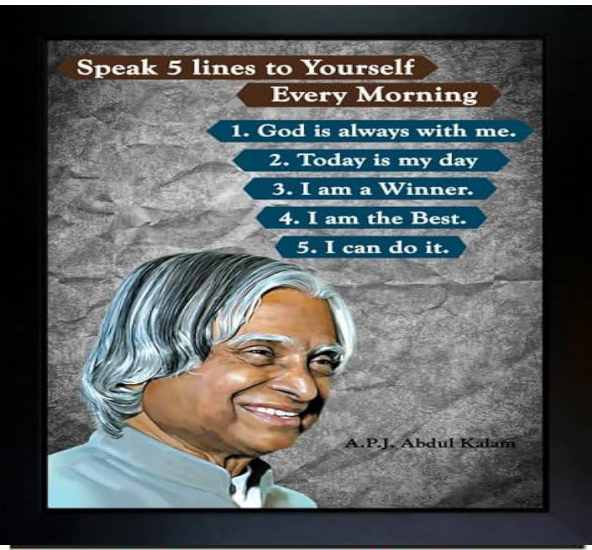
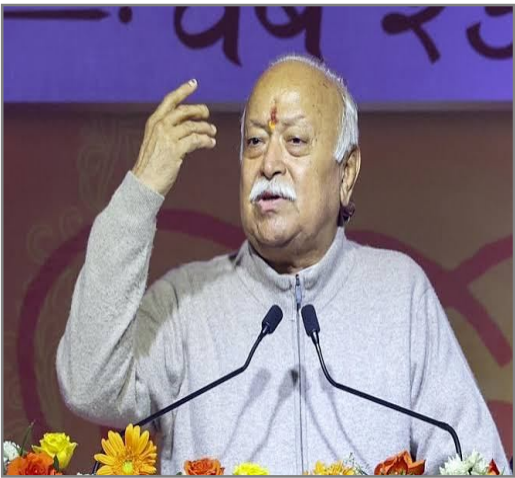




US Body Urges Trump Admin To Revoke Mohan Bhagwat's Visa

A US Congress-constituted advisory body on religious freedom has urged the Trump administration to revoke the visa issued to RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, who is in New York as part of a three-nation trip. In New York, Bhagwat would address the Universal Oneness Celebrations at the Infosys Theatre at Madison Square Garden on August 29. The event is billed as an inter-faith gathering where the RSS chief will interact with a diverse, multi-cultural and multi-faith audience. Also Read - Two Chinese



Crew Rescued After Cargo Ship Sinks Off Odisha Coast "The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom

(USCIRF) is deeply concerned about the visit of Mohan Bhagwat, chief of India's Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), to the United

Backlash for Tharoor Over 'Poor Choice of Words' In Nepal Flood Post



New Delhi: Famed for his mastery over the English language, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor found himself in an unusual spot on Thursday -- panned for describing the Nepal flash floods as "drama that had taken place in the hills" and overlooking the nuance of the words. The comment led to a veritable backlash on social media with one post questioning the "poor choice of words for someone with such a rich vocabulary" and

others labelling him insensitive. Also Read - CM R a n g a s a m y Reiterates Demand for Statehood in Pondy Assembly Tharoor, who is in Nepal, expressed concern over the disaster in a post on X and said, "Took off for Kathmandu yesterday, blissfully unaware of the drama that had taken place in the hills and caused such catastrophic damage." He went on to say, "A severe, sudden flash

flood struck northern Nepal's Rasuwa district near the Tibet border, causing widespread destruction along the Bhoti Koshi and Trishuli rivers. Global warming and/or an earthquake in Tibet may have caused a large chunk of a glacier to break off and fall into the valley below, experts surmise." Also Read - Suspended BJP Leader Prakash Paswan Arrested In Bihar The Thiruvananthapuram

Nepal Floods Leave Nepali Students In Delhi Anxious Over Relatives

Nepal: "I am unable to focus on my studies. My family is safe in Kathmandu, but some of my relatives live near the border of the affected area, and we are worried about them," said Bikas, a Delhi University student from Nepal, as he continuously checked his phone for updates on the devastating flash floods back home. The flood surged through the Bhoti Koshi River, affecting Rasuwa and Dhading districts bordering Tibet. The floodwaters later spread to Nuwakot and Chitwan, damaging at least four permanent bridges and several temporary ones. Also Read - Climate Change May



Be Increasing Risk Of Nepal's Deadly Floods While many students' immediate families are safe in Kathmandu, they expressed concern for relatives living closer to the affected areas and relied on updates from their families. "My family lives in Kathmandu, so they are safe, but some of my relatives live near the border of the area where the flooding has occurred. They are not exactly in the

affected region, but we are still worried because the situation is uncertain," said Suyog Bansal, a DU student from Nepal. Also Read - My Entire Family Is Gone: Nepal Flood Survivor Loses Wife, 4 Children Another student, Nitya from JNU, said her family in Kathmandu informed her that her brother's friend is missing and they are trying to connect with him. "My brother's

Big Makeover Of Mir Alam Tank

Hyderabad: The Telangana government envisaged a big plan for the makeover of the famous Mir Alam Tank with modern facilities aiming to promote the historical site as one of the best Tourist hubs. Under the plan, new facilities are being developed to upgrade the tank as a prominent tourism and recreation hub for the visiting families who spend the day enjoying nature, entertainment, and relaxation. Also Read - Lake Police Rescue Sudan National From Hussainsagar Chief Minister Sri A Revanth Reddy conducted a surprise inspection of Mir Alam Tank on Thursday



and reviewed the ongoing development works with officials. The Chief Minister inspected the progress of the works around the tank and the construction of the iconic suspension bridge over the tank. Officials briefed the CM on the progress of the projects in a photo presentation. The CM enquired the officials about the status of the various works and directed them to com-

plete the project within a stipulated time frame. The Musi Rejuvenation Development Corporation Limited has taken up the works at the Mir Alam Tank where the works are being taken up in 3 key aspects- rejuvenation of the tank, development of the surrounding areas with islands and the construction of the iconic bridge. Also Read - Onion Prices Soar In Telangana, Centre Rolls Out Kanda Express During the visit, the CM also instructed officials to take robust measures to prevent sewage from flowing into

the Mir Alam Tank and suggested widening the drainage channels (nalas) to ensure the smooth flow of floodwater from the lake into the Musi River. The Chief Minister stressed that focus should be more on improving water quality alongside the lake's rejuvenation. DESIGNS FOR WATER SPORTS Also Read - Kamineni Hospitals Warn of Monsoon Viral Fever Surge in Hyderabad CM Revanth Reddy directed the officials to formulate development plans to introduce water sports at Mir Alam Lake. Exploring the possibilities of boating, water sports and adventure activities by adhering to necessary

technical, environmental, and safety standards was discussed in the meeting. The Chief Minister emphasized the Mir Alam tank should be developed as an attractive recreational hub for both families and the youth by taking up several initiatives. The CM also proposed setting up food courts, lush green parks, relaxation zones, family entertainment facilities around the lake and development of dedicated playgrounds and activity centers for children. The plans also included creating pedestrian-friendly walkways and public spaces, as well as improving accessibility and connectivity.

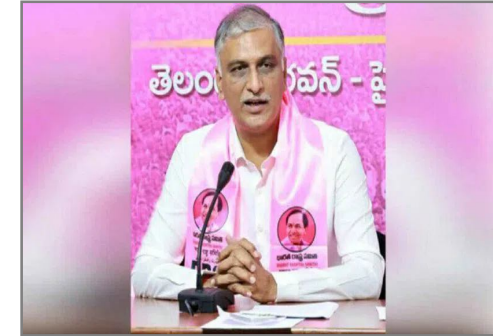
Naidu Expresses Grief over Chilakaluripet Road Accident

Hyderabad: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed deep shock and grief over the fatal road accident that occurred near Chilakaluripet in Palnadu district. He expressed sorrow over the death of seven people and the injuries sustained by several others when a private travels bus travelling from Vijayawada to Tirupati collided with an auto-rickshaw. Officials informed the Chief Minister that the deceased were residents of Veluru village in Chilakaluripet

mandal. The seriously injured were shifted to the Guntur General Hospital, where they are undergoing treatment. Naidu conveyed his deepest condolences to the bereaved families and directed the officials to ensure that the injured receive the best possible medical treatment from Vijayawada to ent. He also instructed the authorities to closely monitor the health of from Vijayawada to ndition of the injured and provide all necessary assistance.



Harish Rao demands release of six pending DAs, implementation of PRC



Warangal: BRSRP deputy leader T Harish Rao demanded immediate release of six pending Dearness Allowances (DAs), implementation of the Pay R e v i s i o n Commission (PRC), and settlement of retirement benefits for government employees. He accused the Congress government of neglecting its employees for 33 months and failing to implement its electoral promises, including scrapping the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and implementing the Old Pension Scheme (OPS).

Addressing a protest by Telangana Non-Gazetted Officers (TNGOs) at the Hanamkonda District Collectorate, Harish

Rao targeted the Revanth government over the Employees Health Scheme (EHS), stating that employees were being made to pay a higher contribution even though the scheme was not being implemented effectively. The State government increased its contribution from 1 per cent under the previous BRS government to 1.5 per cent, he claimed.

He alleged that several hospitals were refusing EHS beneficiaries as the government did not enter into agreements with them. He questioned the government's decision to deduct money from employees' salaries without ensuring access to the scheme. "Is the Congress running a government or a circus?" he asked,

demanding that the Chief Minister explain the delay in implementing EHS.

The BRSRP deputy leader pointed out that six DAs were pending and employees were forced to repeatedly approach the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister for their dues. He also referred to an allegation that a 15 per cent commission was being sought for the release of retirement benefits and demanded an immediate inquiry.

Comparing the present situation with the previous BRS regime, Harish Rao said employees had been given a 73 per cent fitment under the K Chandrashekhar Rao government, while employees had greater access to Ministers and officials. He stated that employees now faced restrictions even while entering the State Secretariat and said their grievances were not being addressed.

The former Minister also cited the pending demands of model school teachers and Samagra Shiksha

Hyderabad Police Warns against Hybrid Cyber Fraud

Hyderabad:

Hyderabad City Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar has issued a stern advisory cautioning the public against an emerging and dangerous modus operandi termed 'Hybrid Cyber Fraud', which combines conventional physical pickpocketing with sophisticated digital financial crimes to siphon off funds from victims' bank accounts. The Hyderabad City Police advised citizens never to disclose screen-lock PINs, banking passwords, or OTPs over phone calls, even if the caller identifies themselves as a bus conductor, driver, or good Samaritan promising to return a lost phone. Also Read - Big Makeover Of Mir Alam Tank Citizens are warned against storing photographs of debit/credit cards, CVVs, passbooks, and identity cards in phone galleries or note apps. In a targeted crackdown against this organised racket, the Hyderabad Cyber Crime Wing has arrested three key members of an interstate syndicate and seized five mobile phones used in the commission of these



offences. Preliminary investigations indicate that the syndicate systematically preyed upon senior citizens, daily commuters, and technologically vulnerable individuals in crowded public transit areas across the city, according to the police. Also Read - Lake Police Rescue Sudan National From Hussainsagar The police said that the syndicate executed its operations through a well-planned, multi-stage strategy. In the initial phase, spotters identified elderly commuters carrying smartphones in busy RTC buses, bus stations, railway platforms, and crowded junctions. Positioning themselves in proximity, the accused discreetly observed and memorised the victim's screen-lock PIN, pattern, or password through shoulder-surfing, after which they created deliberate distrac-

tions in moving crowds to steal the device from pockets or bags, the police said in a release. Also Read - Onion Prices Soar In Telangana, Centre Rolls Out Kanda Express The police further said that in instances where the gang could not ascertain the screen-lock credentials beforehand, they staged deceptive social engineering dramas when the victim dialled their lost number. An accused would answer the call posing as an RTC bus conductor or driver, falsely claiming that the phone was found in the bus and would be safely handed over at an upcoming bus stop. Under the pretext of verifying genuine ownership or safely powering off the device, the fraudster would induce the distressed victim into disclosing device was secured--or in cases where phones were already unlocked--

Telangana SIR: What electors need to know before final roll

Hyderabad: The Telangana Chief Electoral Office (CEO) has recently commenced serving SIR notices to electors who had anomalies in their enumeration forms or could not map themselves with the SIR 2002 list. Here is the timeline that you need to know before the final electoral roll is published in the State.

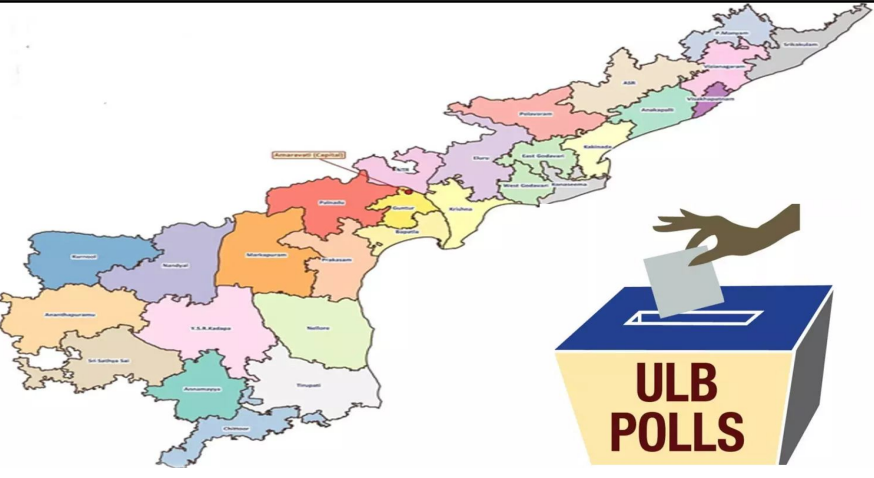
- Electors have an opportunity to raise claims and objections on the draft electoral roll until September 16
- Notice phase/disposal of claims and objections will continue until October 15
- The final electoral roll will be published on October 19
- Total electors: 3,38,26,448



– Electors who submitted enumeration forms: 2,64,87,213	– Shifted, Dead and Double votes (ASDD): 73,39,235	– Electors with no SIR 2002 list mapping: 32,36,659
– Total No. of Electors under the Absent, alies: 60,50,918		

AP Govt Issues Orders To Conduct Elections For 100 Urban Local Bodies

Amaravati: The Andhra Pradesh government issued formal orders on Wednesday to initiate the preliminary process for elections to 100 urban local bodies in the state. With this, the official groundwork for the municipal election process has begun in the state. Giving priority to the issue of reservations in the municipal polls, the government has decided to implement 33.33 per cent reservation for BCs to ensure greater representation in urban local body elections as well. Also Read - Nandyal: Man Dies On The Same Day Of His Wife's Death The tenure of governing bodies in 87 municipalities and urban local bodies has already ended, while the term of governing bodies in another 13 urban local bodies is set to expire in November. Against this backdrop, the government has directed officials to expedite arrangements



for conducting elections in areas where the terms have expired. The government has made it clear that it will proceed in coordination with the Commission. It has ordered that ipal governing bodies ending in November, the government's decision to bring all 100 urban local bodies in the state into the election process at one go has gained significance. The State Assembly passed the Municipal Laws (Fourth Amendment) Bill, paving the way for direct elections to mayors and voter list preparation, ward-wise procedures, finalization of ward reservations, and preliminary steps related to election notifications be completed within the stipulated time. Also Read - Naidu Seeks Closer Ties Among South States At Zonal Meet With the terms of 13 more municipal gov-

60,000 Applns Received For Indiramma LIG Housing Scheme In CURE Area

Hyderabad: Over 60,000 families have applied for the Indiramma LIG Housing Scheme in the Core Urban Region of Economy (CURE) area, the government said on Saturday. The draw of lots to select beneficiaries for 7,340 houses will be held on August 20. The last date to apply for another 1,920 homes will end on September 3. The call centre number 040-24603572 can be contacted to address any queries regarding the 'Indiramma Houses'. "Tenders for the construction of houses have already been floated and measures are being taken to commence work in the first week of September," said V.P. Gautam, Telangana Housing Board secretary. Also Read - H-City Project: Rs.1,090 Crore Plan to Ease Traffic Around KBR Park For the Indiramma LIG Housing Scheme, applicants need to pay an application fee of Rs 100 and an earnest money deposit (EMD) of Rs 10,000, which will be adjusted upon allotment or refunded otherwise. Those eligible must have annual family income



below Rs 6 lakh, and not possess a house, flat or plot within Outer Ring Road (ORR) limits. Allotment of flats is through a lottery process. Each 1 BHK flat will have a built-up area of 528 sq ft with beneficiary contribution being Rs 6 lakh and the government will provide a subsidy of Rs 5 lakh. The beneficiary will be the owner of undivided land share of up to 30 square yards. As a pilot project, announced that 3,192 Indiramma 2BHK houses will be allotted to beneficiaries by the end of September. According to Hyderabad district collector Dr Priyanka Ala, 2,22,837 new ration cards were sanctioned in the district, while 1,85,946 members had been added to existing cards. She said proposals were submitted to the government for repairing 590 dilapidated 10-storey Indiramma LIG Housing Towers will initially be built in Hayathnagar, Goshamahall, Musheerabad and Bandlaguda. Also Read - Short Spells of Rain Likely in Several Telangana Districts 3,192 Indiramma Houses to be allotted to beneficiaries by Sept



Harish Rao arrested in Hanamkonda during TNGOs' protest

Warangal/Hyderabad: BRSLP deputy leader T Harish Rao was arrested in Hanamkonda on Thursday after he attempted to visit protesting students of the government polytechnic college in Warangal. He demanded immediate withdrawal of GO 97, stating that the proposed merger of government polytechnic education with the Young India Skill University will jeopardise the future of nearly one lakh students.

Harish Rao, who was placed under house arrest at his Kokapet residence on Thursday morning ahead of his Warangal visit, managed to give police the slip and reached Hanamkonda. On the way to meet polytechnic students, he attended a protest by Telangana Non-Gazetted Officers (TNGOs) at the District Collector's office and extended his support to their demands. He demanded that the Congress government immediately resolve the problems faced by its employees.

However, he was arrest-



ed as he prepared to leave for the government polytechnic college. The police also arrested former Minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao, former government Chief Whip Dasyam Vinay Bhaskar and other senior BRS leaders. Tension prevailed at the Collector's office as BRS workers and police personnel were involved in pushing and jostling. BRS workers raised slogans against the government and attempted to prevent police from taking Harish Rao away.

With the BRS cadre creating hurdles, the police forced the BRSLP deputy leader to leave and shifted him to the Subedari police station on foot, triggering protests by BRS workers. The activists objected to the police's rude

treatment of the former Minister and alleged that he was not even allowed to board a vehicle. Meanwhile, the police were deployed in large numbers at the government polytechnic college in Warangal, with students being checked before being allowed into the campus. Police were also reportedly preventing groups of more than four or five students from entering together. Police were also preventing students from coming out of the campus. BRSV student leaders in Warangal and Hanamkonda were detained ahead of the protest.

Speaking to mediapersons at Subedari police station, Harish Rao accused the Congress government of suppressing the students' protest

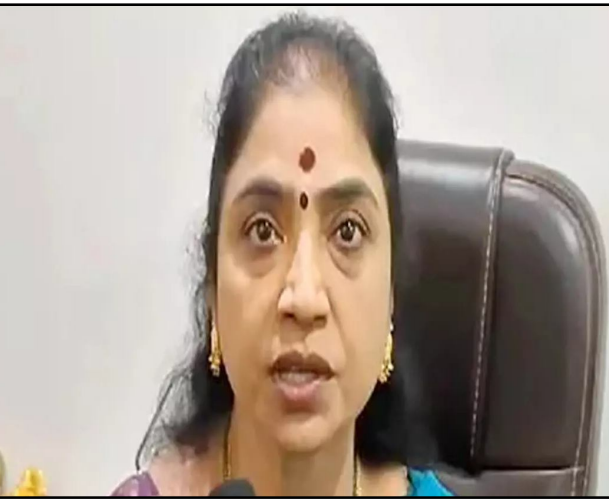
and questioned the need to arrest political leaders seeking to meet them. "Are the students terrorists or anti-social elements?" he asked, stating that police were booking cases and using force against students who were staging peaceful protests.

He said the police had detained student and BRS leaders and that the polytechnic college was effectively locked down, with the mess shut and students prevented from coming out. He questioned the government's decision to deploy police against protesting students. He said parents of 10 students had already taken transfer certificates from the institution amid the uncertainty.

He demanded immediate withdrawal of GO 97 and stalling of the proposed merger, which could eventually privatise polytechnic education and affect students' access to engineering courses. He sought action against the police officials who attacked students and grabbed a student by the throat. He also questioned

Ex-Khanapur MLA Rekha Naik Booked Over Missing Paddy Worth 40.96 Crore

Nirmal: Khanapur police of Nirmal district on Wednesday registered a case against former MLA Ajmeera Rekha Naik, who is the owner of a rice mill titled ARS Industries, under sections 316 (2), 316 (5), 318 (4) BNS and section 7 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, following a complaint lodged by Satyanarayana, Nirmal District Manager of Telangana State Civil Supplies Corporation. The rice mill is located in Sattenapally village of Khanapur mandal. The case has been booked against ARS Industries for misappropriation of paddy worth ₹40.96 crore supplied by the state government. The



complaint stated that during verification, officials of the Civil Supplies Corporation noticed that government paddy entrusted to

Official to the rice mill is not available on its premises. Further, the required customs milled rice has also not been delivered to the government for three seasons. Century Jain Inscription

Discovered in Dundigal Official sources said 68,21,640 metric tonnes of paddy had been allotted to the ARS Industries during Rabi 2022-23, 7,430.840 metric tonnes during Rabi 2023-24, and 2,413.640 metric tonnes during Rabi season 2024-25. However, during asons. Also Read - 11th-Century Jain Inscription Discovered in Dundigal Official physical verification, Civil Supplies' officials noticed a shortage of a total of 9,639.962 metric tons of government paddy, whose value is estimated at ₹40,96,96,847.

ACB traps put police corruption under scanner in Telangana

Hyderabad: A series of Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) traps against police personnel across the State in recent months has put the spotlight on allegations of bribery within the uniformed force, with officers from the ranks of constable and sub-inspector to inspector being caught or booked in separate cases. In the latest case at Chandanagar police station, a sub-inspector and a constable were caught allegedly accepting a Rs 75,000 bribe. The duo had allegedly demanded money from a complainant in connection with the investigation of a criminal case and filing of the chargesheet. The Chandanagar case follows several similar incidents in the city this year. Earlier in May, a Bowenpally sub-inspector and a constable were arrested for accepting a bribe to relax bail conditions and provide favourable police assistance in a criminal case.

In March, two Armed



Reserve SIs working in Cybercrime PS of Malkajgiri Commissionerate were arrested for allegedly accepting a bribe in return for issuing a notice instead of arresting an accused in a cyber fraud case. The pattern has also extended beyond Hyderabad, with officials also caught in Vikarabad and Warangal districts for bribery.

The recurring incidents point out that alleged corruption is not confined to a particular rank or policing unit, with the common point in several cases being the use of discretionary powers in investigations, arrests, bail-related procedures and case settlements for extracting money. DGP CV Anand had warned that corruption would not be tolerated and said that personnel demanding or accepting

bribes would face strict legal and disciplinary action. With ACB traps repeatedly exposing alleged bribery at police stations, the challenge for the department seems to now be not merely nabbing individual offenders but also restoring public confidence in the police force. Citizens can report corruption to ACB on its toll-free number 1064.

In Kashmir, US Envoy Sergio Gor Declares J&K 'Important Part of India'

Srinagar: United States Ambassador to India Sergio Gor called Jammu and Kashmir an "important part of India" during his first official visit to the region on Wednesday. During his trip, he met with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, took a traditional Shikara boat ride on Dal Lake, and suggested that the US might update its travel warnings for the area. US Envoy Sergio Gor speaking to reporters in Srinagar on Wednesday (PTI). Gor's remark triggered a sharp reaction from Pakistan who summoned the US Chargé d'Affaires in Islamabad on the same



day and issued a demarche over what it described as the US envoy's "factually incorrect" statement on the status of Jammu and Kashmir. Islamabad characterisation of Jammu and Kashmir as an "important part of India." Soon after arriving in Kashmir, Gor met Abdullah at his Srinagar residence on Gupkar

Road. The envoy was on his maiden trip to the region since he assumed charge as the 27th US ambassador to India in January 2026. Speaking to media, Gor said, "It is a pleasure to be here. This is an important part of India, and some of us are visiting for the first time. It is an incredibly beautiful place. I am thrilled to be here and thrilled to see this place." Speaking on US travel advisory for the region, Gor hinted at reviewing it

but stopped short of making any specific announcement. "The US puts out travel warnings, and every so often we re-evaluate those travel warnings. I cannot make any big announcements today, but it is something we are going to look at. New Delhi, the chief minister and the government here, we believe we have made some incredible steps to keep this area safer and make it safer," he told reporters alongside Abdullah. Since armed militancy erupted in Jammu and Kashmir in 1989, the US has repeated its advisories to its citizens, warning them

against travelling to the Valley. Following Operation Sindoor, which saw a brief war between India and Pakistan, the US flagged Kashmir among June 2025, advising its citizens against travelling to the region. "We will be looking if the travel warning thated the meeting with Chief Minister as "very good and cordial" and said that it will be followed up in the future. "We just had a very good meeting. We have some follow-ups, so we hope to take that back to Washington, back to Delhi. But a very warm and a very cordial, and we look forward to building

Delhi Schools Issue H1N1 Advisory As Swine Flu, Seasonal Influenza Cases Rise



New Delhi: Delhi has reported a rise in cases of H1N1, commonly known as swine flu, and seasonal influenza. The Delhi government and the Directorate of Education issued an advisory for all government and private schools across the city. In view of the increasing transmission, schools have been directed to encourage the use of masks, promote frequent handwashing, and maintain strict hygiene across their campuses. The health advisory comes as hundreds of schoolchildren gathered at the official residence of Delhi Education Minister Ashish Sood to celebrate Raksha Bandhan and tie rakhis to the minister. Meanwhile, Health Minister Pankaj Singh said the situation was completely

under control and urged parents and residents not to panic. The Directorate of Education has asked schools to follow the principle of "Healthy School-Healthy Community", with the focus on precautionary measures and preparedness. According to the advisory, students and staff should be regularly informed about preventive measures through morning assemblies, digital platforms and school notice boards. Schools have also been instructed to maintain high standards of cleanliness in classrooms and other areas. Desks, door handles and other frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned and sanitised regularly. The advisory also calls for adequate ventilation in classrooms and other

indoor spaces to minimise the risk of infection spreading. Teachers and parents have been advised to remain alert to the early symptoms of H1N1 and seasonal influenza. These include high fever and chills, sore throat, persistent cough, severe body aches and headache, extreme fatigue and weakness, and difficulty breathing. Schools and parents have been advised to take additional precautions amid the rise in cases. Students and staff should use masks when necessary and cover their nose and mouth with a handkerchief or tissue while coughing or sneezing. Used tissues should be disposed of properly and not left in open areas. Regular handwashing with soap and water has also been recom-

Over 22 Lakh Migrant Workers Identified In Bengal; Govt Bets On 125 Days Of Rural Jobs With 'Employment Guarantee' Card To Stop Exodus

Kolkata: With more than 2.22 million migrant workers identified across West Bengal, the state government has stepped up efforts to prevent exodus, directing district administrations to speed up the distribution of rural employment guarantee cards and create work opportunities within the villages or places closer to home. The Panchayat and Rural Development Department has issued strict directives to all District Magistrates to immediately issue 'Rural Employment Guarantee Cards' (REGC) to those identified as migrant workers. Once in possession of the card, individuals will gain the opportunity to secure employment under the Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-G RAM G) scheme. The objective is to ensure that no family is forced to leave the state due to a lack of work, the government said. Before coming to power in the state, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had frequently raised the issue of the number of migrant workers. However, even after the change in government, the trend of workers migrating from various districts to other states has not completely ceased. Against this backdrop, the government is now focusing on boosting rural employment. Administrative circles have maintained that merely compiling a list of migrant workers is insufficient; local employment



opportunities must be made available to their families. Consequently, instructions have been issued to expedite card distribution based on district-wise lists. The 'VB-G RAM G Act, 2025' came into effect in West Bengal this year on July 1, under which, adult members of rural households are entitled to a maximum of 125 days of guaranteed employment annually. However, the work is primarily intended for adults interested in unskilled manual labour. Sources said the administration is aiming to leverage this guarantee to create regular income opportunities for villagers while simultaneously revitalizing the local economy. At the same time, the state has sought to halt the outflow of people leaving in search of work. In view of this, the Panchayat Department's directive places special emphasis on the issue of migrant workers. According to the list prepared by the Labour Department, the number

of identified migrant workers in the state currently stands at 2.224 million (22.24 lakh), the list of which has already been handed over to the respective district administrations. Over 22 Lakh Migrant Workers Identified In Bengal; Govt Bets On 125 Days Of Rural Jobs With 'Employment Guarantee' Card To Stop Exodus. District-wise data of migrant labour (ETV Bharat) According to the government's objective, the scheme is intended to provide rural households with employment opportunities within their villages and reduce migration for work. Officials said the process of verifying the actual circumstances of these families based on this data will now commence. First, it must be verified whether every migrant family on the list already possesses an employment guarantee card; if not, such cards must be issued promptly. The task does not end with merely issuing the cards;

in accordance with the directives, the names of all adult family members willing to work must also be registered. Subsequently, arrangements for employment must be made as quickly as possible, following established protocols. The department has directed that this entire process should not be treated as routine administrative work but rather completed on a priority basis through a special drive. This entails verifying details, such as the current location of families, which members are already working in other states, and how many adults per family are willing to work, to swiftly bring them under the scheme's ambit. The administration aims to enroll 100% of the identified migrant families in this program. However, if one looks at the statistics, the scale of the challenge becomes more evident. Among the state's more than 2.2 million identified migrant workers, the highest concentration is in Murshidabad district, which has over 386,000 workers who travel to other states for employment. Malda ranks second with over 286,000 workers, followed by Paschim Medinipur in third place, with the number of migrant workers exceeding 168,000. Beyond these three districts, workers from several other districts in South Bengal regularly migrate to other states for

jobs in construction, infrastructure, factories, agriculture, and other sectors. Officials have been asked to follow the district-wise data of migrant labour households and: Verify whether each identified migrant labour household has already been issued a Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Card (GRGC). Ensure 100% coverage of all eligible migrant labour households through issuance of GRGC, wherever pending. Facilitate registration of employment demand and provide wage employment under the Scheme to eligible adult members in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The administration has said that issuing employment guarantee cards will be followed by steps to provide work to eligible members of migrant families under the scheme. Officials have been directed to ensure that the identified families are brought under the scheme and that employment opportunities are provided as per the prescribed process. The government has said that expanding employment opportunities in villages is aimed at reducing the need for workers to migrate to other states in search of jobs.

Assurances regarding funding have also been received for the time being. Union Minister for Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced Rs 1,264.49 crore for West Bengal as

IIT-Delhi Reconstitutes Committee To Probe MSc Student's Suicide, Protest Enters 4th Day



New Delhi: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi has reconstituted the external probe panel set up to examine the circumstances surrounding the death of a student, with retired Delhi High Court judge Mukta Gupta as its head, officials said on Thursday.

The development comes a day after former Uttarakhand DGP Ashok Kumar, who was appointed as chair of the probe panel, recused himself from the committee, even as student protests continued on campus.

"A new panel has been constituted. Justice Mukta Gupta is the chairperson. The other members include Pratap Sharan, Head of Department of Psychiatry, AIIMS, New Delhi. Besides, two student representatives and the IIT-Delhi registrar will also be part of the external probe panel," a senior official said.

IIT-Delhi had on Tuesday set up a five-member committee to investigate the circumstances that led to the death of the 31-year-old MSc Physics student. The student allegedly died by suicide after jumping from a building on the institute's campus on August 22.

The development came after outraged students held protests on campus, prompting the administration to order the suspension of classes on Monday. "Kumar has recused himself from the panel citing personal reasons," the official said. Police have registered a case of abetment to suicide against unidentified persons, officials said. According to preliminary inquiry, on August 22, the student 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 of the investigation, police are also obtaining the student's counselling records and other relevant information from the institute.

building.

The student 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.

A mobile phone found in the deceased's pocket was seized and is being examined. As part August 22, the student 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 of the investigation, police are also obtaining the student's counselling records and other relevant information from the institute.

Goa Cabinet Clears Anti-Conversion Bill, To Be Tabled In Upcoming Assembly Session

Panaji: The Goa cabinet has approved a bill against religious conversion, proposing life imprisonment among other stringent penalties, and it will be tabled in the state assembly's monsoon session beginning August 31, officials said on Thursday.

The bill proposes strict punishment for religious conversion allegedly carried out through force, coercion, undue influence, allurement, fraudulent means or marriage. Under the bill, offenders may face up to life imprisonment, and it proposes fines of at least Rs 50,000 and compensation of up to Rs 5 lakh to victims.

The state cabinet on



Wednesday approved the Goa Prohibition of Unlawful Conversions of Religion Bill, 2026, a senior government official

said. It will be introduced in the state assembly during the upcoming three-day monsoon session, the official said.

The bill also seeks to declare the marriage as "void" if it is found that it was done only for reli-

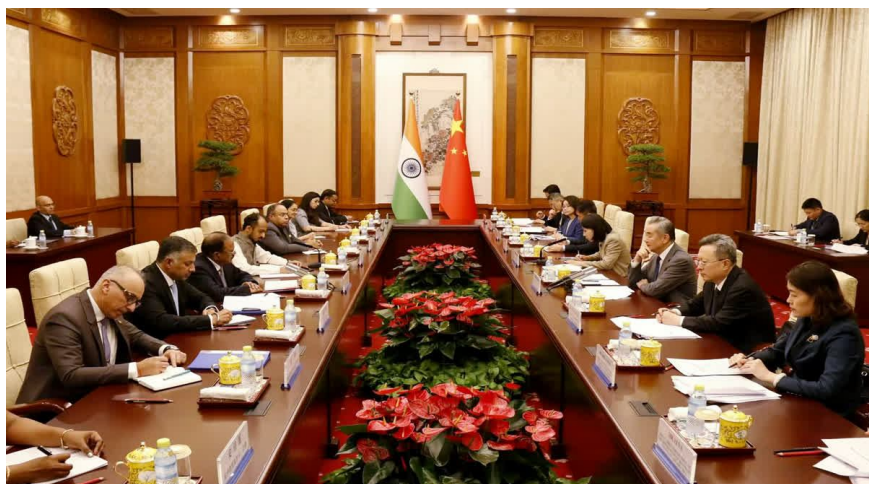
gious conversion. Offenders, including Hindu priests and Muslim clerics, could face a minimum of 10 years' imprisonment, the official said.

Under the bill, unlawful conversion of a minor, a person with disabilities, a woman, or a member of the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes would attract rigorous imprisonment of 5 to 14 years along with a minimum fine of Rs 1 lakh, the official added. Various other states like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Himachal Pradesh have already enacted anti-conversion legislation.



India, China Agree To Advance Border Talks And Strengthen Communication Between Their Militaries

New Delhi: India and China agreed to strengthen communication between their militaries and advance talks on boundary delimitation as part of a series of steps to prevent border disputes from destabilising ties. This is part of an eight-point "outcome and consensus" agreed at the 25th round of talks between National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held on Tuesday in Beijing under the Special Representative mechanism. The mechanism was established in 2003 to address the boundary question between the two sides. The eight-point outcome, released on Wednesday, outlined steps the two sides will take to strengthen border management and further discussions to address the border dispute. This includes setting up an Expert Group on Boundary Delimitation



and a Working Group on Border Management, which will respectively advance discussions on an "Early and Substantial Harvest of boundary delimitation and Border Management". These groups will operate under the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs and would first agree on

their respective Terms of Reference, according to the eight-point outcome. The two countries agreed last year to set up a group to explore an "early harvest" in boundary delimitation. Still, to improve border management, the two countries agreed to an additional two meeting points to hold senior military commander meetings and two additional channels of border

military hotline, in addition to existing ones, in the Eastern and Middle Sectors. The Middle Sector covers the border with China running along Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, while the eastern sector covers the border running along Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. The discussion between India and China on Tuesday underlines how both sides are seeking to

Mohan Bhagwat's Madison Square Event In US Organised In Spirit of Open Dialogue, Says RSS

New Delhi:

The Rashtriya Swamisevak Sangh (RSS) on Wednesday said the event featuring its chief Mohan Bhagwat in New York has been organised in the spirit of open dialogue and invited "anyone interested" in knowing more about the organisation to join the discussion. The remarks by senior RSS functionary Sunil Ambekar came amid New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani's criticism of Bhagwat's participation in the Universal Oneness Celebrations at the Infosys Theatre at Madison Square Garden. "The Universal Oneness Celebration in New York exemplifies an interfaith gathering where RSS Sarsangchalak Dr. Mohan Bhagwat ji will communicate with a diverse, multicultural, and multi-faith audience," Ambekar said in a statement. Organised in the spirit of open dialogue and mutual respect, the event



reflects "Bharatiya" ethos which is fundamentally inclusive and welcoming to all, the RSS' national media and publicity head added. "This initiative is in line with longstanding tradition of engagement by the Rashtriya Swamisevak Sangh (RSS) with varied communities across India and the world fostering understanding and shared purpose," Ambekar said. "We invite anyone interested in learning more about the RSS vision and philosophy to participate in these open

forums of dialogue," he added. This came amid a row over Bhagwat's visit to the US with several interfaith and civil rights organisations, including Hindus for Human Rights, Indian American Muslim Council and Interfaith Centre of New York opposing the RSS chief's planned appearance at the Madison Square Garden event. Mamdani has said he does not support the planned event at Madison Square Garden featuring RSS chief Bhagwat, who is scheduled to address the

Indian diaspora later this week. Mamdani, however, noted that the city may not have jurisdiction to cancel the "private" event. American singer Mary Millben has criticised Mamdani for opposing the planned event at Madison Square Garden (MSG) featuring the RSS chief later this week. "Mamdani and all these socialist nuts are opposing the Madison Square Garden (MSG) event featuring Mohan Bhagwat because they oppose PM @narendramodi and the @BJP4India," Millben said in a post on X on Tuesday. Bhagwat, who arrived in the US on Tuesday as part of the RSS' century-year global outreach programme, is scheduled to address a gathering of around 5,000 people at the iconic MSG on August 29.

CAG Flags E. Coli Bacteria In Drinking Water At Stations, Cites Violation Of Railway Board Norms

New Delhi: In a major and stringent step towards controlling rising pollution levels in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR), the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has decided to impose a phased ban on the registration of new light goods vehicles (N1 LGVs) powered by petrol, diesel and CNG across the region. The decision is part of the commission's efforts to improve air quality in the national capital region and reduce emissions from the transport sector. The commission made the decision during its 29th meeting, chaired by Chairperson Rajesh Verma, where members discussed in detail the factors contributing to air pollution in the region. According to data presented by the commission, light goods vehicles account for only about 1.2 per cent



of the region's total active vehicle fleet. However, their contribution to overall particulate matter (PM) emissions is significantly higher, at around 3.3 per cent. The commission cited these figures as a key reason for restricting the registration of new petrol, diesel and CNG-powered N1 LGVs. Ban To Be Implemented In Phases The restrictions will be implemented in phases so that the transport sector does not face a sudden, significant

impact. The first phase will take effect in Delhi from January 1, 2027, when registration of new petrol-, diesel-, and CNG-powered light goods vehicles will be prohibited. In the major NCR districts of Gurugram, Faridabad, Gautam Buddha Nagar, the restriction will come into force from July 1, 2027. For all remaining districts of the National Capital Region, the ban on registration of new vehicles in this category will take effect from

January 1, 2028. The CAQM has also decided to strengthen measures to control dust generated by stone crusher units operating in the NCR. The Central Pollution Control Board's (CPCB) 2023 guidelines for controlling dust emissions from stone crusher units will now be made mandatory as part of the conditions for obtaining "Consent to Operate" (CTO). To strengthen monitoring of these units, authorities will use technologies such as video surveillance and PM2.5 sensors. Authorities will also make arrangements such as wheel-washing facilities mandatory to control the spread of dust from these units. The move aims to ensure that industrial activities contributing to particulate pollution are closely monitored and comply with prescribed environmental standards.

Flash Flood Risk Subsides In Bihar As Less Than Expected Water Flows In From Nepal

Patna: Floodwaters from Nepal gushed into the Valmikinagar barrage on the Gandak River in West Champaran district of Bihar at 8:30 pm on Wednesday. The flow of water immediately shot up by 20,000 cusecs and senior engineers and local officials braced themselves for further deterioration in the situation. Bihar was already on high alert due to the catastrophe in the neighbouring country, and was expecting 3-metre-high water waves to sweep through the barrage, which is located along the Indo-Nepal border. The rise in water discharge at the barrage was expected to increase to 2.5 lakh cusecs (cubic feet per second). One cusec is 28.32 litres of water passing any particular point in a second. Flood warnings were sounded in several districts along the Gandak. This added to the worry of the common people, who had been continuously watching the fear-some videos of the disaster in Nepal on their mobile phones. Floodwaters from Nepal gushed into the Valmikinagar barrage on the Gandak River at 8:30



pm on Wednesday. (ETV Bharat) The engineers of the Water Resources Department (WRD) deployed in the Valmikinagar-Bagaha area were asked to stay put through the night to meet any eventuality. All 36 gates of the barrage were open since Wednesday afternoon to allow free flow of the incoming floodwater. "Water rushed in at a high speed and the flow rose rapidly. It peaked at 1.50 lakh cusecs at around 12:30 am on Thursday and then started falling. It was less than what we had expected. But then it was difficult to assess the volume or flow of water coming from the Nepal side," WRD superintending engineer (G andak barrage circle,

Valmikinagar) Mohammad Zilani told ETV Bharat. Zilani and his team stayed put at the barrage throughout the night in anticipation, and heaved a sigh of relief when the incoming flood water continuously showed a declining trend during the early hours of Thursday. "A huge quantity of debris came with the water. It included a large number of cattle, cooking gas cylinders, timber used in houses, tyres, broken parts of vehicles, and other household goods. It was dark, but we could make out the things swooshing by through the barrage. We did not notice human bodies, but the entire sight was a sad one," Zilani added. The debris and cattle carcasses flowed into the Gandak. They would either stop

along the downstream banks or empty into the Ganga. After peaking at 1,50,200 cusecs at around 12:30 am, the discharge at the barrage fell below 1 lakh cusecs at around 2:30 am and dropped to 79,700 cusecs at 4:30 am. It started rising again and was 1.02 lakh cusecs at 8 am on Thursday. A senior WRD engineer said that the present water discharge at the Valmikinagar barrage could be considered normal for the monsoon season. The water discharge at the Valmikinagar barrage was 1.02 lakh cusecs at 8 am on Thursday. The water discharge at the Valmikinagar barrage was 1.02 lakh cusecs at 8 am on Thursday. (ETV Bharat) "The fact that less water came in indicates that the flash flood in Nepal was not due to heavy rains or cloudburst. It could have been due to the bursting of any lake or reservoir because of seismic activity or other reasons," the engineer said. Meanwhile, the state government and district administrations are still keeping a watch on the situation, as it is the

Nepal Floods: Death Toll Mounts To 165, Over 300 Indians Missing; Rescue Operations Underway

New Delhi: More than 160 people were killed and over 750 persons, including 300 Indian nationals, have gone missing after a massive flash flood originating in Tibet swept through central Nepal on Wednesday, devastating several towns and villages, washing away critical bridges, and crippling a dozen hydropower projects.



"165 bodies have been recovered from the flood-affected areas so far; identification is ongoing," Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority said in a post on X. According to preliminary reports from the Nepal Tourism Board, a total of 879 people—including 467 foreign tourists and 412 Nepali citizens—are currently missing from the affected areas, it added. Over 300 Indians Missing Nepal Foreign Minister Shisir Khanal informed on Thursday that nearly 300 Indian tourists are among thousands who are reportedly missing in the floods. Khanal also confirmed that over 160 people have lost their lives and thousands remain untraced after the tragedy in the Rasuwa region. "Thousands of families have lost homes and are missing as of now. We are still trying to ascertain the full extent of the disaster," Khanal said. An earthquake hit the Tibet region at 8:37 am (local time) and the flash floods were reported three minutes later, suggesting the tremors may have caused a glacial outburst which triggered the floods, PTI quoted Khanal as saying. The flood surged through the Bhote Koshi

River, affecting Rasuwa and Dhading districts bordering Tibet, officials said. The massive flood entered the Trishuli River through the Bhote Koshi in Timure, a border town in Rasuwa district, due to the rockslide and swelling of the Lhende River situated along the Nepal-Tibet border, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority said. It then spread along the river course to other districts like Nuwakot, Chitwan, Gorkha, Tanahu and Nawalparasi East, covering areas ranging from around 70 km to nearly 200 km from the capital, Kathmandu. Videos from the affected areas showed a powerful surge of muddy water, rocks and debris sweeping through the border region, with people seen fleeing as the torrent moved towards buildings and vehicles. In one clip, a four-storey structure could be seen being swept away by the raging waters, while another showed a car floating in fast-moving floodwaters in Rasuwa. Another video clip showed a long bridge broken into two by the sheer force of water. Other video clips showed bridges being pounded by powerful currents before collapsing and being swept away. In Dhading dis-

trict, a video showed floodwaters striking a bridge before the structure collapsed and was carried away. Another video showed muddy water rapidly engulfing a bridge and sweeping it away in about 30 seconds. Around 100 people have been rescued from different parts of the affected areas, officials said. Of them, 30 are undergoing treatment at Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital in Kathmandu. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to his Nepalese counterpart Balendra Shah and assured him of all possible humanitarian assistance to deal with the situation. New Delhi has already sent the first tranche of relief supplies to the neighbouring nation. The Indian Embassy in Kathmandu issued emergency numbers for assistance and information related to Indian nationals affected by the flash floods. In a post on X, it said people can contact +977 985 131 6807 or +977 970 910 7500. The Embassy of India has remained engaged with the relevant authorities of the Government of Nepal for early rescue and relief for Indian nationals affected by the flash floods that took place in Nepal, it said in another post on X, adding that rescue and

relief efforts continue to be strengthened in coordination with the Nepal government. The Nepal Tourism Board also issued similar numbers, including the toll-free emergency number 1234, hotline 1144 and Tourist Police number 9851289445 for help. In Beijing, the Embassy of India also issued a helpline number 0086 185 1428 4905, which can also be contacted through WhatsApp. At least 50 of the Indians were pilgrims for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra. Isha Foundation, a non-profit organisation based in India, said 77 of its members who were at an immigration centre were missing. "There has been no official information on the whereabouts of any of the people who were at the immigration office," said its founder Sadhguru, adding that 495 people have returned safely. The Nepal government later said the entire staff of that particular immigration centre are out of contact. Thirty-seven missing tourists are from Thanjavur, authorities in Tamil Nadu said. Several other Indian states - including Uttar Pradesh and Kerala - issued helpline numbers as well, fearing their residents could be among the stranded ones in Nepal.

Israel's Deadly Gaza Strikes Cast Doubt on Ceasefire Progress Days After Kushner Visit



Deir Al Balah: Deadly airstrikes in Gaza on Wednesday cast more doubt on whether new U.S. efforts can advance a tenuous ceasefire in the Palestinian territory. Just two days after U.S. negotiators reportedly asked Israel to draw down attacks in the Gaza Strip, at least 10 people were killed Wednesday in two strikes, according to local hospitals and the Palestinian Red Crescent. Israeli troops also crossed the ceasefire line in southern Gaza and detained a Hamas police colonel at dawn Wednesday, two witnesses and a Hamas official said. Israel's military said one of the strikes on Wednesday, in the area of Nuseirat refugee camp, struck a Hamas commander who had participated in the Hamas-led attack in southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, in which 1,200 people, mostly civilians, were killed and 251 abducted. A second strike in the Tuffah area of Gaza City struck four Hamas militants gathering in a police station, the military said, claiming they were planning to carry out attacks against Israeli troops. Israel's military said a

strike the day before targeted a meeting of four Hamas commanders and additional militants. The killed included Muhammad Hamdi Ahmad Al-Masri, Muhammad Attar and Muhammad Fathi Hussein Nasser, all accused of carrying out terrorist attacks against Israeli troops, and Samed Samir Harb Abu Habal, who infiltrated Israeli territory during the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas attack, according to a statement from Israel's military. The Hamas-run Interior Ministry said the Wednesday Gaza City strike on the police station killed eight police officers and a 13-year-old girl. Two officers were women, it said. One person was killed in Nuseirat. On Tuesday evening, an Israeli strike on a busy seaside cafe killed seven Palestinians, including a child, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. Jared Kushner, a U.S. negotiator and President Donald Trump's son-in-law, held a marathon meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday, in which he asked Israel's leader to draw down attacks on Gaza, a person familiar

with the meeting said. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to brief journalists. Also on Wednesday, Israel's military said it had completed reviews of 150 incidents of troop conduct during the war in Gaza and would launch criminal investigations into the 2024 killings of a 5-year-old girl and her family, as well as of 15 Palestinian paramedics in 2025. At least 17 killed in Israeli strikes. The deadly strikes in Gaza on Tuesday and Wednesday exacted more casualties even as a ceasefire that's been in place since October has significantly diminished the fighting in the tiny enclave where more than 2 million Palestinians live. Since the ceasefire, Israeli strikes have killed at least 1,273 people, according to health officials in Gaza. The nearly three-year Israel-Hamas war has killed more than 73,400 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. The ministry, which was part of the recently dissolved Hamas-run government, maintains detailed records viewed as generally reliable by U.N.

agencies and international organizations. It doesn't distinguish between civilians and militants, but says women and children make up around half of the toll. In the early hours of Wednesday, at least 15 Israeli troops entered the Muwasi coastal area, west of the city of Khan Younis, two residents and a Hamas official said. Accompanied by armed men, the troops stormed the tent of Sabri Abdel-All, a colonel for the Hamas-led Blue Police in Khan Younis. They also detained another resident identified as Nashat Ezzat Zaarab, they said. The two residents and the Hamas official spoke on condition of anonymity for their safety. Latest ceasefire negotiations offer few concrete commitments. On the diplomatic front, the ceasefire also appears stalled. Trump's initial ceasefire plan laid out a broad vision for ending Hamas' rule in Gaza and rebuilding the territory, much of which was reduced to rubble during the war.

But since last fall, major sticking points have emerged on the conditions of Hamas' disarmament.

US Govt To Expand Vetting Of Social Media For Visa Applicants



Washington: The US government reportedly plans to expand vetting of the social media accounts of visa applicants, including foreign journalists, as part of President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown. White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt reposted an article on Thursday on X by the Daily Signal that said the State Department is expand-

ing its social media vetting to applicants for more types of visas. The Daily Signal said it had obtained an internal memo outlining the require visa applicants to change the settings on their social media accounts to "public" or "open." Asked by AFP about the report, a State Department spokesperson said, "The department is constantly reviewing and evaluating screening and vet-

ting procedures worldwide to ensure that our visa process upholds the highest standards for US national security and public safety." "Online presence vetting is about applicants demonstrating their eligibility to receive a visa under US law and ensuring that no individual poses a risk to the safety and security of the United States," the spokesperson said. The United States already

requires applicants for various categories of visas, including student visas, to make their accounts public. The Daily Signal said it would now apply to foreign media representatives and some nationals from Mexico and Canada. Since taking office last year, Trump has moved to expel millions of undocumented migrants and restricted the entry into the United States of citizens of a number of countries. "A visa is a privilege, not a right," Secretary of State Marco Rubio has said. The Trump administration finalized rules last month that impose stricter limits on how long foreign students and journalists can stay in the United States. Under a change that could be implemented as soon as September, foreigners on student visas would be admitted for the length of their academic program up to a maximum of four years. Foreign journalists would be limited to stays of just 240 days, or around eight months, but

USS Abraham Lincoln Will Stop In Thailand On Its Way Home From Lengthy Deployment In Middle East

Bangkok: The USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier will make a stop in Thailand after its grueling deployment in the Middle East, Thai officials said Wednesday. The Lincoln was supporting the U.S. war against Iran, and its deployment included a record-setting uninterrupted time at sea of more than 250 days. Concerns have grown about the Lincoln's lengthy deployment following reports of deteriorating mental health among the crew and shortages of supplies including food and hygiene products. Thai defense ministry spokesperson Surasant Kongsiri said the Lincoln will stop in Thailand next week for rest and recovery before returning to its U.S. base. "The stop in Thailand is a chance for the crew to go ashore and relax," he told reporters at a news conference in Bangkok. On Tuesday, the Royal Thai Navy said three ships from a U.S. Navy carrier strike group were scheduled to stop in eastern Thailand and that no military exercises would be carried out during the visit.



Extended deployments of carriers wear on service members who are away from home for long periods and increase strain on the ship and its equipment. While renewed hostilities between the U.S. and Iran calmed in recent weeks, the Navy is enforcing a reimposed blockade on Iranian ports in the Strait of Hormuz, and the Trump administration has offered no clarity on how it intends to wind down the conflict, which will hit the six-month mark this week. Separately Wednesday, the U.S. Navy's top uniformed officer told

reporters that with the surprise needed to launch the Iran war, it took some time to put a "process in place so that we were really replenishing at sea in an effective and systematic way." Speaking about the Lincoln, Adm. Daryl Caudle said the issue was not about having enough protein or vegetables, but items like hygiene products, energy drinks and soda that sailors come to expect during long ship deployments. He said parts, food and "niceties" have different supply chains and that "we had to get all those dialed in," noting that "there was some learning curve on our replenishment process."

"It's a fair critique that there were some puts and takes at the beginning of Epic Fury until we got that dialed in," Caudle said, referring to the war's code name. "I think we're in a good place. He said parts, food and "niceties" have different supply chains and that "we had to get all those dialed in," noting that "there was some learning curve on our replenishment process."

Military Judge Sets June 2028 Trial Date For Alleged Sept. 11 Mastermind



Washington: A U.S. military judge on Wednesday set a summer 2028 trial date for Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and three others accused of plotting the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The trial is scheduled to begin June 5, 2028, 18 months later than the January 2027 start that prosecutors had requested. The additional time is needed to resolve pretrial disputes, including disagreements about what evidence can be presented at trial, Air Force Lt. Col. Michael A. Schrama wrote in his ruling. The U.S. military and successive administrations have struggled for more than two decades to bring to justice the man charged with planning one of the deadliest attacks ever on the United States. The 2028 trial depends on the case meeting deadlines and milestones along

the way and it could again be delayed. A trial was previously scheduled in 2021 but later canceled. Mohammed is accused of developing and directing the plot to crash hijacked airliners into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Another of the hijacked planes flew into a field in Pennsylvania. He faces trial alongside three alleged accomplices: Walid bin Attash, Ali Abdul Aziz Ali and Mustafa al-Hawsawi. They are among the last of the detainees held at the U.S. military base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. A federal appeals court last year threw out an agreement that would have allowed Mohammed to plead guilty in a deal sparing him the risk of execution for al-Qaida's 2001 attacks. That deal stipulated life sentences without parole for Mohammed and two of

his co-defendants. It also would have obligated the men to answer any lingering questions that families of the victims have about the attacks. But after negotiating the deal for two years, former President Joe Biden's administration repudiated it. Strations have struggled for more than two decades to bring to justice the man charged with planning one of the deadliest attacks ever on the United States. The 2028 trial depends on the case meeting deadlines and milestones along the way and it could again be delayed. A trial was previously scheduled in 2021 but later canceled. Mohammed is accused of developing and directing the plot to crash hijacked airliners into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Another of the hijacked planes flew into a field in Pennsylvania. He faces trial alongside three alleged accomplices: Walid bin Attash, Ali Abdul Aziz Ali and Mustafa al-Hawsawi. They are among the last of the detainees held at the U.S. military base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. A federal appeals court last year threw out an agreement that would have allowed Mohammed to plead guilty in a deal sparing him the risk of execution for al-Qaida's 2001 attacks. That deal stipulated life sentences without parole for Mohammed and two of

Vance Says Trump Administration 'Screwed Up' Communications Around Epstein Files

Washington: Vice President JD Vance says the Trump administration "absolutely" mishandled the communications surrounding the Jeffrey Epstein files. During a lengthy podcast interview with Joe Rogan released, Vance pointed largely to former Attorney General Pam Bondi, who infamously stated that an alleged "client list" of Epstein's was "sitting on my desk right now." Epstein was a convicted sex offender who was known for his



wide web of connections to the world's elite. In addition to those comments, the Justice Department under Bondi had also offered conservative commentators and influencers binders

that were called "The Epstein files: Phase 1" and "Declassified." "I know Pam. I like Pam. I don't think there was anything malicious going on," Vance told Rogan. "I think Pam was

trying to respond to the political moment. I think she overstated what we had and what we didn't have." As a result, Vance said, Bondi was "roasted" publicly for it and led people to "mistrust" the administration's transparency efforts on the Epstein files. "We absolutely screwed up the comms of the Epstein files. Like, we just did," Vance said. "But do I think the reason we screwed up the comms is because we were trying to hide

YISU and Telangana Polytechnic Education—don't disturb the



The Young India Skills University (YISU) was established in Telangana to bridge the gap between academic education and industry requirements and enhance youth employability. The university was formally established in October 2024 and announced ahead of its first academic sessions. Polytechnic education faces crisis in Telangana over proposed shift to Skills University. Classes and operations officially commenced on a temporary campus in November 2024. The university aimed to help academically qualified students secure jobs by acquiring special skills. Please note the wording: Academically qualified, not technically qualified. There is a sea of difference between the two.

Losing Way
One wonders whether the university has taken a detour by foraying into, or, shall we say, trespassing into, the technical education domain, when its original idea was to make academically qualified graduates in the first instance. Academically qualified graduates include Arts, Science and Commerce streams emerging from colleges that do not offer diploma or engineering qualifications. YISU opened its doors to Intermediate or +2 students, which is a good augury for those whose cup of tea is to get employed rather than pursue degrees that do not necessarily guarantee quick employment. If you scan through the courses offered by YISU, you will find a disconnect between diploma and degree courses related to technology and engineering. YISU, otherwise trying its best to establish and grow, suddenly landed in huge trouble when the government took a decision to bring all polytechnics under its umbrella. The rest is history, with the news hitting the headlines for more than a week. Students and staff took to the streets, social media went on a blitzkrieg, and the pressure forced the government to appoint a special committee to review the entire imbroglio. Editorials in print media, developing news stories, TV debates, YouTube coverage and extensive social media exposure of the issue persuaded the government to respond soon after the Chief Minister returned from his London trip. As a result, he appointed a special panel to review polytechnic education in

Telangana. Who are the Members? This writer, who was associated with technical education for over three decades, has preferred to take up an aspect that has not been covered so far in the media: the very formation of the panel. The announcement of the members has made the panel appear more like a formality than an exercise aimed at reviewing technical education in a no-nonsense manner. With due respect to the qualifications and yeoman service of the members, it becomes imperative for people to know what purpose the panel is intended to serve.

• **Keshava Rao**
Chairperson Keshava Rao, an eminent politician who has served as a Minister, MLA, MP and, now in his late 80s, was also a journalist in the print media and ran a small newspaper called The Daily News in the 1970s. It stopped publication without leaving behind any archival data about the winding up of the unit. His ability to head the panel seems more political than professional. He is already an adviser to the government with cabinet-rank status. What is needed for such a crucial body is such expertise where the Chairman has the onus to remain grounded, even to the point of differing with other members of the panel should the need arise. That can be done only by someone who has been in the thick and thin of heading polytechnic colleges.

It is equally surprising that Keshava Rao, who is known for independent thinking, accepted the chairmanship, more as an obligation than as a genuine participant in the process of reviewing polytechnic education. Anybody else as eminent as he is might have politely recused himself considering his age and lack of expertise, besides questioning whether he could do justice to the cause for which the panel is formed.

• **Kodandaram**
Coming to the next Member of the panel, Kodandaram is an MLC and has experience as a professor in non-engineering subjects such as Political Science. Mind you, he is part of a panel reviewing technical education despite having zero experience in the field. Ironically, he will also be part of studying the recommendations put forth by the Education Commission, which consisted of Murali Akunuri, who has an MTech background and

was conferred IAS status, and other members who hailed from Arts subjects. Incidentally, he quit the Education Commission midway for reasons best known to him.

• **Shantha Sinha**
ninent professor, again from a Political Science background, Shantha Sinha is currently with the NCPCR. How she would be able to relate the nitty-gritty of polytechnic education as she embarks on its review is a million-dollar question.

• **Navin Mittal**
He is the only member with an IIT engineering background, besides being an IAS officer holding the rank of Special Chief Secretary. He has the advantage of having served as Commissioner for Technical Education and Chairman of SBTET for over five years and is currently associated with the Energy Department. However, he was in the news for a long period for all the wrong reasons when he was Collector of Hyderabad District, besides being Commissioner for Land Records, and controversies were pointed towards alleged misuse of authority in land-related issues. The irony is that he could emerge successful under many Chief Ministers despite constant exposure of his alleged misdeeds. When nothing is proven as per the law, he is innocent on paper.

Nevertheless, here is a case study which proves that he is vulnerable to being misled by his officers below him. In 2019, he almost wound up an excellently running Diploma in Printing Technology course conducted by the most reputed statewide Government Institute of Printing Technology (GIPT), which was established in 1977, and was a 42-year-old institute at the time.

Like this panel to review polytechnic education, his committee in the department was guided by a non-printing Principal with Shorthand and Typewriting qualifications and other obliging officers, who decided to dilute the printing diploma course by stripping it of its statewide status, reducing the number of seats and relocating it to the Old City at QQ Polytechnic.

The committee that took this decision did not have any printing expert, be it from college or industry. In fact, the attempt was to close down the course altogether, but for the furore

raised by GIPT alumni and retired staff, besides Telangana Today also highlighting the issue.

GIPT is the only course which has been having one semester exclusively earmarked for industrial training right from its inception in 1977 to this day. Students receive a stipend for the work they produce during this semester, even though there is no rule requiring them to be paid a stipend. This has been continuing uninterrupted for 49 years. It is during this semester of industrial training that students acquire skills needed by the industry and get jobs almost immediately after completing their diploma. Naveen Mittal retracted his decision, but not before giving a fatal blow to the otherwise the best Institute in India, guaranteeing 100% jobs in government, public sector and in private industry in India and abroad.

The reason for forcing the exclusively designed and well-furnished college for GIPT was to make way for establishing a Government Women's Polytechnic (GPW) in a rather hasty manner. There was a plan for an exclusive building, and the construction also began with good speed on the same premises. However, it suddenly stopped midway after pillars were raised. No one knows why it was stopped and why GIPT had to be made a sacrificial goat.

This development could be noticed just a day after a memo was issued by the government, and mind you, no GO for such a major policy decision is taken at the Principal Secretary level, let alone without seeking AICTE approval. To this day, the GIPT exists on paper, and the salary of the Principal of GPW is drawn from the GIPT account. Legally and technically, GIPT exists, and the board still stands at its Marrededly premises. By the time the alumni approached the then Principal Secretary Janardhan Reddy, the memo was sent out, and he pleaded helplessness. Later, it was learnt that although he was convinced that something was amiss, he would have hesitated to recall the memo because the recommendations were sent by Naveen Mittal, who happened to be his senior despite holding a lower rank. The Principal Secretary did not want to rub him the wrong way in the situation in which he found himself. The purpose of highlighting this is to show how susceptible Naveen Mittal can be as a Member of this panel. To be fair to him, he is the only competent person on the panel to speak on the review of technical education because of his BTech from IIT, Kharagpur.

• **Harichandana Dasari**

Harichandana Dasari, Secretary, Shakti Department, is also from a Political Science background like Kodandaram and Shantha Sinha.

• **A Devasena**

Last but not least, A Devasena, the present for

Is Mother Nature metaphor normalising a culture of extraction?



Among these metaphors, none has enjoyed greater cultural legitimacy than that of 'Mother Nature'. From Bhoomi Mata in India to Mother Earth in the Americas, the Earth has been imagined as feminine — nurturing, fertile, forgiving and infinitely generous. The symbolism appears reverential. Yet an uncomfortable question deserves attention — has the feminisation of nature inadvertently normalised an expectation of endless sacrifice, making ecological exploitation appear permissible? Moral Template

This is not an argument against feminine symbolism itself. Many Indigenous cultures that personify rivers, forests and mountains as female have simultaneously evolved sophisticated traditions of ecological restraint. The issue is not that nature is imagined as feminine; it is the particular social expectations attached to femininity.

In patriarchal societies, motherhood has often been celebrated for its selflessness. A "good" mother is expected to give without calculation, endure without complaint and forgive without limit. When this moral template is projected onto nature, environmental exploitation risks being interpreted not as violence but as dependence upon an endlessly giving parent. The distinction is significant because language influences political behaviour. Cognitive linguists George Lakoff and Mark Johnson argued that metaphors are not merely literary devices but conceptual frameworks through which societies organise thought and action.

Metaphor determine what appears natural, legitimate and inevitable. If nature is framed primarily as a mother, it becomes easier to imagine her as an inexhaustible source of care rather than as a living system with ecological limits and intrinsic rights. The metaphor may unconsciously privilege gratitude over reciprocity and entitlement over restraint. Reverence and Reality Empirical evidence reveals the contradiction between reverence and reality. According to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform

on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), nearly 75% of Earth's terrestrial environment and about 66% of the marine environment have been significantly altered by human activity, while around one million species now face the risk of extinction. The UN Environment Programme's Global Resources Outlook estimates that global material extraction has risen from roughly 27 billion tonnes in 1970 to more than 100 billion tonnes by 2019, a nearly fourfold increase driven by expanding consumption and industrialisation.

Simultaneously, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports that approximately 420 million hectares of forest have been lost globally since 1990. These figures expose a profound paradox: societies continue to invoke 'Mother Earth' in public discourse even as they intensify the extraction of the ecosystems upon which life depends. The contradiction extends to the language of development itself. Rivers are increasingly described as 'water resources', forests as 'timber stock' and mountains as repositories of minerals awaiting economic utilisation. Environmental valuation frequently reduces ecosystems to the services they provide for human welfare. Yet when ecological disasters strike, political rhetoric swiftly returns to appeals for protecting 'Mother Nature'.

The metaphor survives because it generates emotional resonance, while economic policy often proceeds according to an entirely different logic — that of extraction, efficiency and growth. The coexistence of sentimental language and instrumental practice suggests that reverence alone offers little protection against exploitation. Ecofeminist scholarship has long recognised these parallels. Carolyn Merchant, in The Death of Nature (1980), argued that the Scientific Revolution transformed nature from a living organism into a machine designed for human control. Maria Mies and Vandana Shiva later suggested that the historical subordination of women

and the domination of nature emerged from similar systems of hierarchy, commodification and control.

However, ecofeminism has also been subject to important criticism. Scholars such as Val Plumwood cautioned against assuming any essential or natural connection between women and the environment. To romanticise women as inherently closer to nature risks reproducing the very stereotypes feminism seeks to dismantle. The analytical value of ecofeminism, therefore, lies not in biological claims but in exposing how structures of domination operate through similar cultural logics. Genuine ecological justice requires moving beyond reverence towards responsibility, beyond gratitude towards reciprocity, and beyond metaphors that celebrate sacrifice towards institutions that respect limits.

India presents a particularly revealing case. Few societies have embedded ecological symbolism more deeply within religious and cultural traditions. Rivers such as the Ganga are worshipped as mothers, forests have historically been regarded as sacred spaces, and the Earth itself is invoked through rituals of gratitude. Yet India also ranks among the world's largest consumers of natural resources, while its cities continue to confront severe air pollution, groundwater depletion and biodiversity loss. The contradiction is not evidence that cultural reverence is meaningless; rather, it demonstrates that symbolic respect without institutional accountability cannot restrain ecological degradation. Rituals alone cannot substitute for environmental regulation, sustainable production or democratic accountability. It would nevertheless be simplistic to argue that calling nature 'Mother' causes environmental destruction. Such determinism ignores the decisive roles of capitalism, industrialisation, colonial extraction and state policy. The metaphor did not produce the climate, metaphors shape the moral vocabulary within which these systems operate. They influence what societies perceive and gratitude towards reciprocity, and beyond metaphors that celebrate sacrifice towards institutions that respect limits.

as acceptable relationships between humans and the non-human world. When the Earth is imagined as an endlessly patient mother, ecological limits are more easily ignored because motherhood itself has historically been associated with unconditional giving. The metaphor thus becomes compatible with extraction precisely because it normalises sacrifice. The Challenge Perhaps the challenge, therefore, is not to abandon personification altogether but to rethink it. Instead of imagining the Earth primarily through relationships that presuppose obligation and sacrifice, environmental ethics might emphasise reciprocity, partnership and mutual dependence. Contemporary ecological thought increasingly recognises that humans are not masters of nature but participants within complex living systems whose resilience depends upon restraint rather than domination.

The environmental crisis is ultimately not only about carbon emissions, disappearing forests or declining biodiversity. It is also about the stories societies tell themselves regarding who exists to serve whom. As long as nature remains imagined as an endlessly giving mother, humanity may continue to mistake exploitation for affection. Genuine ecological justice requires moving beyond reverence towards responsibility, beyond gratitude towards reciprocity, and beyond metaphors that celebrate sacrifice towards institutions that respect limits.

Sri Lanka Sign Off The Day On 229/6 Thanks To Pasindu Sooriyabandara's 92

India continued to be in a commanding position on Day 4 of the second Test against Sri Lanka in Colombo despite the hosts' batters showing some resilience. India enforced a follow-on, and it seemed that Sri Lanka would get all out on a paltry total in the second innings as well. However, Pasindu Sooriyabandara and Kamindu Mendis formed a 115-run partnership for the third wicket. Kamindu played a knock of 55 runs while Sooriyabandara amassed 92 runs during his stay at the crease. Manav Suthar picked two wickets for the Indian team in the second innings while other bowlers picked one wicket each. The Indian team will look to wrap up the opposition as soon as possible on the last day and chase the target with ease. 5:01 PM, 26 Aug 2026 (IST) IND vs SL Live Score: Sooriyabandara plays resilient knock; Sri Lanka six wickets down Sooriyabandara played a knock of 92 runs, and it looked like he might keep Sri Lanka alive in the game, helping them set a decent total against



India in the second innings. However, he was dismissed eight runs short of the century, and now Sri Lanka is again in trouble with six wickets down. They have a lead of only 16 run and the team will look to add some more to give a decent target to the visitors to win. 3:03 PM, 26 Aug 2026 (IST) IND vs SL Live Score: Pasindu Sooriyabandara turning tables for Lankan side Pasindu Sooriyabandara has shone with the bat once again and is on the crease after scoring an unbeaten 90 runs. Kamindu Mendis scored 55 runs from 92 deliveries, and the duo showed solid defence to build a crucial partnership. Sri Lanka just need 14 runs

to cover the gap, and if the batters continue the way they are playing the team might turn the tables soon. 12:02 PM, 26 Aug 2026 (IST) IND vs SL Live Score: India enforce follow-on The Indian team wrapped up the Sri Lankan innings on 290 and then decided to hand a follow-on to the hosts. They also took two wickets so far in the second innings, and Sri Lanka are at 83/2 at lunch. Mohammed Siraj and Ravindra Jadeja picked one wicket each. 10:17 AM, 26 Aug 2026 (IST) IND vs SL Live Score: Will India enforce a follow-on? Sonal Dinusha scored a century, but he failed to

save the Lankan side from the possibility of follow-on. He played a knock of 103 runs but was dismissed at last, with Sri Lanka trailing by 213 runs. India will now have to take a call on whether to enforce a follow-on or not. The decision will be revealed in a few minutes. 9:16 AM, 26 Aug 2026 (IST) IND vs SL Live Score: Rain threat looming over fourth day The rain threat is looming over the proceedings on Day 4. It looks like India will have to battle against Sri Lanka as well as the rain. The probability of precipitation is 89%, and cloud cover is expected to reach 96%. The probability of precipitation during the afternoon is 70%, and the cloud cover is

World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen capped his mas

World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen capped his masterful undefeated campaign by retaining his title after defeating Belarusian chess grandmaster Denis Lazavik in a lop-sided final of the chess competition at the Esports World Cup here on Saturday. Team Liquid's Carlsen came with a clear goal and pursued it with unrelenting determination, not losing a single match en route to successfully defending his title. The 35-year-old Norwegian secured a 2-0 (3-1, 3-1) win over Lazavik of AGAL in the grand final. "I followed Denis' games and talked to the coaches. I do feel, especially with Hikaru's approach, it was not

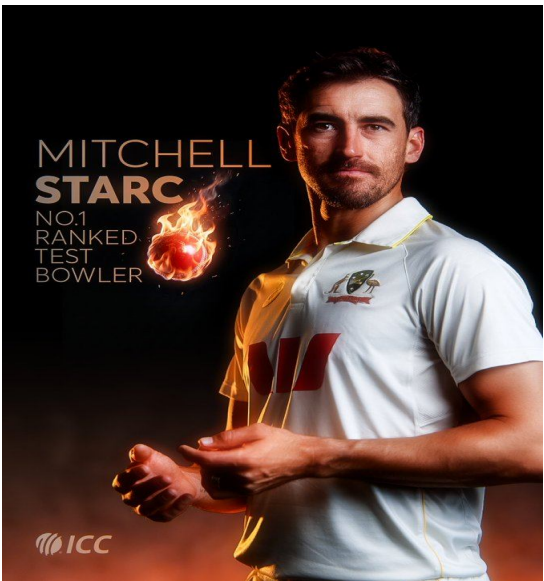


right. Funny thing is, I said that he is not great at defending endgames, so I thought I should keep it together better than Hikaru," the five-time world champion said after the win. "I have played Denis many times online, where I played riskily

and got punished for it, so I didn't give him obvious positional advantages." Asked if there was any moment when he felt he might lose, Carlsen said: "There were several moments, a couple against Alireza, against Nihal as well. There were certainly

some moments, but I am thrilled to go undefeated." "I was not trying to do anything out of the ordinary. I tried to take my chances, with a little bit of randomness, and I am happy." Asked what it would take to beat him, Carlsen said: "I don't know. In this format, it is not easy at the moment, I think. I think Alireza had a very good chance. It is not easy..." United States' Hikaru Nakamura finished at the third position after beating Alireza Firouzja 4-1. The championships games each. If required, a third set will consist of two games to determine the champion.

Mitchell Starc Becomes No.1 Test Bowler For First Time; Replaces Jasprit Bumrah



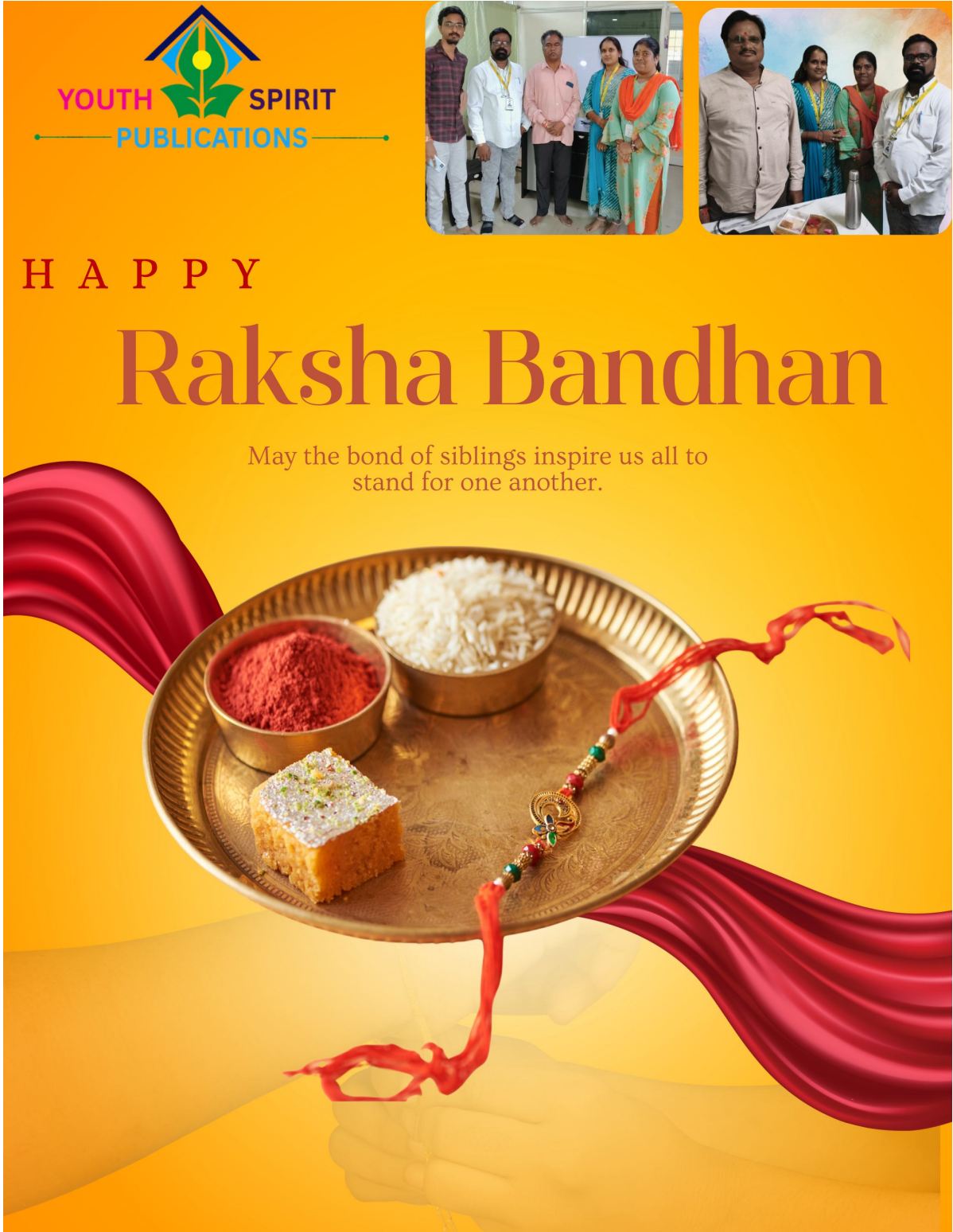
Jasprit Bumrah's reign at the top of the ICC Test rankings has come to an end with Australia pacer Mitchell Starc replacing him for the No. 1 spot in the latest rankings. Notably, it is the first time Starc has occupied the top spot in the Test

rankings. Bh first reached the summit of Test cricket in 2024 and was holding a monopoly over the position for two years. However, the Indian pacer missed the ongoing Test series against Sri Lanka while Starc bowled an impres-

sive spell in the Test series against Bangladesh, which resulted in a 1-1 draw. During the second Test in Mackay, Starc earned the Man of the Match Award. The left-arm quick took a 10-wicket match haul and also completed a leap of two places over Bumrah and New Zealand pacer Matt Henry to grab the top position. Starc was in the top ten for the last few years and also broke into the top 3 after ripping through the England batting unit in the Ashes. However, the No. 1 spot was always out of his reach. Starc is not the only Australian bowler to take a significant leap in the rankings. Skipper Pat Cummins moved to fourth place in the rankings after the Mackay Test, while spin maestro Nathan Lyon jumped two places to occupy the 10th spot. England seam-

ers also took significant jumps in the rankings after their dominating performance against Pakistan in the opening match of the Test series. Ollie Robinson and Josh Tongue shared 16 wickets between them and have also earned the reward for their performance.

Robinson jumped 15 places to the 11th, while Tongue improved by 16 places, occupying the 17th spot in the rankings. In the batter's rankings, there are no changes at the top, and the core remains the same. England's Harry Brook occupies the top spot while Joe Root is chasing him from the second position. Steve Smith and Travis Head make up for the third and fourth positions. Thus, the top four will be a battle between Australia and England.





N. Sai Ram (MD) V.Ramaraju



G Sai Charan Teja



B Naresh Goud



Y Ratnam



Sk. Sazid



P. Sathyam



Dr. Madhava Reddy



B Pandarinath



B Balachandrar Goud



R Raghunathi



BROTHERS



V. Srinivas



Dr. G Prabhu Raju



K. Ramdas



B. Ramesh



B Kiran Kumar



T Balaji Rao



V Srinivas Chary



J Srinivas Rao



A Yadagiri Raju



Y Rajeshwar Rao



SANJEEV KUMAR & FAMILY



HAPPY

Birthday



BEJAWADA SANJEEV KUMAR

CELEBRATING SIX DECADES OF Love, Wisdom & Beautiful Memories

 From
 Near & Dear

 On this special day of
 Rakhi, may our bond of
 love, trust and togetherness
 grow stronger forever.


Presented by

Avengers Doomsday New Promo: Doctor Doom's Origins And Battle With Thor Revealed



Marvel Studios has unveiled a new promo of the upcoming sci-fi action movie Avengers: Domsday. It gives fans a closer look at Robert Downey Jr's Victor von Doom and the massive threat facing the Marvel heroes. The promo was shown during the studio's showcase at D23: The Ultimate Disney Fan Event on August 15, 2026. The new promo introduces Doom's past and hints at what made him the powerful villain he is today. Sue Storm (Vanessa Kirby) describes Victor as someone who "lost

everything" and says, "I didn't realise that he was broken." The promo then shows Victor wearing his iconic mask and looking at a painting.

The promo soon shifts to a destroyed world, showing the scale of the danger in Avengers: Domsday. Pedro Pascal's Reed Richards asks Victor if he is responsible for all the destruction. Victor, however, has a much bigger view of the situation. He says that all the superheroes have "lived stolen lives." The promo also features a tense con-

frontation between Victor and Thor (Chris Hemsworth). Thor arrives from the sky and warns him, "You will beg for hell long before I grant it." He then attacks Victor with his hammer. However, Doom easily blocks the attack, throws Thor's hammer away and pushes him back. Victor then delivers one of the most striking lines from the promo: "Hell answers to me. For I am Doom." The film brings together heroes from different parts of the Marvel universe, including the Avengers, Fantastic Four and X-Men.

Along with Downey Jr, the cast includes Chris Evans, Hayley Atwell, Pedro Pascal, Vanessa Kirby, Chris Hemsworth, Anthony Mackie, Florence Pugh, Paul Rudd, Tom Hiddleston, Ian McKellen, Patrick Stewart, the Avengers, Fantastic Four and X-Men. art, James Marsden and several others. Directed by Anthony and Joe Russo, Avengers: Domsday is produced by Kevin Feige, Louis D'Esposito and Jonathan Schwartz. The film is scheduled to release in theatres on December 18, 2026.

Rukmini Vasanth's Fans Disappointed Over Her Intimate Scene In Yash's Toxic: 'Wasn't Expecting This From You'



Yash-starrer Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups has finally reached theatres, but the film has already sparked discussions on social media. A scene featuring actress Rukmini Vasanth has caught the attention of viewers, with some fans expressing disappointment over the intimate sequence. Rukmini, who recently gained wider attention for playing Kanakavathi in Kantara: Chapter 1, plays Mellisa in Toxic. She shares the screen with Yash, Kiara Advani, Nayanthara, Huma Qureshi and Tara Sutaria. Rukmini Vasanth's Scene In Toxic Goes Viral A scene featuring Rukmini has

been circulating on social media. In the sequence, her character is seen waking up with a blanket wrapped around her. The scene has led to criticism from a section of viewers, who have questioned the creative choice and the way her character has been presented. Some fans were particularly surprised to see Rukmini in such a scene. One user wrote, "How am I supposed to process scenes like this? Rukmini, I seriously wasn't expecting this from you." How am I supposed to process scenes like this? Rukmini, I seriously wasn't expecting this from you! ???#Toxic

#ToxicTheMovie #Yash #RukminiVasanth #KiaraAdvani pic.twitter.com/13smWTBXa— Navya? (@Mine_vya) August 26, 2026 Another user questioned the decision behind the scene and wrote, "Rukku, WTF is this?" A third user criticised the writing, saying, "What is this? Why such a cheap script?" — Viswa SVB ?? (@viswagm) August 26, 2026 However, reactions to the scene have not been completely one-sided. One social media user pointed out that there is no kissing or love-making scene involving Rukmini and suggested that some of

the criticism was unnecessary. Fans Rukmini's Choice The scene has started a discussion about the choices made by Rukmini in Toxic. Some viewers have questioned why the actress agreed to be part of the sequence, while others have directed their criticism towards the film's writing and presentation. Rukmini has been receiving attention for her recent work, especially after her performance as Kanakavathi in Kantara: Chapter 1. Her role in Toxic is another major addition to her growing filmography. So far, the actress has not publicly responded to the criticism surrounding the scene. The makers of Toxic have also not issued any statement on the matter. Toxic's Intimate Content Sparks Discussion

Toxic had already attracted attention for its adult content before its release. Yash and Kiara Advani's song Tabaahi featured intimate moments between the two actors and had also sparked discussions online.

The Geetu Mohandas directorial was released in theatres on August 26 in Kannada, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and English. The film has an A certificate from the Central