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'If Gen Z Is Agitating, They Aren't Anti-Nationals'

RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat Calls For Dialogue With Youth

New Delhi: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday said young people raising their voices over issues affecting them should not be branded as anti-national, stressing that their concerns must be heard and addressed through dialogue and democratic processes. Speaking at the International Movement to Unite Nations (IIMUN) Annual Championship Conference at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC) in Mumbai, Bhagwat interacted with members of Gen Z and Gen Alpha during an event attended by more than 2,000 students from over 100 cities across the country. The event marked the 15th anniversary celebrations of IIMUN and focused on the theme, "The Role of Youth in Uniting the World, the Indian Way." Addressing recent student protests, Bhagwat said the younger generation was not seeking conflict but was instead trying to draw attention to genuine concerns. "If the Gen Z is agitating, they cer-



tainly aren't anti-nationals; they are our own people, our next generation," the RSS chief said. Without directly naming any movement, Bhagwat's remarks came against the backdrop of recent student-led protests in Delhi that culminated in the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

Emphasising the importance of debate in a democratic society, Bhagwat said protest was a legitimate means of building

consensus when grievances remained unaddressed. "In democracy, protest is also a method to have consensus. Dialogue is the first step, but if voices are not heard, people have the right to agitate. However, agitation should be aimed at correcting the system, not creating divisions," he said. Bhagwat also highlighted the changing mindset of younger generations, saying Gen Z and Gen Alpha were more in-

clined to question authority and demand logical explanations. Reflecting on the contrast with earlier generations, the 75-year-old leader said young people today expect reasoned answers rather than unquestioning obedience. He compared modern democratic discourse with the Indian tradition of "shastrarth", a process of debate and exchange of ideas aimed at discovering truth through multiple perspectives.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu Dials PM Modi, Discusses Developments In West Asia

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday received a telephone call from his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu and they exchanged views on the recent developments in West Asia. The two leaders also reviewed sustained progress in India-Israel Special Strategic Partnership and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening the bilateral cooperation across various sectors for the mutual benefit of the two countries, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office said. "PM Netanyahu and PM Modi exchanged views on the recent developments in West Asia. The two leaders agreed to remain in touch," the statement said. The conflict in West Asia is continuing for over five months now without any permanent solution. Iran on Thursday said it is in the final stage of drafting an agreement on the Strait of Hormuz waterway with Oman, while two Israeli soldiers have been killed in Lebanon. The Strait is crucial to global shipping and energy supplies. Before the war, which began with US and Israeli strikes on Iran in February, around one-fifth of the world's oil and natural gas would pass through the waterway at the mouth of the Persian Gulf.



'I'm Your Boss, That Makes It Simpler': What Tarun Tejpal Told Woman He Raped

Mumbai: As Tarun Tejpal was convicted and then sentenced to 10 years in prison on Thursday for raping a junior colleague, one of the key pieces of evidence presented by the prosecution was an email the Tehelka Magazine founder and former editor had written to her after the crime. Tejpal was accused of sexually assaulting the woman on November 7 and November 8, 2013, in an elevator at a five-star hotel in Goa during the 'ThinkFest' event organised by the magazine. He was acquitted by a trial court in May 2021, but the Goa government appealed against the order in the Bombay High Court, which set aside the acquittal and convicted him. During the hearing, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta referred extensively to an email sent by Tejpal to the survivor after the incidents.



Jagan Creating Destruction and Lawlessness in the Name of Condolence Visits: Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, August 6: Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha launched a sharp attack on YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of creating unrest and destruction in the name of condolence visits following his party's defeat in the 2024 Assembly elections. Addressing the media, Vangalapudi Anitha gave a presentation highlighting what she described as the destruction caused during Jagan Mohan Reddy's tours. She also displayed videos allegedly showing incidents of violence and disorder during his visits. She alleged that the "axe party president" was troubling poor people for political gains. According to her, three people had lost their lives during Jagan Mohan Reddy's tours over the past two years. She accused him of creating destruction and lawlessness under the guise of condolence visits and said his "fake sympathy tours" were causing hardship to the public.



In contrast, she alleged that whenever Jagan Mohan Reddy steps out, destruction and lawlessness follow. She claimed women do not feel safe during his visits, ordinary people are unable to carry on with their businesses, and even police personnel are allegedly threatened and blackmailed. She further alleged that unable to tolerate the state's development, Jagan Mohan Reddy was creating public inconvenience under one pretext or another. She urged people to carefully observe the kind of leaders shaping the future of their children.

The Home Minister said the Opposition has every democratic right to organize protests and demonstrations but insisted that its leaders should raise responsible questions, assuring that the government would respond appropriately. She also questioned whether Jagan Mohan Reddy was undertaking any activity that genuinely benefited the people. Speaking about the withdrawal of the Disha Bill, Vangalapudi Anitha said that during the YSRCP government, Disha Police Stations had been established and responsibilities as-

signed to police officers even without a formal Disha law. She questioned why fingerprint authentication equipment had not been provided to the police during Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure. She said the police themselves determine crowd estimates and barricading arrangements during Jagan Mohan Reddy's tours and stressed that laws apply only to those who respect them. She questioned why the YSRCP leadership was not following the rules and alleged that Jagan Mohan Reddy was coming out only to create unrest. She further alleged that before the 2019 elections, Jagan Mohan Reddy had sought "one chance" and later created an atmosphere of lawlessness. She claimed that during the YSRCP government, people lived in fear every Friday, uncertain about who would be sent to jail. Vangalapudi Anitha said the NDA coalition government had carried out so many development and welfare initiatives that even several pages would not be enough to list them all. She alleged that Jagan Mohan Reddy could not bear to see Andhra Pradesh's development and was creating tension and disturbances wherever he travelled.

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, August 6: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu chaired a Cabinet meeting at the State Secretariat on Thursday. During the meeting, the Chief Minister issued directions to ministers on several key issues and held discussions for nearly three-and-a-half hours. He also instructed ministers and NDA alliance leaders to remain prepared for the upcoming local body elections.

Chandrababu Naidu said that "two minutes are enough" for him to control Jagan & Co., but alleged that they were committing crimes under the guise of politics. He said everyone was observing the controversy being created over

the DSC recruitment process and added that the government had already explained every aspect of the DSC to the public. He criticized YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leaders, saying they had even faced criticism from the courts but were still continuing their protests. Questioning the party's agitation over DSC, he said YSRCP leaders lacked even a basic understanding of reservation policies. He directed ministers to educate the public about both horizontal and vertical reservations in the DSC recruitment process.

The Chief Minister announced that the Veligonda Project would be inaugurated by the end of this month and said drinking water would be supplied to

the people of Prakasam district. He also asked ministers to create awareness among the public about the possible impact of El Niño, explaining that despite drought conditions, the government was ensuring drinking water supply.

Referring to the inauguration of Bhogapuram Airport, Chandrababu Naidu said the Thinsa tribal dance had earned a Guinness World Record for the first time. He said the airport's inauguration had created a strong emotional connect among the people of North Andhra and added that the public was happy with the government's performance. He also noted that the airport's landing approach had been designed over the sea. The Chief Minister in-



structed ministers to include the themes of "Swarnandhra" and "Viksit Bharat" in their Independence Day speeches. He further announced that Quantum Valley would be inaugurated in January.

'Disha' Never Became a Law

Speaking about the Disha Bill, Chandrababu Naidu

said it never became an actual law. He alleged that the previous government created unnecessary publicity by setting up Disha Police Stations and Disha vehicles despite the legislation never coming into force. He said the Central Government had returned the proposed Disha legislation without approval.

Be Prepared for Local Body Elections, Nara Lokesh Tells Ministers

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, August 6: Andhra Pradesh Minister for Education and Information Technology Nara Lokesh called upon ministers to prepare for the upcoming local body elections. Ahead of the Cabinet meeting on Thursday, Nara Lokesh held a breakfast meeting with ministers and urged them to ensure that NDA alliance candidates secure a majority of seats in the local body polls. He said the elections would be held as scheduled.

He asked ministers to explain to the people the destruction caused during the previous government and how the present coalition government had restored governance.



Nara Lokesh directed ministers to spend at least three minutes at every household to communicate the government's initiatives and achievements. The ministers also discussed issues to be taken up during the Assembly session. Nara Lokesh said the Assembly would be used as a platform to explain the El Niño situation and its possible impact to the public.

Proposal Sent for New Trains from Visakhapatnam : South Coast Railway GM Sandeep Mathur

Visakhapatnam, August 6: Sandeep Mathur, General Manager of the South Coast Railway Zone, said the railway administration is fully prepared for the Godavari Pushkaralu scheduled for next year. He stated that Rajahmundry, Godavari, and Kovvur railway stations are being upgraded in view of the religious event. Addressing the media in Visakhapatnam on Thursday, Sandeep Mathur said that the Visakhapatnam Railway Station is being modernized. As part of the project, six new railway platforms and six additional railway lines will be constructed. He also announced that a modern electronic signalling system will be installed. He said proposals have already been submitted for



launching more new trains from Visakhapatnam, and once approved by the Railway Board, the trains will begin operating with a regular schedule. He added that more train services are also being planned towards Ballari, while Tirupati continues to witness heavy passenger traffic. The General Manager said the automatic

signalling system is being upgraded in Vijayawada, and the Kavach train protection system is being installed on more trains to improve railway safety. Regarding the Kotipalli-Narasapuram Railway Line, Sandeep Mathur said some additional land is required from the state government and discussions are currently underway.

EDITORIAL

Strong effort to curb adulteration

On the one hand, increasing air pollution is a serious public health problem, while on the other hand, uncontrolled adulterated food is becoming deadly. On Tuesday (4.8.26), inspections were conducted at various places in Hyderabad city and 25.3 tons of adulterated spices and 89.15 tons of raw materials were seized. Three accused were arrested. The fact that the Hyderabad Food Adulteration Surveillance (HFAST) team conducted 659 raids and seized 254 tons of adulterated food in the 140 days since its formation shows how rampant the adulteration epidemic is in Telangana, especially in Hyderabad city. It is a good effort that the Telangana government is also preparing to form a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to crack this racket. According to a report by the Union Health Ministry, out of every 100 samples tested in Telangana in the last three years, 15 were found to be adulterated. Up to 168 deaths have occurred due to adulteration.

In Andhra Pradesh, 9 out of every 100 samples were found to be adulterated. Between February and March 2026, a total of 16 people lost their lives due to kidney failure due to adulterated milk in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, which caused a huge sensation. Southern states are at the forefront of cases of adulteration in food samples collected to detect adulteration across the country. Tamil Nadu is at the top with an average of 20 percent, followed by Telangana with 14 percent. Andhra Pradesh with 9 percent and Karnataka with 6.30 percent are next. In the last three years, more than 5.18 lakh food samples have been tested in the country and 88,192 people have been fined. Punishments have been imposed in 3614 cases. If you look at all this, you can see how adulteration is spreading like water under the carpet. Only by eating quality food can the brain and organs stay healthy

The Global Nutrition Report 2021 revealed that 12 million people died worldwide in 2018 due to unhealthy food made from adulterated ingredients. Milk, cheese, fruits, vegetables, and spices are adulterated, leading to serious health problems such as liver, kidney, heart diseases, and cancer for consumers. Adulteration is becoming institutionalized at the national level. Milk and water, which are the daily sources of people's livelihood, are filled with chemicals, damaging the quality of food. Antibiotics in poultry, and arsenic and lead in water have become dangerous.

Spices and cooking utensils also contribute to adulteration. A study conducted by Stanford University on the prevalence of the chemical element lead chromate in the country has revealed some facts. When samples were collected from 17 cities and examined, it was found that up to 14 percent of all the samples contained high levels of lead chromate metal. Lead residues were found to be high in the cities of Patna, Guwahati and Chennai. If we look at the dairy industry, half of the cooperatives in this are unorganized workers. They process ingredients like ghee. It is known how much controversy the Tirupati laddu adulterated ghee affair has created in the country.

Some field facts about ghee adulteration need to be mentioned. While the production cost of one kilo of ghee in the dairy industry is up to Rs. 550, someone sells adulterated ghee for Rs. 345 per kilo. Due to this, the farmer who produces genuine quality ghee is unable to compete with the adulterated trader. Since that ghee comes at a cheap price, consumers are inclined to buy it, but they are not aware of the fact that it is adulterated and harmful to health. That is why there is a need for awareness programs to be carried out by governments and NGOs so that consumers can clearly understand the differences between genuine and adulterated ghee. The Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra governments have banned the manufacture and sale of analogue paneer with the aim of curbing the manufacture and sale of adulterated milk products. Instead of using milk in the manufacture of analogue paneer, vegetable oil like palm oil, starch and milk powder are used. This is a great health hazard. Therefore, the Maharashtra government has warned that violating the ban on analogue paneer will result in six months in jail and a fine of Rs. 1 lakh, and the punishment will increase if someone dies due to eating analogue paneer. Authorities only raid if there are complaints of adulteration anywhere. Apart from that, there is a need to continue this movement continuously. Keeping public health in mind, FSSAI has launched a mobile application called Food Safety Connect. Through this, anyone can complain to the authorities about adulterated food. According to the Food and Safety and Quality Act 2006, the accused will be fined up to Rs. 1 lakh and sentenced to imprisonment for 6 to 7 years.

INTELLIGENCE BEHIND EVERY COMMAND



For nearly two decades, smartphones have been the primary gateway to the digital world. From sending messages and making video calls to shopping online, booking travel, managing finances, attending virtual meetings, and controlling smart homes, almost every digital interaction has revolved around opening applications, navigating menus, and manually completing tasks. This app-centric ecosystem revolutionized communication and transformed the mobile phone into one of humanity's most indispensable inventions. Yet, despite remarkable advances in hardware and software, the fundamental way people interact with smartphones has changed very little. Users still spend significant time switching between applications, searching for information, copying data from one platform to another, and coordinating multiple digital services to accomplish even moderately complex tasks.

Today, a new technological revolution is emerging that promises to redefine this relationship entirely. Instead of interacting with dozens of applications individually, users will increasingly communicate with intelligent systems capable of understanding their intentions and autonomously carrying out complex digital workflows. A single natural-language instruction could trigger hundreds of coordinated actions across multiple platforms, transforming smartphones from collections of applications into intelligent digital partners. This shift marks the beginning of the era of AI-first smartphones, powered by Large Language Models (LLMs), Agentic AI, and advanced multimodal reasoning systems. Unlike traditional virtual assistants that simply answer questions or execute isolated commands, Agentic AI introduces a fundamentally different approach to human-computer interaction. Rather than acting as passive tools, AI agents can understand objectives, reason through problems, create plans, interact with external software and services, monitor progress, adapt to changing circumstances, and complete tasks with minimal human intervention. Instead of asking, "What should I do next?" users will simply describe what they want to accomplish, leaving the AI to determine how to achieve it.

Consider a common business scenario. Imagine beginning your day by telling your smartphone, "Plan my business trip to Hyderabad next Monday. Book the earliest economical flight, reserve a hotel within five kilometres of the conference venue, arrange airport transportation, update my calendar, inform my project team, prepare the travel expense estimate, and remind me to carry the presentation materials." Accomplishing this task today requires opening airline applications, comparing prices, checking hotel availability, arranging transportation, switching to a calendar application, composing emails, calculating expenses, and coordinating information across multiple services. An AI-first smartphone would instead interpret the request, divide it into subtasks, communicate with authorized travel platforms, booking services, calendar applications, email systems, navigation tools, and payment services, before presenting the completed itinerary for user approval. The interaction shifts from operating software to expressing intent.

This represents one of the most significant transformations in the history of computing. For decades, technology has required people to adapt to machines by learning operating systems, application interfaces, icons, commands, and workflows. Agentic AI reverses this relationship. Computers increasingly adapt to humans by understanding natural language, recognizing context, remembering previous interactions, and making intelligent decisions. The interface is no longer the touchscreen-it is conversation itself.

The rapid advancement of Large Language Models has made this transformation possible. Modern AI models have evolved

far beyond text generation. They can analyze documents, understand images, interpret speech, generate computer code, reason through complex problems, summarize large volumes of information, and interact with users across multiple forms of communication. More importantly, recent generations of reasoning models are capable of planning sequences of actions instead of merely generating responses. This ability to think through multi-step problems allows AI to function as an autonomous digital assistant rather than a conversational chatbot.

However, language models alone are insufficient for building truly autonomous systems. Modern AI increasingly combines reasoning capabilities with technologies such as Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG), which enables AI to retrieve relevant information from trusted external knowledge sources before generating responses. Rather than relying solely on pre-trained knowledge, AI assistants can securely access enterprise databases, cloud storage, organizational documents, research publications, and personal files to produce more accurate, context-aware, and up-to-date results. This significantly reduces misinformation and allows AI systems to work effectively in business, healthcare, education, and research environments where current information is essential.

Equally important is the emergence of standardized communication frameworks that allow AI to interact with external tools and services. Protocols such as the Model Context Protocol (MCP) are enabling AI systems to securely communicate with calendars, email platforms, cloud storage, databases, productivity software, development environments, and enterprise applications through standardized interfaces. Rather than requiring developers to build separate integrations for every application, these protocols create a common language through which AI agents can discover tools, retrieve information, and execute authorized actions while maintaining conversational context. As these standards mature, AI assistants will become increasingly capable of coordinating digital ecosystems rather than operating within isolated applications.

Another important technological advancement is the shift toward on-device AI. Earlier generations of AI assistants relied almost entirely on cloud computing, requiring continuous internet connectivity and transmitting user data to remote servers for processing. Advances in mobile processors, Neural Processing Units (NPUs), and energy-efficient AI accelerators now allow increasingly sophisticated language models to run directly on smartphones. Local AI processing reduces response time, improves privacy, enables offline functionality, and minimizes dependence on cloud infrastructure. Future smartphones are expected to combine local intelligence with cloud-based reasoning, dynamically choosing where tasks should be processed depending on complexity, privacy requirements, and available computing resources.

The future of AI will not be driven by a single intelligent assistant alone. Instead, researchers increasingly envision ecosystems composed of multiple specialized AI agents working collaboratively. A travel agent may coordinate transportation and accommodation, a finance agent may monitor budgets and authorize payments, a scheduling agent may organize meetings, a research agent may gather information, while a communication agent manages emails and messages. Under the supervision of a central coordinating agent, these specialized systems will work together to accomplish complex objectives far more efficiently than a single monolithic assistant. This concept of collaborative multi-agent systems represents one of the most exciting frontiers in artificial intelligence research.

Beyond Smartphones-The Age of Ambient AI

The transformation driven by Agentic AI extends far beyond smartphones. Over the next decade, intelligence will no longer be confined to a single device carried in a pocket. Instead, AI will become an invisible digital companion distributed across an ecosystem of interconnected devices that understand context, share information securely, and collaborate continuously. This emerging paradigm, often referred to as ambient computing, aims to make technology less visible while making assistance more intelligent and proactive.

AI-powered wearables are among the first manifestations of this transition. Smart glasses, intelligent earbuds, smartwatches, and mixed-reality headsets are gradually evolving from accessory devices into always-available AI interfaces. Rather than requiring users to remove a phone from their pocket, future wearable devices will provide contextual information through natural conversation, voice interaction, gestures, or visual overlays. AI glasses, for instance, may identify landmarks during travel, translate foreign languages in real time, summarize meetings as they happen, recognize objects, retrieve relevant information from the internet, and provide navigation without requiring users to look at a smartphone screen. Similarly, AI-enabled earbuds could function as continuous personal assistants capable of answering questions, managing schedules, providing reminders, and facilitating multilingual conversations while remaining almost invisible during everyday activities.

This evolution reflects a broader shift from mobile computing to ubiquitous AI computing, where intelligence follows the user rather than remaining attached to a single device. Whether interacting through a smartphone, wearable device, vehicle, home assistant, or workplace computer, users will increasingly communicate with the same AI companion that remembers preferences, understands ongoing tasks, and maintains context across multiple environments. Instead of synchronizing data between devices, users will simply continue conversations with their AI assistant wherever they are.

Connected vehicles are also expected to become important participants in this intelligent ecosystem. Future automobiles equipped with Agentic AI may coordinate with smartphones, calendars, navigation systems, and smart city infrastructure to optimize travel routes, schedule charging for electric vehicles, reserve parking spaces, monitor vehicle health, and automatically notify colleagues if delays occur. A morning commute could become an extension of the user's digital workspace, allowing meetings to be prepared, emails to be summarized, research documents to be reviewed, and schedules to be reorganized through conversational interaction.

Smart homes will experience a similar transformation. Rather than controlling individual appliances separately, homeowners may simply communicate high-level intentions. A request such as, "Prepare the house for dinner guests at 7 PM," could automatically adjust lighting, regulate temperature, activate entertainment systems, coordinate robotic cleaning devices, order missing groceries, and even recommend recipes based on available ingredients. Instead of issuing multiple commands, users will define objectives while AI coordinates the necessary actions across numerous connected devices.

The implications of this technological transformation extend well beyond consumer convenience. In professional environments, Agentic AI has the potential to significantly enhance productivity by automating repetitive administrative tasks that currently consume valuable time. Knowledge workers frequently spend hours organizing files, preparing presentations, responding to routine emails, scheduling meetings, searching through documentation, and generating reports. Intelligent AI agents capable of understanding

organizational context could perform many of these activities automatically while allowing professionals to focus on strategic thinking, innovation, and complex problem-solving.

Software engineering provides an excellent example of this changing workflow. Modern developers already benefit from AI-assisted code completion and debugging, but future Agentic AI systems will assume much broader responsibilities. Engineers may instruct AI to analyze software requirements, generate application architectures, write initial code, create automated test cases, detect security vulnerabilities, review documentation, prepare deployment pipelines, monitor cloud infrastructure, and generate performance reports through a single request. Rather than replacing software developers, these capabilities will reduce repetitive tasks and allow engineers to concentrate on creativity, system design, and critical decision-making.

Researchers will experience similar benefits. Instead of manually reviewing hundreds of academic papers, organizing references, comparing methodologies, and identifying research gaps, AI agents could continuously monitor scientific publications, summarize newly published findings, identify emerging trends, generate literature reviews, recommend potential collaborators, and even assist in drafting research proposals. Such systems may dramatically accelerate scientific discovery while enabling researchers to devote more time to experimentation and original thinking.

Education represents another domain where Agentic AI could fundamentally transform learning experiences. Traditional educational systems generally provide standardized instruction despite significant differences in students' learning styles, prior knowledge, and career goals. AI-powered learning companions could personalize education by continuously evaluating individual progress, identifying conceptual misunderstandings, generating adaptive practice exercises, recommending supplementary learning materials, and adjusting teaching strategies according to each learner's pace. Engineering students, for example, could receive customized programming assignments based on previous coding errors, while medical students could practice diagnostic reasoning through interactive AI-generated clinical simulations. Personalized education of this kind has the potential to improve learning outcomes while making high-quality instruction more accessible across geographical and economic boundaries.

Healthcare is another area where AI-first devices could deliver transformative societal benefits. Continuous integration between smartphones, wearable sensors, electronic medical records, and intelligent monitoring systems may allow AI assistants to detect early indicators of disease, analyze long-term health trends, remind patients about medications, schedule medical appointments, interpret laboratory reports using understandable language, and alert healthcare professionals when unusual patterns emerge. Such systems could strengthen preventive healthcare by identifying potential risks before symptoms become severe. Nevertheless, AI should always function as a decision-support tool under the supervision of qualified healthcare professionals rather than as an independent replacement for clinical expertise.

Despite these remarkable opportunities, the rise of autonomous AI introduces equally significant challenges. The more authority users delegate to intelligent systems, the greater the importance of transparency, accountability, and trust. An AI agent capable of authorizing financial transactions, modifying business documents, sending emails, or accessing confidential information must demonstrate consistent reliability while clearly explaining its reasoning whenever significant decisions are involved. Human oversight must remain central to all high-impact applications involving healthcare, finance, law, education, and public administration. The goal of Agentic AI should be to augment human intelligence-not to eliminate human responsibility.

Privacy will become one of the defining issues of the AI-first era. Intelligent assistants require access to calendars, contacts, emails, messages, browsing histories, location data, personal documents, purchasing behavior, and digital preferences to provide meaningful assistance. This concentration of sensitive information creates enormous responsibility for technology providers. Future AI systems must therefore incorporate strong encryption, secure

identity management, transparent permission controls, confidential computing, and on-device processing wherever possible. Users should retain complete visibility into how their information is collected, processed, stored, and shared. Trust will ultimately become as valuable as intelligence itself.

Cybersecurity challenges will also evolve significantly. As AI agents gain the ability to perform autonomous actions across multiple services, they become attractive targets for cybercriminals. Compromising a single AI assistant could potentially provide unauthorized access to financial systems, enterprise networks, confidential communications, or personal identities. Consequently, future AI platforms will require advanced authentication mechanisms, behavioral anomaly detection, continuous monitoring, secure execution environments, and detailed audit logs capable of explaining every autonomous decision performed by an AI agent. Protecting AI systems will become just as important as improving their capabilities.

Perhaps the most profound transformation will occur within the software industry itself. For more than two decades, the digital economy has revolved around applications competing for users' attention through graphical interfaces. Agentic AI introduces an alternative model based on intentions rather than applications. Users may no longer search for specific apps to accomplish individual tasks; instead, they will describe desired outcomes while AI dynamically selects the most appropriate digital services in the background. This transition from an app economy to an intent economy has the potential to reshape software engineering, digital commerce, enterprise platforms, and mobile operating systems on a global scale.

From an engineering perspective, developing trustworthy Agentic AI represents one of the most ambitious interdisciplinary challenges in modern computer science. It requires advances in natural language processing, reasoning algorithms, multimodal learning, distributed systems, cybersecurity, edge computing, cloud infrastructure, human-computer interaction, software engineering, cognitive science, and AI ethics. Future engineers will therefore require not only strong technical expertise but also a deep understanding of responsible AI governance, legal compliance, privacy protection, fairness, transparency, and societal impact. Building intelligent systems that people can trust may ultimately prove more challenging than building intelligent systems that can reason.

The emergence of AI-first smartphones and autonomous digital assistants represents a transformation comparable to the arrival of the internet or the introduction of the smartphone itself. Future innovation will no longer be measured primarily by faster processors, larger displays, or higher-resolution cameras. Instead, the defining characteristic of next-generation computing will be the ability of intelligent systems to understand human intentions, collaborate across digital ecosystems, and execute complex tasks responsibly with minimal effort from the user.

In the years ahead, people may no longer ask, "Which application should I open?" Instead, they will simply describe what they want to achieve. Behind a single sentence, dozens or even hundreds-of-coordinated AI agents may securely communicate with cloud services, enterprise platforms, smart homes, vehicles, wearable devices, and digital assistants to transform human intentions into completed actions within seconds. Yet amid this extraordinary technological progress, one principle must remain constant: Artificial Intelligence should amplify human capability, not replace human judgment. The smartest device will never be the one that makes every decision independently, but the one that empowers its user through intelligence, transparency, security, and meaningful human control.



G.Eswar Saikanth MTech
Research Scholar

No Fertilizer Shortage in District, Farmers Need Not Stand in Queues: Collector



Vijayawada, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmeesh stated that there is no shortage of fertilizers in the district and farmers need not stand in queues

to purchase them. During a surprise inspection of Sri Manikantha Seeds and Fertilizers shop in Nandigama on Thursday, he reviewed fertilizer distribution, price display, helpline information, and farmer registration through the APAIMS app. The Collector advised farmers to purchase fertilizers only as needed instead of lifting their entire quota at once. He also urged them to avoid excessive use of chemical fertilizers and promote organic farming, crop rotation, and green manure cultivation. Later, he visited organic farms at Raghavapuram and interacted

with farmers on cultivation practices, yields, and market opportunities, encouraging wider adoption of natural farming.

Collector Urges Students to Avail Mid-Day Meal Regularly

Vijayawada, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmeesh urged all students to regularly consume the nutritious meals provided under the Dokka Seethamma Mid-Day Meal Scheme, stating that a balanced diet is essential for physical and mental development as well as better academic performance. During a surprise inspection at the Zilla Parishad High School in Nandigama on Thursday, the Collector reviewed the implementation of the scheme, including food quality, hygiene, kitchen cleanliness, storage, and attendance records. He directed officials to maintain high standards of sanitation and encouraged students, especially girls, to have their mid-day meal at school. He also said the State Government is strengthening government schools with improved infrastructure and quality education to ensure a better future for every student.



Farmer Welfare is Government's Top Priority: Collector



Kakinada, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Kakinada District Collector M.N. Harendhira Prasad directed officials to effectively implement the "Raithanna Mee Kosam" programme through Farmer Service Centre (RSK) committees from August 7, stating that farmer welfare is the government's top priority. During a video conference with officials from agriculture and allied departments on Thursday, the Collector reviewed welfare schemes, irrigation, and field-level

activities. He instructed officials to ensure timely water supply, complete 100% e-crop registration, promote the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, encourage drip irrigation and natural farming, and improve transparency in fertilizer distribution. He also stressed strengthening livestock, fisheries, and horticulture programmes while ensuring all eligible farmers receive the benefits of government schemes.

Handloom Key to Viksit Bharat 2047: Union Minister Giriraj Singh

Vijayawada, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh said the handloom sector will play a vital role in achieving the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. In a message released on National Handloom Day, he said India's handloom tradition is not only a symbol of cultural heritage but also a major source of rural employment, women's empowerment, and self-reliance. He noted that over 3.5 million weavers and allied workers depend on the sector, with women constituting 72% of the workforce. The Centre has strengthened the industry through handloom clusters, modern looms, skill development, GI-tagged products, Handloom Mark, and better market access. He added that technology, artificial intelligence, and digital marketing will help promote Indian handloom products globally, urging people to support weavers by purchasing handloom products.



National Handloom Day Celebrations on August 7



Kakinada, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Kakinada District Collector M.N. Harendhira Prasad announced that National Handloom Day 2026 will be celebrated on August 7 at Gajjalamma Temple, Tatiparthi village in Gollaprolu mandal under the aegis of the District Handlooms and Textiles Department. A Handloom Walk will begin at 10:30 a.m. from Gajjalamma Temple and conclude at the Aparna Devi Temple premises, where the main celebrations will be held. The Collector appealed to handloom weavers, cooperative society representatives, and handloom enthusiasts across the district to participate in large numbers and make the event a grand success.

Collector Calls for Farmer Awareness on CRDA Land Pooling

Guntur, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Guntur District Collector C.M. Sai Kanth Varma directed officials to create awareness among farmers about the second phase of the CRDA Land Pooling Scheme and expedite the land pooling process. Reviewing the programme at the CRDA office on Thursday, he said notified lands should be pooled after ensuring that land records match the physical status of the properties. The Collector instructed officials to educate farmers on the importance of land pooling and ensure the process is carried out transparently. CRDA Additional Commissioners A. Bhargava Teja and Kollabattula Karthik, Joint Collector Ashutosh Srivastava, Revenue Divisional Officers, Deputy Collectors, and Tahsildars attended the review meeting.



Aditya University Mega Blood Donation Camp Collects 911 Units

Gandepalli, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): A mega blood donation camp organised at Aditya University, Surampalem, concluded successfully with the collection of 911 units of blood, Deputy Pro-Chancellor Dr. Medapati Srinivasa Reddy said. The camp was inaugurated by Pro-Chancellor Dr. Nallamilli Satish Reddy, who noted that the university has been conducting blood donation camps twice a year since 2005 to support government and private blood banks. Students and staff participated enthusiastically in the camp, which was conducted with the support of government hospitals, the Indian Red Cross, Rotary, and several private blood banks from Kakinada, Rajamahendravaram, Rampachodavaram, Peddapuram, and other places. University officials appreciated the donors for contributing to saving lives through voluntary blood donation.



Strengthening Healthcare Infrastructure Top Priority: Collector

Kakinada, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Kakinada District Collector M.N. Harendhira Prasad directed APMSIDC engineering officials to expedite infrastructure development works in Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs), stating that strengthening healthcare facilities is a top priority. Reviewing the progress of health infrastructure projects on Thursday, the Collector instructed officials to complete pending civil works, new buildings, septic tanks, mortuary buildings, and installation of medical equipment within the stipulated time. He also called for effective utilisation of NABARD funds, strict quality standards, and continuous monitoring to ensure better healthcare services for the public.



Sri City Based Aisan Industry India Strengthens Infrastructure at Government High School in Mannarpoluru

Sri City, August 6: Reaffirming its commitment to community development and quality education, Aisan Industry India Pvt. Ltd., Sri City, in collaboration with Sri City Foundation, inaugurated the infrastructure development works undertaken under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme at the Zilla Parishad High School, Mannarpoluru, Sullurupeta Mandal, Tirupati District. The programme commenced with the lighting of the traditional lamp by dignitaries including Mr. Yasunori Sakaue, Managing Director, Aisan Industry; Mr. Yuicha Tomita, Plant Head; Ms. Nireesha Sannareddy, Director (CSR), Sri City; and Mr. K.V.N. Kumar, District Educational Officer. The newly built facilities were formally inaugurated by the guests. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Yasunori Sakaue reaffirmed Aisan Industry India's dedication to improving the lives of communities around its operations through meaningful CSR initiatives. He encouraged students to study diligently, excel in life, and contribute to the betterment of society. Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Nireesha Sannareddy highlighted that Sri City Foundation, in partnership with industries, has consistently enhanced infrastructure in government schools, resulting in higher enrolment and improved academic performance. She assured that the Foundation would continue to drive lasting social impact through education and sustainable development. Mr. K.V.N. Kumar, District Educational Officer, appreciated the company's generous contribution towards strengthening government school infrastructure. He lauded Sri City and the Sri City industrial

fraternity for the commendable work undertaken to improve infrastructure in government schools in Satyavedu, Varadaiahpalem, Sullurupeta and



Tada Mandals. Mr. Rajasekhara Reddy, Headmaster, expressed gratitude to Aisan Industry India and Sri City for providing students with enhanced learning facilities. Mr. Toshihiro Sano, Production Coordinator, Mr. Gopal Mk, HR General Manager, and Mr. Devanathan K, General Manager (Manufacturing) were also present. The CSR initiative, executed at an approximate cost of ₹42 lakh, included: construction of a library building, renovation of classrooms, RO water plant, installation of protective grills, provision of classroom furniture and plantation around the building. The event also featured a cultural programme by students and prize distribution. As part of the environmental initiative, dignitaries, company representatives, Sri City officials, teachers, and students actively participated in the tree plantation drive on the school campus. This initiative reflects the shared commitment of Aisan Industry India Pvt. Ltd. and Sri City to fostering inclusive and sustainable community development by investing in quality education and improved public infrastructure.

No Leniency in Development Works Delay: Joint Collector



Paderu, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Alluri Sitharama Raju District Joint Collector Tirumani Sripooja, IAS, directed engineering officials to complete all development works within the stipulated time and maintain quality standards, warning that delays and negligence will not be tolerated. Reviewing the progress of works on Thursday, she instructed officials to closely monitor projects such as Anganwadi centres, Primary Health Centres, roads, and drinking water facilities. She also made it mandatory for field-level officers to maintain tour diaries, document inspections and issues, and submit regular progress reports. Officials were asked to ensure timely completion of all projects and take action against delays caused by contractors.

Two Arrested for Drunken Driving Crash; Medico Critical

Rajamahendravaram, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Two youths were arrested after allegedly driving under the influence of alcohol and ramming a scooter carrying a young couple near Aditya Mall on August 3, Central Zone DSP said at a press conference on Thursday. The car involved in the incident has been seized. The accident left Dr. Priyanka, a postgraduate medical student, with severe head injuries. She was shifted to Hyderabad for advanced treatment and is reported to be in a critical condition. Police said the accused also assaulted security personnel at the cinema before the crash. Separate cases have been registered for the road accident and the assault, and further investigation is underway.



Tight Security Arrangements for CM's Visit

Bapatla, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Bapatla district police have made elaborate security arrangements for Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's visit to Kothapeta village in Vetapalem mandal on August 7 to participate in the State-level National Handloom Day celebrations. District SP B. Umamaheshwar briefed police officers and personnel on bandobast duties, directing them to remain alert and ensure strict security at the helipad, venue, convoy route, entry points, parking areas, and traffic diversion points. He also instructed officials to conduct thorough security checks, closely monitor the venue through CCTV surveillance, and maintain constant coordination to ensure the event passes off peacefully and smoothly.



Collector Directs Speedy Completion of Pithapuram Branch Canal Works

Kakinada, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Kakinada District Collector M.N. Harendhira Prasad directed Water Resources Department officials to expedite the development of the Pithapuram Branch Canal and ensure irrigation water reaches the tail-end ayacut lands without disruption. During a field inspection on Thursday, the Collector reviewed canal development works at Gollaprolu, Balakattu, Nallakonda, Galikonda, the Rajarao Bahadur tank, the 12th sluice, and the Kandrakota-Pithapuram canal. He instructed engineers to complete all works within the stipulated timeframe, maintain quality standards, and closely monitor the projects to ensure uninterrupted irrigation for farmers.



Coordination Key to Tribal Welfare: ST Commission Chairman

Paderu, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Andhra Pradesh ST Commission Chairman Solla Bojji Reddy directed officials to work in coordination to ensure that government welfare and development schemes reach every tribal family. At a review meeting held at the Paderu Collectorate on Thursday, the Chairman reviewed tribal welfare, education, healthcare, employment, infrastructure, and Anganwadi services. He instructed officials to expedite the resolution of tribal land and forest rights issues, complete pending housing projects, improve drinking water, education, and healthcare facilities in remote villages, and ensure officials actively participate during ST Commission field visits to address public grievances promptly.



Collector Reviews Velugonda Rehabilitation Works



Markapur, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Prakasam District Collector Vijaya Sunitha reviewed the rehabilitation process for Velugonda Project displaced families and directed officials to expedite pending compensation and infrastructure works in rehabilitation colonies. During the review meeting, MLA Kandula Narayana Reddy urged officials to release pending compensation without delay and ensure the rehabilitation process is completed on time. Joint Collector Puli Srinivasa Rao and officials from the Revenue and Irrigation departments attended the meeting.

Food Commission Member Orders Memo to HM Over Poor Food Quality

Gangavaram, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): State Food Commission Member Ganji Mala Devi directed officials to issue a memo to the Headmaster after finding lapses in food quality and hygiene during surprise inspections at government schools and a Tribal Welfare Boys' Hostel in Gangavaram mandal on Thursday. She inspected the mid-day meal, kitchen hygiene, food storage, and interacted with students. Worm-infested food items were found in the hostel store, following which she ordered their immediate disposal and directed officials to improve food quality, cleanliness, and hostel conditions within ten days. She warned that strict disciplinary action would be taken if such negligence is repeated.



Coordinated Efforts Needed for Tribal Welfare: ST Committee Chairperson



Visakhapatnam, Aug. 6 (Pen Power): Andhra Pradesh Legislative Committee on Scheduled Tribes Welfare Chairperson Miriyala Sirisha Devi called for coordinated efforts by all departments to improve tribal welfare, education, and employment during a review meeting held at the Collectorate on Thursday. The committee reviewed the implementation of welfare schemes, housing, pensions, education, self-help group loans, and employment initiatives. Sirisha Devi stressed the need to promote tribal culture, create awareness about government schemes, strengthen support for tribal students, and enhance the global recognition of Araku Coffee. She also urged officials to ensure better healthcare facilities and improved livelihood opportunities for tribal communities.

South Coast Railway Records Strong Start with Major Milestones in Two Months



Visakhapatnam, pen power Aug. 6: South Coast Railway (SCoR), which became operational on June 1, 2026, has registered an impressive beginning by achieving significant progress in infrastructure development, passenger services, safety, and operational performance within just two months, General Manager Shri Sandeep Mathur said while reviewing the Zone's performance. Established as the country's newest railway zone, South Coast Railway has built its administrative and operational framework from the ground up. The Zone now comprises four divisions, covering 3,532 Route Kilometres and 6,455 Track Kilometres, with an expected annual originating revenue of Rs.15,500 crore and freight loading exceeding 100 million tonnes. Highlighting safety as the Zone's highest priority, the General Manager said senior railway officials inspected nearly 1,700 Route Kilometres over the past two months to strengthen safety standards and review ongoing infrastructure works.

The Zone is currently executing 29 major infrastructure projects, including five new railway lines and 24 multi-tracking works, with investments worth Rs.54,479 crore, while projects valued at Rs.70,865 crore are in the pipeline. More than 300 Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) are also under construction to improve connectivity and public safety.

Among the major achievements, South Coast Railway secured approval for the Rs.300-crore Visakhapatnam Yard Remodeling Project, the Rs.1,205-crore Guntakal-Ballari Quadrupling Project, and Rs.20 crore for crowd management facilities at Tirupati. The Zone also commissioned important works, including yard remodelling at Narsapur-Vijayawada and Garudaballi-Visakhapatnam, expanded Automatic Block Signalling in the Nellore-Telamanchi section, and installed the Kavach safety system on nearly 100 locomotives. Passenger amenities have also received a major boost. Three redeveloped Amrit Bharat Stations—Rayanapadu, Mangalagiri, and Cumbum—have been inaugurated, while redevelopment work is progressing at 70 additional stations. Plans are also underway for third and



fourth railway lines and extensive yard remodelling at Simhachalam North and Renigunta to ease congestion.

To improve passenger convenience, South Coast Railway converted four Train-on-Demand services into regular trains, operated 76 special trains benefiting around 86,000 passengers, attached 408 additional coaches, and upgraded the Simhadri Express and Guntur-Vikarabad Express to modern LHB coaches. Sleeping Pods have also been introduced at Vijayawada Railway Station, while premium "Deccan Chai" catering services have commenced at Visakhapatnam Railway Station. On the security front, the Railway Protection Force detected 28 NDPS cases and seized narcotic substances worth Rs.2.37 crore during the first two months. Cleanliness drives were intensified across stations, particularly at Visakhapatnam, while action was taken against 5,152 offenders to maintain discipline and cleanliness. Operationally, the Zone recorded Rs.671 crore in originating passenger revenue, handled 29.4 million originating passengers, registered 3% annual passenger growth, and achieved total originating earnings of Rs.2,493 crore, placing South Coast Railway among the country's better-performing railway zones.

The General Manager said the Zone has also adopted a fully digital e-Office system from its first day of operations and established employee welfare, sports, cultural, and recognized union bodies. He reiterated that South Coast Railway remains committed to strengthening safety, accelerating infrastructure development, enhancing passenger facilities, and delivering efficient, customer-centric railway services while contributing to the socio-economic growth of Andhra Pradesh and the nation.

Every one should work with the aim of strengthening the Congress party



Madanapalle, August 06: Senior Congress party leader S Reddy Saheb expressed happiness over the appointment of young and enthusiastic Mohammed Ali as the president of the Madanapalle Mandal Minority Section to strengthen the Congress party and to strengthen the minority section. On this occasion, on Thursday, senior Congress party leader S Reddy Saheb felicitated and congratulated him at the Madanapalle Congress party office. Speaking on the occasion, S Reddy Saheb said that the Congress party is providing opportunities to the youth on a large scale. The appointment of Mohammed Ali, who works enthusiastically, as the president of the Madanapalle Mandal Minority Section is a good development, he said. He advised them to work without any illusions to strengthen the minority section. Afterwards, the new president Mohammed Ali spoke and thanked senior leaders of the Madanapalle Congress Party S Reddy Saheb, Annamayya District Congress Party Minority Unit President Syed Ali, and PCC Delegate

Mohammed Gouse, PCC Delegate Mohammed Ghaus, AICC President Mallikharjuna Kharge, future Prime Minister of India Rahul Gandhi, AICC Minority President Imran Prathap Dittar, and others who had shown faith in him and supported his appointment. He said that he would do his best for the Congress Party to make Rahul Gandhi the Prime Minister in the coming days, would always be available for party programs, and would work for the advancement of minorities. Youth Congress Party Annamayya District President Sarath Kumar Reddy, Madanapalle Town Minority Section President Mahub Peer, Madanapalle Mandal Minority Section President Mohammed Ali, senior leader Meena Kumari, Nagaraju, Syed Sameer, Teja, Bavajan, Dastagiri, Habib and others participated in this program. appointment. He also thanked AICC President Mallikharjuna Kharge, future Prime Minister of India Rahul Gandhi, AICC Minority President Imran Pratap Garhi, and Andhra Pradesh Minority President Shali Dada Gandhi.

'Maharashtra FDA Labs Must Operate 24x7 If Needed, Employees Can Quit If Unwilling': Tukaram Mundhe

FDA LABS MUST WORK 24x7, EMPLOYEES CAN QUIT IF UNWILLING: MUNDHE

Maharashtra FDA Commissioner Tukaram Mundhe defends extended laboratory shifts, says government labs may eventually operate round the clock for faster testing and timely regulatory action.

“Laboratories cannot operate only from 10 am to 6 pm. If the need arises, they will have to function 24x7.”
- Tukaram Mundhe, FDA Commissioner, Maharashtra

- Two shifts introduced (7 am-3 pm & 12 noon-8 pm)
- Each employee works one 8-hour shift within 48-hour weekly limit
- Employees allege excessive workload, staff shortage
- Increased samples due to crackdown on food adulteration and unsafe products
- Unwilling employees are free to resign, says Mundhe



Mumbai: Defending the Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) decision to extend laboratory working hours, Commissioner Tukaram Mundhe said government laboratories testing food and drug samples must eventually function round the clock, asserting that employees unwilling to work under the revised system are free to resign. His remarks came after 29 officers and employees of the FDA laboratory in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar submitted a complaint to FDA Minister Narhari Zirwal, alleging excessive workload, compulsory duties on weekends and public holidays, and acute staff shortages. In their representation dated July 15, the employees opposed the newly introduced two-shift system under which the laboratory functions from 7 am to 3 pm and 12 noon to 8 pm, replacing the earlier office hours of 9.45 am to 6.15 pm. They claimed the re-

vised schedule, which includes work on Saturdays and occasionally Sundays and public holidays, has disrupted their work-life balance. Rejecting the allegations, Mundhe said the new arrangement does not increase individual working hours. "Each employee works only one eight-hour shift a day. No one is being asked to work beyond 48 hours a week, which is in line with International Labour Organization (ILO) norms. Employees are also given one weekly holiday," he said. He stressed that government laboratories cannot function like regular offices. "Laboratories cannot operate only from 10 am to 6 pm. At present, we have introduced two shifts, six days a week. We have not yet started 24x7 operations, but if the need arises, laboratories will have to function round the clock to ensure faster testing and timely regulatory action."

Dismissing the employees' demand to restore the

earlier working hours, Mundhe said it was "completely unacceptable." "It is not possible to restrict laboratory timings to office hours. Those who are unwilling to work according to government rules are free to resign and leave," he said. The employees, however, maintained that the laboratory is facing a severe shortage of analysts, laboratory assistants, technical personnel, and support staff, making it difficult to

process samples according to Indian, British, and United States Pharmacopoeia standards while clearing a growing backlog. Mundhe attributed the increased workload to the FDA's intensified crackdown on food adulteration and unsafe products across Maharashtra, which has sharply increased the number of samples reaching state laboratories, making faster testing essential for effective public health enforcement.

Andhra Pradesh Medical Student Declared Brain-Dead After Car Runs Over Her Outside Rajahmundry Mall

Rajahmundry : A young woman was declared brain-dead after a car allegedly ran over her outside a mall in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh. According to reports, the victim, a 28-year-old medical student of a private medical college, was allegedly run over by a car following a confrontation with two drunk youths. The incident reportedly took place on AV Appa Rao Road under the Prakash Nagar

police station limits. According to police, two drunk youths arrived at the mall and got into an argument with security personnel over some issue. Police suspect that the duo drove away from the mall in an agitated state, during which their car allegedly struck Priyanka, who was outside on the road. The vehicle is said to have run over her head, causing severe head injuries.

SP Redefines 'P' In PDA As Pandit: Why Akhilesh Yadav Is Recalibrating His Brahmin Outreach

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav has begun recasting one of his party's most successful political slogans. The "P" in the PDA formula, which originally stood for Pichhra (Backward), is now increasingly being projected as Pandit, signalling a strategic attempt to bring Brahmins back into the SP fold ahead of the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections. The shift marks one of the most significant ideological and electoral recalibrations by the SP since it coined the PDA, or Pichhra, Dalit, Alpsankhyak, narrative before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. That formula helped the INDIA bloc win 43 of Uttar Pradesh's 80 Lok Sabha seats and reduced the BJP's tally sharply. With the Assembly election now less than a year away, the party appears to believe that expanding the social coalition is more important than preserving the original slogan. The new messaging became evident on Wednesday when Akhilesh Yadav celebrated the birth anniversary of Janeshwar

Mishra at the party headquarters and repeatedly referred to the "P" in PDA as "Pandit". He paid floral tributes to Mishra's statue and launched a sharp political attack on the BJP over the alleged theft of donations at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya. He also accused the BJP of failing to give adequate representation to Brahmins and claimed the community's self-respect had been undermined. The symbolism was deliberate. Janeshwar Mishra, popularly known as "Chhote Lohia", remains one of the tallest Brahmin socialist leaders and continues to command respect across ideological lines. By placing Mishra at the centre of its latest campaign, the SP is attempting to reassure Brahmins that the party values both their political contribution and leadership. The Ram Temple issue has also become an important instrument in this outreach. Rather than opposing the temple, Akhilesh has chosen to question the BJP's management of the shrine, alleging corruption in donation collections and de-

manding accountability. This enables the SP to engage with a religious issue without appearing anti-Hindu, a criticism the BJP has frequently levelled against it. Political observers see the shift as an acknowledgement of electoral arithmetic. While the PDA alliance of OBCs, Dalits and Muslims remains the SP's core support base, party strategists believe it may not be sufficient on its own to secure a majority in the 403-member Assembly. Winning over even a section of Brahmin voters, estimated at around 10-12 per cent of the state's electorate, could prove decisive in closely contested constituencies. The outreach is also aimed at exploiting signs of discontent within sections of the Brahmin community. Over the past few years, opposition parties have repeatedly accused the BJP of sidelining Brahmin leaders, though the BJP rejects the charge. By highlighting issues such as the Ram Temple donation controversy and the alleged lack of representation, the SP



hopes to create political space among upper-caste voters without alienating its traditional support base. For now, Akhilesh Yadav's message is unmistakable. The PDA formula that reshaped Uttar Pradesh politics in 2024 is being broadened. By redefining the "P" from Pichhra to Pandit, the Samajwadi Party is signalling that the battle for 2027 will not only be about consolidating backward classes, Dalits and minorities, but also about making inroads into a community that has traditionally leaned towards the BJP. Whether this social engineering succeeds could play a crucial role in determining the outcome of Uttar Pradesh's next Assembly election.

Fans Used To Fry Lucknow-Kanpur Expressway As Rain Exposes Road Damage; Akhilesh Targets CM Yogi Adityanath Govt



Lucknow: Barely three weeks after its inauguration, the Rs 4,200 crore Lucknow-Kanpur Expressway has come under intense scrutiny after heavy monsoon rains exposed potholes, surface subsidence and cracks at several locations, forcing emergency repairs and triggering a political slugfest in Uttar Pradesh. The controversy escalated after videos showing workers using large industrial and pedestal fans to dry a waterlogged stretch of the expressway near Begumkhed village in Unnao district went viral on social media. The unusual method, adopted to speed up repair work on rain-soaked pavement, drew widespread criticism and sparked a flood of memes online. Lucknow - Kanpur Expressway was constructed at Rs.67 Cr per kilometre. Totally Government of India spent 74200 Cr on this 63 Cr stretch. It was inaugurated three weeks ago. This is the condition of the road after opening. Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav seized on the episode to attack the Yogi Adityanath government, questioning the quality of construction on a highway that had been opened only weeks earlier.

Sharing the viral video on social media, Yadav said it was astonishing that an expressway inaugurated with much fanfare was already being patched and dried with fans. "This is the new wind of BJP's development," he remarked, alleging that the incident exposed poor workmanship and raised serious concerns over the safety of commuters. The 63-km access-controlled expressway, inaugurated on July 13, was built to reduce travel time between Lucknow and Kanpur. However, the first signs of trouble emerged on the night of July 26, just 13

days after it was opened to traffic, when sinking, surface slippage and erosion were reported on a stretch in Unnao district following heavy rainfall. Since then, repair work has been underway at multiple locations. Excavators and other heavy machinery have been deployed to remove damaged sections and reconstruct the pavement. During one such repair operation near kilometre 64, workers were seen using industrial fans to dry the road surface before laying fresh material, visuals that quickly went viral. The National High-

ways Authority of India (NHAI) has initiated action against the construction company, PNC Infratech, over the defects. Three engineers associated with the project have been removed, while certain site officials have also been replaced. NHAI has suspended toll collection on the expressway until repairs are completed and the road is declared fit for traffic. The authority has also decided to seek an independent technical assessment from IIT Kharagpur to determine the reasons behind the premature damage and recommend corrective measures. The incident has intensified questions over the quality of construction and monitoring of major infrastructure projects in the state. Opposition parties have demanded accountability from both the contractor and officials responsible for supervising the project, arguing that a newly built expressway developing structural defects within weeks of opening raises serious concerns about construction standards and public safety.

BJP MLA Says He Feels 'Cheated' As Son-in-Law's Father Faces Charges Of Marrying 25 Women

Lucknow: Seuta MLA Gyan Tiwari on Thursday said he felt "cheated" after allegations surfaced against his samdhi (the father of his son-in-law), Anuj Trivedi, who has been accused of marrying and allegedly duping 25 women across several states. Appearing in a Facebook Live session alongside his daughter, Dr Pragya Tiwari, the legislator said he no longer wished to maintain any relationship with the family and demanded strict action against Trivedi. According to reports, Trivedi, a resident of Chandrawal in Uttar Pradesh's Misrikh area, is currently in jail in connection with a case registered in Mumbai. Several women have accused him of deceiving them by entering into marriages under false pretences between 2016 and 2021. The MLA said that he had arranged his daughter's marriage to Trivedi's son, Prakhar, in 2024 after receiving recommendations from several prominent people, including former MP Janardan Mishra. He claimed that he had been informed that the family was involved in the real estate business. Tiwari alleged that he later discovered details of multiple criminal cases against Anuj Trivedi and said he now regretted the decision. The legislator also claimed that allegations had been levelled against his son-in-law, Prakhar, although no official confirmation has been made regarding those claims. During the social media interaction, Tiwari demanded the strictest possible punishment for those found guilty.

Temasek-Backed Shiprocket Fixes Rs.92-97 IPO Price Band For Rs.1,617.5 Crore Issue

New Delhi: Temasek-backed e-commerce enablement platform Shiprocket Ltd on Thursday fixed a price band of Rs 92-97 per share for its Rs 1,617.5 crore Initial Public Offering (IPO), which will open for subscription on August 12. The initial share sale will conclude on August 14, while the bidding for anchor investors will open for a day on August 11, the company said in a public announcement. The IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to Rs 885.50 crore and an Offer For Sale (OFS) component worth up to Rs 732 crore. As part of the OFS, existing shareholders Lightrock, Tribe Capital, Moore Strategic Ventures, Agility International Investment, Gautam Kapoor, Saahil Goel and Vishesh Khurana will dilute their stakes in the company.



Tragic! Class 10 Student Collapses, Dies During Volleyball Match In Karnataka's Dakshina Kannada; Terrifying VIDEO Surfaces

Bengaluru: In a tragic incident, a 15-year-old Class 10 student died after suddenly collapsing while playing a volleyball match with his friends in Karnataka's Dakshina Kannada district. The tragic incident was caught on camera and the video is being widely shared on social media. There are reports that the tragic incident took place at a playground in Surinje near Surathkal and was captured on CCTV. The student has been identified as Likhith Amin, who was studying in Class 10 at the Government High School in Kote Bollaru, Surinje. Likhith was enjoying a game of volleyball with his friends when he suddenly collapsed on the court. The CCTV footage shows him serving the ball and moving towards the net to return the next shot. Moments later, he raises his hands before collapsing to the ground. His friends are seen rushing to help him after he falls. People present at the playground immediately took Likhith to a nearby hospital. However, the doctors declared him dead. The exact cause of his death is not yet known. As per reports, the police said that the reason will be confirmed only after the post-mortem examination report is received. The sudden death cases of youngsters while playing, dancing, walking and running are on the rise in the country and the government should take the incidents seriously and must take steps to curb such tragic incidents in the future.

Shiprocket has trimmed the size of its IPO from the Rs 2,342.3 crore proposed in its updated draft red herring prospectus filed in December 2025. According to the IPO papers, the company plans to use the proceeds from the fresh issue to support the growth of Shiprocket's platforms by investing in marketing ini-

tiatives and strengthening technology infrastructure across its core and emerging businesses. A portion of the proceeds will also be used to repay or prepay certain borrowings along with the related interest. Besides, funds will be deployed towards inorganic growth through potential acquisitions and for general corporate purposes. At the upper end of the price band, Shiprocket will command a post-issue market valuation of about Rs 7,058 crore, while at the lower end, the valuation has been pegged at Rs 6,739 crore. Backed by marquee investors such as Temasek and Zomato, Shiprocket has evolved from a shipping service provider into a full-stack e-commerce enablement platform catering to direct-to-consumer (D2C) brands and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The company operates through two segments -- Core Business and Emerging Business. Its core business comprises the domestic shipping platform and shipping apps, offering end-to-end shipping solutions in India, including multi-modal transportation, AI-based logistics allocation, order management and tracking tools. The emerging business houses newer offerings such as cargo and fulfilment services, cross-border shipping, advertising and marketing solutions, capital solutions and hyperlocal deliveries, aimed at helping merchants expand and scale their operations. Shiprocket operates an asset-light business model, with a scalable technology platform at the core of its operations, supplemented by an extensive network of ecosystem partners. As much as 75% of the offer has been reserved for Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs), 15% for Non-Institutional Investors (NIIs) and the remaining 10% for retail investors. The company had filed its draft IPO papers with Sebi through the confidential pre-filing route in May and subsequently received the regulator's approval in November to launch the public issue. The company's shares are proposed to be listed on the BSE and NSE on August 19. Axis Capital, BofA Securities, JM Financial and Kotak Mahindra Capital Company are the book-running lead managers to the issue, while KFin Technologies is the registrar.

Union Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav Chairs 27th Governing Body Meeting of CCRAS

- From Traditional Knowledge to Digital Innovation: Ministry of Ayush Launches Three Flagship CCRAS Initiatives
- The Future of Ayurveda Lies in Technology, Research and Innovation: Prataprao Jadhav
- Young Researchers and Startups Must Take Ayurveda from Laboratory to Marketplace: Jadhav



New Delhi, August, 6 (PIB): Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ayush and Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, Shri Prataprao Jadhav chaired the 27th Meeting of the Governing Body of the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) in New Delhi today.

During the meeting, Union Minister Shri

Prataprao Jadhav virtually inaugurated the Animal House at CCRAS-Regional Ayurveda Research Institute (RARI), Pune, the Staff Quarters Complex at RARI, Ranikhet, and performed the Bhoomi Poojan of the new 50-bedded Ayurveda Hospital at RARI, Nagpur. He also unveiled CCRAS-PARAMPARA, a flagship initiative for the systematic documentation, evaluation and scientific

validation of India's Local Health Traditions, ethnomedical practices and traditional veterinary knowledge.

Shri Prataprao Jadhav launched the CCRAS National Research Recognitions portal comprising CCRAS PRAKASA, CCRAS NAVONMESA and CCRAS PRABODH 3MT, a fully digital platform to recognise excellence in postgraduate Ayurveda re-

search, innovation and scientific communication. He further launched Ayur-dict, CCRAS's first Android application integrating multiple Ayurveda dictionaries into a single searchable platform. The meeting reviewed the Council's recent achievements, approved key strategic initiatives and launched major research infrastructure and digital initiatives aimed at strengthening evidence-based Ayurveda.

Addressing the Governing Body, Shri Prataprao Jadhav said that Ayurveda today stands at the verge of a transformative era, where scientific validation, innovation and global outreach must complement India's rich traditional knowledge systems. He emphasized that CCRAS has played a pivotal role in generating evidence-based research and called upon the institution to further strengthen its efforts in making Ayurveda more scientifically robust, globally accepted and accessible.

Shri Jadhav stressed that the next phase of Ayurveda's growth must fo-

cus on technology, entrepreneurship and market linkages. Referring to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of "Heal by Ayurveda, Heal in India and Make in India," he said that Ayurveda must emerge as a global healthcare solution through scientific excellence, standardization and innovation. He urged CCRAS to promote greater collaboration with international organizations, encourage translational research, and leverage emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence for clinical research, data management and personalized healthcare, while preserving the authenticity and core principles of classical Ayurvedic knowledge.

Highlighting the importance of India's youth in shaping the future of Ayurveda, Shri Jadhav said that young researchers, startups, entrepreneurs and industry must become active partners in taking Ayurveda from laboratories to the marketplace. He called for

creating a vibrant innovation ecosystem through research grants, incubation support, mentorship and industry partnerships. The Minister also suggested focusing on initiatives such as a Youth Research Fund, an Ayurveda Startup Accelerator, and a Global Ayurveda Challenge to encourage innovation and position India as a global wellness hub. He urged the Governing Body to work collectively towards transforming Ayurveda into a modern, evidence-driven and globally competitive healthcare system. Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, while addressing the Governing Body, said, "The Ministry remains committed to strengthening a research-driven ecosystem where quality infrastructure, digital innovation and scientific excellence together strengthen evidence-based Ayurveda. The initiatives launched today will further enhance research capacity, academic excellence and knowledge accessibility."

Cabinet approves GOBARdhan, India's National Unified Scheme for Compressed Biogas, with an outlay of Rs.23,731 crore

New Delhi, August, 6 (PIB): The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved GOBARdhan, the National Circular Bioenergy Scheme, with a total outlay of Rs.23,731 crore. GOBARdhan marks a defining moment in India's clean energy journey. It will transform the country's abundant agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, municipal organic waste and other biomass resources into clean fuel, organic manure, rural income and national economic value. The Scheme will be implemented from FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36 and will establish Compressed Biogas as a major pillar of India's future energy mix. Through assured demand, remunerative and stable pricing, capital assistance, pipeline infrastructure, credit support and technology development, GOBARdhan will provide the strong and predictable framework required to take India's CBG sector to national scale. The Scheme aims to increase domestic Compressed Biogas (CBG) production nearly ten-fold, mobilize large-scale private investment and create a vibrant circular bioeconomy across the country.

It reflects the Government's clear vision:

India's waste will fuel India's growth. India's villages will become centres of clean energy production. India's farmers will become partners in the nation's energy security.

From a Strong Foundation to National Scale:

Over the past several years, the Government of India has systematically built the foundations of the CBG sector through the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative, the Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme for organic manure, the Biomass Aggregation Machinery (BAM) Scheme, the Development of Pipeline Infrastructure (DPI) Scheme and Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for CBG plants under the National Bioenergy Programme. Together, these initiatives have enabled the commissioning of over 200 CBG plants, established production and offtake systems, strengthened the organic manure value chain and demonstrated the potential of CBG across feedstocks and geographies. GOBARdhan now takes this progress to the next level. Administered by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the Scheme creates one integrated platform across the entire CBG value chain. This will enable faster implementation, stronger project economics and greater certainty for investors, lenders and developers.

A Strategic Opportunity for India:

India's demand for natural gas is expanding across transport, households, industry and commercial sectors. CBG can meet a growing share of this demand through domestic renewable production, strengthening energy resilience and reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels. CBG is chemically equivalent to natural gas and can be seamlessly integrated into the existing gas ecosystem. It therefore combines the benefits of a renewable fuel with the reach and utility of India's expanding gas infrastructure. Each CBG plant also creates a local circular economy around agricultural residue, cattle dung and other organic resources. It generates opportunities in feedstock supply, transportation, plant operations and organic manure production, while supporting cleaner waste management and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Insurance Division, DFS Secures 3rd Rank in Group A Category of Grievance Redressal Assessment & Index (GRAI) for June 2026

New Delhi, August, 6 (PIB): The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) released the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) monthly report for June 2026. It provides a detailed analysis of types and categories of public grievances and the nature of disposal. As per the report, the Department of Financial Services (Insurance Division) stands at 3rd position, and the Department of Financial Services (Banking Division) stands at 6th position. Also, the DFS has been consistently ranked among the top 10 in the GRAI rankings amongst various Ministries/Departments since November 2025. During the month of June 2026, the Department of Financial Services disposed of more than thirty thousand grievances. Also, the senior officials of Department of Financial Services are personally reviewing randomly selected grievances on a regular basis. Workshops on "Effective Grievance Redressal Mechanism" are also being held regularly. Such workshops play an important role in strengthening grievance redressal mechanisms by promoting best practices. They improve coordination among stakeholders, leverage technology, and foster a customer-centric culture. The Department has demonstrated sustained commitment to timely, transparent and effective resolution of public grievances, reflecting its focus on responsive and accountable public service delivery. The achievement underscores DFS's continuous efforts to improve the quality of grievance handling through robust monitoring mechanisms, regular reviews, and close coordination with the BFSI sector.

Coal Supply Position for Power Sector Remains Adequate; Production and Despatch Register Strong Growth in July 2026

New Delhi, August, 6 (PIB): The country's coal supply position for the power sector continues to remain adequate, backed by robust growth in production, despatch and receipts during July 2026. The overall coal production during July 2026 stood at 69.75 Million Tonnes (MT), as against 64.88 MT during the corresponding period last year, registering a growth of 7.51%. Overall coal despatch during the month stood even higher, at 86.85 MT compared to 73.58 MT in the same period last year, marking a robust growth of 18.03%. The coal receipt at thermal power plants during July 2026 stood at 68.83 MT, as against 60.69 MT in July 2025, registering a growth of 13.41%. This sustained and healthy growth in supplies to the power sector underscores the Ministry's continued focus on ensuring uninterrupted coal availability to meet the nation's energy requirements, with the continued support of Indian Railways. As on 04.08.2026, the coal stock at thermal power plants stood at 34.55 MT. In addition, about 113 MT of coal is available at pitheads and in transit, taking the total available stock to approximately 148 MT.

Today's Horoscope



Aries

A wonderful day to do things that would make you feel good about yourself. Today you can invest your money in religious activities, and most likely to incur mental peace and stability. The time requires you to understand that anger and frustration would only hamper your sanity. This in turn would lead you towards a grave loss. Today, you will realize how much your sweetheart loves you. Adapt to new techniques to increase your work efficiency-Your style and unique ways of doing things will interest people who are watching you closely. You can watch a movie in your spare time. However, you'll feel like you have wasted your time by watching this movie as you won't like it. Things look really fabulous when it comes on your marital life. Remedy :- For great peace and happiness in the family, offer milk at Bhairav temple.



Taurus

Meditation would bring relief. You need to talk to your family members today regarding money investment and savings. Their advice will prove to be helpful in improving your financial situation. A lack of communication with someone you care will leave you depressed. Being revengeful towards your lover will not bring any result-rather you should keep a cool head and explain your true feelings to your lover. Great day to implement new projects and plans. It is good to spend time alone, but you can grow anxious over something going on in your mind. Therefore, we advise you to contact an experienced person and share your troubles with them. Your spouse might act too self-centered today. Remedy :- Financial life will be better by maintaining cleanliness and taking bath daily.



Gemini

Some family members could irritate you by their envious behaviour. But no need to lose your temper otherwise situation could go out of control. Remember what can't be cured must be endured. Monetary gains will be from one than one source. People close might take undue advantage of you-if you behave extra generous. You will make your life worth by forgiving your beloved for her past indifference. Someone might treat you today with something nice at work. A distant relative can visit your house without any prior notice, which can consume most of your time. Your spouse had never been so awesome. You might get a nice surprise from the love of your life. Remedy :- Helping and serving physically-challenged people will ensure great health.



Cancer

Today, your health is expected to be healthy. Due to your good health, you can plan to play with your friends today. If you are traveling, then take special care of your valuables. Acting carelessly can increase the chances of theft or misplacing your items. Visit to a religious place or to a relative seems likely on your cards. Today you will stop a heart from breaking. Successful day for those in the creative fields as they receive long awaited fame and recognition. A beneficial day as things seem to go in your favour and you will be on top of the world. Some think that married life is mostly about fights and sex, but today everything will be serene. Remedy :- Distribute chocolates, toffees, and white sweets among young girls to gain good financial status.



Leo

Boundless energy and enthusiasm will grip you and you would use any given opportunity to your advantage. Improvement in finances is certain. Relatives/friends drop by for a wonderful evening. A good communication or a message from your beloved or spouse will enhance your morale today. Bold steps and decisions would bring favourable rewards. Amidst your busy life, you will get enough time for yourself today and be able to do your favorite things. This is going to be the best day of your married life. You will experience the true ecstasy of love. Remedy :- Wear Silver in any form to achieve healthy lifestyle.



Virgo

Today you might have to face several tensions and difference of opinion that will make you feel irritated and uneasy. Monetary gains will be from one than one source. Some changes at home will make you highly sentimental- but you will be able to effectively communicate your feelings to people who matter the most. Love can drift you in a new world while standing at one place. It's the day when you will go on a romantic trip. Today, any of your old work at the workplace can be appreciated. Looking at your performance, you are likely to get a promotion. Businessmen today can seek useful advice from experienced people on expanding their business. Remedy :- Chant (Om Sham Shanaishcharaaya Namha) 11 times



Libra

A day when rest will be important- As you have been facing lot of mental pressure recently- Recreation and entertainment will help you relax. If you are going on a trip, then look out for your valuables and bags, as they are likely to be stolen. Especially, keep your purse at a safe place today. Friends will come to your aid if needed. Don't allow your romantic views to be aired. Controversies or office politics; you will rule on everything today. You can find an old item lying in the house today, which can remind you of your childhood days and make you nostalgic. Your spouse might doubt your loyalty due to your hectic schedule, but the end of the day he/she will understand and give you a hug. Remedy :- To make your financial condition better, stay away from intoxication.



Scorpio

It is high time for you to cure your fear. You must realize that it not only wears down physical vitality but and shortens life. Improvement in finances is certain. Relatives will be willing to give you a helping hand. Your mood might get perturbed because of the harsh words of your sweetheart. Partners will be enthusiastic about your new plans and ventures. Although free time should be used properly, but today you'll misuse your free time. Due to this, your mood will also deteriorate. Your spouse might feel unimportant today due to your hectic schedule, and he/she might show the displeasure in the evening. Remedy :- Include more of yellow coloured and related food items such as turmeric, saffron, pumpkin, and enhance great understanding between you and your lover.



Sagittarius

Quit coffee especially heart patients. Lack of money can be the reason of discord in the family today. In such a situation, think well before talking to other family members and seek advice from them. Gracefully accept the invitation-if you are invited to somewhere you haven't been. Your smiles have no meaning-laughter have no sound-heart forgets to beat as you miss the company Your boss will not be interested in excuses- Do your work to remain in his good books. Efforts made to improve your looks and personality will turn out to your satisfaction. You might feel suffocated in your married life due to lack of comfort today. All you need is to have a good talk. Remedy :- Perform Surya Namaskar, twelve Sun Salutation exercises, along with the rising sun or early morning sun for great health.



Capricorn

Start your day with a little exercise- It's time you start feeling good about yourself- Make it a regular feature everyday and try to stick to it. Unexpected bills will increase financial burden. Some people could get on your nerves simply ignore them. You will tease your romantic partner by prolonging your call. You might do something really awesome at work today. You will be able to make time for yourself today despite a busy routine. You can do something creative today in your spare time. The low health of your spouse might become an hindrance in your work, but you will be able to manage everything somehow. Remedy :- Financial life will get better by worshipping Lord Ganesha.



Aquarius

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. Surplus money should be invested in real estate. Your thirst for knowledge will help you make new friends. You will feel the love of your sweetheart all around you today. It is a beautiful lovely day. Good day for retailers and wholesalers. Excellent day for social as well as religious functions. You will have a series of quarrels that will make you feel like giving up your relationship. However, do not give in that easily. Remedy :- Save coins in an earthen piggy bank, and help children and pilgrims with this saved money, for enhanced health benefits.



Pisces

Don't depend on fate and try to improve your health as fortune is a lazy goddess which will never come to you. It is high time for you to control your weight and restart exercising to regain your health. Unexpected bills will increase financial burden. This period is also good for taking your parents into confidence regarding your new projects and plans. Today, your lover may feel bad about one of your habits and become annoyed with you. Associate with people who are established and can give you insight into future trends. In today's busy lifestyle, it gets difficult to find time for yourself. But today is your lucky day, as you will have plenty of time for yourself. After a long time, you will get ample time to spend with your life partner. Remedy :- Worshipping Lord Hanuman regularly will make your financial status stronger.

SAI faces 554 coaching vacancies, says Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya



New Delhi: Over 500 vacant coaching positions in the Sports Authority of India (SAI), increased dope tests at the grassroots level and funds provided to football's beleaguered national body were among the diverse issues that Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya addressed in his responses to various Rajya Sabha queries. Despite the launch of a mega recruitment drive by SAI in January to hire more than 350 assistant coaches, 464 positions remain vacant, a number which is over 100 more than last year. In all, 554 positions are waiting to be filled, including 90 slots for head coaches at its facilities across the country. "The qualifications and competencies of coaches are assessed in accor-

dance with the prescribed recruitment and engagement norms," Mandaviya stated. The minister also revealed that in the last five years, Rs 8.5 crore has been allocated for training and upskilling programmes for coaches to "enhance their professional capabilities. Mandaviya's statement was in written response to a query from the Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha and Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge.

Measures to counter doping
In response to a query from BJP MP Kesridevsinh Jhala on the anti-doping measures taken by the government, Mandaviya cited the NADA's dedicated intelligence and investigation mechanisms to collect, and assess information

relating to potential Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs), including trafficking, administration, possession and distribution of prohibited substances and methods. The minister said that the number of sample collection sessions at grassroots-level events, including school, university, state, and zonal-level events has also gone up. "A total of 20 sample collection sessions were conducted in 2025, and 55 sample collection sessions have been conducted in 2026 up to July 2026," he noted. In addition, the Sample Collection Personnel (SCP) workforce has also been strengthened through "regular recruitment, training, and re-accreditation programmes." "A total of 11 training programmes were con-

ducted in 2025, and four training programmes have been conducted in 2026 up to July 2026, to ensure the availability of qualified sample collection personnel across different regions of the country," he said. The government is also pushing for criminalisation of doping by proposing jail term and fines for entities indulging in trafficking and supply of prohibited substances in fresh amendments to the National Anti-Doping Act.

The football crisis

A couple of questions were posed on the state of Indian football as well. They focussed primarily on the central government's efforts to keep the sport afloat as it goes through a commercial crisis alongside lack of credible international performances. Mandaviya stated that the government has provided financial assistance to the tune of Rs 37.98 crore in the last five years. This year a total of Rs 3.91 crore has been provided to the All India Football Federation (AIFF) from a total allocation of Rs 8 crore. "At present 527 athletes of football discipline are being trained at various SAI centres across the country," read the minister's statement. "SAI, an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, regularly engages with the AIFF to review the performance and overall development of the sport and provides its advice accordingly," it added.

Argentina to observe National Football Teams Day every July 15 after 2026 World Cup triumph

Buenos Aires: Argentina has officially declared July 15 as 'National Football Teams Day', commemorating the national side's dramatic victory over England in the 2026 FIFA World Cup semi-final and extending the tribute to every national team representing the country. The decision was approved unanimously during the Executive Committee meeting of the Argentine Football Association held at its training centre in Ezeiza. The date marks Argentina's memorable 2-1 comeback victory over England in the 2026 FIFA World Cup semifinal. After falling behind to Anthony Gordon's second-half strike, Lionel Scaloni's side fought back through an 85th-minute equaliser from Enzo Fernandez before Lautaro Martinez scored the winner in stoppage time to book a place in the final. Explaining the decision, the AFA said, "The date was chosen to commemorate Argentina's historic victory over England in the 2026 World Cup semifinal. Lionel Scaloni's team was trailing England by a single goal, but with goals from Enzo



Fernandez and Lautaro Martinez, they turned the game around, sending the entire nation into a frenzy of celebration." The federation said the tribute was not limited to the senior men's team. "The recognition also extends to each and every one of the national teams, including youth, men's and women's, futsal, beach soccer and field football, who train every day at the Lionel

Andrés Messi training complex with the hope, joy and responsibility of representing Argentina," the statement added. The semifinal was one of the defining matches of the tournament and was followed by controversy after some Argentina players celebrated with chants and posters referencing the Falkland Islands, known in Argentina as the Malvinas. The celebrations drew criticism in England and

reignited debate over the long-standing sovereignty dispute between the two nations, although the result on the field remained one of Argentina's most celebrated World Cup victories. The newly established National Football Teams Day will now be observed annually to celebrate the achievements and commitment of all Argentine national teams across football disciplines.

Brijesh Sharma joins Jammu & Kashmir squad ahead of 2026/27 domestic season

New Delhi: Fast bowler Brijesh Sharma has joined the Jammu and Kashmir squad for the upcoming 2026/27 domestic season. Brijesh hails from Mada town in Udhampur district and came into the limelight after making his IPL debut for Rajasthan Royals earlier this year. Though Brijesh had registered as a Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) player for the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 auction, he's now all set to turn out for his home state Jammu and Kashmir, the current Ranji Trophy holders. "Yes, Brijesh Sharma has linked up with the Jammu & Kashmir team for the preparation camp and has been progressing well," said a well-placed source in the Jammu & Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) to IANS on Thursday. Re-

cently, Brijesh was named in J&K's list of players who will play practice games against Uttarakhand from August 10-17 at the SK Stadium in Srinagar, with both teams set to report to the city on August 8. Brijesh played for J&K age-group teams before relocating to Delhi to train under coach Deepak Punia, who was a former pacer in the Ranji Trophy. He earned his IPL contract on the back of a strong showing in the 2025 Bengal Pro T20 League, where he took 11 wickets in seven games for Smashers Malda.

In IPL 2026, Brijesh picked up 14 wickets in 13 games in his debut season for Rajasthan Royals (RR), who acquired him at a base price of Rs 30 lakh despite his not having played senior domestic cricket before the tournament. Meanwhile,



regarding replacements among the Jammu and Kashmir coaching staff, IANS understands that official word is yet to come. With head coach Ajay Sharma around, the side needs replacements for bowling coach P Krishnakumar and fielding coach Dishant Yagnik, who have moved to be coaches at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Bengaluru. Former

Delhi wicketkeeper-batter Punit Bisht, who was Jammu and Kashmir U23 men's head coach, could be promoted to the senior team coaching staff. A search for a suitable replacement for Krishnakumar, who has played an instrumental role in the side becoming a force to be reckoned with in the red-ball format and in the rise of pacer Auqib Nabi, is still on.

Gautam Gambhir tells Team India to be ready from day one ahead of Sri Lanka Test series



Colombo: India head coach Gautam Gambhir has urged the Shubman Gill-led Test squad to be mentally and physically prepared to tackle any challenge right from the opening day of the upcoming two-game series against Sri Lanka, starting in Galle on August 15. The Indian team began its practice session at Colombo's NCC ground morning, and are scheduled to play a three-day practice match at the same venue from August 7-9. Following this, the visitors will head to Galle for the series opener on August 15. The second and final Test is scheduled to be played at the historic Sinhalese Sports Club (SSC) from August 23 to 27. "Guys, we know what's in front of us. We know what we are playing for. We can do the volume, we can push our limits, we can tick all

the boxes. Come 15th morning, whether we are batting first, or whether we are bowling first, we're absolutely ready with every answer, every question that's thrown at us and every answer we're ready to give. So make sure we tick all the boxes from now on," said Gambhir in a video shared by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on their official social media handles on Thursday. India's current standing in the World Test Championship (WTC) is at fifth with a points percentage (PCT) of 48.150, while Sri Lanka is at sixth spot with 41.67 PCT. Gambhir also took the opportunity to officially welcome newcomers, off-spin bowling all-rounder Saransh Jain and pacer Auqib Nabi to the Test setup, alongside the newly appointed field-

ing coach, Subhadeep Ghosh. "Guys, welcome everyone. We've got a couple of new guys in. To start with, Saransh, congratulations, you've worked extremely hard to be here. Make sure that you make your family and country proud whenever you get that opportunity. "Secondly, I want to congratulate Auqib, you had a phenomenal last season, and made J&K win the Ranji Trophy, which is a great achievement. Congratulations once again. Lastly, I want to welcome Joy as well. "He's worked with so many teams for so many years. I'm sure his passion, his commitment will carry this team forward and make sure that his energy levels will help everyone achieve the target, which we want to do," added Gambhir.

Centuries by Wafi Kachchhi, Pratyush Kumar and Tanmay Agarwal highlight HCA league action



Hyderabad: Centuries by Wafi Kachchhi (105, 129b, 12x4, 1x6) for Union Bank of India, M. Pratyush Kumar (125, 152b, 16x4, 1x6) and Tanmay Agarwal 91/53, 122b, 15x4, 6x6) for Deccan Chronicle were some of the highlights of the HCA A-Division two-day league cricket championship were

The scores:
A-Division two-day league

AOC 203 in 42.1 overs (Rinku Singh Rawat 31, Irfan Khan 63, Mohit Mann 33, Y. Harshith Sai 3/35) lost to Hyderabad Bottling 207/6 in 24.2 overs (Pranav Suryadevara 83, G. Aryan Reddy 34, Sagar Chaurasia 33, D. Venkat Rao Shinde 3/22).

Balaaji 218 in 70.3 overs (Paras Raj 89, Vikash Gupta 46, Aniketh Reddy 4/24, Saqlain Arafat 3/55) vs Evergreen 35/1 in 10 overs. SCSRSA 232 in 63.1 overs (Shaik Sameer 38, A. Sai Ardrit Reddy 60 not out, T. Aniketh Reddy 3/50, Atul Vyas 3/52) vs Charminar 96/1 in 13 overs (Karan Yadav 66 batting).

Union Bank of India 315 in 84 overs (Wafi Kachchhi 105, Nithin Nayak 74, Nishanth Saranu 3/62) vs EMCC 2/2 in 2.3 overs. Deccan Chronicle 508 all

out in 89.2 overs (M. Pratyush Kumar 125, Tanmay Agarwal 153, Murugan Abhishek 62, Yashveer Goud 43, Nakka Ritesh 39 not out) vs Jai Hanuman.

Sporting XI 254/5 in 57 overs (A. Vignesh Reddy 31, Shaik Sohail 55 batting, A. Takshith Rao 84) vs Budding Star.

B-Division two-day league

Elegant 149 in 27.2 overs (D. Jashwanth Mudiraj 37, K. Karthik 52, S. Vijaykhanth Nayak 4/35, Shashank Verma 3/18) lost to Crown 150/6 in 34.2 overs (Rigved Allkonda 68).

Rohit XI 445 in 90 overs (Mirza Houzef Baig 106, G. Vivek Gagan 62, B. Sakshith Ram 75, Jatin Sharma 55, Ishan N. Reddy 44, K. Srikanth 4/71) vs Marredpally.

MP Blues 336/5 in 66.5 overs (S.M. Tanuj 173 batting, J. Swamy 64 batting) vs Sayi Satya. Concorde 244 in 66.5 overs (Aravind Gona 65, P. Harshadeep 38, Arjun Sai Vasireddy 49, N.K. Aditya 5/50) vs Hyderabad Wanderers 67/2 in 25 overs.

Sportive 322 in 74.3 overs (Karan Kumar Pattanayak 108, M. Varun Tej 95, Nischal Reddy 5/78) vs Green Turf 48/1 in

12 overs.

Income Tax 387 in 76.2 overs (Md Faiz Sheikh 64, Habeeb Ahmed 103, Shazeb Khan 52, B. Sandeep 62, Shaurya Singh 4/62) vs Classic 19/1 in 5 overs.

Chetan Anand CA 351 all out in 84 overs (D. Bhuvan 45, P. Akshith 44, Ram Ruthvik Reddy 86, D. Dheeraj Pranav 100, Ujjwal Yadav 4/59) vs Khalsa 7/0 in 3 overs.

Mahbubnagar 281 in 66 overs (S. Varshith Reddy 40, E. Abhilash Goud 42, B. Sanjay 113, Mohd Adnanuddin 32, N.C. Arjun 3/52, Venkata Abhiram Sricharan 4/70) vs Cheerful Chums 21/3 in 17 overs.

Visaka 268 in 84.4 overs (Arjun Mahadev 40, Eetesh Tiwari 60, T. Prem Manohar Reddy 33, A. Premchand 3/31) vs Mahadev 18/0 in 6 overs.

Telangana 263 in 72.3 overs (Dhanvi Tejas 52, Nikhil Parwani 104, D. Srikanth 3/29) vs Karimnagar 49/4 in 21 overs.

Warangal 332/9 in 90 overs (N. Chandra 44, M. Devendar 56, A. Rajkumar 83, A. Laxman 42) vs Jai Bhagwathi.

Future Stars 302 in 83.1 overs (Sai Pratheek 102, Tejodhar 82, Aman Sharma 4/75) vs Deccan Blues.

Korean Kanakaraju, Non-Stop Entertainer: Varun Tej



Mega Prince Varun Tej believes Korean Kanakaraju marks one of the most demanding roles of his career, not because of action or emotion alone, but because of the complete transformation it required. Speaking ahead of the film's release, the actor revealed that

director Merlapaka Gandhi wanted audiences to see Kanakaraju rather than Varun Tej on screen. To achieve that, the team redesigned everything, including his hairstyle, appearance and overall body language. For the first time, Varun even coloured his hair to

suit the Korean-inspired look. The transformation wasn't limited to visuals. He spent considerable time learning the Rayalaseema dialect and understanding Korean pronunciation, while also working extensively with comedian Sathya to build believable chemistry. Their

comic timing, he says, came after extensive rehearsals and homework. Varun explained that the character carries two completely different dimensions, making it one of the most satisfying performances of his career. "I love learning new things, and that's one of the reasons I became an actor. Playing new characters and living different lives excites me. I always try my best to disappear into the character so that audiences see only the role, not me. Korean Kanakaraju is a non-stop entertainer. However, cutting a trailer for a comedy film is always challenging because comedy works best when viewed within the context of the scenes. Extracting jokes for a trailer doesn't always have the same impact. That's why we focused from the beginning on promoting it as a complete comedy entertainer." Happy with the early booking trends, Varun said audiences have already responded positively to the teaser, trailer and songs. That confidence has encouraged the team to promote the film aggressively, and he is convinced the entertainer will connect with viewers across all sections.

Kill Director Bags A Hollywood Biggie

Nikhil Nagesh Bhat is ready to make his first Hollywood movie. He became famous after directing the action film Kill, which was praised by audiences and critics alike. Because of its massive success, he has now received a big opportunity in Hollywood.

As per the latest update, his new movie has been titled Deadlocked. It is an action thriller starring popular Hollywood actor Jamie Foxx. The film will be released on Amazon Prime Video. Jamie Foxx will also serve as one of the producers of this biggie.

The story is about a former Marine who is tasked with confronting a group of armed crimi-

nals. The film promises to be full of action, suspense, and exciting moments. The news is also that the film will have crazy action, which has not been seen on Indian screens before.

Deadlocked is a proud moment for Nikhil Nagesh Bhat and Indian cinema. His success shows that talented Indian filmmakers are getting more opportunities in Hollywood. He was supposed to do a biggie with the makers of Kill, but no announcement has come officially. Fans are now eagerly waiting to see his unique action style on the international stage. The makers have not yet announced the film's release date.



Pawan Effect: Sujeeth Must Wrap Bloody Romeo Quickly?



Director Sujeeth, who is supposed to start OG 2, the most-awaited sequel to OG with Pawan Kalyan, has got plans changed. As part of the ongoing reshuffle, Sujeeth may first work with Nani before moving onto Pawan Kalyan's OG sequel. Pawan Kalyan's health reasons are the one of the reasons for this reshuffle. It is already known that Kalyan underwent his right-shoulder surgery in Mumbai very recently. As per fresh medical reports, Pawan may have to undergo another surgery in

the next two months and he needs rest post surgery. Given this, starting shooting for gangster drama OG 2 with action episodes involving Pawan Kalyan would be a very risky idea. So, makers of OG2 have reportedly put the project on backfoot. Meanwhile, Sujeeth will be teaming up with Nani for his proposed film. Tentatively titled as Bloody Romeo, Nani and Sujeeth may begin the shoot at the earliest. Nani will get free from Paradise from this month. Already, Sujeeth has started the pre-production

works of Romeo with Nani. If all goes well, Sujeeth and Nani to roll on Romeo. Inside buzz is that Sujeeth can't afford delay in Romeo shoot as he has to start OG 2 with Pawan Kalyan by mid 2027. PK will get busy from 2028 on wards. Pawan has political commitments ahead of 2029 general elections. Amidst this, Sujeeth is on a tight schedule to start Romeo with Nani and deliver it on time. Meanwhile, once Pawan recovers, he would start shooting for OG2 with Sujeeth.

KJQ: Dream Project Receives Massive Industry Support

Producer Sudhakar Cherukuri's latest production venture KJQ is all set to hit theatres tomorrow. The team has left no stone unturned in promoting the film, and the promotional content has generated encouraging buzz ahead of its release. The journey of KJQ has been an emotional one. Director KK passed away before completing what was considered his dream project, leading to an unexpected delay. Determined to fulfill his vision, the team came together, completed the remaining work, and ensured the film was ready for the big screen.

Adding further strength to the campaign, several prominent filmmakers from the Telugu film industry extended their support. Directors Sandeep Reddy Vanga, Srikanth Odela, Sampath Nandi and many others actively backed the film by participating in its promotional activities, giving KJQ valuable visibility ahead of release. Starring Deekshith Shetty, Shashi Odela and Yukti Thareja in the lead roles, KJQ now carries both emotional significance and positive pre-release momentum. The final verdict, however, rests with the audience, as strong word of mouth will be crucial in translating the goodwill into box-office success.

Yukti Thareja Turns Queen In Real Life

Yukti Thareja is set to star in KJQ, alongside Dheekshith Shetty and Shashi Odela. Co-star Deekshith revealed at the press meet that KJQ will surprise everyone, expressing confidence the film will strike a chord, a fitting tribute to late director

KK's vision. Yukti Thareja turns up the glam quotient. Yukti

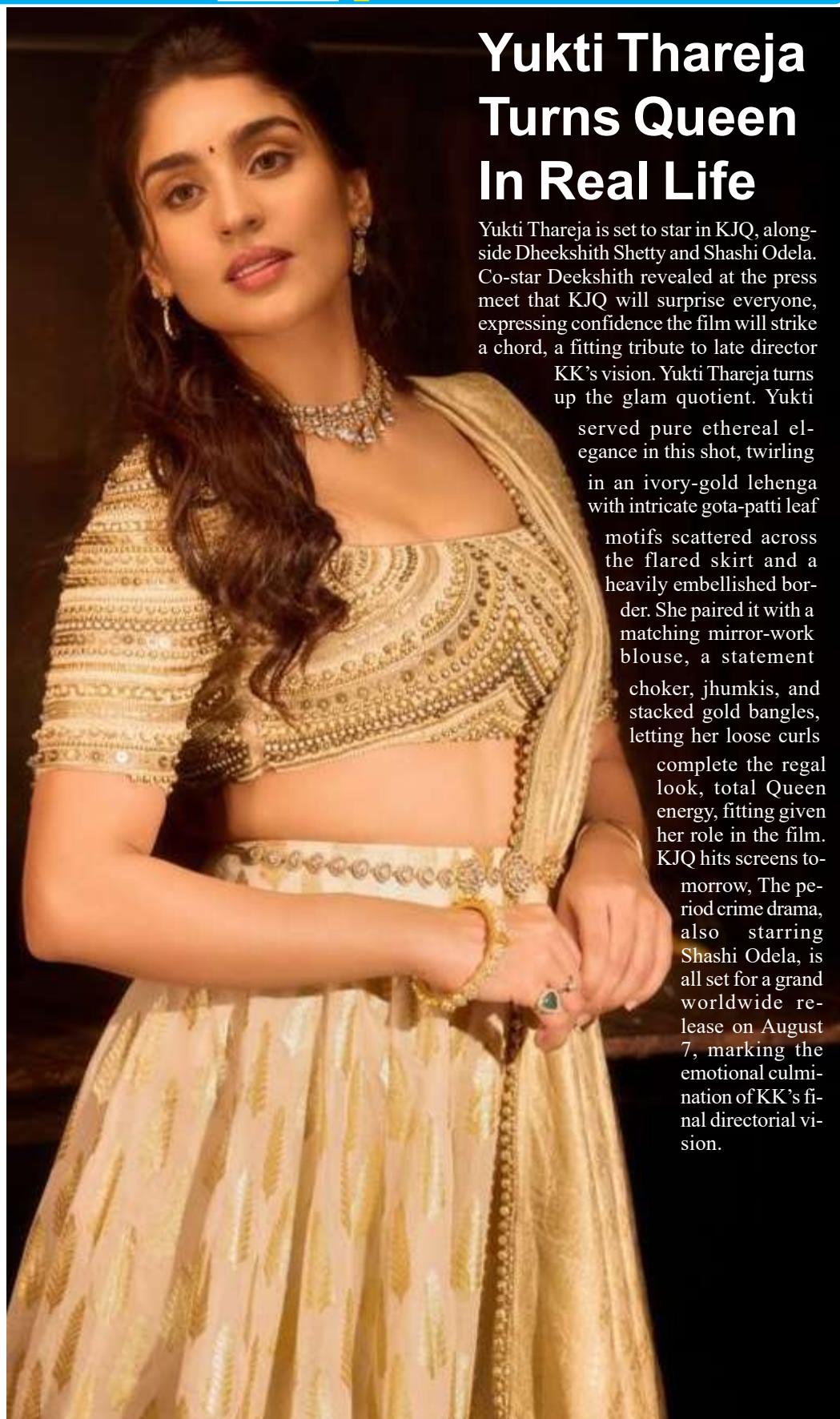
served pure ethereal elegance in this shot, twirling in an ivory-gold lehenga with intricate gota-patti leaf

motifs scattered across the flared skirt and a heavily embellished border. She paired it with a matching mirror-work blouse, a statement

choker, jhumkis, and stacked gold bangles, letting her loose curls

complete the regal look, total Queen energy, fitting given her role in the film. KJQ hits screens to-

morrow. The period crime drama, also starring Shashi Odela, is all set for a grand worldwide release on August 7, marking the emotional culmination of KK's final directorial vision.



Exclusive: Sreeleela Bags a Rajinikanth Movie!



Sreeleela is one of the popular actors in the tinsel town who is not scoring a hit despite making her presence in multiple movies. While her fans are disappointed of this fact, the interesting news is that she is likely to be seen in a film, starring Superstar Rajinikanth. Sreeleela was last seen in Prashakthi in Tamil and Ustaad Bhagat Singh in Telugu. The actress didn't score a hit with it even when there are high expectations in the projects.

The actress will now be rejoicing to be seen alongside Rajinikanth. As of now, the details of project are kept under wraps but ask the fingers point at Dharman. Ashwath is directing Rajinikanth in his next movie and it'll be produced by Kamal Haasan. This will be a prestigious movie and if Seeleela comes on board, it'll benefit her career in a big way. The actress is also seeing a struggling phase in Telugu as her last few movies including Ustaad didn't perform at the box office. Even in Hindi, Sreeleela is yet to mark her debut and if this new sensational project becomes a hit, it'll be vital for Sreeleela ahead of her launch in Bollywood. An official announcement on Sreeleela's next will be out soon.