



Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka



DEPARTMENT OF PRAJASEVA



Dr. G. Parameshwara
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

PRAJA SEVE INAUGURATION

Your Concern, Our Commitment

Inauguration by Hon'ble Chief Minister
Shri D K Shivakumar



Date:
05.09.2026

Time:
10.30 a.m.

Venue: MLA Office, Gudekote Road,
Kudligi, Vijayanagara District.

On the 1st and 3rd Saturdays Public Grievance Redressal Meetings will be conducted across all Districts, Taluks, and Hoblis of the State under the Chairmanship of the respective District In-charge Ministers and Members of Legislative Assembly.

Distinguished Presence:

Shri K.S.Basavanthappa
Hon'ble Minister for Muzrai, Fisheries, Ports & Inland
Water Transport, and District In-charge Minister of
Vijayanagara, Government of Karnataka.

Shri E.Tukaram
Hon'ble MP,
Ballari

Presence:

Shri Y.M.Satish
Hon'ble MLC

Presided over by:

Dr. Srinivas N.T.
Hon'ble MLA,
Kudligi Constituency.

**Government At Your Doorstep
To Serve You Better**

ALL ARE WELCOME



Protecting public property and renouncing violence is - fundamental duty of every Indian.



Quick Read

Three robbery convicts sentenced to ten years

CH NEWS, HAVERI
Three accused were sentenced to ten years in prison and fined Rs.10 each by the Principal District and Sessions Court on Wednesday for robbing occupants of a goods vehicle. The incident occurred on August 8, 2024, near Yallapur Bridge on the Haveri-Ranebennur highway. The accused allegedly stopped the vehicle, dragged down two occupants, assaulted them with a rod, and took two mobile phones and cash. One stolen phone was later sold for Rs.2,000, police said. The convicts were identified as Praveena Basavaraja Kattimani, Sagar Ramappa Kattimani and Krishnappa Jayappa. Haveri police investigated the case and filed the chargesheet.

Salt Corporation opens loan applications for 2026-27

CH NEWS, HAVERI
The Karnataka Salt Development Corporation has invited online applications for various loan schemes for 2026-27. Eligible applicants can apply under the Self-Employment Direct Loan, Knowledge-Educational Direct Loan, Foreign Studies Loan, Swavalambi Sarathi and Sri Bhagirath Gangakalyana schemes through SevaSindhu. Applications for educational loans have no fixed deadline, while applications under other schemes must be submitted by September 30, 2026. Applications can be made through Bangalore One, Karnataka One, Atalji Janasnehi Kendras and Citizen Service Centres. Officials advised eligible candidates to apply within the given period. For further details, applicants can contact the corporation's head office or district manager's office.

Peace meeting urges harmony during Ganesh festival

CH NEWS, YELBURGA
Police held a peace meeting in Yelburga to ensure peaceful celebrations and maintain law and order during the Ganesh festival. Officials appealed to people from all communities to celebrate together with harmony and mutual respect. CPI Patil urged festival organizers to follow government and police rules while installing, taking out processions and immersing Ganesh idols. He asked organizers to ensure that celebrations do not inconvenience the public or block traffic. He also warned that strict legal action would follow if anyone was found responsible for an untoward incident. Patil further advised people not to circulate provocative messages, rumours or social media posts that could hurt the feelings of any community. He said such actions could disturb peace and warned that those responsible would face legal consequences. He appealed to residents to cooperate with authorities throughout the festival. Veeranna Hubballi said Yelburga has a strong tradition of communal harmony, with people from different communities joining celebrations together. He expressed confidence that the Ganesh festival would also pass peacefully. Town Panchayat officials, fire department staff, police officers,

Prakash Nikkam takes charge as Belagavi Police Commissioner

BELAGAVI
Prakash Nikkam took charge as the new Belagavi City Police Commissioner on Thursday, succeeding Bhushan Borase. Nikkam received a police salute on reaching the commissioner's office before formally assuming responsibility.

Student found hanging in hostel, family seeks probe

DAVANAGERE
A 17-year-old second PUC student was found dead in her college hostel in Davanagere, leading to allegations of murder from her family. Ranjitha, daughter of Ningappa from Kuruvathi village in Vijayanagar district, had been studying at a private college for about one and a half years. Her body was found hanging from a hostel window on Wednesday night. College staff informed Vidyanagar police, who reached the spot, inspected the scene and shifted the body to the Chigateri District Hospital morgue. The student's parents later filed a complaint, claiming that their daughter had been murdered and her body was made to appear as a suicide. Ningappa questioned how his daughter could have hanged herself from a window only about three feet high. A relative, Ganesh, described Ranjitha as a talented student who regularly spoke to her family and had returned to college after visiting home. The family has demanded a detailed investigation and strict action against anyone responsible. College chairman Manjappa said Ranjitha appeared somewhat depressed after returning from home and had been allowed to go to the hostel early because of health concerns. He said staff discovered her after she did not respond to calls and immediately informed police. The college denied putting pressure on her.



MLA Hitnal launches multiple civic projects across Koppal

The MLA announced surveys for a community hall, staged funding, lake development, Koppal Fort preservation, and grievance redressal efforts

CH NEWS, KOPPAL
Koppal MLA K. Raghavendra Hitnal inaugurated Bhoomi Puja and performed several development projects across the city on Thursday, aiming to improve basic facilities and support overall urban growth. Speaking at a public meeting near Maulana Azad School on Hulikere Road, Hitnal said the government was committed to making Koppal a model city in Karnataka. He said foundation stones had been laid for works worth Rs. 9.05 crore in 11 wards. The projects include roads, drains and sewerage facilities under the Urban Upliftment Scheme. The MLA said surveys would be conducted for a community hall, with funds released in stages. He also highlighted development projects for Moti Kere and Handi Kere, costing Rs. 2.43 crore and Rs. 2.41 crore respectively. He said efforts would continue to preserve Koppal Fort and address public grievances. Several projects were launched during the programme. These included road and drainage works in wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10, along with lake development works. A Rs. 50 lakh grant was announced for the Sri Jain



Shwetambar Terapanthi Community Hall. An Anganwadi centre and a government higher primary school building were also inaugurated in ward 9. Hitnal said the state government's five guarantee schemes were reaching households and mentioned the free bus pass facility for students. Former MP Karadi Sanganna, Urban Development Authority Chairman Prasanna Gadad, officials, councillors and other public representatives attended the programme. Police and civic officials were also present as various projects were formally launched, with local residents expecting the works to improve infrastructure and daily life.

‘Nutritious food can help children beat malnutrition’

CH NEWS, HAVERI
Pregnant women should eat nutritious food and ensure their children receive healthy meals to help prevent malnutrition, Senior Civil Judge and District Legal Services Authority member Smt. Srishailaja H.V. said at a programme held in Haveri on Thursday. The programme was organized at Ijarilakamapura Government Primary School as part of World Nutrition Day and National Nutrition Week. The District Legal Services Authority, Women and Child Development Department, District Bar Association, Information and Public Relations Department, Taluk Panchayat and Child Development Department jointly organized the event. Srishailaja said government schemes aimed at supporting mothers and children must reach every eligible family. She encouraged parents to introduce children to traditional foods and millets, saying these healthy choices can improve nutrition and help preserve local food habits for future generations. The programme also included legal awareness for families. Legal Aid Assistant Defence Advocate N.N. Dillepanavara spoke about nutritious food and the POC SO Act. He also explained the importance of knowing legal rights and seeking help when needed. Officials informed people that the National Lok Adalat and the 3.0 Mediation Campaign will be held on September 19, offering a chance to settle pending cases. People can seek assistance through the Permanent Janata Court or contact the Haveri District Legal Services Authority. The toll-free legal services number, 15100, is available for advice. Srinivas and Netravathi attended.

“Government schemes for mothers and children must reach every eligible family. Parents should introduce children to traditional foods and millets to improve nutrition and preserve local food habits for future generations.”
—Srishailaja H.V., District Legal Services Authority member

Gadag residents seek easier access to Tehsildar Office

CH NEWS, GADAG
The Gadag Tehsildar Office was temporarily shifted to Sahitya Bhawan because of construction work at the district administration building. However, the move has created difficulties for people, especially senior citizens and residents travelling from villages. Ganesh Singh Bali, president of the Betageri Railway Struggle Committee, said the present location is far from the city and has limited public transport. As a result, people are forced to spend extra money on rickshaws while visiting the office for official work. For poor families, the repeated travel costs have become a burden. Bali urged the district administration and elected representatives to consider moving the Tehsildar Office to the old district hospital building or the old court premises near Mahatma Gandhi Circle. He said such a location would be easier for the public to reach and would also help document writers provide services conveniently. The committee demanded that the office operate from the proposed building until construction is completed. Bali warned that protests would follow if the demand is ignored.

NIDAGUNDI WORKERS AWARENESS

Gajendragad workers urged to secure 125 days employment

CH NEWS, GAJENDRAGAD
Rural workers in Gajendragad were urged to use the VB-G RAM G scheme to secure up to 125 days of employment in their villages and reduce the need to migrate for work. Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Chandrashekar B. Kandakura made the appeal on Thursday. Speaking at an IEC awareness programme held at the new lake restoration site in Nidagundi village, Kandakura said workers could receive continuous employment if they performed their duties properly. He encouraged villagers to use the scheme for both wage employment and eligible individual development works. Kandakura said nearly Rs. 90 lakh had been allocated under the scheme for rejuvenating the Nidagundi lake. The water body has become covered with weeds, thorny plants and silt, causing it to lose its original shape and reducing its ability to hold water. He urged workers to complete the restoration properly so the lake could become a model for other villages in the taluk. The awareness programme included different IEC activities to explain the scheme. Workers formed the letters



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Hindu groups stage symbolic protest over Hajj remarks

CH NEWS, GADAG
Hindu activists staged a symbolic street protest in Gadag, criticising Higher Education Minister Basavaraj Rayareddy over remarks he reportedly made about Islam and the Hajj pilgrimage. The protest was led by Hindu leader Raju Khanappa and members of the Shivaramkrishna Seva Samiti. The activists gathered at Huilagal Narayana Raya Circle, a busy location in the city, before moving through nearby market areas. They approached shopkeepers and members of the public, collecting money in a gesture they described as support for the minister's proposed Hajj pilgrimage. The unusual action drew attention from people in the area. The protest followed comments Rayareddy reportedly made at a Muslim community programme in Koppal district. He described Islam as a noble and scientific religion and expressed his wish to undertake the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina. He also reportedly said that he does not frequently visit temples and monasteries, remarks that angered Hindu organisations. Protesters accused the minister of hurting the religious sentiments of Hindus and criticised what they described as Muslim-friendly politics. In a sarcastic message, they said they would collect money for his pilgrimage without begging and send the amount to him if he needed financial assistance. They also demanded that Rayareddy immediately resign from his ministerial position. The demonstration became a topic of discussion across Gadag district. Police maintained a strong presence at the protest location as a precaution. The protest highlighted growing political and religious tensions surrounding the minister's remarks, while the activists said their fundraising action was intended to convey their anger through a symbolic message.

Hulakoti students explore skills for future success

CH NEWS, HULAKOTI
The six-day New Horizons program, titled A Confident Start to Degree Education, concluded successfully at Sri K.H. Patil Government First Grade College in Hulakoti. Principal Dr. Appanna Hanje inaugurated the program and urged first-year students to build life skills alongside their degree studies. Assistant Professor Savitri T. trained students in communication skills, focusing on speaking, listening, body language and confidence through practical activities. Dr. Nemani Satish introduced logical thinking and aptitude, explaining their value in competitive exams and showing easier ways to solve problems. Subhash Harihar covered life skills, including goal setting, time management, decision making, stress control and courage in difficult situations. Dr. Arunkumar discussed digital readiness, highlighting technology in education and employment, online safety and responsible use of artificial intelligence. Manoj Kumar focused on career planning, advising students to choose paths based on interest and ability. He also outlined higher education, competitive examinations and job opportunities. On the sixth day, coordinator Hussain Bhasha explained self-awareness, personality, strengths, limitations, emotional control and healthy relationships through practical examples. Students participated enthusiastically and shared their views. IQAC Coordinator Dr. Jitendra Jahagirdar said such training supports holistic personality development. At the closing ceremony, Principal Hanje congratulated the resource persons, staff and students. First-year BA, BCom, BSc, BCA and BFSI students attended, and coordinator Hussain Bhasha thanked everyone for contribution.

- HIGHLIGHTS**
- Workers can access 125 days of employment
 - Scheme aims to prevent rural labour migration
 - Continuous work depends on proper labour performance
 - ₹90 lakh allocated for Nidagundi lake rejuvenation
 - Job Card Mela updates cards and eKYC
 - Voter list allows new additions and corrections

ities to explain the scheme. Workers formed the letters





Assam students protest rising prices, demand action

P9

P11

Iran war escalation deepens civilian toll



P12

Tamannaah Bhatia Joins GUESS Watches India Campaign



Amid backlash, K'taka rolls back controversial Parks Bill

The Bill will be opened for public discussion before being reintroduced again in the next legislature session; DyCM accused Oppn of politicising the legislation.

BENGALURU

Karnataka government has decided to withdraw Parks Amendment Bill temporarily for public consultation and possible reintroduction.

The decision was announced by Deputy Chief Minister G Parameshwara after a Cabinet meeting on Thursday. The proposed amendment to the Karnataka Government Parks (Preservation) Act included a provision allowing acquisition of up to five per cent of park land for public purposes.

Parameshwara said the Opposition had created misconceptions about the proposal despite no major objections being raised during Cabinet discussions.

The government plans to hold public discussions and consultations before bringing the legislation back in the next Assembly session.

Parameshwara said the government wanted the proposal to be discussed openly before taking it forward, amid criticism from the Opposition and concerns among citizens.

Parks Bill in a nutshell



5%

Maximum park land proposed for acquisition

Purpose: Public purposes

Next step

Public consultation

Reintroduction: Proposed in next Assembly session



We have decided to withdraw the bill for now, put it in the public domain, allow it to be discussed, and reintroduce it again.

- Dr G Parameshwara, DyCM

Park Bill withdrawal another victory for BJP's fight: Ashoka

Bengaluru: Leader of Opposition R Ashoka said the Congress government's decision to withdraw the Bill allowing 5% of park land to be used for infrastructure was another victory for the BJP.

He said the BJP's proposed "Save Parks, Protect Bengaluru" campaign had received public support and warned that parks would not be allowed to be used for other purposes. He alleged that the government's move could have eventually

increased the permissible land use to 10%. He said Bengaluru has 1,523 parks and warned that losing green spaces would worsen flooding. He also alleged that the tunnel road project was being pursued without adequately addressing storm-water drains and drainage infrastructure. He demanded a seven-day Assembly session instead of three days to discuss drought relief, NICE toll among other issues.



Why the bill was withdrawn

The proposed amendment sought to permit acquisition of up to 5% of park land for public purposes. Deputy CM G Parameshwara said the Opposition had politicised the provision and created misconceptions among the public. The government has therefore decided to withdraw the Bill temporarily, place it in the public domain, invite views and consultations, and reintroduce it in the next Assembly session.

State clears 17 investment proposals worth ₹29,679 cr

'The latest investment approvals could create 66,360 jobs'

BENGALURU

The State High Level Clearance Committee (SHLCC), chaired by Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, approved nine new projects and eight proposals involving additional investments, Home Minister Priyank Kharge said on Thursday.

The projects span aerospace, electronics manufacturing, renewable energy, IT and IT-enabled services, bio-energy and business intelligence. Kharge said the investments reflected Karnataka's position as a preferred destination for businesses.

Among the major proposals, Hero Future Energies will invest Rs 9,760 crore and create 3,200 jobs. Nirani Sugars will invest Rs 4,062 crore, while TruAlt Bioenergy has proposed Rs 2,988 crore.

Mahindra Aerostructures will invest Rs 2,300 crore in a Kolar facility for aerospace parts and assemblies. Aecus Consumer Products will invest Rs 1,104 crore in Dharwad to expand electronics component manufacturing.



INVESTMENT PUSH

- **Total investment:** Rs 29,679 crore
- **Expected jobs:** 66,360
- **New projects:** 9
- **Additional investment proposals:** 8
- **SHLCC meeting:** 68th
- **Major sectors:** Aerospace, electronics, IT/ITES, bioenergy

MAJOR INVESTMENTS

Hero Future Energies leads the fresh investment proposals with Rs 9,760 crore, followed by Nirani Sugars at Rs 4,062 crore and TruAlt Bioenergy at Rs 2,988 crore. Epsilon will invest Rs 1,500 crore, while Mahindra Aerostructures has proposed Rs 2,300 crore in Kolar. Vibrancy Real Estates will invest Rs 2,195 crore in Bengaluru, and Toyota Kirloskar Motor Rs 1,200 crore near the city for a Business Intelligence Hub.

Karnataka continues to be one of India's most trusted and preferred destinations for business and investment.

-Priyank Kharge, Home Minister

Vibrancy Real Estates will invest Rs 2,195 crore in Bengaluru to develop IT and ITES office space, while Toyota Kirloskar Motor will invest Rs 1,200 crore in a Business Intelligence Hub near Bengaluru.

The committee also cleared additional investments by MSPL, Honda Cars, Sansera, TVS Motors, Havells India and others.

Shivakumar directed the Finance Department to scrutinise project reports for industrial licences and make pre-clearance audits mandatory.

He also ordered the formation of a new audit team to ensure compliance with the industrial policy.

India's economic growth a source of confidence for world: PM Modi

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday highlighted India's 7.8% economic growth in Q1 FY27, saying the country's growth story was becoming a source of confidence and new opportunities for the world, as he held wide-ranging talks with Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever.

Speaking after his meeting with De Wever, Modi said India's economy had maintained its momentum despite global uncertainty, conflicts and disruptions to food, fuel and supply chains. "Today, the world is going through a period of great upheaval. Conflicts continue to persist in many parts of the world. Whether it is food, fuel, or supply chains, every sector is being impacted by uncertainty," Modi said.

"In this challenging environment, India's economy has maintained its momentum. We recorded 7.8% growth in the last quarter. Today, India's growth story is becoming a source of confidence and new opportunities for the world," he added.

The latest GDP figures showed India's economy grew 7.8% in the April-June quarter of 2026-27, exceeding expectations and retaining



India among the world's fastest-growing major economies.

Modi's remarks came as India and Belgium agreed to expand co-operation across trade, defence, critical minerals, clean energy and emerging technologies.

'Defence-security co-op key pillar of bilateral ties'

The PM described defence and security cooperation as a "key pillar" of bilateral ties and said the two countries had agreed to enhance military exchanges and training. Agreements between the governments and defence industries, he said, would create opportunities for defence co-development and co-production.

Modi-De Wever meet

Talks with Belgium: PM Modi discussed expanding bilateral cooperation in clean energy, high technology, critical minerals, and defence during meetings with Belgian PM Bart De Wever.

Free Trade Pact: Both nations noted the conclusion of the India-European Union free trade agreement as a vital milestone for broader strategic ties.

Global diplomacy: PM Modi emphasized resolving international conflicts through dialogue, diplomacy, and the rule of law.

Highlighting economic and technological cooperation, Modi said both sides had agreed to increase collaboration in critical minerals, including processing and recycling, while Belgium's semiconductor expertise and India's scale could complement each other.

The two countries also signed an agreement on renewable energy, which Modi said would provide fresh momentum to cooperation on clean energy and sustainability.

Stresses dialogue and diplomacy On conflicts, Modi said India and Belgium shared a commitment to the rule of law, dialogue and diplomacy. "Be it Ukraine or West Asia, we support all efforts for the early end of conflicts and for peace."

SMART TOURISM ECOSYSTEM

K'taka to give Jharkhand eco-tourism tips

BENGALURU

Karnataka will share its expertise in eco-tourism and sustainable tourism with Jharkhand, as the two states move toward a formal agreement for knowledge-sharing and project guidance, Tourism Minister K J George said on Thursday.

George made the remarks after meeting a delegation from Jharkhand led by Tourism Minister Sudivya Kumar here.

The Jharkhand delegation studied Karnataka's approach to eco-tourism, sustainable tourism and destination development, including tourism models aimed at generating local employment and economic activity.

The delegation expressed interest in adapting relevant elements of Karnataka's tourism model to Jharkhand, the tourism department

Collab plan in a nutshell

Knowledge sharing: Jharkhand's delegation studied Karnataka's models for sustainable tourism, destination development, and local employment generation.

Official pact: A formal memorandum or agreement for project guidance and cooperation between the two state governments is expected soon.

Focus areas: Jharkhand aims to upgrade natural and scenic locations—such as Marasil Hill and Hatia Dam—while prioritizing environmental protection and job creation.



said in a release.

Under the proposed collaboration, the Karnataka Tourism Department will share its experience in project planning, selection of suitable eco-tourism models, implementation strategies and sustainable tourism practices.

"This is encouraging to see other

states studying our experience and looking to adopt suitable elements of our model. Karnataka is ready to share its expertise and best practices to support eco-tourism development in Jharkhand," George said.

He said tourism growth should go hand in hand with environmental conservation, local employment and sustainable economic development.

Got valuable lessons:

Jharkhand minister Jharkhand Tourism Minister Sudivya Kumar said Karnataka's initiatives in eco-tourism and sustainable tourism offered valuable lessons for his state.

"We would like to study Karnataka's experience and best practices and identify models that can be adapted to Jharkhand's ecological and tourism potential. We intend to formalise this cooperation with Karnataka shortly and take the next steps forward," Kumar said.

Shri D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Chief Minister

FOREST, ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Dr. G. Parameshwara
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

SAY NO TO POP GANESHA, CHOOSE ECO-FRIENDLY CLAY GANESHA!

“Bring home a Clay Ganesha, Protect the Environment!”

CLAY GANESHA-ECO-FRIENDLY GANESHA

For environmental protection and for the safety of all of us, **let us worship and celebrate with Clay Ganesha idols.**

The Government of Karnataka has strictly prohibited the manufacture, transportation, sale and immersion of Plaster of Paris (PoP) Ganesha idols.

Hon'ble Minister for Forest, Ecology and Environment
Shri Ramalinga Reddy

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
Parisara Bhavana, No. 49, Church Street, Bengaluru - 560001
Phone: 080-25586520, 25589112, 25588142 | Fax: 080-25588321
Email: ho@kspcb.gov.in | Website: https://kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF CLAY GANESHA IDOLS

- Environment-Friendly** – Clay idols dissolve easily in water and do not cause water pollution.
- Biodegradable** – Natural clay decomposes naturally and does not leave behind toxic residues.
- Protects Aquatic Life** – Clay idols do not release harmful chemicals or synthetic colours into the water and therefore do not harm aquatic plants or animals.
- Reduces Waste** – Clay idols disintegrate quickly after immersion and do not leave behind solid waste.
- Avoid Plaster of Paris (PoP)** – Idols made from Plaster of Paris (PoP) can release harmful chemicals into water bodies.

Protecting the environment, including our forests, wildlife and rivers, is the fundamental constitutional duty of every Indian citizen.

The Government of Karnataka has prohibited the burning of waste in open areas with effect from 03.08.2017.

Cabinet panel discusses KPSC reforms, student issues

At Vidhana Soudha, a high-powered state committee launched an ambitious blueprint to overhaul education and public recruitment.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The newly formed state government committee met for the first time at Vidhana Soudha to tackle pressing student grievances and overhaul the academic framework.

Led by Health Minister U.T. Khader, the high-level panel aims to reshape how education and public sector hiring function across the region.

Several prominent ministers and top bureaucrats attended the inaugural session. The participants included School Education and Literacy Minister Madhu Bangarappa, Higher Education Minister Basavaraj Rayareddy, Home Minister Priyank Kharge, and Medical Education Minister Sharanprakash Patil. Key administrative officers, such as the Chief Minister's Economic Advisor L.K. Ateeq and Additional Chief Secretary V. Rashmi Mahesh, also contributed to the strategic discussions.

The ministers zeroed in on six core areas demanding immediate attention - examination and recruitment integrity, the regulation of soaring education costs and commercial coaching centres, the enhancement of public school infrastructure, curriculum updates tied to modern job skills, student mental health, and equitable access for all learners.



“Our committee must bring about real, ground-level change in the education system rather than just theoretical adjustments.”
— Madhu Bangarappa, School Education Minister

the poli-ground re-committee to gather ex-ive public input. Officials an-

nounced that a dedicated website will soon launch to collect feedback directly from students, parents, and academic experts. Leaders stressed that gathering first-hand public opinion is vital before finalising any legislative changes.

A major focus of the gathering centred on the Karnataka Public Service Commission and its ongoing recruitment hurdles. Members addressed the agency's struggle to implement a UPSC-style examination framework and debated ways to permanently root out past irregularities. The panel agreed that strict structural safeguards are urgently required to restore public trust in government job exams.

Cabinet ministers closed the session by reaffirming

FOCUS AREAS OF THE PANEL

- **Examination Integrity:** Strict measures to eliminate recruitment scandals and paper leaks.
- **Cost Regulation:** Curbing exorbitant fees charged by private educational institutions and coaching hubs.
- **KPSC Overhaul:** Finding permanent solutions to fix recruitment flaws and evaluating UPSC-style reforms.
- **Skill & Jobs:** Bridging the gap between standard curriculums and modern employment demands.
- **Student Welfare:** Prioritizing mental health support and equitable access across all public institutions.

KEY REFORM AREA	PROPOSED ACTION PLAN
KPSC recruitment	Eradicate recurring irregularities and evaluate structural shifts inspired by the UPSC model.
Public feedback	Launch a dedicated public portal to gather direct student and parent suggestions.
Expert consultations	Host pre-agenda brainstorming sessions with academic specialists before drafting final policies.
Student support	Prioritize mental health initiatives, affordable education costs, and stronger job linkages.

their dedication to the younger generation. They noted that the future prosperity of the state relies heavily on provid-

ing youth with accessible, high-quality learning environments and transparent career paths.

HC slams Sharan Pumpwell over communal posts

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court has sharply criticized Hindu organization leader Sharan Pumpwell over social media activity that threatens public peace, emphasizing that communal harmony is essential for societal progress. A judicial bench presided over by Justice M. Nagaprasanna reviewed a petition filed by Pumpwell. The legal challenge sought to quash an FIR registered at the CEN police station in Mangaluru city. The case stems from a Facebook post commenting on traditional religious practices and street prayers, which authorities argue promoted enmity between different communities.

During the court proceedings, the petitioner's legal counsel argued that the police had previously filed a 'B' report within twenty-four hours regarding a related street prayer incident. The defense contended that authorities suo

The Karnataka High Court lambasted leader Sharan Pumpwell over inflammatory social media posts, reserving its verdict on his petition to quash an FIR.

motu registered a fresh complaint over the Facebook commentary without satisfying the proper legal elements required for a criminal offense, claiming the police are unnecessarily filing multiple FIRs against the activist.

State government prosecutors countered the defense arguments vigorously. They maintained that Pumpwell's online posts actively disrupt public tranquility, challenge law and order, and risk inciting communal friction. The prosecution stressed that targeting the traditional practices of specific communities sends a dangerous message and burdens state machinery, noting

that approximately twenty criminal cases have already been logged against the petitioner in the region.

Expressing deep frustration with the ongoing social media controversies, the bench questioned the necessity of targeting community traditions. The judges highlighted that citizens have lived side by side through diverse festivals and customs since time immemorial, making divisive online commentary entirely counterproductive.

Addressing the broader implications of the case, the court underscored that maintaining public order remains a paramount responsibility for the state. Following the completion of extensive oral arguments from both sides, the bench officially reserved its final verdict on the quashing petition. Meanwhile, the court ordered the continuation of the interim stay order protecting the petitioner until the formal judgment is pronounced.

AERO INDIA 2027 DATES ANNOUNCED FOR FEBRUARY

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Aviation enthusiasts and global defense delegates can mark their calendars as the official dates for the 16th edition of Aero India have been officially announced. The premier aerospace exhibition and air show will return to its traditional home in the city, running for five action-packed days.

The Ministry of Defence confirmed that the high-profile international event will take place from February 8 to 12, 2027. As with previous successful iterations, the sprawling grounds of the Air Force Station Yelahanka will serve as the official venue, hosting world-class aerial displays, static aircraft exhibitions, and major defense technology showcases.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has been designated as the lead nodal agency to coordinate the mega exhibition on behalf of the Department of Defence Production. The upcoming

KEY EVENT DETAILS

EVENT EDITION

16th

Edition of Aero India

DATES

FEBRUARY 8 – 12, 2027

VENUE

YELAHANKA

Air Force Station, Bengaluru

ORGANIZER

DEPARTMENT of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence

SPECIFICATIONS & OVERVIEW

edition is expected to bring together a massive gathering of global aerospace corporations, defense manufacturers, technical innovators, scientific researchers, and high-ranking foreign military delegations under one roof.

Organizers noted that online registration portals for corporate exhibitors and trade visitors opened immediately following the an-

nouncement, allowing international and domestic firms to secure participation space well in advance. State authorities anticipate that the massive influx of global delegates and aviation enthusiasts will provide a strong boost to the local hospitality, tourism, and technology sectors, further solidifying the city's reputation as India's premier aviation hub.

Counter complaint filed in Duniya Vijay's son's case

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The escalating feud involving Kannada actor Duniya Vijay's son took a dramatic turn as a fresh counter-complaint was registered at the R.R. Nagar police station. The legal friction follows an earlier police case filed against young Samrat Vijay and his peers by an individual named Manish Gowda, sparking a multi-station police investigation across the city.

The trouble began on Monday evening when Samrat and his classmates were cruising around in a Gypsy vehicle. According to police records, a fellow acquaintance, Manish Gowda, aggressively overtook their vehicle while driving an

i20 car at high speed. The dangerous driving sparked a heated verbal altercation over the trivial driving maneuver, quickly escalating into a physical street scuffle between the rival groups of youngsters.

Following the roadside confrontation, Manish approached the Kengeri police station and lodged a formal complaint against Samrat. His allegations included serious claims that he had been forcefully abducted inside a car and subjected to physical assault during the heated dispute.

In response, the opposing side launched legal action of their own. Samridh, a close friend and classmate of Samrat, filed a detailed counter-complaint at the R.R. Nagar

police facility. Samridh stated in his official statement that Manish and his associates intentionally tracked down and intercepted his car. He accused them of blocking his pathway, hurling verbal abuses, and physically assaulting him when he questioned their aggressive behavior on the road.

Authorities at both the Kengeri and R.R. Nagar police stations have confirmed that formal First Information Reports have been logged for both incidents. Investigators are currently reviewing CCTV footage, gathering eyewitness accounts from the area, and questioning the individuals involved to uncover the exact sequence of events that led to the widespread youth brawl.

Quick Read



High Court notice to Election Commission over voter list error

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court has issued a notice to the Election Commission over a petition filed by S. Maithili, a voter from Bommanahalli. Maithili discovered that an unknown man's name replaced hers under her official voter identity card number in the 2025 electoral roll. Despite her submitting formal correction requests, authorities took no action and instead incorrectly classified her as permanently displaced. Presiding over the case, Justice Suraj Govindaj directed election officials and the state government to respond by September 17, addressing the serious administrative oversight.

Bengaluru proposes new strict parking rules

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

To ease severe traffic congestion, the Karnataka government has introduced draft parking rules for Greater Bengaluru. Citizens can submit their feedback and objections until September 10. With over 1.5 crore vehicles plying on narrow roads, parked cars currently consume half of public roadway spaces, dragging average traffic speeds down to 15 kilometers per hour. The new framework features scientific parking fees, peak-hour bans, and tax exemptions for private landowners who build parking spaces. Authorities aim to discourage road parking, penalize illegal building conversions, and encourage residents to use public transport.

Minister Chaluvaryaswamy Recalls 2006 Search For HDK

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

State political circles erupted in a fierce verbal sparring match as Minister Chaluvaryaswamy launched a scathing counter-attack against Union Minister and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, famously known as HDK.

Addressing reporters at Vidhana Soudha, Chaluvaryaswamy responded sharply to allegations leveled against him regarding early morning visits and administrative behavior. The dispute intensified when the minister dropped a dramatic political anecdote from the past, claiming that HDK had once gone completely incommunicado for two days during his tenure as Chief Minister back in 2006.

According to Chaluvaryaswamy, the situation grew so tense that JD(S) patriarch H.D. Deve Gowda personally intervened and assigned him the critical mission of tracking down the missing chief executive. "Deve Gowda gave me the task of finding him and bringing him to the cabinet in the morning," Chaluvaryaswamy recalled. He recounted how he had to



HDK cannot sleep at night. If he turns one way, he sees D.K. Shivakumar, and if he turns the other, he sees us. I cannot provide medicine for their stomach ache.

— N. Chaluvaryaswamy, Karnataka Minister

POLITICAL FLASHPOINTS

- **The 2006 Disappearance:** Allegations that Deve Gowda deployed party members to locate the missing chief minister.
- **Sleepless Nights Jibe:** Quips that Kumaraswamy is losing sleep due to the political presence of leaders like D.K. Shivakumar and Chaluvaryaswamy.
- **KPSC Controversy:** Welcoming a thorough probe into recruitment irregularities while turning the spotlight back on past political appointments.
- **Delhi Irrigation Trips:** Defending his recent visits to the capital to push for the Mekedatu and Mahadayi projects.

knock on doors at the break of dawn at 5:00 AM to execute the party supremo's directive.

The minister challenged Kumaraswamy to an open debate at Vidhana Soudha or on any media platform, warning that he possessed a thousand details about the opposition leader's past that could be exposed if the political sniping continued. He criticized the central minister's ongoing political strategy, describing it as a style of "hit and run" politics lacking substantive gov-

ernance.

The heated exchange quickly expanded beyond personal anecdotes into major state and national policy issues, including inter-state water sharing and public recruitment controversies. Chaluvaryaswamy defended his recent two-day official trip to New Delhi, where he engaged with central authorities regarding critical irrigation hurdles, the ambitious Mekedatu balancing reservoir project, and broader state water security

HDK fires 10 questions at Priyank over job scam

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy escalated his political feud with the state government, releasing a strict list of 10 direct inquiries directed at Home Minister Priyank Kharge concerning alleged recruitment fraud.

During a press briefing held at the JD(S) headquarters in JP Bhawan, Kumaraswamy targeted the handling of the Assistant Engineer Grade 1 recruitment process. He accused the administration of dragging its feet for over a year and a half under the guise of pending court litigations. Demanding immediate accountability, the Union Minister challenged Kharge—who previously headed the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department—to publicly address the transpar-

ency of the appointment orders issued during his tenure.

The pointed questions cover various procedural lapses, including the hurried issuance of conditional appointment letters despite active legal disputes and evidence of tampering. Kumaraswamy specifically questioned whether appointment letters were dispatched without administrative oversight, why selection lists moved forward despite internal warnings from department secretaries, and what links officials had to alleged OMR sheet manipulation schemes operated from isolated resorts. He argued that the swift distribution of jobs to flagged candidates points to systemic administrative corruption.

Rejecting counter-criticism regarding his own political past,

Kumaraswamy addressed prior allegations concerning former Public Service Commission officials, claiming those individuals were targeted for political motives and noting that recent judicial rulings cleared them of wrongdoing. He insisted that the current administration must answer for its direct involvement in clearing questionable merit lists rather than deflecting blame onto opposition figures.

Concluding his aggressive media address, Kumaraswamy asserted that he would not back down from the political showdown. He warned that if the state leadership fails to provide satisfactory explanations



“First answer all my questions regarding the recruitment scam. Let's discuss the rest later; I am not running away.”

— H.D. Kumaraswamy, Union Minister

regarding the disputed AEE Grade 1 appointments and administrative delays, he will escalate his campaign demanding the immediate resignation of the responsible cabinet ministers.

10 DIRECT QUESTIONS RAISED

- Did you distribute illegal appointment orders without your awareness?
- Were you completely unaware that a legal case remained pending before the High Court?
- Why shouldn't a resignation be demanded given the heavy stack of documents?
- Should an official investigation not have been ordered into these recruitment irregularities?
- Did nobody notice that conditional appointment letters went directly to compromised candidates?
- Were these conditional orders issued precisely because deep flaws tainted the selection process?
- What caused the rush to issue appointment orders amidst glaring proof of manipulation?
- As the portfolio minister, how could you remain blind to criminal candidates getting jobs?
- Why did a newly transferred officer hurriedly sign appointment files on the very same day of flagging irregularities to top bureaucrats?
- Do you deny having any ties to the individuals who allegedly altered OMR sheets inside a resort?

Farmers demand Belagavi taluks join drought list immediately

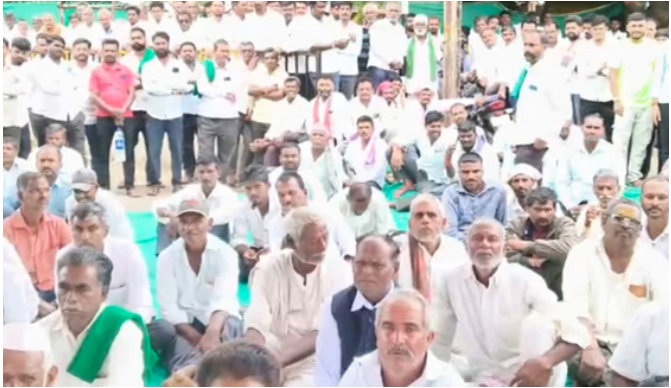
Farmers protested Belagavi’s exclusion from the drought list, citing poor rainfall, severe water shortages, crop losses and inadequate drinking water for cattle

CH NEWS, CHIKKODI

Thousands of farmers staged a major protest on the Vijayapura-Sankeshwar National Highway in Athani taluk on Thursday, demanding that taluks in Belagavi district be included in the second phase of the state's drought-hit list.

Farmers expressed anger after no taluk from Belagavi district was included in the drought list announced by the government. They said poor rainfall and worsening water shortages had severely affected agriculture. Crops are struggling without sufficient water, while cattle are also facing difficulties getting drinking water.

The protest was led by Shashikant Guruji. Farmers blocked traffic and raised slogans against the state government, demanding immediate recognition of drought conditions across the district. They said all 16 taluks should be considered for drought status after a detailed assessment.



They also questioned why some areas were excluded despite officials reportedly completing drought surveys in several taluks.

Guruji said farmers were not protesting for political benefit but to protect their rights and seek relief. He urged elected representatives to set aside differences and speak for affected farmers. Officials who reached the protest site received the farmers' complaints and assured them that their demands would be brought to the gov-

ernment's attention.

The protesters demanded drought relief and other government assistance for affected farmers, drinking water and fodder for cattle, and urgent action based on existing drought assessment reports. They also called for a permanent irrigation project using Krishna river water, saying the region has the river but lacks adequate irrigation facilities. Farmers said the government must act quickly and include eligible Belagavi taluks in the second-stage

FARMERS' MAIN DEMANDS

- The drought situation in the district should be comprehensively examined and the necessary taluks should be declared drought-hit.
- Government compensation and other facilities should be provided to farmers suffering from drought.
- Drinking water and fodder should be arranged for cattle.
- A permanent irrigation plan should be formulated by properly utilizing Krishna river water.
- Urgent action should be taken based on the report of the drought survey that has already been conducted.

drought declaration to provide timely support and prevent further hardship in rural communities.

Harohalli to get ₹1,000 cr hydraulic pump plant

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Wipro Kawasaki Precision Machinery plans to establish a new hydraulic pump manufacturing plant at Harohalli Phase V Industrial Area, with an investment of ₹1,000 crore. The project is expected to create around 1,200 jobs, Industries Minister M.B. Patil said.

Patil discussed the proposal with a company delegation led by CEO Minoru Hatsuda at Khanij Bhavan. The Japan-based Kawasaki, in partnership with Wipro, has sought 30 acres for the facility. Patil said the government would provide the land quickly and expected the new plant to begin operations within a year.

The company currently operates a manufacturing unit on leased premises at Kumbalge, producing about 80,000 hydraulic pumps annually. The proposed Harohalli facility will significantly increase production, with plans to



Patil welcomed the investment proposal, urged immediate preparations, and said approval would be considered next meeting, highlighting manufacturing growth and employment opportunities

manufacture more than two lakh pumps each year.

Patil described the investment proposal as promising and directed the company to begin necessary preparations without delay. He said the final approval for the project

would be considered at the next meeting. The new facility is expected to strengthen local manufacturing while creating employment opportunities.

Hydraulic pumps produced by the company are used in earthmoving and other heavy machinery, including JCB equipment. Senior General Manager Rajesh R., Chief Financial Officer Udaya Raghavan and Industries Department Principal Secretary S. Selvakumar attended the discussions. The project is expected to add fresh industrial activity to Harohalli and support the region's growing manufacturing sector.

Quick Read

Students can win scholarship through stamp collecting

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA

Students from classes six to nine can apply for the Department of Posts' Deen Dayal Sparsha Yojana, which promotes stamp collecting and research among school children. Selected students will receive a scholarship of Rs.6,000 annually. Applicants must have scored at least 60% in 2025-26 and hold a stamp collecting deposit account or club membership. Selection begins with a Philatelic Quiz Competition. The deadline to apply is September 10. Students can find details on India Post's website or contact the Chitradurga Divisional Superintendent of Posts for further guidance and application related assistance too.

Subsidy available for arecanut leaf disease control

CH NEWS, UDUPI

The Horticulture Department has invited applications from farmers in Udupi, Kaup and Brahmavar taluks for subsidy support to control leaf spot disease in arecanut crops. Farmers can receive Rs.3,000 per hectare, with equal contributions from the Central and State governments. The maximum assistance is Rs.6,000 for two hectares. Applicants must submit their purchase bill, RTC, Aadhaar card and bank passbook copy along with the application. Assistance will be provided according to departmental guidelines, application seniority and available targets. Farmers seeking more information can contact the Horticulture Department office at Doddanagudde. Officials advised eligible farmers to apply with the required documents promptly.

Mandya tightens rules for eco-friendly Ganesh festival

CH NEWS, MANDYA

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumar directed officials to ensure that the 2026 Ganesh festival is celebrated peacefully and in an environmentally friendly manner.

He ordered strict action against the production, storage, sale and disposal of Ganesh idols made from Plaster of Paris and chemical colours.

Speaking at a meeting at the District Collector's office, Kumar said protecting the environment and keeping water bodies clean was everyone's responsibility. He urged officials to create widespread awareness about using natural clay idols. Regular inspections should be conducted, and violators should face legal action.

Kumar directed authorities to prevent idol immersion in lakes and canals and identify suitable immersion points. Temporary water tanks, lighting and other facilities should be arranged where required. Safety measures must also be strengthened at locations expected to witness large gatherings.

Ganeshotsava committees installing idols in public places must obtain permission from concerned departments. A single-window system has been arranged to simplify the approval process. Organisers conducting processions must also submit route maps in advance and secure permission to avoid traffic problems and protect public safety. The Deputy Commissioner further ordered that DJs should not be used and noise pollution rules must be followed.

Food safety officers were instructed to inspect places where prasad is prepared and distributed, ensuring hygiene and food safety standards. Organisers were also asked to avoid single-use plastic and choose environmentally friendly alternatives. Kumar ap-



Mandya DC orders faster PM-RAHAT emergency treatment

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumar directed health officials and hospitals to ensure cashless emergency treatment up to Rs.1.5 lakh for eligible road accident victims under the PM-RAHAT scheme. He said saving lives must remain the first priority, and treatment should begin immediately without waiting for documents or records during emergencies. Private hospitals were instructed to follow scheme guidelines, avoid delays or fee demands, maintain records properly, and update required information online. The Health Department must regularly inspect implementation and create awareness among doctors and staff. Dr. Kumar urged government and private hospitals to coordinate so victims receive timely care.

Police Constable exam to follow strict security rules

The Police Constable recruitment written examination will be held on September 6 at eight centres, with 3,289 candidates appearing. Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumar directed officials to conduct the examination transparently and without lapses. The exam will run from 10:30 a.m. to noon. CCTV cameras, police security, medical teams and mobile jammers will be deployed at centres. Question papers will be transported securely using GPS-enabled vehicles and police escorts. Candidates must carry their hall tickets and valid identity cards. Electronic devices and prohibited items are banned. QR-based attendance will be recorded, while security checks will be conducted carefully to ensure fairness.

pealed to festival committees, idol makers, traders and the public to cooperate with the administration. He said careful planning and responsible participation would help ensure a clean,

safe and peaceful Ganesh festival across Mandya district. District Regional Environment Officer B.P. Geeta, tehsildars and officials from all taluks attended the meeting.

CH NEWS, RAICHUR

Saarathi Finance, an MSME-focused non-banking financial company, has opened a new branch in Raichur, strengthening its presence in Karnataka and expanding access to formal credit for small businesses and entrepreneurs.

With the latest opening, the company now has 20 branches across Karnataka. Saarathi Finance said the state has become an important market as it works to reach underserved MSME clusters. Nationally, the company operates more than 100 branches across six states, aiming to improve last-mile financial access.

The company began operations in April 2025 and offers Loan Against Property solutions ranging from Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 35 lakh. These loans are intended to help entrepreneurs use their property assets to meet working capital needs, expand businesses and pursue new opportunities. The company has also crossed Rs. 650 crore in Assets Under



Management.

Chief Business Officer Imran Hasmi said Karnataka remained a key market for the company and that its growing branch network reflected its commitment to staying closer to MSMEs. He said Raichur offered an opportunity to provide local businesses with quick, convenient and timely credit while understanding their specific financial requirements.

Hasmi added that Saarathi

Finance would focus on sustainable expansion, careful risk management and technology-driven lending. The new Raichur branch is located on the first floor of 12-7-132/9, Auto Nagar, Goushala Road, Raichur-584101. The company said its continued expansion aims to connect more entrepreneurs in semi-urban and rural areas with formal financing and support their long-term business growth.

Parents urged to support SSLC students without fear

CH NEWS, KUSHTAGI

Parents should not create fear among students preparing for SSLC examinations but should build their confidence through encouragement, regular communication and positive support, education experts and teachers said at a programme in Hire Bannigol.

The programme was organised for SSLC students and parents at Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam English Medium School on Thursday. School Vice-President Chandrakala Krishnamurthy advised parents to regularly speak with their children, check their notes, understand their progress and guide them in a friendly manner. She also urged parents not to compare children with others or allow them to leave school.

Krishnamurthy said parents should stay in contact with teachers and give importance

to time management. She also advised families to limit children's mobile phone use and allow phones mainly for educational needs. Founder Rehmanasab Doddamani said the institution, which completed 13 years, is preparing its first SSLC batch and aims for excellent results through the efforts of teachers. School President Imambi Doddamani encouraged parents to motivate children and make learning enjoyable rather than restricting it to books and examinations. Administrator Saniya Doddamani said regular interaction among students, teachers and parents could improve preparation and help students achieve good results.

Teachers and students also shared their views during the programme. Mathematics teacher Basavaraj Hiremath, class teacher Pampaiah Hiremath and other teachers offered examination guidance.

Karwar asked to submit fresh proposal for theatre

CH NEWS, KARWAR

Deputy Commissioner K. Lakshmi Priya has directed the Kannada and Culture Department to submit a fresh proposal to the government for constructing a modern and attractive theatre in Karwar.

She issued the direction while chairing the District Theatre Development and Management Committee meeting at the Deputy Commissioner's office on Thursday. Officials said there had been no response to a proposal submitted three years ago. Since construction costs have also changed, the Public Works Department was asked to prepare a new estimate and submit it with a fresh proposal.

The Deputy Commissioner said 20 guntas of land had been identified opposite the new District Collector's office for the theatre. She directed officials to complete the necessary documentation and land allocation process.

District Kannada Sahitya Parishad President B.N. Vasare suggested that the theatre should support various cultural activities and include an art gallery, library, quality sound and lighting systems, and adequate parking. Additional District Collector Sajid Mulla, officials from various departments and Kannada Sahitya Parishad representatives attended the meeting. The new proposal is expected to help move the long-pending theatre project forward.

YOUTH RALLY AGAINST AIDS

Red Ribbon Marathon raises HIV awareness among youth

CH NEWS, KOPPAL

A district-level five-kilometre Red Ribbon Marathon was held in Koppal on Thursday to spread awareness about HIV/AIDS among young people.

A total of 203 students from colleges across the district took part in the event. Sub-Divisional Officer Mehbooba Jilani Qureshi and District AIDS Control Officer Dr. Shashidhar A. flagged off the

marathon.

Qureshi said human life is valuable and urged young people to take part in sports and physical activities while gaining correct information about HIV/AIDS. She encouraged students to follow safe practices and help build a healthier future. Dr. Shashidhar said the event aimed to protect youth from infection and promote awareness about prevention, symptoms and available treatment

services. Counsellor Amaresh said people can obtain information about HIV risk assessment and testing facilities through online services. He stressed that testing is confidential and encouraged those who may have been exposed to risk to seek information and testing without fear.

In the men's category, Santhosh of M.M.D.R.S. Pre-University College, Hirebenakkal, secured first place and won Rs. 5,000. Maruti of

Irakalgad PU College and Srinivas of S.M.V. PU College, Thavaragera, finished second and third.

In the women's category, Heena Kausar of M.M.D.R.S. PU College won first place with Rs. 5,000. Parvati of Government Women's PU College, Koppal, and Rekha of M.M.D.R.S. PU College secured second and third places. The two winners will represent Koppal at the state-level competition.



Quick Read

One killed, four seriously injured in an accident

SAKLESHPUR
One person died and four others suffered serious injuries after a KSRTC bus and a Bolero pickup collided head-on near Marana-halli in Sakleshpur taluk on Thursday. The deceased was identified as 38-year-old Dinesh. The injured, Subramanya, Venkataraman, Jitendra and Dur-gaprasad, were taken to Crawford Government Hospital for treatment. The pickup, owned by IICI Bank, was carrying cash for ATM deposits when it col-lided with the bus travel-ling from Mangaluru to Bengaluru. The crash badly damaged the pickup's front section. Local resi-dents and drivers helped rescue the injured. Sakle-shpur Rural Police inspect-ed the scene, registered a case, and began further in-vestigation.

Kolar lake fish deaths raise contamination concerns

KOLAR
Thousands of fish were found dead in Ammani Lake, sparking anger among local residents. Poisoning is suspected, with officials investigating whether the fish were deliberately killed to clear the lake for a new variety. The number of dead fish has also caused a foul smell around the waterbody. Of-ficials from the Minor Irri-gation Department visited the site and inspected the situation. Water samples were collected and sent to a laboratory for testing. Authorities said action will follow after the report. If poisoning is confirmed, no-tices may be issued to the tenderers involved. Locals are demanding quick ac-tion from officials.

Birkbeck gets UGC nod for Bengaluru campus

CH NEWS, Bengaluru
Birkbeck, University of Lon-don has granted the Uni-versity Grants Commis-sion's (UGC) Letter of Ap-proval to establish and op-erate its Bengaluru cam-pus, clearing the way for admissions. The approval follows the Letter of Intent issued earlier this year and completes the regulatory process under UGC's 2023 regulations for foreign higher educational institu-tions. Located at Sattva Tech Park, the campus will offer undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in business management and business analytics. The degrees will be award-ed directly by the Universi-ty of London, with aca-demic oversight by Birk-beck. The university said fees are expected to be up to 60% lower than study-ing in the UK. Birkbeck is establishing the campus in partnership with Education Centre of Australia (ECA).

Govt services to reach villages through Praja Seva

Residents can submit applications for welfare and civic services; grievances will be uploaded to IPGRS, with acknowledgement numbers issued to applicants

CH NEWS, CHIKKABALLAPURA

The Chikkaballapura district administration will begin Praja Seva Andolana meetings from September 5 to hear public grievances and provide quick solutions closer to people's homes.

District Collector G. Prabhu urged residents to use the programme to submit complaints and applications for government services.

The initiative aims to reduce the need for people to visit government offices repeatedly. Taluk-level meetings will be held on the first and third Saturdays under the district in-charge minister's leadership, with local MLAs present. Meetings will also be conducted at hobli and village levels on other Saturdays.

The first taluk-level meeting will be held at 10.30 am on September 5 at the Gov-ernment Girls School premises in Kasaba Hobli, Bagepalli taluk. Hobli-level meetings will also be held at Nandi, Tondebavi, Sadali and Munga-nahalli in the respective constituencies.

Residents can submit ap-plications related to pensions, land records, ration cards,



housing, drinking water, roads, education, irrigation, lakes, police services and welfare schemes including Shakti, Annabhagya, Griha Lakshmi, Griha Jyothi and Yuvanidhi. Applications received at the venues will be uploaded to the IPGRS portal, and applicants will receive acknowledgement numbers.

Officials will try to settle eligible cases immediately and provide documents such as approvals, sanction letters or work orders at the venue. Departmental stalls will explain procedures, while drink-ing water, medical facilities and other arrangements will be provided. Separate queues will be available for fresh complaints and cases pending for more than 21 days. Prabhu

New classrooms planned at Mandikal Government School

District Magistrate G. Prabhu laid the foundation stone for new classrooms, a kitchen and dining hall at Karna-taka Public School in Mandikal village on Thursday. The project is being supported by the district administration, One School at a Time Inc. (OSAAT), and Burns and McDonnell. Prabhu said providing basic educational facilities is essential for building strong human resour-ces. The organisations have taken up their 147th school project and invested Rs.90 lakh, while construction will cost Rs.1 crore. Three classrooms, a kitchen and dining hall are expected to be completed within 10 months. Another school may receive Rs.1 crore under CSR.

Chikkaballapura land account sparks high-level investigation

The district administration has ordered an investigation into the Chikkaballapura Municipality creating an e-ac-count for about 24 acres of land in Patrenahalli Gram Panchayat limits. A three-member team comprising the Sub-Divisional Officer, District Urban Development Cell Project Director and Urban Planning Authority Commissioner will investigate the matter. The team has been asked to examine possible land grabbing, misuse of power, negligence and rule violations, and submit its report within 24 hours. Records show the land was listed as a Railway Depot between 1983-84 and 2003. District Magistrate G. Prabhu said strict ac-tion will follow if wrongdoing is confirmed.

appealed to residents to par-ticipate in large numbers and

make full use of the doorstep service.

Rice scam probe raises questions over powerful backers

MALINGARAYA PUJAR, CH NEWS

Illegal transportation of rice meant for the government's Annabhagya food scheme has once again raised serious questions in Gadag district.

Allegations of political in-fluence over the racket have also surfaced, although such claims remain to be estab-lished through investigation. A recent joint operation by Mundargi police and Food Department officials has brought fresh attention to the issue.

Acting on specific informa-tion, officials chased and stopped a Tata Canter lorry near Maktampur village in Mundargi taluk. The vehicle, bearing registration number KA01 AM6176, was alleg-edly carrying Annabhagya rice through an illegal route. Au-thorities seized the vehicle and ration rice worth lakhs of rupees. The lorry reportedly



belongs to Doddabasappa Ka-matara. The seizure has raised concerns about how govern-ment-supplied rice is being diverted before reaching eli-gible beneficiaries.

During questioning, the driver allegedly told police that he was transporting the rice along with Viresh Badig-era and Budappa Kuri. Police have registered an FIR at Mundargi police station against Doddabasappa Ka-

matara, Viresh Badigera and Budappa Kuri in connection with the case. The investiga-tion is expected to establish where the rice came from, who arranged its transporta-tion and where it was ulti-mately intended to go.

Sources and local residents have alleged that a wider net-work may be operating through fair price shops, warehouses, transporters and rice mills. There are also alle-

gations that influential in-dividuals could be protecting the racket, but these claims have not yet been proven. Ac-cording to the allegations, di-verted ration rice may be sent to mills in neighbouring dis-tricts or other states, polished and repacked in branded bags before being sold in the open market at much higher prices.

Residents say the Mundargi seizure could represent only a small part of a larger problem. They have urged the police and Food Department to in-vestigate the entire supply chain rather than stopping with vehicle seizures. The au-thorities have also been asked to identify everyone involved, regardless of their position or influence.

A thorough investigation, supported by evidence, will be necessary to protect the Annabhagya scheme and ensure that rice meant for poor families reaches them without diversion.

Gajendragad highway crash kills two-wheeler rider

CH NEWS, GADAG

A 55-year-old two-wheeler rider died on the spot after his



TVS Excel collided head-on with a car near Unchageri vil-lage on the Yelaburga-Badami highway in Gajendragad taluk

on Thursday.

The deceased was identi-fied as Eerappa Sanganal, a resident of Unchageri village. According to preliminary in-formation, the accident oc-curred when the car driver allegedly drove at high speed and without due care. The ve-hicles crashed head-on, and the impact sent the car off the road and into a nearby field.

Eerappa suffered severe in-juries in the collision and died at the scene. The incident caused concern among local residents, who gathered at the

spot after hearing about the accident.

Officials and personnel from Gajendragad Police Sta-tion reached the location soon after receiving information. They inspected the accident site and began an investiga-tion into the circumstances leading to the crash. Police sent Eerappa's body for a post-mortem examination and registered a case at the sta-tion. Further investigation is underway to establish the ex-act cause of the accident and determine responsibility.



Governor urges skill-based education with modern technology

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA

Governor Thaaawarchand Ge-hlot stressed the need to give greater importance to technol-ogy, skills and innovation in school education, saying arti-ficial intelligence, robotics, biotechnology and digital technology are rapidly chang-ing the world.

He was speaking after inau-gurating new classrooms, a prayer hall and cottages at Karnataka Public School in Hosayalanadu village of Hiriyur taluk on Thursday. The Governor encouraged schools to promote science models, environmental projects, read-ing clubs, sports and skill-based activities. He said small innovation projects could help children develop creativity and new ideas.

Gehlot said schools should also create environmental awareness among students. He urged every student to plant a sapling and practise water conservation, reduce plastic use, save energy and keep school surroundings clean. Education, he said, should go beyond examina-tion marks and employment by developing knowledge, sensitivity, culture and re-sponsibility.

Scheduled Castes Welfare Minister and district in-charge Minister T. Raghumurthy

“**Schools must build environmental awareness. Students should plant saplings, conserve water, reduce plastic, save energy and keep surroundings clean. Education must develop knowledge, sensitivity, culture and responsibility beyond marks and jobs.**”

- Thaaawarchand Gehlot, Governor Of Karnataka

praised efforts to develop the school as a model institution. He said school patron Na. Thippeswamy and his team had secured more than Rs. 25 crore through grants and dona-tions. MP Govinda M. Karajol urged the state government to implement the National Edu-cation Policy and three-lan-guage formula in government schools to provide equal edu-cational opportunities.

Suttur Math's Shivaratri Deshikendra Mahaswamiji said rural children would con-tinue choosing government schools when good facilities were available. Thippeswamy said smart classrooms, an e-li-brary, computer laboratory and modern laboratories had been introduced to bring ur-ban educational facilities to rural students. Several elected representatives, officials, edu-cation department staff and school representatives attend-ed the programme.

Guarantee Schemes Give Poor Families Crucial Support

CH NEWS, KOPPAL

Karnataka State Guarantee Schemes Implementation Au-thority Vice Chairman P.T. Parameshwara Nayak said the five guarantee schemes have provided valuable support to poor families and created an opportunity for officials to serve vulnerable people.

He made the statement while chairing a progress re-view meeting at the J.H. Patel Hall on Thursday. Nayak said the schemes have reached crores of eligible beneficiaries across Karnataka. He directed officials to work responsibly and ensure that benefits reach the right people without de-lays. He praised Koppal dis-trict for performing better than expected during the ongoing revision of the schemes.

He instructed officials to prevent payments under Griha Lakshmi from continuing after a beneficiary's death. Local Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers and Gram Panchayats should promptly report deaths, while accounts should be frozen and names removed from beneficiary lists. He said any wrongly withdrawn amount

HIGHLIGHTS
- Five guarantee schemes support crores of beneficiaries
- Koppal leads Kalyan Karnataka in Griha Jyothi revision
- Griha Jyothi revision reaches 86.18 percent progress
- Yuvanidhi registrations reach 15,804 students across district
- Officials told to prevent wrongful Griha Lakshmi payments
- Shakti facilities need CCTV, toilets and restrooms

should be returned to the gov-ernment.

Reviewing Shakti, Nayak called for CCTV cameras, toi-lets, drinking water and separate resting facilities for women at bus stops. He also directed of-ficials to provide free bus passes to students and arrange addi-tional buses where required. Koppal has achieved 86.18 per-cent progress in Griha Jyothi revision and leads the Kalyan Karnataka region, he said.

THILAVALLI DEVELOPMENT BOOST

Mane launches key infrastructure projects across Thilavalli village

CH NEWS, HANAGAL

MLA and Karnataka Housing Board President Srinivas Mane performed the ground-breaking ceremony for vari-ous development works worth Rs. 74 lakh in Thila-valli village under the Chief Minister's Infrastructure De-velopment Programme for 2025-26.

The projects include im-provements to roads, drain-age and drinking water fa-cilities in different parts of the village. Mane instructed of-ficials and contractors to com-plete the works within the scheduled time while main-taining proper quality stan-dards. He said the projects

were planned to address im-portant infrastructure needs of local residents.

Speaking on the occasion, Mane said priority was being given to the comprehensive development of Thilavalli. He said infrastructure would be created in phases accord-ing to the needs of villagers. Development, he added, should not be restricted to constructing roads and build-ings but should improve the daily lives of people.

Mane said responding to public expectations and pro-viding essential facilities re-mained a priority. He also assured residents that sincere efforts would be made to en-sure eligible beneficiaries

receive the benefits of var-ious government wel-fare schemes. He urged officials to work effi-ciently and ensure that development funds were used properly for the intend-ed purposes.

Basava Niranjana Swa-miji of Thilavalli was present at the event. Guarantee Implementation Committee Taluk President Veerappa Bailawala, KPCC member Talkanagowda Patil, Block Congress President Manju Gorannavara and former TAP member Fayaz Lo-har also attended.

Several Congress leaders, local representatives, offi-

“**In the last 3 years, the state government has released a total of more than Rs. 750 crore for the implementation of various development works in Hanagal taluk. Efforts have been made to provide funds for public infrastructure works in every village.**”

- Srinivas Mane, MLA

cials and residents were present during the pro-gramme.

The launch marked another step towards improving basic infrastructure in Thilavalli. Residents are expected to benefit from better roads, drainage and drinking water facilities once the works are



completed. Officials and contractors have been direct-

ed to maintain quality and meet the promised deadlines.

AT A GLANCE
• ₹74 lakh development works launched in Thilavalli
• Roads, drainage and drinking water get priority
• Projects target key infrastructure needs of residents
• Mane directs timely completion with quality standards
• Development planned in phases based on village needs
• Officials urged to ensure proper fund utilisation

LEAVE OUR GARDENS ALONE



- DR. VIJAY GARG

Why must development always come at the cost of what makes Bengaluru liveable? Lalbagh is not just a garden. It is Bengaluru's heritage, its green lung, and home to a rock formation more than three billion years old.

Think about the 3 billion years. Something that survived long before governments, cities and roads existed is now being asked to make way for modern infrastructure.

Is this really necessary, or is it simply the arrogance of believing that every project must move forward once it has been announced? This is not about opposing development. Bengaluru needs better infrastructure. But development requires imagination, not the destruction of irreplaceable green spaces. Roads can be redesigned, tunnels can be re-aligned and projects can be reconsidered. Three year old rock cannot be recreated. Greenpeace India and environmental voices have repeatedly reminded us that urban green spaces are essential infrastructure, not vacant land waiting to be used. Our gardens provide shade, biodiversity, cleaner air and breathing space in an increasingly crowded city. The question is simple: why should Lalbagh give up even 5%? Why 1%? Once we start making exceptions, where does it end? Lalbagh does not belong to one government or one generation. It is an inheritance held in trust for those who come after us.

Bengaluru has already lost too many lakes, trees and open spaces to unchecked development. We can build a better Bengaluru without destroying the Bengaluru we inherited.

"Not 5%. Not 1%.
Leave our gardens
alone".

HOW CAN THE UNIVERSE BE 93 BILLION LIGHT-YEARS WIDE AT 13.8 BILLION YEARS OLD?

At first, it sounds impossible: if the universe is about 13.8 billion years old, how can the observable universe be roughly 93 billion light-years across? The answer is the expansion of space itself. Light travels at about 300,000 kilometres per second. But while ancient light has been travelling toward Earth for billions of years, the space between us and its original source has continued to expand. Therefore, the source can be much farther away today than the distance the light originally travelled.

The observable universe extends roughly 46.5 billion light-years in each direction, giving a diameter of about 93 billion light-years. This does not mean that light travelled 93 billion light-years. Rather, cosmic expansion increased the present-day distance while the light was on its journey. This expansion does not violate the speed-of-light limit. The limit applies to objects and information moving locally through space; on enormous cosmic scales, the distance between regions can increase because space itself is expanding. NASA explains that the expansion of the universe also stretches the wavelengths of travelling light, producing cosmological redshift. So, the universe is not 93 billion light-years wide because light travelled faster than light. It is so large because the universe has been expanding throughout its 13.8-billion-year history.



- DR. VIJAY GARG

The astonishing size of the observable universe is therefore a beautiful reminder that, in cosmology, distance and time are deeply connected.

Save Our Gardens

Our community gardens are more than just plots of dirt; they are vital green sanctuaries that foster neighborhood unity and provide fresh, organic food. Bulldozing these thriving spaces for concrete developments strips away our environmental lifeline and erodes our cultural connection to the earth. Once a green oasis is destroyed by urban sprawl, it can never be replaced. We urge city planners and local authorities to protect these urban farms from destruction. Listen to the voices of the residents who nurture them, and preserve our natural heritage for future generations before it is lost forever.

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Suzi Rajan

TALK LESS, WORK MORE: A MESSAGE KARNATAKA'S MINISTERS NEED TO HEAR



- SHYAM SUNDAR VATTAM

the charged political atmosphere of Karnataka, words spoken on a public platform rarely remain confined to that platform.

The BJP-JDS Opposition quickly seized the opportunity to accuse the Congress of indulging in minority appeasement. The Congress leadership, in turn, distanced itself from the statement, describing it as the minister's personal opinion rather than the party's position.

That familiar political cycle statement, controversy, Opposition attack, clarification and damage control could have been avoided altogether.

Rayaraddi is no stranger to such controversies. During the previous phase of the Sidaramaiah government, he had reportedly said that the five guarantee schemes were putting pressure on the State's finances and leaving inadequate funds for development works. The statement created political embarrassment for the government, following which the minister blamed the media for allegedly twisting his remarks, despite video footage of his speech being available.

There is a larger lesson here. Ministers cannot expect their words to carry no political consequences simply because they were spoken in a particular context.

The same applies to Home Minister Priyank Kharge, who has emerged as one of the government's most vocal political warriors. Kharge rarely misses an opportunity to take on the BJP and the RSS, whether the issue concerns Karnataka, national politics or a wider ideological debate.

His aggressive criticism of the BJP-RSS combine may energise the Congress cadre, but it also carries electoral risks. Karnataka's political landscape is complex, and many Congress legislators operate in constituencies where Hindu voters constitute a decisive electoral force. Some



party leaders are therefore understood to be increasingly wary of rhetoric that could alienate sections of the electorate ahead of 2028.

The irony is that while Chief Minister Shivakumar has occasionally adopted a more politically flexible approach towards the RSS, including publicly reciting the RSS anthem on certain occasions, the continued verbal attacks by some Congress leaders provide the BJP with an easy narrative.

Indeed, controversy can sometimes achieve the opposite of what the speaker intends. Those who previously had little interest in the RSS may begin searching for information about the organisation simply because a political leader repeatedly talks about it. The BJP, naturally, is only too happy to amplify such statements and use them to consolidate its support among Hindu voters.

This does not mean ministers should remain silent on issues of public importance. Democratic governments need ministers who can articulate policy, defend their government's record and challenge the Opposition. But there is a crucial difference between speaking with purpose and speaking for public-

ity. Karnataka's Congress government has a long list of issues demanding attention: implementation and financial sustainability of its guarantee schemes, management of State finances, infrastructure, irrigation, urban development, employment, education, healthcare, agricultural distress and the continuing political fallout from controversies such as the Valmiki ST Development Corporation case and the MUDA issue.

These are subjects on which ministers should be speaking and, more importantly, working. The government also needs to demonstrate that its political energy is not being consumed by controversies generated by its own members. Every unnecessary statement gives the Opposition an opportunity to change the political conversation from governance to identity, religion and personality clashes.

Rajneethi, at its core, demands minimum talk for maximum productivity. A government is ultimately judged not by the number of statements its ministers make, but by the number of promises it fulfils and problems it solves.

Fortunately for the Congress, its Cabinet has several

senior ministers who have traditionally preferred quiet execution to noisy politics. Their style offers a useful template for colleagues who frequently find themselves in the headlines for the wrong reasons. The Chief Minister therefore need not impose silence on his ministers. He only needs to impose discipline on their words.

A minister should ask three questions before making a controversial public statement: Is it necessary? Is it consistent with government policy? And who benefits politically from it?

If the answer to the last question is the Opposition, perhaps the statement is better left unsaid.

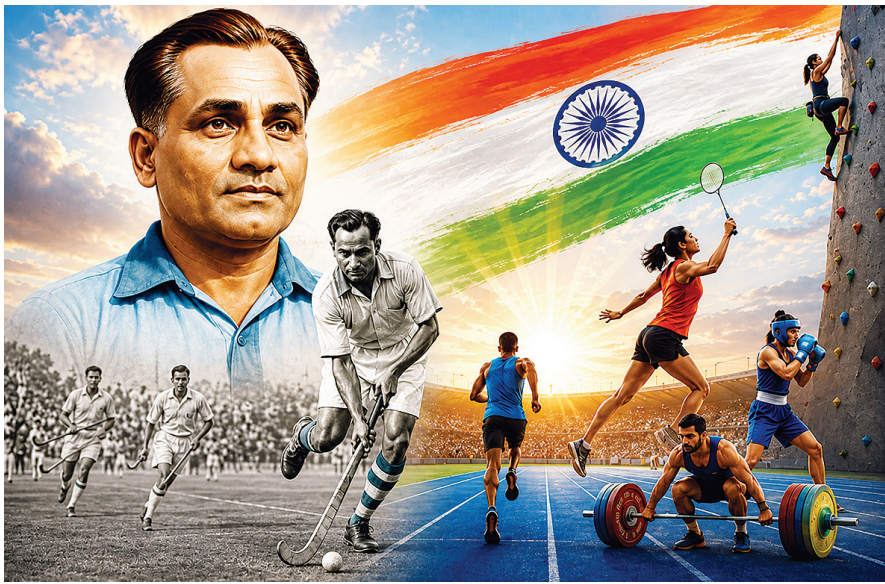
The Congress government still has considerable time before the 2028 electoral battle. It should use that time to deliver on governance rather than repeatedly explain statements made by its own ministers.

For a government facing an assertive BJP-JDS Opposition, the best political strategy may not be another counter-statement.

It may simply be better governance, fewer controversies and more work.

Talk less. Work more. Let the results do the talking.

FROM SPORTING EXCELLENCE TO A DEVELOPED INDIA, TURNING INDIA'S SPORTING SPIRIT INTO A NATIONAL STRENGTH



National Sports Day is not merely an occasion to pay tribute to the memory of a legendary hockey player; it is a day to awaken India's sporting consciousness, inspire its youth and place sports firmly at the heart of nation-building. Observed every year on Aug 29, the day commemorates the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand, the legendary hockey wizard of India. Sports are not merely a display of a nation's physical prowess; they

reflect its confidence, discipline, teamwork and global stature. As India advances with the vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047, integrating sports into the mainstream of national development is no longer an option it is a necessity. Healthy citizens, disciplined youth, world-class athletes and a vibrant sporting culture are among the essential foundations of a developed India.

Born on August 29, 1905, Major Dhyan Chand was a leg-

endary figure who used his hockey stick not merely to score goals but to etch India's name on the world sporting map. His contribution to India's historic Olympic gold-medal triumphs in 1928, 1932 and 1936 remains unparalleled. His game represented a remarkable blend of exceptional skill, patriotism, discipline and dedication. Celebrating National Sports Day in his honour is, therefore, a reminder of a sporting philosophy in which hard work matters more

than talent and national glory matters more than individual achievement. Dhyan Chand's legacy continues to inspire athletes to understand that the ultimate purpose of sport is not merely to win medals, but to bring honour and pride to the nation.

Today, sports have emerged as an important dimension of India's national strength. There was a time when sports were rarely considered a serious career option alongside education or employment. That mindset is changing rapidly. Beyond cricket, Indian athletes are making their presence felt globally in athletics, badminton, wrestling, boxing, shooting, weightlifting, hockey, table tennis, archery, chess and several other disciplines. Neeraj Chopra has demonstrated through his Olympic triumph in athletics that India can become a global force in track and field. P. V. Sindhu, with two consecutive Olympic medals in badminton, has become a role model for an entire generation. Manu Bhaker, D. Gukesh, Mirabai Chanu, Nikhat Zareen, Lovlina Borgohain, Avani Lekhara, Harmanpreet Singh and many other athletes have showcased the remarkable breadth of Indian sporting talent.



- LALIT GARG

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Prioritize Real Work

Elected officials are meant to serve the public, yet too many spend their time locked in endless political squabbling rather than delivering tangible results. Citizens are tired of empty rhetoric, broken promises, and grandstanding that solves zero infrastructure or economic challenges. Karnataka deserves leaders who roll up their sleeves to fix potholed roads, manage public transport effectively, and address water scarcity head-on. Talk and theatrics do not build bridges or improve schools. It is time for our ministers to talk less, work harder, and let their actual performance speak volumes for their governance.

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Alister D'zouza

Rethink Cosmic Scale

The revelation that the observable universe spans ninety-three billion light-years while being only thirteen point eight billion years old often confuses curious minds. This mind-bending reality does not break the rules of physics because nothing is actually moving faster than light through space. Instead, the fabric of space itself has been continuously expanding since the Big Bang, carrying distant galaxies along with it. Light emitted billions of years ago from sources that have since been pushed much further away is only reaching our telescopes now. Modern astronomy continually reminds us how vast, dynamic, and wonderfully counterintuitive our expanding cosmos truly is.

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Kim Kahi

Quick Read

Tribal man killed in Telangana IED blast

MULUGU

A 60-year-old tribal man, Madakam Nag-eswara Rao, was killed after an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded on Karreguttalu hillocks in Telangana’s Mulugu district on Wednesday evening. Police said Rao was collecting bamboo in the forest with five other villagers when he accidentally stepped on the device at Bedemgutta. The others escaped un-harmed. The group carried Rao back to their village, where they informed police. Security forces have launched an investigation and are checking the area for other possible landmin-es.

9-Year-old boy dies after badminton dispute

JASPUR

A nine-year-old boy died after he was alleg-edly stabbed in the chest by his 11-year-old friend following a dis-pute during a badmin-ton game in Chhipian area of Jaspur, Uttara-khand’s Uddham Singh Nagar district. The two children were playing badminton with other children when an argu-ment reportedly broke out over a shuttlecock that fell into a drain, Po-lice have taken the 11-year-old boy into cus-tody and are examining CCTV footage to estab-lish the sequence of events. The incident has shocked residents of the area.

Pawan Kalyan-led water project to benefit 75,000

AMARAVATI

A major drinking water project in Andhra Pradesh’s NTR district has been completed under the leadership of Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, the Jana Sena Party said on Thursday. The Jal Jeevan Mission-Amarajee-vi Jaladhara project, cost-ing Rs 49.94 crore, is ex-pected to provide safe drinking water to nearly 75,000 people living across 38 habitations in A Konduru mandal.The pro-ject aims to address long-standing drinking water problems in the re-gion, which has reported concerns related to chro-nic kidney disease. The area includes 21-gram panchayats and 15 tribal hamlets. According to the Jana Sena Party, residents had depended on con-taminated water for years, raising concerns about its possible impact on public health.The party said Pawan Kalyan became aware of the issue before the 2024 general elections and later decided to pro-vide safe drinking water to the affected population after taking office.

MUMBAI-KONKAN TRAIN

New train boosts Mumbai-Konkan rail connectivity

MUMBAI

Union Railway Minister Ash-wini Vaishnaw on Thurs-day flagged off a new train service between Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) and Sawantwadi Road, strengthening direct rail connectivity between Mumbai and the Konkan re-gion. Union Minister Piyush Goyal and Maharashtra Dep-uty Chief Minister Eknath Shinde were also present. The new service will cover around 510 km and stop at several important locations across Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts. Offi-

Assam students protest rising prices, demand action

Assam students protested rising prices of essential commodities, accusing the state government of failing to take effective steps to provide relief.

DIBRUGARH

The All-Assam Students’ Union (AASU) staged a protest in Dibrugarh on Thursday over rising prices of essential commodities and alleged that the Assam government had failed to take effective action. The demonstration was held by the organisation’s Dibru-garh district committee. During the protest, AASU members carried out a sym-bolic funeral procession of Assam Supply Minister Kau-shik Rai from Shaheed Bha-wan at Chowkidingi to Chowkidingi Chariali. Pro- testers raised slogans against the state government over the rising prices of essential food



items and later burnt an effigy of the minister. AASU Dibrugarh district committee president Pratima Sonowal alleged that prices of essential goods in Assam had increased sharply. She said the organisation had already

il Supplies and Consumer Af-fairs Department. It demand-ed stronger measures to regu-late prices and improve the public distribution system so that essential food items re-main affordable and accessi-ble to people. AASU members said the continuing rise in prices was placing an additional financial burden on ordinary house-holds. They urged the state government to take immedi-ate steps to provide relief to consumers and improve the distribution of essential com-modities. The protest ended with slo-gans against price rise and the government’s handling of the issue.

Uttarakhand seeks long-term Himalayan growth plan

DEHRADUN

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Thursday called for a long-term development strategy suited to the state’s unique Himalayan geography. Chair-ing a meeting of the Uttara-khand State Centre for Public Policy and Good Governance, Dhami stressed the need for research, innovation and da-ta-based policies to achieve the goal of ‘Developed Ut-tarakhand-2047’. Dhami said development plans must consider the state’s geographical challenges while making proper use of its nat-ural resources and economic potential. He directed officials to prepare case studies based on successful work carried out across different sectors so that these experiences could help improve future govern-ment policies and pro-grammes. The governing body also discussed regular evaluation of government schemes and periodic reviews of policies.

“Policy formulation and future action plans should be based on data and research, keeping in mind Uttarakhand’s geographical conditions, challenges and potential.”

Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM

Members suggested setting annual targets for important programmes to measure progress and take corrective action when required. They also recommended promoting high-value, low-volume products, strengthening micro, small and medium enterprises and encouraging home-based tourism in hill areas to create local employment opportuni-ties. Research was proposed in eight key areas linked to Ut-tarakhand’s future develop-ment. Soil health and health-care were identified as im-portant priorities. Members also called for stronger train-ing of officials, including those at the block level, to improve implementation of

government schemes. State universities were encouraged to take a greater role in re-search concerning the state’s development needs and po-tential. Discussions covered economic growth, employment, social welfare, forests, biodi-versity, climate adaptation, infrastructure, local govern-ance, regional development and technology-based admin-istration. Members stressed that economic progress must be balanced with environmen-tal protection and sustainable development. The meeting also reviewed the implementation of Sus-tainable Development Goals with the USCPGG and the United Nations Development Programme. Uttarakhand was noted as ranking first among Himalayan states in SDG im-plementation. Dhami also re-leased ‘Uttarakhand at 25: A Himalayan State with Infinite Possibilities’, documenting the state’s development jour-ne-y over 25 years.

Online errors leave Delhi voters out of draft roll

NEW DELHI

Several Delhi voters who sub-mitted their Special Intensive Revision (SIR) forms online have found their names miss-ing from the draft electoral roll, raising concerns about gaps between the online and offline verification processes. The Election Commission published the draft roll on Monday, removing nearly 47.6 lakh names, or 32.8% of Delhi’s voters. Residents from areas including Badarpur, Trilokpuri and Mangolpuri said they completed their forms online but were still ex-cluded from the list. Booth level officers said many voters believed online submission was enough. However, officers must verify applications through phone calls or physical visits. A mis-match between the phone number used for registration and details linked to Aadhaar or an existing voter ID can also create problems.

Mamata warns BJP over TMC office attack

KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress su-premo Mamata Banerjee on Thursday condemned the al-legged vandalism at the TMC office on Camac Street and accused BJP-backed men of attacking the premises. She warned that her party would hold protests outside the homes of BJP leaders in New Delhi if such incidents contin-ued. In a Facebook Live address, Banerjee alleged that armed BJP-backed workers vandal-ised the office, removed im-portant documents and equip-ment, and acted with the al-legged support of Kolkata Po-lice. She said the incident raised serious concerns about the law-and-order situation in Kolkata and across West Ben-gal. Banerjee also criticised the BJP over the alleged violence at Jadavpur University, call-ing it “hooliganism”. She fur-ther alleged that efforts were being made to restrict her movement and create an at-mosphere of intimidation

“If this continues, we will protest outside BJP leaders’ homes in New Delhi.”

Mamata Banerjee, Former CM

against her and her party. The controversy began after TMC national general secre-tary Abhishek Banerjee al-legged that armed men at-tacked the party office in the early hours of Thursday. He later shared purported CCTV footage showing masked men carrying electronic equipment from the premises. Police have arrested six people in connection with the incident. The latest developments have intensified the political confrontation between the TMC and BJP in West Ben-gal. Both parties have ex-changed allegations over po-litical violence and law and order, while police continue investigating the attack. Ba-nerjee said the TMC would respond with protests if at-tacks on its offices and lead-ers do not stop.

Delhi plans underground ducts to cut road digging

NEW DELHI

The Delhi government has approved a plan to develop multi-utility ducts across the capital to reduce repeated road digging for essential services. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said the underground system will help prevent different agencies from cutting roads separately for utility work. The ducts will carry electricity ca-bles, water and gas pipelines, fire-hydrant networks and other essential services. The gov-ernment expects the project to reduce traffic disruptions, in-convenience for commuters and damage to Delhi’s roads. The project will begin as a pilot in Chandni Chowk. Two stretches have been selected

“The initiative is part of the government’s long-term infrastructure planning for Delhi.”

Rekha Gupta, CM

for the first phase, including 310 metres on Esplanade Road and 560 metres on Mor Sarai Road. The government will use the results to plan similar projects in other areas.An ex-pert technical committee will oversee the project and in-clude officials from power dis-tribution companies, the Delhi Jal Board, the Public Works Department and other depart-ments. The underground ducts will include ventilation, fire safety, maintenance access and emergency response facilities.

Fadnavis says CBI probe needed in Salian case

MUMBAI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Thurs-day said the Bombay High Court’s decision to hand over Disha Salian’s death case to the Central Bureau of Investi-gation (CBI) indicated that further investigation was con-sidered necessary. The court has directed the CBI to regis-ter an FIR and conduct a de-tailed probe into the case. Fadnavis said Mumbai Po-lice had already completed its investigation and submitted a report. However, the High Court felt that some additional in-vestigation was required and that something “technical” might have been missing from the earlier probe. “The Mum-bai Police had completed its investigation and submitted its report. However, the High Court

felt that some more investiga-tion needs to be done and that something ‘technical’ might be missing. Therefore, they have now given the case to the CBI,” he said. The case concerns the death of Disha Salian, who was the former manager of late actor Sushant Singh Rajput. Salian was found dead in Mumbai on June 8, 2020, days before Rajput’s death. The High Court’s latest order has now opened the way for a fresh investigation by the central agency. Deputy Chairman of the Maharashtra Legislative Council Sachin Ahir said the state government would fol-low the court’s directions. He rejected claims that the transfer was politically moti-vated, saying the decision had been taken by the judiciary and there had been no govern-ment interference.

Nagaland Assembly seeks withdrawal of PAP regime

KOHIMA,

The Nagaland Legislative As-sembly on Thursday passed a resolution urging the Centre to withdraw the Protected Area Permit (PAP) regime from the state. Legislators said the restric-tions were affecting tourism, investment, business activities and cultural exchanges. The resolution was moved by Deputy Chief Minister Yanthungo Patton. It said Na-galand remains peaceful and needs greater opportunities for its people, especially young residents. The PAP system, reintro-duced in December 2024 on security grounds, requires foreign visitors to obtain permits to enter the state.

Assam constable held after two colleagues are shot dead

GUWAHATI

An Assam police constable was arrested after allegedly shooting dead two colleagues with a service AK-47 at a po-lice outpost in Kamrup Rural district, officials said on Thursday. The incident took place at the Gamerimura po-lice outpost on Wednesday night following a reported verbal exchange among the personnel. The accused was identified as constable Chiranjib Choudhury. Police said Choudhury allegedly opened fire at the outpost offi-cer-in-charge, Indrajit Bora, and another constable, Fazrul Ali, during the dispute. Both injured personnel were rushed to a nearby hospital, but doctors declared them dead on arrival. Additional Superintendent



of Police, Kamrup Rural, Pu-nam Pegu, said the accused had been arrested and an in-vestigation was underway. She said the exact reason be-hind the shooting was not yet known, although officers had been informed about a verbal argument before the firing. Police are now examining the circumstances that led to the deadly incident. The bodies of Bora and Ali were sent to Gauhati Medical College and Hospital for

postmortem examinations. A case has also been registered, and investigators are expect-ed to question personnel present at the outpost and ex-amine other evidence to es-tablish what happened before the shooting. The service weapon used in the incident will also form part of the in-vestigation. The shooting comes nearly a month after another deadly incident involving security personnel in Assam.

DELHI METRO EARNs XLRI AWARD FOR HR EXCELLENCE

NEW DELHI

The Delhi Metro Rail Corpo-ration (DMRC) has received a prestigious award for excel-lence in human resource prac-tices at the HR for the Greater Good Conclave 2.0, organised by XLRI Jamshedpur. The recognition highlights the or-ganisation’s efforts to create a supportive and employee-foc-used workplace. The conclave was held at the XLRI campus from Au-gust 31 to September 2. A to-tal of 23 organisations took part in the event and present-ed their work on important areas of human resources. These included artificial intel-ligence in HR, labour re-forms, green HR practices, employee rewards, career de-velopment, and digital trans-formation. Anuj Dayal, Principal Ex-ecutive Director of Corporate Communications at DMRC, said the organisation compet-ed with more than 20 private and public sector organisa-tions. He said the award rec-ognised the continued efforts of DMRC’s HR department to support its employees, who help serve lakhs of commut-ers using the Delhi Metro ev-ery day.



Jafta Ruled Out Of Zimbabwe T20Is

Sinalo Jafta's hamstring injury rules her out of South Africa's Zimbabwe T20I tour, with Jae-Leigh Filander earning her maiden senior international call-up.

ZIMBABWE

Wicketkeeper-batter Sinalo Jafta has been ruled out of South Africa's upcoming five-match T20I series against Zimbabwe after suffering a hamstring strain during pre-tour physical testing, Cricket South Africa confirmed on Thursday.

Jafta's injury has opened the door for Western Province wicketkeeper-batter Jae-Leigh Filander, who has received her maiden senior international call-up. The former South Africa Under-19 player will join the Proteas Women squad in Tshwane before the team departs for Bulawayo on Monday.

The tour will be led by regular captain Laura Wolvaardt and marks South Africa's first T20I series against neighbours Zimbabwe. The Proteas have named a largely refreshed squad, with several established players rested following the recent World Cup campaign.

Among those absent are Mari-zanne Kapp, Dané van Niekerk, Suné Luus, Nonkululeko Mlaba, Tazmin Brits, Chloe Tryon, Nadine de Klerk, Ayabonga Khaka and Shabnim Ismail.

The squad also features three uncapped players: seamer Caitlin Wyngaard, former South Africa Under-19 pacer Nthabiseng Nini and off-spinner Luyanda Nzuza. All three impressed for the South Africa Emerging Women's side during recent matches against Bangladesh Emerging.

Several returning players, including Faye Tunnicliffe, Anneke Bosch, Ayanda Hlubi, Eliz-Mari Marx, Seshnie Naidu, Nondumiso Shangase and Miané Smit, will get another opportunity after missing the T20 World Cup.

All five matches will be played at Queens Sports Club in Bulawayo, beginning September 11. The remaining games are scheduled for September 13, 15, 17 and 19, giving South Africa an important opportunity to test its emerging talent and build depth ahead of future international assignments there.

Wolvaardt To Lead Proteas In Five-Match T20I Series:

- Sinalo Jafta ruled out with hamstring strain.
- Jae-Leigh Filander receives maiden senior call-up.
- Laura Wolvaardt will captain the Proteas.
- Three players remain uncapped in the squad.
- Five T20Is will be played in Bulawayo.
- Series begins September 11 and ends September 19.



Laxman to Coach India at Asiad

VVS Laxman will lead India's men at the Asian Games, stepping in as Gautam Gambhir receives a break before the West Indies series.

NEW DELHI

VVS Laxman will take charge of the Indian men's cricket team as head coach for the Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, with regular coach Gautam Gambhir set to be rested ahead of India's white-ball assignment against the West Indies.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports confirmed Laxman's appointment while announcing India's 768-member contingent for the event. The roster includes 503 athletes, 246 team officials and supporting staff, and 19 contingent staff.

Laxman, who heads the Centre of Excellence, will be assisted by Sunil Joshi, Hrishikesh Kanitkar and Subhadeep Ghosh. He guided India during the T20I series against Zimbabwe in July, when Gambhir was rested following the white-ball series against England.

India's men's and women's teams will enter the Asian Games as defending champions. Ruturaj Gaikwad

India's Asiad Contingent Swells to 768

NEW DELHI

The Indian contingent for the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games has been expanded to 768 members after the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports added 11 athletes to the roster on Thursday.

The contingent now comprises 503 athletes 269 men and 234 women besides 246 team officials and supporting staff and 19 contingent staff. India will compete across 36 disciplines at the Asian Games.

The latest additions cover athletics, mixed martial arts and surfing. Surfing will make its Asian Games debut, with Kishore Kumar, Sivaraj, Kamali and Sugar Shanti selected to represent India. Mixed martial arts is also making its debut, with Varun Sanyal included in the Indian squad.

Six athletes Praveen Kumar, Harita Bhadra, Kiran Pahal, Asha Ilango, Sindhushree Ganesha and Sanya Yadav have



20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026

also been added to the athletics roster.

The Athletics Federation of India also finalised a 77-member squad.

Commonwealth Games bronze medallist Yashvir Singh replaced Neeraj Chopra, who has been ruled out for the season due to injury. Chopra had initially been selected and will now miss the opportunity to defend his Asian Games javelin titles.

Rohit Yadav joins Singh in the men's javelin event. Four individual champions from Hangzhou Avinash Sable, Tajinderpal Singh Toor, Parul Chaudhary and Annu Rani remain in contention to defend their titles.

Tejas Shirse and Abhishek Pal were also omitted from the athletics squad. Shirse has been dealing with stress fractures, while Pal was dropped after receiving a notice from NADA over an apparent anti-doping violation.

Indoor Range Boosts Shooting In Ladakh

LEH

The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) has welcomed the inauguration of an insulated, all-year-round indoor Air Rifle and Air Pistol shooting range at the built Sports Complex of the Ladakh Police in Leh, calling it a step towards developing shooting sport in the Union Territory.

The facility, established by the Ladakh Shooting Association (LSA) in collaboration with the Ladakh Police, was inaugurated in August by Ladakh Lieutenant Governor V.K. Saxena. Senior officials and sporting representatives, including Chief Secretary Ashish Kundra, DGP Anant Jain, NRAI Vice President K. Sultan Singh and LSA President Gawa Norboo, attended the ceremony.

The new range is expected to strengthen Ladakh's sporting infrastructure by allowing athletes to train indoors throughout the year despite the region's challenging weather conditions.

It will be accessible to students, members of the public and police personnel, widening participation and creating opportunities to identify promising local shooters.

NRAI President Kalikesh Singh Deo said the facility would help take shooting to the grassroots and provide young athletes with a pathway towards competitive sport.

NRAI Secretary General Pawankumar Singh also described access as fundamental to building a sustainable sporting ecosystem.

The Lieutenant Governor welcomed the initiative and stressed the importance of year-round sporting facilities.

He also announced UT Government support for developing additional shooting ranges in other districts and locations across Ladakh.

The NRAI said continued cooperation among the UT Government, Ladakh Police and LSA could help turn the new facility into a shooting ecosystem and produce more shooters from the region.



welcomes his Excellency the Honorable Lieutenant Governor Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena at the inauguration of an indoor shooting range at the Sports Complex of the Ladakh Police in Leh, marking a new chapter in the development of shooting sport in the Union Territory.

"Access is fundamental, and this facility provides that access in a structured and sustainable manner,"

- NRAI Secretary General Pawankumar Singh

An indoor shooting range in Leh is set to widen access, strengthen grassroots participation and help uncover Ladakh's emerging talent.

'It's time to step aside': Former Man City star Edin Dzeko

LONDON

Bosnia and Herzegovina legend and former Manchester City star Edin Dzeko has announced his retirement from international football. The Bosnian great will play his last match in national colours on October 2, when the European side will clash with Sweden in the Nations League.

In an emotional statement released on Instagram, Dzeko said that playing for the national team has been the most precious gift football has given him. The 40-year-old also reflected on his unforgettable moments in his 20-year journey.

"Sometimes I found myself thinking about when this moment would come... But I had never imagined how emotional I would feel while writing these words. On October 2, I will play my next and final match for our national team against Sweden," Dzeko wrote in a post.

"Nothing in my career can be compared to the pride I felt every time I wore that jersey. Nothing. This was my childhood dream. I carried that dream with me in each of the 151 matches in which I had the honor of representing my country on a football field," he added.

Dzeko also remembered his first match in the Bosnian jersey 20 years ago against Turkey and said, "Nearly 20 years have passed since that match I played against Turkey. Many things have changed since that day, and I have changed too, but my love for this jersey has never changed."

The 40-year-old has 151 caps and 73 goals, both Bosnia and Herzegovina records. During his extraordinary career, he helped the team reach two World Cups,



in 2014, the nation's first, and in 2026, when they advanced to the last 32. After countless contributions to the team, Dzeko believes that now is the right time to step aside.

"I feel that the time has come to step aside now. If I was able to stay in the national team until the age of 40, it is because I truly gave everything I had. Every time. My all," he added.

Alcaraz and Sabalenka shine as US Open catches up after rain delays

NEW YORK

Carlos Alcaraz took another solid step in his comeback from injury while fellow defending champion Aryna Sabalenka also advanced at the U.S. Open, as organisers heaved a sigh of relief after clearing a backlog of rain-delayed matches. Former winner Daniil Medvedev weathered an avian interruption to soar into the next round, with Americans Ben Shelton, Jessica Pegula, Emma Navarro and Frances Tiafoe all progressing.

Alcaraz took centre stage in the evening session on Arthur Ashe Stadium, where the Spanish second seed dropped the opening set before blowing away Jaime Faria 4-6 6-0 6-3 6-2 with superb shot-making to ease any lingering fears about his wrist injury.

"I wanted to be quick ... I'm not going to lie," Alcaraz said after spending two hours and 40 minutes on court.

"But at the end I realised that I'm just playing four sets, it was really good for me to test everything physically, to test my body, how I feel, and tomorrow how I'm going to feel after this match, after four sets."

Sabalenka was even more impressive a short while earlier on the main showcourt, as the Belarusian crushed Russian qualifier Polina Iatcenko 6-1 6-1, before bristling at a question about her appearances at pre-tournament events.

"You guys are, like, a joke. Parties, fun ... like, why would you even say that? Why would you even think about that? What kind of question is that?" the world number one said.

"Just because I posted, like, some activities with brands, and you think that I've been partying, not training?" Medvedev, the 2021 champion, had his feathers ruffled in a 6-1 6-3 7-5 victory over U.S. wildcard Sebastian Gorzny on Louis Armstrong Stadium

when two birds landed on the net.

Earlier, third-ranked Pegula needed just 56 minutes to dismantle 2020 Australian Open winner Sofia Kenin 6-3 6-1 in the first match at Arthur Ashe Stadium to book a match-up with 2021 runner-up Leylah Fernandez.



Quick Read

Feminist activist Gloria Steinem dies at age 92

Washington
Gloria Steinem, the American writer, lecturer, activist and organizer who fought for gender equality and women's civil and reproductive rights for more than five decades, has died, her foundation said. She was 92 years old. The co-founder and consulting editor of Ms. Magazine championed the feminist movement from the late 1960s onwards and inspired generations of women. "From reluctant spokesperson to a beacon of positive change, hers is a singular journey - an American leader who can speak to us all," film and theater director Julie Taymor said of Steinem in a 2017 New York Times interview.

As Colombia slowly identifies conflict victims, kin left waiting

RIONEGRO
Roselly Gil watched as authorities carefully removed the blackened bones from the rotting wooden coffin, stored for decades in a cemetery in Rionegro, Colombia. They were, she hoped, the remains of her younger brother. Now a willowy 59-year-old grandmother, Gil has been waiting more than two decades for information about what happened to her brother Jesus Arbey Gil, a Colombian soldier who disappeared in 2003. She thought an answer was close in 2024, when a government agency set up to search for people disappeared during Colombia's conflict told her they believed Jesus Arbey had been buried in the cemetery in Antioquia province.

Iran war escalation deepens civilian toll

Civilian deaths are again at the center of the Iran war as regional tensions spread, Washington weighs further military action.

CAIRO
An escalation in the Iran war has renewed focus on civilian casualties after Iranian officials said 18 people were killed in US strikes, including four at a wedding near the Strait of Hormuz. Iran's health minister said 18 people were killed and 108 wounded in Tuesday night's attacks in Iran. The Iranian Red Crescent said four were killed and 67 wounded when a wedding ceremony near the coast of the Strait of Hormuz was hit. The fighting has spread concern across the region. Iran launched missile and drone attacks at what it described as US assets in Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait and Iraq. Kuwait's army reported missile and drone attacks ear-



ly Thursday, saying its air defenses intercepted them. Combat had largely fallen silent since an earlier exchange in July, but peace talks failed to produce progress. US President Donald Trump has threatened military action as the conflict remains unpopular domestically and contributes to higher gasoline prices. Trump's aides are seeking to prevent escalation before the November 3 midterm elections, according to four people familiar with discussions. White House officials may consider expanding action after the vote. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed alarm over civilian deaths, particularly the wedding strike. His spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said all parties must protect civilians

US strikes kill 18, Iran retaliates
18 killed, 108 wounded in US strikes, according to Iran's health minister.
Four killed and 67 wounded at a wedding near the Strait of Hormuz.
Iran launched missile and drone attacks against what it called US assets.
UN chief Antonio Guterres called for an immediate cessation of military action.

and comply with international humanitarian law, including distinction, proportionality and precaution. The deaths add to the toll recorded by HRANA. The Iranian rights group said 3,636 people had been documented killed in Iran as of April 7, including 1,701 civilians.



Nepal faces massive post-flood rebuild task

KATHMANDU
Nepal will need to rebuild around 20,000 houses in areas as rescuers continue searching for workers trapped in tunnels connected to hydropower projects and thousands remain missing after last week's disaster. A glacier collapse on August 26 sent a torrent of ice, rock and mud through Nepal's border region with China, destroying settlements and villages and leaving many homes washed away, buried or unsafe. Dharma Raj Upreti, chief of Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority, said preliminary estimates showed 7,500 houses had been completely destroyed. Authorities believe many other homes cannot be safely occupied and estimate about 20,000 houses will need rebuilding in safer locations. Foreign Minister Shisir Khanal told foreign ambassadors in Kathmandu that rebuilding would require resources, underscoring the scale of the recovery challenge. At least 1,252 people were killed in Nepal, while more than 4,200 remained missing and thousands were displaced. China reported 21 deaths and 541 missing in Tibet. More than 9,300 Nepali army troops were deployed across affected districts, including Timure, Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading, Chitwan and Nawalparasi East. They are conducting search and rescue operations, clearing roads, managing bodies and providing medical treatment. The disaster has affected foreigners. Nepal said at least 583 foreigners were missing, including pilgrims and trekkers. An Australian medical student whose partner disappeared near the Nepal-China border urged technology companies to share tracking data that could help rescuers narrow search areas. Nepal's cabinet has declared September 7 a national day of mourning, the 13th day after the catastrophe.

Over 1,700 Indonesian students, teachers fall ill

LASEM
Another 777 students and teachers contracted food poisoning in Indonesia's Central Java after consuming government-issued free meals, a school principal said on Thursday, bringing the total number of people made ill by the scheme to more than 1,700 in just a week. In separate incidents in three other locations this week, 950 Indonesians had fallen ill as a result of food poisoning.

'Lula adopts cautious Brazil poll campaign'

BRASILIA
Weeks before Brazil's October election, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva is running one of the country's most cautious presidential campaigns in years as he tries to protect a razor-thin lead in the polls against right-wing Senator Flavio Bolsonaro. The result has been an unusually subdued campaign, the sources said, amid concerns about misinformation, foreign interference, and accidentally unleashing damaging political narratives. "The ability to mislead voters today is even greater than it was in 2022, so it's a real concern. We have to be much more careful about what we do and say," one adviser said, asking not to be named because they were not authorized to speak publicly on the matter. Polls show Lula holding a narrow lead over Senator Bolsonaro, son of former President Jair Bolsonaro, with the latest polls showing a 1- to 3- percentage-point difference in the second round. Inside the Planalto presidential palace in Brasilia, officials have been told to closely vet government actions to avoid accusations

that state resources are being used for political purposes and to minimize missteps that opponents could exploit. Ministers have been asked to delete social media posts, and state television has stopped broadcasting presidential events to avoid the risk of violating the Brazilian electoral law, the sources. At the same time, official announcements and presidential events are being carefully reviewed to avoid misinterpretation, even if some officials see it as an overly cautious approach, they added. "I think there's a certain amount of exaggeration in this concern with violating the law. Previous administrations had absolutely no concern about this," one source said. "The Brazilian legislation is clear that at some point the incumbent will be president and candidate at the same time." Yet all that caution was not enough to spare Lula from a social media storm last week. During an interview, he said he had never met a lobbyist who is currently under investigation in a corruption probe, only for Instagram photos showing the two together to quickly resurface and circulate online.

Reform UK gets 75% of its donations from crypto entrepreneur

LONDON
Britain's populist Reform UK party received a £4 million donation from a crypto investor convicted of a banking secrecy violation in the United States and pardoned by Donald Trump, accounting for 75% of the party's donations last quarter. The party led by veteran Brexit campaigner Nigel Farage received the big donation from Ben Delo, who announced this year he was returning to the UK from Hong Kong and involving himself in politics "to save Britain before decline becomes irreversible". In total, the party raised £5.3 million in the April-June quarter, more than its mainstream opponents but less than the more than £9 million it had raised in each of the two previous quarters, according to figures published by election officials on Thursday. Delo pleaded guilty to a U.S. banking secrecy violation in 2022 after prosecutors accused his crypto company BitMEX of deliberately failing to maintain required safeguards against money laundering. He was pardoned by Trump last year.

IN THE COURT OF THE 1st ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC AT DODDABALLAPURA
Crl.Misc.No.100/2026
PETITIONERS: 1. Sri. Manjunatha, M/Sio Muthuraj, Aged about 32 years, 2. Sri. Madhan Kumar, Sio Muthuraj Aged about 35 years, 3. Sri. Muthuraj Sio Late Muthurayappa, Aged about 58 years, 4. Smt. Muthamma, Dio Late Muthurayappa, Aged about 61 years, 5. Smt. Hanumakka, Dio Late Muthurayappa, Aged about 55 years, 6. Smt. Lakshamma, Dio Late Muthurayappa, Aged about 52 years, 7. Smt. Hanumakka, Dio Late Nanjappa, Aged about 50 years, 8. Smt. Parvathamma, Dio Late Nanjappa, Aged about 45 years, All are Rlat, Chikankannanale Village, Doddaballavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, V/S RESPONDENT: The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura.
PAPER PUBLICATION
The petitioners have filed this petition for grant of death certificate of grate grandmother of the petitioners by name SMT. GOWDAMMA W/o Late Muthurayappa, who died on 14.08.2003, at Chikankannanale Village, Doddaballavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. Whom so ever if any person who are related or interested or dispute date of death of Sri. Muthamma may hereby appear in the above said court in person or through pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material question raising in the petition on the day of 30/09/2026 at 11 AM in said court. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the date before mentioned, it will be heard and determined ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 31st day of August 2026.
By order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Civil Judge and JMFC at Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioners: Sri. Ananda Kumar, A. Advocate, Prakruthi Law Associates, Doddaballapura.

THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR
CRL.MISC.NO. 501/2026.
Petitioners: 1. Smt.Parvathamma Dio late Nanjappa Aged about 70 years, Rlat Kolala Village and Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District, and others V/s Respondent: The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura
PUBLIC NOTICE
Wherefore the Petitioner has filed the above petition under section 13 (3) and 14 of Registration of Birth and Deaths Act 1969 for seeking the death certificate of her mother of petitioners by name SRI NANJUDAPPA Sio DODDAHONNAPPA who died 01-07-2005 at Kuruvengeri village, Thubagere hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore Rural District. In this regard it is hereby noticed that whoever has interested in this said matter may Appear in person or through advocate duly authorized before court 05/10/2026 at 11 AM in default this will be heard and disposed off Ex-parte order.
Given under my hand seal the court on the 03rd day september 2026
By order of the court
Chief Ministerial Officer Pri Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate: Sri Nataraju BL, Doddaballapur 561203

THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR
Crl.Misc.No. 999/2026
Petitioners: 1. Smt.Parvathamma Dio late Nanjappa Aged about 70 years, Rlat Kolala Village and Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District, and others V/s Respondent: The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura
PUBLIC NOTICE
Wherefore the Petitioner has filed the above petition under section 13 (3) and 14 of Registration of Birth and Deaths Act 1969 for seeking the death certificate of her mother of petitioners by name SMT. GANGAMMA W/O LATE NANJUDAPPA who died 28-11-2020 at Kuruvengeri village, Thubagere hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore Rural District. In this regard it is hereby noticed that whoever has interested in this said matter may Appear in person or through advocate duly authorized before court 05/10/2026 at 11 AM in default this will be heard and disposed off Ex-parte order.
Given under my hand seal the court on the 03rd day september 2026
By order of the court
Chief Ministerial Officer Pri Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate: Sri Nataraju BL, Doddaballapur 561203

THE COURT OF THE 1st ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
Crl.Misc.No.395/2026
PETITIONER: 1. Smt. Narasamma S/o Late Narasimiah Aged about 61 years. Rlat: Kallukote village, Thubagere Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Chikkaballapur V/s RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahsildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT.
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner No 1's Grand Father and also Petitioner No 2's Great Grand Father, Late Sri. Chikkanarashiga S/o Late Muddu died on 09.11.1995 at Kallukote Village, Thubagere Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear before the above court on 18.09.2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
The publication is dated 03.09.2026 with the signature and seal of the court.
By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Pri Civil Judge & JMFC Court at Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

CHANGE OF NAME
I, T B Venkatesh S/o Bachappa R/o #200/6, Bagalur Main Road, Kattigenahalli, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka-560064, I have changed the name of my minor Son Chaitanya V to Chunmai Reddy V aged 16 years

IN THE COURT OF CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPURA
Crl.Misc.No.511/2026
PETITIONERS: 1. Sri. Ramesh S/o late channappa, Aged about 51 years, Vaddarahalli village, "Hodonahalli post" Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, 2. Smt. Manuja w/o Late Nagaraju, D/I/L Late Channappa Aged about 30 years, and Natural guardian of her Minor daughter Kum. Hithashree N Gowda aged about 10 years, Rlat Vaddarahalli village, Hadonahalli post, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk-561205. 3. Smt. Manjula, Dio Late Channappa Aged about 46 years, Vaddarahalli village, Hadonahalli post, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk-561205. V/s RESPONDENT: The Registrar of Birth & Death, The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk.
PAPER PUBLICATION
The petitioners have filed this petition for grant of death certificate of LAKSHMAMMA w/o late CHANNAPPA died on 13/05/1981 at vaddarahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk. The respondent has given no availability certificates in respect of the death of Lakshamma.
If any persons have any objections regarding the issue of death certificate, they can appear before the Hon'ble Court in person or duly instructed by his advocate on 07-10-26 at 11'00' clock. If they failed to appear, the Hon'ble Court has proceed and decide the matter according to law.
Given under my hand and seal of the court, this 03rd Day of September 2026
By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Civil Judge & JMFC at Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioners: Sri. Sumil Kumar, Advocate, 5th Cross, 1st Floor, Opp. Court Complex, Doddaballapura. Mo: 9379977774

IN THE COURT OF THE 1st ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
Crl.Misc.No.395/2026
PETITIONER: 1. Smt. Narasamma S/o Late Narasimiah Aged about 61 years. Rlat: Kallukote village, Thubagere Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Chikkaballapur V/s RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahsildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT.
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner No 1's Mother-in-law and also Petitioner No 2's Great Grand Mother, Late Sri. Chikkatayamma, W/o Late Chikkanarashiga, died on 26.08.1969 at Kallukote Village, Thubagere Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Chikkaballapur V/s RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahsildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
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Yash's 'Toxic' Gets English Release Across India

Yash's awaited Toxic: A Fairytale for Grown-Ups, directed by Geetu Mohandas, was shot in Kannada and English. The makers had earlier released the film in Kannada and other dubbed languages. They have now confirmed the English version will reach cinemas across India on September 4.

The announcement came through the film's X account. Sharing a poster, the makers said English was one of the languages in which the film was written and shot. They also confirmed that it would be a "shorter cut" compared with the Indian-language version.

Toxic marks Yash's return after KGF 2 and features a



English Version Aims Wider Reach

The English version is more than another dubbed release. The makers have called it a shorter cut of the Indian-language version. As the film was written and shot in English and Kannada, the team hopes this version will connect better with English-speaking audiences and bring viewers to theatres across India.

female cast. After several delays, the film released to mixed-to-negative reviews. Yash's dual-role performance was praised, but viewers criticised the screenplay, transitions and weak emotional connection.

The film earned over Rs 7.85 crore on Day 7 from 12,894 shows, taking its total net collection to Rs 229.60 crore. The Hindi dub also faced criticism.

The English trailer received a better response, raising hopes that the new version could attract more viewers and improve box office performance.



A Proud Moment for the HMR Family

Heartiest Congratulations to Dr. A. Ramya Ramesh, CEO – HMR Group of Institutions & Syndicate Member, Maharani Cluster University, Bengaluru, on being honoured with the prestigious "The Great Daughter of India" Award for her outstanding services, achievements and contributions.

The award was presented by His Excellency Judge Leonardo Brant, Judge, International Court of Justice, The Hague, Netherlands, at the International Conference on "Judicial Responsibility in Protection of Human Rights and Promotion of Peace and Justice", organised by the Indian Conference of Intellectuals (ICI) on 30th August 2026 at The Capitol Hotel, Bengaluru.

The conference was presided over by Hon'ble Mr. Jus-

tice Madan B. Lokur, and graced by distinguished guests including Hon'ble Mr. Justice E. S. Indires, Hon'ble Dr. Justice Chillakur Sumalatha, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vishal Mishra, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nagesh Bheemappa, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. S. Sreedhar Rao, Dr. G. V. Rao, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court, and Mr. Suresh Kumar G.T., Advisor, Global Trade, Policy & Innovation.

The inspiring conference brought together eminent personalities for meaningful dialogue on Justice, Human Rights, Peace, Unity and Integrity, followed by the "The Great Son / Daughter of India" Award Presentation.

A remarkable achievement and a moment of immense pride for HMR Group of Institutions.

AUSTRALIA DEAL

Sajid Nadiadwala Takes Three Films To Australia



HEY Y BABY 2 AND TWO MORE FILMS ANNOUNCED

Producer Sajid Nadiadwala has announced a three-film partnership with Australia, with Nadiadwala Grandson productions set to be filmed there.

The announcement followed a meeting with New South Wales Premier Chris Minns and NSW Treasurer Daniel Mookhey at Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment's Mumbai office. The leaders were in India to strengthen creative and cultural ties between India and New South Wales.

Nadiadwala confirmed that three upcoming productions from his company will be shot in Australia. One of the films is Heyy Baby 2, the sequel to the 2007 comedy Heyy

Babby. The original film was extensively shot in Australia, making the return a natural choice for the franchise.

The first film featured Akshay Kumar, Riteish Deshmukh and Fardeen Khan. Details about the sequel's full cast, story and shooting schedule have not yet been announced.

"Three upcoming productions will be shot in Australia," Nadiadwala said, highlighting the creative partnership between the two regions.

The deal is being facilitated by Sydney-based production company TEMPLE. The collaboration could create jobs, attract tourism and give Australian locations greater visibility among Indian audiences.

Romantic Video Album Song

The 3.44-minute song from the second album 'Gagana Milana', which revolves around a journey, with the romantic line 'Oh Kaalave Neenu Sari Illa, Nilodilvalla Ee Onti Badukige', has been released. It will be tagline 'Journey of Emotions'. Glitters Star House Productions has invested. Choreographer, fitness trainer, writer and film director Jeevan Hallikaar has taken all the responsibilities for the song and has also appeared as the hero. He is paired with Srushti.

A mysterious love story that revolves around the girl of his dreams. She has traveled to the past and mysteriously disappeared. He feels like she has returned and wants to find her, to know the truth behind her disappearance. Will she finally be found? Where has she been all this time? What



will happen to him in the end. The answer to everything is found in the climax of the song.

The entire song is special because it was captured on a drone camera. Music and vocals are by Siddharth Kamath, cinematography by Umesh Poojary, editing by Akash.S.

Mahendrakar, colorist Kishore Kumar Akkannana.

The shooting has been done in beautiful locations like Kabbinahalli, Hirekolale Lake, Devaramane, Chikkamagaluru, and Mudigere. The song 'Gagana Milana' can be watched on Jeevan Hallikaar's YouTube channel.

Kamal Haasan Announces New Film With Arun Kumar



Actor Kamal Haasan has officially announced his upcoming film with director S U Arun Kumar, ending speculation after a test shoot still leaked online.

Kamal shared the announcement on social media with the caption "Tho Vaaren" and a fire emoji while tagging Arun Kumar. The news has created fresh excitement among fans who were already curious about the project after the leaked image appeared online.

The test shoot still showed Kamal wearing a simple shirt and trousers while holding what appeared to be a throwing knife. His rugged look led to speculation that he could be playing an action-oriented character. However, the makers have not revealed details about his role or the film's story.

The project brings together Kamal and Arun Kumar, who has earned praise for films including Pannaiyuram Padmini-yum, Sethupathi, Chithha and Veera Dheera Sooran.

Kamal had earlier appreciated Arun Kumar's work in Chithha. Their collaboration has therefore raised expectations among Tamil cinema audiences.

'I Am Back To Strong Point,' Says Naresh

Telugu actor Allari Naresh is returning to his popular comedy genre with Ramba Oorvasi Menaka, directed by Chandra Mohan Chintada.

The film is set for theatrical release on September 4. Speaking about the movie, Naresh said it is not simply a collection of comedy scenes. He explained that the film has a proper story, a villain and emotional moments, while comedy remains its main strength.

"After a long time, I am back to my home ground. I am back to my strong point, comedy, and I am trying to hit a six. I hope this film will entertain everyone," he said.

Naresh believes the film can offer a refreshing experience to audiences after several dark films and action dramas.

'Moonwalk' Set For Diwali 2026 Worldwide Release

Prabhu Deva and AR Rahman are returning to the big screen partnership with Moonwalk, which has been confirmed for a worldwide Diwali 2026 release.

The dance-based entertainer combines comedy, music and family emotions and marks the directorial debut of Manoj NS, founder of a popular YouTube channel. The film has already created interest through its music album.

Moonwalk brings Prabhu Deva and Rahman together



after 25 years. They previously worked on Kaadhalan, Mr Romeo, Love Birds and Minsara Kanavu. Rahman has composed all five songs and has also sung every track.

Rahman will appear as himself, playing an "angry young film director". Prabhu Deva plays Babooty, a young film choreographer.

Yogi Babu has a special role in the film, appearing in 16 different characters. The actor earlier revealed that he expected to play one role when

the script was narrated to him. The album includes Yethu, Macarena, Tinga and Mayilu, with the five songs linked to different celebrations.

The cast also includes Aju Varghese, Arjun Ashokan, Satz, Nishma Chengappa, Sushmitha Nayak, Redin Kingsley and Rajendran. Anoop V Shylaja is the cinematographer, while Raymond Derrick Crasta is the editor. Sekhar VJ, Piyush Chazria and Sandhy have handled choreography.