



**PM Modi Begins Three Nation Tour**  
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## New Zealand to Welcome PM Modi on Historic Visit Next Week

New Zealand to welcome PM Modi next week

Auckland: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will make his first official visit to New Zealand next week, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon has announced. "Prime Minister Modi's visit is historic, with this being the first to New Zealand by an Indian Prime Minister in 40 years," Luxon says. India is one of the world's largest and fastest-growing economies, and a country of enormous importance to New Zealand's prosperity. We are taking the two countries' relationship to the next level with our New Zealand-India Free Trade Agreement, signed in April, which will deliver more jobs, higher exports and stronger economic growth for

New Zealand", he said. It will reduce or eliminate tariffs on 95 per cent of New Zealand's exports to India once fully implemented. From day one, 57 per cent of our exports will be tariff-free", he added. This will unlock new opportunities to grow our goods and services exports into a market of 1.4 billion people and contribute to achieving the Government's goal of building the future by doubling the value of exports by 2034. "The visit reflects the growing momentum in the New Zealand-India relationship. Discussions between the leaders will include trade and investment, maritime security, education, technology, tourism, sport, and global issues.



New Zealand PM said, "We will also be celebrating the people-to-people connections between our two countries, with Kiwi-Indians comprising around 6 percent of New Zealand's population and making a significant contribution to our country. They are highly engaged across the workforce, with strong representation in business, technology, health, science and many other important sectors. This visit is about celebrating a winning partnership between New Zealand and India - one that delivers for our people and supports greater prosperity and security for both our countries. I look forward to welcoming Prime Minister Modi to New Zealand." The Indian Prime Minister will arrive in Auckland on Friday, July 10 and depart on Saturday, July 11. During the visit, Prime Minister Modi is expected to hold bilateral talks

with his New Zealand counterpart Christopher Luxon, focusing on ways to further strengthen cooperation in trade, investment, education, agriculture, renewable energy, technology and innovation. The two leaders are also likely to review the implementation of the recently signed India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement and discuss measures to enhance bilateral commerce. Prime Minister Modi is also expected to interact with members of the Indian diaspora in Auckland, acknowledging their contribution to strengthening ties between the two countries. The Indian community is one of the fastest-growing ethnic groups in



## Telangana DGP Anand reviews policing, issues key directives



Hyderabad: Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) C V Anand on Friday, July 3, conducted a comprehensive review meeting with senior police officers, Superintendents of Police, Commissioners, unit heads and Station House Officers (SHOs) from across the

level meeting, held at the DGP's office, reviewed the implementation of the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS), visible policing, field visits, police station inspections, vehicle checking, narcotics eradication, cybercrime prevention, road safety

measures and the progress of criminal investigations. The DGP directed officers to strengthen visible policing to ensure that police personnel remain accessible to the public at all times. He instructed unit officers to regularly inspect police stations, monitor investigations, review crime prevention measures and address public grievances through frequent field visits. He also directed that visiting hours at police stations be implemented

strictly and advised officers to function from their offices instead of camp offices. Expressing concern over complaints against some police personnel, he warned officers to discharge their duties responsibly and refrain from interfering in civil disputes such as land-related matters. He also instructed officers to maintain constant vigilance over misinformation and rumours circulating on social media. Emphasising the use of technology,

Anand directed officers to fully utilise digital platforms such as CCTNS, e-Sakshya and the Lathi application. He said evidence relating to every FIR should be uploaded to the e-Sakshya portal promptly. He noted that CCTNS updation in the State has reached 60 to 70 per cent, with Adilabad, Rajanna Sircilla and Jayashankar Bhupalpally districts leading the implementation. In the use of the e-Sakshya platform, Bhupalpally

## Muskan-12 launched in Cyberabad to trace missing children



Hyderabad: The Cyberabad Police on Friday, July 3, launched "Operation Muskan-12", a month-long drive aimed at tracing missing children and rescuing minors from begging, rag-picking, child labour, trafficking and bonded labour. The initiative, which will run from July 1 to July 31, seeks to identify, rescue and rehabilitate homeless children and those forced into exploitative conditions across the Cyberabad Commissionerate limits.

Cyberabad Police Commissioner M Ramesh chaired a convergence meeting at the Cyberabad Commissionerate headquarters to review the implementation of the operation and coordinate efforts among various stakeholder departments. Seven special teams formed as part of the drive, Cyberabad Police have formed seven special teams, each comprising a sub-inspector and four police constables, including a woman constable, to identify and rescue children

## Government to Expand Fertility Services in Public Hospitals; Strict Oversight of Private IVF Centres Planned



Wakeup Telangana Hyderabad.: The Telangana Government is taking significant steps to strengthen fertility healthcare by expanding infertility treatment services in government hos-

viewed the progress of fertility (IVF) services being provided in government hospitals and discussed the roadmap for extending these services to district-level hospitals. The meeting was

attended by Principal Secretary Smt. Christina Z. Chongthu, Commissioner of Health Dr. Sangeeta Satyanarayana, and other senior officials of the Health Department. Reviewing the performance of the IVF Centres at Gandhi Hospital and Petlaburj Hospital, the Minister expressed satisfaction over the encouraging outcomes achieved through affordable fertility services offered by the government. Officials informed the Minister that the two government

IVF centres have so far provided fertility-related medical services to more than 35,000 beneficiaries. At present, 490 couples are undergoing IVF treatment at these facilities, while 23 women who received IVF treatment have already been confirmed pregnant, reflecting the growing success of the programme. The Minister directed officials to formulate an action plan to expand fertility treatment services to district hospitals, ensuring that couples facing infertility

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OPPOSITE TO RBI, SAIFABAD



Residents Raise Concern Over Neglected Railway Underpass in Chanda Nagar

Wake Up Telangana [Rangareddy District Srirangam VenkateshChanda Nagar: Residents of Chanda Nagar in Serilingampally constituency have expressed serious concern over the poor condition of the local railway underpass, citing water stagnation, drainage leakage, and garbage accumulation. According to locals, a drainage leak has caused waterlogging inside the underpass for the past week, creating inconvenience and posing a safety risk to commuters and motorists. They alleged that despite informing the Zonal Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, and GHMC officials, the stagnant water has not been cleared. Residents also pointed to large heaps of debris and waste around the underpass, saying the lack of maintenance has worsened sanitation conditions. They have urged the HY-DRAA and civic authorities to take immediate action and provide a permanent solution to the recur-

Interstate Kidnap Gang Arrested; One-Month-Old Baby Rescued in Chandanagar

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Wake Up Telangana [Rangareddy District Srirangam VenkateshHyderabad: Chandanagar Police busted an interstate child kidnapping and trafficking gang and rescued a one-month-old baby girl who was abducted from near Lingampally Railway Station. According to police, the infant was kidnapped in the early hours of June 30 while her mother, a circus worker from Karnataka, was sleeping on the pavement with her family. Based on her complaint, Chandanagar Police registered a case and formed three special teams to trace the child. After examining CCTV footage across Cyberabad, Hyderabad and Malkajgiri for three days, police arrested five accused and rescued the baby before she could be taken to Kolkata. Investigation revealed that the



accused allegedly conspired to kidnap and sell the infant to a childless woman from Kolkata. Police said ₹1.5 lakh was transferred online to the main accused as payment for the illegal sale. The rescued baby was safely reunited with her biological mother. Cyberabad Police said the successful operation dismantled an interstate child trafficking and kidnapping racket, and the investigating teams were appreciated by the Commissioner of Police. Further investigation revealed that the accused had carefully planned the kidnapping after noticing the vulnerable condition

of the family living on the roadside. Police said the gang had been monitoring the area before executing the crime during the early morning hours when the parents were asleep. During the investigation, officers tracked the movement of the accused through CCTV footage, mobile phone records, and digital payment transactions. The coordinated efforts of the three special teams enabled police to trace the suspects across multiple locations before the infant could be transported out of Telangana. Police seized mobile phones, bank transaction records, and

other evidence believed to have been used in planning and facilitating the illegal trafficking of the child. Officials stated that the accused will be produced before the court and remanded to judicial custody. Cyberabad Police reiterated that child trafficking is a grave offence and warned that stringent legal action would be taken against anyone involved in such criminal activities. They also appealed to citizens to immediately alert the police if they notice suspicious movement involving children or vulnerable families living in public places. Senior police officials praised the swift and professional investigation carried out by the Chandanagar Police, stating that the timely rescue prevented the infant from being trafficked across state borders. The successful operation has once again highlighted the effectiveness of technology-

Harish Rao Unveils Poster for Mega Blood Donation Camp in Hyderabad

WakeUp Telangana

Hyderabad: BRS leader, former minister and Siddipet MLA T. Harish Rao on Saturday unveiled the poster for the 3rd Biggest Mega Blood Donation Camp for thalassemia patients and extended his support to the humanitarian initiative. Attending the event as the chief guest, Harish Rao praised the organisers for promoting voluntary blood donation and urged citizens, especially youth, to donate blood to help save lives. The programme was attended by Advocate Mir Qurram Ali, GHMC Coordinator of Bharatiya Rashtriya Student Vikas (BRSV), Mohd Mustafa Ali, Chairman of the Telangana Journalists and Reporters Association



(TJRA), Baba Bhai, Mirza Basheer Baig and several other dignitaries. The organisers said the blood donation camp will be held opposite Zam Zam Sweet House on Shaheen Nagar-Pahadi Shareef Road in Hyderabad. They appealed to the public to participate in large numbers, noting that every unit of donated blood can save multiple lives and provide crucial support to

thalassemia patients who require regular transfusions. The organisers expressed confidence that the camp would witness enthusiastic participation from volunteers, social organisations and youth groups. They urged eligible donors to come forward and make the initiative a success by contributing to this life-saving cause and helping save countless precious lives.

Office of the Hon'ble Minister for Medical, Health & Family Welfare



Wake Up Telangana Government of Telangana Telangana Achieves 101.4% Coverage in Pulse Polio Immunization Drive- Over 41.53 Lakh Children Administered Polio Drops Across the State-

Hyderabad | July 3 The Statewide Pulse Polio Immunization Programme conducted by the Telangana Government has concluded with remarkable success, reaffirming the State's unwavering

commitment to safeguarding every child against polio. Sharing the details, Hon'ble Minister for Medical, Health & Family Welfare, Sri Damodar Rajanar-simha, announced that against the target of 40,97,749 children below five years of age, the Health Department successfully administered oral polio vaccine to 41,53,185 children, achieving an impressive 101.4 percent coverage. Describing the achievement as another significant

Telangana Activists Preventively Detained Ahead of Uppal Land Protest, Released Later



Wakeup Telangana Aleru Constituency Several Telangana activists from Aleru constituency were taken into preventive custody by the police on Thursday, July 2, ahead of a proposed land protest scheduled

to be held at Uppal. Among those detained was Mr. Thammadi Padma Rao, a Telangana activist from Mandanpally Village, Aleru Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District. He was accompanied by his long-time friend Mr. Rachakonda Jannardhan, along with Mr. Chekka Venkatesh, Mr. P. Suvunoori Veeresham, and Mr. Badugu Jangir. The activists were taken into preven-

tive custody by the police and shifted to the Aleru Police Station as a precautionary measure to maintain law and order in view of the proposed land agitation at Uppal. Speaking after the detention, Mr. Thammadi Padma Rao said that they were taken into custody before they could participate in the protest. He added that all the detained activists were released later in the evening after

being held for several hours. The incident reflects the police's preventive measures during sensitive public demonstrations while ensuring that the activists were released after the situation remained peaceful. Several Telangana activists from Aleru constituency were taken into preventive custody by the police on Thursday, July 2, ahead of a proposed land protest scheduled to be held at

Former MLA Gongidi Sunitha Extends Blessings to Newlywed Couple at Peddabavi Family Wedding



Hyderabad Wake Up Telangana

Aleru Constituency A joyous wedding celebration was held on Friday, July 3, at a private function hall in Athmakur, where the daughter of Mr. Jinkala Bixapathi and Mrs. Nagamma, residents of Peddabavi Gram Panchayat, Motakondur Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District, entered into wedlock amidst the blessings of family members, relatives, friends, and well-wishers. The ceremony witnessed the presence of several distinguished guests, including Mrs. Gongidi Sunitha Mahender Reddy, Former MLA of Aleru and Former Government Whip, who attended the wedding and conveyed her heartfelt blessings to the newly married cou-

ple. She wished them a lifetime filled with happiness, prosperity, mutual understanding, and good health. The event reflected the rich cultural traditions of Telangana, with family members and guests gathering in large numbers to celebrate the auspicious occasion. The bride and groom were showered with blessings by elders, public representatives, and well-wishers. Among those present were Uday Kumar Battipalli from Mator Village, along with several local leaders, relatives, and friends, who extended their warm congratulations and best wishes to the newlyweds for a joyful and successful married life. The wedding ceremony concluded in a festive atmosphere, symbolizing the values of family

Pallavi International School Marks Plastic Bag Free Day with Green Awareness

Hyderabad < Wakeup telangana

Thumukunta: Pallavi International School, Thumukunta, celebrated Plastic Bag Free Day and Green Colour Day with a series of activities aimed at promoting environmental awareness and sustainable living among students. Pre-primary students presented an awareness programme during a special assembly, highlighting the importance of reduc-

ing plastic use and protecting the environment. Senior students organised an awareness rally carrying placards and raising slogans encouraging the public to avoid plastic bags and adopt eco-friendly alternatives. The celebrations included a special assembly, awareness rally, and creative activities, with enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and staff. The programme reinforced the school's com-



mitment to environmental conservation and responsible citizenship. Principal Dr. Sucharita Roy said the school is dedicated to instilling environmental

values in children from an early age, enabling them to become responsible and environmentally conscious citizens. She emphasised that such ini-

tiatives help inspire young minds to contribute towards building a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future. The event concluded with a strong mes-

sage encouraging collective efforts to reduce plastic pollution and protect the environment for future generations. The awareness rally passed through the surrounding localities, where students interacted with residents and shopkeepers, urging them to replace single-use plastic bags with reusable cloth and jute bags. Their slogans and informative placards attracted the attention of the public,

spreading the message of environmental responsibility. As part of the celebrations, students participated in drawing, colouring, poster-making, and craft activities using recycled materials. Teachers explained the harmful effects of plastic pollution on wildlife, water bodies, and human health, while encouraging students to adopt eco-friendly practices in their daily lives. The school campus was decorated with

CC Cameras Inaugurated at Narapally Government School; Donor's Contribution Appreciated



Wake Up Telangana Medchal-Malkajgiri District

A CCTV camera system donated by Congress leader Baddam Narasimha Reddy was inaugurated on Friday at the Mandal

Parishad Primary Upper Boys' School, Narapally, located in the 8th Division of Pocharam Municipality, Medchal-Malkajgiri District. The initiative aims to enhance student safety, strengthen

campus security, and promote discipline within the school. The inauguration was performed by former Medchal MLA Malipeddi Sudheer Reddy, who attended the event as the chief guest. Addressing the gathering, he expressed heartfelt appreciation to donor Baddam Narasimha Reddy for his generous contribution towards improving government school infrastructure. Speaking on the occa-

sion, Sudheer Reddy remarked that "Having wealth alone is not enough; one must also possess the spirit of giving." He noted that the installation of CCTV cameras would help create a safe and disciplined learning environment while supporting teachers in providing quality education to students. He further highlighted the Telangana Government's commitment to strengthening public education under the leadership

of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. He said the government has been providing free textbooks, uniforms, ties, belts, shoes, nutritious mid-day meals, and breakfast to students studying in government schools, thereby improving educational standards across the state. Sudheer Reddy also announced that the Narapally Government School has been upgraded, with ₹12 crore sanctioned for its development, and conveyed his

Footpath Encroachments Continue Across Hyderabad Despite High Court Warning



Wake Up Telangana [Rangareddy District Srirangam Venkatesh

Hyderabad: Despite the Telangana High Court directing civic authorities to clear

footpath encroachments, pedestrians across Hyderabad continue to face difficulties due to illegal occupations on walkways. Areas including Gachibowli, Financial

District, Secunderabad, Nankramguda, and Banjara Hills still have footpaths blocked by roadside vendors, food stalls, shops, and temporary structures, forcing pedestrians to walk on busy roads. Residents also raised concerns over poor sanitation, foul smell due to public urination, and the lack of pedestrian crossing signals in busy IT corridors. Many alleged that illegal encroachments continue despite repeated complaints. GHMC officials said encroachments have been cleared from 30 to 40 footpaths across the city following the High Court's

directions and assured that footpath clearance and refurbishment drives have been intensified. However, residents and commuters claim that the enforcement drives have yielded only temporary results, with encroachments reappearing within days of being removed. They urged the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), Traffic Police, and other civic agencies to conduct regular inspections and take sustained action to keep footpaths free for pedestrians. Daily commuters, senior citizens, schoolchildren, and persons with dis-

## Odisha man carrying 180 kg ganja arrested by EAGLE in Khammam

Hyderabad: A 31-year-old man was caught transporting 180 kg of ganja worth Rs 90 lakh in Rejarla village of Sathupally mandal, Khammam, Elite Action Group for Drug Law Enforcement (EAGLE) said on Friday, July 3. The accused, Prabhin Bhatra, was allegedly paid Rs 10,000 by one Rohan for transporting the ganja from Malkangiri town in Odisha. Bhatra was apprehended by EAGLE officials while waiting to hand over the consignment near a Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) centre. The drugs were meant to be sold to customers in Hyderabad. Officials also seized a Toyota Etios that was used to transport the ganja. The car belongs to one Nageshwar, a resident of Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh. The accused and the vehicle have been handed over to Sathupally Police Station, and a case has been registered. Efforts are underway to nab the other

## PM Modi to visit Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand from July 6-11

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a three-nation visit to Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand from July 6-11 to deepen India's engagement with the three countries, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Friday (July 3, 2026). The first leg of his visit will be to Indonesia, after which he will travel to Australia, where his main engagements will be held in Melbourne. He will conclude the tour with a visit to New Zealand. Talking to reporters, Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Rudrendra Tandon, said PM Modi's visit to New Zealand would be special as it would be the first by an Indian prime minister in nearly 40 years. PM Modi will make his first official visit to New Zealand next week, the country's Prime Minister Christopher Luxon announced earlier in the day. "I'm delighted to announce Indian Prime Minister @narendramodi will make his first official visit to New Zealand next week," Mr. Luxon posted on social



media without disclosing the actual date of the visit. Calling India one of the world's largest and fastest-growing economies, Mr. Luxon said India is of enormous importance to New Zealand's economic prosperity. We are taking the two countries' relationship to the next level with our New Zealand-India Free Trade Agreement, signed in April, which will deliver more jobs, higher exports and stronger economic growth for New

Zealand," he said. India and New Zealand signed a free trade agreement (FTA) earlier this year to boost two-way commerce in goods and services and promote investments. You can continue the report with the following paragraphs: During the three-nation tour, Prime Minister Modi is expected to hold bilateral meetings with the leaders of Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand to review progress in strategic partnerships and ex-

plore new areas of cooperation. Discussions are likely to focus on trade and investment, defence and maritime security, digital innovation, clean energy, education, healthcare and people-to-people ties. In Indonesia, the Prime Minister is expected to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation under the India-Indonesia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, with particular emphasis on maritime collaboration in the Indo-Pacific, connectivity, and regional security. Both countries are expected to reaffirm their commitment to a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific region. During his visit to Australia, Modi will participate in high-level engagements in Melbourne aimed at expanding cooperation in critical minerals, renewable energy, technology, higher education and defence. The two leaders are also expected to review the implementation of the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) and discuss avenues for further

## Indian expat injured in Saudi projectile incident returns home

**Riyadh: A 27-year-old Indian expat worker from Uttar Pradesh has returned home after recovering from serious injuries sustained when a military projectile fell on a residential compound in Saudi Arabia's Al-Kharj, the Indian Embassy in Riyadh announced on Friday, July 3. Mohammad Azam, a resident of Jafraabad village in Moradabad district, was injured in the March 8 incident at a residential site belonging to a maintenance and cleaning company, where he had been working as a diesel mechanic for around three-and-a-half years. In a post on X, the Indian Embassy said it had extended all necessary assistance following the incident and re-**

**mained in regular contact with Azam's family. It said his condition had improved significantly, enabling him to reunite with his family in India. As he joins his family in India, we wish him a speedy recovery and all the best for his future," the embassy said. It also thanked the hospital staff, Azam's employer and the Saudi authorities for their support. According to the Saudi Civil Defence, the projectile killed two Bangladeshi nationals and injured 12 people, including 11 Bangladeshi residents and Azam. The incident also caused damage to the workers' residential compound. The projectile incident occurred on March 8 amid esca-**

**lating regional tensions after the United States and Israel launched co-ordinated strikes on Iran on February 28, prompting retaliatory attacks by Tehran that widened the conflict across parts of the Gulf. Following the incident, Azam received immediate medical attention at a local hospital, where he underwent treatment for his injuries. Officials said the Indian Embassy closely monitored his recovery and coordinated with the employer and local authorities to ensure that he received appropriate medical care and consular assistance throughout his stay. The embassy also reiterated its commitment to the welfare of Indian**

## 'Tejo Mahalaya' dispute reaches Allahabad HC; hearing on July 6

**NEW DELHI** Wakeup telangana Prayagraj: A writ petition before the Allahabad High Court was filed on Friday seeking a declaration that the Agreshwar Mahadev Nagnatheswar Virajman Tejo Mahalaya temple is present inside the Taj Mahal premises. The matter will be heard on July 6. The petition has been filed against the orders of the district court at Agra by which the Civil Judge (Senior Division) as well as Additional District Judge had declined to issue an order

appointing an Advocate Commission to survey the disputed premises. According to Saumya Srivastava, counsel for the petitioner, a declaratory suit was filed in 2015 and is pending in the court of the Civil Judge (Senior Division) at Agra seeking a declaration that the Agreshwar Mahadev Nagnatheswar Virajman Tejo Mahalaya temple is present in the Taj Mahal premises. Pending suit, an application to appoint an advocate commissioner was moved, but both the district courts had declined to pass an



order in the matter, which has been challenged in the present petition. The petition has been filed by Agreshwar Mahadev Nagnatheswar Virajman Tejo Mahalaya temple as well as by Hari Shankar Jain and four others. The Union of India, the Archaeological Survey of India and two others have been made parties-in-response. The petitioners have contended that a scientific survey of the disputed premises is necessary to ascertain the historical and archaeological facts relating to the

structure. They argued that the appointment of an Advocate Commissioner would help document the existing features of the monument without causing any damage to the protected site. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which maintains the Taj Mahal as a centrally protected monument, is expected to present its response before the High Court. The ASI has consistently maintained in previous proceedings that the Taj Mahal is a Mughal-era monument built during the

## 2 staff members of Bengaluru daycare arrested over child abuse



Wake Up Telangana

inside washing machines.

Bengaluru: Two staff members of the daycare centre inside Bengaluru's Capgemini campus have been arrested in connection with allegations of locking children in washrooms and placing them

The arrested caregivers have been identified as Manjula and Vijayalakshmi. According to HAL Police, crucial evidence was discovered against the two accused, with more arrests to fol-

low. The authorities are investigating the roles and responsibilities of Capgemini and the ad agency Little Scholar in the case as well. New hires lacked basic training. According to preliminary information, Manjula had recruited four other staff members to work at the daycare. The newly hired caretakers lacked basic training, nor were they informed on how to handle children before being assigned responsibilities. Officials are investigating whether the lack of supervision and training was part of the abuse. A senior-level police officer is supervising

the investigation, with a Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed to investigate the allegations. Statements of staff members and parents were carefully recorded, while officials reviewed closed circuit television (CCTV) camera footage and examined other evidence to understand the sequence of events. Capgemini temporarily shuts down daycare. In an official statement, Capgemini said that it was fully cooperating with the investigation to establish facts. "Capgemini's foremost priority is the health, safety and wellbeing of its

## Viral e-rickshaw prank to end as govt orders app takedown



**It started off as a joke. Pranksters across Delhi found they could walk up to a moving e-rickshaw, open an app**

**on their phone, connect to its battery over Bluetooth, and switch it off cold, right in the middle of traffic. The**

**driver, with no idea what had hit him, would be left stranded while the prankster filmed his confusion for social media. The trend, nicknamed "tirri control," spread fast across Instagram, YouTube, Reddit and X over the past week. This week, the government stepped in and pulled the apps behind it. How the prank worked. The app at the centre of it, BAT-BMS, is a le-**

**gitimate battery-monitoring tool made by China's Shenzhen Grenergy Technology, built to track things like charge level, voltage and battery health on Bluetooth-enabled lithium packs. However, users soon discovered that if an e-rickshaw's battery management system (BMS) was left unsecured or still configured with its default Bluetooth settings, the app could establish a**

## Ram temple theft is a betrayal of faith



Corruption in the management of revered religious institutions is bound to weaken the moral authority of those who seek to speak in religion's name. This is precisely the question facing the BJP leadership in the wake of allegations of misappropriation of do-

about the theft and pilferage of temple funds. Many believe that any misuse of offerings made in devotion would represent not merely financial misconduct but a profound betrayal of public trust. Temples survive on faith, and faith survives on integrity. If devotees

begin questioning whether their offerings reach the deity or disappear into private hands, rebuilding confidence may prove far more difficult than constructing even the grandest shrine. Ayodhya is no ordinary temple: it is the culmination of one of independent India's longest religious, political and legal battles. Millions of Hindus believe it to be the birthplace of Lord Ram, revered as Maryada Purushottam—the embodiment of righteousness and ethical conduct. Now, the very

temple that forms the core of BJP's Hindutva politics is embroiled in a bitter controversy following the disappearance of Lord Ram's ornaments. The embarrassing allegations could not have come at a more inopportune time for the BJP government as Assembly elections are due in Uttar Pradesh early next year. It has ordered a probe by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) to ferret out facts. Historically, at stake is not only the integrity of a prestigious religious institution, the Shri

Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, but also the faith of crores of devotees who have contributed generously to the landmark temple. It is alleged that cash donations amounting to several crore rupees were siphoned off and precious ornaments were replaced with fake items. The SIT must find satisfactory answers to key questions on whether transparent procedures were followed for cataloguing donations, maintaining inventory, safeguarding valuables as per secu-

urity protocols and maintenance of digital records. Investigators are expected to examine donation registers, CCTV footage, digital inventories, treasury records and records relating to the movement of valuables from the time they were received. Opposition parties have demanded complete disclosure of donations, inventories and audit reports. The culprits, irrespective of their position, influence or status, must be identified and given exemplary punishment. There is an urgent

## Pakistan troubled by lack of Indus River water



# Legal dispute disrupts new Indian consular service in UAE



Wake Up Telangana

**Abu Dhabi:** A legal dispute has delayed the roll-out of a new Indian consular service system in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), forcing the Embassy of India in Abu Dhabi and the Consulate General of India in Dubai to temporarily handle passport, visa, attestation and other consular services. The Indian missions announced on Wednesday, July 1, that limited services would be available from Thursday, July 2, due to “administrative reasons”. However, according to Khaleej Times and Gulf News, the temporary arrangement follows an ongoing court battle over the appointment of a new outsourcing provider. Why was the transition delayed? According to the reports, the contracts of BLS International and SGIVS Global Services expired on June 30. Alhind Tours and Travel LLC was

The transition was put on hold after two bidders, E Trav Tech and Verasys, challenged the tender process before the Delhi High Court. What is the case about? According to reports, the two companies sought details of the technical evaluation, including the marks awarded and the reasons for their disqualification. The matter later reached the Supreme Court, which on June 24 directed that the status quo be maintained and asked the Delhi High Court to hear the case urgently. The transition was put on hold after two bidders, E Trav Tech and Verasys, challenged the tender process before the Delhi High Court. What is the case about? According to reports, the two companies sought details of the technical evaluation, including the marks awarded and the reasons for their disqualification.

The matter later reached the Supreme Court, which on June 24 directed that the status quo be maintained and asked the Delhi High Court to hear the case urgently. The Delhi High Court has since reserved its judgment. Until a decision is delivered, Alhind cannot formally take over the ICAC operations. Alhind confirms postponement. In a statement issued on Friday, Alhind confirmed that the launch of its Consular, Passport and Visa (CPV) services has been postponed until further notice. The company said it received official communication from the Embassy of India in Abu Dhabi stating that CPV services would begin only after further instructions from the mission. Alhind said it has completed all operational preparations, including setting up 16 CPV Application Centres across the UAE, and is ready to commence operations immediately once it receives the necessary authorisation. The company apologised for

the inconvenience caused by the delay and advised applicants requiring passport, visa, Overseas Citizen of India (OCI), Police Clearance Certificate (PCC), surrender certificate, attestation and other related services to continue visiting the Embassy in Abu Dhabi or the Consulate General of India in Dubai until the new centres become operational. What should applicants know? Until the transition is completed, the Embassy and the Consulate will continue providing passport, visa, attestation and other consular services directly from their premises. Services are available on a walk-in, first-come, first-served basis from 9 am to 12.30 pm. Applicants must visit in person with a completed application form, supporting documents and the required fee. Only applicants are allowed inside the premises, except where parents must accompany minor applicants. The missions are accepting cash payments only and have advised applicants to

## EDITORIAL

### UN ISSUES ‘RED ALERT’ OVER SUDAN VIOLENCE



Geneva: The United Nations human rights chief on Friday, July 3, sounded a “red alert” about possible atrocity crimes in and near a strategic city in central Sudan, calling on world leaders to do more to help stop the bloodshed in the country’s ongoing war between the army and paramilitary forces. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk told the Human Rights Council at the UN office in Geneva that signs from the city of el-Obeid were “clear and unmistakable: Another human rights catastrophe is unfolding in Sudan.” The comments came as the council, the UN’s top human rights

Sudan’s war, which is now in its fourth year. This is not a drill. It is a red alert that needs to land on the desks of heads of state and government around the world,” Turk said. “Their phones should be running hot in the coming days and weeks, with ideas on how to prevent atrocity crimes in el-Obeid and in other places in Kordofan.” Civilians have faced siege-like conditions for 18 months, battered by “relentless drone strikes” as Sudan’s armed forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces battle for control of areas near the city, he said. The war erupted in April 2023 out of long-

simmering tensions between the army and RSF forces. The conflict has killed at least 59,000 people, displaced some 13 million and pushed many parts of Sudan into famine. More than 30 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance. In February 2025, the military broke a siege on el-Obeid that had lasted more than a year. Since then, the RSF has launched multiple offensives in attempts to reestablish the siege from several directions. The UN and some countries expressed concerns over reports of reinforcements by the RSF around el-Obeid city, which is home to half a million people in North Kordofan. Recent attacks on infrastructure have left civilians with scarce food, fuel, water, health services and transportation, Turk’s office has said. The ongoing conflict between the

Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has continued to exacerbate the humanitarian crisis across the country, with millions of people displaced from their homes and in urgent need of assistance. Aid agencies have repeatedly warned that insecurity and damaged infrastructure are hampering relief operations in several regions. According to humanitarian organisations, many communities in North Kordofan and other conflict-affected areas are facing severe shortages of essential commodities, while health facilities are struggling to function due to a lack of medical supplies, electricity, and trained personnel. Children, women, and elderly residents remain among the most vulnerable groups affected by the violence. The United Nations has called

# Uttarakhand: Bajrang Dal, VHP claim to find ‘illegal’ madrasa

Wake Up Telangana |

**Chamoli:** Members of the right-wing Bajrang Dal and Vishva Hindu Parishad raised allegations that a madrasa was being illegally operated in Uttarakhand’s Chamoli district after entering a house where a child was being taught Arabic for Quranic purposes. The workers questioned the teacher and his associate, asking for details about the building’s ownership and reading the Arabic letters aloud. They claimed that teaching Arabic inside a house amounted to operating a madrasa, which, as of July 1, can no longer operate following the dissolution of the Madrasa Board. According to the teacher, Friday prayers are held occasionally, followed by Arabic lessons for some children. Hum bohot pyaar se samjhare hai, tu achanai karra hai, dekh lena (We are explaining this to you nicely, what you’re



doing isn’t right; just you wait and see),” a Hindutva worker was heard warning the teacher. The Hindutva workers even raised concerns over a displayed prayer timetable simply because it was written in Arabic. They issued more threats, intimidated the teacher, and later submitted a memorandum to the local police station, demanding its closure. One of the workers said the issue was concerning, especially regarding the sensitive nature of the location, as it was a border area and due to increasing “demographic change.” This is a really problematic matter because it is near the border and the way the demogra-

phy has been changing. We are looking at the issue in that angle and proceeding accordingly. Simultaneously, the devbhoomi should be respected. This operation should be closed immediately.” Kotwali Inspector Devendra Rawat confirmed that an investigation is underway following the receipt of a complaint, while Tehsildar Mahendra Singh assured that appropriate action would follow the inquiry based on established regulations. doing isn’t right; just you wait and see),” a Hindutva worker was heard warning the teacher. The Hindutva workers even raised concerns over a displayed prayer timetable simply because it was written in Arabic. They issued more threats, intimidated the teacher, and later submitted a memorandum to the local police station, demanding its closure. One of the workers said the issue was concerning, especially

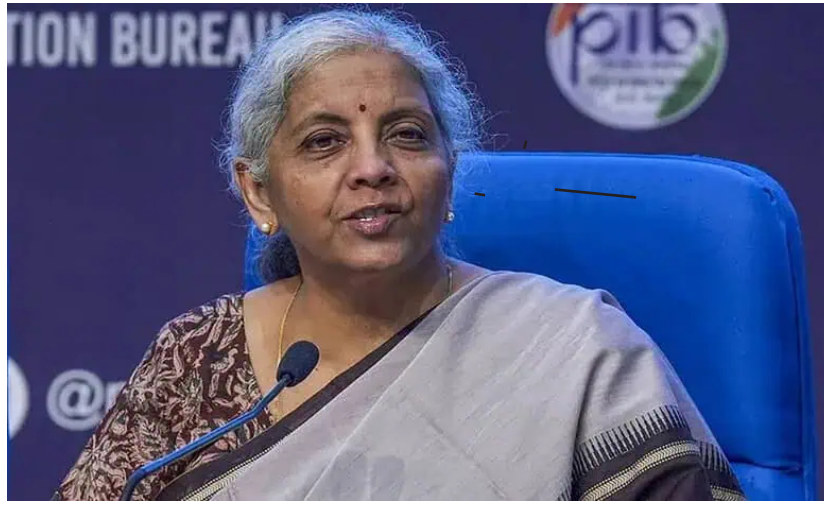


War and Peas

# Sitharaman Announces Plan to Develop 500 Economic Hub Cities

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday, July 3, described the middle class as the growth engine of India and said nearly 500 cities are poised to emerge as the country's next centres of economic activity. Participating in a panel discussion on 'How to promote the rise of a new middle class' at the Rencontres Economiques d'Aix-en-Provence, a major economic forum of France, Sitharaman said 31 per cent of India's population is middle class as of today. Since India opened its economy, the middle class is growing at an annual rate of 6.3 per cent, she noted. We think 93 per cent of all spending in India will be because of the middle class or the slightly affluent consumers... and again, this middle class is not concentrated in our metropolitan cities... India's model has resulted in the development in

such a way that the middle class is present not just in big cities but they are on the contrary in these tier two, tier three cities," the finance minister said. The distribution of wealth is therefore automatically seen spreading to cities beyond the metropolitan, she added. So, we see the middle class not just as a beneficiary of growth, but actually as the engines of growth. It is their consumption, which is happening, which is making the economy grow," she said. Quoting an OECD study, Sitharaman said India will surpass China in absolute terms in its middle-class population size between 2030 and 2035 on the back of several measures taken by the government. Stressing that India remains the fastest-growing large economy after Covid-19, primarily because of consumption triggered by the middle class, she said, "Nearly



500 cities poised to emerge as the new centres of economic activity". To grow the size of the middle class, Sitharaman said, the government has taken several initiatives, including financial inclusion, recent GST rate rationalisation, providing collateral-free loans, and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Talking about the middle class benefiting from AI, Sitharaman said people are continu-

ously upgrading their technical skills to stay ahead. For those who fear AI may displace jobs, there is extensive government support through AI-focused skilling programmes being conducted across the country, she said, adding that AI skilling camps are being organised in partnership with the private sector. As a result, the middle class is increasingly able to take advantage of emerging

opportunities in India's evolving economy. One indicator of this transformation is that nearly 40 per cent of India's exports come from micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and these enterprises are rapidly adopting AI-driven business models and are looking for skilled professionals who can provide AI-based solutions, she said. Highlighting that India has emerged as the leading destination for Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and data centres, Sitharaman said companies continue to expand their presence in the country because India has a large pool of skilled talent capable of supporting AI-led growth and digital transformation. The Finance Minister also highlighted that the government is investing heavily in digital public infrastructure, innovation, and entrepreneurship to

ensure that economic growth reaches every section of society. She said initiatives such as Digital India, Startup India, and the expansion of digital payment systems have empowered millions of citizens and small businesses, creating new avenues for employment and income generation. Sitharaman noted that India's strong macroeconomic fundamentals, stable policy environment, and increasing public investment in infrastructure have made the country an attractive destination for global investors. She said sustained investments in roads, railways, airports, logistics, and renewable energy are expected to further accelerate economic activity across emerging urban centres. Emphasising inclusive growth, she said the government remains committed to improving access to education, healthcare, housing, and financial

## India Aims For \$1 Trillion Exports In Current Fiscal Year: Piyush Goyal



New Delhi: Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal on Friday said that India is targeting an ambitious 16-17 per cent growth in merchandise exports to about \$530 billion in the current fiscal year. The minister's statement came after the board of trade meeting here. Goyal said that the target for the services sector is 11 per cent growth to about \$470 billion in 2026-27. "We want to grow to \$1 trillion export this year. And to reach \$1 trillion, our goods exports will have to increase from \$442 billion to about \$530 billion," he told the reporters. In 2025-26, the country's total exports were \$863 billion (\$442 billion in goods and \$421 billion in services). "During the April-June quarter, the country registered a 15 per

cent growth in merchandise shipments and 11 per cent in services exports. So we are getting to achieve the target. We are on track. But when you fly a kite, you have to hold it tight. So we have to achieve this with everyone's collective effort," the minister said. The minister further said that though it's an ambitious target, India has to achieve this. He suggested that the industry focus on manufacturing high-quality goods and tap into export opportunities by leveraging free trade agreements (FTAs) finalised by India. "The industry should not depend only on the vast domestic market," he said. Industry should get out of the 'cosy comfort' and reach out to the world market, he said, adding that the commerce ministry's export promotion

mission will help set up branding overseas, warehouses, and participate in global exhibitions. "The FTA with the UK will be operational from July 15 and it is a big market," he said. "UK imports even more than what India imports. UK imports twice India's exports. Their import is almost \$900 billion. The UK offers that much. Under the trade pact, 99 per cent of Indian goods will get zero-duty access. And if freight is expensive, it's expensive for the whole world. It's not just expensive for India," he said, adding that the industry should not complain. You can continue the report with the following paragraphs: The Commerce Minister said the government is working closely with exporters to improve logistics, reduce transaction costs, and simplify procedures to enhance India's competitiveness in global markets. He stressed that coordinated efforts between the Centre, state governments, and industry will be crucial to achieving the ambitious export target. Goyal also urged businesses to focus on innovation, quality standards,

and value addition rather than competing solely on price. He said Indian products have earned global recognition across sectors such as engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, electronics, textiles, food processing, and services, and there is immense potential to expand their presence in international markets. Highlighting the government's trade strategy, he said India is actively negotiating free trade agreements with several countries and economic blocs to provide exporters with greater market access. These agreements, he noted, will help diversify export destinations and reduce dependence on a few traditional markets. The minister expressed confidence that India's strong manufacturing base, growing digital economy, and expanding network of MSMEs would play a key role in driving export growth. He added that the government's initiatives under 'Make in India', the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, and improvements in ease of doing business are creating a favourable ecosystem for ex-

## Supermarket chain Ratnadeep files IPO papers with Sebi

Hyderabad  
WakeUp Telangana

New Delhi: Organised food and grocery retailer Ratnadeep Retail Ltd has filed draft papers with capital markets regulator Sebi to raise funds through an Initial Public Offering (IPO). The proposed IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to Rs 400 crore and an Offer For Sale (OFS) of nearly 1.49 crore equity shares by promoters, according to the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) filed on Wednesday, July 1. The promoters who are offloading shares under the OFS are — Sandeep Agarwal, Manish Bhartiya and Mitesh Bhartiya.

As part of the OFS, — Sandeep Agarwal will offload 85,44,500 equity shares, while Mitesh Bhartiya and Manish Bhartiya will sell 31,57,750 equity shares each. The Hyderabad-based company proposes to utilise Rs 260 crore for setting up new stores under its Ratnadeep and National Mart formats, Rs 40 crore for debt payment and the balance towards general corporate purposes. Ratnadeep Retail, in consultation with the book-running lead managers, may also undertake a pre-IPO placement of up to Rs 80 crore. If completed, the size of the fresh issue will be reduced to the extent of funds raised in the pre-IPO placement. It offers more than 30,000 Stock Keeping Units (SKUs) spanning fresh produce, FMCG products, staples, general merchandise and apparel. As of March 31, 2026, the company operated 190 stores under two formats:



Ratnadeep, comprising neighbourhood supermarkets under 'Ratnadeep - Mindful Living' and premium food stores under 'Ratnadeep Select', and National Mart, its value-led hypermarket format, which also houses Style Mart for affordable fashion products. For FY26, Ratnadeep Retail reported revenue from operations of Rs 2,223 crore, while profit after tax stood at about Rs 37 crore. According to the draft papers, the company's listed peers include Avenue Supermarts, Vishal Mega Mart, Spencers Retail and Trent. As per Lattice Report, Ratnadeep Retail operates in South India's food and grocery market which is estimated at Rs 18,000 crore in Fiscal 2026 and projected to reach Rs 31.8 lakh crore by Fiscal 2031. The region is expected to grow at 11.6 per cent over Fiscal 2026 to Fiscal 2030, outpacing the overall India market. Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors, Axis Capital and DAM Capital Advisors are the book-running lead managers to the issue. The proposed public issue is expected to strengthen Ratnadeep Retail's financial position and support its long-term expansion strategy.

The company plans to increase its footprint by opening new stores across key cities and towns in South India while also investing in technology, supply chain infrastructure, and customer experience initiatives. Industry experts believe the organised food and grocery retail segment has significant growth potential, driven by rising urbanisation, increasing disposable incomes, changing consumer preferences, and greater demand for modern retail formats. The continued shift from unorganised neighbourhood stores to organised supermarkets is also expected to create new opportunities for established retail chains. Ratnadeep Retail has built a strong presence in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka through its network of supermarkets offering groceries, fresh produce, dairy products, household essentials, personal care items and other daily-use products. The company aims to further strengthen its market position by expanding into underserved locations while enhancing operational efficiency and digital capabilities. The IPO comes at a time when investor interest in India's organised retail

## Centre rebuts misinformation, defends ethanol blending program



Hyderabad: Wakeup telangana New Delhi: The government on Friday issued a detailed rebuttal to what it described as misinformation circulating on social media about the

country's E20 ethanol blending programme, rejecting claims ranging from excessive water consumption and engine damage to insurance invalidation and environmental harm. In a 10-point clarification, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas said the programme, under which petrol contains up to 20 per cent ethanol, is supported by scientific studies, international experience and regu-

latory safeguards. Rejecting claims that producing one litre of ethanol consumes 10,000 litres of water, the ministry said only surplus rice, cleared after meeting national food security requirements, is diverted for ethanol production. It added that ethanol distilleries consume about 3-5 litres of processed water per litre of ethanol and increasingly operate Zero Liquid Discharge systems to recy-

cle water. The ministry also said maize, which now accounts for more than 40 per cent of ethanol supplied under the programme, requires significantly lower irrigation than paddy and is being promoted through higher minimum support prices. The government also dismissed assertions that E20 is an untested fuel, noting that ethanol-blended fuels have been used internationally for decades. It cited countries, includ-

## Cristiano Ronaldo's Sister Hints FIFA World Cup 2026 Could Be His 'Last Dance'



Wake Up Telangana

Cristiano Ronaldo may be bidding farewell to the Portugal national team after his sister said that the FIFA World Cup 2026 could be his last in Portugal colours. Speaking to Sport TV, Katia Aveiro suggested that the ongoing FIFA World Cup is likely to be Ronaldo's "last dance" for Portugal. "From the information I have, from a reliable source, I believe this is the last dance, so let's enjoy it," she said. On Friday, Ronaldo set two FIFA World Cup knockout-stage records during Portugal's Round of 32 clash against Croatia. At 41 years and 147 days old, Ronaldo became the oldest player to feature in and score in a

FIFA World Cup knockout-stage match. He converted a penalty in the 68th minute to equalise for Portugal against Croatia. The goal also marked Ronaldo's first-ever goal in the knockout stage of the FIFA World Cup. Portugal, led by Cristiano Ronaldo, secured their place in the Round of 16 with a dramatic 2-1 comeback victory over Croatia. They will face the Spain in the Round of 16 on July 7 for a place in the quarterfinals. Portugal's comeback victory was driven by a disciplined second-half performance, with the team showing resilience after falling behind early in the match. Ronaldo's equalising penalty shifted the momentum in Portugal's favour before his teammates completed the turnaround with a late winner, sealing a memorable victory and keeping their World Cup campaign alive. The result further cemented Ronaldo's remarkable legacy on football's biggest stage. Having represented Portugal across multiple FIFA World Cups, he continues to rewrite the record books with his longevity, consistency, and leadership. His latest achievement adds another milestone to an illustrious international career that has spanned more than two decades. Portugal will now face neighbouring rivals Spain in a

highly anticipated Round of 16 encounter on July 7. The clash is expected to be one of the marquee fixtures of the knockout stage, with both European giants aiming to secure a place in the quarter-finals. Fans around the world are eagerly awaiting another chapter in the historic rivalry between the two nations. Meanwhile, speculation continues over Ronaldo's international future after his sister hinted that the 2026 FIFA World Cup could mark the final chapter of his legendary career. Although Ronaldo has not officially announced any retirement plans, the possibility has added emotional significance to Portugal's campaign, with supporters hoping to see the iconic forward guide his nation on another memorable run before eventually calling time on his extraordinary career. Ronaldo's performance once again highlighted his exceptional fitness and determination, proving that age has not diminished his ability to deliver on football's biggest stage. His leadership inspired Portugal's younger players, who rallied around their captain to produce a spirited comeback after trailing for much of the match. Football analysts praised Ronaldo's composure from the penalty spot and his influence in guiding the

## TG20 League: Gaurav Reddy smashes 47-ball century as Nalgonda Knights crush Medak Falcons

WAKE UP TELANGANA

Hyderabad: Opener Gaurav Reddy cracked a stroke-filled century (101 n.o., 47b, 6x4, 9x6) to script Anurag Nalgonda Knights' impressive, eight-wicket win against Medak Falcons in the TG20 League cricket championship at Rajiv Gandhi Stadium here on Friday. Geographic Reference: Batting first, Falcons scored 180 for four in 20 overs with opener Shrunjith Reddy (30, 17b, 3x4, 2x6) and captain T. Ravi Teja (33, 22b, 2x4, 3x6) batting well at the top. Vikram Naik (48 n.o., 31b, 4x4, 2x6) and Varun Yerram (44 n.o., 29, 2x4, 1x6) put on 91 runs for the fifth wicket to prop the total. But it turned out to be inadequate in the face of Gaurav

Reddy's onslaught. With his partner Jashwath Mote (34, 21b, 3x4, 1x6), Gaurav put on 83 in 6.4 overs to give a flying start to the chase. After the dismissals of Jashwath and later P. Nitish Reddy (21, 17b, 2x4, 1x6), Gaurav combined with captain Rahul Buddhi (20 n.o., 14b, 2x4) to ensure there were more hiccups as Knights reached the target in style in the 17th over. Gaurav Reddy was named 'player of the match'. This win helped Knights move to second place with eight points from six matches behind table-toppers Hyderabad E-Champions which has 10 points from five matches. The scores: Medak Falcons 180/4 in 20 overs (Shrunjith Reddy 30, T. Ravi Teja 30, Vikram Naik 48 n.o., Varun Yerram 44



n.o.) lost to Anurag Nalgonda Knights 181/2 in 16.3 overs (Jashwath Mote 34, Gaurav Reddy 101 n.o.) Player of the match: Gaurav Reddy. Speaking to local residents, Ma-haareddy Bhupal Reddy stressed the importance of maintaining close ties between public representatives and the people. He said that attending family functions and community events provides an opportunity to understand the aspirations and concerns of the public while strengthening social bonds at the

## Sunil Pal says no to Samay Raina despite Rs 25 lakh offer



Wake Up Telangana

Mumbai: Comedian Sunil Pal has once again put India's Got Latent 2 in the spotlight, this time with a money claim that is already grabbing attention online. According to a viral post, Sunil Pal claimed that Samay Raina recently invited him to appear on India's Got Latent 2. The comedian reportedly said he was offered Rs 25 lakh for the appearance, but decided to turn it down. Sunil Pal says

no to India's Got Latent 2 Pal made the claim while speaking to paparazzi in Mumbai on Thursday. He said that despite the big amount being offered, he refused to be part of the show. The claim comes at a time when India's Got Latent has already been surrounded by debates, controversies and divided reactions online. While the show has a massive youth following, it has also been criticised by several

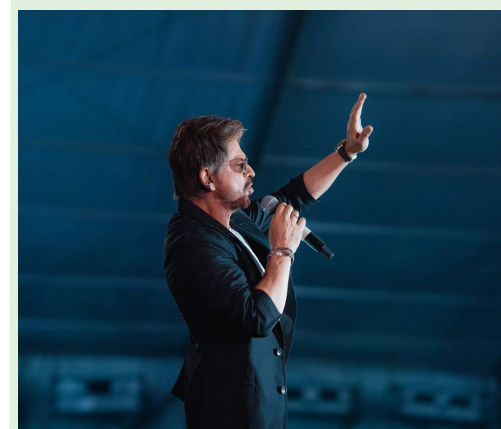
comedians and viewers for its format and language.

Sunil Pal, who has often spoken strongly about the changing comedy scene, seems to have taken a clear stand by refusing the offer. However, Samay Raina or the makers of India's Got Latent 2 have not reacted to the claim yet. For now, the big question remains: was this a missed casting twist for India's Got Latent 2, or just another controversy before the show even arrives? The revelation has sparked fresh discussions across social media, with fans expressing mixed reactions. While some users praised Sunil Pal for standing by his principles and maintaining his comedic style, others felt his

presence on the show could have added a different flavour and appealed to a wider audience. Industry observers noted that digital comedy platforms have increasingly embraced bold, unfiltered humour to attract younger viewers, often drawing criticism from those who prefer more traditional forms of entertainment. The debate has once again highlighted the growing divide between conventional television comedy and the newer, internet-driven stand-up culture. Despite the controversy, India's Got Latent continues to enjoy significant popularity online, with its clips frequently trending across social media platforms. The show's ability to generate conversations—both

positive and negative—has made it one of the most talked-about comedy formats in the country. Neither Samay Raina nor the show's production team has issued an official statement regarding Sunil Pal's claims or whether he was formally approached to join the second season. As speculation continues, fans are eagerly awaiting confirmation of the final lineup of judges and participants. With production for India's Got Latent 2 expected to move forward soon, all eyes are now on the makers to see whether they address the controversy or allow the discussions to subside on their own. Until then, Sunil Pal's remarks have added another layer of intrigue to a show that has already found itself at

## Shah Rukh Khan Unveils New Cricket Stadium in Los Angeles



Los Angeles: Superstar Shah Rukh Khan and his Knight Riders Group (KRG) officially unveiled a new world-class cricket stadium at the Fairplex in Pomona, Los Angeles, California. The new venue is set to host cricket matches during the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games, making it an important step for the sport's growth in the country. The actor, who co-owns the Los Angeles Knight Riders franchise, shared his happiness on social media as a project that started as a "dream" finally became a reality. Calling it a place for sports, entertainment and families, SRK also thanked everyone who supported the journey. What started as a dream... turns into reality today. Welcoming you all to the Knight Riders Cricket Ground, LA. A place built not just for sports but also entertainment and for families... and memories that last forever. Special thanks to Jaybhai who has been too

kind through this journey @JayShah, & @ICC and @Sanjog\_G for being so supportive." "This is for LA, for cricket fans across the globe, and for the Knight Riders family. Believe in Purple and Gold. Welcome to the home of @LA\_KnightRiders," he added. The Knight Riders Cricket Ground in Pomona County, Los Angeles, is also set to host its first-ever competitive cricket match today. The venue will also become the home ground of the Los Angeles Knight Riders and will stage the franchise's first-ever home match in Major League Cricket. The inauguration of the stadium marks a significant milestone for cricket in the United States, where the sport has witnessed rapid growth in recent years with the launch of Major League Cricket and increasing participation from local communities. The world-class facility is expected to serve as a major hub for international competitions, domestic leagues, youth development programmes, and community cricket initiatives. Equipped with modern playing facilities, training infrastructure, spectator amenities, and broadcast-ready technology, the stadium has been designed to meet international standards. Officials believe the venue will play a crucial role in preparing athletes and hosting high-profile cricket events leading up to the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games, where cricket will make its long-awaited return to the Olympic pro-

## Aamir Khan says his wedding with partner Gauri Spratt will be intimate affair with family and friends

HYDERABAD: WAKE UP TELANGANA

MUMBAI: SUPERSTAR AAMIR KHAN HAS SAID HIS WEDDING WITH PARTNER GAURI SPRATT WILL BE HELD AT HIS RESIDENCE HERE ON JULY 5 AND HE HOPES THAT THEY HAVE A GOOD LIFE TOGETHER. AAMIR ON THURSDAY EVENING ATTENDED THE SCREENING OF THE UPCOMING SHOW "PRITAM AND PEDRO", WHICH MARKS THE SERIES DEBUT OF RAJKUMAR HIRANI, WHO WORKED WITH THE SUPERSTAR ON MOVIES "3 IDIOTS" AND "PK". TALKING TO REPORTERS, THE 61-YEAR-OLD ACTOR SAID THE WEDDING WILL BE AN INTIMATE AFFAIR THAT WILL BE ATTENDED BY CLOSE FAMILY

AND FRIENDS. I'M GETTING MARRIED ON JULY 5, AND THE WEDDING WILL TAKE PLACE AT HOME WITH CLOSE FAMILY AND FRIENDS. WE SEEK EVERYONE'S BLESSINGS AND HOPE THAT WE HAVE A HAPPY JOURNEY TOGETHER," SAID AAMIR, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SON JUNAID KHAN AT THE EVENT. THIS WILL BE THE THIRD MARRIAGE FOR AAMIR, WHO FIRST MARRIED FILM PRODUCER REENA DUTTA FROM 1986 TO 2002. THEY SHARE TWO CHILDREN - JUNAID AND IRA KHAN. IN 2005, HE MARRIED DIRECTOR KIRAN RAO AND THE COUPLE SEPARATED IN 2021. THEY CONTINUE TO CO-PARENT THEIR SON, AZAD. AAMIR HAD INTRODUCED GAURI SPRATT



TO THE MEDIA DURING AN EVENT IN 2025 WHEN HE WAS PROMOTING HIS FILM "SITAARE ZAMEEN PAR". AT THE TIME, THE ACTOR SAID THEY HAD BEEN TOGETHER FOR OVER A YEAR. I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A NICE OCCASION FOR YOU ALL TO MEET HER. BESIDES WE WON'T HAVE TO KEEP

HIDING. SHE MET SHAH RUKH KHAN AND SALMAN KHAN LAST NIGHT. "SHE IS FROM BANGALORE, AND WE KNEW EACH OTHER FOR 25 YEARS, BUT WE CONNECTED A YEAR-AND-HALF AGO. SHE HAPPENED TO BE IN MUMBAI AND WE MET ACCIDENTALLY. WE KEPT IN TOUCH, AND THEN IT ALL HAP-

PENED ORGANICALLY." AAMIR SAID LAST YEAR. SPRATT, WHO HAS A SON FROM AN EARLIER MARRIAGE, WORKS IN THE WELLNESS AND BEAUTY SPACE. THE ANNOUNCEMENT HAS GENERATED EXCITEMENT AMONG FANS AND MEMBERS OF THE FILM INDUSTRY, WITH MANY EXTENDING THEIR BEST WISHES TO THE COUPLE AHEAD OF THE CEREMONY. WHILE THE WEDDING IS EXPECTED TO BE A PRIVATE AFFAIR, SEVERAL CLOSE FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS ARE LIKELY TO ATTEND THE CELEBRATIONS. AAMIR HAS MAINTAINED THAT HE PREFERS TO KEEP HIS PERSONAL LIFE AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC EYE AND HAS REQUESTED

PRIVACY FOR THE OCCASION. THE ACTOR SAID HE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO BEGINNING A NEW CHAPTER WITH GAURI AND EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR THE LOVE AND SUPPORT HE HAS RECEIVED FROM FANS OVER THE YEARS. PROFESSIONALLY, AAMIR HAS BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN FILM PRODUCTION AND SELECTIVE ACTING PROJECTS. HIS RECENT FILM SITAARE ZAMEEN PAR RECEIVED POSITIVE RESPONSES FROM AUDIENCES AND CRITICS, WITH THE ACTOR REAFFIRMING HIS COMMITMENT TO MEANINGFUL CINEMA. MEANWHILE, GAURI SPRATT HAS LARGELY STAYED AWAY FROM THE LIMELIGHT DESPITE HER

## Books Distributed to Students on Dr. K. Laxman's Birthday



Hyderabad  
Wake Up Telangana

Marking the birthday of Dr. K. Laxman, Member of Rajya Sabha and National President of the BJP OBC Morcha, a book distribution programme was orga-

nised at AV School, Kattalmandi, under the Jambagh Division on Thursday. The programme was led by former BJP Corporator Rakesh Jaiswal, who distributed books to students with the objective of encouraging educa-

tion and promoting the habit of reading among young learners. On the occasion, he conveyed his heartfelt birthday wishes to Dr. K. Laxman, praying for his good health, long life, and continued service to the nation and society. Addressing the gathering, Rakesh Jaiswal said that celebrating the birthdays of eminent leaders through community service and educational initiatives is a meaningful way to inspire students and contribute to society. He encouraged the children to make the best use of the books and focus

on their academic and personal development. School Principal appreciated the initiative and thanked the organisers for supporting students through the distribution of educational material. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and school staff. Among those present on the occasion were Balaji Singh, Shanker, Sandeep, Ravi, Raju, Srinivas Reddy, the School Principal, members of the school staff, BJP workers, and local leaders, who joined in extending their

## Alka Manoj Attends Life Changing Revival Church's 34th Anniversary Celebrations as Guest of Honour

Wake Up Telangana

BJP Telangana Senior Leader Mrs. Alka Manoj attended the 34th Anniversary Celebration of Life Changing Revival Church\* and the Birthday Celebration Service of Pastor P.J. Stephen Paul\* as the Guest of Honour, accompanied by her husband \*\*Mr. Manoj\*. On the occasion, Mrs. Alka Manoj conveyed her heartfelt greetings and best wishes to \*Pastor P.J. Stephen Paul, \*\*Pastor Shaila Paul, their son \*\*Shine Paul\*, and the entire church congregation. She appreciated the remarkable journey and dedicated service of the church under the leadership of Pastor Stephen Paul. Addressing the gathering, Mrs.

Alka Manoj expressed that she has been greatly blessed by Pastor Stephen Paul's prayers, guidance, and ministry. She also conveyed her gratitude and admiration for his unwavering commitment to spreading the message of faith, love, and hope, and praised the extraordinary growth of the church's ministry across the globe. She wished Pastor P.J. Stephen Paul good health, abundant blessings, and many more years of dedicated service to humanity, while congratulating the church on successfully completing 34 years of impactful ministry. Mrs. Alka Manoj also lauded the church's continuous efforts in promoting peace, harmony, and social service through various community



outreach programmes. She noted that the institution has played a significant role in supporting the underprivileged, providing spiritual guidance, and strengthening values of compassion and unity among people from all walks of life. She emphasized that religious institutions have an important role in fostering communal harmony and encouraging people to work together for the welfare of society. Appreciating the church's humanitarian initiatives, she said its commitment to serving the needy and uplifting vulnerable sections of society has earned widespread respect and admiration. The anniversary celebration witnessed the participation of hundreds of believers, pastors, church leaders, and distinguished guests from different parts of the

## Ramaprabhu Distributes Furniture to ZPHS Miyapur Primary School



Wake Up Telangana | Rangareddy District | Srirangam Venkatesh

Miyapur: With the aim of providing a better learning environment for students, Attepalli Ramaprabhu, Chairman of the Attepalli Lakshminarayana Charitable Trust, distributed chairs, tables, and other furniture to the Government Primary School (ZPHS) in Miyapur. Speaking on the occasion, Ramaprabhu said that providing basic infrastructure to government schools is a social responsibility. He stated that the Attepalli Lakshminarayana Charitable Trust has been continuously serving society through initiatives in education, healthcare, food distribution, and environmental protection. Primary School Headmaster Yusuf Khan appreciated Ramaprabhu's continued support for government schools and thanked the Trust for provid-

local dignitaries. Participants praised the Trust's continued efforts towards the development of government schools and the welfare of students. The newly distributed furniture is expected to significantly improve classroom facilities by providing students with comfortable seating and a better learning atmosphere. Teachers noted that adequate classroom infrastructure plays a crucial role in enhancing concentration, academic performance, and overall student well-being. Addressing the gathering, Ramaprabhu reiterated that education is the foundation of a progressive society and assured that the Trust would continue extending support to government educational institutions wherever needed. He encouraged philanthropists, corporate organisations, and members of the public to contribute towards strengthening government schools through similar initiatives.

## Dancing Tales Panchatantra staged by Guru Padma Shri Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant, at Ravindra Bharati!



Ananda Shankar Jayant's 'Dancing Tales... Panchatantra' with a 20 member cast was an exquisite dance theatre production. Today at Ravindra Bharati

Hyderabad  
Wake Up Telangana |

Hyderabad, July 2026: "Dancing Tales - Panchatantra" a vibrant and imaginative Bharatanatyam dance-theatre production that beautifully reinterpreted the timeless animal fables of the Panchatantra through a

seamless blend of classical and contemporary movement, was staged today at the Ravindra Bharati. Conceptualised, choreographed, and directed by Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant, the 78-minute production combined expressive storytelling, evocative music, narration, striking

costumes, and dynamic lighting to create a visually captivating theatrical experience. Performed by a talented ensemble of 20 artistes from Hyderabad and Bengaluru, the production was enriched by inventive Bharatanatyam-based choreography, expressive performances, and engaging stagecraft that kept audiences enthralled from start to finish. Rich in humour, emotion, wit, and visual appeal, Dancing Tales - Panchatantra celebrated the enduring wisdom of India's storytelling traditions, making them accessible, engaging, and inspiring for au-

diences of all ages. The dance theatre production was presented by Shankarananda Kalakshetra with the support of the Ministry of Culture, Govt of India under the Scheme 'Assistance to Cultural Organisations with National Presence'. Dancing Tales... Panchatantra - brought alive some of the most well-known tales from the Panchatantra, where through parable and allegory, the production talks about friendship, bravery, quick wittedness, foolishness, leadership and freedom. For editorial enquiries please contact: 9959154371/

9963980259 The performance received an overwhelming response from art lovers, students, cultural enthusiasts, and members of Hyderabad's artistic community, who applauded the innovative presentation and the seamless integration of traditional Bharatanatyam vocabulary with contemporary theatrical elements. The audience appreciated the production's ability to communicate profound life lessons through visually engaging storytelling while preserving the essence of India's classical dance heritage. Each episode from the Panchatantra unfolded through

expressive abhinaya, rhythmic footwork, and imaginative choreography, bringing to life a fascinating array of animal characters and their adventures. Supported by a carefully curated musical score, vibrant costumes, and creative lighting design, the production transformed the stage into a colourful world of wisdom, humour, and moral reflection. Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant said that Dancing Tales - Panchatantra was conceived to reconnect younger generations with India's rich literary and cultural traditions through the universal language of dance. She

## Former MLA Mahaareddy Bhupal Reddy Attends Wedding Ceremonies Across Narayankhed Constituency



Wakeup Telangana

Wakeup Telangana | Narayankhed Constituency | July 3: Former Narayankhed MLA Mahaareddy Bhupal Reddy attended several wedding ceremonies and other auspicious family functions held across villages in the Narayankhed Assembly Constituency on Friday. During his visit, he extended his heartfelt blessings and conveyed his best wishes to the newly married couples and their families. On the occasion, the former MLA interacted warmly with local residents and party workers, emphasizing the importance of preserving social harmony, family values, and community relationships through such celebrations. His pres-

ence at the events was warmly welcomed by the hosts, guests, and local people. Accompanying him were Mandal Party President Paramesh, Vittal Rao Patel, Sanjeeva Rao Patil, Vice President Pandari Narasimhulu Mudiraj, Sarpanches Laxman Naik and Sridhar Reddy, former Sarpanches Raju Naik and Krishna, along with party leaders Malgonda, Paramesh, Prasad, and several other BRS leaders and supporters. The gatherings reflected the strong rapport maintained by Mahaareddy Bhupal Reddy with the people of the constituency, as he continues to participate in public and family events, sharing in the joys and celebrations of the community. He also appreciated the active

participation of youth, women, and community elders in social and cultural events, noting that such gatherings strengthen mutual understanding and unity among villagers. Party workers and local leaders highlighted that the former MLA regularly visits villages and maintains close contact with people across the constituency. Many families expressed happiness over his presence at their celebrations and thanked him for personally attending the functions despite his busy schedule. The events witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, community leaders, and BRS supporters, creating a festive atmosphere across the constituency. The day concluded with Mahaareddy Bhupal Reddy extending his blessings to all the families he visited and wishing the newly married couples a happy, prosperous, and successful married life. The day-long tour covered multiple villages, where the former MLA was felicitated by community members and greeted by party workers and supporters. The events

## Open Electrical Switch Box at Street No. 11, Lane No. 3 Raises Safety Concerns

Wakeup Telangana | Secunderabad An open electricity switch/control box installed on an electric pole at Street No. 11, Lane No. 3, House No. 824-900, Secunderabad, has become a serious public safety concern, especially during the ongoing rainy season. The electrical switch box has reportedly been left unlocked with its doors wide open, exposing electrical components and wiring to rainwater, dust, and accidental human contact. The situation is further aggravated by overgrown trees and vegetation surrounding the pole, increasing the risk of moisture-related electrical faults and accidental electrocution. Residents of the locality expressed concern that the area is frequently used by pedestrians, children, and two-wheeler riders. They fear that if rainwater enters the exposed electrical panel, it could result in electric shocks, short circuits, fire hazards, or power interruptions, putting lives at risk. The local residents have appealed to the officials of TGSPDCL to immediately inspect the site, secure the electrical switch box with a proper lock, replace any damaged components if necessary, remove the overgrown vegetation around the pole, and conduct regular safety inspections of electrical infrastructure in residential areas. Residents emphasized that timely preventive action can avert a major accident, urging the Electricity Department to treat the issue on priority before any unfortunate incident occurs. Wakeup Telangana appeals to the concerned authorities to respond promptly and ensure the safety of the public by rectifying the hazardous condition without delay. Residents alleged that despite the hazardous condition being visible for several days, no cor-



rective measures have been taken by the concerned authorities. They said the exposed electrical panel poses a greater danger during heavy rainfall, when water accumulation and damp conditions significantly increase the risk of electrical accidents. Local residents also pointed out that schoolchildren, senior citizens, and morning walkers regularly pass through the lane, making the open switch box a constant threat to public safety. They urged parents to exercise caution and advised children not to go near the electric pole until the issue is resolved. Experts note that electrical distribution boxes should always remain securely locked and be subjected to periodic maintenance to prevent exposure to live components. Proper insulation, weatherproof enclosures, and routine inspections are essential to minimise risks, particularly during the monsoon season when electrical faults become more common. Residents have further requested TGSPDCL to conduct a comprehensive survey of electrical poles and switch boxes across the locality to identify and rectify similar hazards before they lead to accidents. They stressed that preventive maintenance is

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