pocket was seized and is being examined. As part of the investigation, police are also obtaining the student's counselling records and other relevant information from the institute. Being investigated, officials said IIT Delhi had earlier

expressed grief over the student's death and said the Delhi Police were investigating the incident. The institute said it was providing all support to the bereaved family. 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 Sciences helpline, at 9152987821 (available Monday to Saturday from 8 am to 10 pm)

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International Community Must Work Collectively To Safeguard Critical Sea Lanes: India Tells UNSC

United Nations: India has called on the international community to work collectively to safeguard critical sea lanes, emphasising that secure and predictable maritime trade routes are indispensable for uninterrupted movement of food, fertilisers and fuel. "Food insecurity remains one of the gravest humanitarian consequences of armed conflict. Today's conflicts increasingly generate ripple effects far beyond the immediate theatre of hostilities," India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni said. Addressing the UN Security Council High-Level Open Debate titled 'Food Under Fire: The Security Council's Role in Mitigating Global and Local Food Crises' on Tuesday, Parvathaneni said disruptions to energy markets, fertiliser supplies, maritime transport, humanitarian logistics and agricultural trade have demonstrated how regional conflicts can threaten food security across the world, with the greatest burden falling on developing countries that are highly import-dependent. India emphasised that the "immediate priority" of the UN Security Council should be to mitigate the humanitarian consequences of conflict. "This requires facilitating safe, rapid and unimpeded humanitarian access, supporting de-confliction arrangements where appropriate, and ensuring that the Council's own measures, including sanctions regimes, do not inadvertently impede humanitarian assistance or legitimate food and agricultural trade." Underscoring the need to preserve the safety and freedom of navigation for commercial shipping in accordance



with international law, Parvathaneni said, "Secure and predictable maritime trade routes are indispensable for the uninterrupted movement of food, fertilisers, fuel and other essential commodities." "Disruptions to commercial shipping during conflicts can have cascading effects far beyond the immediate region, disproportionately affecting food-importing developing countries and humanitarian operations," he said. The international community must therefore work collectively to safeguard critical sea lanes and maritime infrastructure, while ensuring that legitimate commercial trade and humanitarian shipments are able to proceed without undue impediment, he said. Addressing the debate, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres noted that the year 2025 saw not only the highest number of armed conflicts since World War II, but also among the highest levels of global acute hunger on record, with at least 266 million people facing acute food insecurity. The year 2025 also marked the first time this century that two famines were confirmed simultaneously, in Sudan and Gaza, which Guterres

described as a "shameful milestone". He added that the UN's latest Hunger Hotspots report shows that conflict and violence are the primary drivers in 12 out of 13 hunger hotspots of greatest concern. As the US-Israel war against Iran continues, Guterres said the Strait of Hormuz carries around a fifth of global oil supplies, and a third of global fertiliser trade. "Restrictions and closures have driven up commodity prices, and made availability plummet. And attacks on commercial vessels in the Red Sea are further threatening supply chains for food and other commodities," the UN Chief said. India told the Council that food insecurity is fundamentally a consequence of conflict, political instability and underdevelopment, not their root cause. Parvathaneni called for timely assessments of disruptions to critical supply chains, including food, fertiliser, fuel and humanitarian logistics, drawing upon the technical expertise of the Food and Agriculture Organisation, the World Food Programme, and other relevant agencies. "Such assessments must remain objective, evidence-based and free from politicisation," he said.

India further said that member States, international financial institutions, regional organisations and development partners must work together to strengthen domestic agricultural production, diversify supply chains, improve storage and logistics infrastructure, and promote climate-resilient agriculture.

"Predictable and affordable access to fertilisers, quality seeds, technology and concessional finance remains indispensable, particularly for developing countries. Open, transparent and rules-based trade in food and agricultural inputs also remains critical to global food security," he said.

Parvathaneni also cautioned against "over-reliance" on any single model of production, saying this would be counter-productive as they are vulnerable to geopolitical disruptions, economic coercion and weaponisation.

"We must encourage small and marginal farmers to enhance their productivity and contribute to ensuring food security in developing countries of the Global South. We must also encourage climate-

India Reiterates Support For Negotiated Two-State Solution In Palestine

Jerusalem: India on Tuesday reiterated its longstanding support for a "negotiated two-state solution" in Palestine and reaffirmed the country's consistent support for the Palestinian people, Sripriya Ranganathan, a secretary at the External Affairs Ministry, said. Ranganathan, Secretary (Consular, Passport and Visa and Overseas Indian Affairs), is on an official visit to Egypt, Palestine and Lebanon from August 16-21. Ranganathan on Tuesday called on Varsen Aghabekian Shahin, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Palestine and also "conveyed India's concern over the grave humanitarian situation in Gaza." "Amb Sripriya Ranganathan called on Varsen Aghabekian Shahin, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Palestine. The two sides reviewed the full spectrum of India-Palestine bilateral relations, including their extensive development cooperation initiatives," the Representative Office of India to



Palestine posted on X. "India reiterated its longstanding support for a negotiated two-State solution, and underscored the importance of addressing the humanitarian situation in Gaza through sustained humanitarian assistance and continued dialogue and diplomacy," the post read. India has been backing a vision of a "two-state" solution with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security within recognised borders, consistent with international law. Both leaders dis-

cussed the full range of India-Palestine relations, with particular focus on the current situation in Palestine, developments in Gaza, humanitarian needs and India's longstanding development partnership with the Palestinian people, according to an official statement. Ranganathan reaffirmed port for the Palestinian people and a negotiated said. She reiterated "India's support for efforts towards peace and stability and for a lasting political resolution of the conflict

through dialogue and diplomacy." Ongoing initiatives spanning health, education and capacity-building were also reviewed during the meeting. Recalling her successful visit to India in January this year, the Palestinian Foreign Minister expressed appreciation for India's continuing support through development projects, capacity-building programmes, scholarships, humanitarian assistance and contributions to Palestinian institutions and UN agencies, it said.

Tesla Recalls Nearly 3M Vehicles In China Over Door Handle Safety Risks

Hong Kong: Tesla and other Chinese carmakers are making a major recall of more than 4 million vehicles over safety concerns mostly related to their door handles, according to Chinese authorities on Friday. The U.S. carmaker is recalling about 2.98 million China-made and imported EVs including Model 3, Model Y, Model X and Model S over door handle safety risks, according to China's State Administration for Market Regulation. The recall, the largest this year according to Chinese media, comes a few months after Chinese authorities said in February that starting next year, it would be banning hidden car door handles that are commonly seen on Tesla electric vehicles and many Chinese EV models. China has stepped up scrutiny recently on hidden, or flush, car door handles following EV accidents in the country and elsewhere, in which cars' hidden electronic doors failed and trapped people inside. In a notice on the



Chinese regulator's website, it cited safety risk. In extreme situations, such as a severe collision that causes an electrical system failure, the car handles could hinder car users from quickly opening the doors to escape, or prevent rescuers outside the car from gaining access, the notice said. Some experts in the industry said the automakers should value safety over design. Cui Dongshu, head of the China Passenger Car Association, called the recall "an inevitable step" in the development of the electric vehicle industry and said automakers were "being responsible" by moving

toward a more reliable, "safety-first" approach. "This represents, in part, the growing pains of the industry. At the same time, however, this move signifies a policy-driven safety upgrade," said Cui. Tesla will perform software updates on the vehicles to mitigate risks, the notice added. Tesla did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Friday. Xiaomi, the Beijing-based Chinese technology giant, is recalling more than 390,000 vehicles. Hangzhou-based Leapmotor is recalling over 370,000 cars. Other Chinese carmakers, including Geely and XPENG are also recall-

ing some vehicles. The reasons given in each case were similar, mostly relating to issues with their car door handles. A report published by the People's Daily, the official newspaper of China's ruling Communist Party, said the large-scale recall "serves as a unified safety upgrade" for existing vehicle models ahead of the 2027 implementation of the ban on hidden car door handles. "For the rapidly evolving NEV (new energy vehicle) industry, competition should be defined not only by the pace of technological innovation but also by the high standards set for safety," the newspaper

India, US Discuss Cooperation In Indian Ocean Region



Aug 26: Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri discussed with US Under Secretary of State Allison M Hooker ways to deepen India-US cooperation in the Indian Ocean region during a call. External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said both sides discussed opportunities for practical cooperation and complementarity in the region. "Foreign Secretary

@VikramMisri held a productive call with US Under Secretary of State Allison M Hooker to advance discussions on the India-US Indian Ocean Strategic Venture (IOSV) initiative, launched by the leaders of the two countries in February 2025," he said on social media. "Both sides discussed opportunities for practical cooperation and complementarity in the Indian

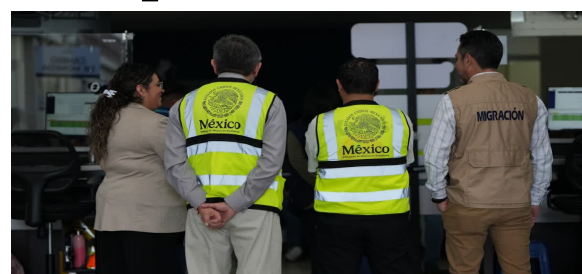
Ocean Region, including maritime security, strategic infrastructure and connectivity, in line with the priorities of partner countries," he said. IOSV -- a bilateral initiative -- was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump following their talks in Washington DC in February last year.

US Issues Security Alert In Mexican Border City And Suspends Consular Activities

Mexico City: The U.S. government issued a travel alert for Americans planning to visit Mexicali in northern Mexico and temporarily suspended consular activities in the border city due to a "potential threat," without providing details.

The notice, released Monday night, said that because of information about "a threat," consular activities and travel to the capital of Baja California state, across the border from the U.S. city of Calexico, California, were suspended.

The U.S. did not provide



details about the threat or whom it was directed at and only urged its citizens to avoid government buildings, seek shelter in the event of an incident and remain aware of their surroundings.

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum said Tuesday that "there was

an alert about the possibility of a criminal group" and added that the report was based on information from U.S. agencies.

"There is no further information about what this alert could involve, but simply to remain alert and maintain surveillance in Mexicali,"

Sheinbaum said at her regular morning news conference.

The city remained calm throughout the day Tuesday. Later that afternoon, Sheinbaum's security cabinet said in a statement that authorities "have not identified any elements confirming a specific or imminent risk to the population" but that authorities had stepped up surveillance and patrols in Mexicali as a "preventative measure."

Later in the day, Mexican and U.S. authorities said that Mexican security forces, working with informa-

From Chandragupta to CJP— youth discontent has repeatedly redefined political power in India



There is a recurring lesson in India's political history: governments may possess administrative machinery, institutional authority and electoral power, but when a generation of young people loses faith in its future, political legitimacy itself begins to erode. From Chandragupta Maurya to Bhagat Singh, from Swami Vivekananda to Mahatma Gandhi, from the students of the 1969 Telangana movement to KCR's statehood struggle, from Jayaprakash Narayan's student movement to the Assam agitation, from Mandal to Anna Hazare, and now to digitally organised youth movements such as Cockroach Janata Party (CJP), the pattern is strikingly consistent: youth grievance becomes collective anger; collective anger becomes organisation; organisation becomes political pressure; and political pressure can ultimately alter governments. Hannah Arendt observed that "Power corresponds to the human ability not just to act but to act in concert." That is the essence of youth politics. Governments can command institutions, but they cannot indefinitely command public consent. Young people are, therefore, not merely voters of tomorrow. They are the legitimacy test of today.

Young Bengal and

Vivekananda: Change the Mind Before Changing the State. The Young Bengal movement associated with Henry Louis Vivian Derozio demonstrated that political transformation often begins with intellectual rebellion. Young minds first question inherited ideas, social conventions and established authority before challenging political power itself. Swami Vivekananda carried this awakening to a much wider civilisational level. He died at just 39, yet his influence on generations of Indian youth was extraordinary. His exhortation "Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached" and his declaration that "Strength is life, weakness is death" were not merely spiritual messages. In a colonised society, self-confidence itself was political. Before India could fight successfully for freedom, Indians had to believe that they were capable of shaping their own destiny. As John Dewey later observed, "Democracy has to be born every generation anew." Every generation, therefore, must rediscover its own political confidence. Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev: When Youth Became the Conscience of a Nation. If Vivekananda awakened confidence, Bhagat Singh's generation gave Indian youth the language of courage, sacrifice and political defiance. Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru and Sukhdev Thapar became enduring symbols of revolutionary youth. Alongside them stood Chandrasekhar Azad, Batukeshwar Dutt, Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqulla Khan, Jatin Das and countless other young revolutionaries. They were not simply angry young men; they represented a political generation. Bhagat Singh combined revolutionary action with serious intellectual inquiry. His concerns extended beyond British rule to imperialism, economic exploitation and the transformation of society. His words remain powerful: "Revolution is the inalienable right of mankind. Freedom is the imperishable birthright of all."

The execution of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev in 1931 was

intended to extinguish their political challenge. Instead, it transformed them into immortal national symbols. The British could execute individuals; they could not execute an idea. As Hannah Arendt warned, "Power and violence are opposites." Force can suppress individuals, but it cannot manufacture legitimacy. The political life of a martyr can outlast the political life of a regime. Gandhi: Turning Youth Anger into Mass Political Power. India had revolutionaries, anger and resentment against colonial rule. Mahatma Gandhi's extraordinary contribution was to convert these scattered energies into a disciplined national movement. Through Ahimsa and Satyagraha, he gave ordinary citizens, particularly young people, a method of political resistance through boycott, civil disobedience, non-cooperation, marches and peaceful defiance. Gandhi did not eliminate anger; he disciplined it. He transformed emotion into organisation, sacrifice into moral authority and individual courage into collective power. His political method demonstrated that youth energy, when combined with discipline and moral legitimacy, could challenge even an empire. His observation that "In a gentle way, you can shake the world" captured the power of non-violent mass mobilisation. Decades later, Telangana would demonstrate how these principles could be adapted to a regional democratic struggle. 1969 Telangana: A Massive Youth Uprising That Fell Short. The 1969 Jai Telangana movement was one of the most powerful youth uprisings in post-Independence India. Students, particularly from Osmania University, became the emotional and organisational heart of the agitation. The movement raised fundamental questions concerning regional safeguards, employment, resources, development and perceived injustice towards Telangana.

The pattern across all movements is strikingly consistent: Youth grievance becomes collective anger; collective anger becomes organisation; organisation becomes

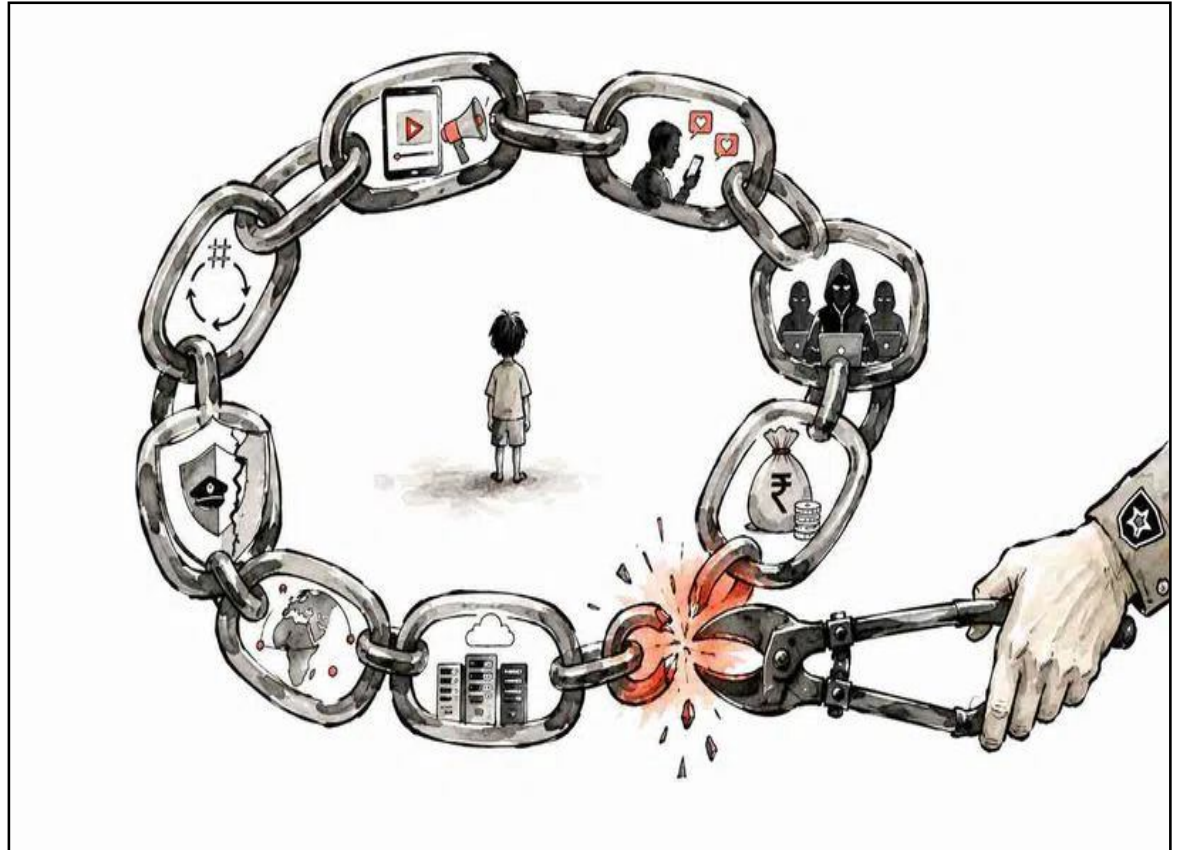
political pressure; and political pressure can alter governments

There were extraordinary sacrifices and repression. Yet Telangana was not achieved in 1969. The movement had passion, students and public emotion, but it lacked a sufficiently durable political structure capable of carrying the demand through changing political circumstances. A spontaneous uprising can shake the establishment; a permanent political organisation is required to outlast it. That failure became one of the most important political lessons for the later Telangana movement. Professor Jayashankar and other intellectuals: Keeping Telangana Alive. After the political momentum of 1969 weakened, the Telangana cause survived because intellectuals refused to allow it to disappear. Professor Kothapalli Jayashankar became one of the foremost intellectual architects of Telangana. His historic contribution was to transform emotion into evidence, articulating the Telangana argument through irrigation, employment, regional development, resource allocation, public expenditure, historical safeguards and administrative inequality. Alongside professors, writers, poets, researchers, journalists and cultural activists, Jayashankar preserved the intellectual foundation of the movement. Antonio Gramsci's concept of the "organic intellectual" is relevant here: intellectuals become politically consequential when they connect ideas with the lived experiences and aspirations of society. That is precisely what Telangana's intellectual movement achieved. The streets may have become quieter after 1969, but the idea of Telangana never disappeared.

KCR: Learning From 1969 and Turning Aspiration into Political Power

KCR's historic contribution was not to invent Telangana sentiment; that sentiment had existed for decades. His contribution was to understand why the 1969 movement had failed to achieve statehood and to

Break the chain of online child sexual exploitation



India has the largest Instagram user base in the world, with more than 413 million people scrolling through an endless stream of content every day. A significant proportion of these users are young adults, constantly engaging with reels and posts that often present a curated and distorted version of reality. In India, Meta's Zuckerberg apologises to India over child abuse, deepfake content. Industry estimates suggest that nearly 81 per cent of Instagram users discover new products through reels. But products are not the only things being promoted and consumed. CSEAM Ecosystems. Hidden within this vast ecosystem is content that normalises, promotes, and even facilitates the consumption of child sexual exploitative and abusive material (CSEAM). Such content does not merely enable the circulation of these horrific crimes. It also creates demand by drawing in users, including those who may start out of curiosity but soon become consumers and even criminals. This trajectory makes social media platforms not just channels of communication, but also ecosystems that sustain and expand the CSEAM market. The Supreme Court of India, in the landmark case of Just Rights for Children Alliance & Anr. v. S. Harish & Ors in 2024, categorically held that downloading, viewing, or possessing CSEAM, even in the privacy of one's home, constitutes a criminal offence. The Court further clarified that intermediaries such as Meta cannot claim "safe harbour" protection if they fail to discharge their legal obligations relating to child sexual abuse material. It was a judgment that clearly and urgently addressed the fast-growing claws of CSEAM. One expected the judgment to slow the rapidly growing menace of CSEAM. Yet, the problem persists. Advertisement Lure. An international media organisation recently reported that paid advertisements promoting CSEAM were being displayed on Instagram. The organisation reported one such advertisement to the platform.

Twenty-four hours later, Instagram responded that the advertisement did not violate its Community Guidelines. The government of India promptly acted on this and ordered META to remove such advertisements from its platform. India has once again made clear its intolerance towards CSEAM and rightly so. Advertising remains the backbone of Meta's business model, accounting for almost all of the company's annual revenue. Meta has consistently maintained that every advertisement undergoes a review process before publication, relying largely on automated systems to identify policy violations. The incident raises difficult questions about whether existing moderation systems are sufficiently equipped to detect and prevent content that facilitates the sexual exploitation of children. Greater Danger. But the problem is not just that these advertisements are slipping through the cracks. Platform failures are only one part of the story. The greater danger lies in how recommendation systems amplify demand while weak enforcement allows organised criminal networks to continue operating with relative impunity. The danger also lies in how ill-equipped the entire law enforcement machinery is to combat these crimes. Unless governments, law enforcement agencies, technology companies and international institutions work together to identify and dismantle every link in that ecosystem, children will continue to pay the price. First, once a user interacts with exploitative content, whether deliberately or even out of curiosity, platforms are designed to serve increasingly similar content to maximise engagement. In the context of CSEAM, this creates an extremely dangerous feedback loop, and this self-perpetuating loop will sustain itself until disrupted by an external intervention. This brings us to the second important challenge: building an agile and well-resourced enforcement system that not

only disrupts the inertia but also plugs the systemic gaps present at every juncture of this organised crime. Currently, even as the law has evolved to recognise the seriousness of online child sexual exploitation, the institutions responsible for enforcing it have not always evolved at the same pace. Investigating digital crimes involving CSEAM requires specialised forensic capabilities, advanced cyber investigation skills, and the ability to track offenders who operate anonymously across multiple jurisdictions. Many investigating agencies continue to face significant capacity gaps in dealing with technology-enabled organised crime. Chain of Exploitation. Child sexual exploitation is no longer a localised offence. The production of abuse material may take place in one country, be stored on servers in another, distributed through platforms operating globally, and consumed by offenders spread across continents. This makes international cooperation, real-time intelligence sharing, and coordinated investigations indispensable. No single police force or country can dismantle these networks in isolation. More importantly, enforcement cannot remain limited to identifying individual offenders who consume or circulate CSEAM. Every image or video represents an organised chain of exploitation involving recruiters, traffickers, producers, distributors, technology platforms, financial intermediaries and consumers. Breaking this chain requires investigators to move beyond isolated incidents and trace the entire criminal network. The objective must not merely be to remove illegal content after it appears, but to disrupt the organised criminal networks that create, profit from, and perpetuate the of children.

from demand to supply. Child sexual exploitation survives because an ecosystem enables it. Unless governments, law enforcement agencies, technology companies and international institutions work together to identify and dismantle every link in that ecosystem, children will continue to pay the price. Institutions responsible for enforcing it have not always evolved at the same pace. Investigating digital crimes involving CSEAM requires specialised forensic capabilities, advanced cyber investigation skills, and the ability to track offenders who operate anonymously across multiple jurisdictions. Many investigating agencies continue to face significant capacity gaps in dealing with technology-enabled organised crime. Chain of Exploitation. Child sexual exploitation is no longer a localised offence. The production of abuse material may take place in one country, be stored on servers in another, distributed through platforms operating globally, and consumed by offenders spread across continents. This makes international cooperation, real-time intelligence sharing, and coordinated investigations indispensable. No single police force or country can dismantle these networks in isolation. More importantly, enforcement cannot remain limited to identifying individual offenders who consume or circulate CSEAM. Every image or video represents an organised chain of exploitation involving recruiters, traffickers, producers, distributors, technology platforms, financial intermediaries and consumers. Breaking this chain requires investigators to move beyond isolated incidents and trace the entire criminal network. The objective must not merely be to remove illegal content after it appears, but to disrupt the organised criminal networks that create, profit from, and perpetuate the of children.

Absolutely Insane' Or 'Style Over Substance'? What Are Netizens Saying About Yash Starrer



Toxic finally hit theatres on Wednesday, August 26, and the first reviews are out. Directed by Geetu Mohandas and led by Yash, the much-awaited action drama has received a mixed response from viewers after its first half. While many viewers have praised the film's glossy visuals, grand production design and Yash's towering screen presence, the screenplay and lack of emotional depth have emerged as major concerns. Some viewers have also called the first half tiring and confusing, while others have hailed Geetu Mohandas' vision and the film's technical brilliance. One moviegoer called the first half "very messy" and wrote on X,

"Apart from the technical quality, this one is all over the place so far." The reviewer also pointed to a "clumsy and tiring screenplay", artificial-looking action and disappointing background music, while admitting that the interval and a few Yash-Kiara scenes worked better. Another review highlighted the film's style and scale but felt that the story was struggling to make an impact. "Ultra Stylish Yash & Rich Productions Values r plus. Circus Fight Super. Has Style, Glamour, Violence. But No proper Character Intro, Dialogues, No Emotional Connect. Random Characters and a Clueless screenplay!" the X user wrote.

A third reaction was even more critical, calling the first half "below par". However, the review praised Yash's look and screen presence along with the cinematography, production design and action. "Visually impressive, but very much STYLE OVER SUBSTANCE so far," the viewer said. The film's action sequences, particularly the much-talked-about circus fight, have found appreciation in several reactions. Yash's screen presence has also been consistently mentioned as one of the film's biggest strengths. Kiara Advani's scenes with Yash have received some positive feedback, while Nayanthara has also been praised for her

screen presence. A not so critical review described the first half as "INSANE" and praised every department, particularly the drama and the relationships between the characters. "Can't believe Geetu Mohandas cooked this hard," the X user wrote. Some viewers, meanwhile, criticised what they felt was a lack of emotional connection and questioned the way female characters were presented. One reaction called the first half "tiring" and objected to women being used as props to highlight Yash's dominance. The makers had also issued a message to audiences ahead of the release. KVN Productions urged

Aditi Sanon Hits Back At Kangana Ranaut's 'Bikini' Jibe Over Rakhi Ad: 'Stop Telling Women What To Wear'

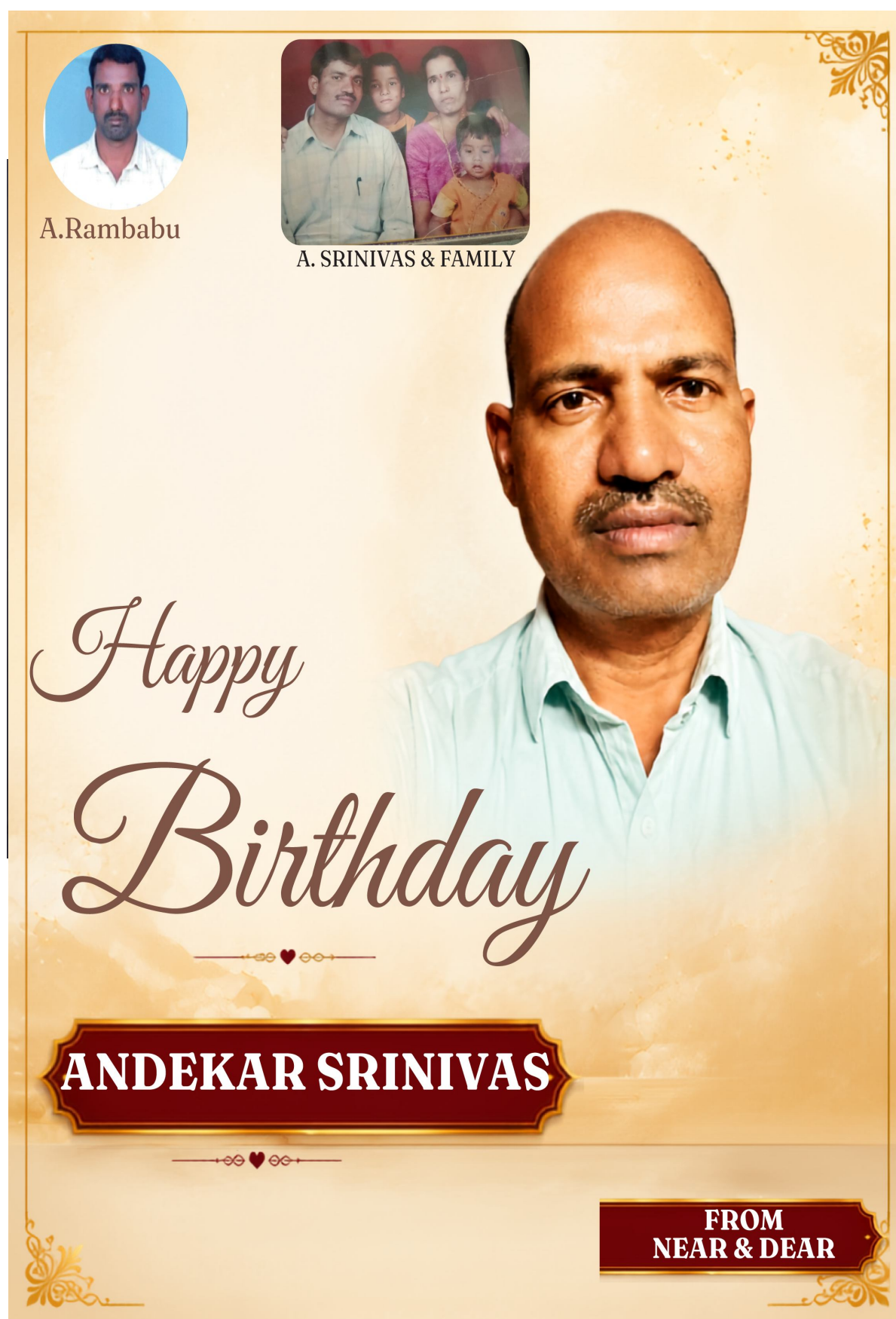


Kriti Sanon has finally responded to the backlash over her Raksha Bandhan jewellery advertisement, which also drew a sharp reaction from Kangana Ranaut. After facing criticism over her outfit in the festive ad, Kriti took to her Instagram handle to defend her choice and question the way women are often judged based on what they wear. The controversy began after Kriti appeared in the jewellery advertisement wearing a bralette-style blouse with a cape and a draped skirt. While some social media users felt that the outfit was not suitable for a traditional festival like Raksha Bandhan, Kangana also took a dig at Kriti and the advertisement. Kriti Sanon Responds To Rakhi Ad Backlash Reacting to the criti-

cism, Kriti shared a note on her Instagram Story about the meaning of Raksha Bandhan and why she does not believe that clothes should decide how much someone respects a tradition. "The essence of festivals is not in the clothes you wear, it is in the emotions and meaning you hold for the traditions," she wrote. Kriti also spoke about her own Raksha Bandhan tradition with her sister. Unlike the traditional practice of a sister tying a rakhi to her brother, the two sisters tie rakhis to each other. "Rakshabandhan is a bond of protection. My sister and I tie rakhi to each other. We know we can protect each other no less than a brother would have. We pray for each other's health, happiness & long life. And for us, this prayer and promise

extends to our dogs too! After all, they are family," she wrote. Kriti Sanon's Instagram Story Kriti Sanon's Instagram Story (Photo: IG) She then directly questioned the constant discussion around women's clothes and their choices. "Also, when will we stop telling women what to wear?? Ethnic fashion has evolved over the years, but still a woman's respect for her culture is measured by just her clothes!! Culture & traditions are in her heart, not in her neckline!" Kriti wrote. Wha Did Kangana Ranaut Say About Kriti's Rakhi Ad? Before Kriti's response, Kangana had criticised the advertisement on her Instagram Story. Taking a jibe at Kriti's outfit, she questioned why a woman would choose

such an outfit for tying a rakhi when there are several other clothing options available. "Why would you tie your brother a rakhi in your bikini/undergarments? Where are all your styling options? Ha ha, the advert looks intentionally creepy!" Kangana wrote. Kangana Ranaut's Instagram Story Kangana Ranaut's Instagram Story (Photo: IG) Kriti Sanon's Work FrontKriti was last seen in Cocktail 2, directed by Homi Adajania. The film, a spiritual sequel to the 2012 movie Cocktail, also stars Shahid Kapoor and Rashmika Mandanna. It was released in theatres on June 19, 2026, and is now streaming on Netflix. The actor is yet to announce her next project.



Aditi Sharma Files Domestic Violence Complaint Against Husband Abhineet Kaushik, In-Laws

: Television actor Aditi Sharma period mentioned in her com-



has filed a complaint against her husband, actor Abhineet Vidyanand Kaushik, and her in-laws, alleging physical and mental harassment, domestic violence and misuse of her bridal jewellery. Based on her complaint, Goregaon Police registered an FIR against Abhineet, his mother Urmila Kaushik and sister Kirti Kaushik. The case is now under investigation. According to the complaint, Aditi has alleged that she faced harassment at the couple's Goregaon residence. The

plaint stretches from November 12, 2024, to March 9, 2025. Aditi and Abhineet reportedly first met during an online acting class in 2021. Their friendship later developed into a relationship. According to her complaint, the two began living together in Goregaon West in September 2024 and got married on November 12 that year, with the consent of both families. However, Aditi has alleged that things changed soon after the marriage. According to her state-

ment, arguments began over several issues, including her clothing. She has also alleged that her husband did not contribute adequately towards household expenses and would regularly take money from her. One incident mentioned in the complaint allegedly took place on January 1, 2025. Aditi has claimed that an argument over coffee escalated and was followed by further problems in the relationship. She has also alleged that her husband became suspicious about her character and accused her of having an affair. According to the complaint, he would check her mobile phone and eventually started sleeping in a separate room. Aditi has further alleged that she was prevented from speaking to her parents. The actress has also accused her mother-in-law of retaining her bridal jewellery, which she has described as part of her stridhan. The jewellery allegedly includes gold chains, rings, a diamond ring, a mangalsutra and bangles. Aditi's complaint, she repeatedly asked for the jewellery to be returned but did not receive it. The police have registered the case and started an investigation into the allegations. No response from Abhineet Kaushik or his family has been made public so far. For the unversed, the actor has appeared in several Hindi television shows and is known for performances in Kaleerein, Yehh Jadu Hai Jinn Ka! and Rabb Se Hai Dua. Aditi has also worked across films and digital projects. She began her career with modelling assignments and music videos before making her mark on television. She appeared in the Hindi film Ladies vs Ricky Bahl and later featured in the Punjabi film Angrej.