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Ayodhya trust faces donation theft reckoning



Ayodhya: The Ram temple trust is set to meet in Ayodhya on Monday amid mounting pressure over alleged theft of donations, with investigators examining whether cash was siphoned off through an organised insider network inside the shrine’s

donation-counting system. The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust is expected to discuss the resignations submitted by general secretary Champat Rai and trustee Anil Mishra, review the progress of the Special Investigation Team probe, and decide who will

handle day-to-day temple affairs until the final report is submitted. The meeting is scheduled at Mani Ram Das Chhavani and is likely to be chaired by trust president Mahant Nritya Gopal Das, who returned to Ayodhya after hospital treatment in Lucknow. The case has placed one of the country’s most high-profile religious institutions under intense public scrutiny. Investigators have so far focused on the handling of cash and valuables placed in donation boxes by devotees, the role of those assigned to count collections, and possible failures in supervision. The SIT’s preliminary findings led to the reg-

istration of an FIR on June 25 and the arrest of eight people. Those named in the case include Avinash Shukla, Lavkush Mishra, Anukalp Mishra, Manish Kumar Yadav, Karunesh Pandey, Ramashankar Mishra, Ram Shankar Yadav alias Tinnu Yadav, and Subhash Srivastav. Police have recovered nearly 780 lakh from those arrested, while investigators are examining whether the total misappropriation could be far higher. Some estimates under scrutiny suggest that 76 lakh to 78 lakh may have been removed on busy days, particularly when pilgrim flow surged. Closed-circuit tele-

vision footage from the Pilgrim Facility Centre has become a key part of the investigation. A review of several weeks of recordings reportedly showed counting staff removing bundles of notes and hiding them in clothes and socks during the counting process. Investigators are also looking at how those assigned to the counting room were selected, who recommended them, and whether security protocols were ignored despite warnings. Rai and Mishra submitted their resignations after the FIR and arrests, describing the move as taking moral responsibility while denying direct involvement in any theft.

Microsoft To Lay Off 4,800 Workers In Latest Wave Of AI-Led Job Cuts



New Delhi: Microsoft is cutting about 2.1 per cent of its workforce, or roughly 4,800 jobs, the latest in a wave of tech layoffs as the Windows maker spends heavily on AI infrastructure and uses the technology to improve effi-

ciency across its business. Big Tech’s historic AI outlays, set to top \$700 billion this year, are piling pressure on companies to show returns from the technology and offset the rising cost of rolling it out across their businesses. Amazon and Meta Platforms have also laid off thousands of employees this year.

Microsoft announced the cuts on Monday following a rough stretch, with its shares falling nearly 23 per cent in the first six months of 2026, their worst first-half performance since 2022. The software giant earlier this year offered voluntary buyouts to about 7 per cent of its US workforce, or about 9,000 employees. Microsoft often trims jobs near the end of its fiscal year in June as it sets spending plans for the new year. Booming AI de-

mand has powered growth at Microsoft’s Azure cloud-computing business, which was the exclusive seller of OpenAI’s models until April, but the mounting cost of building data centers to run those services is squeezing its cash flows. The company, expected to report results later this month, had in April forecast quarterly Azure sales above Wall Street estimates, but also issued a \$190 billion spending projection for 2026 that massively surpassed expectations. AI tools that can increasingly automate routine business tasks have also emerged as a threat to its lucrative software business, while a surge in memory chip prices driven by data center demand has forced Microsoft to raise Xbox console prices at a time when demand for the console was already soft.

BJP counters donation row attack in Ayodhya



New Delhi: Bharatiya Janata Party president Nitin Nabin has accused Opposition parties of seeking political mileage from the Ayodhya Ram Temple donation theft row, turning a police investigation into a wider confrontation over faith, governance and accountability. Addressing a party event in Lucknow on Sunday, Nabin said no one would be allowed to hurt the sentiments of devotees and asserted that action would be

taken against those found responsible. He targeted Opposition leaders who have questioned the handling of temple donations, saying “those who once questioned the existence of Lord Ram are today talking about aastha”. His remarks came as the alleged embezzlement of offerings at the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi temple continued to draw sharp political attacks and fresh demands for a transparent probe.

Dipke letter sharpens pressure over exam leak stir

New Delhi: Abhijeet Dipke has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi asking how long the government will ignore voices from Jantar Mantar, as the Cockroach Janta Party’s protest over the NEET-UG paper leak and alleged examination irregularities entered its fifteenth day.

Dipke, founder of the self-styled satirical political movement, has sought the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, argu-



ing that the education system’s credibility has been damaged by repeated allegations of paper leaks, grading failures and admin-

istrative lapses. The protest, which began on June 20 at Delhi’s designated demonstration site, has drawn students.

Record Allocations for BC Welfare: Minister Savitha



viding Gurukul students with quality education, nutritious food, sports equipment, and tracksuits. To promote excellence in chess, the government has signed an MoU with the AP Chess Academy.

According to the minister, improved accommodation facilities are being provided to 85,000 students in 998 BC hostels. Over the past two years, 780 crore has been spent on hostel repairs and infrastructure upgrades. Additionally, RO water plants have been installed in 772 hostels, while inverters have been provided in 642 hostels.

Support for Competitive Exams and Employment

Savitha said that free coaching is being provided to BC candidates preparing for Civil Services, DSC, Group-1, and Group-2 examinations. The government also plans to establish three dedicated BC Study Circles in Visakhapatnam, Anantapur, and Tirupati. She announced that Adarana 3.0 will be implemented with an outlay of Rs.1,000 crore to distribute modern tools and equipment to BC beneficiaries.

BC Protection Law and Reservations

The minister said that the government is planning to introduce the country’s first BC Protection Act to safeguard the dignity and rights of Backward Classes. She added that steps are being taken to implement 34% reservations for BCs in local bodies. The government has also decided to construct BC Bhavans in all district headquarters. Through the BC Corporation, financial assistance worth Rs.32,533.68 crore has been

provided to 11.768 million beneficiaries over the past two years, she said.

Focus on Rayalaseema Development

Savitha remarked that “Rising Rayalaseema” is a vision strongly championed by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. She said the Chief Minister is working tirelessly to make Rayalaseema a leading region in the country across multiple sectors. According to her, the region is being developed as a hub for horticulture, information technology, industry, defence, tourism, and drone technology. She further noted that of the investments attracted to Andhra Pradesh over the past two years, more than Rs.85,000 crore—nearly one-third of the total investments—have been directed to Rayalaseema.

20,000 Startups and One Lakh Jobs in Five Years Target: Minister Nara Lokesh



Seoul (Korea) / Amaravati, July 6: Andhra Pradesh IT and Education Minister Nara Lokesh said the state aims to create 20,000 startups and one lakh jobs over the next five years. He stated that the government is moving forward with the vision of “One Family – One Entrepreneur.”

Speaking at a roundtable meeting with Korean startup founders organized by the Seoul Business Agency (SBA) in South

Korea on Monday, Lokesh invited Korean startups to establish a presence at the Ratan Tata Innovation Hub (RTIH) and reiterated the government’s ambition to make Andhra Pradesh the AI Capital of India.

Expansion of Innovation Ecosystem

Lokesh said the Ratan Tata Innovation Hub will operate from Amaravati, with regional centers planned in Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Tirupati, Rajahmundry, and Anantapur. He noted that



RTIH has already supported more than 2,500 startups and facilitated innovation partnerships for over 5,200 entrepreneurs.

The minister announced that the government will provide seed funding, deep-tech grants, and investment support for startups. He also revealed plans to establish a Deep Tech Angel Fund in partnership with SIDBI.

Proposal for India-Korea Startup Corridor

Lokesh proposed working

together to create an India-Korea Startup Corridor and announced plans to set up a dedicated “Korea Desk” to assist Korean companies looking to invest in Andhra Pradesh. He said Andhra Pradesh startups would gain access to the Korean market, while Korean startups could leverage opportunities in India. The state is inviting investments in sectors such as logistics, fintech, deep-tech, and advanced manufacturing.

Quantum and AI Ecosystem in Amaravati

The minister also announced the establishment of the country’s first Quantum-AI University in Amaravati. He said a 133-qubit IBM Quantum System will be installed in the Amaravati Quantum Valley project. Lokesh added that a robust data center ecosystem is being developed to provide startups with large-scale computing infrastructure, further strengthening Andhra Pradesh’s innovation and technology landscape.

Three Additional Judges Sworn In at Andhra Pradesh High Court

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, July, 6 : Three additional judges of the Andhra Pradesh High Court were sworn in on Monday. The oath of office was administered by Chief Justice Justice Lisa Gill. The newly appointed judges — Justice Sunita Gandham, Justice Alapati Giridhar, and Justice Purushottam Kumar Chintalapudi — assumed charge as Additional Judges of the High Court.

Their appointments were approved by President Droupadi

Murmu, following which the Union Ministry of Law and Justice issued the official notification. With these appointments, the total strength of judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court has increased from 29 to 32. The swearing-in ceremony was held at the High Court premises and was attended by judges, advocates, and senior officials. Following the ceremony, Chief Justice Justice Lisa Gill congratulated the newly inducted Additional Judges.

People Will Not Tolerate Obstruction to AP’s Development: Minister Narayana Targets Jagan & Co

From Our Staff Reporter Nellore, July 6: Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration Minister P. Narayana launched a sharp attack on YSRCP chief Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, warning that people would not tolerate any attempts to obstruct the state’s development. Speaking to the media during his visit to Nellore on Monday, Narayana said that if ongoing development works are hindered and positive initiatives are portrayed negatively, the public will deliver a fitting response.

15 High Schools Being Modernized

The minister inspected the quality of the mid-day meal being served at Mallela

Sanjeevayya High School and Primary School and participated in several official programs. Narayana stated that the coalition government had reopened the VRC (Vikrama Simhapuri Residential Complex), which he alleged was shut down during the previous YSRCP government. He added that the government is modernizing 15 more high schools on par with VRC standards. He said all schools would be fully prepared for the next academic year and criticized YSRCP leaders for targeting even these educational development initiatives.

Focus on Education, Healthcare, Agriculture

The minister alleged



that Jagan and his associates were making accusations for political gain and survival, warning that such actions would damage their credibility among the public. He further stated that the government is giving priority

to cleanliness, education, healthcare, and agriculture, and noted that school development projects in Nellore are being implemented in line with the vision of Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh.

EDITORIAL

Journalism away from the people

For a long time, there has been a huge debate in the country, especially in our Telugu states, on the credibility of the media. Should there be a Lakshman Rekha for the media or not, and if so, who should draw that Lakshman Rekha? Should they draw that line by imposing restrictions on them or should someone control the media and prevent it from crossing that line? While the debate is going on, it is known that since the freedom of the press, which we are currently talking about as freedom of expression, is a continuation of freedom of expression, it is known that the opinion that control by others is not right, and self-control is healthy, has been expressed from all sides for a long time. Recently, what is the definition of real journalism in place of media credibility? The debate on who is a journalist and who should be recognized as a real journalist has started on a bigger scale. On the occasion of Press Day, which is celebrated in Karnataka every year on July 1, the day the first Kannada language daily was published in 1843, a conference was organized in Bengaluru on the topic 'Who is a real journalist in the digital age?'. All the prominent people including the Chief Minister participated in this discussion. Apart from this, similar discussions are also being held in many states on the occasion of National Press Day, which is celebrated across the country on November 16 as per the instructions of the Press Council of India. Why and when did the question of who is a journalist arise? To answer this question, we need to look back a little. Generally, all those involved in journalism are journalists. The Working Journalists Act, which we have made under the Constitution of India, has a very clear definition of a journalist. Under the Working Journalists and Newspaper Employees Act, 1955, any person whose main occupation is journalism and any person who is a full-time or part-time employee of a newspaper should be considered a working journalist. However, in the changing circumstances, three decades ago, when newspapers completely fell behind in this race and electronic media overtook them and started 24-hour news channels, the Working Journalists Act almost became obsolete. There are some guiding principles and rules for news channels that broadcast news 24 hours a day. The channels are governed by certain principles laid down by the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, along with the associations that form them. Information published and broadcast on digital online systems in association with newspapers and news channels also comes under the ambit of the Information Technology Rules, 2021. If it is so detailed, then why is there any doubt about who is a journalist again? The reason for this is that the media journey did not stop even after the advent of 24-hour news channels, which pushed newspapers back. As technology advances, this discussion has become necessary today due to the developments taking place in the name of social media for some time now. Due to social media, a few lakh YouTube channels have been started across the country. Today, it is estimated that about 20 lakh YouTube channels are running in various Indian languages. This estimate also shows that about 15 thousand of these channels have at least 10 lakh subscribers. This estimate also shows that Indian YouTube channels are moving forward rapidly in the global market. One argument is that since YouTubers are also conveying information to the public, they should also be considered journalists and the work they do should be considered journalism. Journalists and YouTubers are different. On the other hand, the argument is that it is not right to attribute everything that is said on YouTube channels to journalism. In fact, that is what is happening. These YouTube channels, which have come in millions, are not under anyone's control. They release whatever they want, whatever they know to the public without any filter. News media does not work like that. Whether a piece of news is published in a newspaper or broadcast on TV, it undergoes multiple stages of filtering. However, due to these filters, the truth is diluted and in many cases disappears and does not reach the public. That is why there are those who defend that YouTube channels that have sprung up under the umbrella of social media are conveying the truth to the public without any filter. This is a matter that needs to be discussed. Journalism is something that is done responsibly. Along with freedom, some responsibilities are also mandatory. One should not forget that in order to enjoy freedom, one should also act responsibly. If all these rules of the mainstream media had been strictly followed, YouTube channels would not have sprung up like mushrooms today. However, as time has changed and the pace of human life has increased, as we move into the corresponding digital era, YouTube channels, which are part of social media, and even digital news broadcasts, have become a necessity. Is the information that is rushing into society in the name of YouTube channels good or bad? There needs to be a debate on what name to call these. Leaving aside whether it is journalism or not, we should look at the information being broadcast by these YouTube channels as part of freedom of expression. However, as has been said time and again, everyone should realize that although every citizen in this country has freedom of expression, it should not be in a way that violates the freedom of others or violates the personal dignity of others. YouTubers are not journalists. There has been a huge discussion on social media for the past two or three days due to a recent incident that journalists are different and YouTubers are different. It is a person who runs a YouTube channel and makes YouTube programs under the name Joseph and Ravan. He was arrested by the Andhra Pradesh police on the charge of personally insulting Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and as soon as he was granted bail, he is being arrested again and again and is being taken around the police stations across the state. No one asks why so many cases are filed on the same criminal charge. He is accused of criticizing Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan on a public platform using the same language he used in the past. There is a debate on whether he should be considered a journalist or should he be considered unrelated to journalism because he is a YouTuber. Bachalakuri Joseph alias Ravan was arrested by the Andhra Pradesh Police on a complaint filed by a Janasena activist that he made inappropriate comments about Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan at a Dalit meeting held in Eluru. And what are the cases against Pawan Kalyan who used the same language against his political opponents?

Satluj, Jaswant Singh Khrala, And When Disappearance Is The Story

Some films are released. Some films are resisted. And some films are released only to be silenced again. Satluj, the Diljit Dosanjh-starrer earlier known as 'Punjab '95', has now entered the third category. After years of delay, title changes and censorship battles, the film finally reached audiences on ZEE5. But within days, it was taken down or "paused" for viewers in India. ZEE5 has said the film is temporarily unavailable in India "in light of current developments" and that the platform is exploring due process to bring it back at the earliest opportunity.

The removal has invited sharp criticism. Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal condemned the move, calling it an assault on collective memory, truth and freedom of expression. His reaction is politically important because it places the film not merely in the world of cinema, but directly inside Punjab's moral and political debate. The timing gives the film an added resonance. Punjab is already moving towards the 2027 Assembly election. The bugle has not merely been sounded by political parties; it is being heard in villages, social media debates, diaspora conversations and Panthic spaces. In such an atmosphere, a film on Jaswant Singh Khrala is not just a cinematic event. It becomes part of Punjab's larger political and moral conversation. Khrala's story carries a message from the past to the present generation. He was the human rights activist who documented alleged illegal cremations and disappearances during Punjab's militancy and counter-insurgency years. For those who lived through that period, his name is linked with courage, fear and unfinished

justice. For many young Punjabis, Satluj may be their first serious introduction to a chapter that shaped Punjab's conscience. The film reportedly revisits disappearances, alleged extra-judicial killings and illegal detentions linked to Punjab's troubled period of the 1980s and 1990s.

A film about history, but also about public memory

Punjab's militancy years are often remembered through terrorism, police operations, security challenges and national integrity. But another story lived beneath that narrative: missing sons, unidentified bodies, cremation grounds, fear and silence. Jaswant Singh Khrala's work emerged from this darkness. He followed municipal records, cremation registers and names of those allegedly cremated without informing families. Human Rights Watch recorded that Khrala exposed mass secret cremations by Punjab Police in Amritsar district, which then included Tarn Taran, Patti and other border areas. After his disappearance, the Supreme Court ordered a CBI investigation. The CBI identified 2,097 cremations at three crematoria grounds in Amritsar district. Activists, however, believe the scale was much larger. This is where cinema begins to do what courts, commissions and books often cannot. It converts documented history into public memory. Satluj does not merely tell the story of one man. It takes the audience into a period when fear had become normal and documentation itself became resistance.

Jaswant Singh Khrala and Ram Narayan Kumar

The moral force of Khrala's story lies in its simplicity. He asked a basic question: if these



bodies were "unclaimed", who were they? Who killed them? Why were their families not informed? Why were names and records hidden? In a democracy, even the dead have dignity. Khrala's work was a fight to restore that dignity. The Supreme Court later upheld life sentences for former Punjab Police personnel convicted in the abduction and killing of Khrala. The court record noted that he was a human rights activist working on abductions, killings and illegal cremations of unclaimed bodies during the Punjab insurgency period. But the legal record is only one part of this story. The other part lives in the memories of those who were there at that time. Rajiv Randhawa, who says he witnessed Khrala being taken away on September 6, 1995, still remembers the morning. In a conversation, he said Khrala was taken from his Amritsar residence around 9:08 or 9:10 am by the police. He recalled a sky-blue Maruti van. For him, the scene has not faded even after three decades.

Randhawa also makes an im-

portant point about the film's reach. He says books on Khrala may have reached 30,000 or 35,000 readers, but a film featuring Diljit Dosanjh can take the story to lakhs, perhaps millions. In his view, this will generate awareness about Khrala's sacrifice and about human rights. Some human rights activists associated with that period say Ram Narayan Kumar had encouraged wider documentation of disappearances and state excesses in Punjab. Ram Narayan Kumar was already known for his work on human rights violations in different parts of India, including Punjab, Kashmir and Assam, when he came into contact with Jaswant Singh Khrala. His concern was not limited to one region or one community; he was studying patterns of disappearances, state violence and accountability across conflict-affected areas. In Punjab, this search brought him close to Khrala's work. Ram Narayan Kumar helped place this evidence within a wider human-rights framework. His book Reduced to Ashes later became

an important reference point in understanding Punjab's troubled years.

Journalism, risk and the Bains account

The Khrala case was not exposed only by activists and lawyers. Journalists also played a crucial role. Senior journalist Satinder Bains, who was then with The Indian Express, recalls the Khrala investigation as one of the most important stories of his career. According to him, the breakthrough came through Kuldeep Singh, a Special Police Officer posted at Jhabal police post. Bains says Kuldeep Singh allegedly disclosed details of Khrala's illegal detention and killing, and those reports helped bring the case into the public domain. In his conversation, Bains makes a nuanced point about the film's release. He does not see a clear political reason behind the timing. He says there may be business reasons or other reasons behind the platform shift, but he does not believe the timing is directly linked to elections.

Anticipating A New Era In Nepal-India Relations

It has not been long since contemporary global dynamics began to be described as a "field of exploding realities" within an "era of uncertain fluidity." Amidst constant shifts in the balance of power, alliances, and international relations, nations must remain hyper-vigilant and entirely prepared to safeguard their national aspirations and core interests. The relationship between Nepal and India is no exception to this reality. Geography, civilization, deep people-to-people ties, and a shared commitment to democratic ideals provide a stable foundation for the relationship between these two neighbours. However, geopolitical dynamics are constantly evolving. The drivers of this fluidity are multidimensional, no single nation or government is solely responsible for these shifts. The impressive rise of the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), which secured a near two-thirds majority as a fresh political force, has generated widespread expectations of long-term political stability in Nepal. Crucially, this internal political stability must now be leveraged as a tool to maintain geopolitical equilibrium. To be sure, this is not the first time Nepal has seen a government with a near two-thirds majority. In the 2017 general elections, the left-wing alliance achieved a similar landslide victory. However, that was a shared success between two distinct entities, the CPN-UML and the CPN (Maoist Centre) and was deeply entangled in the sharp internal contradictions of the communist movement. Consequently, that massive mandate was squandered, leaving the country's geopolitical balance even more fractured.

Following the Gen Z movement and the recent general elections, Nepal has entered a new chapter of opportunity. These historic milestones have generated profound expectations for a meaningful shift in

both political mindset and governance. The young, newly appointed Prime Minister, Balendra Shah, has already made it clear that Nepal will move away from traditional, passive concepts like acting as a "buffer state" or maintaining "equal distance." Instead, his administration aims to pursue a foreign policy centered on being a "dynamic bridge" and practicing "equal proximity." While analysts and politicians may debate the semantics of these terms, the core intent and spirit behind them are what matter most. Meaningful efforts driven by genuine goodwill are bound to yield positive results.

Recently, RSP Chairman Rabi Lamichhane concluded a five-day visit to India. Undertaken at the invitation of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Lamichhane's visit should be viewed as a strategic effort to elevate bilateral ties within this altered political context. High-level engagements of this nature are rarely confined to mere state formalities, they are driven by a strong sense of purpose and underlying missions. It is precisely this shared sense of purpose that makes such high-level dialogues possible. Lamichhane's meetings with top-tier Indian leadership including PM Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, indicate that India is keenly observing and welcoming Nepal's new political landscape. It also underscores that New Delhi continues to accord high priority to its relationship with Kathmandu.

Immediately after Lamichhane's return, Foreign Minister Shishir Khanal embarked on an official visit to New Delhi. The meetings between Minister Khanal and his Indian counterpart, S. Jaishankar, culminated in several preliminary agreements.



These initial understandings signal a harmonious start to co-operation under Nepal's new political dispensation. Nevertheless, persistent issues like the boundary dispute continue to shadow bilateral ties. It remains unclear what specific discussions the RSP leadership and the current government held with their Indian counterparts on this matter, or what response they received, as both sides have publicly maintained their traditional stances. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently urged observers to look at the spirit rather than the literal wording of Prime Minister Balendra Shah's remarks during a parliamentary Q&A session. While the cloud of suspicion has thinned slightly following clarifications that the Prime Minister's remarks on "encroachment" were meant in the context of "cross-border occupation" and that Nepal is not seeking British mediation on the boundary issue, the ruling coalition must deeply reflect on whether these diplomatic maneuvers are sufficient. While governance shortcomings in domestic politics may be forgiven or have limited fallout, any signs of immaturity in managing geopolitical balance and diplomatic relations can carry an incredibly high price tag. The boundary disputes

over Kalapani, Lipulekh, and Limpiyadhura are historical. There is no alternative to resolving these issues through bilateral talks and quiet diplomacy aimed at fostering mutual trust and empathy. Finding the right resolution for long-standing issues can take time; impatience, hyperbole, or any form of political extremism will not yield positive results. More importantly, a stalemate on one specific issue should not be allowed to paralyze progress across other dimensions of the relationship. In this altered environment, both India and Nepal must clearly define their current priorities and core concerns. Nepal needs to articulate exactly what it expects from India, requiring a well-defined, mutually agreed-upon agenda. The strengthening of bilateral ties must be anchored in structured agendas rather than emotional rhetoric or preconceived notions. If certain legacy issues prove too difficult for either side to navigate right now, both nations must be prepared to shelve them temporarily.

The report of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) is a case in point. It has been eight years since this joint report was prepared. If it has become unacceptable, the reasons behind this gridlock need to be openly addressed. Could a new joint

task force not be formed to review it under the current realities? When joint initiatives undertaken through bilateral consensus stall because one party finds them problematic, every effort must be made to find a mutually acceptable middle ground. If that proves impossible, there is no choice but to shelve the matter for the time being. Geopolitical dynamism demands that relationships be viewed through the lens of adaptation, review, and continuous improvement rather than rigidity or stagnation. Protecting shared interests does not mean compromising on sovereignty or surrendering core principles.

Traditional frameworks, such as the historic "Roti-Beti" connection, now require a modern redefinition. While the profound social, cultural, religious, and civilizational ties between the two nations remain foundational, they cannot endure in the modern era without contemporary connectivity, robust physical infrastructure, and deep economic cooperation. In today's world, economic partnership is paramount, and infrastructure is an absolute prerequisite for deepening that economic collaboration. In Nepal, there is frequent and loud public discourse surrounding a potential railway connection northward to China.

Special Measures to Resolve Problems in Remote Villages 170 Grievances and 30 Revenue Clinic Petitions Received



District Collector K. Dinesh Kumar
Staff Reporter | Pen Power | Rampachodavaram | July 6: Polavaram District Collector K. Dinesh Kumar said that the district administration is taking special measures to address the problems faced by people living in remote and tribal villages. He stated that petitions received from the public are being scrutinized, with issues that can be resolved immediately being addressed on the spot, while other representations are being forwarded to the concerned departments for appropriate action. The Collector was speaking at the Public Grievance Redressal (PGRS) and Revenue Clinic held on Monday at the ITDA Conference Hall in Rampachodavaram. Joint Collector S. Prashanth Kumar, District Revenue Officer P. Ambedkar, and Revenue Divisional Officer K. Swathi also participated in the programme and received petitions from the public. The Collector informed that 170 petitions were received through the Grievance Cell and 30 petitions through the Revenue

Clinic during this week's programme. Among the major petitions submitted were requests for the construction of a 12-km BT road from Gurramamidi to Vadapalli villages in Mareduilli Mandal, permission for the third harvesting of Jamayil plantations cultivated by tribal farmers over 84 acres in GM Valasa village, appointment of a helper in the Kothapalli Mandal Parishad Primary School for the family that donated land for the school, construction of a metal road from Mallavaram and Neelavaram villages to Galigupuram in Mareduilli Mandal, and correction of land records relating to Survey No. 46 in Pedda Korumilli village of Rampachodavaram Mandal. The Collector directed officials of the concerned departments to examine every petition promptly and resolve the issues in accordance with government rules and regulations. Officials from various district departments, ITDA, engineering wings, the Revenue Department, banks, and other government agencies participated in the programme.

Electoral Roll Revision Must Be Conducted Transparently: ECI Principal Secretary



Anakapalli, Pen Power Bureau, July 6: Election Commission of India (ECI) Principal Secretary S.B. Joshi directed officials to ensure that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR)-2026 of electoral rolls is carried out with complete transparency, accuracy, and within the stipulated timeline.

Reviewing the progress of the revision programme at the Anakapalli Collectorate on Monday, Joshi, along with District Collector and District Election Officer Vijaya Krishnan and Joint Collector Shaurya Man Patel, stressed the importance of coordinated efforts by election officials at all levels. He instructed that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) should personally verify voter details and complete the enrolment process without interference from unauthorised persons. He also emphasised that every application must be properly verified before a final decision is taken to ensure that no genuine voter is left out of the electoral rolls.



District Collector Vijaya Krishnan informed the meeting that the district administration is implementing the revision strictly as per the Election Commission's guidelines. She said Mandal-level control rooms, daily monitoring, digitisation targets, and special supervision of pending work have helped speed up the process, and the remaining work will be completed within the prescribed schedule. Officials informed the review that the district has appointed six EROs, 29 AEROs, nine Additional AEROs, 160 Supervisors, and 1,529 BLOs for the six Assembly constituencies. Out of the district's total 13,02,389 voters, mapping has been completed for 11,64,089 voters. Proposals have also been submitted for 107 new polling stations, relocation of six polling stations, and renaming of 55 polling stations. Joint Collector Shaurya Man Patel, In-charge District Revenue Officer Y. Srinivasa Rao, EROs, AEROs, and other election officials attended the review meeting.

SIR Drive Gains Momentum in Visakhapatnam with Two-Day Special Campaign



By Our Bureau Report Pen Power Visakhapatnam, July 6: The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Visakhapatnam district has registered significant progress following a two-day special drive conducted on July 4 and 5, with district officials intensifying efforts to complete the exercise within the stipulated timeline. According to the district administration, Enumeration Forms (EFs) have been distributed to 19,88,403 voters out of the district's total electorate of 20,23,009, achieving 98.29 per cent coverage. So far, 9,67,081 forms have been digitised, taking the overall digitisation progress to 47.80 per cent. Officials attributed the improved pace to the coordinated efforts of Booth Level Officers (BLOs), the Revenue Department and special officers working at the grassroots



level. To review the ongoing exercise, District Collector M. Abhishek Kishore conducted a surprise inspection at Vambay Colony in Madhurawada on Sunday. He reviewed the door-to-door distribution of Enumeration Forms, verification of voter details and digitisation work, and interacted with BLOs regarding the implementation of the programme. The Collector directed officials to ensure that every eligible voter receives the required services without inconvenience and instructed them to complete the remaining work expeditiously while maintaining quality standards. Bheemili RDO Sangeet Madhur, GVMC Zonal Commissioner and other officials accompanied the Collector during the inspection.

New DPRO Assumes Charge in Prakasam District

By Our Bureau Report Pen Power
Ongole, July 6: Mr. S. Ravikumar has been appointed as the District Public Relations Officer (DPRO) of Prakasam district. He met District Collector Mr. P. Rajababu at the Collectorate on Monday after assuming his new assignment. Previously serving as Divisional Public Relations Officer in Nellore, Ravikumar was promoted and transferred to Prakasam as DPRO. During the meeting, the Collector advised him to ensure that the government's welfare schemes and development initiatives are effectively communicated to the public through the media. Ravikumar said he would work as a strong link between the district administration and the media, ensuring timely dissemination of information. Staff of the Information and Public Relations Department welcomed and con-



gratulated him on taking charge as the new DPRO.

Collector Calls for Coordinated Implementation of Central Schemes for Prakasam Development



By Our Bureau Report Pen Power

Ongole, July 6 : Prakasam District Collector P. Rajababu has directed all departments to work in close coordination to ensure the effective implementation of Central Government schemes for the district's overall development. Chairing a review meeting at Prakasam Bhavan on Monday, the Collector reviewed the works to be taken up under the VBG Ramji Scheme. He stressed the need to accelerate development activities at the grassroots using the allocated funds. The review covered initiatives including water conservation projects, farm ponds, cattle sheds, household soak pits, organic storage units, Panchayat Raj roads, magic drainages, 90 workdays for housing construction, horticulture and forestry activities, and plantation drives under the Net Zero Healthy Campus programme in government schools. The Collector instructed officials to prioritize



road connectivity to schools, residential colonies and cremation grounds. He also called for extending support to farmers for intercropping to enhance their income under the scheme. Plantation drives at schools and beaches should also be taken up on priority, he said. Rajababu further directed officials to address issues raised by the public during the 'Palle Nidra' programme by utilizing the available scheme funds wherever applicable. DWAMA Project Director Joseph Kumar, DFOs Rajashekhar and Vinod Kumar, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Joint Directors, DPO Anupama, ZP CEO Chiranjeevi, Panchayat Raj SE Ashok, DEO Renuka, District Social Welfare Officer Lakshmanaik, Ground Water Deputy Director Srinivasa Rao, Housing PD Srinivasa Prasad, Horticulture AD Gopichand, Sericulture Officer Sujan Kumar, RWS SE Nageswara Rao and other officials attended the meeting.

EC Principal Secretary Reviews SIR-2026 Process in Anakapalli

By Bureau Report | Pen Power | Anakapalli July 6: Principal Secretary of the Election Commission of India (ECI), S.B. Joshi, on Monday directed officials to ensure that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR)-2026 of electoral rolls is completed with transparency, accuracy, and high quality. Accompanied by District Collector Vijaya Krishnan and Joint Collector Sourya Man Patel, Joshi visited Polling Station No. 165 under Secretariat-2 in Munagapaka village to inspect the ongoing voter list revision process.

During the visit, he reviewed the Enumeration Forms collected through the door-to-door survey, scrutinised the verification and digitisation process, and examined the data entry procedures. He instructed officials to maintain error-free verification at every stage and ensure that every eligible voter is correctly included in the electoral rolls. District Collector Vijaya Krishnan briefed the ECI Principal Secretary on the progress of the SIR-2026 programme in Anakapalli district and the measures being taken for its effective



implementation. RDO Ayesha, Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), election officials, Secretariat staff, and other concerned personnel were present during the inspection.

Missing Fishermen Search Intensifies; One Rescued Safely

By Our Bureau Report Pen Power

Visakhapatnam, July 6: A massive search and rescue operation involving the Indian Coast Guard and the Indian Navy is underway to trace the missing fishermen off the Visakhapatnam coast. Despite rough sea conditions, rescue teams are continuing operations using ships and helicopters. Immediately after receiving information about the incident, the Indian Coast Guard deployed ICGS Kanak Lata Barua and ICGS Veera along with three helicopters to conduct an extensive aerial and sea search. The operation is being continuously monitored by the Regional Operations Centre (ROC) in Visakhapatnam. The Indian Navy's Eastern Naval Command has also joined the rescue mission by deploying two warships, a Sea King helicopter and an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH). Officials said the search will continue until all the missing fishermen are located, despite strong winds and high waves. In the latest development, one of the missing fishermen, Karri Chinna, was rescued safely and brought to



INS Dega by a Navy helicopter at around 7:00 pm on Sunday. Doctors who examined him confirmed that he is in stable condition. The search operation for the remaining missing fishermen is continuing.

Heavy Rush at PGRS in Visakhapatnam; 813 Public Petitions Received



By Our Bureau report Pen Power

Visakhapatnam, July 6: Hundreds of people thronged the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) held at the District Collectorate on Monday, submitting petitions

on a wide range of civic and revenue-related issues. Officials received a total of 813 petitions, including 204 related to the Revenue Department, 110 to the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC), 32 to the Police Department, and 467 concerning various other departments. Joint Collector Gobbilla Vidyadhar, District Revenue Officer M. Visweswara Naidu, GVMC Additional Commissioner Satyaveni, and Deputy Collectors Govindu, Sessa Sailaja, and Ramalakshmi personally received the petitions, patiently heard the grievances of the applicants, and directed the concerned departments to conduct field-level inquiries and resolve the issues promptly in accordance with rules. Meanwhile, members of several public organisations staged a protest outside the Collectorate, demanding resolution of revenue issues, including the regularisation of encroachments. Deputy Collector Govindu and Collectorate Administrative Officer B.V. Rani met the protesters at the gate and accepted their representations on the spot.

MP Inaugurates Mobile Dispensary Vehicles for Two Navodaya Schools

By Our Bureau Report Pen Power

Ongole, July 6: Two mobile dispensary vehicles were provided to the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya schools at Ongole and Markapur under the MPLADS scheme with financial support from Ongole MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy. The MP sanctioned ₹7.25 lakh each for the vehicles to improve healthcare access for students of the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas at Ongole and Kalujuvvupalem (Markapur region). The vehicles were formally inaugurated at the District Collectorate premises in Ongole in the presence of Dola Bala Veeranjaneeya Swamy, Joint Collector Kalpana Kumari, Ongole MLA Damacharla Janardhana Rao, Kanigiri MLA Mukku Ugra

Narasimha Reddy and Santanutalapadu MLA Bin Vijay Kumar. Principals C. Shivaram (Ongole) and Seetha Mahalakshmi (Markapur), Vice Principal A. Raghu, retired Office Superintendent P. Mallikarjuna Rao, Office Superintendent Prasad and other staff members attended the programme. The school authorities expressed their gratitude to MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy for extending support towards strengthening healthcare facilities in the residential schools.



Collector Urges Early Detection of Childhood Disabilities for Better Recovery

By Our Bureau Report
Pen Power

Ongole, July 6: Prakasam District Collector A. Rajababu has stressed that early identification and timely treatment of childhood disabilities can significantly improve a child's health and quality of life, enabling many children to lead healthy and independent lives. Speaking as the chief guest at an awareness programme organised by the Omega Rehab Federation at the District Early Intervention Centre (DEIC) in the Government General Hospital (GGH), Ongole, the Collector said parents

should not ignore developmental delays or birth-related disabilities and should seek medical advice at the earliest. He said the government has equipped government hospitals with modern medical facilities, advanced diagnostic equipment and specialist doctors to provide quality treatment free of cost. People should overcome misconceptions about government hospitals and utilise the services available at the DEIC instead of spending heavily on private healthcare, he added. Rajababu emphasised the importance of regular follow-up visits as advised by

doctors, stating that continuous treatment during the early stages produces better outcomes. He also assured that eligible families would receive disability certificates, pensions and other welfare benefits without difficulty. The Collector appreciated the services rendered by the Omega Rehab Federation, hospital benefactor Muralikrishna, the DEIC team and especially Dr. Sunitha for their dedicated efforts in supporting children with disabilities and their families. Several parents shared

their experiences and expressed satisfaction over the services being provided at the centre. District Medical and Health Officer Dr. Venkateswarlu, DEIC Nodal Officer Dr. Bhagiradhi, Medical College Principal Dr. Srivani, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kiran, Heads of Departments Dr. Mastan Basha, Dr. Yedukondala Rao, Dr. Prabhakar, Dr. Tirupati Reddy, Additional Director for Divyangula Sakha Suvarthamma, representatives of voluntary organisations, parents and children attended the programme.

Collector Directs Faster Disposal of 'Meekosam' Public Grievances



By Our Bureau Report
Pen Power

Ongole, July 6: Prakasam District Collector P. Rajababu has directed district-level officers to give top priority to the timely disposal of public grievances received through the 'Meekosam' programme. At the grievance redressal programme held at Prakasam Bhavan on Monday, the Collector, along with Joint Collector Kalpana

Kumari, DRO P. Venkataramana, and other officials, received 254 petitions from the public. He instructed the concerned departments to take immediate action on all applications and ensure reasonable, time-bound resolutions. The Collector emphasized that district-level officers should not rely solely on reports submitted by field staff but should personally inspect cases in the



field to ensure effective grievance redressal. He also asked officials to continuously monitor the implementation of government welfare schemes. To strengthen coordination and monitor grievance disposal, the district administration will appoint a special officer for each Assembly constituency, he said. Rajababu stressed that the government is giving high priority to the

prompt resolution of 'Meekosam' petitions and improving positive public feedback through the IVRS system, urging officials to work with greater commitment and accountability. Special Deputy Collector Sridhar Reddy, DPO Anupama, BC Corporation Executive Director Venkateswara Rao, and district officials from various departments attended the programme.

Uttar Pradesh Cabinet Approves Renaming Jalalabad As Parshurampuri

Lucknow: Jalalabad town in Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh will now be known by a new name 'Parshurampuri'. A decision to this effect was taken at the cabinet meeting, chaired by UP CM Yogi Adityanath. UP Deputy CM Brajesh Pathak speaking to newsmen confirmed the development, stating that the state cabinet approved the new name 'Parshurampuri' for Jalalabad town. "For a long time, there had been a demand from the people to change the name of Jalalabad town in Shahjahanpur district. The people had demanded that since this is the birthplace of Lord Parshuram, its name should be Parshurampuri," he opined. UP cabinet Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna stated that Jalalabad, renamed as Parashurampuri, is widely recognized as the birthplace of Lord Parashuram and hence it's 'right tribute' to his lineage and the residents of town.

Notably, the proposal was presented before the Union Cabinet last year and also got nod its nod for the



same. Union Minister Jitin Prasad, who belongs to Shahjahanpur had lauded the decision, calling it a "moment of pride for the Sanatani community." Besides renaming Jalalabad town, Yogi cabinet also approved 28 significant proposals. Suresh Kumar Khanna told newsmen that the state government approved Uttar Pradesh Startup Policy-2026 and the formation of Uttar Pradesh Startup Mission to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the state.

The steering committee

of this mission, which will be constituted under the Societies Registration Act, will be chaired by the Chief Secretary. To strengthen the startup ecosystem, the government has made provisions for a Rs.1,000 crore startup fund, prototype and seed capital assistance, and annual grants for incubators. The cabinet also approved a proposal to provide cashless medical facilities of up to Rs.5 lakh to approximately 1.60 lakh Home Guards in the state and their dependents. Additionally, the state cabinet ap-

proved the establishment of the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi International Agricultural University in Bilhaur, Ajay Kumar Garg University in Ghaziabad, and Thakur Yugraj Singh University in Fatehpur. Approvals were also granted for setting up a Horticulture College and Research Centre in Raebareilly, amendments regarding the pensions of the Public Service Commission Chairman and members, the issuance of municipal bonds for the Gorakhpur and Moradabad municipal corporations.

Sri Lanka Prison Clash: Death Toll Rises To 25 After Violent Riot In Negombo Jail | Military Deployed

Colombo: The death toll in the violent unrest at a prison in Sri Lanka's western coastal town of Negombo has risen to 25, authorities said. The clash erupted on Sunday between two rival groups of inmates in the overcrowded prison. Violence flared again after rioting inmates reportedly seized firearms inside the facility. At least 19 people were killed and around 50 others injured after violent clashes

erupted between rival inmate groups at a prison in Negombo, Sri Lanka. According to officials, 25 people have died and over 100 have been injured in the clashes and subsequent disturbances within the prison, Hiru News reported. Preliminary findings suggest the violence broke out between one group allegedly involved in drug trafficking activities inside the prison and another group

opposing such operations. Security has been significantly tightened, with the Police Special Task Force (STF) and riot control units deployed to bring the situation under control. Following the clashes, three inmates were shifted to the Pallansena Prison Camp on Monday as part of efforts to restore order and prevent further violence. Prisons Department spokesperson AC Gajanayake said a

special investigation has been launched into the incident, with a dedicated team appointed on the directions of the Commissioner General of Prisons to examine the cause and circumstances of the unrest. A separate police investigation is also underway. Meanwhile, Justice Minister Harshana Nanayakkara has sought a detailed report on the clashes. A magisterial inquiry into the incident was conducted.

Blind Murder Solved In 24 Hours: Daughter-In-Law Allegedly Masterminds Elderly Man's Killing In Jashpur

Jashpur (Chhattisgarh):

In a major breakthrough, Chhattisgarh's Jashpur Police have solved a sensational blind murder case within just 24 hours. The police team has arrested four accused, including the victim's daughter-in-law. The case is regarding the murder of 70-year-old Chugru Pradhan in the Duldula police station area. According to the police, a special investigation team was formed immediately after the incident was reported. The team examined the crime scene with the assistance of the Dog Squad and the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), while CCTV footage, technical evidence, and cyber cell inputs played a crucial role in cracking the case.

The investigation revealed that the victim's daughter-in-law, Suganti



Besra, allegedly conspired with Sahil alias Raja Khan, Anand Yadav, and Rohit Singh to murder Chugru Pradhan due to a family dispute. Police said the accused arrived at the victim's house on a motorcycle during the intervening night of July 3 and 4. After getting the door opened, they allegedly assaulted the elderly man with a wooden plank, tied his hands and feet, and stuffed a cloth into his mouth, leading to his death. The ac-

cused then fled the scene after committing the crime. Acting swiftly, police arrested all four accused within 24 hours of the incident. Investigators also recovered the wooden plank allegedly used in the murder, the motorcycle used in the crime, and four mobile phones from the accused. SSP Dr Lal Umed Singh said Jashpur Police are following a zero-tolerance policy against serious crimes and are using scientific investi-

gation and technical evidence to ensure that offenders are brought to justice without delay. Additional Superintendent of Police Rakesh Kumar Patanwar said the case was solved through technical evidence and cyber analysis, enabling police to uncover the conspiracy and apprehend all the accused promptly. The accused have been booked under relevant sections of the law, produced before the court, and remanded to judicial custody.

West Bengal: Baruipur Sees Violent Protests After 12-Year-Old Girl Allegedly Raped, Murdered; Mob Kills Suspected Accused

Kolkata: Baruipur in south 24 parganas turned into a battlefield on Sunday after a minor girl got allegedly raped and killed and the body was found in a sack. The local people on Sunday morning had blocked the roads, vandalized police vehicles and one person also died due to mob fury. The local people suspecting a person to be the culprit had beaten him to death and after he was taken to a local hospital the doctors claimed that he was brought dead.

Kankarprasad Barui, IG Presidency was seen announcing and urging the local people to

cooperate so that the body of the girl can be taken for autopsy. "If needed I will myself go to the hospital and talk with the magistrate and will do videography of the post-mortem. Noone connected with this crime will be spared. We have spoken with the Chief Minister and he has also assured of strict punishment," said Barui. Notably, according to sources, Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari is likely to meet the affected family on July 7. The victim's father had reportedly spoken with Adhikari and according to him, the Chief Minister has asked him to visit Bhawani



Bhavan on Tuesday. The incident took place in the Suryapur Hat area under Dhapdhapi-II Gram Panchayat in Baruipur. According to the victim's family the 12-year-old girl

had left home on Saturday evening to buy food and didn't return home after that. However, till the time of reporting the police have not officially confirmed any arrests.

Who Could Replace Champat Rai As Ram Temple Trust General Secretary Amid Donation Theft Probe?

Ayodhya: The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust is set to hold a crucial meeting in Ayodhya on Monday afternoon, with one of the most closely watched decisions expected to be the future of General Secretary Champat Rai and the leadership transition that could follow. The meeting, scheduled at 3 pm at Mani Ramdas Chavni, the ashram of Trust President Mahant Nitya Gopal Das, comes amid mounting scrutiny over the alleged embezzlement of cash and valuables donated at the Ram Temple. Originally planned for July 11, the meeting was advanced to address urgent administrative and governance issues.

Champat Rai's Resignation Under Consideration

Among the five agenda items, the Trust is expected to discuss and likely decide on the resignations submitted by General Secretary Champat Rai and trustee Anil Mishra, both of whom reportedly offered to step down on moral grounds after the donation controversy came to light. The Trust will also review the preliminary findings of the Special Investigation Team (SIT), which is probing allegations of irregularities in handling temple donations. If Rai's resignation is accepted, the focus will immediately shift to who will take charge of one of the most influential administrative positions in the Trust.

Who Are The Front-Runners?

Bajrang Lal Bagra

One of the strongest contenders is Bajrang Lal Bagra, the current General Secretary of the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP). A chartered accountant by profession, Bagra has previously served as Chairman and Managing Director of the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) and has also led the Ekai Abhiyan. Since becoming VHP General Secretary in 2024, he has played a prominent role in organisational matters related to temples, religious outreach and cultural initia-

tives. His administrative experience and close association with the VHP make him a leading internal candidate for the Trust's General Secretary post.

Swami Vasudevanand Saraswati

Another name being discussed is Swami Vasudevanand Saraswati, the Shankaracharya of Jyotishpeeth. A senior religious leader who has been associated with the Ram Janmabhoomi movement for decades, he enjoys considerable respect within religious circles and has been part of the Trust since its inception. Supporters believe his appointment could lend greater spiritual authority and continuity to the Trust at a time when it faces intense public scrutiny.

Nripendra Misra Tipped For CEO Role

While speculation has linked Nripendra Misra, former Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to a larger role in the Trust, sources indicate he is more likely to be considered for a proposed full-time Chief Executive Officer (CEO) position rather than the General Secretary's post. Misra, who currently chairs the Ram Temple Construction Committee, has consistently advocated appointing a professional CEO to oversee the temple's rapidly expanding operations, improve transpar-



ancy and strengthen financial management. The CEO proposal is expected to be one of the key governance reforms discussed during Monday's meeting.

Administrative Reforms On The Agenda

Apart from leadership changes, the Trust is expected to deliberate on Reviewing the preliminary SIT report into the alleged donation irregularities.

Appointing a full-time CEO for professional management.

Introducing stronger transparency and accountability measures.

Improving facilities for devotees.

Considering structural changes, including possible expansion of the Trust.

Meeting Could Shape Trust's Future

With key members, including Treasurer Swami Govind Dev Giri, VHP representatives and senior religious leaders attending the meeting, Monday's deliberations are expected to determine not only the future of Champat Rai but also the Trust's administrative structure. The decisions could mark a significant shift in how the Ram Temple is managed, with greater emphasis on professional governance, financial transparency and public accountability in the wake of the donation controversy.

Delhi Records Hottest July Day In 2 Years At 38.6 Degrees Celsius



New Delhi: Unusually high humidity made for an uncomfortable Monday in Delhi, pushing the "feel-like" temperature to 49.6 degrees Celsius in parts of the city. According to the Meteorological department, Delhi continued to reel under sweltering weather conditions, with the maximum temperature settling above normal at most weather stations, even as no rainfall was recorded in the city during the day. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the national capital's base station at Safdarjung recorded a maximum temperature of 38.6 degrees Celsius,

two notches above the seasonal average. The minimum temperature was 27 degrees Celsius, 0.9 degrees below normal. Similar to Sunday, Monday marked the warmest July day in two years, with the maximum temperature at 38.6 degrees Celsius. The last time the temperature was higher was on July 11, 2024, when it reached 38.8 degrees Celsius. Palam registered a maximum temperature of 38.5 degrees Celsius, 1.1 degrees above normal, while the minimum settled at 26 degrees Celsius, 2.2 notches below the average. Lodhi Road re-

corded a high of 38.3 degrees Celsius, 3.3 degrees above normal - the highest positive departure among the city's major weather stations. Its minimum temperature stood at 27.8 degrees Celsius, 0.8 degrees above normal. The Ridge station recorded a maximum temperature of 38.1 degrees Celsius, 1.9 notches above normal, while the minimum was 24 degrees Celsius, 2.4 degrees below normal. At Ayanagar, the maximum temperature settled at 37.7 degrees Celsius, 1.1 degrees above normal, and the minimum was recorded at 27.4 degrees Celsius, 0.7

degrees above normal. The IMD said no rainfall was recorded at any of the five major observatories between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm on Monday. Safdarjung received 6.4 mm of rainfall during the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 am, followed by 16.4 mm at Palam, 11.1 mm at Ridge, 8.2 mm at Ayanagar and 1.6 mm at Lodhi Road. However, the city remained dry through the day after the morning observations. The maximum and minimum temperatures for Tuesday are expected to settle at 36 and 27 degrees Celsius, respectively, with IMD issuing a 'yellow alert' predicting moderate rain and generally cloudy skies in parts of the city. The capital's Air Quality Index (AQI) was recorded in the 'satisfactory' category on Saturday, and the 24-hour average AQI stood at 94 at 4 pm, according to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data. According to CPCB standards, an AQI of 0-50 is considered 'good', 51-100 'satisfactory', 101-200 'moderate', 201-300 'poor', 301-400 'very poor', and 401-500 'severe'.

Piyush Goyal: Bilingual Management Education Can Bridge Rural-Urban Divide

New Delhi : Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal today said that technology-enabled, bilingual management education can help bridge the rural-urban divide and make quality education accessible to talented and needy students irrespective of their circumstances. Virtually addressing the inauguration of a newly launched course at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Udaipur from New Delhi, the Minister said the online bilingual Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) programme is a unique initiative that can have a wide-ranging impact by delivering management education in simple and easily understandable language. Goyal said the bilingual nature of the programme, in Hindi and English, would help make the credibility and quality of IIM education accessible to a wider section of people. He expressed confidence that the undergraduate programme would serve India and Indian industry and emerge as a successful initiative. The Minister said India has around 100 crore internet users and stressed the need to use technology and digital means to deliver good-quality education on a larger scale, in line with the New Education Policy. He said the virtual learning paradigm must be expanded across the country, adding that digital technology and online education are growing rapidly. "The classrooms of IIM will now be visible on the screen," the Minister said, noting that the programme could reach people from a small shop in Bhiwara to those living in Baster. He said the programme could be accessed on a screen, laptop or even a smartphone and would therefore be of great importance. He added that while the programme would be delivered online, examinations would be conducted offline, ensuring that

there was no lack of accountability. Goyal outlined four suggestions for strengthening the programme. As his first suggestion, he said that, as far as possible, the hybrid model should include monthly visits by faculty and provide opportunities for students to meet at different locations. He said management education is not limited to school, college or classroom learning, but also involves interactions and dynamics among students. He added that organising such gatherings at different locations and incorporating them into the hybrid model would benefit students. As his second suggestion, Shri Goyal emphasised the importance of soft-skill development, including in-depth knowledge of technology, communication skills, teamwork, cultural exchanges and human interaction. He said a focus on these areas would definitely benefit students. As his third suggestion, the Minister called for experiential learning, including on-site visits to factories, ports and industrial clusters. He said that providing such facilities would benefit students and enable them to gain practical management experience. As his fourth suggestion, Shri Goyal urged the institute to adopt global best practices, including the use of audio-visual and digital tools and credit transfers through the New Education Policy. He suggested that the institute could tie up with good institutions and conduct joint programmes in both physical and virtual formats. He added that if students undertake research in the fourth year and are provided research internships, it would have a positive impact on them and benefit their future careers. The Minister said that for Viksit Bharat, the doors of the world are open to the students. He urged the students to make use of the opportunities arising from new free trade agreements,



which are giving a new boost to manufacturing and prioritising innovation. He wished the students success in their studies and encouraged them to combine education with practical experience to prepare themselves for the challenges of the world. Highlighting the role of technology in transforming education, Shri Goyal said that while COVID-19 had many harmful effects, it also connected education with technology and gave EdTech an important role. During the lockdown, when schools and colleges were closed, many educational programmes moved online. As a result, EdTech companies emerged not merely as supplementary tools but as a necessity. He said EdTech had enabled India to build a bridge between villages and cities in the digital world. The Minister said the world is changing rapidly, with artificial intelligence and emerging technologies transforming the needs of management. Dynamic learning is becoming increasingly prominent, while requirements at skill development centres and in placements are also changing continuously, from conventional jobs to unique requirements. Goyal said virtual interactions across different time zones have made it possible to provide education in a fast, simple and efficient manner. Drawing a parallel with India's free trade agreement negotiations, he said free trade agreements are negotiated with countries across different time zones and most of the work is now done virtually. Along

with physical meetings, large teams working across different sectors and tracks use virtual negotiations to bring speed and improve quality. He expressed confidence that IIM Udaipur's hybrid model, combining virtual and physical modes, would make the programme successful. Referring to the global standing of the Indian Institutes of Management, Shri Goyal said the IIM brand is recognised across the world of management. Whether in the boardrooms of Mumbai or Manhattan, New York, he said, the IIM brand represents institutions that prepare young people for the challenges of management. He said IIMs would enhance India's pride in the country and abroad and play an important role in encouraging people to become future leaders and entrepreneurs. Addressing the students, faculty members and, in particular, the BBA students joining the new course, Shri Goyal said he was happy to hear about the programme, describing it as unique. He said its bilingual management education would reach people in simple language and expressed hope that the language used would be easy for everyone to understand. As the programme is online, he said it could have a very extensive impact. Goyal expressed confidence that the first batch would make history. He said the students had an important opportunity and expressed confidence that they would use it well and prepare themselves for the future.

Delhi Police Arrest Man After 29 Years For Murder Of Co-Worker In 1997

New Delhi: A man accused of murdering a co-worker in west Delhi in 1997 and remaining on the run for nearly 29 years has been arrested by the crime branch of the Delhi Police, an official said on Monday. The accused, identified as Mohammad Fahim alias Ali Bhai, was wanted in connection with the murder of 58-year-old Sharif Hasan Khan and was declared a proclaimed offender by a court later in 1997 after evading arrest despite repeated efforts by police. "Fahim was arrested from Thakurganj in Lucknow on July 3 following months of fresh investigation, intelligence gathering and technical surveillance that helped crack one of Delhi Police's oldest pending murder cases," a senior police officer said. The case dates back to March 14, 1997, when the body of an unidentified man was recovered from a room at TC Camp in Raghbir Nagar. During the investigation, the deceased was identified as Sharif Hasan Khan, a resident of Faizabad district, now Ayodhya, in Uttar Pradesh, who worked at a



clothing shop in Rajouri Garden. "Fahim had come to Delhi in search of work and had become acquainted with Khan. On March 13, 1997, the two allegedly got into a dispute after Fahim stole money from the victim. During the altercation, he assaulted Khan repeatedly with an iron rod and later strangled him with a rope to ensure his death before hiding the body inside a wooden bed box and fleeing the city," the officer said. The crime branch said the case was recently assigned to its central range for reinvesti-

gation. Officers re-examined the nearly three-decade-old case despite the absence of recent photographs, reliable identification records and modern digital evidence, as the crime predated contemporary investigative databases. Police said the team developed local intelligence in the accused's native village, which indicated that he was alive and occasionally visited the area. Continuous surveillance later traced his movements to Lucknow, where a police team conducted a planned operation and ap-

prehended him. During interrogation, Fahim confessed to killing Khan over the monetary dispute. He told the team that after the murder he fled to Nagpur and spent the next 29 years moving between Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, including Mumbai, Lucknow and Nagpur, while concealing his identity under a false name as Ali Bhai. Police said the accused worked as a Plaster of Paris (POP) artisan during his years in hiding and frequently changed locations to avoid arrest.

Delhi HC Orders Removal Of Select Defamatory Posts Against MP Raghav Chadha, Says Political Satire Is Not Defamation



New Delhi, July 1: The Delhi High Court on Wednesday directed social media platforms to remove certain objectionable posts targeting MP Raghav Chadha, while refusing to order the takedown of most of the content flagged by him. Justice Subramonium Prasad observed that a public figure should be prepared to face criticism and said, "A public figure should not be so thin-skinned as to complain about any criticism of his decisions, and such criticism ought to be viewed with humility," PTI reports. Chadha, who has exited the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) to join the BJP, had approached the High Court seeking removal of alleged malicious, fabricated and AI-generated social media posts, claiming they were damaging to his reputation

and personality rights. In its 19-page interim order, the court said some of the posts identified by Chadha were malicious and defamatory, but noted that the "majority" were "satirical expressions of the plaintiff's decisions in the political sphere". Justice Prasad held that criticism expressed through satire does not automatically become defamatory. "Any action by a politician belonging to any political party will, in most, if not all circumstances, invite criticism from, upset, or create turmoil amongst, the general public or members from rival political parties, which may at times be expressed in the form of satirical humour. However, that does not automatically make such content offensive or defamatory," the order said. It further ob-

served, "Public figures assuming such positions of power must accept being at the receiving end of the satirical humour as a necessary and inevitable aspect of their profession, though unpleasant." The court, however, found that some posts contained explicit, profane and vulgar content beyond the scope of "harmless satirical humour" and directed social media platforms to remove the links within two weeks until further orders. It also directed the platforms to provide Chadha with the Basic Subscriber Information and IP logs of the accounts associated with those posts. While stressing the need to strike a "fair balance", the court said it was not endorsing the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to create deepfake videos, morphed images and similar content

intended to harm an individual's dignity. At the same time, it acknowledged that AI was increasingly being used to express opinions on social media in the political sphere. The court also observed that, prima facie, Chadha's suit did not concern the protection of personality rights, which relate to controlling and protecting the commercial exploitation of a person's image, name and identity. It noted that Chadha did not press arguments on personality rights and limited his plea to defamation. The court had reserved its order on interim relief on May 21 after hearing Chadha's plea seeking the immediate removal of false, AI-generated and deepfake content circulating on social media. The petition alleged that such manipulated content infringed his legal and constitutional rights. The order also noted that several public figures, including actors Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Abhishek Bachchan and Salman Khan, Art of Living founder Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, journalist Sudhir Chaudhary, podcaster Raj Shamani and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, have previously approached the Delhi High Court seeking protection of their personality and publicity rights and were granted interim relief.

4-Year-Old Mauled To Death By Stray Dogs In Punjab's Hoshiarpur



Hoshiarpur (Punjab): The four-year-old daughter of a migrant labourer died after being attacked by a pack of stray dogs here, police said on Monday. The incident occurred

on Sunday evening on the Oharpur-Bassi Jalal link road under the Tanda police station area. The victim, Gungun, was the daughter of Ram Jeevan and Preeti, residents of Dhyampur

village in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri district. The couple had come to Bassi Jalal village for paddy transplantation work. According to the police, the couple had left their daughter under the shade of a tree near a tubewell, about 100 metres from the field where they were working. At around 5.30 pm, a pack of nearly seven stray dogs allegedly attacked the girl and dragged her some distance, leaving her critically injured. Hearing her cries, her parents and other labourers rushed to

the spot and rescued her. She was taken to the Community Health Centre at Tanda, where doctors administered first aid before referring her to Hoshiarpur in view of the severity of her injuries. She later succumbed to her injuries while undergoing treatment at a private hospital, the police said. The family had been staying in Bassi Jalal village for the ongoing paddy transplantation season. Station House Officer of Tanda police station, Inspector Gurinderjit Singh Nagra, said police have initiated an investigation into the incident.

CLC (Central) Boosts Labour Welfare Through Awareness & Grievance Redressal



New Delhi, July, 6 (PIB): The Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) Organisation under the Ministry of Labour & Employment continues to strengthen labour welfare and industrial harmony across the country through sustained awareness programmes, effective grievance redressal mechanisms and timely concilia-

tion efforts. Recent interventions undertaken by the CLC(C) machinery in Jabalpur, Bhubaneswar, Raipur and Kanpur, among other parts of the country, demonstrate the Organisation's commitment to safeguarding workers' rights while facilitating voluntary compliance with labour laws. The initiatives reflect the Ministry's con-

Jabalpur: Awareness on Code on Social Security, 2020

The Office of the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Jabalpur organised an awareness programme on the Code on Social Security, 2020, focusing on the expanded ambit of Central Sphere establishments. The programme sensitised management representatives, HR profes-

sionals and employees on their rights and obligations under the Code on Social Security, with special emphasis on the widened jurisdiction of the Central Government over multi-state establishments. During the session, emphasis was laid on highlighting women's rights in the workplace. Attendees were briefed on statutory maternity benefits, enhanced workplace safety, and the mandatory provision or allowance for crèche facilities as unified under the Central Rules. The programme concluded with an interactive session addressing participants' queries and promoting greater awareness of labour law compliance.

Bhubaneswar: Concilia-

tion Secures Rs.51.27 Lakh for Contract Workers

Demonstrating the effectiveness of statutory conciliation, the Office of the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Bhubaneswar successfully resolved a long-pending grievance involving contractual workers engaged by Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL). Following sustained mediation and conciliation proceedings, dues amounting to Rs.51.27 lakh covering unpaid wages, leave with wages and bonus-related claims were released to 81 workers. The intervention ensured protection of workers' statutory entitlements while facilitating an amicable resolution with the manage-

ment.

Raipur: Timely Intervention Ensures Payment of Gratuity

The Office of the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Raipur successfully resolved a grievance relating to non-payment of gratuity to former contract workers engaged at Baikunth Cement Works. Through timely intervention and follow-up action, gratuity amounting to ₹3.31 lakh was disbursed to seven eligible workers after facilitating discussions between the contractors and the principal employer. The case highlights the Organisation's commitment to ensuring workers receive their statutory benefits under the law.

NHRC Takes Suo Motu Cognizance of Newborn's Death in Haryana

New Delhi, July, 6 (PIB): The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has taken suo motu cognizance of a media report that a newborn died as he could not secure ventilator support for nearly 24 hours in the hospitals of Hisar and Rohtak in Haryana. Reportedly, the father of the newborn struggled to obtain ventilator support for his child, moving from one hospital to another in Hisar and Rohtak districts, but couldn't succeed, resulting in the infant's death. The Commission has observed that the contents of the news reports, if true, raise serious issues of violation of human rights. Therefore, it has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana, calling for a detailed report on the matter within two weeks. According to the media report carried on 3rd July 2026, the infant was born through a caesarean section at the Civil Hospital in Hisar on 1st July 2026 and required immediate ventilator support. While his mother remained admitted at the Civil Hospital, the doctors initially referred the newborn to the Medical College at Agroha in Hisar district. However, after the Civil Hospital reportedly confirmed that no ventilator was available even at Agroha, the baby was referred to the PGIMS in Rohtak. Unable to get the ventilator at PGIMS also, the child was brought back to Hisar and taken to a private hospital, where he was declared dead.

Gadkari Reviews NHLML Projects, Urges Faster Completion



New Delhi, July, 6 (PIB): Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari chaired a review meeting of the National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) and assessed the project-level progress of Multi Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs), Ropeways, Intermodal Stations, and Way Side Amenities being developed across the country, in New Delhi. During the meeting, the Minister emphasized the strategic importance of these transformative initiatives in building a future-ready, integrated transport ecosystem. He noted that these projects will strengthen multimodal connectivity, unlock new economic opportunities, promote balanced regional development, and enhance India's overall logistics competitiveness. Shri Gadkari also evaluated the key challenges affecting project implementation and directed all concerned stakeholders to resolve bottlenecks on priority and expedite project execution. He stated that the timely completion of these projects will improve logistics efficiency, reduce transportation costs, and provide world-class infrastructure and amenities for commuters, further advancing the vision of a Viksit Bharat and an Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

High-resolution radio study reveals widespread faint black hole activity in nearby galaxies



New Delhi, July, 6 (PIB): High-resolution radio investigations of nearby galaxies have revealed a hidden population of weakly active black holes in the local Universe that was so far difficult to detect. Hunting these hidden monsters is essential as they can inject energy into their surroundings through jets and outflows, influencing star formation rates and the long-term evolution of galaxies. Astronomers believe that almost every galaxy harbours a massive black hole at its centre. However, many of these black holes remain extremely faint and spotting them was a challenge. An international team of astronomers, including Dr. Aru Beri from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), an autonomous institution under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), used the e-MERLIN radio array, to observed 280 nearby galaxies selected from the Palomar sample and probe their central regions on parsec scales. The researchers detected compact radio emission from the centres of nearly one-quarter of the galaxies, revealing the presence of weakly accreting supermassive black holes that are often missed in conventional observations. Most detected sources appear extremely compact, while a smaller fraction shows jet-like radio structures extending over several parsecs. The study represents one of the first statistically complete high-resolution radio surveys capable of isolating faint black hole activity in nearby galaxies. Earlier studies either lacked the sensitivity and angular resolution needed to separate weak nuclear emission from surrounding stellar activity or focused on smaller and potentially biased galaxy samples. By targeting a large and well-defined sample at very high radio resolution, the researchers were able to systematically uncover low-level black hole activity in ordinary nearby galaxies.

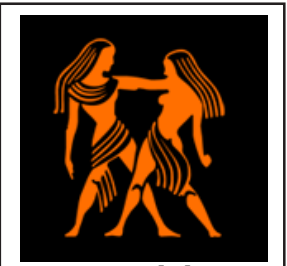
Today's Horoscope



Aries
Take complete rest to regain your energy as a feeble body weakens the mind. You must realize your true potentials as you are not lacking strength but will. The economic side is likely to strengthen. If you had lent money to a person, you are expected to get that money back today. Your thirst for knowledge will help you make new friends. Love is in the air for you. Just look around, everything is pink. Despite overburdened with work, you can remain energetic at your workplace. Today, you can complete all your tasks before the given scheduled time. Make changes that could enhance your appearance and attract potential partners. Today, your partner might take you in the realm of a different world of love and sensations. Remedy :- For excellent health benefits, feed rotis to white cow.



Taurus
Start meditation and yoga for physical gain especially mental toughness. Today, one of your siblings can borrow money from you. Although you will fulfil their wish, but it can worsen your financial hardships. You would be the center of attraction at a social gathering that you attend today. Romantic evening filled with beautiful gifts and flowers for some. Businessmen under this zodiac sign may have to go on an unwanted work-related trip. This can mentally stress you out. Working natives must avoid gossiping at the office. You will receive important invitation from unexpected sources. Today, you and your spouse will have a really deep soulfully romantic talk. Remedy :- Donating bronze helps in increasing the positive influence of Mercury and thereby increasing your economic growth.



Gemini
Sheer pleasure and enjoyment for those venturing out to have fun. You could find yourself in an exciting new situation which will also bring you financial gains. Control your temper to avoid hurting the feelings of your family members. Personal relationships are sensitive and vulnerable. It looks as if you're on your own for a while-colleagues/associates may come to your aid-but will not be able to provide much assistance. Today, you can sit with your family members and talk about many important issues of life. Your words may be bothersome for your family, but you will be able to derive a solution. Remedy :- Donate black-white flag at Lord Ganesha temple, will help you to achieve success in love.



Cancer
Support of highly influential people will give a big boost to your moral. Investment should be avoided today. Be generous in your approach to sort personal matters, but guard your tongue to prevent hurting those who love and care for you. Marriage proposal as your love life may turn into life long bond. Your senior might get impressed of the quality of your work today. Good news most likely from a distant place expected by late evening. You will spend the best day of your life with your spouse today. Remedy :- Help and serve patients in hospital, and enjoy sound financial health.



Leo
Your energy level will be high. Avoid overspending and dubious financial schemes. Relatives would try to take undue advantage of your extra generous behaviour. Control yourself otherwise you might be deceived. You must remember generosity to some extent is good but if it crosses a limit it might create some problems. Your energy levels will be high-as your beloved seems to bring you immense happiness. Good day to send your resume or appear for an interview. Travelling will not bring immediate results but will lay down good foundation for future benefits. Your married life is all about fun, pleasure, and bliss today. Remedy :- Avoid drinking and smoking for a great financial condition.



Virgo
Friends supportive and will keep you happy. You are most likely to attain financial profits today at night because as any money lent before will come back instantly. Do not neglect your social life. Take some time from your busy schedule and go out to attend the party with your family. It will not only relieve your pressure but also remove your hesitation. Sudden romantic encounter will lift your spirits. Today is a day for high performance and high profile. Students of this zodiac sign will waste their time majorly on TV or mobile phone more than required. This will lead to wastage of time. Today, you will know that how does it feel to have a wonderful life-partner. Remedy :- Lighting Loban incense (dhoop) at home will be good for domestic life.



Libra
You are likely to enjoy the success of other people by praising them. Today, seek the blessings of your elders before going out of the house, as it will benefit you. Children will make you feel proud with their achievements. Exciting day of romance-Plan something special for the evening and try to make it as romantic as possible. Whatever you do-you will be in a commanding position. This is one of those days when you'll try to take out time for yourself from your busy schedule but fail miserably. Today, you will fall in love with your spouse again. Remedy :- Keep water in a Copper vessel near bedside at night, and next morning, pour this water at the root of a nearest tree, for excellent health benefits.



Scorpio
Creative hobbies will keep you relaxed. Today, with the help of a close friend, some businessmen are likely to gain monetary benefits. This money can overcome many of your troubles. Your ability to impress others will bring rewards. Chances of meeting an interesting person on card. Keep away from signing any new joint ventures and partnerships. Even though you will have ample free time, you won't be able to do anything that can satisfy you. Your spouse will remind you the time of your teenage today along with some notorious stuff. Remedy :- Strictly avoid the usage of tobacco and the consumption of eggs, meat, fish and other tamsaic food, and reap rich benefits in your business/work life.



Sagittarius
Take care while driving. You will like to overspend on others. Unexpected good news later in the day brings happiness and cheers for the entire family. Love is synonymous to worshipping God; it is very spiritual as well as religious. You will know this today. Backlog of correspondence will need top priority. Natives of this zodiac sign need to understand themselves a bit better today. If you feel lost somewhere in the crowd, then take time for yourself and evaluate your personality. Marriages are made in heaven, your spouse will prove this to you today. Remedy :- Wear Silver in any form to achieve healthy lifestyle.



Capricorn
Health remains perfect. You will like to overspend on others. Try not to offend others and adapt to your family needs. Interference of others will cause frictions. You will be honored for some of your good deeds today at work. If you are married and have children, then they can complain to you regarding you not being able to give them ample time. Interference of people might harm your relationship with your spouse today. Remedy :- Water stored and kept in Sun in a green colored glass bottle will bring plenty of happiness to family members.



Aquarius
You are going to enjoy the pleasure of leisure. Avoid overspending and dubious financial schemes. Youngsters may seek some advice on school projects. Today, you and your love partner will delve into the ocean of love, and will experience the high of love. It is a favorable day, utilize the best of it at work. Your free time will be wasted today because of any unnecessary work. You will get to know today that why marriages are made in heaven. Remedy :- Donate white dhotis with black borders to saints for enhanced economic situation.



Pisces
Tooth ache or stomach upset may create some problems for you. Take a physician's advice to get relief immediately. Those who are managing their business with their close ones or relatives need to remain very careful today, otherwise financial losses can occur. Auspicious day for giving and receiving gifts from those you love. Romantic memories will occupy your day. You will get good chance to display your talents. Good day for some recreation and entertainment. Your spouse had never been so awesome. You might get a nice surprise from the love of your life. Remedy :- Health will benefit from the usage of scented items/articles.

Portugal vs Spain FIFA World Cup: Cristiano Ronaldo eyes milestone in blockbuster last-16 clash



Mumbai: Portugal and Spain, two of Europe's oldest rivals, meet in Arlington with Cristiano Ronaldo possibly playing his last World Cup match, while co-hosts USA welcome Belgium to Seattle for a shot at a quarter-final they haven't reached in over two decades. Add a red card twist, a fading golden generation, and two sides that both needed late drama just to get here, and this is about as good as a World Cup matchday gets.

Portugal and Spain share a border and a rivalry that goes back more than a century, but at World Cups it's only happened twice – Spain edged a tight Round of 16 tie in 2010, and the two put on a classic in 2018, sharing six goals in a 3-3 draw that's still talked about today. The most recent meeting was even more dramatic: Portugal beat Spain on penalties in last year's UEFA Nations League final, becoming the first team

ever to win the competition twice. Spain will start as favourites this time, but this fixture has a habit of tearing up the script. At 41, this is very likely Cristiano Ronaldo's fifth and final World Cup, and he's made sure people are still talking about him – three goals so far, including two in Portugal's 5-0 opening statement against Uzbekistan, and his first-ever World Cup knockout goal, a penalty that sent Portugal past Croatia in the last 32. Whatever happens on Tuesday, he's already become the first player in history to score at six different World Cups. Spain, for their part, aren't short of their own box-office name in Lamine Yamal, easing back to full fitness after his injury lay-off. Here's the stat doing the rounds in the Spain camp: four matches, zero goals against. That's a perfect defensive record through the group stage and into the knockouts, capped by a 3-0 dismantling of Austria in the last 32. Portugal have been productive at the

other end – eight goals in four games, but they've also looked shakier defensively, letting in two, including a nervy draw with DR Congo in their opener. Something has to give when a free-scoring side meets a defence that hasn't been breached all tournament. Spain arrive as reigning European champions and one of the outright favourites to go all the way, sitting just behind France in most bookmakers' lists. Portugal, meanwhile, are looking to go one better than their 2022 exit, when they fell in the quarter-finals to Morocco. A win here sets up a mouthwatering possible route to the semis, reason enough for neutrals to tune in even without the Ronaldo factor. This tournament has been relentless for goals – 215 were scored in the group stage alone, more than any previous World Cup managed across a full tournament (the old record was 172, set in Qatar in 2022). Portugal and Spain have done their bit, with eight goals apiece already, and neither side has looked like taking their foot off the gas so far.

'Stability brings trophies home': Sachin Tendulkar hails Australia's historic seventh Women's T20 World Cup title

New Delhi: India legend Sachin Tendulkar has showered rich praise on the Australian women's cricket team's unmatched consistency following their seventh ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 title. The victory marked an incredible seventh T20 World Cup title for the side and their 14th ICC World Cup trophy overall across formats. Taking to social media, Tendulkar lauded the team's undefeated streak throughout the tournament, pointing out how they seamlessly navigated match conditions. "Congratulations to Australia on another World Cup title! The unbeaten run really shows how well they managed different match situations and stayed consistent throughout. That kind of stability is usually what brings trophies home," Tendulkar wrote on X. In front of a 28,000-plus record crowd at the Lord's Cricket Ground, Australia ended England's perfect record at home World Cups with a seven-wicket win in the final. England, who were playing



their first T20 World Cup final in eight years, previously won all four of the Women's World Cups (50-over and T20) they had hosted; but Australia had won all six of the finals (50-over and T20) the two nations had contested. Even though hosts England had also won six out of six matches going into the final, they were undone by their arch-rivals' all-round bril-

liance. Australia wrapped up their invincible run at the tournament in style, overhauling England's total of 150/4 to register the highest successful run chase at a Women's T20 World Cup final. Beth Mooney once again anchored Australia's chase with 64 off 49 as they finished at 153/3 in 17.1 overs. Sophie Molineux, who took over from Healy as captain in

all three formats at the start of this year just months after Australia were bundled out of the most recent ICC Women's Cricket World Cup in the semi-finals by India and with no ICC trophy in their usually bulging cabinet, showed why selectors got the decision right as she helped lead the Aussies to an unprecedented seventh T20 World Cup title at Lord's.

England hands Mexico its first World Cup loss at Estadio Azteca, winning 3-2 to reach quarterfinals



Mexico City: Jude Bellingham scored two goals 98 seconds apart, Harry Kane converted a penalty when England was down to 10 men, and the Three Lions handed Mexico its first World Cup loss at Estadio Azteca, a wild 3-2 victory on Sunday night to reach the quarterfinals. England moves on to face Norway on Saturday in Miami Gardens, Florida, for a spot in the semifinals. Bellingham stunned the crowd of more than 80,000 at a venue where Mexico was unbeaten in 10 World Cup matches, including three this year, when he scored on a header in the 36th minute and again in the 38th on a pass from Kane. Julian Quinones scored for El Tri in the 42nd minute, and the game appeared to turn in Mexico's favor when

England's Jarell Quansah was sent off in the 54th for a dangerous foul on Jesus Gallardo. But England was awarded a penalty for a challenge by

Mexico goalkeeper Raul Rangel, and Kane converted for his sixth goal of this tournament and 14th of his World Cup career, matching Gerd

Muller of West Germany for fifth on the scoring list. Kane has six goals in this tournament, one behind Lionel Messi, Kylian Mbappe and Erling Haaland in the Golden Boot race. Kane then committed a foul that made him the first player since at least 1966 to score and concede a penalty in a World Cup game. Raul Jimenez converted the kick with a stutter-step approach to move El Tri within 3-2. Mexico attacked relentlessly over the final 21 minutes, plus 11 minutes of stoppage time, but goalkeeper Jordan Pickford and England's defenders held steady. Mexico has not reached the quarterfinals since hosting in 1986. Since then, it has lost in the round of 16 eight times, failed to advance past the group stage in 2022 and was disqualified from the 1990 tournament.

India eye bowling overhaul at Trent Bridge to keep series alive

Nottingham: A struggling India will desperately hunt for its first win on the tour when they face an aggressive England in the third T20I at the Trent Bridge Cricket Ground on Tuesday. The visitors have endured a forgettable start under new captain Shreyas Iyer, losing the game in Manchester and suffering a shocking 2-0 series defeat to Ireland. What will be India's chief focus will be re-

vamping the bowling attack and adding an extra fast bowler, considering Ravi Bishnoi looked completely out of sorts in Manchester, conceding 60 runs without a wicket, including bowling three back-foot no-balls in a catastrophic 29-run over. For the Trent Bridge clash, youngster Prince Yadav is a strong candidate to replace Bishnoi ahead of Prasidh Krishna, whose back-of-a-

length balls can be easily dispatched by England's hard-hitting batter. The Indian batters, meanwhile, have also found it difficult to adapt to the extra bounce and movement offered by pitches in England after playing predominantly on flat subcontinent pitches. Apart from opener Abhishek Sharma, who has looked fluent with scores of 59 and 43, the rest of the lineup has lacked fluency.

India women's T20I team must make hard decisions to win global titles: Reema Malhotra



New Delhi: Former India cricketer Reema Malhotra believes the national women's T20I team needs to make some 'hard decisions' and embrace tactical changes if they are to transition into a side capable of consistently challenging for global silverware. Reema's comments come after Australia won their seventh Women's T20 World Cup at Lord's on Sunday. Analyzing the road ahead for the Indian women's T20I team, who failed to enter the semi-finals, Reema also stated that relying solely on individual brilliance will not suffice. "You will have to do better in all three departments. You cannot remain dependent on just Shafali Verma because she has that X-factor. You also need a player like Phoebe Litchfield at number three, who, even if a wicket falls in the Powerplay, does not let the run rate drop and plays freely without the fear of losing her wicket," she said on JioStar. She also strongly advocated for promoting explosive

wicketkeeper-batter Richa Ghosh up the order to maximize her impact in the shortest format. "If you have a player like Richa Ghosh, then bat her higher up the order. You cannot have an extraordinary talent like that facing just 10 balls. "In T20 cricket, strike rate has to be your number one priority, followed by fitness, which will help improve your fielding. India need to find a leg-spinner as well, who can be their wicket-taking option in the middle overs. Highlighting the role of the Women's Premier League (WPL) in widening the talent pool, Reema added, "Because of the WPL, the chances of discovering new talent will only increase. Hence, to build a team that can not only compete but also challenge for the trophy, you will have to experiment now and take some hard decisions." She further lauded Australia's star opener Beth Mooney for her big-match temperament, after she hit 64 in the successful chase of 151 and helped the side win their first

global event since the 2023 ICC Women's T20 World Cup. Apart from winning Player of the Match in the final, Beth also bagged Player of the Tournament award. "It seems her game gets even better when the pressure doubles, because your shot selection becomes crucial then. She applies herself brilliantly and allows the person at the other end to settle in, giving them the freedom to play their shots because she has the ability to accumulate runs while playing conventional cricketing shots. "We say that T20 cricket is a game of power and big shots, but watching Mooney play, you realise it is also a game of mindset. Knockout matches and Beth Mooney have become a beautiful love affair, where you see her score half-centuries consistently. Forget how she plays throughout the tournament, as soon as the knockout stage arrives, she puts her hand up and says, 'I am here, don't worry,'" concluded Reema.

Amarya Bajaj wins Dutch Junior Open U-13 squash title



Amsterdam: India's rising squash star Amarya Bajaj delivered a sensational performance to capture the Dutch Junior Open 2026 Under-13 Boys' title, overcoming a series of world-class opponents, including Daniel Stevenson of England, 3-1 in the final. The young Indian showcased remarkable composure, skill, and mental strength as he defeated players from the world's leading squash nations on his path to the championship. Amarya began his campaign with a convincing 3-0 victory over an Egyptian opponent in the opening round before overcoming a strong challenge from England's Arlo Smith (3-0) in the second round. In the pre-quarterfinals, he stunned the No. 1 Kaelen Low of Singapore 3-0, followed by another impressive win over an Egyptian Badr Hassan, 3-1 in the quarterfinals.

His toughest challenge came in the semifinals, where he blanked the European No. 1 Alex Kosztyu from Hungary in a high-quality contest to book his place in the final. There, Amarya produced another exceptional performance to defeat the top-seeded English player, sealing the prestigious Dutch Junior Open title. He defeated Daniel Stevenson of England 3-1 to clinch the title. The triumph comes just weeks after

Amarya won the silver medal at the 2026 Asian Junior Championships in China, further cementing his position as one of India's brightest young squash prospects. With two Asian Junior medals already to his name at just 13 years of age and now a major European title, Amarya continues to establish himself on the international junior squash circuit. His Dutch Junior Open victory is not only a personal milestone but also a

Ranga Reddy defeat Nizamabad 3-0 to win Telangana Sub-Junior Girls' Football Championship



Hyderabad: Ranga Reddy emerged champions in the Telangana State sub-junior girls football championship with a 3-0 win against Nizamabad at Nizamabad Police Ground. Dhruthi was the star performer scoring all the three goals in the

12th, 28th and 36th minutes. Mr. Praveen Reddy, Nizamabad Olympic Association vice-president, and Mr. B. Narasaiah, general secretary of NOA, gave away the prizes. The result: Final: Ranga Reddy 3 (Dhruthi 3) bt Nizamabad 0.

Jr NTR, Trivikram upcoming film faces ban demand by NTK chief as Lord Murugan controversy deepens



The controversy surrounding Jr NTR and director Trivikram Srinivas' upcoming Telugu film has taken a sharper political turn. Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK) chief Seeman urging the Tamil Nadu government to stop the film's release in the state. The demand follows criticism over the film's apparent Lord Murugan theme and the now-edited phrase "Born in the North" used in its announcement, which sparked a wider debate about the deity's origins and representation.

Why The Film Has Become The Centre Of A Controversy

The issue first surfaced on June 29 after producer Naga Vamsi revealed the yet-to-be-titled project starring Jr NTR and directed by Trivikram Srinivas. Alongside the announcement poster, the caption read, "Born in the North. Forged in the Heartland. Worshipped in the South. Now... A tale destined to belong to the universe." Although the filmmakers did not reveal the storyline, the poster suggested that the film revolves around Lord Murugan, also known as Karthikeya or Skanda. The phrase "Born in the North" immediately triggered criticism from several Tamil social media users, who argued that Lord Murugan holds a unique and deeply rooted place in Tamil culture.

Following the backlash, the controversial wording was removed. The revised caption now reads, "The Son of Shiva. The Pride of Parvathi. The Eter-

nal Commander. And, once again with TRIVIKRAM." The debate has since expanded online, with differing views emerging over the interpretation of Lord Murugan's origins. While many in Tamil Nadu regard Lord Murugan as Tamil Kadavul (God of the Tamil people), others have argued that the deity did not have a physical birth and was associated with the North before becoming closely linked with southern India.

Seeman Demands A Ban And Issues Warning

Reacting to the controversy, Seeman accused the filmmakers of attempting to misrepresent the history of one of Tamil Nadu's most revered deities. In a strongly worded statement shared on X, he described the announcement as deeply disturbing and claimed that portraying Lord Murugan as being born in the northern plains undermines Tamil history and identity. He further alleged that several Tamil deities, including Sivan, Murugan, Kannan, Thirumal and Kotravai, had historically been appropriated by communities without their own distinct traditions.

"From time immemorial, the most ancient, primal god of Tamils, inseparably intertwined with Tamil culture and way of life, is Lord Muruga Peruman. Tamil is Murugan; Murugan is Tamil; the two are inseparable," Seeman said. He also warned the filmmakers against continuing with what he described as a distorted narrative. "I warn

that the film crew must immediately abandon their attempts to fabricate and impose fictional tales – such as claiming Lord Muruga was born in the northern plains – under the guise of art. Failure to do so will result in facing the most severe repercussions."

In another section of his statement, Seeman appealed to the Tamil Nadu government, theatre owners and distributors to stop the film from being screened if no changes were made. "Considering that this film, which distorts Tamil culture and is created with the intent to hurt the sentiments of Tamils, could lead to serious law-and-order issues if released, I strongly urge the Tamil Nadu government not to permit the screening of its Tamil or Telugu versions in Tamil Nadu," he said.

Makers Yet To Break Their Silence

The film's producers have not issued any response to Seeman's remarks or the criticism surrounding the original announcement. The project is yet to begin production and is widely rumoured to be titled God of War, which translates to Por Kadavul in Tamil, a title closely associated with Lord Murugan in the state. Despite limited official details about the storyline, the controversy has already fuelled widespread discussion across social media regarding creative freedom, religious representation and the portrayal of mythological figures in cinema.

Mahesh Babu's look as Lord Ram in 'Varanasi' makes waves online; fuels anticipation for SS Rajamouli's epic Ramayana sequence



SS Rajamouli's 'Varanasi' is back in the headlines, this time, after an image of leading man Mahesh Babu, as the character Lord Ram began doing the rounds online. The the photo that surfaced on fan handles, the actor is seen dressed in saffron robes with a bow across his shoulder. The scene in question appears to be amid a rural setup. Although it is unclear if the image is an AI interpretation of the film shoot, it has got fans buzzing with excitement about his turn as Lord Rama in the upcoming film.

The makers have so far, only teased Mahesh Babu's look from the film in a teaser trailer. This image,

believed to be a fan-made post, gives a clear look at what the actor may look like in his Lord Rama avatar. Director Rajamouli previously revealed that seeing Mahesh Babu in his Lord Rama avatar, gave him "literal goosebumps". He also stated that Mahesh has the "charm of Krishna and the calmness of Rama". Another image doing the rounds online, features a poster of Mahesh Babu holding a trishul in his hands. While the image was shared last year, it is now going viral after featuring among the promotional material during Rajamouli's fan interactions. The image comes amid fresh interest in

'Varanasi' after director SS Rajamouli went about promoting the film in France. The filmmaker has previously confirmed that the Mahesh Babu-starrer is a standalone film and revealed that audiences can expect an estimated 20-30-minute Ramayana, which has been shot in IMAX format.

'Varanasi', which stars Mahesh Babu alongside Priyanka Chopra and Prithviraj Sukumaran, is currently in production. Rajamouli recently revealed that the film has around 80 days of shooting remaining before it wraps up and begins post-production work. The film is slated to release in April 2027.

I could've made it bigger than Dhurandhar: Priyadarshan breaks silence on his exit from Akshay Kumar starrer Hera Pheri 3 over repeated insults

'Hera Pheri 3' has once again found itself in troubled waters. Although the third instalment of the beloved comedy franchise was officially announced in January 2025, the film recently suffered another setback after producer Firoz A. Nadiadwallah confirmed that Priyadarshan would no longer direct the project. The filmmaker has now revealed that a combination of legal complications and his strained relationship with the producer led to his exit.

In a recent interview with Mid-day, Priyadarshan alleged that Nadiadwallah had repeatedly disrespected him over the years, making it difficult for him to continue with the film despite his enthusiasm for bringing the iconic trio back to the big screen. Recalling his conversations with the producer, Priyadarshan claimed that Firoz A. Nadiadwallah had asked Akshay Kumar not to make the film with him. "Firoz told Akshay, 'You have the rights to make 'Hera Pheri 3', but never make it with Priyadarshan. That's my only request.' He has insulted me so many times, he told me that my cut of 'Hera Pheri' looked like a poor man's version, that he had to edit my five-hour movie." The director added that he had accepted the project only because Akshay Kumar, Suniel Shetty and Paresh Rawal personally wanted him to return. "I initially agreed to do the third part with Akshay because I thought I could make one of this country's biggest franchises. If I had directed it, I could've made it bigger than 'Dhurandhar'. Akshay, Suniel, and Paresh requested me to make 'Hera Pheri 3'. When I narrated the story to them, they were all excited." According to Priyadarshan, the problems



surrounding the film began almost immediately after its announcement in 2025. He revealed that he received a call from Seven Arts Films' G. P. Vijayakumar, who warned him that proceeding with the project could violate existing rights agreements. Explaining the situation, the filmmaker said the copyright issues had become so complicated that he no longer believes the original trio will reunite for the film. "When 'Hera Pheri 3' was announced, I got a call from Seven Arts Films' GP Vijayakumar that if we ever do the film, it will be a violation. I didn't know what to do. This is why I said that 'Hera Pheri 3' may never see the screens with the same characters. You will never see them again as it has too many legal issues." He further added, "According to me, 'Hera Pheri' was born, 'Hera Pheri 2' became sick, and 'Hera Pheri 3' will be dead."

Copyright dispute over 'Hera Pheri 3'

The legal dispute dates back to claims made earlier this year by South Indian producer G. P. Vijayakumar, who alleged that

Firoz A. Nadiadwallah does not own the rights to the 'Hera Pheri' franchise. Vijayakumar claimed that in 2022, he acquired the complete rights to the franchise from Adithya Films, the producers of the Malayalam classic 'Ramji Rao Speaking', on which the original 'Hera Pheri' was based. He further alleged that Nadiadwallah had only purchased the Hindi remake rights of 'Ramji Rao Speaking' and later exceeded the scope of that agreement by producing the sequel. Addressing the controversy, Priyadarshan described the matter as "a legally complicated battle of copyright."

Priyadarshan on Paresh Rawal's brief exit

The director also shed light on Paresh Rawal's temporary departure from 'Hera Pheri 3' in May 2025. At the time, reports suggested that the actor was unhappy with his remuneration and the way his character had been written. Akshay Kumar had even filed a Rs 25 crore lawsuit against Rawal before the actor eventually returned to the project. However, Priyadarshan dismissed

those reports, claiming the issue stemmed from legal uncertainty rather than financial disagreements. "At that time, Paresh Rawal got a legal notice from Firoz A. Nadiadwallah saying that while Akshay has the third part's rights, Nadiadwallah had not sold the three main characters, including that of Baburoo. Paresh panicked and wanted to take a legal opinion on it. Hence he left the film. Money was not an issue." Despite the uncertainty surrounding the franchise, Priyadarshan expressed hope that the beloved series would survive. "Hera Pheri is one of my favorite films so whatever may be the outcome and whoever the producers are, let 'Hera Pheri' live long, by entertaining the people who love it." On the professional front, Priyadarshan has a packed slate of projects across multiple languages. The veteran filmmaker recently reunited with Akshay Kumar for the horror-comedy 'Bhooth Bangla', marking their collaboration after several years. He is also directing the Malayalam courtroom drama 'Justice', starring Mohanlal in the lead.

NTR supports Akhil's 'Lenin' with special voice-over

NTR has extended his support to Akhil Akkineni's upcoming film "Lenin" by lending his voice to the opening portions of the movie. The makers officially announced that NTR has recorded a special voice-over introducing the worlds of Sriramapuram and Bharatham Mitta, which form the backdrop of the story. Sharing the update, the team wrote: "A world born out of conviction. Introduced by a voice that needs no introduction. Man of Masses @tarak9999 lends his voice to introduce Sriramapuram & Bharatham Mitta at the beginning of #LENIN." NTR and the Akkineni family have shared a warm relationship over the years. When approached by the team, the star readily agreed to be part of the project by providing the voice-over. Known for his commanding dialogue delivery and powerful voice, NTR has previously lent his voice to several films, making his narration a special addition to "Lenin." According to sources, NTR also watched portions of the film and appreciated Akhil Akkineni for his conviction and sincere efforts in bringing the project to life. Directed by Murali Kishore Abburu and starring Akhil Akkineni in the lead role, "Lenin" is slated for a theatrical release on July 10, 2026.



Ajay Devgn's Dhamaal 4 gets censored, 7 obscene words replaced

Dhamaal 4 is one of the many exciting films releasing in July. Directed by Indra Kumar, the comic caper brings Ajay Devgn, Riteish Deshmukh, Arshad Warsi and Jaaved Jaferi from the original film. A few days ago, the makers held a grand trailer launch event. And now, as the movie inches closer to its release date, Dhamaal 4 has reportedly undergone CBFC changes. The Central Board of Film Certification has apparently certified the Ajay Devgn-starrer, but with certain modifications. Produced by T-Series Films, Panorama Studios, Devgn Films, and Maruti International, it will be released in theatres on July 10. According to Bollywood Hungama, Dhamaal 4 got U/A 13+ certificate from the CBFC. However, certain modifications to the film reportedly include obscene hand gestures being modified and replaced in two places. Apart from that, obscenes words were reportedly asked to be replaced in the seven places in this comic caper. That said, no scene was al-



legedly asked to be cut in the Ajay and Riteish's film. After the changes were reportedly made, the Central Board of Film Certification gave clearance certificate on July 2. As per the media report, the runtime of Dhamaal 4 is approximately 2 hours and 23 minutes long.

Apart from the film's core cast, its supporting cast members include Esha Gupta, Sanjeeda Shaikh, Anjali Anand, Upendra Limaye, Vijay Patkar, and Ravi Kishan. Sanjay Mishra, too, is an inte-

gral part of the movie. Earlier, in an interview with Filmfare, Arshad didn't divulge much details about plot and how Adi-Manav are portrayed in the fourth installment. However, the actor assured that the innocence which Dhamaal had is back with the upcoming part. Talking about the reunion with star cast, Arshad added, "Dhamaal gang is like a family to me. It is always good to collaborate with each one of them and this time we all are going to explode together in a much

more larger way and take people on a laugh ride."

The previous installment of the franchise included Dhamaal, Double Dhamaal, and Total Dhamaal. The franchise began in 2007, followed by its second part releasing in 2011. Eight years later, the third part arrived in cinemas. And now, the fourth one is set to release in one week. Are you excited about watching it? Tweet @TimesNow and share your thoughts on X. Stay tuned to this space for more updates!