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India-Cyprus 'strong and futuristic partnership' rooted in shared values: PM Modi

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday hailed the "strong and futuristic partnership" between India and Cyprus, which he said remains rooted in shared values. "Happy to have met President Nikos Christodoulides in Delhi. We held extensive deliberations on further strengthening the India-Cyprus friendship. Considering the close ties between our nations, we have decided to elevate our friendship into a Strategic Partnership," PM Modi wrote on X after meeting Christodoulides at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi. Hyderabad City Guide "Ours is indeed a strong and futuristic partnership rooted in shared values. The growing investment linkages between our nations are a matter of immense joy, and we hope to increase trade and economic ties in the times to



come," he added. Both leaders held extensive discussions on India-Cyprus bilateral ties. "The visit of President Nikos Christodoulides to India will greatly benefit the people of India and Cyprus. At the same time, it will contribute to a prosper

ous and sustainable planet as well!" PM Modi stated in another post Friday evening. According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the meeting outcomes include elevation of ties to a strategic partnership, besides signing of sev-

eral agreements -- including on a Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism, diplomatic training between Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) and the Diplomatic Academy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cyprus and also in the field of higher education and research. Before the meeting, President Christodoulides shared a light moment with PM Modi as both posed for a selfie at the Hyderabad House. "Prime Minister Modi, my good friend Narendra, I wish to express my deepest appreciation to you personally, and to the people of India, for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to me and my delegation," Christodoulides wrote on X, sharing the selfie. "I feel exceptionally honoured and privileged to be in Delhi for this State Visit, almost a year since your historic

visit to Cyprus," he added. Earlier in the day, President Christodoulides paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat. External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar also called on President Christodoulides and expressed appreciation for his positive sentiments and guidance for the bilateral ties and cooperation between India and the European Union. Following the meeting, EAM Jaishankar posted on X, "Delighted to call on President Christodoulides of the Republic of Cyprus in New Delhi today. Value his positive sentiments and guidance for strengthening our bilateral ties and India - EU cooperation." The Cyprus President arrived in the national capital on Thursday from Mumbai and was received at the airport by Union Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways Ajay Tamta.

AP Home Minister Anita launches Health Insurance Centre for Home Guards in Visakhapatnam

A dedicated Health Insurance Assistance Centre for Home Guards was inaugurated today in Visakhapatnam, with Home Minister Vangalapudi Anita participating in the event and formally launching the facility. This marks the first time in the country that a specialised health insurance scheme has been introduced specifically for Home Guards. Beneficiaries can access coverage of up to approximately Rs 33 lakhs. As part of the initial phase, the initiative will extend health insurance to 975 Home Guards,



their spouses, and up to two children each. Speaking at the event, Minister Anita highlighted that the scheme aims to address issues such

as the lack of health security benefits for Home Guards, who earn lower wages compared to regular police officers. She announced that

the insurance coverage would range from ₹3 lakhs to ₹33 lakhs annually, benefiting an estimated 3,140 individuals. Minister Anita emphasised that the scheme would be provided entirely free of charge, with no payments required from the Home Guards. She also noted that, since families of Home Guards who die in the line of duty are not eligible for immediate compensation, this health insurance scheme will serve as a crucial support system during times of hardship.

Telangana CM Revanth Reddy Congratulates NIMS on Kidney Transplant Milestone



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has praised the Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) in Hyderabad for achieving a remarkable milestone in kidney transplantation. The Department of Urology at NIMS has successfully conducted 2,000 kidney transplants, making it the leading institution in South India for this procedure. Nationally, the Institute of Kidney Diseases and Research Centre (IKDRC) in Gujarat holds the top position, with Christian Medical College in Ludhiana ranking second. Revanth Reddy congratulated the NIMS medical team for their exceptional service to kidney patients. Remarkably, 1,900 of these patients—95%—received their transplants free of charge through the Rajiv Aarogyasri scheme and the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. NIMS set a new record by performing 500 transplants within just three years and four months, starting from January 2023.



Andhra Pradesh Minister Nara Lokesh's second day of his tour in Kadapa district is underway. During his visit, he inaugurated a major solar power project that promises to boost renewable energy in the Rayalaseema region. At T. Koduru in Kondapuram Mandal, SAIL — a leading green energy company — has established a 600-megawatt solar plant with an investment of ₹2,400 crore. On arrival for the inauguration, Minister Lokesh received a grand welcome from members of the ruling alliance. Local residents expressed their happiness, noting the project's potential to create employment opportunities for hundreds of people.

Pawan Kalyan reviews forest dept's seed ball initiative

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan held a review meeting regarding the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department. He issued directives to officials about the upcoming seed ball manufacturing programme scheduled for June. Pawan instructed the distribution of 2.5 crore seed balls and emphasised transforming the initiative into a mass movement involving all sections of society. He urged officials to make the most of the monsoon season, planning extensive dispersal across the state in July and August. He suggested using three methods: direct broadcasting, drone technology, and manual planting. Pawan stated that each seed ball should guarantee a sustainable future and called on everyone to join efforts in making Andhra Pradesh greener, healthier, and more sustainable.



Schedule announced for Rajya Sabha elections across multiple states including AP

The Central Election Commission has announced the schedule for upcoming Rajya Sabha elections, set to fill vacancies arising in June and July. A total of 24 seats across ten states will be contested. In Andhra Pradesh, the terms of four Rajya Sabha members are concluding, prompting elections for their replacement. The official notification will be issued on 1st June, with polling scheduled for 18th June. Results are expected

to be declared on the same day. Among those whose terms are expiring are Karnataka's Rajya Sabha members Mallikarjun Kharge and H.D. Deve Gowda, as well as Madhya Pradesh's Digvijaya Singh. In Andhra Pradesh, the seats held by Ayodhya Rami Reddy, Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose, Parimal Nathwani, and Sana Satish Babu will become vacant. The schedule also covers four seats from Gujarat, two from Jharkhand,



three from Madhya Pradesh, one from Manipur, and four from Karnataka.

'Antya Pushkaralu' of Saraswati river begins at Kaleshwaram

The 'Antya Pushkaralu' of the mystical Saraswati river at the temple town of Kaleshwaram in Bhupalpally district of Telangana began on Thursday with Kanchi Math pontiff Sri Sankari Vijayendra Saraswati Swami taking the first holy dip.

IT and Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu, Endowments Minister Konda Surekha and several other leaders also took the first sacred bath in



Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla and his wife praying at the Kaleswar Saraswati Ghat in Kaleshwaram in Jayshankar Bhupalpally district on Thursday

the early hours of the day.

With about 20-30 lakh devotees expected to participate in the 12-day holy event, the State government has made elaborate arrangements for its smooth conduct, an official release said. The State government had sanctioned Rs 30.63 crore for arrangements for the event. The release said work was taken up for sanitation, drinking water supply, security, roads, vehicle parking and others. The 'Aadhi Pushkaralu' (beginning) of the Saraswati was held last year

and the 'Antya Pushkaralu' (closing) is being held from May 21 to June 1.

'Pushkaralu' is dedicated to worship of the rivers, celebrated once in 12 years.

In Kaleshwaram, Saraswati is revered as 'Antarvahini' (invisible). It joins the Godavari and Pranahita rivers at Kaleshwaram to form a 'Sangamam' (confluence).

Kaleshwaram is renowned for the ancient Kaleshwara Mukteshwara Swamy (Lord Shiva) temple.

Ponnam asks BC Gurukuls to prepare students for competitive exams



Telangana BC Welfare Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar has directed officials of the Mahatma Jyotiba Phule BC Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (MJPT-BCWREIS) to ensure that students in these Gurukuls are prepared for competitive examinations like NEET and EAMCET from Class 8 onwards.

He announced that computer laboratories would be established in every Gurukul and said that he would personally visit Gurukuls across the state. Ponnampati Prabhakar held a review meeting on Thursday to assess the performance of BC Gurukuls in the SSC and Intermediate examinations.

While congratulating the schools that achieved a 100 per cent pass rate, he admonished the principals of schools where the pass percentage was low, instructing them to ensure better results in the upcoming academic year. He expressed hope that in the 2026-27 academic year, all Gurukuls under the BC

(Backward Classes) Welfare Department would achieve even greater success and function with enhanced efficiency. He congratulated the principals on achieving a 98.45 per cent pass rate in the SSC examinations. He also expressed delight over 9,788 students securing marks above 500 and 204 Gurukuls achieving 100 per cent results. He noted that 4,183 students secured marks above 900, and 496 students secured marks above 980 in the intermediate exams.

He issued a warning to those Gurukuls that recorded a low pass percentage in the intermediate examinations. He was informed that

the BC Gurukuls recorded pass percentage of 90.31 per cent for intermediate second year, 97.72 per cent for vocational second year, 85.80 per cent for intermediate first year, and 95.81 per cent for vocational first year.

Observing that students spend more time with their teachers than with their own parents, he urged the staff to look after the students like their own children. He emphasised that teachers serve as the guiding compass for their students. Ponnampati also mandated that parent-teacher meetings should be made compulsory in order to build a strong brand image for the MJPT-BCWREIS institutions.

Telangana's Tulasi Reddy scales Mount Everest



Student groups demand probe into death of UoH student

SFI and other student groups at the University of Hyderabad on Thursday demanded that the university administration constitute an independent fact-finding committee into the events leading to the alleged suicide of a student earlier this week.

A student leader, meanwhile, claimed that the deceased student, Mayukh Kundu, secured an internship at the IIT Hyderabad and that he was supposed to join it on the day his body was found.

The SFI, Ambedkar Students Association (ASA) and other groups alleged in a joint statement that a group of students affiliated with another student group assembled outside a hostel on the night of May 17 on the pretext of taking action against Kundu, who was accused of laptop theft and he was subjected to humiliation.

The unions demanded time-bound action against those allegedly responsible for the "assault, coercion and public humiliation" of Kundu. Their other demands include "accountability from the office of the Proctor, Registrar and Vice Chancellor for systemic failure" and compensation to his family.

Meanwhile, Devesh Nigam, Registrar of UoH, in a post on X, said that the university community is deeply saddened by the untimely demise of Mayukh Kundu, a first-year M A student of Financial Economics.

The university extends heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family, friends, classmates, teachers, and all those who knew him, he said. The university mourns the loss of a young life and joins the entire UoH community in praying for his soul to rest in peace, the Registrar added.

For many, climbing Mount Everest is the ultimate adventure. But for Indian mountaineer Tulasi Reddy Palpunoori, it became a journey of resilience, discipline, transformation, and perseverance that inspired people.

Tulasi, from Bowrampet village near Hyderabad, has successfully summited Mount Everest after years of discipline, endurance training, and relentless preparation.

What makes Tulasi's story inspiring is how ordinarily it began. Once a foodie who simply wanted to get fit, he gradually transformed gym workouts and healthier living into a passion for endurance sports and mountaineering.

Over time, he completed multiple local runs, the demanding Ironman challenge, and several high-altitude expeditions across the world.

Along the way, Tulasi climbed several challenging mountains across the world, including Mount Elbrus (5,642 m), Aconcagua (6,961 m), Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 m) and Kang Yatse (6,400 m).

"Everest was the result of years of discipline, sacrifice, and consistent preparation. This achievement belongs to everyone who supported me throughout the journey,"



TULASI, FROM BOWRAMPET VILLAGE NEAR HYDERABAD, HAS SUCCESSFULLY SUMMITED MOUNT EVEREST AFTER YEARS OF DISCIPLINE, ENDURANCE TRAINING, AND RELENTLESS PREPARATION

Tulasi said.

He credited his family, Sherpa team, friends, and expedition guides Bharath Thammineni and Romil Barthal from Boots and Crampons for supporting him throughout the journey. "Today is one of the proud-

est moments for our family. Years of sacrifice, courage, and determination have finally led Tulasi to stand on top of the world," the family shared.

All 274 climbers, including 150 Nepalese Sherpas, reached the 8,848.86-metre

peak on Wednesday, according to Rishi Ram Bhandari, general secretary of the Expedition Operators Association in Nepal.

Two other Indians - Sandeep Are and Ajay Pal Singh Dhaliwal - were part of the team.

Traffic advisory for SRH and RCB match in city

In view of the Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) versus Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) Indian Premier League (IPL) match taking place at Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium at Uppal on Friday, the Malkajigiri Traffic Police will be implementing traffic diversions on certain routes. Moderate traffic congestion is expected from 12 pm to 12 am in and around Uppal, Habsiguda, Nagole, Ramanthapur, Boduppal and Amberpet routes.

Diversions will be in place for heavy vehicles, including lorries, tippers, tankers,



private buses, tractors, JCBs, etc.

Will give ID cards to content creators: Tourism Minister

Tourism Minister Jupally Krishna Rao on Thursday said that the State Tourism Department will consider giving out ID cards to content creators in order to help them get better access. The Minister was responding to requests from content creators who requested the State government for the same during a meeting in Hyderabad.

The suggestion and response came at the Social Media Creators Meet that was organised by the Telangana Tourism Department. State Tourism Minister Jupally Rao, Tourism Department director



Rajiv Naik, TGDC chairman P Gouthami and others held the stakeholders meeting, which included content creators from the State to give suggestions on how to work together. At the event, Jupally Krishna Rao also launched the new Meta account of the Tourism Department. Telangana Tourism

Development Corporation (TGDC) head P Gouthami, during the event, emphasised that the state government wants to look beyond just making videos and content. She added that the state's rich history and Hyderabad's Persian influences could be highlighted to boost tourism in the state.

Ex-mayor's kin booked for attacking woman in city

Former Hyderabad Mayor Bonthu Rammohan Rao's mother-in-law was booked on Thursday for attacking a woman at Ameerpet over a rental dispute.

According to the police complaint filed by the couple, they had leased a building from Rao's mother-in-law, Sridevi, to operate a hostel. They invested nearly Rs 2 crore in the property, taking private loans to set up and run the hostel business.

The couple claimed that the former mayor and his family had been threatening them for the past two years. On Thursday, Sridevi barged into the building with at least 30 people and ordered them to vacate the premises.

However, some reports suggest that Sridevi made a



lease agreement with the couple and took the amount in advance. She leased it to a third party without informing them.

A video shared has emerged on social media showing Sridevi grabbing the complainant by her hair and assaulting her.

A police officer standing nearby stands as a mute spectator.



Fire breaks out at clothing shop in Hyd

A major fire broke out at a hosiery shop in a shopping complex here on Thursday, and no loss of life or injuries were reported, officials said.

Hyderabad District Fire Officer Venkanna told reporters that eight fire tenders along with about 60 fire-fighting personnel were pressed into service to combat the intense blaze at the shop located in Pathergatti.

The firefighters worked under challenging conditions and successfully brought the fire under control, the fire services department said.

"Due to the swift response, the entire shopping complex, housing a PSU bank, a diagnostic centre and several adjoining textile shops, was saved," it said.

The site of the fire accident is close to Gulzar Houz, where a blaze killed 17 people last year.

TGSA holds statewide Sports Day celebrations



Under the aegis of the Telangana Sports Authority (TGSA), Sports Day was celebrated across all 32 district headquarters on Thursday. The initiative was part of the Praja Palana Pragathi Pranalika initiative, Sports and Youth Week.

In Hyderabad, multiple

sports competitions and activities were held at the LB Stadium, GMCB Stadium in Gachibowli, KBR Indoor Stadium, Saroor Nagar Indoor Stadium, Gymkhana Grounds, Cycling Velodrome, and others, receiving an overwhelming response from youth, sportspersons, parents, and the public.

Athletics, basketball, bad-

minton, boxing, fencing, swimming, table tennis, tennis, football, chess, handball, volleyball, kabaddi, and wrestling were held. Speaking to the media, Telangana Sports Authority Managing Director Dr A Soni Bala Devi said the initiative's main focus is to promote interest in sports among people of all age groups and sections of society.

Food trucks are bringing global cuisine to city streets

Punugulu, cheese-burst dosas, pani puri, bhajjis, juices and tea, among other treats, have always defined the street food landscape of Hyderabad. However, as the city welcomed high-rises and global corporate giants with open arms, the appetite for international cuisine followed suit.

So now, an unusual sight is becoming common in the popular tech corridors of the city. The food streets have evolved to the point where you see Miso Ramen being sold right beside bhattas and sourdough pizzas served with a hot piping cup of Irani chai.

What we are essentially witnessing is the democratisation of global dining. High-end, premium cuisines that were once guarded behind the glass doors of fine dining spaces in Jubilee Hills have come to the streets, and food trucks are to be credit-



ed for it. Hyderabad's streets are expanding its global culinary vocabulary, and the city's foodies are all for it.

Located in Kondapur, Torii treats is the latest addition to the food trucks that have dominated the streets of Hyderabad. One might go here expecting mainstream snacks, but it is a refreshing surprise and a welcome change to the street food

scene, with its wide selection of Japanese ramen, sushi, bao and tempura. Its Spicy Miso Ramen, Yasai Maki Sushi and Paneer Bao buns are a must-try when here.

Moving on from Kondapur, the Silpa Gram Craft Village of Madhapur is where all the action is. Starting with RK's Korean Street Food, a truck that is capitalising on the city's massive K-culture wave

by doling out fiery Korean fried chicken, corn dogs, and comforting bowls of street-style ramen to crowds of young professionals.

Then there is also a European contingent on these streets that is equally formidable and surprisingly uncompromising in technique. The ABCD Food Truck has elevated the humble potato by strictly replicating Belgium's

traditional, meticulous hand-cut fries. It has turned a simple side dish into an artisanal street anchor flanked by gourmet toppings and dips.

The neighbourhood block also offers a sophisticated midnight dessert ritual at Ilatto, an Italian gelato truck whose presence near Knowledge City has made smooth, from-scratch gelatos the new standard for winding down after a long shift. Their hazelnut affogato is a must-try when here.

In Bachupally, the unmistakable, smoky scent of burning wood draws diners towards ProofD Pizza. This truck serves wood-fired sourdough pizzas, bringing gourmet food quite literally to the streets. ProofD is a true hidden gem because of its unique menu, which includes Bhoat Jholokia Pizza, Spicy Pineapple Pizza, Pesto Pasta Chicken, Tiramisu and more.

Don't take Bangla infiltrators to courts, send them to BSF instead: CM Suvendu directs Bengal police

West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari on Thursday said Bangladeshi infiltrators detained in the state would be directly handed over to the BSF for deportation, instead of being produced before courts, in line with a new rule that came into effect in the state a day ago.

Speaking to reporters after an administrative review meeting at the Howrah district magistrate's office, Adhikari said instructions had already been issued to the police commissioner and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in this regard.

"Since yesterday, the new rule has come into effect under which infiltrators will not be sent to courts but handed over to BSF outposts at the Bangladesh border," he said.

Adhikari on Wednesday



announced the implementation of a mechanism under which infiltrators detained by the state police would be handed over directly to the BSF for deportation, unveiling what he described as part of a broader "detect, delete and deport" framework.

Although the CM did not name the Act under whose purview the newly elected BJP government in Bengal

made the policy shift for prosecution of infiltrators, it appeared Adhikari was referring to the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025, passed by Parliament in April last year.

The Act aims to provide a modern, tech-driven system for immigration, registration, surveillance, detention, and deportation in India.

"The police commissioner

and the RPF have been clearly instructed that if illegal migrants from Bangladesh, who are not entitled to apply for citizenship under the CAA, are detained at the Howrah Station, they should not be sent to a court.

"The persons concerned should be properly fed and then taken directly to the BSF personnel at the Petrapole border in Bongaon or the border outpost in Basirhat in North 24 Parganas district," he said. Adhikari also said that a weekly report on the number of such detainees would have to be submitted to the Chief Minister's Office through the DGP.

During the meeting, the chief minister reviewed civic infrastructure and development-related issues concerning Howrah city on the western bank of the Hooghly River, adjacent to Kolkata. Adhikari said he was hopeful about completing

the delimitation exercise of wards under the civic bodies of Howrah and adjacent Bally by December this year, where municipal elections have long remained pending, and initiating the process of forming elected boards at both urban local bodies.

"As part of the long-term planning for development of Howrah municipal area, we have decided to complete the delimitation exercise by the end of this year and then hand over the city's responsibility to its elected civic board," the CM said. For the short term spanning over the next three months, Adhikari said the administration would focus on priority areas of supply of clean and filtered drinking water, garbage clean up, drainage system repair and upgrading other civic amenities like parks, health-care facilities and educational institutions.

Kerala Assembly Speaker election set for three-cornered contest

The election for the post of Speaker of the Kerala Legislative Assembly will be held on Friday, with all three major political fronts fielding candidates in a rare multi-cornered contest.

Senior Congress leader Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan is the candidate of the ruling Congress-led UDF, which enjoys a comfortable majority with 102 members in the 140-member Assembly.

With the numbers firmly in its favour, the front is confident of Radhakrishnan's victory. The opposition CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front, which has 35 members in the House, has fielded senior CPI(M) leader and former minister A C Moideen for the post. The BJP, which opened a new chapter in Kerala politics by winning three Assembly seats in the April 9 elections, has



nominated newly elected Chathannoor MLA B B Gopakumar as its candidate.

While the UDF had announced Radhakrishnan's candidature a few days earlier, the opposition fronts officially unveiled their nominees on Thursday after gathering in Thiruvananthapuram for the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected MLAs.

State BJP president Rajeev Chandrasekhar described the party's deci-

sion to contest the Speaker election as a "historic moment" for the BJP in Kerala.

"For the first time in Kerala's political history, the BJP will have a candidate in the election for this post. Gopakumar is the BJP candidate, and his name will be proposed by Muraleedharan and me," he told reporters.

The BJP's other MLAs in the new Assembly are V Muraleedharan and Rajeev Chandrasekhar.

Courts can hold sedition trials if accused has no objection: SC

The Supreme Court on Thursday said that courts can hear trials pertaining to section 124A of the Indian Penal Code, which relates to sedition, if the accused has no objection to it. The clarification from a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M Pancholi came while hearing a plea by an accused who has been in jail for 17 years in a case related to sedition.

The appeal filed by the accused is pending before the Madhya Pradesh High Court. "The petitioner's grievance is that he has no objection if his criminal appeal is heard in entirety, including with respect to the charge under Section 124A. That being so, we clarify... that wherever the accused has no objection against proceeding of the trial, appeal, or any other proceeding where he has been chargesheeted under Section 124A IPC also, there shall be no impediment for the courts to decide such matters on merits and in accordance with law," the bench said. The top court asked the Madhya Pradesh High Court to hear the petitioner's appeal, and decide the same on merit.

In a landmark order passed on May 11, 2022, the apex court had put the penal provision on sedition on hold till the Centre completed its promised review of the colonial-era relic and also asked the Union and state governments not to register any fresh case invoking the offence.

HC orders notice to TVK over alleged use of children to influence electorate

The Madras High Court on Thursday ordered notice to TVK founder and Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay and others on a petition seeking a direction to the EC to inquire into allegations of corrupt practices, including the use of children to influence the electorate, committed during the TN Legislative Assembly election 2026. A vacation bench comprising Justices G R Swaminathan and V Lakshminarayanan also ordered notice to ECI, Chief Electoral Officer, Tamil Nadu, DMK President MK Stalin and AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami on a Public Interest Litigation plea filed by Advocate L Vasuki of Cuddalore District. The bench posted to May



29, further hearing of the case. In her petition, Vasuki submitted that during the election campaign, the President of TVK allegedly made statements during a public meeting conducted at YMCA Grounds, Chennai on April 21, 2026, calling upon children to emotionally influence or pressure their parents in relation to voting preference. The said speech was widely circulated through print media, digital media and social media platforms and generated widespread public discussion

regarding the use of minor children as instruments of electoral influence, she added.

She said following the said speech, numerous videos and online materials surfaced allegedly showing children emotionally pressuring parents regarding voting choices. Section 123 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 defines corrupt practices including undue influence in the electoral process and the allegations surrounding the said campaign speech warranted immediate examination by the ECI and CEO, she added. She said apart from the above, widespread allegations relating to distribution of cash-for-votes were reported across several constituencies in Tamil Nadu during the 2026 Assembly Elections.

Jharkhand: 27 Maoists surrender before police in Ranchi

A total of 27 Maoists surrendered before the police here on Thursday in the presence of Jharkhand DGP Tadasha Mishra, and these Naxals will be rehabilitated with full support, officials said.

The ultras—25 belonging to the banned CPI (Maoist) and two from the Jharkhand Jan Mukti Parishad (JJMP)—laid down arms before senior officers of the Jharkhand Police, Jharkhand Jaguar and the CRPF, among other units, they said. "Twenty-seven Maoists, wanted in a large number of cases, surrendered before the police under 'Operation Navjeevan'. A total of 22 Maoists were killed, 44 arrested and 29 surrendered in 2026. We appeal to the remaining few to return to the mainstream," a senior police officer said.



Mishra said combined efforts by security forces to eliminate extremism will continue in the state, and the 27 Maoists who surrendered on Thursday will be rehabilitated with full support.

"We appeal to those who have not surrendered to shun the path of violence and come to the mainstream,"

CRPF IG Saket Singh said. Reacting to the development, Chief Minister Hemant Soren said, "Due to the clear vision of development of our government, more people are joining the mainstream. This is the government being run from the villages, not from the Ranchi headquarters." Officials said the surren-

dered Maoists belong to the group of the last active politburo member of the CPI (Maoist), Misir Besra, who carries a bounty of Rs 1 crore and was active in the Saranda and Kolhan regions. Among the surrendered Maoists, seven were 'sub-zonal commanders' including Sagen Aangariya alias Dokol (50), wanted in 123 cases, Gadi Munda alias Gulshan (34), wanted in 48 cases, Nagendra Munda alias Prabhant Munda (50), wanted in 38 criminal cases and Sachin Beg of the JJMP. Six 'area commanders' also laid down arms. Of the seven, five carried a reward of Rs 5 lakh each, they said.

Security forces also seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition based on information provided by the surrendered Maoists, which included five INSAS and nine SLR rifles, and 2,987 rounds of cartridges, the officials said.

42 drug samples found 'not of standard quality (NSQ)' in April: Health Ministry

The central drugs laboratories found 42 drug samples manufactured by various firms to be "not of standard quality (NSQ)" in its monthly drug alert for April, Union health ministry officials said on Thursday. Further, the state drug testing laboratories have identified 127 drug samples as NSQ, a health ministry statement said. A drug sample is identified as NSQ when it fails in one or more of the other specified quality parameters. The failure is specific to the drug products of the batch tested by the government laboratory, and it does not warrant any concerns on the other drug products available in the market, it said.



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Several Assam MLAs take oath in languages not in Eighth Schedule of Constitution

In a departure from norms, several newly elected members of the Assam Legislative Assembly on Thursday took oath in languages such as Karbi, Rabha and Rajbongshi, which are not in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Pro-Tem Speaker Chandra Mohan Patowary allowed the MLAs to take the oath in their language of choice and only asked the members to submit a copy of the oath if it was not part of the 22 officially recognised languages.

"All the members can take the oath in any language they wish to. They can submit their oath copies to the assembly office. No commu-



nity should feel disheartened regarding the language of the oath," he said in the House.

Thereafter, many members from the Rabha, Karbi and Koch-Rajbongshi communities took the oath in their native languages.

take oath only in Eighth Schedule languages. But our MLA Tankeswar Rabha asked me if he could take oath in the Rabha language. As it is not part of the Eighth Schedule, there was no provision for it."

However, he, along with AGP president Atul Bora, discussed the matter with Patowary in the morning, and the Pro-Tem Speaker decided to allow the members to take the oath in their respective mother tongues, the CM added.

"So, our members took the oath in Rabha, Karbi and Rajbongshi languages as well. It is a historic milestone in the Assam Assembly," Sarma said.

Thanking Patowary for

allowing this deviation, he said it has represented a diverse multi-cultural Assamese society in the Assembly. When contacted, a former principal secretary of the Assam Legislative Assembly said that taking the oath in languages other than those mentioned in the Eighth Schedule is not permissible by law. "The Speaker of the House has some discretionary power and can make decisions independently in matters where the law is silent. However, in this case, it is clearly noted that the oath can be taken only in any of the 22 recognised languages," the retired IAS officer said on condition of anonymity.

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Bihar CM reviews flood, drought preparedness, asks officers to stay alert

Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary on Thursday directed officials to remain alert in view of the possibility of both floods and drought-like conditions in the state.

Chairing a review meeting at the Chief Minister's Secretariat, Choudhary asked officials to ensure timely preparedness and swift response to any disaster situation.

"Do not allow a disaster to turn into a calamity. Extend full support to people during any disaster situation. The government stands with the people. The first right over the state treasury belongs to disaster victims," he said, according to a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO).

The chief minister directed



officials to complete embankment strengthening and road construction works in flood-prone areas by May 31.

He also asked the Disaster Management Department to maintain constant monitoring of the situation and stressed the need to ensure adequate groundwater levels and drinking water supply across the state.

Emphasising inter-departmental coordination, Choudhary said all depart-

ments should work together to provide relief and minimise inconvenience to people during any natural disaster.

During the meeting, officials from the Bihar Meteorological Service Centre informed the CM that rainfall during the monsoon season this year is likely to remain below normal in June and July, normal in August, and again below normal in September, the statement

said. According to the forecast, south Bihar is expected to receive below-average rainfall, while north Bihar may witness normal rainfall. Disaster Management Department's Principal Secretary Santosh Kumar Mall gave a presentation on advance preparedness for possible floods and drought, and said all pre-flood arrangements were being made in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

Earlier in the day, the chief minister also reviewed preparations for the Shrawani Mela. He directed district magistrates and superintendents of police to ensure proper arrangements for the annual fair, with special emphasis on crowd management, devotees' convenience and security.

No intention of raising electricity charges: TN Min

Tamil Nadu Minister R Nirmalkumar on Thursday dismissed the possibility of any increase in electricity charges in the State.

On his first day in office, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay signed three files, one of which approved a scheme granting 200 units of free electricity to domestic consumers with a bi-monthly consumption of up to 500 units.

When asked whether the state government plans to increase power tariffs, the Energy Resources Minister told reporters, "The government has no intention whatsoever of raising them. False information is being circulated in this regard. Neither the government nor the CM has any intention at this time of increasing electricity charges."



After conducting a detailed review of the functioning of the State electricity distribution corporation, he said it is currently burdened with a debt of nearly 2.5 lakh crore rupees. "Moreover, there is a severe staff shortage in the corporation. Against the required 1.4 lakh employees, only 70,000 are currently working. This manpower deficit persists," he said.

The minister added, "As the CM has pledged, this department will be dedicated entirely to public service, free from irregularities, malpractices, and corruption. We have been working tire-

lessly over the past few days, sitting together to carry out the necessary tasks continuously. Two senior officials from Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited were suspended following allegations of irregularities in approvals of TNGECL. The irregularities were detected during a series of review meetings chaired by Nirmalkumar.

He said that whether the wrongdoing involves a former minister or their predecessor, appropriate action will be taken irrespective of who is responsible, adding that all necessary legal measures will be implemented.

The minister further stated that there would be no leniency or favouritism in this regard, regardless of who is responsible, especially in cases involving public funds or government assets.

PM's gifts: Muga silk stole for Italy PM, Ladakhi stole for Sweden PM, Kesar mangoes for UAE prez

A Muga silk stole for Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, a Madhubani painting for Dutch Prime Minister Rob Jetten and a Ladakhi pure wool stole for Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson were some of the gifts presented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his just-concluded five-nation tour.

In addition, PM Modi also gifted a packet of Melody toffees to his Italian counterpart. A video of the moment was shared by Meloni, who described it as "very, very good toffee". Some people have coined the portmanteau 'Melodi' to describe the equation between the two leaders.

SOCIETY, COCKROACH

Sensations happen all of a sudden. Chances are that they die down or blow up into big issues. A comment by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, calling unemployed youths on social media as 'cockroaches' has not only caused a sensation and massive criticism from netizens but also occasioned the launch of a net-driven satirical political entity, the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP). The party formed online on May 21, five days after the CJI made the comment, is an instant 'success', drawing a membership of over 14 million - against the ruling BJP's membership of 8.8 million. Apparently, the government is rattled. It sought to block the site's account, but the youth who launched the party will not give up; and says he would seek legal protection for its existence through external legal steps. The party has caught the imagination of the netizens - principally youths who felt they have been insulted by the establishment in the form of the CJI. That Surya Kant says he was 'misquoted' by the media; but this after much harm was done.

The CJI obviously rubbed youths the wrong way. Surya Kant branded the socially-active youngsters as 'cockroaches' -- who do not get employment and act as 'parasites of society who attack the system.' As the new party's founder, 30-year-old Dipke from Maharashtra now doing a PR course at Boston University, US, argued, the "CJI being the custodian of the Constitution should have upheld the Freedom of Expression" rather than undercutting it by targeting the young social media activists. Social media is a powerful tool for the people to group together, exchange ideas and act in unison. This was evident in New Delhi in 2011 in relation to the anti-corruption campaign by Anna Hazare and Arvind Kejriwal; and in the aftermath of the gang-rape of a paramedic there. That Dipke previously functioned as a campaigner for the AAP's social media wing is significant. His initial poser, "What if all cockroaches come together?" formed the springboard to catapult the party to a hugely popular entity among youths back home in the next few days.

Nothing goes to show Dipke or his band of youths can make any major impact on life or government in India. The online activist spoke up for India's large army of 'frustrated' youths, who have 'no employment', who struggle with rising living costs, and 'paper leaks'. Action could be the next step. The establishment's failure on multiple fronts was juxtaposed with the contempt emanating from its apex through brandings of such hapless youths as cockroaches. This could just be a storm in a tea cup. But, the warning signals are there for all to see and fathom. A Sri Lanka, Nepal or Bangladesh could resurrect itself in India too, riding the crest of a social media campaign in future. Apolitical youths there uprooted the governments there. People are increasingly losing their trust in politicians who govern the nation from the front. Judicial systems are coming in for sharper public scrutiny and review. The bureaucracy is unresponsive to the people's plights. Established political systems are increasingly getting alienated from the people as is also evident in the uprooting of the regional titans in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala in one swift go. The rise of a young leader in Tamil Nadu from nowhere is another pointer to the future.

Unincorporated establishments surge to over 9 cr; jobs hit 15-cr mark: Govt survey

The number of unincorporated establishments in the non-agriculture sector has surged to over 9 crore, and employment under these firms crossed the 15-crore mark in the January-March quarter, according to a government survey.

The National Statistics Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on Thursday released Quarterly Estimates of the Unincorporated Non-Agricultural Sector for the quarter January to March 2026.

NSO has been publishing quarterly bulletins on key findings from the unincorporated non-agricultural sector since 2025.

The Quarterly Bulletin on Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (QBUSE) for January-March 2026 represents the quarterly edition of the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) and provides key estimates at more frequent intervals.

The introduction of QBUSE reflects NSO's continued efforts to deliver timely and actionable data to policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders on one of the most dynamic segments of the Indian economy, the survey said.

The unincorporated non-agricultural sector recorded a year-on-year growth of 16.69 per cent in the number of establishments, with the estimated number of unincorporated entities rising to 9.16 crore during January-March 2026 compared to 7.85 crore in the corresponding quarter of the preceding year.

The rural sector emerged as the primary driver of this growth, registering a notable increase of 20.46 per cent.

The urban sector witnessed a growth of 12.59 per cent during the same period.

Employment in the unincorporated non-agricultural sector reached 15.17 crore in the January-March 2026, crossing the 15-crore mark for the first time.

The sector recorded a year-on-year growth of 15.51 per cent over the corresponding quarter of the previous year, highlighting its growing significance in generating employment opportunities for a large section of the population across sectors. Working owners continued to account for the largest share of the workforce in the unincorporated sector for the January-March 2026 quarter, constituting 60.97 per cent of total workers compared to 58.29 per cent in the corresponding quarter of the preceding year.

In contrast, the share of hired workers witnessed a marginal decline, falling to 24.77 per cent from 26.86 per cent over the same period.

The growing importance of unincorporated enterprises in supporting the rural economy was further reflected in the robust growth of the rural workforce, which recorded an increase of 21.65 per



THE NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE (NSO) UNDER THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION ON THURSDAY RELEASED QUARTERLY ESTIMATES OF THE UNINCORPORATED NON-AGRICULTURAL SECTOR FOR THE QUARTER JANUARY TO MARCH 2026. NSO HAS BEEN PUBLISHING QUARTERLY BULLETINS ON KEY FINDINGS FROM THE UNINCORPORATED NON-AGRICULTURAL SECTOR SINCE 2025. THE QUARTERLY BULLETIN ON UNINCORPORATED SECTOR ENTERPRISES (QBUSE) FOR JANUARY-MARCH 2026 REPRESENTS THE QUARTERLY EDITION OF THE ANNUAL SURVEY OF UNINCORPORATED SECTOR ENTERPRISES (ASUSE) AND PROVIDES KEY ESTIMATES AT MORE FREQUENT INTERVALS

cent during the period against 10.39 per cent growth in the urban sector.

Many unincorporated units depend on casual labour, migrant workers, and helpers who often shift to seasonal agricultural work and return either as an entrepreneur or as a worker when activity in the sector strengthens, leading to a rise in employment and establishments, according to the survey.

The January-March 2026 quarter witnessed significant growth in the unincorporated services sector, with significant year-on-year expansion in the number of establishments and employment.

The number of establishments increased by 24.82 per cent, while the workforce in the sector grew by 31.13 per cent over the same period.

The strong expansion of the services sector within the unincorporated economy reflects rising entrepreneurial activity in this sector, its growing role as a key driver of employment and increas-

ing demand for local services.

The women workforce remained impressive, constituting about 29 per cent of total employment in the sector.

This is slightly higher than the numbers in the same quarter of ASUSE 2025.

This highlights the growing importance of the sector in generating employment opportunities for women and promoting inclusive economic participation.

Internet usage among enterprises in the unincorporated non-agricultural sector reflects an encouraging trend of digital adoption across establishments in the economy. Data on ICT usage, collected through the newly revamped ICT module of ASUSE 2026, indicates that around 81 per cent of establishments in the unincorporated sector have used the internet for entrepreneurial purposes.

Further, nearly 81 per cent of establishments have adopted cashless modes of transaction, including online banking, UPI, POS devices, and other digital

payment mechanisms.

The percentage of firms reporting some form of registration was estimated to be 41.37 per cent, reflecting increasing integration of enterprises with regulatory mechanisms.

At the all-India level, 5,998 First Stage Units (2,408 villages in the rural sector and 3,590 UFS blocks in the urban sector) have been surveyed during the quarter January 2026 - March 2026.

This excludes FSUs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Ladakh and rural areas of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, which are not considered for this quarterly bulletin, as sub-round restrictions were not imposed in these areas while conducting field-work due to arduous field conditions.

Accordingly, the number of establishments surveyed (excluding these states/UTs/areas) and considered for this bulletin is 1,72,845 (74,824 in rural and 98,021 in urban).

Severity of genetic mutation may override female protective effect against autism: Study

An increased severity of a genetic mutation responsible for autism could override mechanisms that protect females from the neurodevelopmental disorder, a study has found.

Autism spectrum disorder affects males more frequently than females, with women thought to possess biological protective mechanisms that reduce vulnerability to the condition, which is characterised by repetitive behaviours and impaired social communication skills.

However, direct experimental evidence supporting this trend has remained limited, researchers from Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Yonsei University and the Institute for Basic Science said.

"Our findings suggest that females may possess protective biological mechanisms against CHD8-related dysfunction, but severe mutations can overwhelm those protective effects," said author Eunee Lee, professor at Yonsei University, said.

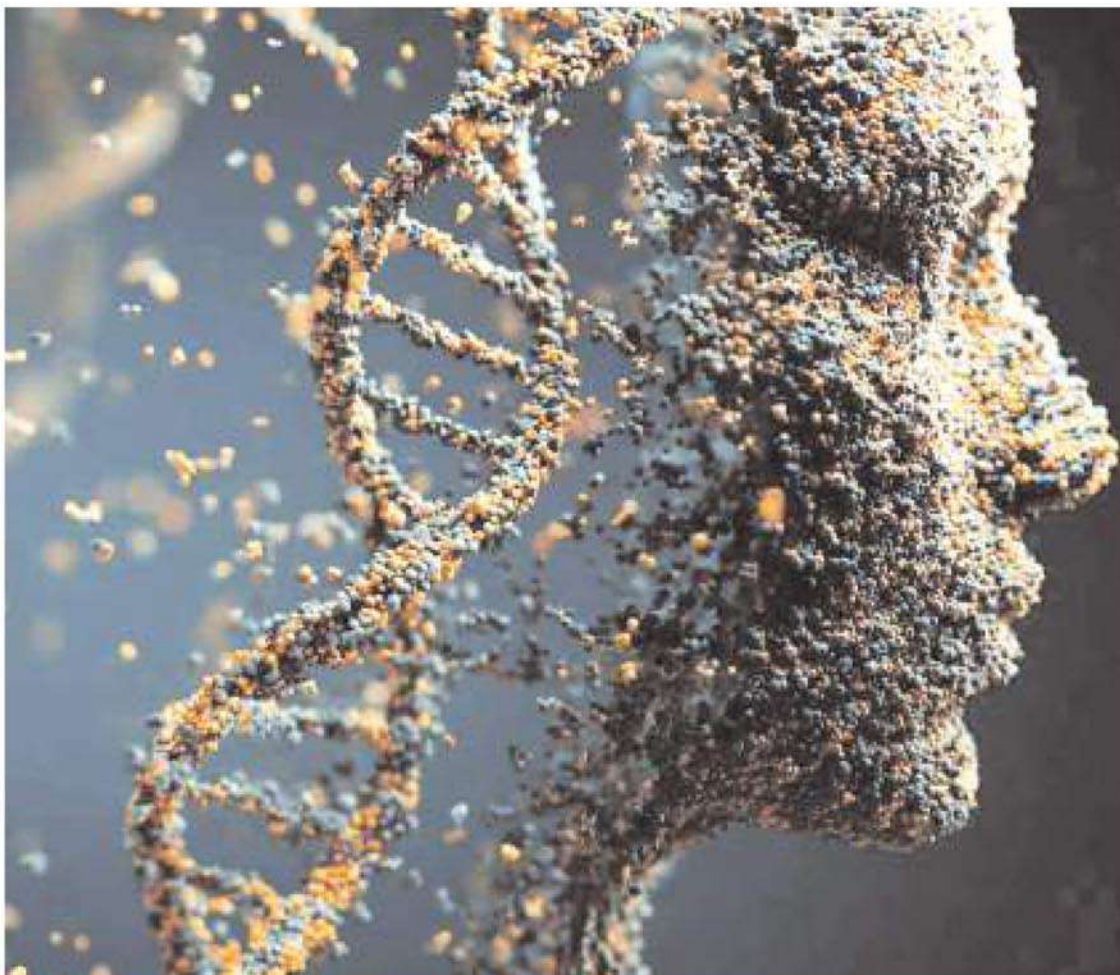
"This provides important insight into why autism severity and sex differences can vary depending on genetic background and mutation strength," Lee said.

The gene 'CHD8' is considered among the most important risk factors for autism and other neurodevelopmental conditions. It helps regulate the activity of genes involved in brain development by remodelling chromatin structure, a complex macromolecule containing DNA, RNA, and proteins.

The researchers developed what they described as the world's first viable homozygous mouse model carrying the same CHD8 mutation inherited from both parents.

The model enabled researchers to directly compare mild and severe CHD8 mutations across brain development, neural activity, behaviour, and gene expression.

Mice carrying only one mutated CHD8 copy showed behavioural abnormalities primarily in males, consistent with previous findings



AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER AFFECTS MALES MORE FREQUENTLY THAN FEMALES, WITH WOMEN THOUGHT TO POSSESS BIOLOGICAL PROTECTIVE MECHANISMS THAT REDUCE VULNERABILITY TO THE CONDITION, WHICH IS CHARACTERISED BY REPETITIVE BEHAVIOURS AND IMPAIRED SOCIAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS. HOWEVER, DIRECT EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THIS TREND HAS REMAINED LIMITED, RESEARCHERS FROM KOREA ADVANCED INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (KAIST), YONSEI UNIVERSITY AND THE INSTITUTE FOR BASIC SCIENCE SAID

and the trend of a higher prevalence of autism in human males.

In contrast, mice carrying severe mutations in both CHD8 copies displayed pronounced autism-related abnormalities in both sexes.

The homozygous mutant mice

also exhibited an enlarged brain volume, altered cerebral blood flow, disrupted brain rhythms, among other changes -- pathways strongly associated with autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders, the researchers said. They found that

male-female differences became progressively weaker as mutation severity increased, suggesting that the biological mechanisms underlying sex differences in autism may not be fixed, but instead depend on the intensity of genetic disruption.

Quicker decision-making linked with better quality of decisions, study finds

Complex strategic decisions may be better when made with less thinking time, a study suggests.

Researchers, including those from the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich in Germany and Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands, analysed data from professional games of chess and found that the decision time reflects the subjectively perceived difficulty of the problem, which can vary depending on a situation.

"With this study, we've been able to show that, if you keep the objectively measurable difficulty of the decision constant, somebody who thinks for longer will make worse decisions," author Uwe Sunde, professor of population economics from LMU Munich, said.

A person who reflects on an issue for longer may possibly perceive the level of complexity to be subjectively higher, the researchers said.

The findings, published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), show that conversely, a shorter decision-making time might indicate a strong intuition of the player, and so they may have an innate sense of what the best move is. Sunde said previous studies that looked at decision time and quality have analysed relatively simple decisions, often requiring students in lab settings.

The researchers analysed individual moves made by players in professional chess

tournaments and measured the time the players took to make their decision.

The results were compared with the benchmarks set by chess engines to get an objective assessment of quality of the decision. Decisions made against the same opponent in different configurations on the chessboard were compared.

The authors wrote, "The results show that faster decisions are associated with higher decision quality, even after accounting for computational complexity, distinctiveness between alternatives, and time pressure."

Sunde said, "The correlation between the speed at which complex strategic decisions are made and the quality of these decisions is a priori ambiguous."

Taking more time to make a decision may result in a better-considered decision, but may also indicate that the question requiring an answer is perceived to be more difficult, which may be associated with a lower quality of decision, the researchers said.

"This is what distinguishes humans from machines: Humans can often recognise what's good or what isn't good from the situation. But if a person doesn't manage to grasp the situation quickly, they find it difficult to continue computing the problem rationally," Sunde said.

The researcher added that the study's result could also be applied to situations outside a game of chess where complex decisions have to be made.



A GRAND FAREWELL TO SHRI ANUP KUMAR SATPATHY – A VISIONARY LEADER

A grand and heartfelt farewell was accorded to Anup Kumar Satpathy on his transfer from Gorakhpur, where he served as Principal Chief Operations Manager (PCOM) of North Eastern Railway with additional charge of PCCM, to take over as Principal Chief Safety Officer (PCSO) of South East Central Railway, Raipur/Bilaspur.

A 1993 batch Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) officer, Shri Satpathy is widely respected across Indian Railways for his dynamic leadership, uncompromising integrity, operational excellence, and people-centric administration. Throughout his illustrious career spanning multiple Railway Zones, he has consistently delivered transformational results, but his tenure as Divisional Railway Manager of Waltair Division, East Coast Railway, remains one of the most remarkable chapters of his professional journey. "People's DRM" of Waltair Division

During his tenure as DRM of Waltair Division, Shri Satpathy earned the affectionate title of "People's DRM" for his transparent administration, accessibility to employees, and strong commitment towards discipline and accountability. He adopted a strict yet humane approach to governance, emphasizing honesty, efficiency, and welfare of railway employees and passengers alike.



He firmly upheld zero tolerance towards corruption and indiscipline while simultaneously encouraging teamwork, innovation, and employee participation. His administration was guided by a clear four-point vision: Protecting the reputation and dignity of Waltair Division, Accelerating infrastructure development, Ensuring employee satisfaction and welfare and Enhancing passenger and customer experience

Known for taking bold and long-pending administrative decisions, Shri Satpathy initiated corrective measures against inefficiency and complacency. Despite pressures and challenges, he ensured accountability at every level and conducted surprise inspections to safeguard railway assets and improve operational standards.



Under the leadership of Shri Satpathy, Waltair Division witnessed unprecedented growth across operations, infrastructure, safety, passenger amenities, asset management, and revenue generation.

Apart from Waltair, Shri Satpathy served in several key assignments across Indian Railways, including South Eastern Railway, South Central Railway, East Coast Railway, Nagpur Division, Eastern Railway, and North Eastern Railway.

As PCOM of North Eastern Railway, he played a pivotal role in streamlining operations and managing large-scale transportation requirements. His operational expertise was particularly evident during the successful management of Mahakumbh 2025 at Prayagraj, where Indian Railways operated more than 17,000 trains, surpass-

ing the planned 13,000 services. Massive passenger facilities, additional coaches, enhanced ticketing arrangements, and robust safety mechanisms were implemented under coordinated leadership. Shri Satpathy has also been honoured with prestigious recognitions including: National Award (2000) and Railway Minister's Award (2002)

The farewell ceremony at Gorakhpur reflected the immense respect and admiration Shri Satpathy earned from officers, staff, and railway fraternity alike. Colleagues remembered him as a visionary administrator, a fearless decision-maker, and a compassionate leader who always prioritized the interests of the Railways and its employees.

As Shri Anup Kumar Satpathy embarks on his new assignment as Principal Chief Safety Officer of South East Central Railway, Raipur/Bilaspur, his inspiring legacy of innovation, transparency, operational excellence, and public service continues to motivate railway personnel across the country.

His remarkable contributions, especially during his transformative tenure at Waltair Division, will remain etched in the history of Indian Railways for years to come.

TG's first cool misting bus stops launched in Warangal

Hanumakonda: In a first-of-its-kind initiative in Telangana, the Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation (GWMC) on Thursday launched innovative cool misting bus stops in Hanumakonda to provide relief to commuters from the intense summer heat. Regional Event Calendar

The modern misting bus stops were inaugurated by MLA Naini Rajender Reddy and District Collector Chahat Bajpai at the Government Maternity Hospital premises in Hanumakonda and near Public Gardens. The newly installed facilities quickly drew public attention for creating a cooler and more comfortable atmosphere for passengers waiting for buses.

Officials said the misting system worked by releasing fine water droplets through high-pressure nozzles. The droplets evaporated in the air and helped reduce the surrounding temperature by nearly 5 to 10 degrees Celsius, offering temporary relief to commuters during peak summer conditions. Speaking on the occasion, Naini Rajender Reddy said cities such as Warangal, Khammam, and Karimnagar had emerged as important commercial, educational, and health-



care centres. He said thousands of people from rural and suburban areas travelled daily to these cities using public transport and often faced severe discomfort due to extreme temperatures while waiting at bus stops. He added that the misting systems were introduced keeping commuter

convenience, public health, and safety in mind. Officials also stated that such systems were proving effective in urban areas experiencing rising temperatures and that more commuter-friendly facilities were expected to be installed at key locations across the city in the coming days.

Vedvika Soni gains Tollywood attention

Vedvika Soni is steadily gaining recognition in the Telugu film industry through films, music videos, and a growing digital presence. After making her debut with Dhamaka, the actress expanded her career with Telugu cinema projects, Punjabi music videos, and fashion collaborations. Her performances in Mathura and the recent film Harudu drew attention for her screen presence, glamorous styling, and expressive acting. Alongside films, Vedvika continues building a strong social media following through fashion, beauty, travel, and lifestyle content, strengthening her popularity among young Telugu audiences.



Calcutta High Court Grants Relief To Abhishek Banerjee In FIR Over Remarks Against Amit Shah



The Calcutta High Court granted interim protection to TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee in a case linked to alleged inflammatory remarks against Amit Shah during the 2026 West Bengal election campaign. The Calcutta High Court on Thursday granted interim protection to Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee in connection with an FIR filed over his alleged remarks against Union Home Minister Amit Shah during the 2026 West Bengal Assembly election campaign. The court directed the West Bengal Police not to take any coercive action against Banerjee until July 31 or until the matter is disposed of. However, the court also imposed certain conditions, stating that the TMC leader cannot travel without prior permission and must inform the investigating officer at least 48 hours before any movement. The FIR was registered last week at the Bidhannagar Cyber Crime Police Station following allegations that Banerjee made provocative speeches during election rallies held between April 27 and May 3.

According to the complaint filed by social activist Rajib Sarkar on May 5, a day after the election results were announced, Banerjee allegedly delivered inflammatory speeches that promoted enmity, threatened Union Home Minister Amit Shah and disturbed public tranquillity. The complainant also submitted links to several speeches as evidence. Police registered the case under multiple sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, including Sections 192, 196, 351(2) and 353(1)(c), which relate to public order offences, rioting and misconduct. Provisions of the Representation of the People Act, including Sections 123(2) and 125, were also invoked. Investigators alleged that the speeches contained provocative and threatening content capable of creating communal tension and public disorder. Police further claimed that aggressive language was used against opposition workers during campaign events. The case is linked to speeches delivered during the final phase of the West Bengal election campaign between April 27 and May 3. Banerjee had accused Amit Shah and the BJP of repeatedly visiting West Bengal for electoral purposes while failing to address the concerns of ordinary citizens.

HC rejects plea to bar Kejriwal, Sisodia, AAP from fighting polls

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday dismissed a petition seeking to disqualify the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and its senior leaders Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia and Durgesh Pathak from contesting elections, observing during the hearing that there was no legal basis to revoke the party's recognition in the present case. The plea was heard by a bench led by Chief Justice D.K. Upadhyaya, which ultimately rejected the petition filed by Satish Kumar Agrawal. The petitioner had sought directions for declaring Kejriwal, Sisodia and Pathak ineligible to contest elections, alleging that the three leaders had attempted to malign Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma by refusing to participate in proceedings before her bench in the Delhi excise policy matter. According to the petition, the controversy arose during hearings related to the Central Bureau of Investigation's plea challenging a trial court order in the excise policy case. The petitioner argued that the conduct of the AAP leaders amounted to an attempt to defame the judge and therefore warranted strict action, including disqualification from electoral politics. During the proceedings, the High Court repeatedly questioned the maintainability of the petition and sought clarification on whether the petitioner was effectively asking the court to direct the Election Commission to cancel the Aam Aadmi Party's recognition as a political party.

DC directs transparent verification of Cheyutha pension beneficiaries

District Collector Divakara TS on Wednesday directed officials to conduct the live authentication process for Cheyutha pension beneficiaries in a transparent manner and ensure effective implementation of rural development programmes at the field level. The Collector participated in a video conference held by Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department Special Chief Secretary Dana Kishore from Hyderabad on implementation of MGNREGS works, Cheyutha pension survey and the National Family Benefit Scheme Following the conference, Divakara TS, along with Additional Collector Dr P. Srija, reviewed the implementation of the programmes with district officials at the Khammam Collectorate. He instructed officials to expedite wage and material component works under the employment guarantee scheme and identify at least 20 works in every gram panchayat for immediate grounding. He asked officials to increase labour mobilisation on a daily basis and ensure that works are completed during morning hours in view of the summer conditions. Directing officials to fully utilise material component funds within the next 40 days, the Collector said details of water harvesting works should be uploaded immediately on the concerned portal. He also instructed MPDOs to submit detailed reports on the progress of gram panchayat buildings and VO buildings, including the number of works sanctioned, started and completed, along with their present status. The Collector further directed officials to ensure participation of at least 25 per cent of registered job card workers in field-level works over the next 40 days.

Maulana Rashidi calls for communal harmony, slams hate politics amid Bengal cattle crisis

New Delhi: Maulana Sajid Rashidi on Thursday appealed for communal harmony and mutual respect between communities while criticising the growing use of hate-driven rhetoric in politics and society amid the ongoing cattle crisis in West Bengal.



Speaking to IANS, the All-India Imam Association President said many Muslims in Bengal had voluntarily refrained from buying cows as a mark of respect for Hindu religious beliefs. "It has been seen that Muslims in Bengal chose not to buy cows, saying, 'Hindus consider the cow as their mother, and we respect their faith,' in an attempt to send a strong message of harmony and respect," he said. Rashidi said that if Hindus remained united and aware, the cow could eventually be declared the national animal. However, he warned against exploiting religion to provoke violence and division.

"The problem arises when people misuse faith, when riots are incited in the name of religion, when Muslims are attacked in the name of faith, and when attempts are made to spread unrest in the country, creating hatred between Hindus and Muslims," he said. Highlighting the economic distress among cattle farmers in West Bengal, Rashidi claimed many Hindu farmers and traders were struggling financially due to declining cattle sales. "Many Hindu cattle farmers in Bengal are facing an economic crisis. People have come out on the streets expressing their distress, saying that their businesses have collapsed because cows are not being sold and that they are burdened with debt," he said. He also questioned why Right-wing organisations such as the Bajrang Dal were not stepping forward to support cattle farmers facing hardships. Commenting on the use of the term "traitor" by Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, Rashidi criticised the deteriorating level of political discourse in the country. "These days the standard of politics has fallen so low. Terms like 'Jersey cow,' 'traitor,' 'vote thief,' and similar expressions have become common in politics. I believe we are witnessing a decline in both the standards and the spirit of politics," he said. He further asserted that derogatory language had no place in politics or society. "Using words like 'traitor' or 'Jersey cow' is unacceptable not only in politics but also in society," Rashidi added.

Palakurthi MPDO Vedavathi inaugurated the 2K run

Jangaon, May 22, Metroudayam:

MPDO Vedavathi who started the 2K run from Rajiv circle to Government School in Palakurthi mandal center of Janagama district.

As part of the 99-day public governance progress plan program, 2K run was started during the youth sports week celebrations. After that they performed yoga asanaas. In this program, SI Pawan Kumar, MEO Narasiah, Major Gram Panchayat Sarpanchs Kammagani Vijaya, Payam Sobharani, Headmasters, PETs Sommallu, Yadagiri, Chennuru Sarpanch Srinivas, Saathapuram Sarpanch Lone Srinivas, Panchayat Secretaries, Police, Sportsmen, Youth, Students, Walkers and others participated.



Bhatti seeks Centre's handholding for Singareni's coal gasification plan

New Delhi/ Hyderabad: Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Finance, Planning and Energy Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka requested the Union Government to support Singareni's move towards coal gasification. He met with Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy in New Delhi on Wednesday. City & Local Guides

During the meeting, discussions were held on the future plans of Singareni Collieries Company Limited, coal gasification opportunities, allocation of new coal blocks, and the mining lease issue relating to Tadicherla Coal Block-II. Bhatti said that on the lines of gasification initiatives being taken up by Coal India, Singareni is also examining possibilities to utilise its coal resources

more efficiently through modern technology. Coal gasification would add value to coal resources and also strengthen energy security, industrial usage and employment opportunities. He requested the Ministry of Coal to extend necessary technical guidance, policy support and assistance in linking Singareni's initiatives with Central schemes.

He brought to the notice of Kishan Reddy that Koyagudem Block-III, located in the Godavari Valley Coal Fields, is crucial for meeting Telangana's power requirements. Though the block was allotted through auction in the past, operations have not commenced even after four years, he said. In this context, he requested that steps be taken to allocate



Koyagudem Block-III to Singareni Collieries Company Limited. The issue of Tadicherla Coal Block-II was also discussed in the meeting. The development of Tadicherla Coal Block-II is important for Singareni's future requirements and Telangana's energy security.

Bhatti requested Kishan Reddy to grant prior approval under Section 5 of the MMDR Act, 1957, for Tadicherla Coal Block-II and to expedite the mining lease process. The Union Minister responded positively to these issues and assured that a joint meeting would soon be convened with the concerned.

India, Egypt condemn Pahalgam and Red Fort attacks

New Delhi: India and Egypt underscored the importance of bilateral cooperation in countering terrorism, reflecting the spirit of the India-Egypt Strategic Partnership at the 5th meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Counter Terrorism, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday. The meeting between India and Egypt was held in New Delhi on May 20. The meeting was co-chaired by senior officials from the Ministries of External Affairs and Foreign Affairs, with the participation of relevant agencies of both countries. "They strongly condemned the heinous terrorist attack in Pahalgam, J&K, on April 22, 2025, and the terror incident near Red Fort, New Delhi, on November 10, 2025, and stressed that



all those involved in terrorist activities and their support must be held accountable and brought to justice," the MEA highlighted.

Egypt reaffirmed its solidarity with India against all forms of terrorism aimed at undermining the country's security and stability. Both sides emphasised that confronting terrorism requires concerted action in a sustained and comprehensive manner.

Against this backdrop, the two sides renewed their commitment to strengthen multilateral cooperation in the field of countering terrorism, including in the UN, BRICS, FATF, GCTF, and other multilateral platforms. They also exchanged views on how to enhance the effectiveness of the GCTF and reiterated their commitment to the early finalisation and adoption of the UN Comprehensive

Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT). Both sides reviewed a wide range of traditional and emerging threats and challenges, such as terrorist recruitment, abuse of technology for terrorist purposes, and financing of terrorism. They expressed concerns over the increasing use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), drones, and AI for terrorist purposes. The two sides discussed ways to strengthen cooperation in areas of training and capacity building, cyber security, judicial cooperation, exchange of best practices, and information sharing through continued bilateral and multilateral efforts. Both sides decided to hold the next meeting of the Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism in Egypt on a mutually convenient date.

Ireland name Balbirnie-led squad for Test against NZ, Stirling, Little out with injuries

Dublin: Cricket Ireland has announced a squad led by Andrew Balbirnie to take the field when they host New Zealand for a one-off Test match at Stormont, Belfast, from May 27 to 30. Balbirnie is all set to lead the side for the 10th time in the longer format. Ireland have also confirmed the absence of Paul Stirling, Barry McCarthy, Josh Little, Gavin Hoey, and Jordan Neill, who are all ruled out due to injury. Hoey is sidelined due to a side strain, while Stirling is nursing a calf injury. McCarthy is ruled out until 2027 following an ACL tear, while Neill is recovering from a shoulder muscle injury, and Campher is yet to resume bowling. Four players – Jake Egan, Tom Mayes, Liam McCarthy, and Reuben Wilson – are in line to make their Test debuts if selected in the playing eleven. This will be Ireland's 13th Test overall and their first against New



Zealand. Ireland have won three Tests to date, including its first Test at Stormont in 2024 against Zimbabwe. Balbirnie is the only player to feature in all 12 Irish Tests so far, but he will be leading a severely depleted squad against the Blackcaps, who won the 2021 World Test Championship.

After the Test against New Zealand, Ireland will host reigning Men's T20 World Cup winners India for two T20Is in Stormont, Belfast, on June 26 and 28. It is followed by them hosting Afghanistan for five ODIs from August 5-14 in Bready and Stormont, Belfast. After this, Ireland

will first travel to Nepal for a white-ball series under a five-year strategic partnership, before heading to the UAE for a warm-weather training camp and a white-ball series against the hosts, with Irish players also set to feature in the ILT20 as part of a five-year agreement with the Emirates Cricket Board. In January 2027, Ireland will tour Pakistan for the first time for a multi-format series, with the possibility of a third member nation being added to the programme, before taking on Afghanistan in a multi-format series in the UAE. Ireland squad: Andrew Balbirnie (c), Mark Adair, Curtis Campher, Cade Carmichael, Stephen Doheny, Jake Egan, Matthew Humphreys, Tom Mayes, Andrew McBrine, Liam McCarthy, Harry Tector, Lorcan Tucker, Reuben Wilson, Craig Young

Every cricketer faces tough times; Rishabh Pant will return stronger, says Kiran More

Ghaziabad (UP): Former India wicketkeeper and chief selector Kiran More has backed wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant to overcome his lean run in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026, insisting that his resilience and courage will ensure he will make a strong comeback from a phase that happens to every cricketer. More's comments come after Pant's horrid time continued with him being replaced by KL Rahul as India's vice-captain in Tests, while losing the second keeper slot to Ishan Kishan in the ODIs for the games against Afghanistan in June. So far, Pant has made just 286 runs in 13 matches in IPL 2026, where under his leadership, Lucknow Super Giants are at the bottom spot on the points table. Add to it, he faced flak for using the F-word live on television after LSG lost to the Rajasthan Royals in Jaipur.

"No, it's nothing like that, I am not disappointed at all. Pant is in the team, and I am very happy. He is a fighter, a player with immense courage, has a big heart, and he has performed exceptionally well (by) winning (Test) matches single-handedly. I have worked quite closely with him, and I know him very well. "Every cricketer goes through a phase like this; you pass through such times. So I think there will definitely be a great comeback, and a strong comeback. When his life was saved, and he returned to the team, he performed so well, so this (current phase) is nothing compared to that," More told IANS on Thursday. Turning to Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who has scored 579 runs in 13 matches for Rajasthan Royals and is leading the run-scoring charts with a staggering strike rate of 236.32, More described him as a rare talent.



"No, look, he is a special player, and God has created and sent him, so I think it's a great thing that he sent him to India. You will keep watching him, as he will score a lot of runs in the future. "Even if he doesn't, he is still a special player for me. But, just let him play cricket freely and don't put too much pressure on him because he's performing so well at such an early age, I think it's all part of that 'wow factor,' and I want him to play Test

matches, one-day matches, and T20s whenever he makes his debut for India." More also spoke about the launch of the Beyond Reach Premier League, aimed at tennis-ball cricketers, for which trials were held under his supervision in Ghaziabad. "This is a special league, and we want to do something different. This was our first trial, and a lot of boys showed up for this, and we got to see some very interesting talent."

The three editions that I've seen WPL grow, it's been outstanding, says Muzumdar

Bengaluru: India women's head coach Amol Muzumdar said the Women's Premier League (WPL) has played a 'massive part' in the overall development of women's sport in the country ahead of the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup, to be played in England from June 12 to July 5. "I would say, not just restricted to T20 cricket, I would say overall development of women's sport. WPL has played a massive part, and I've been a witness to it in the last three years. The three editions that I've seen WPL grow, it's been outstanding. I mean, the stadiums have been full. If you have seen in the last three years what



has transpired in WPL, it's been outstanding." "I mean, for any girl or any cricketer to play in front of a capacity crowd in a packed stadium, and if she can come up with some match-win-

ning performances, I think the confidence level goes sky-high, and that has helped in cricket overall. I don't want to just restrict it to T20 cricket. I want to just talk about the overall development of the sport in India - I think WPL has played a massive part in that," said Muzumdar in a video posted on bcci.tv. on Friday.

Muzumdar, who took over as the side's head coach in October 2023, said seeing athletes grow under his guidance has given him immense satisfaction. "I can talk for myself that if I do tend to see some kind of development, or if I'm involved in that athlete's growth and development, it gives me

India drop to 6th in WTC table after B'desh sweep Pak 2-0



Dubai: The Indian cricket team dropped to sixth in the latest World Test Championship (WTC) rankings after Bangladesh improved a rung to fifth with a crushing 2-0 series sweep against Pakistan at home. Bangladesh had earlier won the first Test by a massive 104 runs in Mirpur and with another big win on Wednesday, the team leapfrogged India as per the latest ICC update. Bangladesh now have 58.33 percentage points with two wins, one loss and a draw in four Tests while India have 48.15 points from nine Tests, four wins and as many defeats along with a drawn Test. India, who featured in the finals of the first two editions of the WTC, are now ranked only above Pakistan in the rankings among Asian countries. The Shubman Gill-led side has not played a Test match so far this year. A one-off Test against Afghanistan is lined up from June 6 but it is not a part of the WTC cycle. The Indians are due to tour Sri Lanka and New Zealand for two Tests each later this year before facing Australia at home in 2027. India had lost to South Africa 0-2 in a home Test series while two other defeats had come in England, where the Shubman Gill-led side had drawn the five-match series 2-2.

Shreyas one of main contenders for India T20 captaincy: Ponting



Punjab Kings head coach Ricky Ponting has backed his franchise captain Shreyas Iyer to lead India in the T20 format after the team moves on from Suryakumar Yadav, saying that he is at the top of his game and never been "more mature". Suryakumar recently captained India to an unprecedented second World Cup title but his form has dipped drastically in the last 12 months and he has been far from his best even in the ongoing Indian Premier League.

"There are several contenders (for the captaincy job post Surya), but he's (Shreyas Iyer) one of the main contenders as far as I'm concerned. We saw at the start of the tournament just how good a T20 player he is and where he's at, both on and off the field right now," the Australian legend told PTI in an interview. "He's a much more mature player than he's probably ever been in his whole career. He's completely on top of his game now," said the batting great. The chatter around Shreyas being the next India T20 captain has grown in recent times, even though he is not a part of the national team. Punjab Kings' peerless run in the first half of the IPL also contributed to the buzz around him before the team dramatically lost six games in a row.

immense satisfaction. "If you can see it with your own eyes and in front of you, sometimes the results come a little later, but if you have invested your time and energy with that athlete and if you can see the results, I think no greater satisfaction than that as a coach." Reflecting on the difference between playing and coaching, Muzumdar stated, "I thought being a player was easier, because there are certain things that you can control. I mean, you can control as a player. "When I went in to bat, I was in control of things. But when I'm sitting outside, in the dugout, and if somebody else is walking on to the ground, I mean, I'm not in control of that. So, all you can do is just prepare well, plan well, and then pray well."

Indian OTT platforms ignoring NRIs

The growing frustration among overseas Telugu audiences is exposing a major flaw in the Indian OTT streaming ecosystem. While Indian viewers are enjoying instant digital premieres of new Telugu films, Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), especially in the United States, are increasingly being left without legal access to the same content. This repeated issue is now turning into a serious concern for the future of Indian OTT platforms and their global credibility. Recent Telugu OTT releases like Bad Boy Karthik, Sathi Leelavathi, and The Raja Saab have highlighted the problem once again. Though these films premiered on major streaming giants like Amazon Prime Video and JioHotstar in India, many subscribers in the United States discovered that the movies were either unavailable or significantly delayed on the same



platforms overseas.

For Telugu cinema, the overseas market — particularly the U.S. — has played a crucial role in building global recognition. From theatrical collections to social media promotions, NRIs have consistently supported Telugu films and helped expand their international reach. Yet, despite paying premium subscription charges across multiple

OTT services, many overseas audiences are unable to legally stream newly released Indian films on release day. The larger issue lies in how Indian OTT platforms continue marketing films with aggressive “streaming now worldwide” campaigns while quietly restricting access in international territories. This lack of transparency is slowly damaging audience trust. Many viewers abroad now feel

sidelined, even though they represent one of the most loyal and financially strong consumer bases for Indian entertainment. Industry experts believe poor international OTT planning can have long-term consequences. When legal viewing options disappear, piracy naturally becomes the easiest alternative for frustrated audiences. This not only affects the streaming platforms but also impacts producers, distributors, and actors who depend heavily on overseas popularity and engagement. If Indian OTT services continue ignoring the overseas audience, they risk weakening one of the strongest global markets that has supported Telugu cinema for years. The demand clearly exists — what is missing is proper global streaming planning and equal access for audiences everywhere.

‘Memu Coplam’ creates buzz with grand preview event

The upcoming Telugu web series Memu Coplam is gearing up for its digital premiere on May 22, and the makers recently hosted a grand preview event in Hyderabad that turned into a star-studded celebration. Streaming on ZEE5, the rural comedy-drama has already generated strong curiosity among OTT audiences with its unique blend of village humor, satire, mystery, and Telugu nativity. Local Job Listings



The event witnessed the presence of several notable personalities from the Telugu film industry including Ajay Bhupathi, Kona Venkat, S. Thaman, and Bandla Ganesh. Many speakers praised the series for bringing back rooted Telugu entertainment at a time when OTT platforms are largely dominated by crime thrillers and dark dramas. Produced by B. V. S. Ravi under the RAW Entertainments banner and directed by Pradeep Maddali, Memu Coplam stars Getup Srinu, Raviteja Nannimala, Nagababu, and Reethu Chowdary in pivotal roles.

One of the biggest talking points at the event was the revelation that the entire

series was completed in just 17 days. Despite the tight schedule, several guests appreciated the impressive production quality and technical standards. Music director Thaman praised composer Saket Komanduri for delivering energetic music and emotionally engaging background scores. Director Ajay Bhupathi highlighted the show's entertaining rural backdrop and comedy-driven storytelling, while Kona

Venkat appreciated the cultural authenticity embedded in the narrative. Emotional moments also unfolded during the event when actor Raviteja Nannimala became overwhelmed while speaking about his journey in the industry. Blending cockfight culture, village chaos, humor, and emotional storytelling, Memu Coplam promises to be a refreshing family entertainer for Telugu OTT viewers this summer.

Bobby Deol takes break from YRF shoot in the UK, returns to Mumbai for work commitments

According to a source close to the film, “Bobby Deol has flown back to India from the UK, taking a short break from the shoot of his current project to be here for the release and commitments of ‘Bandar’.” He will be in Mumbai for a while for his professional commitments before resuming his shoot abroad.” According to our sources, Bobby has been shooting for Yash Raj Chopra’s movie starring Ahaan Panday. Bobby Deol was spotted at the airport looking stylish and chic in an all-blue denim outfit paired with tinted glasses and statement glares. As Bobby made his way through the airport, paparazzi stationed at the location were heard



complimenting him on the positive response to “Come On Baby,” a recently released song from ‘Bandar’.

The actor was seen graciously acknowledging the praise and thanked everyone for the love pouring in for the film. The recently released trailer of ‘Bandar’, which dropped on May 21,

has been receiving appreciation from audiences and critics alike. The film marks Bobby Deol’s first solo-led theatrical film in nearly 17 years. Going by the trailer, ‘Bandar’ appears to revolve around a dark love story and the harsh realities of society where many men silently suffer through emotional turmoil, loneliness, and societal judgment. The movie has been directed by Anurag Kashyap and produced by Nikhil Dwivedi Advani under Saffron Magicworks in association with Zee Studios. On the work front, Bobby Deol has been enjoying a strong career resurgence over the last few years with projects like ‘Animal’ ‘Aashram’, and ‘The Ba***ds of Bollywood’.

Raja Ravinder’s first look from ‘CASTE’ is intense



the makers of CASTE have unveiled the powerful first look of Raja Ravindra from the movie, where he appears in the role of Minister Narayana. The intense poster has quickly grabbed attention among movie lovers and raised curiosity about the political backdrop of the film. Directed and written by A. K. Jampanna, the film is being produced by Thota Lakshmi Koteswara Rao under the Golden Productions banner. Earlier, the film’s first look and glimpse received a positive response from audiences, creating decent buzz around the project. In the newly released poster, Raja Ravindra is seen dressed in white attire with a political party scarf draped over his shoulder. His serious expression and commanding screen presence have made the character look intense and powerful. The makers introduced him as “Minister Narayana,” hinting at a strong and impactful role in the narrative. The film stars Varun Sandesh, Gagan, Satyam Rajesh, and Ravi in lead roles, while actresses Kashika Kapoor and Divi Vadthya play the female leads. The supporting cast also includes Nagababu and Prithvi Raj in important roles. Music for the film is being composed by Anup Rubens. The makers are expected to announce the official release date of the movie soon. With a strong cast, political drama elements, and intriguing character reveals, “CASTE” is steadily building anticipation among Telugu cinema audiences.

Satyadev’s ‘Samavarthi’ FL promises an ecological action thriller



Satyadev Kancharana is gearing up to impress audiences once again with a powerful new avatar in Samavarthi. The makers recently unveiled the film’s title and first-look poster, which has already created strong curiosity among cinema lovers and fans of intense action dramas. Directed by Ajay Nag V, the film is being produced under the Rudra Pictures and Panchabhuta Productions banners. Touted as an ecological action thriller, “Samavarthi” is expected to combine action, survival elements, and emotional storytelling against a unique backdrop. The newly released first-look poster showcases Satyadev in a calm yet deadly avatar. Wearing headphones and maintaining a composed expression, the actor appears completely fearless even as multiple attackers armed with knives and axes surround him. His stylish appearance and intense body language have become the major highlights of the poster. Interestingly, the title “Samavarthi” is associated with Yama Dharma Raja and symbolizes equal treatment toward everyone. The makers hint that Satyadev’s character will be portrayed as a ruthless force who eliminates enemies without fear or discrimination, adding a mythological depth to the action-driven narrative. The film also features a strong supporting cast including Dileesh Pothan, Rajeev Kanakala, Ganavi Laxman, Ravindra Vijay, and Mohan Bhagath in important roles. Known for choosing unconventional scripts and performance-oriented characters, Satyadev appears to be continuing the same trend with “Samavarthi.” With its intriguing concept, powerful visuals, and intense character design, the film is already emerging as one of the most anticipated projects in the actor’s upcoming lineup.