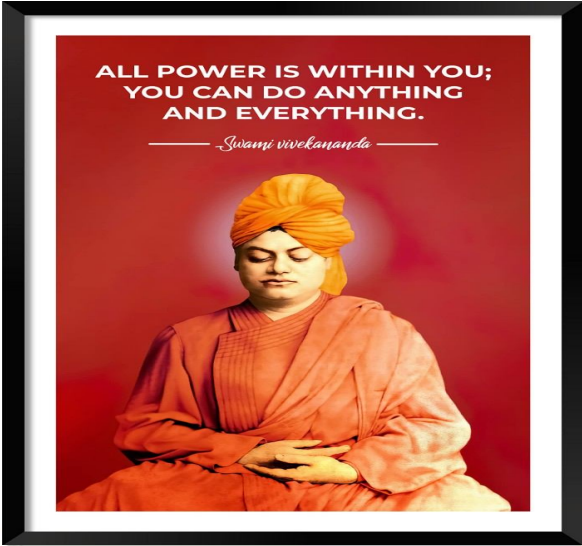
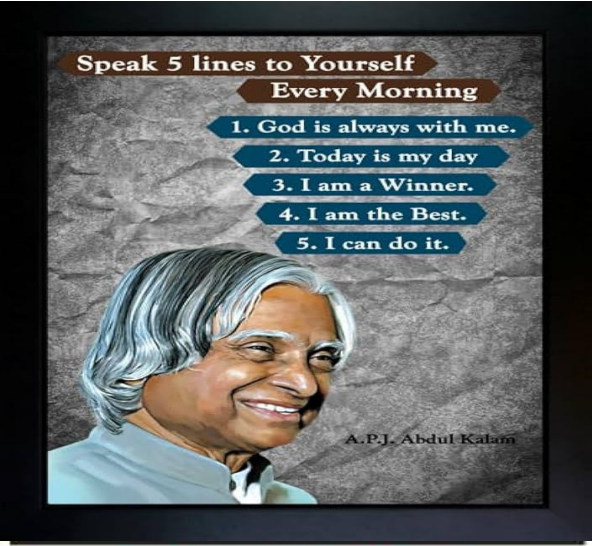


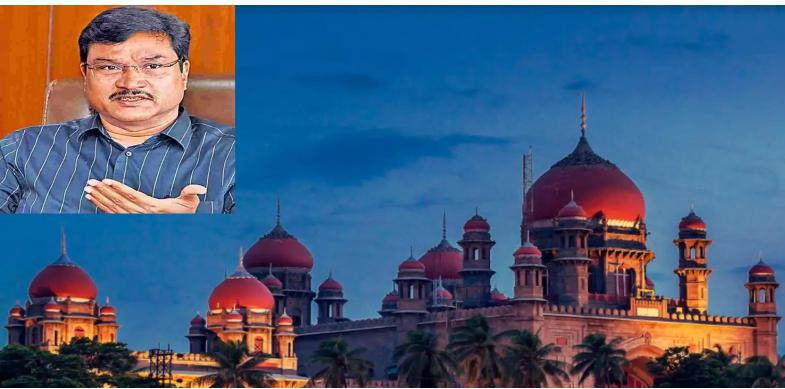


Raja Narasimha Calls for Expansion of IVF Services in Telangana Govt Hospitals



Hyderabad: Health Minister Ch Damodar Raja Narasimha asked officials to further expand fertility and IVF services in Telangana's government hospitals and strengthen implementation of the ART and Surrogacy laws in private fertility centres. He called for strict action against centres violating regulations, greater transparency in fertility services, and measures to prevent unnecessary financial burden on patients.

HYDRAA Commissioner Moves High Court On Appeal Over Single Judge Order



Hyderabad: Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) Commissioner AV Ranganath has approached the Telangana High Court challenging the single-judge order directing his removal from the post. It may be recollected that on July 27, Justice Anil Kumar Jukanti had directed the Chief Secretary to relieve Ranganath as HYDRAA Commissioner and appoint a suitable replacement.

The order came while hearing contempt petitions filed by Shanta which alleged that HYDRAA officials violated court orders and entered its 40-acre land in Lothkunta with 50 vehicles and 200 personnel. Also Read - Bachupally Police File Cheating Case Against Priest, Wife Over Fraud The court had observed that Ranganath had become a "law unto himself" and that HYDRAA was acting beyond its mandate,

Rahul Targets EC, BJP Over 2 Cr Maharashtra Voters



New Delhi: With more than 2.06 crore electors excluded from Maharashtra's draft electoral roll after the SIR exercise, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday alleged that the BJP and the "Vote Chori Aayog" keep changing their tactics and will continue to do so as their goal remains to ensure the BJP's victory at any cost. Gandhi said that for a government built on 'vote chori', the people are not important

and that is why the BJP neither listens to the people nor obeys their command. Also Read - Delhi: 10-Year-Old Dies After Teacher Makes Her Stand In Sun For Not Bringing A Book "The BJP and the 'Vote Chori Aayog' keep changing their tactics, and they will continue to do so - the goal remains just one: BJP's victory at any cost, and the end of India's democracy," the Leader of Opposition in Lok

Sabha said in a post in Hindi on X. More than 2.06 crore electors, accounting for 21.14 per cent of Maharashtra's previous voter base, have not figured in the draft electoral roll following a Special Intensive Revision (SIR), the Chief Electoral Officer said on Monday. Also Read - Bank Unions Announce Sept 11 Strike, Cite Unresolved Issues The draft roll currently has more than 7.71 crore voters (78.86 per cent of the previous electorate), comprising 3.95 crore men, 3.75 crore women, and 3,087 third-gender voters, according to state election authorities. As many as 2,06,88,487 people have not been includ-

Revant Reddy's Global Knowledge Hub Vision Gains Support from Top World Universities

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revant Reddy expressed happiness that his vision to transform Hyderabad into a Global Knowledge Hub has received support from some of the world's leading educational institutions. "My biggest passion and contribution to youth will be skills, sports and education, making them highly qualified for any global challenge. University of London, UK, and North-Eastern University, Boston, USA, are going to set up off-shore campuses in Hyderabad," he said. Also Read - Bachupally Police

File Cheating Case Against Priest, Wife Over Fraud Harvard University, and some of its schools, are keenly interested in offering select programs and courses in the state. "Our meetings with Oxford University, Cambridge University, SOAS (London), Imperial College, LonHarvard University, and some of its schools, are keenly interested in offering select programs and courses in the state don Business School (LBS), London School of Economics have all yielded positive outcomes," he said. Similarly



the meetings with Technology (MIT), Massachusetts Institute of andHarvard University,

and some of its schools, are keenly interested in offering select programs and courses in the state several other Ivy League and American schools have been positive and the youth in Telangana will all be able to get education from such global institutions of excellence right here in Hyderabad. "Educational courses, certification programs, shared research, setting up centres of excellence, offering programs for professionals of different walks of life, our pioneering efforts will make Hyderabad a global educational powerhouse," he said.

NDA Will Emerge Unbeatable Whenever Polls Are Held In AP: Chandrababu

West Godavari: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday said recent surveys project the NDA coalition as unbeatable in the upcoming elections in the state. Addressing a public meeting after distributing NTR Bharosa welfare pensions in Mogalturu, the Chief Minister said, "You (people) gave a phenomenal majority in the last elections. Again, all the surveys are saying now that whenever elections are held in Andhra Pradesh state, NDA is unbeatable." Also Read - Kakinada: Woman Alleges Forced Conversion, Harassment



by Husband To rebuild a "devastated" state, Naidu said people elected the alliance of TDP, BJP and Jana Sena a couple of years ago. Addressing YSRCP's stance against unanimous results in local bodies polls, Naidu wondered what the opposition party would do if "people favoured" unanimous

elections. He announced direct polls for municipalities and corporations this time to enable people to elect the mayor or the chairman they like. Also Read - AP CM To Release Godavari Waters Through Polavaram Left Canal Tomorrow Naidu criticised the previous YSRCP government for reducing

reservations for BCs in local bodies polls from 34 per cent, which was prevalent since 1996. According to him, the YSRCP went to the court while reinstating those reservations, petitioning that polls should not be conducted until the electoral roll revision is completed. YSRCP is making such attempts as it is afraid of defeat, he said noting that development is possible only through local bodies. Naidu promised to stand by the backward classes, and said social backwardness continues to plague SC, ST, minorities and other sections. To catapult women to the top in

all realms, the CM said they were accorded 33 per cent reservation and highlighted that one lakh women rose up to run MSMEs last year. Through a brand called Swayam, he said the products made by DWCRA women are offered better marketing facilities. Accusing the YSRCP of "blocking development", Naidu said nobody can block the coalition government's goal. He condemned the opposition's legal challenges against the 'Mega DSC (District Selection Committee)' examination, which recruited 16,000 teachers.

Ponnam Reviews Arrangements for Peaceful Ganesh Festivities in Hyderabad



Hyderabad: BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Tuesday convened a meeting with officials to review the arrangements to be made for the smooth conduct of Ganesh festival in Hyderabad from September 14. As the Ganesh festivities are scheduled to begin BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and other dignitaries participating in a meeting organized to review the arrangements to be made for the smooth conduct of Ganesh festival in Hyderabad from September 14, a preparatory meeting was held with officials of all departments, three municipal commissioners,

collectors, police officials, and the Bhagyanagar Ganesh Utsav Samithi (BGUS). Also Read - Bachupally Police File Cheating Case Against Priest, Wife Over Fraud Speaking to media persons, Prabhakar, who is also Hyderabad in-charge Minister, said the meeting was held to ensure that the festivity is celebrated in a peaceful manner. The administration was making all arrangements to ensure that the festivities are conducted collectively. "We requested the Bhagyanagar Ganesh Utsav Samithi to distribute saplings to devotees and use handloom scarves during the festivities," he said. Also

Read - Attapur Police Launch Nazar on Rowdy Sheetters Ahead of Ganesh Festival "We are requesting everyone to use clay Ganesha idols to protect the environment," he said. During Bonalu festivities, prayers were offered at all temples for good rains. The government is suggesting to the Utsav Samithi members that prayers be offered at Ganesh pandals for El Nino to subside to bring good rains. "We are celebrating the festivities while respecting the courts. People should voluntarily celebrate the festivities without restrictions," he added.1984012

13 Programmes to Mark Modi's 25 Years of Public Service



Hyderabad: Andhra Pradesh Minister Satya Kumar Yadav on Tuesday said 13 service-oriented programmes will be organised to commemorate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 25 years of public service, with activities scheduled from September 17. Speaking to reporters here, Yadav said the programmes would focus on taking the spirit of service to the people and furthering the vision of a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India)." September 17 marks the Prime Minister's birthday, and October 7 will mark the completion of 25 years since he first became the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Also Read - NDA Will Emerge

Unbeatable Whenever Polls Are Held In AP: Chandrababu To commemorate this 25-year journey of service by Modi, a wide range of service-oriented programs have been planned and organised," Yadav said. He said the BJP had previously organised a 15-day programme under the banner of 'Seva Pakhwada' (Fortnight of Service), but this year the campaign would comprise 13 distinct programmes. "Previously, we used to conduct a 15-day program known as 'Seva Pakhwada' (Fortnight of Service). However, this year, we are taking the spirit of service to the public through 13 distinct

programs, all driven by the resolve to realise the vision of a 'Viksit Bharat,'" he said. Also Read - Kakinada: Woman Alleges Forced Conversion, Harassment by Husband Yadav highlighted the proposed 'Aashirwad Deep' programme, under which party workers would meet beneficiaries of various Central and State government schemes, light a lamp with them, and take a pledge to realise the Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat," he said.

Telangana HC clears way for appeal against stay on Kalyana Lakshmi, Shaadi Mubarak

Hyderabad: Chief Justice Aparesk Kumar Singh and Justice G M Mohiuddin of the Telangana High Court on Monday overruled objections raised by the High Court Registry to the State government's appeal against a single judge's interim orders staying the implementation of the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak welfare schemes, and directed that a regular number be assigned to the appeal, clearing the way for it to be heard on Tuesday. The two schemes, introduced in 2014 through a series of Government Orders to provide financial assistance to unmarried women from the SC, ST and minority communities and later extended to the BC and EBC categories, came under challenge in a petition filed by advocate Vijay Gopal as a party in person, questioning the legal and legislative basis of eight of the GOs.



On August 12, a single judge had granted an interim stay on the implementation of the schemes after the State government failed to file its counter-affidavit. The government subsequently filed its counter, and while the matter remained pending before the single judge, who was not inclined to immediately vacate the stay, the State chose to appeal against the interim orders before a Division Bench. The Registry, however, declined to number the appeal, raising certain objections, which brought the matter before the Chief Justice's Bench on Monday. Advocate General A Sudarshan Reddy, appearing for the government, contended that the petition itself was not maintainable before a single judge, as the petitioner had neither

Telangana employees stage protests demanding scrapping of CPS and restoration of OPS

Hyderabad: Government employees, pensioners and others staged protests at the Secretariat and various places across the State on Tuesday, demanding that the Congress government abolish the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and reintroduce the Old Pension System (OPS). Sporting black badges and holding placards, the employees raised slogans against the government during their lunch break and observed the day as "Pension Betrayal Day". Their other key demands included constitution of the Pay Revision Commission (PRC), payment of six pending Dearness Allowance (DA) instalments and clearance of Rs 10,000 crore in pending bills.



The employees questioned why CPS was being imposed on government employees when MLAs, MPs and Ministers were not covered by the scheme. The Congress, in its election manifesto, had promised to abolish CPS and reintroduce OPS. It had also assured government employees that a new Pay Revision Committee would be constituted and its recommendations implemented within six months of coming to power. Responding to a call by the Telangana Employees, Officers, Teachers and Pensioners Joint Action Committee (TGEJAC), nearly 13 lakh employees, teachers and faculty members participated in the protests at government offices, schools and colleges across Telangana.

Hyderabad: Four AK-47 rifles, pistols among weapons missing from Bolarum Army premises

Hyderabad: A major security breach was reported at the Madras Regiment premises in the cantonment area in Bolarum, after service weapons were found missing from a secured storage room. The theft, suspected to have taken place on Sunday night, came to light when Army personnel inspected the weapons room and found its lock and door broken. Following this, a complaint was lodged with Bolarum police on Monday and a theft case was registered. The local police have maintained secrecy over several aspects of the investigation, citing the sensitive nature of the defence establishment. According to information available, the missing weapons include four AK-47 rifles, six pistols and an INSAS rifle, along with ammunition. It is reported that 12 weapons were missing, with authorities yet to disclose details. The weapons were kept in a restricted section of the



theft. Senior officers of the Malkajgiri Commissionerate are supervising the probe, while Army authorities are conducting a parallel internal inquiry. The CCTV footage from the regiment and adjoining areas is being scrutinised for suspicious movement. Investigators are also trying to determine how the firearms and ammunition were moved out of the high-security premises without immediately raising an alarm. The possibility of involvement of more than one person and Army investigators are now working to establish the exact sequence of service weapons from a heavily secured military establishment has raised serious security concerns. Police and Army investigators are now working to establish the exact sequence of events, identify those responsible and trace the missing firearms.

The Bolarum Police are examining entry and exit records and CCTV footage to establish who accessed the weapons room in the days preceding the theft. Officials are examining the possibility of insider involvement, as the restricted nature of the facility makes an unauthorised outsider entry difficult. Sources said police are also looking into whether personnel or others with legitimate access to the premises could have facilitated

the theft. Senior officers of the Malkajgiri Commissionerate are supervising the probe, while Army authorities are conducting a parallel internal inquiry. The CCTV footage from the regiment and adjoining areas is being scrutinised for suspicious movement. Investigators are also trying to determine how the firearms and ammunition were moved out of the high-security premises without immediately raising an alarm. The possibility of involvement of more than one person and Army investigators are now working to establish the exact sequence of service weapons from a heavily secured military establishment has raised serious security concerns. Police and Army investigators are now working to establish the exact sequence of events, identify those responsible and trace the missing firearms.

BRS regains ground as Congress completes 1,000 days in office: Chanakya Strategies survey

Hyderabad: The BRS appears to be regaining ground in Telangana, with a recent Chanakya Strategies survey indicating growing public preference for the party as the Congress government completes 1,000 days in office. In the next Assembly elections, around 40.7 per cent of voters said they would vote for the BRS, while 37.1 per cent would vote for the ruling Congress. The BJP has been confined to third spot with just 14.1 per cent of voters, while others enjoyed a mere 8.1 per cent vote share. According to the survey, 53 per cent of respondents preferred the 10-year BRS rule, against 36 per cent who favoured the present Congress government. Among Gen-Z voters, 50 per cent reportedly preferred a return of the BRS. The survey was conducted across Telangana over two months to assess political and public sentiment, ahead of the Congress government's 1,000-day rule. The survey, which was released by Chanakya Strategies representatives on Tuesday, found that the BRS graph had improved compared with the 2023 Assembly elections, when Congress secured power



with only about a one per cent vote-share advantage, according to the claims cited by the party. It also indicated that anti-incumbency against Congress had not fully translated into support for the BRS, with Gen-Z voters remaining undecided and looking for an alternative. The survey identified unfulfilled promises, unemployment, farmers' concerns over Rythu Bharosa and Rythu Bima, and dissatisfaction among women over promised financial assistance and other benefits as key sources of discontent with the government. Chanakya Strategies attributed its 2023 defeat

of the BRS partly to the failure to replace some sitting MLAs facing local anti-incumbency. It argued that replacing such candidates could help consolidate Gen-Z and floating voters behind the party. The survey also suggested a decline in the BJP's support, particularly in the Greater Hyderabad region, while the BRS was projected to make substantial gains in the forthcoming municipal elections by clinching Cyberabad and Malkajgiri Municipal Corporations with a comfortable majority. The Congress is likely to win the GHMC elections with the support of AIMIM. It further pre-

dicted BRS victories in the Khammam, Nalgonda and Warangal Graduates' MLC elections, with Anugula Rakesh Reddy tipped to win from Warangal. The survey indicated that the Congress still retained support among BPL voters and cited free bus travel for women as a factor. The survey also suggested a decline in the BJP's support, particularly in the Greater Hyderabad region, while the BRS was projected to make substantial gains in the forthcoming municipal elections by clinching Cyberabad and Malkajgiri Municipal Corporations with a comfortable majority. The Congress is likely to win the GHMC elections with the support of AIMIM. It further pre-

Telangana police attacked while arresting theft accused in Maharashtra's Nanded

Nanded: A theft accused was recaptured on Monday, a day after a mob attacked a Telangana Police team and freed him in Maharashtra's Nanded district, leading to police firing in the air, an official said. According to the complaint lodged by sub-inspector Ramesh Parshuram Gokla of Bazar Hatnur Police Station in Adilabad district, the incident took place around 7.30 pm on Sunday near Gokulnagar



in Kinwat tehsil of Nanded. An autorickshaw stolen from the

jurisdiction of Bazar Hatnur Police Station was traced to the Chikhli area. The Telangana Police team detained Shaikh Bakr alias Jafar Shaikh in the case. As he was handcuffed and being taken away in a private vehicle, a large crowd of men and women gathered at the spot and surrounded it. The mob allegedly

attacked the police personnel, vandalised the vehicle and freed the accused. As the situation became serious, the Telangana Police personnel fired several rounds in the air to disperse the crowd. After an extensive search operation, police arrested Shaikh Bakr again on Monday afternoon. Police are now investigating the alleged role of the other accused and the 50-60 people named in the complaint.

Fake currency with Rs 7.40 crore face value unearthed at PNB branch in Saharanpur

Saharanpur: Counterfeit banknotes with around Rs 7.40 crore face value were unearthed at a Punjab National Bank (PNB) currency chest in Saharanpur, police said on Tuesday. Three bank officials and a housekeeper were booked in connection with the finding at the Sadar Bazar Police Station on Monday. PNB senior chief manager (circle) Nisha Singh told PTI that the bank has suspended senior divisional manager Ravi Kumar Kase, and currency chest managers Sushil Sharma and Amit Kumar. The three were named in a complaint lodged by the bank's nodal officer Arun Kumar Chaubey. Saharanpur Senior Superintendent of Police Abhinandan Singh said a senior police official had informed police that the bank's audit team had detected around Rs 7.40



crore worth of "low-quality and suspicious currency" during verification of cash at the chest. "The counting and reconciliation process is still underway by the bank's audit team. The exact amount involved will become clear after the bank provides the final figures," the SSP said. According to officials, the matter came to

light after a shortage of Rs 4.3 lakh was detected while cash sent from the chest to the bank's headquarters was being counted. The shortage was initially reported to the PNB's Meerut branch, following which Chaubey was sent to Saharanpur to conduct an enquiry. As part of the internal probe, CCTV footage from the currency

chest was examined and a part-time housekeeper, Vishal Kumar, was allegedly seen removing money from bundles of currency notes. Vishal Kumar was booked for theft in a separate case. The bank launched a chest audit, which revealed several irregularities and fake currency with a face value of about Rs 7.40 crore.

Three Labourers Killed As Tunnel Of Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Collapses

Chamoli: At least three labourers were killed after a tunnel belonging to the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) collapsed on Thursday at Pipalkoti in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand. The incident has been confirmed by Chamoli District Collector Gaurav Kumar. So far, 18 people have been safely rescued from the tunnel while the rescue operation is underway. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that the teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and Uttarakhand State Disaster Response Force have rushed to the spot. He also said that his government's top priority is the safe evacuation of each and every person who has been trapped



inside the tunnel. In a post on X, Dhami said, "Reports have been received regarding the ingress of debris and water into the THDC tunnel at Pipalkoti. Given the seri-

ousness of Three Labourers Killed As Tunnel Of Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Collapses In Uttarakhand the situation, teams from @NDRFHQ and @uksdrf

have been immediately dispatched to the site. Instructions have been issued to the district administration and all concerned agencies to carry out relief and rescue oper-

ations on a war footing." Three Labourers Killed As Tunnel Of Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Collapses In Uttarakhand ously monitoring the situation. Our top priority is to safely evacuate every person trapped inside the tunnel. "I pray to the Almighty for everyone's safety," added Dhami. Dhami spoke to Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai and appraised the duo about the situation. Labourers from both Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are among those trapped in the tunnel. Dhami also spoke with the labourers who have been rescued and are undergoing treatment at the hospital.

Supreme Court Collegium Recommends Justice Sanjay Agrawal As Chief Justice Of Rajasthan HC Amid Acting CJ Row



New Delhi: Amid a row over Acting Chief Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma, the Supreme Court Collegium on Monday recommended the appointment of Chhattisgarh High Court judge Justice Sanjay K. Agrawal as Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court. The apex court collegium also recommended Justice Almesh Yeshvant Kogje of the Gujarat High Court for appointment as the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court and Justice Dr Pushpendra Singh Bhati of the Rajasthan High Court for elevation as Chief Justice of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court. Separately, the top court Collegium also recommended Justice Krushna Ram Mohapatra of the Orissa High Court as Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court, following the retirement of the incumbent Chief Justice on September 4, 2026. The Centre

will now process the Supreme Court Collegium's recommendations in accordance with the existing memorandum of procedure governing the appointment and transfer of High Court judges. The Supreme Court Collegium said it had recommended the transfer of Justice Sanjay K. Agrawal from the Chhattisgarh High Court to the Rajasthan High Court. "The Supreme Court Collegium, in its meeting held on 31st August 2026, has recommended the transfer of Mr Justice Sanjay K. Agrawal, Judge, High Court of Chhattisgarh, to the Rajasthan High Court," read a statement from the Collegium. The recommendation for a regular Chief Justice for the Rajasthan High Court comes days after CJI Surya Kant said he had taken note of concerns raised by Supreme Court judge Justice Sandeep Mehta regarding the functioning of the Rajasthan High

Court. Justice Mehta, who was elevated to the Supreme Court from the Rajasthan High Court, had, in three letters dated August 2, August 10 and August 17, urged the CJI and the Supreme Court Collegium to appoint a regular Chief Justice from another High Court to head the Rajasthan High Court. He had also raised allegations against Acting Chief Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma, including alleged misuse of administrative powers, manipulation of case listings and favouritism towards certain lawyers and parties. CJI Kant stressed that allegations against a sitting judge must be dealt with strictly through established institutional mechanisms and cannot be adjudicated in the public domain. "The fact that allegations have been made, therefore, cannot by itself be treated as a finding against the judge," the CJI had said.

SCO Summit 2026 Live Updates: PM Modi To Address Summit In Bishkek Today; Meets Xi Jinping Upon Arrival

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived at Bishkek's Yrys Ordo Congress Hall on Tuesday to attend the 26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit, which brings together leaders of the 10-member grouping, partner countries, and observers to discuss regional and global issues. He will address the summit later today. Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin are also attending the summit, hosted by Kyrgyzstan President Sadyr Japarov, who is chairing the gathering. Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Tajik President Emomali Rahmon are among the other leaders present. The summit is also being held in an expanded "SCO Plus" format, with leaders from more than a dozen associated countries

attending. Turkish address the summit and is



President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, Mongolian President Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh, Lao President Thongloun Sisoulith and Togolese President Faure Gnassingbe are among those participating. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has also arrived for the summit. India has been a full member of the SCO since 2017. Modi is scheduled to

expected to highlight India's priorities of security, connectivity and opportunity, while stressing the need for a region free from terrorism, separatism and extremism. The 26th SCO Leadership Summit brings together 10 member states, 15 partner countries and two observer countries. The grouping represents about 25 per cent of global GDP and focuses on strengthening mutual trust, regional peace and stability, economic cooperation and

social and cultural development. Modi is also expected to hold bilateral meetings with several SCO leaders on the sidelines, including Kyrgyz President Japarov and Putin. Earlier on Monday, Modi and other SCO leaders attended the opening ceremony of the 6th World Nomad Games in Bishkek. He also greeted the 87-member Indian contingent, comprising 73 athletes, 10 cultural representatives and four participants in the scientific programme. The games feature 43 sporting disciplines showcasing traditional sports and the cultural heritage of nomadic civilisations. In his address to the 26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will emphasise India's commitment to security, connectivity and opportunity. He is expected to reiterate India's firm stand against double standards in combating terrorism, separatism and extremism. PM Modi will also advocate

for enhanced connectivity among member nations, stressing that such projects must respect sovereignty and territorial integrity. He will also underscore the importance of creating opportunities for youth and fostering a vibrant startup ecosystem, believing that young people's innovation and entrepreneurship can drive regional progress and cooperation. nces In Bishkek As Leaders Hold Roundtable Talks Heads of state from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) convened at Bishkek's Yrys Ordo Congress Hall for the 26th SCO Summit. The summit features a roundtable discussion chaired by Kyrgyzstan President Sadyr Japarov, bringing together leaders from 10 member states, 15 partner countries and two observer nations. India, a full SCO member since 2017, is expected to emphasise security, connectivity and opportunity in the expanded 'SCO Plus' format.

'Don't Shake Up The System': IAF Chief Backs Theaterisation, But Urges Step-wise Transition For 'Minimal Disruption'

New Delhi: Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal A P Singh has said that the Indian Air Force (IAF) is not against theaterisation, though he insists on having an objective approach for any new initiative that should ensure minimal disruption to the existing structures. The Air Chief Marshal called for not "shaking up" the existing system and batted for looking internally to further enhance India's military prowess rather than copying anything from another country. He made the remarks during his address at an event in Kanpur on Saturday. The government had announced the theaterisation plan in 2019 to ensure greater synergy among the three services. However, no visible forward movement has been made towards it. IAF Chief Backs Theaterisation, But Urges Step-wise Transition For 'Minimal Disruption'



(ANI) Under the theaterisation model, the government seeks to integrate the capabilities of the army, air force and navy and optimally utilise their resources for wars and operations. "I can assure my own people here that the Air Force is not against theaterisation the way the media puts it," he said. "What the Air Force

has been insisting is that let us look at it objectively. Let us look at what it is that is ailing us, what are the things that are not correct, and we need to correct that and not something that we may pick up from somewhere else," he said. Air Chief Marshal Singh underlined the need to have a structure based on India's requirements. "So let's not just pick up

something and use. Let us look at it objectively. Let us go about it in a step-wise manner so that there is minimal disruption and we don't shake up the system, especially at this time when we have made it very clear that Operation Sindoor is still alive. "We need to be prepared that way," he said. The Chief of Air Staff said the Air Headquarters has also

been looking at the issue. "I'm sure the government will take the right decision based on all inputs that are given to the government," he said. As per the theaterisation plan, each of the theatre commands will have units of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force and all of them will work as a single entity looking after security challenges in a specified geographical territory. At present, the Army, Navy and the Air Force have separate commands. The Air Chief Marshal also strongly backed the government's initiative to reduce dependence on imports of military hardware and said the Indian private sector can join hands with foreign manufacturers to boost production. He talked about the option as Indian entities at times may not be able to bring out everything in time because they also have their hands full.

Oman Examining Ransom-Call Claims In Missing Indian Merchant Navy Captain Case: Centre Tells SC



New Delhi:

The Centre on Monday told the Supreme Court that authorities in Muscat are examining claims that the family of Indian merchant navy captain Ashish Kumar received ransom calls following his disappearance after a drone or missile attack on a vessel in the Strait of Hormuz. A bench comprising Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana was told by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, that DNA profiling of severely burnt mortal remains, believed to be those of Kumar and recovered from the merchant vessel, could not be carried out by the Muscat authorities. The development came during the hearing of a petition filed by Kumar's wife, Anshu Kumari, who

has said that the captain could still be alive due to the failure to obtain a conclusive DNA match and the alleged ransom calls received by the family. The law officer told the bench that the authorities had been informed about the family's concerns, including claims relating to Kumar's mobile the bench that the bones which were recovered were so burnt that they could not be analysed for DNA matching purposes," the Solicitor General said. He added that the father bench that the family had raised another concern regarding the captain's mobile phone, which was allegedly found and at times appeared to show activity, while its display picture was also changed. "Our Embassy in Muscat has reported this fact to their coun-

terpart," Mehta told the bench. According to Kumar's wife, the family received multiple ransom calls in March in which a demand of Rs 20 lakh was allegedly made. The Solicitor General said that, in view of the suspicious ransom calls and the inconclusive DNA examination, the family had sought intensive efforts to trace Kumar, track the mobile phones and investigate records connected with the matter. He told the court that the Muscat authorities had communicated that they were examining the matter and were taking steps within their capacity. After hearing the submissions, the Chief Justice asked the counsel for the petitioner to obtain a copy of the report submitted by the Solicitor General and posted the matter for further hearing on Monday.

SC Collegium Recommends Elevation Of Justice Sanjay K Agrawal As Rajasthan High Court Chief Justice

New Delhi:

The Supreme Court Collegium on Monday recommended the appointment of Justice Sanjay K Agrawal of the Chhattisgarh High Court as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court. The collegium led by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said in a statement: "The Supreme Court Collegium, in its meeting held on August 31, 2026, has recommended the elevation of judges as Chief Justices of the high courts...."

The collegium recommended the elevation of Justice Sanjay K Agrawal as Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court; Justice Alpesh Yeshvant Kogje as Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court; and Justice Dr. Pushpendra Singh Bhati as Chief Justice of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court.

Justice Agrawal present High Court is Chhattisgarh, Justice Kogje present High



Court is Gujarat, and Justice Bhati present High Court is Rajasthan. Justice Agrawal elevation assumes significance against the backdrop of the controversy surrounding the present acting Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma. On August 26, Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said he has already taken note of the concerns raised in letters by Justice Sandeep Mehta, who alleged that acting Chief Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma of misusing administrative

authority and urged the appointment of a Chief Justice from outside Rajasthan. The CJI underscored that allegations against a sitting judge must be addressed strictly through the established institutional mechanism.

The CJI said that he and the other members of the collegium are already working on the appointment of chief justices in the remaining high courts. "He has already taken note of the concerns raised in the letters written by Justice Sandeep Mehta, while stressing that allegations

against a sitting judge must be dealt with strictly through the established institutional mechanism", said a press statement. The CJI maintained that the contents of the letters cannot be adjudicated in the public domain and that the concerned judge must be given a fair opportunity to place his response before any conclusion is reached. "The fact that allegations have been made, therefore, cannot by itself be treated as a finding against the judge", said the statement. The matter, he added, is being examined at the appropriate level, and the process will take into account the material placed by Justice Mehta as well as Justice Sharma's response. "Any decision regarding the continuation, transfer or other administrative action concerning the acting Chief Justice would be taken by the competent institutional authority after due consideration

2020 Delhi Riots: Court Acquits 12 In Mursaleen Murder Case, Says Mere Mob Membership Cannot Establish Criminal Liability

New Delhi: The Karkardooma Court here has acquitted 12 accused persons in a case involving the murder of a person during the 2020 North-East Delhi riots, observing that criminal liability cannot be fixed on an individual merely because s/he was a member of an unlawful assembly. Additional Sessions Judge Praveen Singh passed the order acquitting Lokesh Solanki, Pankaj Sharma, Ankant Chaudhary, Prince, Jatin Sharma, Himanshu Thakur, Vivek Panchal, Rishabh Chaudhary, Sumit Chaudhary, Tinku Arora, Sandeep and Sahil, all of whom were accused in the murder of one Mursaleen during the riots. The court said the prosecution failed to present sufficient evidence to establish the accused persons' involvement in the alleged offences. It said the prosecution was

required to prove the specific acts allegedly committed by each accused and could not rely merely on their alleged membership of a mob.

In an order dated August 25, the court observed that it is an individual's own act, while being part of an unlawful assembly, such as being armed with a deadly weapon, that constitutes an offence under Section 144 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Mere membership of an unlawful assembly, by itself, cannot result in such criminal liability, the court said, reiterating that merely being seen with a mob cannot establish that the accused continued to be part of the group that allegedly vandalised, looted and set fire to a house.

The prosecution's principal witness, Divesh Rajpoot, who was presented as an eyewitness



in Mursaleen's murder, had allegedly named several accused persons. However, he turned hostile during the trial. Despite extensive cross-examination, the court found that nothing emerged from his testimony linking the accused either to the unlawful assembly or to the murder. The court also noted that another witness, Nisar Ahmed, did not attribute any overt act to the accused when they were allegedly part of the mob.

The court further rejected the prosecution's reliance on a police wit-

ness who could not identify the persons in the mob. It observed that merely hearing the names of accused persons being shouted does not amount to identification. The court said it cannot be presumed that the accused continued to be part of the same mob merely because a witness had seen a mob at Johripur Pulia and later alleged that the same mob was responsible for vandalism, looting and arson at his house.

The case relates to the killing of Mursaleen, whose body was found

NCLT Forms Historic 5-Member Bench To Decide On Subhash Chandra's Rs 6.5 Cr Repayment Plan



New Delhi: The Insolvency tribunal NCLT on Monday formed a five-member bench to decide on media baron Subhash Chandra's repayment plan in a personal insolvency case involving claims of more than Rs 22,000 crore after a division bench failed to reach a majority verdict. The division bench had referred the personal insolvency case against the Essel Group Chairman to the tribunal's president for fresh adjudication after failing to reach majority consensus on a proposed Rs 6.5 crore repayment plan despite referring the matter to a third judge. The five-member bench, formed for the first time in the NCLT's history, will be led by President Justice Anupinder Singh Grewal. The other members are Bachu Venkat Balaram Das, Mahendra Khandelwal, Atul Chaturvedi and Ravindra Chaturvedi. The bench will start hearing at 10:15 am on Tuesday in the Principal Bench of NCLT.

Earlier, the matter had been referred to the Third member, as the two-member division bench of Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj (Member Judicial), and Reena Sinha Puri (Member Technical), gave a split verdict on the repayment plan. The third member's order dated August 26, backing the Rs 6.5 crore

repayment plan, was sent back to the original division bench for a formal order in line with the majority opinion, as required under Section 419 (5) of the Companies Act, 2013. However, the division bench of Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj and Reena Sinha Puri on Monday said no majority view has emerged despite reconsidering the matter, following a differing opinion from a Third Member of the tribunal, and referred the matter back to the NCLT President. The bench said the "Third Member consciously passed an independent order. Thus, no majority view emerges" and hence "no order can be passed at this stage". "While Member (Technical) rejected the plan, the Member (Judicial) confined the plan to those who accepted and approved it and accorded liberty to dissenting creditors to recover their debt. He did not extinguish the claim of banks/financial institutions/dissenting creditors qua principal debtor/debtor/PG. The Third Member approved the plan but extinguished the right of all the creditors by applying Section 115(1) of the Code uniformly," it said. Earlier in the day, in a precautionary move, dissenting lenders of Subhash Chandra moved before the insolvency

appellate tribunal NCLAT, on the basis of the order/opinion by the third member who approved a Rs 6.5 crore payment by the Essel Group chairman over creditor claims of about Rs 22,006.57 crore in his personal insolvency resolution process.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for LIC Housing Finance, mentioned it in the morning before an NCLAT bench, comprising Officiating Chairperson Justice Yogesh Khanna, and sought an urgent hearing in the second half of the day. Mehta, who also represented Canara Bank and Union Bank, said that if the order is allowed to continue, it will "defeat the very purpose of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code" and requested that the bench hear it at 2 PM.

However, the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) agreed to list the matter for hearing on Tuesday at 10.30 AM.

The dispute has arisen over the interpretation of Section 79(2)(g) of the IBC and its interplay with the procedural provisions of Section 115(1), which deals with approval of a repayment plan by creditors.

In the original order, Bhardwaj had confined the approval of the repayment plan only to creditors who voted in its favour — about 80.8

per cent of creditors -- while granting liberty to dissenting financial institutions and banks, comprising roughly 19.2 per cent, to independently pursue debt recovery against Chandra outside the plan. However, the Third Member of the tribunal, in an independent order, took a different view, applying Section 115(1) uniformly to all creditors. This approved the plan but extinguished the claims of all creditors, including dissenting banks and financial institutions, against the personal guarantor. The bench noted the Third Member also disagreed with both members on the scope of the Adjudicating Authority's jurisdiction to question the Section 112 report submitted by the Resolution Professional on creditors' meetings. Sharma rejected the claims of the dissenting creditors led by LIC Housing Finance, which had argued that the payout was "unviable and unlawful".

It had contended that against admitted claims of approximately Rs 22,006.57 crore, the repayment plan proposed the payment of only Rs 6.25 crore to creditors and Rs 25 lakhs towards process costs. Sharma, in its 144-page-long order, said the resolution professional's valuation showed Chandra's personal estate was worth signifi-

Defence PSU Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Plans To Set Up Manufacturing Unit In Andhra Pradesh

Amaravati: A key defense sector entity Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) has come forward to establish a manufacturing unit in Andhra Pradesh.

The MDL has expressed its readiness to develop the proposed shipbuilding cluster at Dugarajapatnam with representatives from the company recently discussing the proposal with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu.

According to official estimates, the MDL—a "Navratna" company—could invest approximately ₹26,000 crore in developing the shipbuilding cluster. For the facility, the state government is also considering entering into an agreement with MDL for the construction of the Dugarajapatnam shipyard. Officials have said that during discussions with the Andhra Chief Minister, the company proposed a 30% subsidy on capital investment, and the state government is currently



"considering the quantum of the subsidy" that could be sanctioned. While the Centre will bear the cost of the common infrastructure required for the development of the port at Dugarajapatnam, the state government will provide the land for the development of the shipbuilding cluster. Officials said the AP Maritime Board has initiated action to acquire 2,200 acres of land for the construction of a port and a shipyard, while the

government has decided to allocate 1,000 acres for the shipyard and 1,350 acres for ancillary industries.

The AP Maritime Board and the Visakhapatnam Port Authority will oversee the development of the Dugarajapatnam port and the shipbuilding cluster.

For the project, the government has issued an Expression of Interest (EOI) to appoint a technical consultant for preparing a Detailed Project Report (DPR)

regarding the development of the Dugarajapatnam Port and the shipbuilding and ship repair cluster.

According to officials, proposals will be evaluated on August 24, and a firm will be selected to prepare the DPR. "The selected firm will prepare estimates for the necessary infrastructure work, as well as a master plan that includes the shipyard layout for the port and shipbuilding cluster," officials said.

Delhi HC Refuses To Interfere In Woman's Decision To Stay At Ashram Of Spiritual Guru

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court refused to interfere with a woman's decision to stay at the ashram of so-called spiritual guru Virendra Dev Dixit. A bench headed by Chief Justice DK Upadhyay stated the court cannot force an adult to do anything against his/her will. The woman's parents had filed a petition in the High Court stating that their daughter was in poor health and that her condition could worsen at the ashram. The petition stated that the women at the ashram had mentioned the disappearance of an inmate. However, during the hearing, the woman told the court that she was interested in spirituality and had been living at the "Adhyatmik Vishwavidyalaya" ashram of her own free will since 2015. Her parents alleged in the petition that those



living at the ashram in Rohini were being given drugs and had demanded their daughter's removal from the ashram. The High Court stated that the Constitution grants an adult the freedom to travel and move freely. The counsel appearing for the woman's parents argued that the inmates at the ashram were severely brainwashed and indoctrinated. However, the court said there was no inmate

statement to back the claim. "What can be done about it? There is no such statement by the inmate. She states that she is living there on her own will and is highly educated," the Chief Justice said. However, the Court took note of other irregularities as alleged by some people, at the ashram and said it will consider them on September 23, the next date of hearing. The state informed the Court

that the ashram is situated in an unauthorised colony and has no sanctioned plan. It was also highlighted that the electricity connection for the ashram has been taken under different names. The Court also noted that there was no clarity on who was running the ashram at present, and the source of funds used for its functioning. "Something that bothers us is the way it is running. Because it is not run by

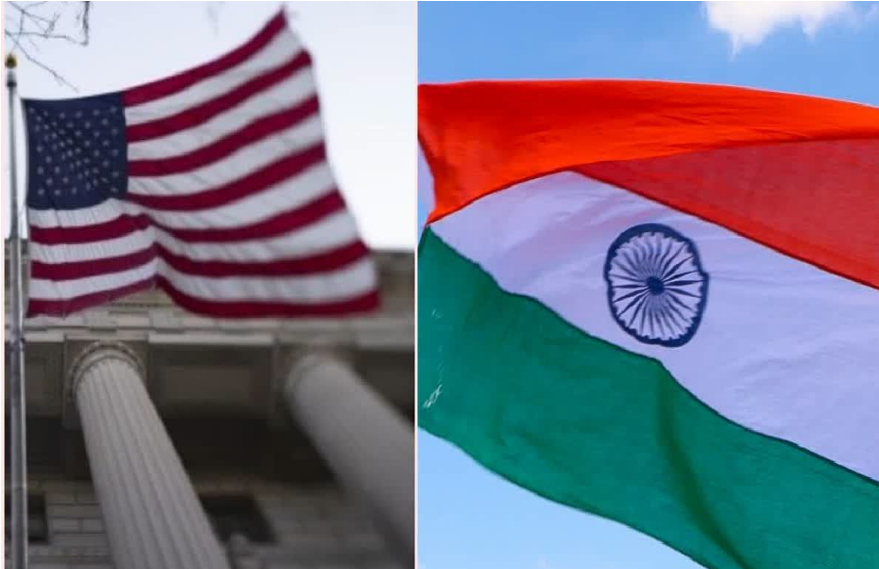
US Revokes Citizenship Of Indian-Origin Man Convicted Of Rape

New York: The US has revoked the citizenship of an Indian-origin man, who was convicted of rape. The US District Court for the Eastern District of New York entered judgment revoking the naturalisation of convicted rapist Gureet Singh.

A native of India, Singh entered the United States in February 1992 as a visitor for a temporary period not to exceed six months. He then remained in the US without authorisation for years until a family-based immigrant visa petition allowed him to become a permanent resident in June 2000.

Department's Civil Division said Singh unlawfully obtained the privileges of US citizenship by concealing horrible criminal acts. "The court's judgment, which requires the defendant to surrender his wrongfully obtained citizenship, sends a strong message to those who obtain citizenship through deceit, and demonstrates the administration's resolve to pursue denaturalisation proceedings in all cases permitted by law and supported by the evidence," said US Attorney Joseph

Blanche added that American citizenship is not a shield for criminals. "Fraudulently obtained citizenship will not protect criminals from justice," he said. Assistant Attorney General Brett Shumate of the Justice



Nocella Jr for the Eastern District of New York. In May 2011 — mere weeks before he filed his application to naturalise as a US citizen — Singh, a taxicab driver at the time, drove a female passenger who fell asleep during her ride home. When the passenger awoke, she found Singh on top of her with a knife against her throat. He threatened her, bound and gagged her, blindfolded her, removed her clothes, and raped her. Afterwards, the victim escaped from the cab

and ran to someone in the streets at dawn for help. Singh concealed these acts throughout his naturalisation proceedings, leading to his becoming a US citizen in October 2011. After naturalising, Singh was convicted in New York of rape in the First Degree and Kidnapping in the Second Degree as a Sexually Motivated Felony and sentenced to 20 years in prison. The August 26 order revoking Singh's naturalisation follows an earlier complaint of the Justice Department

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Trump Has Asked Apple To Change Lake Ontario Name To 'Lake America' On Its Maps, Interior Chief Says

Chicago: U.S. President Donald Trump has asked Apple to change the name of Lake Ontario to "Lake America" on its maps app, his administration's interior chief said Monday, days after signing an executive order over the body of water now in the spotlight amid his escalating trade war with Canada. Interior Secretary Doug Burgum told Fox's "Mornings with Maria" program that Trump "reached out to Apple directly." He said he was confident the "Lake America" name could be seen on its platform soon. Apple did not immediately comment in response. Only the Lake Ontario name appeared on its platform as of Monday afternoon. Just over the weekend, competitor Google Maps rolled out the new "Lake America" name for U.S. users looking at the body of water that sits between the state of New York and Canada's Ontario province. The company cited the recent order by Trump, and its



already-established practice of using names assigned by the U.S. Geographic Names Information System, also known as GNIS. "People using Maps in the U.S. will see 'Lake America,' those in Canada will continue to see 'Lake Ontario,' and those outside of the U.S. and Canada will see both names," Google said in a brief statement on Saturday, reiterating that such updates "follow our long-standing policy for bodies of water with names that vary from

country to country." Trump declared the new "Lake America" name last week — marking one of the latest provocations during his trade war with Canada that is now hiking tariffs on both sides of the border. His executive order on Friday directed the Interior Department to update the lake's name in the U.S. geographic naming service. The president cannot force Canada to follow along, however. And America's northern

neighbors quickly panned the idea. The leader of the Seneca Nation in upstate New York also said the move violates a more than 225-year-old treaty and shows a "blatant disrespect" for the Indigenous people who gave Lake Ontario its name in the first place. This isn't the first time Trump has moved to rename water spanning beyond U.S. borders. Last year, Trump ordered that the Gulf of Mexico be renamed the Gulf of America — and

Move From 'Endless War To End Of War': PM Modi To Russian President Putin During SCO Summit



New Delhi: Calling for an immediate end to the Ukraine conflict, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday urged Russian President Vladimir Putin to move from "endless war to the end of war," asserting that a peaceful resolution of the conflict is humanity's shared priority. In a meeting with Putin on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in the capital city of Kyrgyzstan, Modi said every day of war sets humanity back and that India, the land of Gandhi and Buddha, supports all efforts towards peace and will continue to do so. The two leaders also discussed ongoing cooperation in trade, investment, energy, fertiliser and security, among others. "We have been discussing the Ukraine issue. When we met previously, you briefed me in detail on all aspects of the matter. As you know, India supports all efforts towards peace and will continue to do so," Modi said in his televised opening remarks at the meeting. "Every day of war sets humanity back, whereas every step taken towards peace fills humanity with new hope and enthusiasm. We must move away from endless war towards an end to the war," he said. "This is crucial for the well-being of humanity. A peaceful resolution to all issues at the earliest is the call of

humanity, and this is India's message. The land of Gandhi and Buddha shares a single message: the path of peace," Modi said. India has been under pressure from the US to scale back its engagement with Russia even as Washington seeks to put pressure on Putin to move forward with a resolution to the Ukraine war. As a result, India, as part of its policy of strategic autonomy, has sought to balance ties with the US and Russia. Explaining what PM Modi meant by his statement on an "end to war", Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri at a press briefing said, "PM Modi reiterated to President Putin that India is ready to do whatever is feasible, is necessary at our end to move this conflict towards a conclusion because it is exacting a heavy toll on the global community at large." Misri said that the two leaders had discussed Ukraine "in detail". The talks also came over a week before Putin travels to India to attend the annual BRICS summit. Putin, on his part, said Russia-India relations have witnessed an upswing, and thanked Modi for paying "personal attention to the development of Russian-Indian relations." Ties between the two countries have remained strong even as India has emerged as the second-largest buyer of Russian oil after China. Trade was worth

US\$60 billion in 2025-2026, largely due to India's purchases of Russian oil. The SCO became a venue for bilateral meetings ahead of the leaders' summit and is being closely watched by the US and other Western countries. The West often perceives the SCO as an anti-West grouping. China is willing to work with Russia and other countries to "strengthen the forces leading the reform of global governance and advancing an equal and orderly multipolar world", Xi said. Putin said Russia is willing to creThe two countries have a temporary visa-free travel agreement for short-term visits of up to 30 "We are ready to work together to make the visa-frpswing, and thanked Modi for paying "personal attention to the development of Russian-Indian relations." Ties between the two countries have remained strong even as India has emerged as the second-largest buyer of Russian oil after China. Trade was worth ee regime permanent if the Chinese side considers this possible and useful," Putin told Xi, according to Russia's TASS news agency.

Washington: Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna, a 2028 US Presidential aspirant, on Saturday said he was detained by gun-wielding Israeli settlers while on a visit to Palestine. Khanna, a Democrat from California, was visiting on Wednesday the ruins of Khirbet Zanuta, a Bedouin village in the southern West Bank that was abandoned after attacks from Israeli settlers when the incident took place. "Israeli settlers, brandishing American-made M4s, detained me and other Americans on my trip to Palestine. When the IDF (Israeli Defence Forces) arrived, they sided with the settlers and continued our detention. They made a huge



mistake," Khanna said in a post on X. Khanna's experience was reported by a photographer of The New York Times, who was accompanying the Congressman. "I felt powerless in that situation, which is not an easy thing, as I have a lot of privilege in life," the New York Times quoted Khanna as saying.

The report said Khanna was eventually allowed to continue his journey after calls to the US embassy and Israeli police. "Imagine how people feel every day, Palestinians under the occupation, if they could make an American congressperson feel powerless for 90 minutes," Khanna said. US politi-

cians — Democrats and Republicans alike — have been visiting the West Bank from time to time since the October 7, 2023, attack on Israel by Hamas started a war in the region. Republican Mike Johnson, the House Speaker, and Democrats Chris Van Hollen and Jeff Merkley visited the region last year. Former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel is also on a visit to Israel. Emanuel, who briefly served as the White House Chief of Staff during President Barack Obama's tenure, is also considered a presidential aspirant.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri Seeks Lanka's Cooperation For Early Release Of Indian

Colombo: India on Wednesday urged Sri Lanka to cooperate in the early release of Indian fishermen and their boats detained by its authorities, while reiterating that a humanitarian approach should guide the handling of the long-pending issue.

The matter figured prominently during Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri's discussions with the Sri Lankan leadership during his official visit to Colombo, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Misri arrived in Colombo for a day-long visit. It was his first stand-alone visit to Sri Lanka as Foreign Secretary. He held separate meetings with President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, Prime Minister Harini Amarasinghe, Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath and Foreign Secretary Aruni Ranaraja. During the talks, Misri discussed issues about fish-



ermen and requested Sri Lanka's cooperation for the early release of fishermen and boats detained in the island nation, the MEA statement said. "He also requested that even as bilateral mechanisms continue to work towards finding a resolution of the various issues, a humanitarian approach keeping in view the livelihood requirements of fishermen should continue to guide our approach," it

said. The fishermen issue is a contentious one in the ties between India and Sri Lanka, with Lankan Navy personnel even firing at Indian fishermen in the Palk Strait and seizing their boats in several alleged incidents of illegally entering Sri Lankan territorial waters. The Palk Strait, a narrow strip of water separating Tamil Nadu from Sri Lanka, is a rich fishing ground for fishermen from both countries.

Fishermen from both countries are arrested frequently for inadvertently trespassing into each other's waters. In the last week of July, the Sri Lankan navy arrested nine Indian fishermen and seized their trawler for allegedly poaching in the island data, this year, as of April 15, 128 Indian fishermen were arrested, with 18 trawlers being seized by the Sri Lankan Navy for alleged poaching.

Beyond the coding boom—the silent evolution of technology and entry-level work



Every year, thousands of young graduates flood the bustling tech corridors, clutching degrees long viewed as a definitive passport to economic security. For decades, the unwritten contract of the corporate and IT sectors was simple: you started at the bottom, handled the tedious “grunt work”, sorting databases, drafting basic reports, testing standard lines of code, or writing repetitive summaries, and gradually worked your way up the ladder. It was an essential corporate apprenticeship in which professionals made low-stakes mistakes and gradually learned the nuances of their industry.

Also Read
Opinion: Fear of being replaced — Navigating value in an AI-driven workplace
Opinion: Automation and future of work
 Today, however, that traditional career ladder is facing a profound structural disruption. The bottom rungs are missing, and the entry-level white-collar job is rapidly transforming or, in some cases, evaporating entirely.

Beyond Prompt

Until recently, public anxiety surrounding artificial intelligence was largely focused on basic generative tools. We marvelled at chatbots that could write a quick email, answer simple queries, or draft a generic marketing paragraph on command. These tools still required a human operator to constantly sit at the screen, type in specific prompts, and piece the outputs together. AI was treated merely as an efficient digital assistant.

But the technological landscape has moved far beyond simple prompt-and-response mechanisms. We have entered the era of autonomous ‘Agentic AI.’ These are independent software systems capable of executing complex, multi-step workflows entirely on their own.

Instead of asking a system to write a single email, companies can now assign an AI agent a broad, complex objective, such as auditing a logistics budget, running a localised marketing campaign, or writing an entire software patch. The agent works inde-

pendently for hours, diagnoses its own bugs, refines its methods, and delivers a completed project without human intervention.

Immediate Casualty

The immediate casualty of this operational shift is the traditional entry-level white-collar worker. From a purely corporate standpoint, the mathematics are stark. Why hire a team of junior analysts to spend 40 hours compiling and processing market data when an autonomous digital agent can complete the task in 40 seconds for pennies? The machine wins on speed, volume, and cost every single time. As a result, Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and IT service providers are quietly restructuring their hiring practices, leaning away from mass entry-level recruitment.

This creates a massive paradox for a rapidly developing tech ecosystem like India’s. If the entry-level ‘cognitive grunt work’ is automated, how do we train senior leaders, architects, and managers of tomorrow? If young professionals are never given the chance to learn the foundational, routine aspects of an industry, how will they develop the institutional intuition required to make high-level decisions? One cannot effectively govern a system without ever understanding how its core pieces fit together.

The future of white-collar work lies not in creating content from scratch but in exercising judgment over what automated systems produce. In the AI era, the defining skill will be serving as the ‘human in the loop’

To navigate this transition, both our skill development models and educational frameworks must move away from past metrics. For too long, professional success has been measured by volume, how fast a person can code, how many pages of a report they can generate, or how efficiently they can manage a spreadsheet. We are currently training young minds to excel at tasks that machines have already mastered. We need to shift from rote learning to strategic thinking, from manual execution to oversight, from task completion to system design. The critical skill of this new era is becoming the ‘human in the loop.’

torical datasets, and probabilities. It completely lacks empathy, contextual awareness, and an understanding of human consequences. It cannot look a client in the eye, navigate the delicate political dynamics of a boardroom, or determine if a decision is commercially sound but socially or ethically bankrupt. These deeply human elements—critical thinking, ethical scepticism, and emotional intelligence—are the true safe havens against automation.

Consequently, a young professional’s value will no longer be determined by output speed, but by their ability to audit, stress-test, and find the subtle flaws within an algorithmically generated solution. Their job will be to locate the rot in the digital foundation before it compromises the structure.

Shifting Focus

This shift underscores a broader reality that policymakers and industry leaders are increasingly acknowledging: traditional white-collar roles can no longer rely on rote academic certification. The focus must pivot drastically toward high-value skill development and practical problem-solving. Corporations must view entry-level positions not as a source of cheap, repetitive labour but as an essential long-term investment in human capital, restructuring junior roles so that young professionals spend less time on data entry and more time learning to govern automated systems.

The anxiety among today’s youth is understandable, but it shouldn’t lead to despair. The world of work is not ending; it is merely being rewritten. The traditional, predictable entry-level desk job may be fading, but the societal demand for human wisdom, oversight, and strategic vision has never been higher. To ensure our young work force thrives, we must stop preparing them to compete against machines and finally teach them how to command them.

When an AI agent generates a financial strategy,

a legal brief, or a technical design, it operates entirely on patterns, historical datasets, and probabilities. It completely lacks empathy, contextual awareness, and an understanding of human consequences. It cannot look a client in the eye, navigate the delicate political dynamics of a boardroom, or determine if a decision is commercially sound but socially or ethically bankrupt. These deeply human elements—critical thinking, ethical scepticism, and emotional intelligence—are the true safe havens against automation.

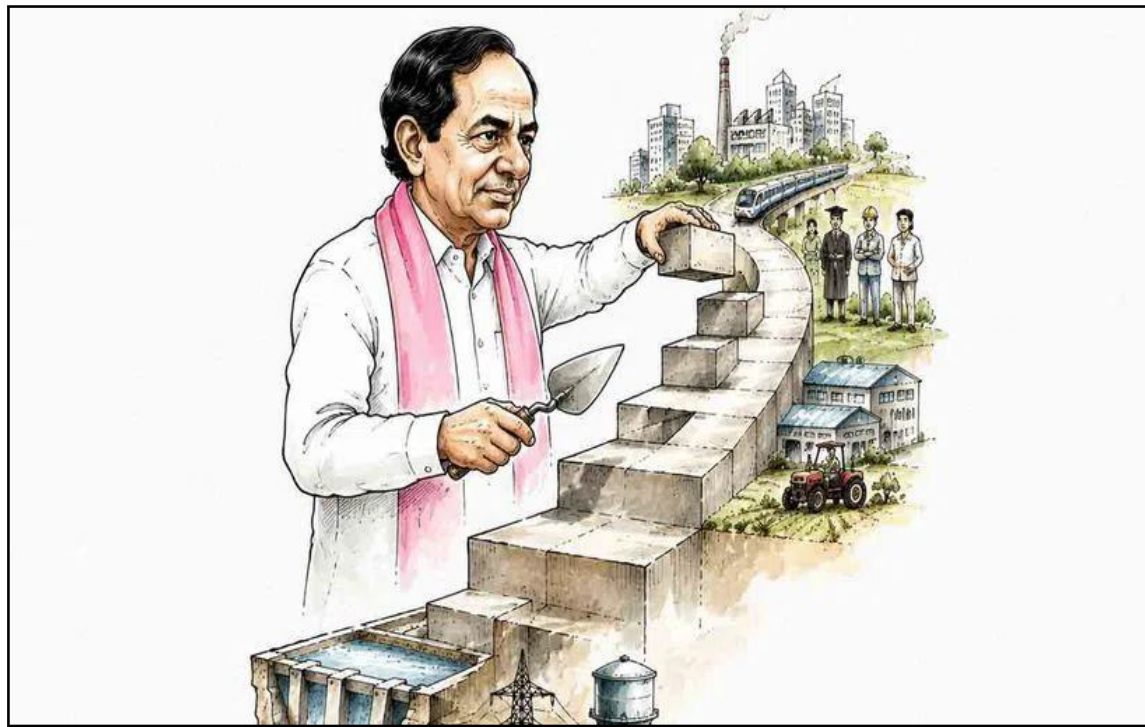
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Telangana’s legacy—don’t set aside past, build on it



Telangana’s financial situation presents a picture in which the economic burden is rising even as revenue increases. During the first four months of the financial year 2026–27, the State’s revenue receipts reached Rs 59,642 crore, while revenue expenditure crossed Rs 78,909 crore. As a result, the State recorded a revenue deficit of Rs 19,266 crore. The Congress government has incurred a Rs 33,729.98 crore fiscal deficit by July, equivalent to 57.7 per cent of the annual estimate of Rs 58,458.71 crore. Net borrowings and other liabilities have reached the same level during the period.

Opinion: Honouring Telangana’s legacy—a story of identity, culture and self-respect
 While revenue is increasing, the faster rise in expenditure and debt burden indicates the need for the present government to give serious thought to financial management.

After the formation of Telangana, the leadership of K Chandrashekhara Reddy stood out for setting major goals by anticipating the future needs of the newly formed State. His government took significant decisions in irrigation, drinking water, power, rural infrastructure and industrial development, which played an important role in shaping the development direction of Telangana. Programmes such as Mission Bhagiratha, Mission Kakatiya, major irrigation projects and the expansion of the power sector were not merely efforts to address immediate needs. They reflected a vision to build a stronger Telangana for the future. The present government needs to study that long-term vision and planning approach and take it forward with greater strength. Growth Indicators The development of a State cannot be measured only by the amount left in the treasury. Changes in people’s lives, infrastructure created, expansion of irrigation, availability of electricity, industrial opportunities, transportation and rural-urban connectivity are also important indicators of development. When Telangana was

formed as a separate State, there were significant infrastructure gaps in several sectors. In such circumstances, setting ambitious goals and investing across multiple sectors was not an easy task.

Under the leadership of Chandrashekhara Reddy, the then government took up these challenges and gave priority to infrastructure development. The extent to which those investments have delivered results should certainly be assessed continuously through data, but their role in the development of Telangana cannot be ignored. Long-term Vision Irrigation programmes undertaken during Chandrashekhara Reddy’s government should also be viewed from this broader perspective. When water becomes available, the impact is not limited to increased agricultural production. Farmers’ incomes, agriculture-based businesses, transportation, storage, marketing and processing activities are also influenced. Programmes such as Mission Bhagiratha brought forward an approach that treated access to drinking water as a basic necessity of people’s lives.

Similarly, measures taken in the power sector had an impact on agriculture, industries and household consumption. This comprehensive approach was one of the major strengths of the previous administration. It would not be appropriate to say that every decision taken by the previous government was flawless. At the same time, the long-term vision, his approach of setting ambitious goals, and his emphasis on infrastructure as the foundation for future development offer valuable guiding principles for the present administration as well. The assets created in the past should be used more efficiently so that they can generate higher income, employment and productivity.

KCR’s emphasis on infrastructure development offers an important guiding direction for the present administration. Taking that approach forward should be a natural part of good governance. Development works

should not come to a halt. But financial discipline must go hand in hand with development. The present government has the responsibility to explore new sources of revenue, give priority to essential expenditure and ensure that borrowings are directed towards productive sectors. Borrowing is not inherently bad. When loans are used for creating assets that can generate future income, they can become investments. But as debt increases, economic returns should also increase accordingly. Therefore, the question should not simply be how much debt has been raised. It should also be: What has been created with that debt? What benefits have been generated? How much revenue can be expected in the future?

Looking Beyond Hyderabad Telangana has opportunities to expand industries, IT, pharmaceuticals, services and agriculture-based industries not only in Hyderabad but also in other parts of the State. Providing skills to young people, encouraging small businesses and attracting investments can help expand the State’s revenue base. If the infrastructure created in the past is effectively connected with these economic opportunities, new sources of revenue can emerge for Telangana. Welfare is also necessary. However, along with welfare, greater priority should be given to employment generation, skill development, industries, small businesses and agriculture-based value-added sectors. Providing support to people is one aspect, while creating opportunities for them to become self-reliant is another. Only when these two approaches work together can welfare become a source of long-term economic strength.

Accountability in the use of public money is equally important. It should be clear where every rupee has been spent, what benefit it has brought to the people and how much income or productivity each project is generating. Continuing useful pro-

grammes of previous governments, correcting their shortcomings and expanding them according to new requirements should be a natural part of good governance.

What Telangana needs today is not to set aside the past, but to recognise the strong foundation created in the past and build an even stronger future upon it. While following the infrastructure and development vision established during the Rao government, the present government must What benefits have been generated? How much revenue can be expected in the future? **Looking Beyond Hyderabad** Telangana has opportunities to expand industries, IT, pharmaceuticals, services and agriculture-based industries not only in Hyderabad but also in other parts of the State. Providing skills to young people, encouraging small businesses and attracting investments can help expand the State’s revenue base. If the infrastructure created in the past is effectively connected with these economic opportunities, new sources of revenue can emerge for Telangana. Welfare is also necessary. However, along with welfare, greater priority should be given to employment generation, skill development, industries, small businesses and agriculture-based value-added sectors. Providing support to people is one aspect, while creating opportunities for them to become self-reliant is another. Only when these two approaches work together can welfare become a source of long-term economic strength.

Accountability in the use of public money is equally important. It should be clear where every rupee has been spent, what benefit it has brought to the people and how much income or productivity each project is generating. Continuing useful pro-

South Zone Gets Crucial Lead Of 90 Runs Thanks To Tilak Verma’s Unbeaten Hundred

South Zone put themselves in a commanding position on the second day of the Duleep Trophy semifinal against North Zone. Skipper Tilak Verma scored an unbeaten 106 laced with seven boundaries while Shreyas Gopal produced a knock of 88 runs. Other batters chipped in with small contributions to help the South Zone take a first-innings lead of 90 runs on stumps on Day 2. North Zone were all out on 195 on the first day, and South Zone resumed the second day on 2/40. Also, South Zone had a poor start as Gurnoor Brar struck thrice in the first session, which left them reeling at 80/5 at one stage. Tilak then forged an alliance with Gopal and the duo stitched a stand of 175 runs for the sixth wicket to turn the tide in the South Zone’s favour. Their partnership was broken in the final session when Gopal nicked one on the bowling of Arshdeep Singh. Gurnoor Brar was the pick of the bowlers for North Zone, taking four wickets while conceding



70 runs. Arshdeep Singh and Anshul Kamboj picked two wickets each. Why is the first-innings lead crucial? According to the rules of the Duleep Trophy, the result of the match will be determined on the basis of the first-innings lead if the fixture ends in a draw. Now, as South Zone has earned a first-

innings lead, it is mandatory for North Zone to eke out a win to advance into the semifinal. Otherwise, North Zone will move ahead into the summit clash of the competition. Interestingly, in the other semifinal between Central Zone and East Zone, both teams have posted an exact total of

266 in their first innings. The situation has created an uncertain scenario as a definite rule to determine the winning team in the case of a draw remains scarcely known. However, some reports suggest that a coin toss will take place to determine a winner if first-innings scores are tied match ends in a draw.

Sarvesh Kushare Dazzles In Diamond League Debut With Third-Place Finish In Monaco

Indian high jumper Sarvesh Kushare shone on his Diamond League debut, securing a podium finish with his performance. He finished in third place in Monaco on Friday and became only the fourth Indian athlete to finish in the top three at a Diamond League meet. He has joined the elite list of Neeraj Chopra, Vikas Gowda and Murali Sreeshankar, who all have secured a podium finish at least once in a Diamond

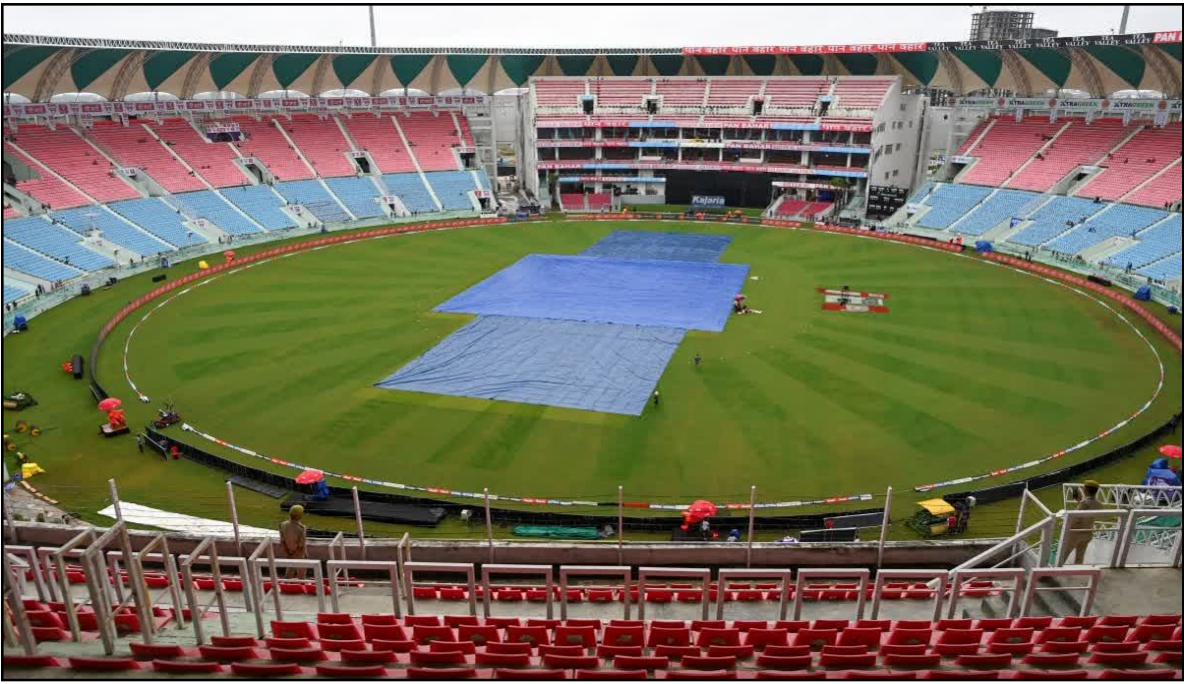


League meet. The 31-year-old registered his best successful try of

2.26m to occupy the third position in a field including world-class

performers. He cleared 2.12m, 2.16m, 2.20m, 2.23m and 2.26m, clearing every height in his first attempt before falling short of clearing 2.28 m height. The Maharashtra-based athlete is having a breakthrough season so far. He recently jumped 2.31m at the National Championships in Bhubaneswar and rewrote Indian athletics history. He broke Tejaswin Shankar’s eight-year-old national

Shocking! Cricket Team Loses Match Due To A Broken Printer In Northern Ireland



Cricket matches usually get results when one team beats another with their play; sometimes rain also affects the results. However, a cricket match in Northern Ireland witnessed a bizarre phenomenon as a broken printer turned a normal rain interruption into an unusual defeat. Ballyspallen were up against Eglinton at home in a North West Cricket Union Premier League fixture on Saturday. Eglinton was bowled out for just 159 in 48.1

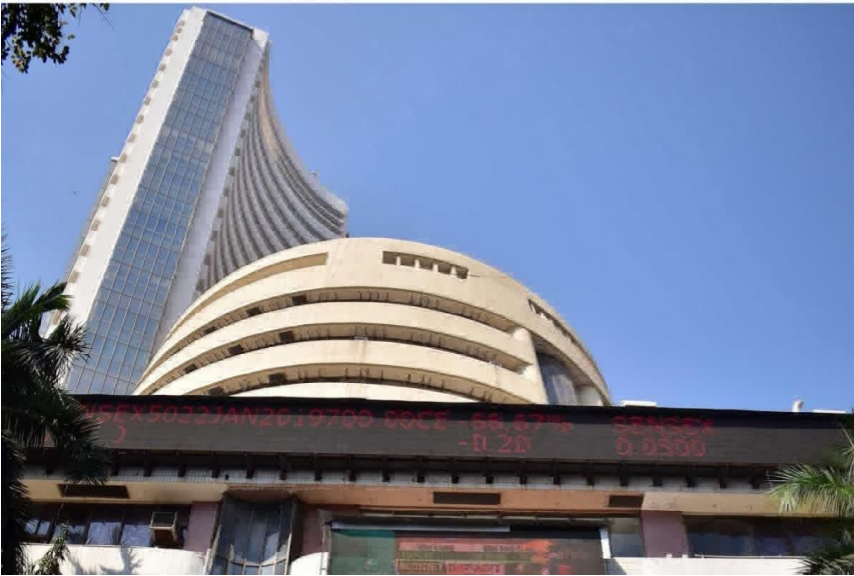
overs, and Ballyspallen had started their chase. The hosts had amassed 19 runs from the two overs. It was supposed to be an easy chase for Ballyspallen, but a technical error stole the winning opportunity from them. Why did a broken printer hand the victory to Eglinton? Because of the rain interruption, the number of overs were to be reduced. Thus, officials needed to use the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method, which is used in cricket to revise the target after rain inter-

rupts the match. According to the rules of the North West Cricket Union Premier League, the home team is supposed to provide an operational printer. If they are unable to do so, the match should be forfeited by them. The required DLS sheet could not be produced as Ballyspallen’s printer was not working. Without the document, the officials could not continue the fixture under the rules of the competition. The tournament rules

clearly mention that the home club should have "a computer loaded with the necessary software, a compatible and operational printer with a sufficient supply of paper and ink, and a proficient operator". The NWCU also said that the equipment must be operational before the match. The technical problem that occurred during the match denied Ballyspallen a chance to continue their chase, and the team had to lose the match without putting in their full effort.

Mcap Of Five Of Top-10 Most Valued Firms Jumps Rs 1.54 Lakh Cr; TCS Biggest Winner

The combined market valuation of five of the top-10 most valued firms jumped Rs 1.54 lakh crore last week, with IT major TCS emerging as the biggest winner, in line with a positive trend in equities. Last week, the BSE benchmark Sensex climbed 582.06 points, or 0.75 per cent, and the NSE Nifty went up by 127.4 points, or 0.52 per cent. "Indian equity markets ended the week on a firm footing, extending their recovery despite heightened geopolitical tensions, elevated crude oil prices, and persistent uncertainty surrounding the global interest-rate outlook." Sentiment remained supported by encouraging Q1 FY27 earnings from the IT sector as TCS closed with nearly 10 per cent of weekly gains, renewed buying interest in financial stocks, and resilience in domestic economic fundamentals," Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said. While Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Bajaj Finance emerged as the gainers, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Larsen & Toubro and Hindustan Unilever faced erosion in their valuations.



quarter. ICICI Bank’s valuation surged Rs 29,062.06 crore to Rs 10,34,441.77 crore, and that of Reliance Industries jumped Rs 23,884.93 crore to Rs 17,95,091.26 crore. The valuation of Bajaj Finance climbed Rs 21,946.5 crore to Rs 6,57,274.28 crore, and that of State Bank of India went up by Rs 7,338.34 crore to Rs 9,63,768.78 crore. However, the market capitalisation (mcap) of Larsen & Toubro eroded by Rs 18,097.72 crore to Rs 5,24,840.68 crore. The valuation of LIC declined by Rs 12,080.75 crore to Rs 5,48,124.30 crore. Bharti Airtel’s mcap tumbled Rs 7,706.45 crore to Rs 11,91,067.77 crore, and that of HDFC Bank edged lower by Rs 7,084.61 crore to Rs 12,62,369.81 crore. The mcap of Hindustan Unilever dipped Rs 1,221.79 crore to Rs 5,03,775.86 crore.

Reliance Industries remained the most valued firm, followed by HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Bajaj Finance. The combined market valuation of five of the top-10 most valued firms jumped Rs 1.54 lakh crore last week, with IT major TCS emerging as the biggest winner, in line with a positive trend in equities. Last week, the BSE benchmark Sensex climbed 582.06 points, or 0.75 per cent, and the NSE Nifty went up by 127.4 points, or 0.52 per cent. "Indian equity markets ended the week on a firm footing, extending their recovery despite heightened geopolitical tensions, elevated crude oil prices, and persistent uncertainty surrounding the global interest-rate outlook." Sentiment remained supported by encouraging Q1 FY27 earnings from the IT sector as TCS closed with nearly 10 per cent of weekly gains, renewed buying interest in financial stocks, and resilience in domestic economic fundamentals," Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said. While Reliance

Industries, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Bajaj Finance emerged as the gainers, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Larsen & Toubro and Hindustan Unilever faced erosion in their valuations. TCS added Rs 72,072.3 crore, taking its market valuation to Rs 8,20,672.70 crore. The country’s largest IT services company reported a 4.61 per cent increase in its June-quarter net profit to Rs 13,349 crore, and guided towards an improvement in demand, impacted by the West Asia crisis, returning in the ongoing quarter. ICICI Bank’s valuation surged Rs 29,062.06 crore to Rs 10,34,441.77 crore, and that of Reliance Industries jumped Rs 23,884.93 crore to Rs 17,95,091.26 crore. The valuation of Bajaj Finance climbed Rs 21,946.5 crore to Rs 6,57,274.28 crore, and that of State Bank of India went up by Rs 7,338.34 crore to Rs 9,63,768.78 crore.

People Aged Above 40 Account For 76 Pc Of Individual Deposits In Banks: RBI Data



Mumbai: People over 40 years of age account for over three-fourths of individual deposits in the country’s banks as of June this year, data released by the Reserve Bank said on Monday. Those aged between 25 and 40 years, who are in what can be defined as working age, account for a little less than 20 per cent of the individual deposits, the data said. It can be noted that in the past, policymakers have spoken about a larger preference among the younger cohorts for the capital market instruments like shares and

mutual funds as compared to their older counterparts. The overall deposit growth for scheduled commercial banks came at 11.6 per cent on year, with private banks witnessing a 13.8 per cent growth and the public sector banks trailing at 10.3 per cent, the RBI said. The household sector remained the largest contributor, holding 58.8 per cent of total deposits as at end-June 2026 and accounting for 98.9 per cent of the ‘incremental deposits’ during the quarter. Term deposits -- the primary driver of

deposit accumulation -- recorded growth of 12.9 per cent in June 2026, outpacing the 5.3 per cent growth of current deposits and 10.6 per cent in savings deposits. Term deposits of size ‘Rs 1 crore and above’ accounted for 47.3 per cent of the total term deposit as at end-June 2026, of which 35.7 per cent came from deposits of size ‘Rs 5 crore and above’, category, the RBI said. The bank credited growth at the end of June accelerated to 16.5 per cent in June as against 9.9 per cent in the year-ago period,

driven by the corporate sector loans, which grew at 21.1 per cent, the RBI said. Credit to female individual borrowers expanded at a faster-than-average clip at 19.7 per cent in June 2026 as compared to 12.9 per cent in June 2025, it said. Share of loans bearing interest rate below 9 per cent increased to nearly two-thirds in June 2026, from 54.1 per cent in June 2025, it said, adding that the weighted average lending rate (WALR) on outstanding credit eased by 45 basis points to 9.26 per cent in June 2026.

Shreya Kalra Takes Home Trophy And Rs 1 Crore



Social media influencer emerged as the winner of Lock Upp Season 2. Shreya Kalra has got into arguments with fellow contestants,

She lifted the winner's trophy and took home the cash prize of Rs 1 crore during the grand finale held on August 5. Hosts Riteish Deshmukh and Farah Khan announced her name as the winner, while actor Shivangi Joshi finished as the first runner-up. The finale featured five contestants: Shreya Kalra, Shivangi Joshi, Yogesh Rawat, Ram Kapoor, and Shilpa Shinde. After weeks of tough competition, the title came down to Shreya and Shivangi. When the winners were announced, Shreya hugged Shilpa Shinde before receiving the trophy from the hosts. Shreya was one of the most talked-about contestants throughout the season. She grabbed attention with her outspoken nature, fearless attitude, and strong gameplay. She often got into arguments with fellow contestants,

including Shilpa Shinde and Akanksha Chamola, but managed to stay in the spotlight from the beginning until the finale. As the game progressed, Shreya also showed smart strategy inside the house. She made important decisions at crucial stages and used her special advantage to protect herself from elimination. Her gameplay divided opinions, but it helped her reach the final and eventually win the show. View this post on Instagram A post shared by Shreya kalra (@shreyakalraa) The final voting also went in Shreya's favour. The "Janta Ki Jury" gave her 18 votes, while Shivangi received five. Overall, Shreya secured 23 votes compared to Shivangi's 16, sealing her victory. Yogesh Rawat finished as the second runner-up. His journey was remarkable as he re-entered the competition through a wild card entry after being eliminated earlier. Ram Kapoor and Shilpa Shinde also made it to the top five after putting up strong performances throughout the season. Ahead of the grand finale, actor Harshad Chopda was eliminated after choosing to make Shivangi Joshi the show's first finalist. Lock Upp Season 2 is

Mirzapur The Movie Advance Booking Opens; Pankaj Tripathi, Ali Fazal Starrer Targets Rs 15-20 Cr Opening



Advance bookings for the much-awaited crime thriller Mirzapur: The Movie opened on Monday, ahead of its theatrical release on September 4. The film marks the big-screen debut of Amazon Prime Video's popular crime drama franchise and is expected to attract both fans of the series and new audiences. Ticket prices for Mirzapur: The Movie currently vary widely across major cities, ranging from Rs 149 to premium prices of over Rs 1,800, according to online booking platforms. In Mumbai and several other cities, tickets for regular shows are available between Rs 149 and Rs 500. However, premium shows are considerably more expensive. At DLF Mall of India in Noida, a ticket for a night show has been

priced at Rs 1,800, according to BookMyShow. Reports also suggest that premium ticket prices in some locations in Delhi-NCR and Mumbai have crossed Rs 1,600. Trade tracker Sacnilk has predicted that Mirzapur: The Movie could open in the range of Rs 15 crore to Rs 20 crore at the Indian box office. "From a box-office perspective, Mirzapur: The Movie is expected to target a Day 1 opening in the Rs 15-20 crore India net range at this stage. A stronger-than-expected advance booking response could push the film beyond the Rs 20 crore mark, while a softer booking trend would leave it in the low-to-mid teens," Sacnilk said. The film brings the popular Mirzapur universe from streaming to cinemas. Directed by

Gurmeet Singh and written by Puneet Krishna, the movie features several familiar faces from the series, including Pankaj Tripathi, Ali Fazal, Divyendu, Shweta Tripathi Sharma, Rasika Dugal, Sheeba Chaddha, Shriya Pilgaonkar, Abhishek Banerjee and Harshita Gaur. Ali Fazal returns as Guddu Bhaiya, while Pankaj Tripathi reprises his role as Kaleen Bhaiya. New additions to the franchise include Ravi Kishan and Jitendra Kumar. During a promotional event in Bihar, Ali Fazal also shared his suggestion for viewers who have not watched the entire Mirzapur series. He said fans do not need to watch all three seasons to understand the story of the film. "Everyone must go home and watch Series

1, but only till episode 6. From episode 6, the story of the movie starts and revolves," the actor said. Mirzapur: The Movie has received an A certificate from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). Reports suggest that the film underwent several modifications, including changes to intimate scenes, abusive language and certain dialogues. The final certified runtime of the film is approximately 197 minutes and 19 seconds, making it over three hours long. Created by Karan Anshuman and Puneet Krishna, Mirzapur first premiered on Prime Video in November 2018 and soon became one of India's most popular crime dramas. The second season was released in 2020, followed by the third instalment in 2024.

Suvinder Vicky Thought His Dhurandhar 2 Dialogues Would Be 'A Big Beep'



Suvinder Vicky thought his character in Dhurandhar: The Revenge might end up with more beeps than dialogues. The actor, who played Arjun Rampal's father in Aditya Dhar's action drama, was surprised by the amount of abusive language written for his character and even joked that the filmmaker should have made him mute. But director Aditya Dhar was confident that the dialogues would make it to the final cut. In a recent interview with a newswire, Vicky recalled his conversation with Dhar before shooting the scenes. "I told Aditya that my whole dialogue will be a big

beep; he should have instead made me play a mute character in the film because I'm abusing so much. But he told me confidently that nothing will be cut." That confidence also made Vicky think about improvising some of his lines. However, Dhar had one clear boundary. According to Vicky, the director told him, "We will not go to mothers and sisters. It is also our responsibility to not hurt sentiments in films." The abuses were part of the script. Vicky also made it clear that the strong language was not something he created on set. He credited the writing team for the dialogues while also acknowledging the director and his

own performance. "I'm lucky to work with great directors. In this, the credit goes to Aditya Dhar and to me also because I also gave my hundred per cent effort. Also, galiyon ka shrey hamare script writer ko bhi jayega, because I didn't make any of those; that was all written in the script," he said. Arjun Rampal told him to go all out. Vicky and Rampal were already familiar with each other before Dhurandhar: The Revenge. The two had worked together in Satluj, which helped them approach their intense scenes with an existing equation. Vicky said he warned Rampal about the dialogues

before filming. Rampal's response was simple: "It is part of life, camera ke samne faad de." Vicky's next stop is Awarapan 2. Dhurandhar: The Revenge continued the story of Ranveer Singh's Jaskirat Singh Rangi, who becomes Hamza Ali Mazari and gets deeper into Karachi's criminal underworld. The film also featured Arjun Rampal, Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt and R Madhavan. For Vicky, he would next be seen in Awarapan 2. He stars alongside Emraan Hashmi, Disha Patani and Shabana Azmi in the Nitin Kakkar-directed sequel, which releases in cinemas on August 14.

Shalini Pandey Raises Alarm Over Fake AI Video, Says Technology Is Being Misused To Harm Women



Actor Shalini Pandey has spoken out against a fake AI-generated video of her that is being circulated online. The actor took to social media on Monday to clarify that the video was completely fabricated and did not depict her. Addressing the issue, Shalini urged people not to share or engage with the video and instead report it immediately.

Taking to her social media han-

dles, the actor wrote, "I want to address a fake, AI-generated video of me that is currently being circulated online. The video is completely fabricated and does not depict me."

Shalini said she was deeply disturbed by the misuse of technology to target and harm people, especially women. She strongly condemned the creation and circulation of such fake content and

said that the misuse of technology should not be normalised.

"It is deeply disturbing to see technology being misused in this way to target and harm individuals, especially women. I strongly condemn this kind of abuse and believe such misuse of technology should never be normalised," she wrote.

The actor also made an appeal to her fans and social media users, asking them to act responsibly if they came across the fake video. She requested people not to share, forward, download or interact with the content, as any kind of engagement could help it reach more people. Instead, Shalini asked everyone to report the video immediately and help stop its circulation.

"If you come across this video, please do not share, forward, download, or engage with it. Instead, please report it immediately. I request everyone to be responsible and mindful, and help stop its circulation rather than giving it further reach," she said.

Shalini's statement comes amid growing concerns over the misuse of artificial intelligence and deepfake technology. Several actors and public figures have raised concerns about fake videos and images being created and circulated online without their consent.

The actor's appeal highlights the importance of being careful while consuming and sharing content on social media. Fake and AI-generated content can often spread quickly online, making it important for users to verify such material and avoid contributing to its