

# EYE SECRETS

English Daily

Spy in every blink

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## Indian Railways approves Rs 993 crore Arakkonam-Chengalpattu doubling project

The government has approved the Arakkonam-Chengalpattu Doubling Project of Southern Railway at an estimated cost of Rs 993 crore to strengthen suburban and freight connectivity in Tamil Nadu, the Ministry of Railways said on Tuesday. According to the ministry, the 68-km project forms part of the important Chennai suburban circular rail network connecting Chennai Beach, Tambaram, Chengalpattu and Arakkonam. Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the Arakkonam-Chengalpattu Doubling Project will play a key role in easing congestion on the busy Chennai suburban rail net-

work while improving punctuality and operational efficiency. According to the minister, the project will also strengthen passenger and freight movement across the corridor, benefiting transportation of commodities such as cement, automobiles, food grains, iron and steel. In addition, the government stated that the existing double-line section is currently operating at a high level of capacity utilisation, and traffic is expected to rise further in the coming years, necessitating additional infrastructure augmentation. The doubling work is expected to reduce detention time of trains, improve punctuality and

increase the frequency of suburban rail services, it added. Moreover, the route serves several major economic and industrial hubs including Mahindra World City, Sriperumbudur, Oragadam and Irungattukottai, along with important automobile, cement and manufacturing industries. The proposed Parandur Airport project near Kancheepuram is also located close to the alignment, further increasing the strategic importance of the route. The ministry further noted that the project marks another step in Indian Railways' efforts to modernise rail infrastructure, enhance network capacity and improve oper-



ational efficiency across key corridors. It added that the project is expected to support regional industrial growth and provide faster, safer and more reliable transportation services.

### Minister Bharath hosts lunch for SSC toppers

Kurnool: Minister for Industries, Commerce and Food Processing TG Bharath Gupta on Monday hosted a special lunch at his residence to honour top-performing 10th class students from govern-



ment schools in Kurnool constituency. He personally invited the students over phone, congratulated them for their outstanding SSC results, and presented cash incentives as encouragement. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Bharath said the impressive performance of government school students reflects the successful education reforms initiated by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Education Minister Nara Lokesh. He credited Nara Lokesh's vision for strengthening government schools and making them competitive with private institutions. Top scorers from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial Municipal Corporation High School and C-Camp Municipal High School attended the event. The meritorious students included Pikkili Likhitha (593), Pinjari Girish (591), Meesala Meghana (587), Kuruva Mallikarjuna (581) and Gajula Rohith (582). Students and parents expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister and the Ministers for their support and encouragement.

### Andhra Pradesh: Fishermen's Boat Rally Supports Government Schemes

Fishermen organised a large rally involving boats on the Krishna River, with many members of fishing communities taking part in the demonstration. The event was held to show their support for the government and to celebrate the ongoing release of funds under the 'Matsyakarula Sevalo' (In the Service of Fishermen) scheme, which has now been continued for a second year. Fishing families expressed their gratitude for the financial assistance provided to help them during the annual fishing ban period. The government offers ₹20,000 to each fishing family to prevent hardships during this time. Last year, aid worth ₹243 crores was distributed to 121,433 families. This year, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is set to allocate ₹262



crores to support 130,796 fishing families. On Tuesday, the Chief Minister will attend the 'Matsyakarula Sevalo' programme at Tummalapenta in the Kavali constituency of Nellore district, where he will hold an interactive session with fishing communities. In just two years, the Alliance government has disbursed a total of ₹505 crores through the 'Matsyakarula Sevalo' scheme to support the fishing community.

### Minister launches road project for Srirangarajupalli

Parigi (Sri Sathya Sai district): Minister for BC Welfare, Handlooms and Textiles S Savita on Monday participated in the foundation stone laying ceremony for Parigi-Srirangarajupalli road project being taken up at a cost of Rs 3.5 crore in Parigi mandal. Addressing the gathering, Savita recalled her promise to villagers during previous Assembly elections that she would visit Srirangarajupalli only after ensuring the construction of a proper road to the village. Now, the government had now fulfilled that commitment by initiating the long-pending road project, she said, adding that the government, under the leadership of CM N Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, is giving high priority to road connectivity and rural infrastructure. She announced that several road development works would soon be launched in the constituency with an estimated investment of around Rs 18 crore.



been sanctioned in the region and permanent buildings were being constructed for BC hostels. She added that village clinics and drinking water facilities were being strengthened under the Jal Jeevan Mission through the establishment of overhead water tanks. Referring to the recently inaugurated fighter aircraft manufacturing facility in Puttaparthi, the Minister said the project, launched by the Chief Minister along with Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, was expected to generate thousands of employment opportunities. Later speaking to reporters, Minister Savita said an elderly woman from Srirangarajupalli had appealed for a road during election campaign, citing hardships faced by pregnant women, students and farmers due to lack of connectivity. Savita said the road project was undertaken in response to that appeal.

### Second fuel price hike in a week pushes petrol near Rs 109 in Jaipur

Rajasthan witnessed the second hike in petrol and diesel prices within a week on Tuesday, as petroleum companies increased petrol rates by around 94 paise per litre and diesel by approximately 91 paise per litre. Following the latest revision, petrol prices in Jaipur have risen to Rs 108.91 per litre, while diesel is now being sold at Rs 94.14 per litre. The fresh increase comes just four days after fuel prices were hiked by Rs 3 per litre on May 15, intensifying concerns over rising transportation and household expenses. Oil companies have attributed the repeated hikes to the continued surge in crude oil prices in the international market. With fuel costs steadily climbing, transporters and traders fear a ripple effect on the prices of vegetables, food items, construction materials and delivery services, potentially adding further pressure on inflation. Amid rumours of fuel shortages circulating on social media and in local markets, petrol companies have assured the public that fuel and LPG supplies across Rajasthan remain normal and adequate. Manoj Gupta, Executive Director and Rajasthan State-Level Coordinator for Indian Oil Corporation, said fuel stocks are being monitored round-the-clock and replenishment is taking place without delay wherever



required. Oil companies have appealed to citizens to avoid panic buying, maintain normal fuel consumption patterns and refrain from believing or spreading misleading reports regarding fuel availability. State-Level Coordinator Manoj Gupta (Executive Director and State Head, IOCL) stated, "The overall petroleum supply situation in Rajasthan is completely stable, normal, and adequate. The entire fuel supply chain from all our terminals and depots right down to the retail outlets (petrol pumps) in cities and villages is operating smoothly and with great efficiency. There are absolutely no disruptions of any kind to the supply anywhere across the entire state." According to officials, fuel stocks across all districts of Rajasthan are being monitored continuously and in real-time.

# Disaster Response System being strengthened with world-class tech

Minister Ponguleti launches Mega Disaster Management Mock Drill

Hyderabad

Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy stated that the government's primary objective is to protect human lives and minimise damage to property during natural disasters. He said that, under the guidance of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the State government is strengthening the disaster response system with world-class technology.

As part of the State-wide Disaster Management Mock Exercises, the Minister on Monday inaugurated the mock drill conducted at the HMDA Grounds, Necklace Road, Hyderabad.

Later, he held a review meeting on disaster management with senior officials of



various departments at the Command and Control Centre.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said Telangana would further strengthen its disaster management system in line with the best practices being implemented in various states across the country. He directed officials

to immediately examine the best technologies and advanced equipment available globally for effectively handling natural disasters and fire accidents, and submit a comprehensive report along with proposals. He said that the experience gained through these mock drills being conducted with

the support of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) would help officials deliver more responsible and efficient services during disasters. He observed that rapid response, inter-departmental coordination and advance preparedness are extremely vital during emergencies

such as floods, fire accidents and industrial disasters.

The Minister stated that the first hour after a natural disaster is extremely critical and should be treated as the "Golden Hour".

He instructed that all personnel should work in complete coordination during that period and effectively utilise the available advanced equipment to provide immediate services to the public.

He called upon all systems to respond promptly during fires and floods so as to minimise loss of life and property.

Minister Ponguleti clarified that once a distress call is received, it is the responsibility of officials to reach the right location without any delay and provide timely medical and rescue services to affected people.



# DGP lauds SIB role in weakening Maoist movement

Hyderabad

Telangana DGP CV Anand on Monday reviewed the Maoist situation in the state and assessed ongoing anti-extremist operations and intelligence measures undertaken by the Special Intelligence Branch (SIB) to address security concerns.

During his visit to the Special Intelligence Branch, the DGP appreciated the sustained efforts of its officers and staff in effectively countering Left-Wing Extremism and facilitating large-scale surrenders of underground CPI (Maoist) cadres, a press release said.

Between 2024 and 2026, a total of 820 Maoists, among them four Central Committee Members (CCMs) and 22 State Committee Members (SCMs), surrendered before the Telangana Police.

As part of these surrenders, CPI (Maoist) cadres also

surrendered 334 firearms, including 58 AK-47 rifles, 48 INSAS rifles, 50 SLRs, six LMGs and other sophisticated weapons, it said.

The DGP commended the remarkable contribution of the SIB in effectively weakening the armed Maoist movement in Telangana through sustained intelligence-based operations, confidence-building measures and rehabilitation initiatives.

He particularly appreciated the proactive role played by the SIB in motivating underground Maoist cadres to shun violence and join the mainstream. The DGP also reviewed the rehabilitation and reintegration measures being extended to surrendered Maoists and assured that the Telangana police would continue to provide all necessary support for

their rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

The SIB should continue monitoring surrendered cadres closely and ensure their reskilling, employment-oriented training, job placement, rehabilitation and reintegration into society, Anand said.

Advising officers on the evolving security environment, the DGP said that with the decline of Maoism after four decades, the SIB must adapt to emerging challenges. "The SIB should assume a broader role in policing intelligence, study emerging trends, social media and the resulting social changes impacting public order and peace, especially among the youth, and support the State police in effectively addressing future security concerns in Telangana," he said.

# Workshop on quality assessment of Telugu translation of Science books

Hyderabad

The Centre for Applied Linguistics and Translation Studies (CALTS), School of Humanities, University of Hyderabad, is organising a five-day Workshop on "Quality Assessment of the Telugu Translation of CSIR-NIScPR Popular Science Books" in collaboration with the National Translation Mission, CIIL, Mysuru.

The workshop commenced on May 18 and will continue till the 22nd. The workshop aims to evaluate and vet popular Science books of CSIR-NIScPR translated into Telugu from English, which will be published by National Translation Mission. Once published, these books will be made available to Telugu readers.

The coordinator of the workshop Prof. Naresh Annem of CALTS, University of Hyderabad, highlighted the



importance of translating the popular Science books into Telugu and the benefits of the books to the Telugu readers. He also mentioned that learning scientific and technical concepts in mother tongues ensures clarity and better understanding which was also envisaged in NEP 2020.

Prof. Arulmozi, Head of the department, said that CALTS has been involved in translation activities for more than three decades and has con-

tributed significantly to the machine assisted translation in Indian languages.

Dr. P. Matthew, Chief Resource Person from National Translation Mission (NTM), said that NTM has been getting the knowledge texts and popular Science books translated into 22 scheduled languages. Language, Translation and Subject experts have participated in the workshop to review and finalize the manuscripts.

# Man trying to hang himself saved by police

Hyderabad

A man trying to hang himself due to financial stress was saved by OU Police in the nick of time on Sunday, after a Dial 100 call from the man's wife.

According to the police, they had received a call from a woman named Nelaveni at around 9 pm stating that her husband, Mallesh, was trying to end his life.

While the woman was at Borabanda, the man was at his residence in MK Nagar.

Police quickly reached the man's house, located near Street no 7 at MK Nagar, and stopped him as he was trying to hang himself.

Mallesh was then taken to the OU Police Station and counselled by the Inspector before being handed over to his family.



# GHMC warns against fake news on wards quota for Hyd civic polls

Hyderabad

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) on Monday warned citizens against fake information circulating on social media and several websites about ward seat reservations for elections to the GHMC, Malkajigiri Municipal Corporation and Cyberabad Municipal Corporation, calling the claims "completely false and misleading."

In a post on X, the GHMC said neither the corporation nor the Telangana State Election Commission had released any official notification or reservation list for wards and urged citizens not to believe or share unverified information.

"For accurate and official updates, follow only the State Election Commission Telangana," the GHMC said, adding, "Verify before you believe. Think before you share."

Elections to the GHMC and other urban local bodies in Telangana are expected after the completion of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, with the final voter list due to be published on October 1. The GHMC governing body's tenure ended on February 10.

# New cargo terminal at RGIA to boost pharma handling

Hyderabad

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL) on Monday commissioned its second cargo terminal at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), more than doubling the airport's air freight handling capacity as Hyderabad pushes to establish itself as a major logistics hub in Asia.

The new Cargo Terminal 2, spread across 16,864 square metre, will initially handle around 50,000 metric tonne of cargo annually, with dedicated expansion space that can take that figure up to 1,00,000 metric tonne per annum.

A centrepiece of the new facility is a large, fully temperature-controlled pharmaceutical zone, equipped with advanced temperature cut-off systems and continuous monitoring technology. The terminal is designed to provide end-to-end cold-chain reliability - a capability



that is central to Hyderabad's growing stature as a global pharmaceutical manufacturing and export hub, GHIAL said.

Beyond pharmaceuticals, the terminal is equipped to handle perishables, express consignments and general cargo, with dedicated inbound and outbound zones, multi-level racking systems and spacious build-up and breakdown areas designed to enable parallel

shipment processing.

GHIAL said the terminal's layout would significantly cut cargo dwell times and speed up regulatory clearances, supported by enhanced airside-landside connectivity, dedicated road access, and robust power infrastructure.

The terminal has also been built with sustainability in mind. It incorporates energy-efficient lighting, optimised HVAC design with enhanced

insulation in temperature-controlled sections and resource-efficient building materials.

RGIA currently handles cargo to and from key international markets.

GHIAL said the commissioning of the new terminal was part of a broader strategy to position the airport as a world-class air cargo gateway serving both domestic and international demand.

# Musi riverfront project is a hydraulic bomb: Hyd activists

Hyderabad

The Save Musi Movement (SMM) has described the Telangana government's official river embankment blueprint as a hydraulic bomb, "not intended to save the river, but to build a multi-billion real-estate corridor disguised as a park."

Addressing the media in Hyderabad on Monday, the Save Musi Movement activists demanded an immediate freezing all active funds, including the recently released Rs 375 crore, one part of the total Rs 1,500 crore budget allocation for the first phase of the Musi Riverfront Development Project.

They argued that spending hundreds of crores of taxpayer money while keeping the actual blueprints "hidden behind the administrative veil of GO 921" was an attempt to bypass the mandatory Social Impact Assessment (SIA).



The state government must release the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), detailed hydrological and flood reports, comprehensive sewage and source-pollution studies, biodiversity and ecosystem reports in Telugu and Urdu languages for independent scientific audit before any further steps were initiated in the project's implementation, they demanded. Terming the resultant of the first phase of the project as a "21 km Concrete Tomb," the activists said that the state government intends to replace the natural riverbed with a rigid, 70m-wide central floor of CCM30 grade concrete and PCC 1:3:6.



# DRI seizes two red sand boas in Warangal

PNS ■ Hyderabad

DRI officials on Monday said they had apprehended a person in Telangana's Warangal district for allegedly attempting to sell two live red sand boas, a protected species.

Acting on specific information that a person involved in the illegal trade of live snakes was attempting to sell them on the grey market, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Hyderabad Zonal Unit, conducted an undercover decoy operation on May 17.

The suspect was identified and intercepted while carrying a bag.

# UoH gets nominated as lead knowledge institution for govt

Hyderabad

The University of Hyderabad (UoH) has been formally nominated as the Lead Knowledge Institution (LKI) for the Telangana government under the State Support Mission (SSM) of NITI Aayog, Government of India.

The nomination was communicated to UoH by the Telangana Planning Department, recognising the university's multidisciplinary expertise and research capabilities to support evidence-based governance and policy



transformation in the state. University of Hyderabad in-charge vice-chancellor Prof J Anuradha said that the LKI initiative presents an opportunity for faculty and researchers to translate academic knowledge into actionable policy

support and public impact.

Under the initiative, the university will help Telangana's institutional capacities through research-based policy inputs, technical expertise, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, data analytics, sectoral studies, and capacity building support. "UoH will work closely with the Planning Department and relevant Government agencies to develop actionable policy recommendations and thematic action plans aligned with Telangana's developmental priorities.

# TG launches sports drive under 99-day action plan

Hyderabad

Sports Minister Vakiti Srihari on Monday said the State government is encouraging sports persons and taking measures to win gold medals at global events like the Olympics.

Speaking at an event at LB Stadium here as part of the State government's 99-day special development programme, which began on March 6, he said the government had recently conducted various sports competitions under the "CM Cup," in which 3.5 lakh children from the village level participated.

The event aimed to encourage children to take up sports and to promote talented young athletes, he said.

The government is emphasising improving sports infrastructure and facilities and



encouraging coaches, he added. The Sports Minister said Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy envisions a State where children and youth steer clear of drugs and other vices and actively pursue sports.

"It is our resolve that Telangana should win gold medals at the Olympics. The government will encourage all talented and upcoming sportspersons to excel not

only at the national level but also at the international level," he said. Srihari alleged that the previous BRS government neglected sports infrastructure and playgrounds during its 10-year tenure. The Minister flagged off a five-kilometre walkathon on the occasion. Officials said sports competitions would be conducted across the State until May 23 as part of the 99-day action plan.

# Three TG Collectors selected in Fame India's Best District Magistrate list

Hyderabad

Three Telangana District Collectors, including Hyderabad Collector Harichandana Dasari, have figured in Fame India magazine's list of 100 "outstanding and best-performing" District Magistrates across the country for 2026.

Along with Harichandana Dasari (Hyderabad),

C Narayana Reddy (rangareddy), and Mikkiilineni Manu Chowdhary (Medchal-Malkajigiri) were selected in the preliminary findings of the nationwide survey conducted by Fame India in collaboration with Asia Post.



Fame India, an acclaimed rating magazine listed 100 District Magistrates (DMs) in its survey findings, as the "outstanding and best-performing" administrative heads of the state and is set to feature the twenty-five

most distinguished of them, in its upcoming 2026 edition. The extensive pan-India survey of District Magistrates, across 800 districts in the country, seeks to encourage outstanding leadership in public service, amidst chal-

lenging circumstances.

The survey, which started in 2011, has become a yearly tradition at the noted media organisation, and its categorisation of DMs on the basis of performance and delivery over the years has gone to set moral high ground, not just for the selected ones but also for fellow officers.

The survey assessed District Magistrates and Collectors from nearly 800 districts across India on parameters such as administrative capability, governance, innovation, crisis management, accountability, public relations, and development-oriented thinking.

Fame India said the survey aims to recognise officers who have demonstrated excellence in administration and public service while implementing government schemes at the grassroots level. It also informed that around 100 officers have been selected in the preliminary results, and out of this, a few distinguished District Magistrates will be featured in its upcoming magazine.

According to the magazine, the selection process involved public feedback, inputs from ruling and Opposition leaders, ground surveys, and assessments by senior bureaucrats.

## Improve infrastructure of Amma Canteen, ensure quality food

TN CM directs officials to take measures

Chennai

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay on Monday directed officials to refurbish and upgrade the infrastructure of Amma Canteens across the state and ensure the supply of quality, hygienic and tasty food to the public. Amma Canteen, or Amma Unavagam, was launched on February 24, 2013, by then CM J Jayalalithaa to address hunger and malnutrition by providing hygienic food at highly subsidised rates to the working class, homeless and low-income groups. The canteens continued to function under the previous DMK regime, though the AIADMK had alleged that fund allocation was reduced and that the facilities were "poorly main-



tained". After feedback that the quality and taste of food served at Amma Canteens was not satisfactory was brought to the CM's notice, Vijay held a review meeting with top officials. The CM directed officials to improve amenities and infrastructure, procure additional cooking utensils and equipment, and ensure the provision of quality and tasty food to the public, a press release

said. There are 383 Amma Canteens under the Greater Chennai Corporation and 237 under the supervision of other local bodies in the state. Amma Canteens were launched during the 2011-16 AIADMK regime and named after Jayalalithaa, who was fondly addressed as "Amma" (mother) by her supporters and party workers.

Pacts signed with UAE, Netherlands, Sweden to boost Indian economy with FDI: BJP

New Delhi

The BJP on Monday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE, the Netherlands and Sweden has proved to be "unprecedented" from strategic, economic and cultural perspectives as the pacts signed with these countries will strengthen India's energy security and boost its economy with foreign investment. Speaking to reporters at the BJP headquarters here, BJP national spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi also hailed the bestowing of the 'Royal Order of the Polar Star, Degree Commander Grand Cross', one of Sweden's highest civilian honours, on Prime Minister Modi, calling it a "moment of pride" for every Indian. This is not merely an honour for Modi as an individual, it stands as a symbol that the PM is establishing the potential and excellence of 1.40 crore Indians on the global stage, he said. With this, the prime minister has been conferred with 31 international awards during his tenure so far, Trivedi said. Prime Minister Modi was in Norway on Monday and held talks with his Norwegian counterpart Jonas Gahr Store on trade and investment, green technology, blue economy, and other key areas. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on an extremely important foreign tour to protect the interests of the people of India. His foreign tour has so far proved to be unprecedented and historic from strategic, economic and cultural perspectives," Trivedi said. Highlighting the key takeaways from Modi's visit to the three countries, the BJP Rajya Sabha MP said the pacts signed with these countries will help India strengthen its energy security and boost its economy with foreign direct investment (FDI).

## ED attaches Rs 700 cr assets linked to late gangster Iqbal Mirchi, kin

New Delhi

The Enforcement Directorate has provisionally attached assets worth Rs 700.27 crore, including three prime properties in Mumbai's Worli, in a case related to late gangster Iqbal Mirchi and his family members, officials said on Monday.

The attached properties - Rabia Mansion, Marium Lodge and Sea View - in Worli have been valued at around Rs 497 crore, while overseas assets in Dubai worth approximately Rs 203.27 crore have also been attached under the provisions of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act (FEOA), an official statement said. According to the Enforcement Directorate (ED), the action stems from multiple FIRs registered by Mumbai Police against Iqbal Mohammad Memon aka Iqbal Mirchi under various sections of the IPC, Arms Act, TADA and NDPS Act.

The agency alleged that



Mirchi, who had escaped to the UK, was involved in organised criminal activities, including drug trafficking, extortion and illegal arms activities.

The probe agency said its money laundering investigation revealed that the proceeds of crime generated from these activities were allegedly laundered through the acquisition of properties in India and abroad in the names of family members, associates and entities controlled by Mirchi.

## AIADMK groups brace up for a showdown

Palaniswami convenes party's dist secretaries' meet

Chennai

The AIADMK factions are bracing up for a showdown of strength, aiming to emerge as a dominant entity in a frantic bid to take over the party. And amidst heightened disagreement between the two factions, AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami, facing open revolt from former state ministers C Ve Shanmugam and S P Velumani, has convened a meeting of the party's district secretaries at his Greenways residence here on Tuesday, trying to retain his hold over the party, a

source in the party said.

The breakaway group led by Shanmugam and Velumani, who along with 23 party MLAs voted in favour of the TVK government during the floor test on May 13 defying Palaniswami's instruction to vote against the TVK, have launched a signature campaign among party members to convene the general council, the highest decision-making body. The AIADMK has not convened a meeting so far to review the party's performance in the April 23 Assembly election in which it managed to win



only 47 seats. Speaking to reporters, Agri S S Krishnamurthi, who is backing Palaniswami, said the district secretaries were solidly behind Palaniswami. Former state minister Dr C Vijayabaskar, who is mustering strength for the Shanmugam faction, said as

per the AIADMK party rules, a sufficient number of members have extended their support to convene the general council meeting of the party. "The forms signed by the members would be submitted to Palaniswami urging him to convene the general council," he said. Former state minister Dindigul C Srinivasan said a majority in the party backed their present general secretary. And amidst the internal strife, senior leader S Semmalai resigned on Monday citing mental anguish over the present development in the party.

PNS ■ New Delhi

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj is scheduled to hold a briefing on May 20 with representatives of the Department of Rural Development on the preparatory work undertaken for implementation of the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission-Gramin (VB-G RAM G).

According to information shared on the Parliament website, officials from the Ministry of Rural Development will brief the panel on the subject, "Preparatory work done for implementation of Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission-Gramin (VB-G RAM G)." The meeting comes days

after the Centre announced that the VB-G RAM G Act will come into force across the country from July 1, replacing the two-decade-old Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The government described the move as a "historic transition" in India's rural development architecture aligned with the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047". Under the new framework, every rural household whose adult members volunteer to undertake unskilled manual work will be entitled to 125 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year, an increase from the existing 100-day guarantee under MGNREGA. The Ministry of Rural Development has said the transition from MGNREGA to

## Bengal raises upper age limit for state govt jobs by 5 years

Kolkata

The West Bengal government on Monday announced that the upper age limit for state government jobs was raised by five years. According to a press note issued by the Office of the Chief Secretary, the revised age limits for recruitment to Group A, B, C and D state government jobs have come into effect from May 11, following a formal notification by the Finance Department. "The cabinet has taken this decision in fulfilment of the assurance made to the people in the government's sankalpa patra," the release said. Under the revised norms for recruitment through

the West Bengal Public Service Commission (WBPSC), the maximum age limit has been raised to 41 years for Group A posts, 44 years for Group B posts, and 45 years for Group C and D posts. The government clarified that in case where the prescribed upper age limit for any post is already higher, the existing ceiling would continue. For appointments made through channels other than the public service commission, including recruitments by statutory bodies, government companies and local authorities, the upper age limit has been fixed uniformly at 45 years, the statement said.

## Parl panel to review groundwork for VB-G RAM G rollout

PNS ■ New Delhi

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the new framework would be seamless and ongoing works under the existing scheme as of June 30 would continue under the new system. The Centre has also said that existing e-KYC verified MGNREGA job cards will remain valid until new "Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Cards" are issued, and workers without job cards

can continue registering at the gram panchayat level. The government has maintained that workers will not be denied employment due to pending e-KYC and that wages will continue to be transferred directly into bank or post office accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer. The ministry has also said draft rules covering

wage payments, grievance redressal, allocation norms, administrative expenditure, and transitional provisions are being prepared in consultation with states and Union Territories and would be released for public consultation. The Centre has earmarked Rs 95,692.31 crore for the programme in 2026-27, describing it as the highest-ever budget estimate allocation for a rural employment programme. With states' contributions, the total outlay is expected to exceed Rs 1.51 lakh crore. The announcement has, however, triggered political reactions, with the Congress criticising the new law as a "headline-grabbing exercise" and alleging it could lead to greater centralisation and weaken the bargaining power of rural labour.

Kolkata

West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari on Monday launched a blistering attack on his predecessor Mamata Banerjee, claiming she had lost support even in her own stronghold and asserting that her "political career is over", while promising to end extortion and "cut money" practices in Bhabanipur.

Addressing a BJP-organised thanksgiving programme on Camac Street after his victory from the Bhabanipur seat, Adhikari claimed that after he became the chief minister, "Jamaat of Bangladesh" (political party Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami) has been spending sleepless nights. "But I am neither afraid nor will I bow before them," he



said. Adhikari thanked residents for electing him by a margin of over 15,000 votes and sought to project the result as a decisive mandate for political change in the constituency. Banerjee had represented Bhabanipur continuously from 2011 to 2021 and built a formidable political base

there over the years. Adhikari, however, managed to defeat the former chief minister in her own backyard, turning the constituency into one of the most closely watched political battlegrounds in the state. Taking aim at the TMC supremo, Adhikari claimed she failed to secure leads even in booths where she

## Kerala HC flags financial irregularities in connection with poojas at Sabarimala

Kochi

The Kerala High Court on Monday flagged alleged financial irregularities in connection with the conduct of poojas, procurement of materials for them and the role of temple officials in the exercise, and called for a detailed audit of the accounts related to the conduct of the rituals.

A bench of justices Raja Vijayaraghavan V and K V Jayakumar issued the direction based on the Sabarimala Special Commissioner's report with the court observing that if the allegations in it were found to be true it would disclose "long-standing irregular practices involving public funds and temple administration".

It would warrant immediate examination and corrective measures at the highest level, the bench added.



The court said that a devotee had complained of objectionable and irregular practices allegedly prevailing at the hill-top shrine and a preliminary vigilance enquiry had found some irregularities in the manner in which supplier costs were being claimed and appropriated in connection with the 'Ashtabhishekam' poojas for over a decade. The

court noted that of the eight materials required for the pooja, five were being issued from the Devaswom store and the remaining three -- milk, tender coconut and 'pani-neer' (rose water) -- were being procured from outside. However, according to the vigilance enquiry, the Rs 300 earmarked for all eight items was being claimed towards

supplier cost for the pooja without producing any valid bills, vouchers or supporting purchase records, even though five items were being issued from the Devaswom store.

According to the vigilance report, the practice has allegedly been going on for several years and "substantial amounts have been appropriated by successive Administrative Officers under the guise of supplier costs". The vigilance report also stated that by merely examining the accounts relating to six 'Masa Poojas', from August 2024 to March 2026, the amount involved itself comes to Rs 5.15 lakh, the court noted. The report has not taken into account the 'Ashtabhishekam' poojas conducted during the Mandala-Makaravilakku season and several other pooja periods, the court noted.

## 11 people killed as tempo collides with truck in Maha

Palghar

A tempo packed with guests heading for an engagement ceremony collided with a speeding container truck on Monday on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Highway in Maharashtra's Palghar district, killing 11 people and injuring 20 others, police said. The accident occurred near Dhaniwari village under Dahanu taluka at around 4 pm when the Eicher tempo, packed with more than 50 passengers, was heading for the engagement ceremony of one Balaram Jairam Dandekar, hailing from Bapugaon Khadakpada village, they said. "A total of 11 persons died and 20 others were injured in the ghastly accident. The injured have been rushed to the Kasa Upazila Hospital and other nearby medical facilities for treatment," Senior Inspector Amar Patil of the Kasa police station said. According to police, the impact of the collision was so severe that both the tempo and the container overturned on the spot, trapping several passengers underneath the vehicles. Preliminary investigations suggest the tempo was carrying passengers way beyond its capacity. Excessive speed, a narrow stretch of the road, and the tempo driver losing control of the vehicle are suspected to be the primary causes behind the crash. While five passengers died on the spot, six others succumbed to their injuries later. The fatality count could rise further as the condition of several injured passengers remains critical, police said.

## Parameshwara should be CM if Siddaramaiah is replaced: Rajanna

PNS ■ Tumakuru (Karnataka)

Senior Congress MLA K N Rajanna on Monday said Home Minister G Parameshwara should be made Karnataka CM if incumbent Siddaramaiah is replaced in a leadership change in the state.

The former minister also claimed that discussions on a possible leadership change in Karnataka might have taken place in Thiruvananthapuram on Monday, as the Congress high command and state leaders were present there for the swearing-in ceremony of the new Kerala chief minister. "We are among those who want Parameshwara to be made the CM if Siddaramaiah is replaced. He served as the party's state president for eight years. Had he won the 2013 Assembly election, he would have become CM then itself. But he lost, and his old dues are still pending," Rajanna said. Speaking to reporters, he



said: "We are only expressing our opinion. Ultimately, the high command and party leader Rahul Gandhi will decide. What others say is merely personal opinion. Whoever is in Rahul Gandhi's mind will become the CM." He further said that if his suggestion were sought, he would recommend that Siddaramaiah continue as CM and, if a change became necessary, Parameshwara should be chosen. There has also been a demand for a "Dalit CM" in

the state, with Parameshwara seen as a frontrunner. Parameshwara's name has surfaced intermittently in discussions over the chief ministerial post amid speculation that several AHINDA (Kannada acronym for minorities, backward classes and Dalits) leaders in the party, considered close to Siddaramaiah, want one of their own to occupy the post in the event of a leadership change.

Rajanna also claimed that discussions on Karnataka leadership may have taken place in Thiruvananthapuram, as AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar were all present there to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the new Kerala government. "This is my prediction, as all these leaders were in Thiruvananthapuram until 3 pm today," he added.

# 'Extremely heartbreaking': Prez Murmu, PM Modi express grief over BC Khanduri's demise

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday expressed distress over the demise of former Uttarakhand Chief Minister Major General (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri, remembering his commitment towards the development of Uttarakhand and public welfare, will always be remembered.

Maj Gen B.C. Khanduri passed away on Tuesday at Max Hospital in Dehradun after a prolonged illness. Expressing grief, President Murmu said, "The news of the demise of former Chief Minister of Uttarakhand and former Union Minister, Major General (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri ji is extremely heartbreaking."

"After rendering exemplary service in the Indian Army, he set an example of honest, simple, transparent, and development-oriented politics in public service. His commitment to the development of the country and Uttarakhand, good governance, and public welfare will always remain memorable. I express my condolences to his bereaved family members and well-wishers," the President added.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi also expressed grief over the passing of Maj Gen Khanduri, and said that he would always be remembered, while recalling his "invaluable contributions". "I am deeply saddened by the passing of former Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Major General Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri (Retd.) Ji. From the armed forces to the political arena, he made invaluable contributions, for which he will always be remembered," PM Modi said in a post on



X. "He remained forever dedicated to the development of Uttarakhand, which was clearly evident during his tenure as Chief Minister. His term as a Union Minister is also inspiring to everyone. He made tireless efforts continuously for the betterment of connectivity across the country. In this hour of grief, my condolences are with his family and supporters. Om Shanti!" the Prime Minister added.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, taking to social media, offered his condolences on the passing of the senior BJP leader, calling it an "irreparable loss for Uttarakhand" and the party. "Having served in the Army for over three decades, Shri B.C. Khanduri ji remained dedicated throughout his life to the resolve of 'Nation First'. As Chief Minister

of Uttarakhand, he elevated the state to new heights in good governance, transparency, and public welfare. In this hour of grief, the entire BJP family stands with his family members," Shah said. "We pray to God that He grants a place to the departed noble soul at His holy feet and bestows strength upon the bereaved family and supporters to bear this sorrow," he added. Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri was born on October 1, 1934, in Dehradun. A former Army officer who transitioned into politics, Maj Gen Khanduri served two terms as the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand (first from 2007 to 2009 and second from 2011 to 2012), steering the state's administration.

From 1954 to 1990, spanning a full 36 years, he served in the Corps of

Engineers of the Indian Army. During this long tenure, he served as a Regimental Commander, participated in the 1971 India-Pakistan War, held the position of Chief Engineer in the Army, and served as the Additional Military Secretary at Army Headquarters. In 1982, he was conferred the 'Ati Vishisht Seva Medal' (AVSM) by the President of India in recognition of his exceptional services. The discipline, simplicity, and integrity that had become ingrained in his very being during his time in the Army eventually became the defining characteristics of his political identity as well. He was introduced to the world of politics during the Ram Mandir movement in the 1990s, at which time he joined the BJP. In 1991, he entered Parliament for the first time after winning the Lok Sabha election from the Garhwal constituency. Subsequently, he continued to win from this very seat in 1998, 1999, and 2004. During Atal Bihari Vajpayee's tenure, he served as the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways from 2000 to 2003; subsequently, in 2003, he was elevated to the rank of Cabinet Minister. Following the 2004 Lok Sabha elections, he transitioned from parliamentary politics to state-level politics. In February 2007, he led the BJP to victory in the Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly elections, and on March 8, 2007, he assumed office as the state's Chief Minister. During his tenure as the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, he took stringent measures against corruption and laid the foundation for a transparent and disciplined administration within the state.

## AP CM Chandrababu Vows to Protect Coastline and Support Fishermen



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu asserted that the coastline and fishing grounds belong exclusively to the state, emphasising there is no room for intrusion. Speaking at the inauguration of the 'Matsyakarula Seva' (Fishermen's Service) programme in Kavali, Nellore district, he declared that any unauthorised boats entering the waters would be met with swift action, including alerts to the District Collector and heightened security measures. Naidu pledged unwavering support to the fishing community, highlighting recent financial aid initiatives. He stated that ₹20,000 is provided during the annual fishing ban period, and for the first time, ₹260 crore has been directly deposited into fishermen's bank accounts. Last year, assistance worth ₹243 crore was extended to over 1.21 lakh families, and this year, ₹262 crore has been allocated to more than 1.30 lakh families. He also noted that between 2014 and 2019, marine resource production grew by 19.18 percent. The CM underscored that fisheries are the second largest livelihood sector after agriculture and construction, with Andhra Pradesh producing 80 percent of India's shrimp for export. Naidu encouraged fishermen, especially women, to explore seaweed cultivation using seawater, promising this as a means to boost income. He expressed his government's commitment to improving the lives of fishermen and ensuring prosperity for the community. State Ministers Atchannaidu and Farooq, along with other dignitaries, attended the event.

## Lifestyle stress driving early hypertension, say doctors at CARE Hospitals

Hyderabad: India's cardiovascular risk profile is undergoing a worrying shift, hypertension, once largely associated with older adults, is now increasingly being detected among people in their 30s and early 40s. Doctors warn that this silent progression is becoming one of the most under-recognised public health challenges in urban India.

On the occasion of World Hypertension Day, specialists at CARE Hospitals highlighted that hypertension affects nearly one in four adults in urban India, with a significant proportion remaining undiagnosed until complications arise. Health experts caution that this gap in early detection is contributing to a growing burden of preventable heart attacks, strokes and kidney disease. Often termed the "silent killer," hypertension typically progresses without symptoms. Nearly half of those living with high blood pressure are unaware of their condition, as routine screening is still not widely adopted among asymptomatic adults below 40 years of age.

Doctors attribute the rising trend to prolonged



stress, sedentary work culture, irregular sleep cycles, high-salt processed diets and declining physical activity, a combination increasingly seen among young professionals and urban populations. In many cases, individuals misinterpret early physiological changes as fatigue or stress, delaying diagnosis and treatment. Dr. Lalukota Krishna Mohan, Director and Senior Interventional Cardiologist at CARE Hospitals, Hitech City, said, "Hypertension is no longer a condition of later life. We are now diagnosing it much earlier, often in individuals who are in the most active phase of their careers. The concern is not just prevalence, but the silent nature of damage it caus-

es to the heart, brain and kidneys over time." He added, "Most patients do not experience warning symptoms. By the time blood pressure-related complications appear, organ damage may already be underway. Regular screening, especially for those with diabetes, obesity, family history, smoking habits or high stress, is essential. A simple BP check can significantly change long-term outcomes."

Experts further noted that uncontrolled hypertension gradually damages blood vessels, increasing the risk of life-threatening complications such as stroke, heart failure, kidney failure and vascular disease. It remains one of the leading preventable

causes of cardiovascular mortality in India. Health specialists emphasised that lifestyle correction remains the first and most effective line of defence. Regular physical activity, reduced salt intake, balanced nutrition, weight management, adequate sleep, stress control and avoidance of tobacco and alcohol can significantly reduce risk. Dr. Krishna Mohan also stressed the need for preventive health behaviour, stating, "Hypertension prevention begins with awareness and consistency. People should not wait for symptoms to appear. Annual blood pressure screening after the age of 30 should become a routine health habit, not an exception." Health Reinforcing its commitment to preventive cardiac care, CARE Hospitals called for greater public awareness and early screening adoption as part of long-term strategies to reduce India's growing cardiovascular disease burden. On World Hypertension Day, clinicians reiterated a simple message: detect early, act early — because hypertension rarely announces itself, but its consequences

## Introduction of electric buses not privatisation of APSRTC

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) has clarified that the introduction of electric buses under the Gross Cost Contract (GCC) model does not amount to privatisation of the Corporation and described reports circulating in certain sections as misleading.

In an official statement issued on Sunday, APSRTC said the clarification was aimed at preventing misconceptions among the public and employees regarding the induction of electric buses in the State. The Corporation stated that the Government of India launched 'PM eBus Sewa Scheme' to promote clean, environment-friendly and sustainable urban public transport across the country. Around 10,000 electric buses are proposed to be introduced nationwide under the scheme.

The APSRTC explained that the GCC model is not new to the Corporation. It had already introduced 100 electric buses in 2021 under the Centre's FAME-II Scheme, which are now operating successfully on Tirupati-Tirumala, Tirupati-Nellore, Tirupati-Kadapa and other routes.

The Corporation said the State has now been allotted 750 electric buses under PM eBus Sewa Scheme. In addition, the Centre sanctioned another 300 electric buses exclusively for the Tirupati-Tirumala route as



part of the proposed 'Green Corridor'.

APSRTC said the Centre is providing substantial financial support, including 60% grant for civil infrastructure and 100% grant for electrical infrastructure. A grant of Rs 145.39 crore has been sanctioned for charging and maintenance facilities for the 750 buses.

The Corporation is also expected to receive incentives worth nearly Rs 1,774 crore under the scheme. Highlighting the benefits, APSRTC said electric buses would reduce pollution, fuel expenditure and maintenance costs while improving passenger comfort and operational efficiency.

Clarifying concerns over employees' welfare, APSRTC stated that no employee would lose employment due to the induction of electric buses or implementation of the GCC model. It added that APSRTC would continue to retain full control over routes, fares and public

service obligations while protecting employees' interests.

Hyderabad office leasing hits record first-quarter volume rising 21.6 pc

New Delhi: Hyderabad's office market posted its highest-ever first-quarter gross leasing volume at 3.15 million square feet (MSF), marking a 21.6 per cent year-on-year rise, a report said on Tuesday.

The report from commercial real estate services firm Cushman & Wakefield said the city accounted for about 14 per cent of India's total office gross leasing volume of roughly 22 MSF in Q1 2026. Large transactions of 1 lakh square feet or more accounted for 81 per cent of total leasing activity and mid-sized deals (25,000-99,999 square feet) contributed 17 per cent. Activity remained highly concentrated in Madhapur, which accounted for 91 per cent of total leasing, highlighting its dominance within the city's office

market. Despite the absence of new completions during the quarter, net absorption remained robust at 2.21 million square feet, sustaining momentum from 2025.

The city recorded its strongest post-pandemic year for absorption in 2025, with a quarterly average of roughly 2.27 MSF. The combination of no new supply and healthy absorption led to moderation in vacancy levels, with citywide vacancy compressing by 260 basis points YoY to 20.22 per cent. The demand remained particularly strong in Madhapur, where overall vacancy stood at 7.5 per cent, while Grade A+ assets tightened further to an exceptionally low 4.8 per cent. City's average stock-weighted rent increased 11.6 per cent YoY to Rs 92.2, the highest level recorded to date. Madhapur continued to command a rental premium at Rs 105.5, supported by limited availability and sustained demand. Meanwhile, Gachibowli's weighted average rent stood at Rs 72.3, retaining a cost advantage and positioning it a preferred alternative destination for occupiers. From a sectoral standpoint, IT-BPM remained the largest contributor, accounting for 36 per cent of leasing activity, followed closely by the flexible Workspace segment with a 30 per cent share. BFSI accounted for 23 per cent, driven by global financial institutions expanding and strengthening their presence in the city.

Religious freedom should not inconvenience others, but rules must be same for all: Cong backs CM Yogi on roadside prayers



New Delhi: Congress MP Pramod Tiwari on Tuesday said that while every citizen has the right to practice their religion freely, religious activities should not create inconvenience for others, reacting to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's remarks against offering 'namaz' on public roads. However, the party added that there must be a uniform policy applicable to all religions in the country on this. "I only want to say that everyone has religious freedom, and people should practice their faith in a manner they consider appropriate, provided it does not cause inconvenience to others," Tiwari said. Meanwhile, Congress spokesperson Surendra Rajput called for equal rules for all communities and urged the government to ensure impartiality in implementing any restrictions on religious gatherings held on public roads.

"There must be a uniform policy applicable to all religions, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, and Christian alike. If a ban is to be imposed on offering 'Namaz' on the streets, then all religious events and gatherings held on public roads by other faiths must be subjected to an equal and corresponding ban; only then can such a measure be deemed impartial..." Rajput said. The remarks came amid a growing political debate over the offering of congregational namaz on roads ahead of Bakrid celebrations. Supporting the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister's stand, BJP leader T.R. Srinivas said Yogi Adityanath was right in objecting to prayers that block public movement and inconvenience people of other faiths. "The CM of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath has rightly remarked, Bakrid is coming and namaz should not be done on public roads by blocking and creating inconvenience to other people from other faiths. He's right. I want to ask the Muslim community, you have lot of Waqf lands, why are you not utilising it? What is the issue? What is the problem? Are you trying to do this as a show of strength? And please follow the rule of the land, and I will go with CM, and he's correct..." Srinivas said. Earlier in the day, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath issued a stern warning against the practice of offering namaz on roads, stating that blocking traffic for such congregational gatherings would not be permitted by the state government. Speaking at an event in Lucknow, the Chief Minister said the administration would initially attempt to ensure compliance through persuasion. However, he added that if persuasion failed, authorities would adopt other measures to enforce public order norms.

## Jupally sees museums as repositories of knowledge

Stating that museums were not mere storehouses of ancient artefacts, Tourism Minister Jupally Krishna Rao on Monday said that these were living repositories of knowledge that mirror a society's civilization, culture, and way of life. Speaking as the chief guest at the International Museum Day celebrations at the State Museum in Public Gardens, Krishna Rao underscored that safeguarding world heritage was a collective societal responsibility rather than the sole obligation of the government. He formally inaugurated the event by lighting the traditional lamp. On the occasion, the Minister released official brochures alongside two books titled Paramara Jagaddeva's inscriptions in Telangana and Stucco Sculptures in Centenary Museum. Rao remarked that a nation's greatness and cultural legacy were passed down to posterity through its museums and heritage wealth. Noting that ancestors built magnificent architectural marvels in an era entirely devoid of modern technology, he said that life remains incomplete without experiencing and appreciating these wonders. The Minister highlighted that the inscription of the Ramappa Temple onto the UNESCO World Heritage list has brought global recognition to



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Telangana's rich history. He reiterated the State government's commitment to placing Telangana prominently on the international tourism map by effectively showcasing its monumental heritage to the world.

Emphasising that the government accords top priority to heritage conservation and the development of historical monuments, Rao announced that a specialised training and recruitment programme would be launched for tourist guides. This initiative aims to generate employment opportunities for local youth at historical destinations while ensuring visitors receive high-quality information. The government will allocate Rs 5 crore for this purpose, he said. Tourism special chief secretary Vani Prasad said the State Archaeology Department introduced new

academic courses in archaeology and museology. She urged the youth to utilise these opportunities to actively participate in heritage preservation, while encouraging students and children to visit museums to foster a deeper understanding of history. World Monuments Fund board member Shalini Bhupal, Tourism Development Corporation Managing Director Gauthami, Tourism Director Laxman Ranjit Nayak, Archaeology Director Arjuna Rao, NITHM Director Venkataramana, Central Archaeology Department Superintendent Nikhil Das, Deccan Heritage Academy Chairman Veda Kumar, INTACH convenor Anuradha Reddy, and historian Emani Sivanagi Reddy were among those present. -----]

### AP SSC Supplementary Exam Hall Tickets Released

The Department of Education has issued hall tickets for students appearing in the 10th-grade Advanced Supplementary Examinations in Andhra Pradesh. The exams are scheduled to take place across the state from 25 May to 4 June. Dr. K.V. Srinivasulu Reddy, Director of the Department of Government Examinations, confirmed that the hall tickets are already available on the login portals of all schools, and students can collect them from their respective institutions. For added convenience, the government has introduced a new arrangement allowing students to receive their hall tickets via WhatsApp. Students can send a message to the 'Manamitra' number 95523 00009 to download their tickets directly on their mobile phones, avoiding the need to visit internet centres. Additionally, hall tickets can be printed from the official website of the Board of Secondary Education (BSEAP) by entering their previous roll number from the March 2026 examinations and date of birth.

# PCOS Officially Renamed PMOS in Landmark Global Health Shift

In a major development for women's healthcare, the condition long known as Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) has been officially renamed Polyendocrine Metabolic Ovarian Syndrome (PMOS). This change follows a 14-year global effort led by Monash University, aimed at correcting a longstanding medical misconception.

the new name, PMOS, was adopted because experts believe the term "PCOS" wrongly suggested the condition was solely about ovarian cysts. In reality, the disorder is a complex interplay of hormonal and metabolic issues that affect over 170 million women worldwide—roughly 1 in 8 women globally.

In India, the burden of this condition is particularly high. Recent data indicates that the prevalence of PMOS (formerly PCOS) among Indian women ranges from 3.7% to 22.5%. A cross-sectional study conducted in

Hyderabad found that the condition significantly impairs the quality of life, with psychological well-being and mood being the most severely affected areas.

\* Prevalence: Up to 21.25% among certain professional groups, such as female doctors in Karnataka.

\* Symptoms: Irregular menses is the most common clinical sign, reported by over 21% of affected women.

\* Risk Factors: A higher Body Mass Index (BMI) and urban residence are identified as primary predictors of poorer health outcomes and mood disorders.

The renaming to PMOS highlights that the disorder affects far more than reproductive organs. It is a systemic condition impacting:

\* Metabolism: Increased risk of insulin resistance and Type 2 diabetes.

## PCOS SYMPTOMS



## POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROMS (PCOS)

\* Mental Health: High correlation with anxiety, depression, and mood swings.

\* Physical Appearance: Hormonal imbalances lead to

hirsutism (excess facial/body hair), acne, and weight gain.

Precautions::

While there is no permanent "cure," PMOS can be managed

through a combination of medical intervention and lifestyle changes.

Lifestyle Precautions ::

\* Weight Management: A modest weight loss of just 2% to 5% of total body weight can significantly improve menstrual regularity and reduce testosterone levels.

\* Dietary Focus: For Indian women, a high-fiber, high-protein diet is recommended, aiming for a 500 to 750 kcal daily deficit if weight loss is required.

\* Natural Alternatives: Research suggests that supplements like Curcumin (from turmeric) and Berberine may help improve blood sugar and reduce androgen levels.

The shift to PMOS marks a new era of awareness, moving the focus from just "cysts" to the comprehensive metabolic and endocrine health of women.

## Kritika Kamra to star in 'Abhay' writer Pushaan Mukherjee's directorial debut film



Mumbai: Actress Kritika Kamra, whose latest release is Matka King, has officially locked her next feature film, an upcoming drama by debutant Pushaan Mukherjee, known for writing the Kunal Kemmu-starrer 'Abhay'. The actress is set to headline the drama, currently carrying the working title "Dumbbell", with shooting scheduled to commence in June. According to sources close to the project, Kritika has already begun preparations ahead of the June shoot schedule. A source said: "Kritika was immediately drawn to the world of the film because of how different it is from her previous work. As a drama, the film gives her immense scope as a performer, and she has already started prep to fully immerse herself in the character before cameras roll next month." The film is expected to showcase the actress in a distinctly new space, further strengthening her reputation for choosing layered, performance-driven projects. While the makers are maintaining confidentiality around the storyline, industry sources confirm that Dumbbell is being mounted as a drama. Talking about Matka King, the series follows a cotton trader who launches the illegal "Matka" gambling game, eventually building a powerful underground empire. The show blends crime, ambition, politics, and social change against the backdrop of post-independence Mumbai. It was on May 7 that the makers of the series announced a second season. The show stars Vijay Varma as a fictional gambling lord who operates a string of matkas across Mumbai. Kritika made her acting debut in 2007, with Yahan Ke Hum Sikandar. In 2009, she played a singer, Arohi in Kitani Mohabbat Hai opposite Karan. She was then seen in Pyaar Ka Bandhan, Kitani Mohabbat Hai 2, Kuch Toh Log Kahenge, In 2015, Kritika played a reporter, Ananya Kashyap opposite Rajeev Khandelwal, in Reporters. She was then seen as Princess Chandrakanta in Prem Ya Paheli – Chandrakanta. She made her film debut in 2018, with Mitron. In 2021, she played a college student Sana in the web series Tandav. The actress played a reporter Vidhi, in the 2023 film Bheed. In the same year, she played Habiba, in Bamba Meri Jaan. Her most recent release, Gyaarah Gyaarah.

## Beat the heat: Dr Vamsee Krishna shares life saving tips about sunstroke

Dr Vamsee Krishna P is a highly renowned and experienced physician and diabetologist based in Hyderabad, currently practicing as chief consultant physician at The Deccan Hospitals Somajiguda. With over 15 years of clinical experience he is passionate about providing personalized care and working with patients to improve their long-term health and empowering patients through education. With the mercury rising this season unabated, he is giving us some cool tips to combat the scorching heat.

### THE HEAT STROKE STORY : HOW TO KEEP YOUR COOL

As summer temperatures soar, the relentless sun brings more than just a tan – it brings the serious, often fatal risk of sunstroke or heatstroke. With heatwaves becoming more intense due to climate change, understanding this emergency condition is crucial for survival

**WHAT IS SUNSTROKE ?** Sunstroke occurs when the body's cooling system fails, and the core temperature



surges, often above 104 f (40 c). This is not just severe dehydration; it's a medical emergency that can lead to rapid organ failure or death if not treated immediately.

### RECOGNIZE THE WARNING SIGNS

Do not confuse sunstroke with simple fatigue. Key symptoms include:

I Neurological changes : confusion, agitation, slurred speech, delirium, coma

I Skin changes: skin feels hot, dry and red, sometimes

losing the ability to sweat despite extreme heat

I Physical distress: throbbing headache, dizziness, nausea, vomitings and rapid pulse

I Others : kidney failure, liver failure, respiratory distress, shock, heart failure, muscle breakdown etc including death.

### FIRST AID : ACT FAST

I Move them : take the person to a cool, shaded area or an air conditioned room.

I Cool them : apply cold, wet

cloths to the skin, use ice packs on the neck, armpits and groin or immerse them in cool water

I Hydrate them : provide fluids if they are conscious.

I If nothing works rush them to the nearby hospital.

### PREVENTION TIPS:

I Stay hydrated : drink plenty of fluids to help your body maintain a normal temperature

I Dress appropriately : wear loose fitting, lightweight clothing, preferably in light colors.

I Avoid peak hours : limit strenuous activity during the hottest parts of the day, generally from 10 am to 4 pm

I Never leave anyone in a car : temperatures in a parked car can rise to fatal levels in just 10 minutes

"PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR LOVED ONES. BEING AWARE CAN PREVENT A SUNNY DAY FROM TURNING INTO A TRAGEDY"

## Atlee & Priya Atlee name their baby girl 'Miyou'

Mumbai: Renowned filmmaker Atlee and his better half Priya Atlee, have revealed the name of their baby girl through a social media post. On Sunday, the couple announced that they have named their newborn "Miyou." The announcement post on Instagram also included a picture of the baby's tiny hand, along with the text, "A tiny person with the biggest place in our hearts." "Our art of love now has a name...MIYOU —

beauty, gentleness & love With luv ,MEER , PRIYA & ATLEE (sic)," read the caption of the joint post. On April 20, Atlee and Priya announced the arrival of their second child with another social media post that went, "Feeling blessed" and shared a poster that contained a drawing of their son Meer, which read, "Yay! I've got a baby sister!" The poster included the words, "We, Priya and Atlee are blessed with a baby girl. April 20th,

2026." It was in January this year that the couple shared the happy news of their second pregnancy. Breaking News Alerts Sharing a couple of lovely pictures of Atlee, Priya, and their son Meer from a family photoshoot, they penned, "Our home is about to get even cozier with the addition of our newest member! Yes! We are pregnant again...Need all your blessings , love and prayers...With love...Atlee , Priya , Meer , Becky , Yuki ,

chocki , Coffee and Goofy". Atlee and Priya were in a relationship for several years before they finally tied the knot in 2014 in a traditional ceremony attended by close friends and family. The couple was blessed with their first child, son Meer, on January 31, 2023. On the work front, Atlee is presently busy with his next titled "Raaka". The highly anticipated project will feature Allu Arjun and Deepika Padukone as the leads.

## Starc's second spell completely changed the game, says Boucher

Delhi Capitals playoff hopes were kept alive by Mitchell Starc's decisive second spell, which 'completely changed the game' in their favour against Rajasthan Royals, said former South Africa wicketkeeper-batter Mark Boucher. Starc's figures of 4-40 restricted RR to 193/8, which DC chased down with four balls to spare and record a five-wicket victory. The win also meant DC moved back to seventh spot in the 10-team points table and kept their slim playoffs hopes alive. "At one stage, Rajasthan Royals looked set for a total close to 230 after the kind of Powerplay they had. Mitchell Starc hadn't quite found his rhythm early on, but when he came back, he completely changed the game with his variations in pace and execution under pressure. "That over, where he picked up three wickets, shifted the momentum entirely and pulled Rajasthan back from what looked like a massive total. A few of the batters might feel they played their shots too early, but there's no doubt that spell changed the complexion of the game and ultimately kept the target within Delhi Capitals' reach," said Boucher on JioHotstar. What also helped DC was



young all-rounder Madhav Tiwari taking wickets of Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and Shubham Dubey via slower balls, something which former India leg-spinner Piyush Chawla duly pointed out. "Madhav Tiwari has been extremely impressive, not just in this game but in the previous match as well. For a youngster with limited first-class experience, he already seems to have a lot of variety in his bowling. "But the key is having the confidence to execute those options at the right moments, and he's doing that with remarkable ease. Even in Dharamshala, where bowlers were going for plenty, he smartly used

his slower balls into the pitch and delivered an important spell. In this game again, just when Rajasthan Royals were building momentum, he picked up the crucial wicket of Vaibhav Suryavanshi and helped slow the scoring rate."

Chawla also praised Abhishek Porel's positive intent in the chase, as he hit 51 and shared a 105-run opening stand with KL Rahul, who top-scored with 56. "Abhishek Porel's innings was extremely impressive because despite not getting too many opportunities this season, he came in with complete positive intent. "What stood out was the

way he ensured there was no pressure on KL Rahul at the other end. Whenever the ball was in his zone, he was willing to take his chances and play the attacking shots, which was very important in a chase of over 190. Considering how the first innings played out, that aggressive start made a big difference for Delhi Capitals." Looking ahead to Monday's clash, Chawla said Sunrisers Hyderabad hold a slight edge over Chennai Super Kings due to the latter being hit by injuries, including to seam-bowling all-rounder Jamie Overton. Geographical Reference "Sunrisers Hyderabad have a slight edge going into this game, mainly because Jamie Overton's injury is a significant setback for Chennai Super Kings. He was playing an important role for CSK in the middle overs with the ball and was also contributing valuable runs lower down the order. "Replacing that kind of all-round impact won't be easy. Spencer Johnson can strengthen the bowling, but he doesn't offer the same batting depth, so it will be interesting to see whether CSK stick with the same combination or look at making changes for such an important game."

## Mark Boucher calls Heinrich Klaasen innings a 'masterclass' in SRH playoff win



New Delhi: Former South Africa wicketkeeper batter Mark Boucher described Heinrich Klaasen's attacking innings against Chennai Super Kings as a "masterclass" after the Proteas batter helped Sunrisers Hyderabad seal qualification for the IPL 2026 playoffs.

Klaasen smashed 47 off 26 balls on a difficult Chepauk surface and shifted the momentum decisively during a crucial 75-run partnership with Ishan Kishan as SRH chased down 181 with an over to spare. "I think he should open an academy and teach the rest of us, because that was a masterclass," Boucher said on Star Sports' 'Amul Cricket Live'. "On a wicket that was stopping and turning, he came in with a clear plan. He used his footwork brilliantly, which allowed him to access both sides of the wicket." "He also looked to play squarer, which was the right option, as seen with the reverse sweeps he executed."

Boucher particularly praised Klaasen's ability to wrest back momentum when the chase threatened to stall. "What I really admired was the intent he showed. At that stage, the game seemed to be drifting a little, and he immediately injected momentum into the innings," he said. "He gave the entire Sunrisers team a lift and forced Ruturaj to rethink his tactics. Once the spinners were taken off and the seamers came on, it also opened up scoring opportunities for Ishan Kishan." "It was a masterclass in how to put the pressure back on the bowling side." In support of Klaasen's 70 off 47, it was an innings of balance which complemented a situation following the wickets of Travis Head and Abhishek Sharma. It was the earlier effort of Dewald Brevis's 44 and useful contributions from Sanju Samson and Kartik Sharma which took CSK's total to 180/7, Cummins' figures of 3/28 lead the SRH bowling attack while Sakib Husain and Praful Hinge's two wickets a piece for the rookie pacers rounded it off. SRH were the third team to book a spot in the IPL 2026 playoffs.

## Added responsibility of captaincy seems to have affected Gaikwad's batting, says Ashwin

New Delhi: Former India cricketer Ravichandran Ashwin believes that Ruturaj Gaikwad's batting has been affected by his new role as captain. This comes as the Chennai Super Kings work through a transition phase after MS Dhoni's departure. Speaking on JioHotstar after CSK's five-wicket loss to Sunrisers Hyderabad at Chepauk, Ashwin discussed the challenges the team is facing now that SRH secured a playoff spot with their win. Hyderabad City Guide "Chennai Super Kings are clearly in a transition phase in the post-Dhoni era. It's important for everyone involved—fans, stakeholders, and the team—to recognize that rebuilding takes time," Ashwin said. "The standards and expectations associated with CSK are incredibly high because of their legacy, but this group needs space and patience as they evolve. At the same time, the added responsibility of captaincy seems to have affected Ruturaj Gaikwad's batting. T20 cricket is already demanding, and carrying the burden of leadership alongside expectations from a franchise like CSK can have a significant impact on a player." SRH secured a spot in the IPL 2026 playoffs with a steady chase of 181 runs, boosted by Ishan Kishan's 70 off 47 balls and Heinrich Klaasen's aggressive 47 at the M. A. Chidambaram Stadium. After early contributions from Abhishek Sharma and Klaasen, Kishan led the chase effectively. SRH reached their target with an over to spare, earning 16 points from 13 matches and joining Gujarat Titans and Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the playoffs.

## Messi's India Tour event organiser files complaint against former Bengal minister, ex-DGP

Kolkata: Lionel Messi's 'GOAT India Tour-Kolkata edition' organiser Satadru Dutta has lodged a written complaint against former state Sports Minister Aroop Biswas at Bidhannagar South Police Station in connection with alleged mismanagement during the Argentine football legend's event at Yuva Bharati Krirangan in December 2025 in Kolkata.

In the letter to the police, Dutta has accused Aroop Biswas of unlawful intrusion into restricted security zones, collapse of perimeter discipline, endangerment of Lionel Messi and disruption of the event. He has sought prompt and necessary steps against Biswas, Trinamool Congress councillor and Biswas' sister-in-law, Jui Biswas and then Director General of Police, Rajeev Kumar, over the allegations. According to the police, Dutta visited the police station on Monday night and submitted the complaint, alleging irregularities and lapses in the organisation of the high-profile programme. He has claimed that the event, held on December 13, 2025, suffered from poor planning and coordination.

The complaint comes in the backdrop of an investigation into alleged mismanagement and vandalism at Salt Lake Stadium during Messi's visit, which drew widespread criticism. Dutta, who had previously been arrested in the same case, had recently accused the state minister of involvement in the incident. After the change of government in West Bengal, Dutta spoke for the first time



since his arrest in the incident and directly accused the former state minister of interfering in the flow of events and breaching the security of Lionel Messi. It may be noted that on January 19, Satadru Dutta was granted bail by a city court, more than a month after being arrested. His bail application had been rejected twice before. Dutta was the main craftsman to bring Lionel Messi to Kolkata. After the pandemonium at Salt Lake's Yuva Bharati Krirangan on December 13, 2025, the police arrested him at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport on the same day. He was then sent to police custody for 14 days. On December 28 last year, the first bail application was rejected after a long hearing. Then he was sent to judicial custody. Finally, after 37 days, he

got bail. On December 13 last year, chaos erupted inside the Salt Lake Stadium as spectators, who had bought tickets for a glimpse of the football legend, were left high and dry after Messi left the field quickly. After that, vandalism took place in the stadium. Chairs and bottles were thrown onto the field from the stands. Many spectators broke down the gates and entered the field. Vandalism also occurred in the galleries and restrooms of the Yuva Bharati Krirangan. Following this incident, the state government formed an investigation committee. The event organiser, Satadru Dutta, was arrested. In the aftermath, Aroop Biswas resigned as the state Sports Minister while top IPS officers, including DGP Rajeev Kumar, were issued show-cause notices.

## Bajaj General Insurance Launches MHCP EDGE+, a Flexible, Next-Generation Health Indemnity Plan with Coverage upto INR 5 Crores

- Sum insured options from INR 5 Lakhs up to INR 5 Crores
- Unlimited reinstatement ensuring continued coverage within the policy year
- Modular design with multiple add-ons and riders for customised protection
- Coverage for consumables, modern treatments, and global care options
- Age Shield feature to lock premium at the entry age until a claim is made
- Smart Tenure enables customers to pool their total sum insured across the policy tenure and use it flexibly, even from the first year

Pune, 19th May 2026: Bajaj General Insurance Limited (formerly known as Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Limited), one of India's leading private general insurers, today announced the launch of 'My Health Care Plan Edge+' (MHCP EDGE+), a comprehensive health indemnity solution designed to address rising healthcare costs and reduce out-of-pocket expenses through enhanced flexibility and customisation.

Built on the solid foundation of its existing MHCP offering, MHCP EDGE+ combines core hospitalisation coverage with a wide suite of optional riders, enabling customers to tailor their policy based on evolving healthcare needs, life stage, and affordability. The plan offers sum insured options ranging from INR 5 Lakhs up to INR 5 Crores, along with unlimited reinstatement of the sum insured within a policy year, ensuring continued protection even in case of multiple claims. The base plan provides comprehensive coverage for hospitalisation expenses including room rent, ICU charges, surgeries, modern treatment meth-



ods, AYUSH therapies, and pre and post hospitalisation costs. It also covers day care procedures, domiciliary hospitalisation, organ donor expenses, and emergency ambulance services, offering holistic financial protection during medical contingencies.

A key differentiator of MHCP EDGE+ is its modular structure, which allows customers to enhance their coverage through a range of add-ons and riders. These include Consumables Plus to minimise non-payable expenses at the time of discharge, Super Cumulative Bonus for accelerated growth of the sum insured, and Major Illness and Accident Multiplier benefits for higher protection during critical events. The product also offers global coverage options for both emergency and planned treatments abroad, catering to customers with international healthcare needs.

In addition, MHCP EDGE+ introduces features focused on long-term affordability and future readiness. The Age Shield rider enables customers to lock their premium at entry age until a claim is made, while Smart

Tenure allows customers to combine their sum insured across the full policy tenure, giving them access to a larger overall coverage amount that can be used as needed, even in the early years of the policy. Customers can opt for Global Cover, which provides access to both planned and emergency treatments abroad, expanding care beyond India. The Health Limitless rider further enhances protection by offering one claim without any annual sum insured limit during the policy lifetime. The plan further extends into wellness and preventive care through optional offerings such as the Health Prime rider, which includes teleconsultations, in clinic consultations, diagnostic support, preventive health check-ups, and lifestyle and fitness related services.

Speaking on the announcement, Dr. Tapan Singhel, MD & CEO, Bajaj General Insurance, said,

"Health insurance is steadily moving from a product mindset to a solution mindset, where the focus is not just on covering hospitalisation, but on how effectively we support customers across their entire healthcare journey.

With MHCP EDGE+, we have built a plan that responds to some of the most relevant gaps customers experience today, be it rising medical costs, non-payable expenses, or the need for higher and more adaptable coverage.

What is equally important is giving customers the flexibility to shape their protection as their needs evolve, without making the product complex. Through a modular approach, we are enabling wider choices, better control, and access to quality care, including advanced and global treatment options. As an industry, our role is to make health insurance more relevant, transparent, and aligned to real life needs, and this offering is a step in that direction."

Available for both individual and family floater options, MHCP EDGE+ offers lifetime renewability, policy tenures of up to five years, and coverage starting from as early as 3 months of age. The product also provides flexible waiting period options, a range of discount structures, and wellness linked benefits, positioning it as a flexible and future ready solution for customers seeking health insurance that can adapt to their evolving needs.

### About Bajaj General Insurance

Bajaj General Insurance Limited (formerly known as Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Limited) is one of India's leading, most trusted and dynamic private general insurance companies. It is a subsidiary of Bajaj Finserv Limited, India's leading and most diversified financial services group.

Bajaj General offers a broad portfolio of innovative and customer-focused insurance solutions, spanning motor, health, and home insurance, along with specialised products such as pet insurance, wedding insurance, event protection, cyber insurance, and rural insurance. From safeguarding your health and home to protecting your travels and life's most important moments, Bajaj General aims to be a constant partner in your journey. Bajaj General equally offers a comprehensive and a well-diversified range of products, including fire, marine, engineering, liability and surety insurance to corporates and SMEs. The company also participates in various government schemes with a focus on financial inclusion. The company is also known for its robust risk selection capabilities, digital adoption and product innovation.

Established in 2001, the company has grown its footprint to nearly 1,500 towns and cities across India, ensuring easy access and a close connection to its customers. This access is enabled through the largest distribution network, spanning across individual agents, point-of-sales personnel, banks, NBFCs, motor dealers, brokers and the company's proprietary sales force.

It holds an [ICRA]AAA rating from ICRA Limited, reflecting the highest level of confidence in its financial strength and stability. With a strong legacy, a forward-looking mindset, and an unwavering focus on its 'Customer-First' philosophy, Bajaj General remains committed to protecting what matters most, empowering individuals, families, and businesses to live with confidence and peace of mind.

## Vivek Dahiya reveals how he reacted after learning about wife Divyanka Tripathi's pregnancy

Mumbai: Actor Vivek Dahiya revealed how he reacted after learning about his wife Divyanka Tripathi's pregnancy. Speaking exclusively to IANS, Vivek shared that he felt extremely nervous after receiving the news, as he realized that having a kid is a huge responsibility.

However, he added that he was happy as both he and Divyanka had been waiting for this for a long time. The 'Yeh Hain Mohabatein' actor was asked, "You are entering one of the most beautiful phases of life as soon-to-be parents. What was your emotional reaction when you first received the good news? Sharing his initial reaction, Vivek said, "Honestly, my first reaction was not overwhelming excitement. I actually felt nervous and a little stressed. When Divyanka Tripathi first told me the news, I suddenly realized that a huge responsibility was about to begin."

"That feeling slowly started sinking in over the next few days. Then I understood that this is a process, and



every person reacts differently. It did not mean I was not happy because, deep down, this is something both Divyanka and I always wanted. It is a beautiful phase, but I will always remember that my first reaction was nervousness", he went on to add. Revealing if this new phase has changed his equation with Divyanka, Vivek said that their relationship has become much more mature in the last few months. He shared, "People often say that once a baby arrives, your honeymoon phase ends. What that really means is that the things you used to argue about

earlier suddenly start feeling very small. The problems that once seemed huge no longer matter because bigger responsibilities enter your life." Vivek shared that now they look at life with greater maturity and understanding. Admitting that he has become more conscious and thoughtful, he said, "I absolutely love motorcycles and riding sports bikes at high speed. Earlier, I never thought much about it. But now, without anyone even telling me, I automatically feel more careful because another life's responsibility is about to come into my hands"

## Chiranjeevi sweats it out in the gym for Bobby Kolli's #Mega158!

Hyderabad: Megastar Chiranjeevi, who plays the lead in director Bobby's upcoming action entertainer tentatively being referred to as #Mega158, is leaving no stone unturned to deliver his best in the film.

The Megastar has released a video that shows him sweating it out in the gym to get into shape for the role he plays in the eagerly awaited film. Taking to his X timeline to share the video, Chiranjeevi wrote, "Every day is another opportunity to push beyond limits..."

Charged up and excited for another memorable journey with my dear @dirbobby for #Mega158. Opening Ceremony on May 21st." For the unaware, Megastar Chiranjeevi is joining forces once again with successful filmmaker Bobby Kolli for a high-voltage entertainer backed by the prestigious KVN Productions and produced by Venkat K Narayana. The much-awaited project is slated to be formally launched on May 21.

The footage Chiranjeevi shared shows him pushing boundaries with relentless intensity, a testament to the transformative effort he's investing to achieve a powerful new look for the role. The structured training regimen emphasizes explosive power, functional strength, and exceptional stamina, hinting at the kind of high-octane action the star will be delivering on screen. The film was first announced on the occasion of Chiranjeevi's birthday last year. KVN Productions, while announcing the project in August last year, had said, "It's the #ChiruBobby2 STATEMENT that sends shivers down the spine. 'The Blade that set the BLOODY BENCHMARK'. A MEGASTAR @KChiruTweets hysteria in @dirbobby's presentation. Produced by @KvnProductions & @LohithNK01. #HBDMegastarChiranjeevi #MEGA158. ABC - AGAIN' BOBBY CHIRU." The poster released by the makers to announce the project had an axe splitting a wall open, with traces of blood seen in the cracks on the wall. The poster had the tagline "The blade that set the bloody benchmark." This is the second time that director Bobby is working with Megastar Chiranjeevi. The two had earlier worked together on action entertainer 'Waltair Veerayya'

