



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



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA



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

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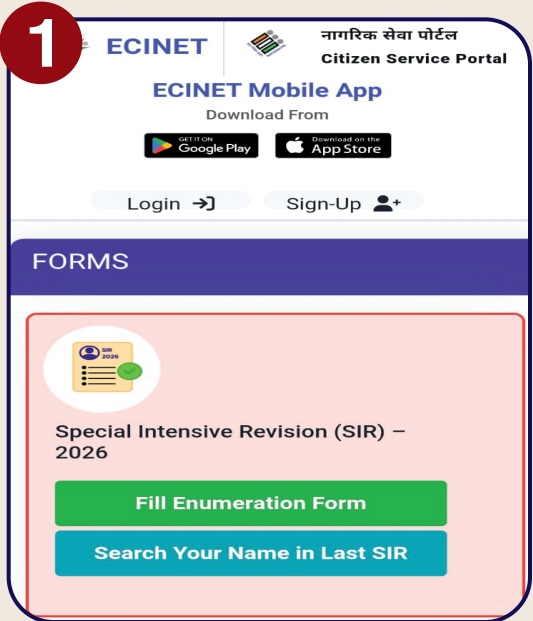


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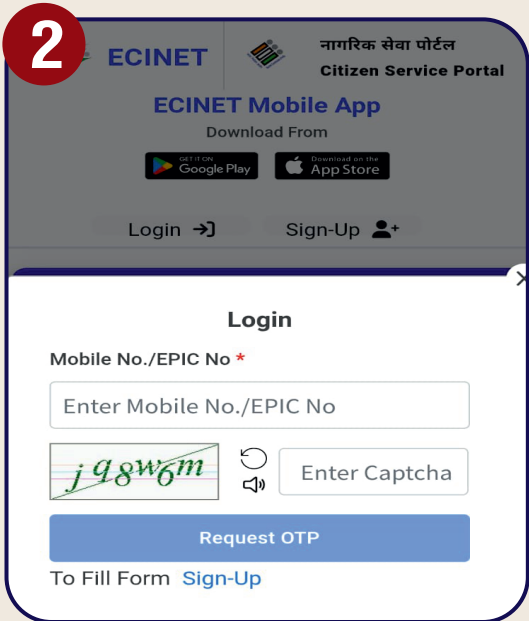


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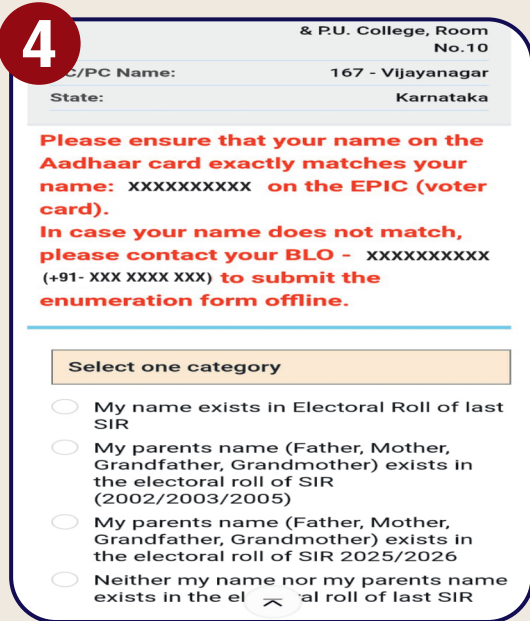
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Loud bus ads spark anger among commuters

CH NEWS, BENGALURU
The cash-strapped Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation is planning a new audio advertisement project inside its buses to boost revenue. BMTC intends to blast commercials through onboard speakers, targeting over forty-five lakh daily commuters to generate crores of rupees. However, this decision has triggered massive outrage among regular passengers. Commuters complain that continuous audio ads will disturb their peace in already noisy buses. Furthermore, people worry that loud commercials will drown out crucial next-stop announcements, causing passengers to miss their destinations. Critics are urging the corporation to find better ways to recover from its deep financial crisis.

Shivakumar honors the legacy of Swami Vivekananda

CH NEWS, BENGALURU
Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar honored the memory of Swami Vivekananda on his death anniversary. The leader took to social media to reflect on the monk's lasting impact on the nation. Shivakumar praised Vivekananda as a visionary thinker and a true nation-builder who transformed Indian society. He highlighted how the monk inspired countless young people to take pride in their cultural heritage while believing in their own hidden potential. Shivakumar noted that Vivekananda's dream of a compassionate, united, and enlightened India remains deeply relevant, continuing to guide millions toward building a brighter and stronger future.

Luxury car EMI doesn't excuse child support: HC

CH NEWS, BENGALURU
A father paying a hefty monthly EMI of 53,000 for a luxury car cannot claim financial inability to support his wife and ailing child. The Karnataka High Court recently dismissed a man's plea challenging a family court order that directed him to pay 30,000 in monthly maintenance. The Bench, led by Justice Dr. Chillakuru Sumalatha, highlighted that the husband earns over 2 lakh monthly. The court rightly observed that a parent prioritizing luxury vehicle payments over the medical needs of a child suffering from autism is unacceptable. The legal system remains firm, primary duties toward dependent children must take precedence over personal lifestyle choices.

BENGALURU
India is shifting gears toward a greener future. Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy recently hosted a vital meeting at HMT Bhawan in Bengaluru, bringing together leaders from the electric two-wheeler and manufacturing sectors. The goal was clear - to turn India into a global powerhouse for electric vehicles (EVs). The atmosphere was productive as stakeholders shared insights on how to strengthen

BMTC introduces secure destination based QR tickets

BMTC has upgraded to dynamic QR codes on ticketing machines, ensuring faster, more secure, and hassle-free bus payments.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Commuters in Bengaluru are getting a tech upgrade on their daily commute. The Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has officially scrapped the old, static QR code stickers pasted inside its buses. Instead, a brand-new "dynamic" UPI payment system is taking over to make buying tickets safer and faster.

During the pandemic in 2021, BMTC introduced static QR code stickers to encourage touchless payments. While the system was highly popular, it recently started causing delays.



Heavy passenger rush and slow networks often led to confusion and long queues.

To fix this, BMTC has partnered with Chalo to equip bus conductors with smart Electronic Ticketing Machines (ETMs). Now, when you tell the conductor your destination, the machine instantly generates a unique, one-time QR code right on its screen. Once you scan it and pay,

BMTC safety alert

- **Look at the screen:** Only scan the live QR code generated on the conductor's handheld machine.
- **Double-check the amount:** Verify the ticket fare displayed on the screen before entering your UPI PIN.
- **Grab your receipt:** Always make sure the conductor hands you a physical ticket after your digital payment goes through.

your ticket prints immediately. Because every single transaction gets its own temporary code, your money is guaranteed to reach the right account securely.

The transport corporation has strictly warned passengers never to send money to a conductor's personal mobile number or scan any old stickers left on the bus.

BMTC's public relations department stated that this upgrade eliminates payment errors and ensures total transparency.

Passengers are requested to cooperate with the crew and embrace this secure, hassle-free digital shift.

Prisoners don't lose property rights, rules court

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court has ruled that an individual's property rights do not end simply because they are locked up as an undertrial prisoner.

The court strongly clarified that these legal rights cannot be cut short just because an inmate is physically unable to visit a government registration office. Legally, prisoners retain the full right to sell or transfer their movable and immovable assets.

A single-judge bench, led by Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum, passed this landmark order while hearing a petition filed by Basavaraju Shankarappa Avvanavar. Basavaraju is currently an undertrial prisoner lodged inside the Dharwad Central Jail. The bench emphasized that an incarcerated citizen facing criminal charges does not experience a "civil death" and continues to hold basic proprietary rights. Citing Section 38 of the Registration Act of 1908, the High

The Karnataka High Court ruled that undertrial prisoners retain property rights, ordering sub-registrars to visit jails to facilitate legal asset transfers, preventing any "civil death."

Court noted that the law consciously addresses the practical problems faced by prisoners. Under this rule, an inmate cannot be forced to attend the sub-registrar's office in person. Instead, the local sub-registrar is legally obligated to visit the jail premises directly to complete all necessary registration formalities.

The court noted that the petitioner was merely asking for the enforcement of an existing statutory right, not extraordinary privileges. It stated that administrative inconvenience or official negligence cannot be used as an excuse to deny a citizen's basic rights.

New Twist in the Death of Former Vijayanagar Club Secretary Nagachandra: FIR Registered Against Wife

Court Orders Investigation Based on Private Complaint

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The death of S. Nagachandra, former secretary of the Vijayanagar Club in Bengaluru, has taken a new turn. What was initially treated as an unnatural death is now under fresh investigation after the 24th ACJM Court directed the Vijayanagar Police to register an FIR based on a private complaint.

Following a complaint filed by Nagachandra's friend, Rajugowda, the police registered an FIR against his wife, J. Chandana, on June 1 and have begun an investigation. Authorities will examine whether negligence or any other criminal act contributed to Nagachandra's death. The private complaint contains several serious allegations, and the court found them sufficient to warrant a formal investigation.

According to the complaint, Nagachandra suffered from

high blood pressure, smoked, consumed alcohol, and had a spinal ailment. On the morning of October 24, 2024, his wife allegedly gave him medication and he went to sleep. When she tried to wake him at around 5:45 p.m., he did not respond. He was taken to Sun Flower Hospital in Vijayanagar, where doctors declared him dead. The complainant has also alleged that doctors at Victoria Hospital did not conduct a proper post-mortem examination. The complaint further states that psychiatric medication, cigarette packs, and liquor bottles were found in Nagachandra's room. It also alleges that insufficient attention was paid to maintaining the room and that his health was neglected.

The case has now entered a new phase in the search for the truth. At times, a death is not merely a family tragedy—it raises broader questions about

relationships, faith in the justice system, and the need to establish the truth. Nagachandra's death appears to have reached such a stage.

Although the case was initially registered as an unnatural death, it has resurfaced due to questions surrounding the circumstances of his death, the medical treatment he received, the post-mortem examination, and the initial investigation.

With several recent cases in Karnataka involving suspicious deaths linked to property disputes, financial matters, and personal relationships drawing public attention, Nagachandra's case has also generated considerable interest. However, the allegations in this case remain under investigation. Police are expected to examine medical records, witness statements, and other evidence before submitting their investigation report to the court.

CCB launches surprise city-wide midnight crackdown

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) police gave local criminals a massive shock by launching a surprise, city-wide crackdown late last night. Led by CCB Deputy Commissioner of Police Srihari babu, the midnight operation targeted notorious rowdy sheeters to restore public peace. Special police teams raided the homes of more than 30 registered criminals simultaneously across the Bengaluru East and North East divisions. The sudden operation caught the local underworld completely off-guard as officers searched properties for illegal activities. During the extensive search, police recovered a dangerous stash of deadly weapons hidden inside the house of a known criminal named Prabhakar in the Indiranagar neighborhood.

Massive cleanup reclaims Bengaluru South walkways

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Walking in Bengaluru South just became much safer. Municipal authorities launched a massive cleanup operation, successfully clearing over 10 kilometers of illegal footpath encroachments. This initiative, directed by Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, aims to reclaim public space for pedestrians who have long struggled with

blocked walkways. Led by Additional Commissioner Dr. Naveen Kumar Raju, teams utilized heavy machinery, including JCBs, to dismantle unauthorized shop fronts, concrete steps, and temporary sheds. These structures had previously forced residents to walk on busy streets, creating dangerous traffic conditions. The operation spanned multiple divisions, ensuring that major

Operation coverage by division		
Division	Length cleared	Notable area
Jayanagar	2.75 km	26th Main Road
Anjanapur/Begur	5.10 km	Vasantapura/Yelachenahalli
HSR Layout	2.00 km	Iblur Road

Key operation highlights

- **Systematic clearing:** Over 10.93 km of footpaths were reclaimed across various assembly constituencies today.
- **Targeted impact:** High-traffic areas, including Tilak Nagar and Jayanagar, saw immediate improvements for daily commuters.
- **Public safety:** By removing physical barriers, the city has significantly reduced accident risks for thousands of local walkers.

transit corridors are now accessible once again. The scale of the project was significant. In the Jayanagar and Padmanabhanagar divisions, teams focused on busy commercial zones, while the Anjanapur and Begur divisions cleared long stretches near major junctions.

INDIA'S EV POWERHOUSE

Kumaraswamy pushes for competitive EV ecosystem

Why this matters

- **Boosting local jobs:** By focusing on indigenous manufacturing, the government aims to create more high-tech jobs for Indian youth.
- **Global competition:** The initiative seeks to make Indian EVs high-quality and affordable enough to compete in markets worldwide.
- **Clean mobility:** Accelerating EV adoption is essential to improving air quality in India's bustling cities.

Key Focus Areas

Objective	Long-term goal
Manufacturing	Deepen domestic production capacity
Technology	Drive innovation in EV batteries
Target	Reaching Viksit Bharat 2047 goals

"Make in India" initiatives. The conversation centered on refining government support programs, specifically the PM E-DRIVE Scheme and the PLI Auto Scheme, to ensure they effectively help local companies grow.

Minister Kumaraswamy promised full government support to foster an environment where innovation thrives. He emphasized that the government is dedicated to removing hurdles for manufacturers, ensuring they have the tools and

policies needed to succeed in a competitive global landscape.

"We are committed to building a robust, innovation-driven, and globally competitive EV ecosystem," Kumaraswamy stated, highlighting the government's unwavering focus on long-term sustainability.

This initiative is deeply rooted in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat (a self-reliant India).

QUICK READ

Fisheries department opens lease of district lakes

CH NEWS, Gadag
Gadag district fisheries department has invited applications from eligible fishing cooperative societies and farmer fishermen producer organisations for lease of selected fishing lakes. Sitalahari Gowda Lake in Gadag taluk, Parampore Sarpanch Lake and Parampore Lake in Ron taluk, and Parvatikolla and Thotaganti lakes in Gajendragad taluk are included. The fishing rights will be leased for five years from 2026-27 fishery year starting 01-07-2026 to 2030-31 ending 30-06-2031. Interested groups must submit proposals with required documents to the Assistant Director of Fisheries office in Gadag by July 30.

Free driving training offered for BPL candidates

CH NEWS, Gadag
Free driving training will be provided to eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) candidates of Mundaragi Municipality for the year 2026-27. Interested and eligible candidates can apply in the prescribed format along with necessary documents. The last date for submitting applications is July 10. For application and further information, Mundaragi Municipality Office can be contacted.

State workshop to highlight Banjara culture

CH NEWS, GADAG
A state level workshop and symposium for Banjara Dhadi, Dhalia, Sanara, Nanni and Bhara-wa communities will be held on July 5 at Kankali Kalikadevi Temple in Beladhadi Tanda of Gadag taluk. The programme is jointly organised by the Department of Kannada and Culture, Banjara Culture and Language Academy, Karnataka Banjara Sahitya Parishad, and its Gadag district unit. The inauguration at 11 am will be done by Dr Motilal R Chavan, President of Banjara Culture and Language Academy. MLA and former minister Dr H K Patil will preside over the event. Shirahatti MLA Dr Chandru Lamani will lay a wreath, while Dr DB Nayak will release the book Sanara written by Dr Surekha Rathod.

Protesters demand Basapura Lake opening, closure of MSPL pellet factory, and action against industries polluting Tungabhadra river

Koppal protest enters 247th day over industrial issues

KOPPAP

The ongoing protest against industrial pollution and land-related issues in Koppal has entered its 247th day, with activists continuing their indefinite sit-in near the municipal council premises. Protesters have raised multiple demands related to environmental safety, public health, and agricultural protection in the region.

The protesters are demanding the opening of Basapura Lake for public use as directed by the High Court. They have also called for the closure of the MSPL pellet factory and action against industries allegedly polluting the Tungabhadra river water. According to them, these activities are affecting farming and drinking water supply in nearby areas.

They further demanded that reservoir water should be re-

Farmers assured as rainfall situation improves gradually

Officials said reservoirs like Rakasakoppa are filling, improving Belagavi water supply, with only few areas facing shortages

BELAGAVI

Public Works Department Minister Satish Jarkiholi said that worries about rain shortage have reduced as good rainfall is being recorded and reservoirs are slowly filling across the district. He noted that there is a 29 percent rain deficit but expressed confidence that continuous rain in the coming days will remove the shortage completely.

Speaking after a district level nature management meeting, he said the situation is under control and farmers need not worry. He added that if rains continue for a week, enough water will be stored in



reservoirs for four to five months. If rainfall increases further it will benefit agriculture across the region.

Officials said water has already started flowing into reservoirs including Rakasakoppa and storage levels will rise in the coming days. He said drinking water supply in Be-

lagavi city will improve as reservoirs fill and only about ten places are currently facing shortages.

A large area has already been sown and the recent rains are helping crops grow well in the district. For areas like Ramadurga and Savadatti where rain is still low, he said more showers are expected in the next eight days. If rainfall does not improve, the government may conduct a survey, but he said the situation has not reached that stage yet.

On infrastructure issues, he blamed a private contractor for repeated road digging in Belagavi city due to pipeline work and said he has instruct-

ed repairs. He added that such work should be stopped during the rainy season and roads will be temporarily repaired until permanent work is completed after rains. Encroachments on footpaths are being removed as per Supreme Court orders and officials will issue prior notices before clearance drives.

He also mentioned cloud seeding trials in nearby districts and said the government will consider similar efforts if needed in Belagavi region. On cabinet expansion, he said the party high command will decide ministerial posts as several vacancies are pending and expansion will happen soon.

Debt pressure leads to tragic family suicide

GANGAVATHI

Three members of a family died by suicide in Prashanthnagar area of Gangavathi due to heavy debt pressure.

The deceased have been identified as Prakash Raikar aged fifty four, his wife Prabha aged forty six and their son Shashank aged twenty one. Prakash ran a jewellery shop and had taken loans from a bank in Manvi leading to financial stress. The bank had seized

their house after loan default and the family had already sold the property to another buyer.

According to police the family entered the house through the back door and died by suicide inside the building. Shashank was studying engineering in Bengaluru and had come to Gangavathi just four days before the incident. Police have registered a case and are investigating based on a complaint filed by Prakash's brother. Senior officers said preliminary

findings suggest financial distress as the main reason behind the tragic deaths. Relatives and neighbours expressed shock and grief as the incident left the locality in mourning.

Authorities said further investigation is underway and necessary legal procedures will continue in the case. Local residents said the tragedy highlights financial burden on families and urged people to seek support during difficult times instead of taking extreme steps.

Bike rally spreads voter awareness drive

MUNDARAGI

A bike rally was organized in Mundaragi town under the joint auspices of Taluk Panchayat, Taluk Administration, Education Department and other departments along with the Outsourced Employees Association to create awareness about the Special Comprehensive Revision of Voters SIR 2026.

The rally started from the Tahsildar office and passed through the market, Annadanishwara Mutts and reached

the bus stand, where slogans were raised to spread awareness among the public and passengers about the voter revision drive.

Speaking on the occasion, Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Vijayakumar Benne said the special comprehensive revision of the voter list started on June 30 and will continue till July 29.

Booth Level Officers are visiting houses to collect information and the public has been appealed to cooperate by providing details, filling

forms and receiving acknowledgement receipts.

Nagaraj Hallikeri, president of the Taluk Unit of the Government Employees Association, said that widespread awareness is being created through media campaigns to ensure eligible voters are included in the voter list.

Officials from various departments including Revenue, Education, RDPR and Horticulture along with members of the Outsourced Employees Association participated in the rally.

Swamiji says Vijayendra faces no trouble ahead

DAVANAGERE

Sri Shaila Jagadguru Dr. Channasiddharama Panditaradhya Shivacharya Swamiji has said that BJP state president B. Y. Vijayendra will not face any political trouble and expressed confidence that party leaders have understood the situation and conspiracies against him will not succeed.

He said that trying to weaken leaders within the party is not right and such actions will harm the organization instead of helping it grow.

He added that he is confident of good rains in the coming days and farmers will be able to grow crops happily and should wait patiently.

Speaking on alleged misuse of donations at the Ayodhya Ram temple, he said he was not fully informed as he was on the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and would respond after verifying facts, but demanded a fair investigation and strict punishment for those responsible.

Cleanliness drive launched at Gajendragad bus station

GAJENDRAGAD

A Swachhata Shramdaan program was held at the central bus station in Gajendragad, where officials, workers, and citizens joined hands to clean the premises under various local bodies and departments.

It was launched despite heavy rain and cloudy weather, and volunteers used gloves, masks, brooms and other cleaning tools to remove waste from the bus stand area in a coordinated effort.

From 6:30 am to 9 am, the front side of the bus station, Indra Canteen surroundings and nearby areas were cleaned, making the place neat and attractive for passengers and the public.

After the cleaning, sanitization was done across the premises by Taluk Guarantee Committee president Sharanappa Betageri, who also interacted with shop owners and asked them to avoid littering.

Speaking on the occasion, Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Chandrashekar Kandakur said that public participation is essential for successful cleanliness campaigns and urged citizens to maintain hygiene at homes and public places.

He added that if garbage is collected in one place, municipal teams will remove it regularly, and Gram Panchayats are working to keep villages clean with cooperation from residents. Officials from the Taluk Panchayat, Municipality, KSRTC, and other departments participated in the event, supporting the cleanliness drive and encouraging civic responsibility among the public.

Leaders said that keeping bus stations clean is important for public health, as many passengers use the facility daily, and they appealed to shopkeepers and travellers to support the initiative continuously.



Swamiji demanded probe into Ram temple donation misuse, questioned caste certificates, and said reservations should be economic, noting only Centre can handle caste census

On the issue of mandatory caste certificates for schemes, he questioned the practice and said reservations should be based on economic condition rather than caste identity.

He also said the state government does not have the authority to conduct or release caste census data and urged

reconsideration as the central government is preparing the exercise.

He said a meeting will be held in Davanagere with Veerashaiva Lingayat leaders to discuss the upcoming central caste census, including religion, caste and sub caste entries, and to present a unified stand.

Swamiji's remarks come amid ongoing political discussions in Karnataka where party unity and internal differences are being closely watched by supporters and leaders across the state. His call for fairness, unity, and development of leadership has been highlighted as an appeal for stability within the organization and among communities who follow the Sri Shaila tradition. Observers say that the statement also reflects a broader message of caution against internal conflicts while emphasizing cooperation, responsible governance, and respect for public concerns in both religious and political spaces.

BJP continues dominance in municipal corporation polls

HUBBALLI

Durgamma Bijwad has been elected as the new Mayor of Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation, while Ratnabhai Nazare has taken charge as the Deputy Mayor after elections held at the corporation's Sabha Bhavan. The results were officially announced after voting by elected members of the civic body.

The mayoral post for this term was reserved for Hubballi, and Durgamma, representing Ward No. 69, emerged as the winning candidate. Ratnabhai Nazare from Ward No. 9 of Dharwad was elected Deputy Mayor. Both leaders are associated with the ruling BJP, which retained control of the corporation.

The election saw participation from 88 out of 92 members. Durgamma secured 50 votes, defeating Congress candidate Kavita Kabbur, who received 32 votes. Ratnabhai also won with 50 votes against his opponent. Officials confirmed the results and declared the new leadership of the civic body.



Several political leaders, including MPs and MLAs from the region, supported the BJP candidates during the election process. Opposition leaders backed the Congress nominees, making the contest closely watched in the region.

After the announcement, BJP workers and supporters celebrated inside the corporation premises by bursting crackers and cheering the victory. Leaders said the result reflects continued public trust in the ruling party's local governance.

Interestingly, Durgamma had earlier served as Deputy Mayor in the same term before being elected Mayor. Her elevation marks a continuation of her role in the city's administration. The new leadership is expected to focus on civic development and municipal services in the coming term.

Couple seeks euthanasia after water cut issue

BELAGAVI

A couple in Channamma Kitur town of Belagavi district has applied to the Tahsildar seeking euthanasia, alleging water supply was cut off by town panchayat officials. The residents Manjunath Savadi and Shruti said their tap water has been stopped for four days despite clearing pending bills. They alleged that the panchayat intervened in a family dispute and disconnected the drinking water connection. The couple

also claimed that electricity supply was cut earlier and they are facing repeated harassment. They have submitted a petition to the Tahsildar seeking mercy and requested permission for euthanasia on July 6. Officials have received the application and the matter is under review. Local residents said the issue has created concern in the area and urged authorities to restore basic services and resolve disputes quickly to avoid further hardship for the affected family.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SALMASULTANA
YADGERI (old name)
address: H No 13716,
KUMBAR ONI, KOULPET,
MAHAVEER ONI,
Hubli-580020.
Has changed my name:
SALMA SULTANA
CONTRACTOR (new name)
for all purposes.
Vide Affidavit
dated: 04/07/2026
before notary public Hubli

CHANGE OF NAME

I, BIBI AMINA ZUNGUR
(old name) address:
H No 108, MUKKERI ONI,
GANESH PETH,
Hubli-580020.
Has changed my name:
BIBI AMINA RAMADURG
(new name)
for all purposes.
Vide Affidavit
dated: 04/07/2026
before notary public Hubli.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HINA KOUSAR
BAWAKHAN (old name)
address:
H No 108, MUKKERI
ONI, GANESH PETH,
Hubli-580020.
Has changed my name:
HINA KOUSAR RAMDURG
(new name)
for all purposes.
Vide Affidavit
dated: 04/07/2026
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QUICK READ

VAO injured in road accident during SIR duty

Tumakuru
A village administrative officer named Bhuvana was seriously injured in Tumakuru while travelling for Special Intensive Revision SIR duty when a tipper lorry hit her on Tuesday morning. She was taken to a private hospital where doctors said her condition is critical and she is fighting for her life in the emergency unit. Colleagues staged protests outside the hospital and the district collector spoke to them and assured that concerns would be addressed. Employees alleged pressure from senior officials due to SIR work and demanded justice for the injured officer.

Social welfare scholarship applications open in Udupi

Udupi
The Social Welfare Department has announced scholarships for eligible Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students studying in primary and secondary schools of Udupi, Kaup and Brahmavar taluks. Students including children of parents engaged in sanitation work can apply for pre-matric scholarship through their schools. School principals must submit applications online with required documents on the department website. Aadhaar must be linked to bank accounts through NPCI and students of class nine and ten ST category must complete NSP OTR registration. For more information contact 9480843209 or visit the official portal as stated by the Assistant Director's Office.

Chikkodi house wall collapse in rains, seven escape safely

Belagavi
Incassant rains led to a major scare in Jodakuruli village of Chikkodi taluk on Saturday morning after a house wall collapsed suddenly. The house belonged to Gangavva Varale and suffered severe damage due to continuous rainfall in the region. At the time of the incident, seven family members were inside the house having lunch together. Sensing danger as parts of the wall began to weaken, all of them managed to rush out just in time. Fortunately, all seven escaped without injuries, averting what could have been a major tragedy. The house, however, was badly damaged, leaving the family in distress and temporarily without shelter. Locals said the family has been forced to stay outside after the incident. Officials from the local administration visited the site and began inspection of the damage.

BALLARI

The Ballari Regional Forest Division organised a Green March as part of Vanamahotsava 2026, calling for environmental conservation to become a daily practice rather than a once-a-year activity. The awareness rally began from the Regional Forest Division office and saw participation from officials, police personnel, students, and citizens. Ballari Superintendent of Police Suman D. Pennekar flagged off the march along

U.T. Khader chairs disaster management review meeting

Minister urged officials to work as family, maintain 24-hour alertness, and ensure urgent response in disaster situations

KARWAR

District In-charge Minister U.T. Khader said that responding immediately to public suffering and ensuring a comfortable life for citizens is the top priority of the government during natural disasters. He was speaking while presiding over a review meeting on disaster management and departmental progress at the District Collector's office hall on Saturday. He said the district administration is fully prepared to face monsoon-related challenges, even though it is impossible to



predict when natural disasters may occur. He instructed officials to remain alert at all times and respond quickly to public emergencies without delay. The Minister said officers

and staff at all levels must work together like a family during crises and handle emergency calls from the public with urgency. He stressed that 24-hour alertness is necessary and no negligence will be tolerated in disaster response duties. He informed that Rs 61 crore is available in the Deputy Commissioner's account for immediate disaster relief. He directed taluk-level committees led by Tahsildars to inspect damage quickly and distribute compensation without delay whenever houses are affected by floods or heavy rain.

He warned that strict action will be taken against officials who delay compensation distribution. He also said that every officer must carry a service-oriented mindset and perform duties with honesty and commitment during the monsoon season. The Minister instructed the Health Department to take preventive measures against epidemic diseases during the rainy season. He said people should immediately visit hospitals for treatment instead of self-medication, and temporary doctors will be appointed where staff shortages exist. Re-

tired doctors may also be engaged if needed. He directed departments to ensure sufficient fodder stock for 41 weeks to avoid shortage for cattle. He also asked the Revenue and Agriculture departments to jointly survey crop damage and submit a detailed report at the earliest. On infrastructure safety, he instructed authorities to build protective barriers in landslide-prone areas along national highways and warned action against agencies failing to take safety measures. He also expressed concern over sewage entering the Ma-

habaleshwar temple in Gokarna and directed officials to inspect the site and consult experts for a permanent solution. Deputy Commissioner K. Lakshmi Priya said the district is fully prepared with 24-hour control rooms and 294 care centres. She added that there was no loss of life, while limited house damage cases have already received compensation. Officials and public representatives including MLAs and senior district officers attended the meeting and discussed co-ordinated efforts for effective disaster management during the monsoon season.

Daddal pledges tourism growth in Raichur

RAICHUR

Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation chairman and MLA Basanagowda Daddal said on Saturday that steps will be taken to develop tourism locations in Raichur district. He made the statement after visiting several ongoing project sites across the district. He said the Kalyana Karnataka region has lagged behind in tourism development compared to coastal Karnataka and the old Mysuru region. He noted that Raichur has rich historical and religious importance, with reservoirs built across the Krishna and



Tungabhadra rivers creating several natural islands. These locations, he said, have strong potential to become tourist attractions. Daddal said he will request the State government to develop these areas under the PRASAD scheme, which supports infrastructure development at pilgrimage and heri-

tag sites with central assistance. He added that detailed project reports are being prepared to identify and improve key religious and historical places in the district. Earlier in the day, he also visited hostels, schools, and other public facilities during his inspection tour.

Daddal will seek PRASAD scheme support and said project reports are being prepared to develop pilgrimage and heritage sites across the district

Officials and locals said that proper development of tourism sites could improve employment opportunities and strengthen the local economy in Raichur district. They also expressed hope that better infrastructure, connectivity, and facilities would help attract more visitors and put Raichur on the tourism map of Karnataka in the coming years with sustained government support and planning.

Prisoners in Karwar turn to handicraft production

KARWAR

Karwar District Jail is witnessing a remarkable transformation as inmates are turning to creativity and skill development, showing that prisons can also become centres of reform. Officials say the initiative is helping prisoners move away from negative thoughts and build a more positive future through meaningful work. Around 25 inmates have been trained in handicraft production inside the jail. They are now making eco-friendly cloth bags, paper bags, clay art items, household products, and paintings. The products are carefully designed and are considered good enough to compete in the open market,

reflecting the growing skills of the prisoners. The jail's training programme focuses on promoting eco-friendly products and reducing the use of plastic. The handmade bags are used for daily needs and office use, supporting the idea of a cleaner environment. Officials say the continuous engagement in creative work has helped reduce stress, anger, and depression among inmates. A portion of the income from the sale of these products is deposited into the prisoners' bank accounts. This helps them support their families while in jail and also gives them financial security for life after release. Authorities believe the training will help inmates restart their lives

with dignity and self-reliance once their sentences are completed. Senior officials, including district administrators and police officers, have visited the jail and appreciated the craftsmanship of the inmates. The prison department has also introduced several skill development programmes under the guidance of senior prison officials, focusing on training, rehabilitation, and future employment opportunities. Jail authorities said the initiative proves that creative work can bring mental change even behind bars. They added that with public support and encouragement, such efforts can help build a crime-free society and offer prisoners a genuine second chance in life.

Irrigation committee halts water release for farming

SHIVAMOGGA

Bhadra Irrigation Advisory Committee has directed farmers in the command area of Bhadra reservoir not to cultivate any crop due to low water storage caused by deficit rainfall. In a communication released on Saturday, the committee member-secretary said the State government, in an order issued on Friday, directed dam authorities to use available water only for drinking purposes. Earlier, on June 30, the advisory committee said water could not be released into right and left bank canals for kharif crop due to rainfall deficit.

Deputy Lokayukta inspects offices, hospitals in Madikeri

MADIKERI

Deputy Lokayukta Justice K.N. Phanindra visited and inspected several government offices and institutions in Madikeri and its outskirts on Saturday to review public services and administrative functioning. He also visited Omkareshwar Temple and Anjaneya Swamy Temple, where he offered prayers during his visit. He was accompanied by senior officials including Deputy Commissioner S.J. Somashekhar, Zilla Panchayat CEO Anand Prakash Meena, Superintendent of Police R.N. Bindumani, Lokayukta officials, and other district authorities during the inspection

tour. At the Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences District Hospital, the Deputy Lokayukta interacted with both outpatients and inpatients to check facilities such as cleanliness, toilets, medicines, food, drinking water, and overall hospital services. He questioned whether medicines were supplied directly by the hospital and checked if patients were being forced to buy medicines outside. Patients reportedly confirmed that medicines and basic services were being provided within the hospital. He inspected bed sheets, mattresses, and staff attendance registers and expressed displeasure over irregular at-

tendance entries. He instructed hospital authorities to maintain proper records, case management systems, and duty discipline among doctors and staff. He also visited general wards and women and children's wards and directed officials to improve cleanliness and ensure that patients receive proper and timely medical care without negligence. Later, he visited a municipal park on Dasavala Road and expressed strong dissatisfaction after finding medical waste dumped at the site and a parking area existing instead of a proper park. He ordered removal of the nameboard and action against those responsible.

At the Regional Transport Office, he reviewed records related to licenses, vehicle registration, and tax collection. He instructed officials to ensure smooth public service and avoid inconvenience to citizens in administrative work. He also inspected the medical college hostel, where students raised concerns about water supply issues, rainwater leakage, electricity safety, and lack of proper facilities. Students also requested a playground for recreation. The Deputy Lokayukta assured that their concerns would be brought to the government's attention and efforts would be made to address them.

Review meeting held for Hirebenakal conservation works

KOPPAL

Special emphasis will be given to the preservation of burial sites and development of basic infrastructure at Hirebenakal Morera Hill, a famous Megalithic Age site that has been included in the tentative UNESCO World Heritage List, said K.P. Mohan Raj, Secretary of the Housing and Social Welfare Department and Koppal District In-charge Secretary. He chaired a review meeting held at the District Collector's Office hall on Saturday regarding conservation and development works at the historic site located in Gangavathi taluk. Officials discussed steps needed to protect the ancient monuments and improve facilities for visitors. Mohan Raj said the site must be protected with proper care while also ensuring eco-friendly development. He instructed the Forest Department to complete tender processes and begin works such as CCTV installation, solar lighting, watch towers, borewell and pump facilities, toilets, seating arrangements, entrance arch, and security infrastructure. He stressed that protection of the hill should go hand in hand with forest conservation and visitor safety. He also directed that additional security measures be introduced, including night patrols and appointment of extra guards to strengthen protection of the heritage site.

At present, three Archaeological Survey of India guards are deployed at the site from morning till evening. Officials said night security is also necessary, and steps will be taken to appoint additional personnel and improve surveillance in the area. District Collector Dr. Suresh B. Itnal said that Rs. 80 lakh has already been released under the Kalyana Karnataka Regional Development Board scheme for development works at Hirebenakal Morera Hill. He added that the tender process is underway and efforts will be made to protect the heritage site. Officials from the Tourism Department briefed the meeting on the historical importance of the site and its potential as a major tourist destination. They highlighted the need to preserve its archaeological value while improving visitor facilities. Zilla Panchayat CEO Varmit Negi, Deputy Conservator of Forests Nirmala, Gangavathi Forest Officer Basavaraj Poojara, Archaeology Department officials, revenue officers, and tourism staff participated in the meeting and discussed co-ordinated efforts for development. Authorities concluded that Hirebenakal Morera Hill requires both strong protection and planned development to preserve its ancient heritage while promoting responsible tourism and ensuring long-term conservation of the site for future generations.

ACCURATE DATA ESSENTIAL FOR 2031 VISION PLAN: DC

VIJAYANAGARA

District Commissioner Kavita S. Mannikeri said that accurate and complete data is essential for preparing the District Human Development Report and the comprehensive District Development Vision Plan 2031, which reflects the real situation of the district. She stressed that all departments must work in co-ordination to prepare a reliable report. She was speaking while chairing the District Level Monitoring and Coordination Committee meeting held at the Zilla Panchayat hall in Hosapete. She said the planning exercise is currently under progress and requires factual and detailed information from all departments. The Deputy Commissioner said that the information should not be limited only to

physical development like roads and buildings. It must also include the living standards of people, health conditions, education levels, nutrition status, and overall social development indicators of the district. She instructed officials to carefully record key data such as life expectancy, maternal and child mortality rates, availability of healthcare services, literacy levels, school enrolment rates, girls' education, and the number of children who are out of school. She further said that backward taluks and gram panchayats must be identified so that government schemes can reach the most vulnerable sections of society. She emphasized that basic facilities like clean drinking water, sanitation, housing, nutrition, healthcare, and education must be ensured.

ECO PROTECTION PLEDGE

Green March calls for year-round tree protection



with Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Mohammed Haris Sumair. The procession passed through Cowl Bazaar and concluded at the TB San-

atorium campus, where participants planted saplings and took a pledge to protect the environment. Saplings were also distributed to participants.

Ms. Pennekar said rising temperatures in the city make tree plantation and protection essential for the future. She stressed that environmental protection should not remain symbolic or limited to annual celebrations but should become a continuous responsibility of every citizen. She highlighted the role of students in earlier years, saying schoolchildren actively participated in planting saplings and tracking their growth. She said such activities should be revived to build

environmental awareness and responsibility among young people. She also appreciated the Forest Department for regularly conducting plantation drives. However, she urged citizens not only to plant trees but also to ensure their survival and growth into full trees for long-term environmental benefit. CEO Mohammed Haris Sumair said sustainable development cannot be achieved without protecting the environment. He appealed to youth to actively participate

in afforestation, social forestry, and plantation programmes to strengthen green cover in the district. Deputy Conservator of Forests K.N. Basavaraj said Vanamahotsava Week, observed from July 1 to 7 across the country, aims to create awareness about environmental protection and increasing green cover. He said the monsoon season is the best time for plantation activities. Officials said the Green March was organised to encourage public participation in

environmental conservation and to strengthen the message that protecting trees is essential for controlling temperature rise and maintaining ecological balance. Participants also pledged to continue plantation efforts in their local areas. The programme concluded with a strong appeal from officials that environmental protection must become a shared responsibility, ensuring a greener and healthier future for coming generations through consistent action and community involvement.

QUICK READ

Mandya to face power outage for maintenance work

Mandya

Residents in Mandya will face a planned power outage on July 6 from 9 am to 6 pm due to emergency maintenance work on the F-06 Hosahalli Udbhcti feeder under the 66/11 KV Mandya Power Distribution Center. There will be power cut in Dwarakanagar Hosahalli Kaverinagar 1st Stage and nearby villages falling under the same feeder Officials said the shut-down is necessary for safety and repair work R T Chandramouli Assistant Executive Engineer Kottatti Division Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation Limited issued the notice and requested public cooperation during the outage period.

CL-2A certificates to be auctioned in Mandya

Mandya

An e-auction for CL-2A certificates will be held in Mandya on July 7 at 11 am at the Sports Club in Mandya Nagar. The District Excise Deputy Commissioner has organized the process. Officials said people can contact excise offices in Pandavapura and Mandya for details. Information is also available on the state excise website and MSTC portal for registration. Participants must register on the MSTC e-commerce site to take part in the auction. Helpline numbers 9901680369 and 9902236018 are provided for further information. Excise department has requested all participants to follow guidelines carefully.

Cycle rally, walkathon promote voter awareness in Chitradurga

Dr Akash said voter list revision is important, urging eligible voters to submit census forms to Booth Level Officers

CHITRADURGA

A cycle rally and walkathon were organized in Chitradurga to create awareness about the Special Comprehensive Revision of the Voter List 2026. The programme was inaugurated by Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Dr. S. Akash at the Zilla Panchayat premises on Saturday.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Akash said the voter list revision is an important process and all eligible voters must carefully fill the census form delivered to their homes



and submit it to Booth Level Officers. He said the revision exercise is being carried out on a large scale after 2002 and called it a valuable opportunity to correct errors in voter records.

He urged citizens to ensure that every eligible member in the family is included in the

process. He also appealed to students and young people to spread awareness in their homes and neighbourhoods so that no voter is left out. According to him, timely submission of forms will help improve the accuracy of the electoral system.

The awareness rally began from the Zilla Panchayat office and passed through major roads and landmarks of the city, including B D Road, Madakari Nayak Circle, Ambedkar Circle, Pravasi Mandir, Gandhi Circle, and ended near Onake Obavva Circle at

the District Collector's office. Officials from various departments, including education, planning, agriculture, minority welfare, and rural development, took part in the event. Students from schools and colleges also joined the programme to support the awareness drive.

Authorities said the campaign aims to ensure maximum voter participation and accurate updating of electoral rolls ahead of future elections, strengthening democratic processes at the grassroots level in the district.

Teachers demand change in PM Poshan system

HARAPANAHALLI

Members of the Karnataka State Primary School Teachers' Association in Harapanahalli have demanded a revision of the joint bank account system used for managing funds under the PM Poshan scheme. They urged the government to restore the earlier system of joint accounts between the headmaster and head cook, which was in practice before 2022.

The demand was raised during a protest held at the taluk panchayat premises after submitting a memorandum to Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Y. Chandrashekar.

Statistics essential for development says ZP official

CHITRADURGA

Zilla Panchayat Deputy Secretary M. Babu said that statistics exist in every field of life and without them progress and proper understanding of development is not possible. He was speaking at the Statistics Day programme held at the Zilla Panchayat hall in Chitradurga after offering floral tributes to the portrait of Professor P.C. Mahalanobis.

He said numbers play an important role in daily life, starting from birth records to banking systems and government revenue work. He added that even basic things like account numbers depend on statistics, making them essential for all departments and public services.

M. Babu further said that staff of the Statistics Department have wide opportunities to perform well in different sectors as data-based decision making is becoming more im-

portant in administration and planning.

Retired Assistant Director of the Statistics Department, Mohammad Yusuf, said statistics form the invisible foundation of development. He compared it to the base of a building, saying that without strong data, no development work can stand or succeed properly.

He said that dams, roads, and buildings are visible achievements of development, but the statistical data behind them remains unseen. He added that all major projects depend on accurate data for planning and execution, making statistics the guiding force of economic growth.

He also recalled that June 29 is observed as National Statistics Day in honour of Professor P.C. Mahalanobis, who is regarded as the father of Indian statistics. He highlighted his role in establishing the Indian Statistical Institute in Kolkata in 1931.

He noted that Mahalanobis' famous model played a key role in India's Second Five Year Plan and contributed significantly to national development. Since 2007, the Government of India has been celebrating Statistics Day every year to honour his contributions.

A lecture on Professor Mahalanobis was delivered by Channabasappa, a lecturer at Chitradurga Government First Grade College. Essay competition winners were also awarded prizes during the programme as part of the celebrations. District officials including Chief Planning Officer C.S. Gayathri and District Statistical Officer Ravikumar were present. Retired officials and staff of the Statistics Department were also felicitated at the event. The programme concluded with appreciation of the importance of statistics in nation building and governance.

Sixty villagers fall ill from contaminated water

SHIDLAGHATTA

More than sixty people fell ill after consuming contaminated drinking water in Chikkathekahalli village under Doddathekahalli Gram Panchayat in Shidlaghatta taluk, creating panic and fear among residents. Officials rushed to the village and inspected the affected areas soon after the incident was reported.

For the past three days, villagers have been suffering from vomiting, diarrhoea, headache, and fever. Many of them are visiting hospitals daily for treatment as the situation continues to worsen. Officials suspect that sewage water has mixed with the drinking water pipeline, causing the outbreak of illness in the village.

As the number of patients increased, teams from the Health Department, taluk ad-

ministration, Gram Panchayat, and other related departments visited the village. They inspected the water supply system, collected samples, and sent them for laboratory testing. Health officials also planned medical checkups to prevent further spread of disease.

Villagers have demanded immediate supply of safe drinking water and a permanent solution to the contamination problem. Health officials have advised residents to drink only boiled and cooled water and to seek medical attention immediately if symptoms appear or worsen.

The village has been depending on private drinking water units, but many of them have stopped working or are not supplying safe water properly. The government-installed RO plant in the village has remained nonfunctional

Health teams inspected water supply, collected samples, and planned medical checkups after rising patient cases in village

for more than a year despite repeated repair attempts.

Asha workers and nurses are visiting homes daily to check on affected people and provide medical guidance. They are also reassuring villagers not to panic while ensuring proper monitoring of health conditions in the area. District Health Officer Dr Mahesh Kumar, Tahsildar Gagan Sindhu, Taluk Health Officer Dr Venkatesh Murthy, and other senior officials visited the affected village and reviewed the situation on site. They instructed immediate preventive measures and water safety checks.

Officials review voter list revision work in Mandya

MANDYA

District In-charge Secretary Manoj Kumar Meena and Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumar visited several areas in Mandya district to review the Special Comprehensive Revision of the voter list being carried out as per the Election Commission of India's directions. The officials inspected the ongoing work in different parts of Mandya city and Mandya taluk.

They visited Vidyanagar

and Gandhinagar wards in Mandya city and also went to Hanakere in Mandya taluk. During the visit, they closely observed the voter list revision process and interacted with Booth Level Officers working on the ground.

The officials collected detailed information from BLOs about the progress of the Special Comprehensive Revision work. They instructed that Booth Level Officers must visit households, help voters correctly fill out the enumer-

ation forms, and ensure that the signed forms are collected properly.

They stressed that the voter list revision is a very important exercise and said that no eligible voter should be left out of the electoral roll. Citizens were urged to actively cooperate with the process to ensure accuracy and completeness in voter registration.

The officials also advised voters to contact Booth Level Officers, supervisors, or election officers in case of any

confusion regarding the process. They assured that proper guidance would be provided to resolve issues quickly.

During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized that BLOs must carry out their responsibilities carefully.

He also said that once the enumeration forms are collected from voters, they should be digitized without delay to ensure smooth completion of the revision process.

AKKA CAFE PROMOTED AS MODEL FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

MANDYA

Akka Cafe was inaugurated at the Horticulture Department premises in Srirangapatna taluk of Mandya district under the state government's ambitious Akka Cafe project aimed at promoting economic empowerment, self-reliance and entrepreneurship among rural women. The initiative is designed to create sustainable income opportunities for women self-help groups.

Principal Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Department and Mandya District In-charge Secretary and Zilla Panchayat Administrator Manoj Kumar Meena inaugurated the cafe. He said that Akka Cafe can become a model enterprise for women empowerment if it wins public trust by providing clean, quality and affordable food to customers.

He urged women self-help groups to run the enterprise with dedication and service-mindedness. He said customer satisfaction is the key to success and good quality service will naturally eliminate competition. He encour-



aged women to make full use of the opportunity provided by the government to become successful entrepreneurs and achieve self-reliance.

Srirangapatna MLA Ramesh Bandisidde Gowda said the district administration and Zilla Panchayat are working in coordination for overall development of the district. He said committed effort until completion of development works is the true sign of good governance and praised the initiative as a strong step for rural women.

District Collector Dr. Kumar said the Akka Cafe scheme is an important step towards women's economic empowerment. He said it provides a valuable opportunity for rural women to achieve self-reliance through entrepre-

neurship and improve their living standards through steady income generation.

He added that women self-help groups must maintain cleanliness, taste and quality in food preparation and service. He said successful operation of Akka Cafe will also open doors to more benefits under the National Rural Livelihood Mission and other government schemes in the future.

Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Nandini K.R. said the scheme aims to promote traditional food culture in taluk centres across the district. She said similar cafes have been approved for Srirangapatna, Pandavapura and Malavalli, with one already functioning successfully in Pandavapura.

Cooperative week health camp held in Gadag district

GADAG

A free health check-up camp was organized in Gadag district as part of Cooperative Week celebrations, jointly conducted by several cooperative institutions including the Karnataka State Cooperative Federation, Gadag District Cooperative Union, KCC Bank Dharwad, Dharwad Milk Union, and Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society Dambal. The programme was held at Sri Veerabhadreshwara Community Bhavan in Dam-

bal under Mundaragi taluk.

The event was conducted to mark five years of the establishment of the Central Cooperative Ministry. It focused on promoting health awareness among cooperative society members, especially beneficiaries of the Yashaswini health scheme.

Inaugurating the programme, retired lecturer and environmentalist C. S. Arasana stressed the importance of environmental protection. He urged members to follow the message of "one member, one

sapling" and said that tree planting is essential to protect soil and improve the environment. He also encouraged societies to plant trees in public places like roadsides, parks, schools, and government offices.

Medical officer M. M. Sajjan spoke about the importance of maintaining physical and mental health. She advised people to practice yoga, meditation, and breathing exercises, get proper sleep, and eat nutritious food. She also warned against smoking, al-

cohol use, and drug abuse, especially among youth, highlighting rising health risks.

Cooperative development officer C. K. Lamani explained the benefits of the Yashaswini health insurance scheme, including low-cost treatment, surgical assistance, and coverage for families in registered hospitals. He said the scheme helps reduce financial stress caused by medical emergencies and improves access to quality healthcare for cooperative members.

UNITY THROUGH CONSTITUTION

Constitution is foundation of strong India: Nagamohan Das

RAMANAGARA

Retired Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das said the Constitution is the foundation for building a strong and united India. He said it united a country divided before independence and established equality and sovereignty. He was speaking at prize distribution program for essay competition organized at M H College.

He said Constitution guides human life from birth to death and is the mother of all laws in the country. It helped re-



duce caste discrimination and improved status of Dalits women and minorities in society. He said real development of India began after the

Constitution came into force. He highlighted the Constitution Reading Campaign started eight years ago which later became an organization

spreading awareness nationwide. The books were published in six languages and nearly twenty lakh copies were sold reaching millions of

people. So far five thousand youth have been trained through study camps across the state.

He appealed for cooperation to take the campaign to every village and build a strong constitutional awareness movement. He said youth are the future and guardians of the Constitution and stressed the need for training good communicators. He added that essay competitions and study camps are being conducted in many colleges to educate students.

Several dignitaries attended the program including campaign coordinators and education institution heads. Student leader Vijayakumar T S presented a speech and participants discussed the importance of the Constitution. The event concluded with vote of thanks and cultural participation by students and organizers. He said awareness of Constitution must reach rural areas through continuous programs and community involvement. He emphasized that democracy becomes

stronger when citizens understand their rights and duties clearly. He also mentioned that legal education helps youth become responsible citizens and better leaders.

He called for collective effort from teachers students and leaders to strengthen constitutional values in society. He said such initiatives will build equality justice and unity among people in the country. The program inspired students to think about the importance of Constitution in daily life and nation building.

QUICK READ

Ponzi operator arrested for investment fraud

Mumbai

The Economic Offences Department (EOD) of the Mumbai Police has arrested a man accused of operating an alleged Ponzi scheme that cheated 42 investors of nearly Rs 30.26 crore by promising lucrative returns through a stock market investment platform, officials said on Saturday. According to the investigators, the accused allegedly induced investors to invest through the Investok app by assuring monthly returns ranging from two to five per cent on stock market investments. The authorities alleged that the scheme functioned as an unauthorised deposit operation, resulting in substantial financial losses for dozens of investors.

Shell firm angle under scanner of SIT probing DA case

Kolkata

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the case of Disproportionate Assets (DA) against former and arrested Trinamool Congress Councilor, Debraj Chakraborty, is examining the angle of use of shell companies in diverting the proceeds of crime. The proceeds of crime were collected through illegal avenues by both Chakraborty and his wife Aditi Munsli, a former Trinamool Congress legislator and an acclaimed devotional singer in her personal life. Already, the SIT members have accessed the details of one such company christened 'DC Global', reportedly owned by Chakraborty, through which several crores of the proceeds of crime were diverted to some of the relatives and close associates of both the arrested former councilor and his wife.

'Glorifying separatist leaders': SP Vaid hits out at J&K govt

Jammu

Former Jammu and Kashmir DGP SP Vaid on Saturday criticised the Union Territory government for approving a book that glorifies extremists and separatist leaders while welcoming the Centre's designation of 23 individuals as terrorists under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Earlier on Saturday, the Union Home Minister's Office said: Out of the 23 terrorists announced today, 17 are Pakistani nationals and six are Indian nationals. However, all of them at present operate terrorist activities from Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The former DGP told that the Ministry of Home Affairs' (MHA) move will serve as powerful statement for countries across the globe.

KEY BILLS AND A STRONGER NDA

Parliament's monsoon session from July 20

NEW DELHI

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday announced that the Monsoon Session will commence on July 20 and will continue until August 13, for what he called a meaningful debate on the issues of national importance.

Taking to X, Rijiju said, On the recommendation of the Govt of India, Hon'ble President, Smt. Droupadi

Major reshuffle in Finance, Accounts depts to strengthen accountability

Delhi government transferred 52 long-posted finance officers, and promoted 19 others to strengthen transparency, accountability, efficiency, and administrative governance

NEW DELHI

The Delhi government on Saturday announced a major administrative reshuffle in its Finance and Accounts Department as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen transparency, accountability, and efficiency in governance.

The move, implemented under the department's Transfer and Posting Policy, involves the immediate transfer of 52 officers who had been serving in the same positions for five years or more.

The large-scale reshuffle includes the transfer of 23 Deputy Controllers of Ac-

counts and 29 Senior Accounts Officers. Alongside these transfers, the government has promoted 19 Senior Accounts Officers to the post of Deputy Controller of Accounts, assigning them greater responsibilities across various departments in recognition of their performance and experience.

According to the Delhi government, the administrative exercise has been undertaken solely on the basis of official requirements and institutional needs. The objective is to improve financial management, ensure greater transparency in departmental functioning, and

create a more dynamic administrative structure capable of delivering efficient public services.

The newly promoted Deputy Controllers of Accounts will now oversee enhanced financial and administrative responsibilities in their respective departments. In ad-



dition, revised responsibilities have also been assigned to the transferred Deputy Controllers of Accounts and Senior Accounts Officers to further streamline operations and improve coordination within the Finance and Accounts Department.

The government stated that periodic transfers and promotions are essential to maintaining integrity in public administration, preventing stagnation, and encouraging professional growth among officers. Officials believe the latest reshuffle will contribute to a more effective financial management system

while reinforcing accountability across government departments.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said the decision reflects the government's commitment to building an administrative framework based on the highest standards of transparency, accountability, efficiency, and good governance. She emphasized that there is no place for laxity, negligence, or corruption at any level of governance and reiterated that public officials are expected to perform their duties with complete integrity and professionalism.

Chennai collector convenes meeting with e-Sevai operators

CHENNAI

Chennai District Collector S. Malathi Helen on Saturday convened a consultative meeting with e-Sevai centre operators on July 7 to address recurring issues that have led to the rejection and delay of applications for government and revenue-related services.

The meeting, scheduled to be held at the conference hall of the Chennai Collectorate, aims to improve the quality of applications submitted through e-Sevai centres and ensure faster delivery of citizen services.

Operators from e-Sevai centres across the district are expected to participate in the consultation.

As per a statement by the Collector, revenue authorities have repeatedly noticed that applications are being submitted with incorrectly scanned, incomplete or inappropriate supporting documents.

Such errors have resulted in delays in processing applications and, in many cases, their rejection by revenue officials.

The district administration said the meeting has been organised to sensitise e-Sevai operators about the correct procedures for scanning and uploading documents while submitting applications on behalf of the public. Officials will also emphasise the importance of verifying all supporting records before they are uploaded to the government portal.

It noted that many of the deficiencies identified during scrutiny could be avoided if operators ensure that the required documents are properly scanned, legible and relevant to the service being sought. Accurate documentation at the time of submission is expected to reduce the number of applications returned by officials and speed up the processing of requests.

Strengthening coordination between e-Sevai centres and revenue officials is essential for improving the efficiency of public service delivery, the administration added.

BJP attacks Digvijaya Singh over Ram Temple donation row

NEW DELHI

The BJP on Saturday launched a sharp attack on former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister and senior Congress leader, Digvijaya Singh, over his remarks on the alleged Ram Temple donation theft case, accusing the party of never accepting the existence of Lord Ram and questioning the timing of Singh's decision to seek legal action.

The BJP added that Congress leaders had historically questioned the existence of Lord Ram and asserted that their recent expressions of concern over the Ram Temple donation issue were politically motivated.

The party also maintained that the Special Investigation Team (SIT) was already probing the alleged irregularities and that the law would take its course.

TMC crisis deepens as Mamata's aide Bhattacharya quits all party posts

KOLKATA

The political crisis within the Trinamool Congress (TMC) intensified on Saturday after the party's newly elected West Bengal president, Chandrima Bhattacharya, resigned from her post, citing a loss of trust following questions raised by party chairperson and former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee over the takeover of the party headquarters by a rebel faction.

Speaking to the media, Bhattacharya said she decided to step down after Mamata Banerjee questioned her regarding the occupation of the Trinamool Congress headquarters near the Eastern Metropolitan Bypass in Kolkata by a group of rebel legislators led by Ritabrata Banerjee on Friday night.

Bhattacharya expressed disappointment over the alle-

gations, stating that her loyalty to the party had always remained unquestionable. She said she was deeply hurt that her integrity had come under suspicion despite years of dedicated service to the party.

According to Bhattacharya, Mamata Banerjee asked how the party office had been handed over to the rebel camp. She responded by questioning how such doubts could be raised about her commitment. She added that once her integrity was questioned, she no longer felt it was appropriate to continue as the state president. She also declared that she would not be returning to Kalighat, the political residence of the party chief, following her resignation.

Bhattacharya formally communicated her decision through a resignation letter addressed to Mamata Baner-

Chandrima Bhattacharya resigned as West Bengal Trinamool Congress president after questioning over rebels intensified internal party tensions dramatically

jee. Besides resigning as the West Bengal president of the All India Trinamool Congress, she also stepped down from every other organisational responsibility assigned to her within the party.

In her letter, Bhattacharya stated that she was relinquishing her authority as an authorised signatory for the party and all its affiliated organisations in relation to bank accounts. She further informed the party leadership that she was withdrawing from her role as the authorised representative of the Trinamool Congress before

the Election Commission of India.

Despite her resignation, Bhattacharya concluded the letter on a respectful note, expressing her highest regard for Mamata Banerjee and affirming that she would always remain respectful towards the party leader.

The resignation marks another significant setback for the Trinamool Congress, which has been witnessing growing internal divisions following the emergence of a powerful rebel faction within its legislature party.

The crisis has been further complicated by the recent decision of Bhattacharya's son, Saurav, a former councillor of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation, to join the rebel group led by expelled MLA Ritabrata Banerjee, which claims to represent the majority.

J&K school book glorifies terrorists, separatist leaders, sparks outrage

SRINAGAR

The Jammu and Kashmir government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has come under intense criticism following allegations that a textbook procured under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme glorifies separatist leaders and individuals associated with militancy.

The controversy has triggered political debate and demands for accountability from civil society organisations and concerned citizens.

The Jammu and Kashmir Peoples' Forum (JKPF), a social and non-political organisation, has strongly criticised the government, alleging that the book was supplied to school libraries despite containing material that presents controversial figures in a positive light.

The organisation has questioned the selection process and accused the authorities of failing to properly scrutinise educational content before its distribution.

At the centre of the controversy is a book titled Great Personalities and Legends of J&K (Series-4), which critics

claim describes separatist leaders, including Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front founder Maqbool Bhat and separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani, as great personalities. According to those raising objections, such portrayals are inappropriate for educational institutions and risk sending the wrong message to students.

Civil society members and critics have demanded strict action against the experts who recommended the book as well as officials associated with the Samagra Shiksha Scheme who approved its procurement and distribution.

They have further urged the Union Territory administration to initiate criminal proceedings against those found responsible for allowing the book to reach school libraries.

Opponents of the book's inclusion have described the episode as a serious administrative lapse by the elected Jammu and Kashmir govern-

ment. They argue that educational resources should promote constitutional values and factual history while avoiding content that could be interpreted as endorsing individuals associated with separatist movements or militancy.

The controversy comes against the backdrop of an earlier disagreement between the elected government and the office of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha over a separate decision to prohibit 25 books that were also alleged to contain material glorifying terrorism.

At that time, CM Omar Abdullah had maintained that the decision to ban those publications was taken entirely by the Union Home Department, which functions under the authority of the Lieutenant Governor. The legal debate surrounding the present controversy has also drawn attention to the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).



Pakistan must end terrorism before talks can resume: Manish Tewari

CHANDIGARH

Congress MP Manish Tewari on Saturday questioned the purpose of resuming dialogue with Pakistan, asserting that any engagement would be meaningless unless Islamabad first stops sponsoring terrorism against India.

His remarks came after Omar Abdullah on Thursday said that no one should object to India-Pakistan dialogue if the objective is to improve relations between the two neighbouring countries.

The Chief Minister noted that the conflict between India and Pakistan was not new and had continued for the past three to four decades.

This conflict is 30 to 40 years old, and last year it intensified after the Pahalgam attack. Now, through a letter, the Prime Minister has been requested to improve relations between the two countries. No one should have any objection to that, he said.

Speaking to IANS, Manish Tewari said, Since 1971, when India helped create Bangladesh, Pakistan has been carrying a sense of revenge. At that time, the atrocities committed by the West Pakistani forces on the people of East Pakistan led to their surrender, and nearly 91,000 Pakistani soldiers were taken as prisoners of war by India. Since then, they have been trying to take revenge. Their strategy has been to 'bleed India with a thousand cuts', and they have been promoting terrorism time and again.

Referring to the terror attack in Baisaran, Pahalgam, he said, In the Baisaran attack, 26 people were killed after being asked about their religion. India should not forget this so soon. What exactly do you want to talk about with Pakistan? India wants only one thing from Pakistan -- that it should stop promoting terrorism.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಬೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ: 10/2026-27/805-09 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03-07-2026

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000 ರಂತೆ ಸ್ಪೂರ್ತಿದಾರ್ ಬೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಕಡಬ್ಬೂ -1,3,4 ರನ್ವಯ ಏಕ ಹಾಗೂ ದ್ವಿಲೋಕೀ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ, ವಿಲಾಜಪೇಟೆ ಉಪ-ವಿಭಾಗಗಳ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಲೆಕ್ಕಕೋಷ್:4059-ಮುಖ್ಯಮುಖ್ಯತೆರವರ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ (ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 31771) 1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ, 8443-ತೇವಣಿ ವಂತಿಕೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಜಯ ಉಪತರವನ ನಿಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ (ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 37191) 1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ 5054- ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳು- ಸುಧಾರಣೆಯಡಿ (ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 36834) 1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 03 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಬೆಂಡರ್ ಅಪ್ಲಾನ್‌ಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಬೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟು ಮಾತ್ರ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ.16.93 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ.162.35 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಬೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಬೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10-07-2026 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಬೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ www.kppp.karnataka.govನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿನ್ನುಪಡಿ/ಮಾರ್ಪಾಡುಗಳನ್ನು ಇ- ಮೇಲ್‌ಬರ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Bengaluru South Zilla Panchayat

Office of the Executive Engineer

PANCHAYATHRAJ ENGINEERING DIVISION

Ramanagara, Bangalore South Dist.

No.EE/PRED/RMG/JE/TEND-07/2026-27 Date: 03.07.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Only through KPP Portal system)

The Executive Engineer, Panchayathraj Engineering Division, Ramanagara, Bangalore South Dist invites the Itemwise tender. Contractors registered in KPWD, enrolled in PRED/PWD Licence for the works In Magadi Taluk Under Head of Account: 2025-26th Year development scheme of CMIDP Grant,

Name of Work :Construction of a bridge Across Ramanagara Taluk Bidadi Hobli from Chikkakunahalli Cross to Parasnapalya Bychohalli Via Bangalore South Taluk Road Joining Border at the Rural Road at Chinage -0.40 KM, Indent No: (1) RDPR/2026-27/BG/WORK_INDENT 27543, (2) RDPR/2026 27/BD/WORK_ INDENT 27761, (3) RDPR/2026 27/BD/ WORK_INDENT27750, (4) RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 27748, (5) RDPR/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 27762, (6) RDPR/ 2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT27753. (7) RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_ INDENT27751. Maximum Estimate amount of **Rs.200.00 lakh**. Minimum Estimate Amount of **Rs.5.20 Lakhs**, Last Date for submission of Tender Dated: **18.07.2026 by 4.00 PM**, Opening of the Technical Bid Tender Dated: **20.07.2026 at 4.30 PM**, Opening of the Financial Bid Tender Dated: **10.08.2026 at 4.30 PM**, Only For **(KW-IV)** on wards For details & further information visit the website www.kppp.karnataka.gov in Or contact this office in office hours.

Sd/- **Executive Engineer**
DIPR/BSO/157/SA/2026-27 Panchayathraj Engineering Division

QUICK READ

Stalin leaves for London for grandson's graduation ceremony

Chennai
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) President and former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin left for London on Saturday on a two-week private visit, during which he will attend the graduation ceremony of his grandson, Inbanidhi, before spending a few days with his family in the United Kingdom (UK). Stalin departed from the Chennai International Airport at around 9:50 a.m. on an Emirates flight to London via Dubai. He was accompanied by his wife, Durga Stalin. The couple is scheduled to return to Chennai on July 18 after completing the visit. The principal purpose of the visit is to attend the convocation ceremony of Inbanidhi, the son of former Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin.

Toyota cites fuel contamination in Innova Hycross video

New Delhi
Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) on Saturday clarified that a viral social media video claiming a Toyota Innova Hycross developed issues due to use of E20 fuel was not related to the ethanol-blended fuel, saying its technical assessment found the problem was caused by fuel contamination. In a statement, the company said the Toyota Innova Hycross involved in the incident is an E20-compatible vehicle that has been designed, tested and certified for the use of 20 per cent ethanol-blended fuel. Based on our detailed technical assessment of the vehicle, the issue was due to fuel contamination. Our inspection confirmed that there was no damage to any vehicle component or its fuel system, TKM said.

Bihar BJP MLA gets 4-yr jail for celebratory firing murder

NEW DELHI
A Delhi court on Saturday sentenced Bihar BJP MLA Raju Kumar Singh to four years' imprisonment after convicting him for culpable homicide not amounting to murder in connection with the death of a woman during celebratory firing at a New Year's Eve party in the national capital in 2018. The Rouse Avenue Court also sentenced Singh to two months' imprisonment under the Arms Act and directed him to pay Rs 25 lakh as compensation to the victim's family. The court further ordered that if Singh fails to pay the compensation amount, he will have to undergo an additional three months' imprisonment. It also directed that all the sentences awarded to Singh would run consecutively. With a sentence of more than two years, Singh risks losing his Bihar Assembly seat under the Representation of the People Act unless the Delhi High Court grants a stay on conviction.

Nabin exudes confidence of BJP sweep ahead of UP polls

The BJP president says the overwhelming support from party cadres reflected the BJP's strong organisational foundation and growing public confidence

LUCKNOW

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National President Nitin Nabin on Saturday expressed confidence that the party would secure another decisive mandate in the upcoming Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, scheduled for next year.

He said the enthusiasm among party workers and the public's faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath would ensure the BJP's continued electoral success in the state.

Speaking during his first organisational visit to Lucknow after assuming charge as the party's national president, Nabin thanked BJP workers for the warm reception he received upon his arrival. He said the overwhelming support from party cadres reflected the BJP's strong organisational foundation and growing public confidence.

Nabin described Uttar Pradesh as the karmabhoomi of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and said he was confident that the people of the state would once again



vote in favour of the BJP. He stated that the party's election symbol, the lotus, would bloom once more in the Assembly elections, highlighting his optimism about the BJP's prospects.

The BJP president arrived in Lucknow for a two-day organisational tour and was welcomed at Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, state BJP president Pankaj Chaudhary, Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, Union Minister of State Kamlesh Paswan, senior state ministers and several party leaders.

Following his arrival, Nabin participated in a grand roadshow from the airport to

the BJP's state headquarters. Travelling in a specially decorated vehicle alongside state BJP president Pankaj Chaudhary, he was greeted by enthusiastic party workers across the nearly 18-kilometre route. More than 50 welcome points had been set up by party workers, who gathered in large numbers to greet the national president.

The roadshow is being viewed as an important exercise to energise the party organisation ahead of the crucial Assembly elections. BJP leaders believe the event demonstrates the party's organisational strength while boosting the morale of workers across the state.

Nabin's visit is particularly significant because it marks

his first interaction with the newly constituted Uttar Pradesh BJP team, which was announced only days ago. Party leaders expect the meetings to help shape the organisational roadmap and election strategy for the upcoming polls.

During his two-day visit, the BJP chief is scheduled to hold extensive discussions with state office-bearers, regional and district presidents, leaders of various party wings, Members of Parliament, MLAs, MLCs, and representatives of the National Democratic Alliance. He will also meet Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the Deputy Chief Ministers, members of the Uttar Pradesh BJP Core Committee and other prominent personalities.

As part of his itinerary, Nabin will also offer prayers at the Hanuman Setu Temple in Lucknow before chairing a series of organisational meetings focused on strengthening the party structure and preparing for the high-stakes Assembly elections scheduled next year.

Defence production reaches record high amid self-reliance push



NEW DELHI

India's annual defence production reached an all-time high of Rs 1.78 lakh crore during the financial year 2025-26, marking a significant milestone in the country's drive towards self-reliance in defence manufacturing.

Announcing the achievement on Saturday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the latest production figure is nearly three times higher than the level recorded in the financial year 2014-15.

The Defence Minister also highlighted the remarkable growth in defence exports, which touched a record over Rs 38,000 crore during FY 2025-26. He noted that exports have increased nearly 57-fold compared to Rs 686 crore recorded in FY 2013-14, reflecting rising international confidence in India's domestically developed defence platforms under the government's Make in India initiative.

Addressing a media event, Rajnath Singh said India's progress over the past 12 years represents a transition from shortages to self-reliance, from self-reliance to self-confidence, and now towards the goal of building a developed nation.

He asserted that the government's continued focus on reforms and indigenous manu-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the latest production figure is nearly three times higher than the level recorded in the financial year 2014-15

facturing has significantly transformed India's industrial and strategic capabilities.

The minister said that during its third consecutive term, the government is laying a strong foundation for achieving the vision of a developed India through its policy of Reform, Perform, Transform. He expressed confidence that the country's continued economic and technological progress would enable it to emerge as a fully developed nation in the coming years.

Recalling the launch of the Make in India programme in 2014, Rajnath Singh said the initiative had initially faced criticism from several quarters. However, he maintained that the programme has consistently delivered strong results by boosting domestic manufacturing, increasing exports, and strengthening India's industrial ecosystem.

He further stated that India's international standing has undergone a major transformation, with the country's views on global issues now receiving greater attention and respect from the international community.

PM Modi inaugurates Rs 480-cr Jodhpur Airport terminal

JODHPUR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday inaugurated the new terminal building at Jodhpur Airport, marking a significant milestone in Rajasthan's aviation infrastructure.

The Rs 480-crore project is expected to strengthen regional air connectivity, enhance passenger convenience, and provide a major boost to tourism, trade, and economic activity in western Rajasthan.

The newly constructed terminal spans more than 23,000 square metres and has the capacity to handle 20 lakh (2 million) passengers annually, substantially increasing the airport's ability to cater to the region's growing air traffic.

Inspired by Rajasthan's rich architectural heritage, the terminal seamlessly blends traditional design elements with modern infrastructure.

The building features motifs and architectural styles reflective of the state's cultural legacy while offering contemporary passenger amenities

aimed at improving the overall travel experience.

The terminal has also been designed with sustainability at its core.

It incorporates energy-efficient systems, water conservation measures, and green building practices, making it an environmentally responsible addition to the country's expanding aviation network.

The inauguration of the new terminal is expected to improve domestic and regional connectivity for Jodhpur and neighbouring districts, making the city more accessible to tourists and business travellers alike.

Officials believe the upgraded infrastructure will further strengthen Jodhpur's position as a key tourism destination while creating new opportunities for commerce, investment, and employment across the Marwar region. During the programme, Prime Minister Modi also launched the revised UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme, aimed at expanding affordable regional air connectivity across India.

Punjab BJP eyes solo fight in 2027 assembly elections

CHANDIGARH

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has indicated that it will contest the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections independently, ruling out any pre-poll or post-poll alliance with its long-time ally, the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD).

State BJP President Kewal Singh Dhillon said the party is preparing for the elections under a dedicated campaign named Punjab Mission with the objective of forming its first government in the state. In an interview, Dhillon expressed confidence that Punjab's development and prosperity could only be achieved.

Government of Karnataka - Zilla Panchayat
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru
Ph No.: 08262-220936 e-mail: zpedckm@rediffmail.com
Tender Notice No.: 12/2026-27/931 Date: 04.07.2026

Tender Notice
Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru invites Tenders through K.P.P.P. related to works of Constructing Open Air Theatre (Bayalau Rangamandira) in Tarikere Town, Tarikere Taluk in Chikkamagaluru District (Indent No.: 27526). Max. Approx. Amount of work is Rs. 126.00 lakhs. Details of capability to undertake or of having implemented the works should be attached as per Standard Tender Document KG – 4. For the said works the documents downloaded from K.P.P.P. can be filled and uploaded from 06.07.2026 to 05.08.2026 up to 5.30 PM. Technical Bid will be opened on 07.08.2026 at 5.30 PM. If possible the Financial Bid will be opened on 14.08.2026 at 5.05 PM. If this day is declared as holiday then the next day will be considered. Notice can be read on www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Further details can be obtained by contacting the case worker during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru.
DIPR/CKM/KSMCA/26-27/65/469

ಮಂಡ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ- 571 401
(Autonomous Medical Institution, Government of Karnataka)
Phone: 08232-231003, 222086, 231197, 224040,
Fax: 08232-231001
E-Mail Address: mimsmandyasupplysection@gmail.com,
mimsmandyaya@gmail.com

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಅಲ್ತಾವಧಿ ಮರು-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಗಳು
(ದ್ವಿತೀಯ ಪದ್ಧತಿ)

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಮಿಮ್/ಸರಬ(1)/OBG/FM&FD/SHORT TERM E-TENDER/05/2026-27, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 23.06.2026
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಮಿಮ್/ಸರಬ(1)/DERMAT/EQPE-TENDER/06/2026-27, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 23.06.2026

ಮಿಮ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಚರ್ಮರೋಗ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾಗಿರುವ ಚರ್ಮರೋಗ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾ Fellowship ಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕವಿರುವ PICOLASER ಉಪಕರಣವನ್ನು ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮುಖೇನ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.55.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಓ.ಬಿ.ಬಿ ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕವಿರುವ FETAL MONITOR & FETAL DOPPLER ಉಪಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಅಲ್ತಾವಧಿ ಮರು-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮುಖೇನ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.39.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಪಡೆಯುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರವರಿಂದ/ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಮಾರಾಟಗಾರರಿಂದ ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಅಲ್ತಾವಧಿ ಮರು-ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲ ತಾಣ <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯದ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಿಮ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/-ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಮಿಮ್-ಮಂ/ಕೊಪಂ.ಬಿ.ಎ/246/2026-27

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯಾಚಾರ್ಯ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು ಕಛೇರಿ, ನೀರಸಿಬಿಜಿ (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ವಿಭಾಗ, ವಾಸನಿಬಿ ಆವರಣ, ಯಾದವಗಿರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು-570020

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಮೈಸೂರು/ಕಾಂ/ನೀರಸಿಬಿಜಿ(ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ)/ಸ.ಅ/ಟಿಎನ್-06/349/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ:04.07.2026

ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಐ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಅನುದಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ KTPP ನಿಯಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಐ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ಕೆಪಿಐ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ
1	kw-1,kw-2,kw-3,	26 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು	574.27	06.07.2026	21.07.2026	22.07.2026
2	Goods Tender & Service Tenders	05 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು	201.21	06.07.2026	21.07.2026	22.07.2026

ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ/ಬದಲಾವಣೆ/ತಿರುವಿಡಿಪಡಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಐ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಿತ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವುದು. ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಾಚಾರ್ಯ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು ನೀರಸಿಬಿಜಿ (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ವಿಭಾಗ ವಾಸಾಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಮೈಸೂರು/411/ಶಿರದಿವಾಂಯ/2026-27

Govt of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION KALABURAGI
No: EE/PWD/Klb/Div/TS-2&3/TN/2026-27/1650 Dated:02.07.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

1) Name of Work: Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi Invites tender of (KW-3&4) under 5054-80-190-0-01-132 KRDCL Bridge, 5054 Appendix-E and MP LADs WI- 37107, 37136, 37121, 37143, 37104, 37222, 37258, 37259, 36711, 36738, 36757, 37253, 37254 & 37255. 34210 (Work Reserved for SC Category) tender called in KPPP portal. 2) Estimated Cost: **Estimate cost Min Rs. 50.00 Lakhs Max Rs. 500.00 Lakhs** 3) Eligibility of Contractor: PWD, Civil Contractor License Class-III and above for Civil works 4) Tender fees and EMD details: Application Fees as per KPPP portal EMD Min Rs. 25,000.00 and Max Rs. 6,36,000.00, 5) Pre-Bid meeting: **09/07/2026 upto 11.00 Hrs.**, 6) Last date for queries: **10/07/2026 upto 17.30 Hrs.** 7) Last date for submission of tender: **13/07/2026 upto 16.00 Hrs.** 8) Date of opening of Technical Bid: **14/07/2026 upto 16.30 Hrs.** 9) Date of opening of Financial Bid: **16/07/2026 at 16.30 Hrs.** 10) Enquiries: Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi, 11) Website : <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>, 12) Bidders Should Note That: **Note:** 1) Undersigned reserves the right to Cancel/ Postpone/Recall/Reject any or all the tenders at any point of time during tender process without assigning any reason. 2) Changes in the tender process, Cancel/ Postpone/Recall/Rejection of tender will not be Published in the News Papers Bidders may get Details of Changes in KPPP Portal Only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD Division Kalaburagi
DIPR/Kalaburagi/299/KSMC&A/2026-27

DESI FARMS INDIA LIMITED
(formerly known as SER Industries Limited)
CIN: L60231KA1963PLC004604
Regd. Address: Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli Ramnagaram Taluk, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 562109 Corporate Office: Plot No 79, 501, 5th Floor Lalwani House, Sakore Nagar Viman Nagar, Pune, Maharashtra, India, 411014
Email: info.serindustries@gmail.com | Website: www.ser-industries.co.in

EXTRACT OF FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE 4TH QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31.03.2026 (Figures in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended		Year Ended	
		31.03.2026 Audited	31.12.2025 Unaudited	30.09.2025 Audited	31.03.2026 Unaudited
1	Total Income from Operations	20.48	33.14	32.71	88.69
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax, exceptional items and extraordinary items)	(39.20)	27.17	(18.73)	4.15
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items and extraordinary items)	(39.20)	27.17	(18.73)	4.15
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional items and extraordinary items)	(43.59)	27.17	(18.73)	(0.24)
5	Total Comprehensive Income (Loss)	-	-	0.01	-
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	99.46	99.46	99.46	99.46
7	Other Equity				95.25
8	Earnings Per Share (EPS)				
(a)	Basic	(4.38)	2.73	(1.88)	(0.02)
(b)	Diluted	(4.38)	2.73	(1.88)	(0.02)

1. The above financial results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and taken on record by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 03rd July, 2026.
2. These results are reviewed by Statutory auditor of the company.
3. Segment reporting under IND AS is not applicable to the company since the entire operation of the company relates to single segment.
4. Previous year quarter figures have been regrouped/recasted where ever necessary.
5. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the BSE under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Results for the quarter and Year ended March 31, 2026 are available on the website of BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website at <https://www.ser-industries.co.in/investors-disclosures>. The same could also be accessed by scanning the QR Code provided herein.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors For Desi Farms India Limited
(formerly known as SER Industries Limited)
Sd/-
Sunil Kumar Shahi
Managing Director (DIN: 01687403)

Place: Pune
Date: 03.07.2026

Office of the Executive Engineer Public Works Department (PWD), Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagaluru

Short-Term Tender Notice No.: 08/26-27 Date: 30.06.2026
Tenders are invited from eligible contractors through the KPP Portal for a total of 15 works under the following account heads of the Sub-Divisions of the Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru District: 8443 Deposit Contribution (4202-01-201-1-04-139) ; 5054-80-190-0-01-132 – Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited – Capital Expenditure (State Highway Road Bridges & District Main Road Bridges) ; 5054-80-190-0-01-132 – Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited (Foot-bridge) ; 5054-80-190-0-01-132 – Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited – Capital Expenditure (Repair of Bridges – District Main Road Bridges) & (Repair of Bridges – State Highway Road Bridges). Details regarding the capacity to undertake or execute the works (as per Standard Tender Documents KW-1, KW-2, KW-3 & KW-4) shall be enclosed. The contract shall be awarded only to a contractor who possesses the minimum qualifications prescribed under Act 3. The minimum estimated amount is Rs. 5.43 lakhs, and the maximum estimated amount is Rs. 600.00 lakhs. The last date for submission of tenders through the KPP Portal for the above 15 works is as follows: Indent No.: 37127 – Date: 07.07.2026 ; Indent Nos.: 37261, 37251, 37216, 36394 – Date: 10.07.2026 ; Indent No.: 37266 – Date: 16.07.2026 ; Indent Nos.: 37256, 37114 – Date: 18.07.2026 ; Indent Nos.: 37279, 37278, 37252, 37275, 37257, 37273, 37274 – Date: 20.07.2026 ; The tenders shall be submitted by 4.30 PM on the respective last dates specified above. For further details, please contact the Content Administrator during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagaluru
DIPR/smg/ksmca/26-27/58466

QUICK READ

Trump marks US 250th anniversary at Mount Rushmore

Washington
At Mount Rushmore, Donald Trump marked the eve of the United States' 250th Independence anniversary with a celebratory address praising the nation's founding and history while urging Americans to defend its identity. He described the United States as the most successful and exceptional nation, and highlighted the legacy of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Roosevelt. He warned of a resurgence of communism, calling it a threat to American liberty and saying loyalty must be either to Marx or America. Trump also claimed economic growth, rising investment, tariffs driving manufacturing, said US struck Iran, and is now entering a golden age period.

Activists condemn life term in Balochistan dissent case

Quetta
Leading Baloch Yakjehti Committee leader Mahrang Baloch has been sentenced to life imprisonment by an anti-terrorism court in Quetta, a verdict widely criticised by activists and reported as part of Pakistan's broader crackdown on dissent in Balochistan. The case, linked to violence during a 2024 gathering in Gwadar, is being portrayed by rights groups as politically motivated. The report argues the conviction targets peaceful Baloch women-led protests against enforced disappearances and alleged state abuses. It further claims trials are increasingly conducted in opaque conditions, raising concerns over due process, transparency, and shrinking space for civil activism in the region there.

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC, AT DODDABALLAPURA
Crl. Misc.No: 203/2026
Petitioners: 1. Smt. Rajamma D/o Arasappa W/o Gangah Aged about 57 years, Rlat Huluvangala Yelavannur Post, Koratagere Taluk Tumkur District. 2. Smt. Arasamma D/o Arasappa W/o Basavaraju C.K Aged about 48 Years, Rlat #215/3, Mallasandra Village, Dasarahalli Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Both the petitioners are permanent residents at Maralenahalli Village Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapura Taluk
AND; Respondent, The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura, Bengaluru Rural District
PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby informed to the general public, that the above named petitioners by name Smt. Rajamma & Smt. Arasamma have filed this petition to obtain the death certificate of their mother by name Late. Thimmakka W/o Arasappa who was died on 01-01-1988 at Maralenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapura, if anybody who have any objection to the above petition or having any rights, claims are hereby informed to take notice of this petition and hereby directed to appear before this Court in person or through person or by their Advocate on 10-08-26at 11:00 a.m. if failed to appear the above petition will be heard and will be placed ex-parte.
Issued as per the order and seal of this Hon'ble Court, on this day of 04-07-2026

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC, AT DODDABALLAPURA
Crl. Misc.No: 207/2026
Petitioners: 1. Smt. Rajamma D/o Arasappa W/o Gangah Aged about 57 years, Rlat Huluvangala Yelavannur Post, Koratagere Taluk Tumkur District. 2. Smt. Arasamma D/o Arasappa W/o Basavaraju C.K Aged about 48 Years, Rlat #215/3, Mallasandra Village, Dasarahalli Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Both the petitioners are permanent residents at Maralenahalli Village Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapura Taluk
AND; Respondent, The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura, Bengaluru Rural District
PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby informed to the general public, that the above named petitioners by name Smt. Rajamma & Smt. Arasamma have filed this petition to obtain the death certificate of their father by name Late. Arasappa S/o Late. Arasaiah who was died on 01-05-1973 at Maralenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapura, if anybody who have any objection to the above petition or having any rights, claims are hereby informed to take notice of this petition and hereby directed to appear before this Court in person or through person or by their Advocate on 10-08-26at 11:00 a.m. if failed to appear the above petition will be heard and will be placed ex-parte.
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Issued as per the order and seal of this Hon'ble Court, on this day of 04-07-2026

NAME CHANGE
I, NASEEM BANOO, W/o.
Yunus Saleem, M.H, Resident of No. F/126, Neeladri Apartment, Nandi Durga Road, Jayamahall Extension, Benson Town, Bengaluru -560046, have changed my name to **NASEEM BANOO MOHAMMED HUSSAINA**, vide affidavit dated: 04.07.2026 before notary N.K. LAKSHMANA, Bengaluru.

CH CLASSIFIEDS
To place a classified ad contact:080-41209042

Pakistan acting as China's defence gateway to Middle East: Report

Pakistan reportedly acts as China's defence gateway, promoting JF-17 jets and expanding Beijing's influence across Middle East region

WASHINGTON

A recent report by a US-based think tank, the Middle East Forum, has stated that Pakistan is increasingly functioning as a strategic conduit for China's defence and geopolitical interests in the Middle East and wider regions, enabling Beijing to expand its military footprint indirectly. The report highlights a recent defence agreement between Pakistan and the Libyan National Army involving the supply of 16 JF-17 fighter jets, training aircraft, and a broader military package valued at over \$4 billion. It claims that such deals may allow China to expand its defence influence while avoiding direct international scrutiny, particularly in regions already affected by conflict and arms embargoes. According to the analysis, Pakistan has become deeply integrated with China in defence, intelligence, and security cooperation over recent



years. Citing data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the report notes that more than 80 percent of Pakistan's arms imports between 2021 and 2024 originated from China, reflecting a growing dependence on Chinese military hardware. The report adds that while Pakistan still operates some US-origin platforms such as F-16 fighter jets, the majority of its current military inventory is now Chinese-made. It also notes Pakistan's active promotion of the jointly pro-

duced JF-17 fighter aircraft, along with other systems such as drones and HQ-9 air defence units, across multiple international defence platforms and exhibitions. Further, the report suggests that Pakistan is engaged in discussions or proposals involving defence cooperation with several countries, including Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Sudan, and Ethiopia. It claims that Chinese-origin systems are increasingly being showcased through Pa-

kistan's defence diplomacy efforts. The think tank also points to a potential arrangement involving Saudi Arabia, where Pakistan could supply JF-17 fighter jets in exchange for financial support previously extended by Riyadh. However, it notes that such proposals have not yet materialised due to concerns over interoperability with existing Western systems, financial constraints, and questions regarding weapons quality. The report concludes that shifting geopolitical dynamics in the Middle East, along with evolving security alignments, may provide opportunities for Chinese defence systems to gain greater visibility in the region through Pakistan's military partnerships. It argues that Pakistan's role in promoting Chinese-origin weapons aligns with Beijing's broader strategy of expanding its influence in global defence markets through indirect channels.

Iran media calls Khamenei funeral start of "Great Khamenei Era" with massive nationwide ceremonies and international attendance planned

IRAN MEDIA DECLARES 'GREAT KHAMENEI ERA' AFTER FUNERAL PLANS

TEHRAN

Iranian state-linked media and officials have described the funeral ceremony of former Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei as marking the beginning of a "Great Khamenei Era," according to reports. The statement was made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB), Payman Jebeli, who said extensive arrangements have been made to cover the large-scale mourning events. He noted that over two dozen satellite news gathering (SNG) live-stream units and more than 30 mobile broadcasting units equipped with multiple cameras have been deployed along the funeral procession routes to ensure comprehensive coverage. According to officials, the

principal funeral procession in Tehran is scheduled for July 6, followed by ceremonies in Qom on July 7. Additional commemorative events are expected in Iraq's holy cities of Najaf and Karbala on July 8, following requests from religious scholars, tribal leaders, and political figures. Reports suggest that massive public participation is expected, with claims that millions of mourners and representatives from more than 100 countries may attend ceremonies in Tehran. Large crowds have already gathered at key locations, including Tehran's Grand Mo-salla, where citizens paid tribute during early mourning rituals. State media has framed the transition period as a continuation of ideological and political stability under Khamenei's legacy, using the term "Great Khamenei Era" to emphasize continuity within Iran's leadership narrative. The funeral arrangements are being presented as one of the largest state-organized ceremonies in recent years, with officials highlighting the scale of logistics, media deployment, and security preparations. The announcement comes amid heightened regional tensions, with international atten-



tion focused on Iran's internal developments and geopolitical position. While official narratives stress unity and continuity, external observers are closely watching the political implications of the leadership transition and its impact on regional stability. Authorities have confirmed that further details of the multi-city funeral processions will be released as events progress over the coming days.

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Putin extends independence greetings to United States

MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin has extended greetings to former US President Donald Trump on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of American independence, wishing happiness and prosperity to all citizens of the United States, according to reports. In his message, Putin reportedly conveyed warm wishes marking the historic milestone, emphasizing goodwill toward the American people. The gesture comes amid ongoing global geopolitical tensions, where US-Russia relations remain complex and often strained due to conflicts, sanctions, and competing strategic interests. The greeting, addressed to Trump, highlights a continued

line of communication between prominent political figures from both nations, even as formal diplomatic ties between Washington and Moscow face significant challenges. Observers note that such messages are often symbolic, reflecting broader attempts to maintain limited diplomatic engagement and signal openness to dialogue. The 250th anniversary of American independence is expected to be a major national occasion in the United States, commemorating the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The milestone has drawn international attention, with several global leaders extending messages of goodwill and congratulations to the American people. Analysts suggest that Putin's message may also be in-

terpreted within the context of shifting global alliances and political narratives, particularly as Russia seeks to maintain relevance in international diplomacy despite ongoing isolation from parts of the Western bloc. Donald Trump, who has maintained an active role in American politics since his presidency, continues to be a central figure in US political discourse. His interactions with foreign leaders are often closely watched, especially in relation to US foreign policy dynamics. While the message primarily focuses on celebratory wishes, it also underscores the symbolic nature of international diplomacy, where gestures of goodwill often carry broader implications for political signalling and strategic positioning.

China ethnic law triggers Taiwan cross-border tensions concern

TAIPEI

China's new ethnic unity legislation has triggered a strong response from Taiwan, amid growing concerns that the law could be used to extend political influence and enforcement mechanisms beyond mainland borders, according to reports. The law, which emphasizes "ethnic unity" and national integration, has been criticised by analysts and officials in Taiwan who argue that it may be used as a tool to tighten ideological control and suppress dissent under the framework of promoting national cohesion. Taiwan has expressed apprehension that such policies could have implications for cross-strait relations and potentially increase pressure on Taiwanese citizens and institutions.

Taiwan critics say ethnic unity law may tighten ideological control and increase pressure on citizens and institutions

from mainland China's political structure, and that any attempt to impose external ideological frameworks would be firmly resisted. The development comes amid already heightened tensions between Beijing and Taipei, with both sides continuing to differ sharply on issues of sovereignty and international recognition. Security analysts suggest that the new law could add another layer of complexity to cross-strait relations, particularly if it is perceived as extending beyond China's domestic jurisdiction. Experts also note that while China presents the legislation as a measure to strengthen national unity among ethnic groups, critics view it as part of a broader pattern of centralised governance and increased regulation of identity and expression. Taiwan has urged the international community to closely monitor developments related to the law, cautioning that any expansion of its scope could raise concerns about human rights and regional stability. The situation continues to evolve as both sides assess the potential political and legal implications of the new framework.



According to observers, the legislation reflects Beijing's broader strategy of reinforcing national identity and aligning ethnic policies with the Chinese Communist Party's governance model. Critics, however, warn that the definition of ethnic unity could be interpreted broadly, potentially enabling stricter oversight of cultural and political expression. Taiwanese authorities have responded by reiterating their commitment to maintaining political autonomy and safeguarding democratic values. Officials stressed that Taiwan's governance system and civil liberties remain distinct

that while China presents the legislation as a measure to strengthen national unity among ethnic groups, critics view it as part of a broader pattern of centralised governance and increased regulation of identity and expression. Taiwan has urged the international community to closely monitor developments related to the law, cautioning that any expansion of its scope could raise concerns about human rights and regional stability. The situation continues to evolve as both sides assess the potential political and legal implications of the new framework.

Beijing accused of using Buddhism for political control

BRUSSELS

A recent report has alleged that Beijing is increasingly using Buddhism as a political instrument to serve the agenda of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), with critics claiming that religious institutions and practices are being reshaped to reinforce state authority rather than spiritual traditions. The report states that China's engagement with Buddhism reflects a gradual "hol-lowing out" of faith, where temples are being transformed into tourist destinations and monks are increasingly integrated into state administrative structures. According to the analysis, religious scriptures and teachings are being selectively interpreted to promote obedience and loyalty to the ruling party. It argues that the pursuit of spiritual enlightenment has been replaced by political conformity, particularly in regions such as Tibet, where Buddhism is deeply tied to cultural and ethnic identity. The report claims that in these areas, religious expression is tightly regulated and often repurposed as part of state-controlled cultural narratives.

al and moral supplement to socialism, but is treated as a threat when it carries independent political or ethnic significance. The report further highlights Beijing's assertion of authority over the recognition of reincarnated Tibetan lamas, including the future Dalai Lama, describing it as an attempt to sever traditional spiritual lineage and bring religious authority under state control. It also alleges that monasteries in Tibet operate under strict surveillance and that monks are required to undergo "patriotic education" programs. According to the claims, public devotion to the Dalai Lama is restricted, and religious practices are increasingly framed as expressions of culture rather than spirituality. Critics argue that such measures diminish the religious autonomy of Tibetan Buddhism while strengthening state oversight. While China presents itself as a protector of Buddhist heritage through temple restoration projects and international cultural initiatives, the report suggests that these efforts are aimed at enhancing global legitimacy while tightening internal control over religious identity.

It argues that the pursuit of spiritual enlightenment has been replaced by political conformity, particularly in regions such as Tibet, where Buddhism is deeply tied to cultural and ethnic identity. The report claims that in these areas, religious expression is tightly regulated and often repurposed as part of state-controlled cultural narratives. Khedroob Thondup, the nephew of the Dalai Lama, writing in the European Times, stated that the Chinese constitutionally atheist state tolerates Buddhism only when it aligns with state interests. He alleged that Buddhism is promoted as a cultur-

While China presents itself as a protector of Buddhist heritage through temple restoration projects and international cultural initiatives, the report suggests that these efforts are aimed at enhancing global legitimacy while tightening internal control over religious identity. The analysis concludes that despite efforts to align religion with state ideology, genuine spiritual traditions remain difficult to control, and continued restrictions may deepen tensions over cultural and religious freedom in the region.

BEIJING REGIONAL UNITY

China criticises Indo-Pacific concept, citing regional unity concerns

BEIJING

China has reiterated its criticism of the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" (FOIP) framework, stating that the concept goes against the shared aspirations of countries in the region for peace, development, and cooperation. A statement shared by Chinese Embassy spokesperson Yu Jing on social media, quoting Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun, said that the FOIP approach would not gain genuine recognition among regional nations. The remarks emphasised that safeguarding the post-war international order and upholding the principles of the United Nations Charter are essential for maintaining prosperity and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. The Chinese position argued that regional countries should focus on building an Asia-Pacific framework that is inclusive, interconnected, mutually beneficial, and supportive of collective development. It further stated that

cooperation, rather than competing strategic blocs, should define regional engagement. The comments come amid ongoing geopolitical competition in the Indo-Pacific, where several countries have promoted different visions for regional security architecture. While China has consistently opposed FOIP, describing it as a divisive strategic construct, other nations argue it promotes transparency, maritime security, and freedom of navigation. In contrast to Beijing's po-

sition, Japan and India recently highlighted growing alignment on regional maritime cooperation. Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takai-uchi noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's MAHASAGAR initiative aligns closely with Japan's FOIP strategy. Both leaders reportedly agreed to deepen strategic cooperation, particularly in maritime security, to promote stability and shared economic growth. According to Takaichi, both sides view the Indo-Pa-

cific as a shared space that should support regional stability and development. She added that enhanced cooperation between like-minded countries is essential for ensuring security and maintaining open sea routes critical to global trade. The differing narratives reflect broader strategic competition in the region, where major powers continue to promote competing frameworks for influence, security, and economic cooperation across the Indo-Pacific.

QUICK READ

India Aviation Sees Recovery In Air Traffic

Mumbai

India's aviation sector saw recovery in international traffic in May as geopolitical tensions eased in West Asia, a report said. International passengers rose to about 2.3 million, up 24 percent month-on-month, while RPK reached 8 billion, up 12 percent. Flight departures increased to 14,200 and capacity also improved. Load factor rose to 76.6 percent, showing stronger demand. Domestic traffic also stayed strong at 15.4 million passengers with steady growth. Fuel prices declined but a weak rupee kept costs high for airlines.

HDFC Bank posts strong first quarter business growth

New Delhi

HDFC Bank reported strong growth in deposits and advances during the first quarter of FY27. Total deposits reached Rs 31.70 lakh crore, rising 14.7 percent from last year, while advances increased 15.4 percent to Rs 30.61 lakh crore. Assets under management also grew 12.4 percent to Rs 31.27 lakh crore. The bank recently appointed Rajiv Kumar as part-time chairman after leadership changes. Despite governance discussions, the latest business update reflected steady financial performance. HDFC Bank shares closed at Rs 2,001.50 on Friday, showing investor confidence as the bank continued its growth momentum during the quarter.

Pakistan inflation rise sparks economic warning

New Delhi

Pakistan's economy is under rising pressure as inflation climbed to 11.7 percent in May 2026, raising fears of prolonged financial strain across the country. Rates were 10.9 percent in April and 7.3 percent in March, above the central bank target range of 5 to 7 percent. Economists blamed higher transport costs, food prices, foreign exchange pressure, and rising oil import bills. These factors reduced purchasing power and slowed economic activity nationwide. Pakistan remains vulnerable to external shocks due to heavy dependence on imported energy and weak external finances. The State Bank raised its policy rate by 100 basis points to 11.5 percent to control inflation, but economists called it wrong medicine that may slow investment and risk stagflation. Analysts said higher rates may not fix supply-side inflation and could hurt private sector lending.

Sitharaman highlights India's strong economic crisis response strategy

Finance Minister said India's middle class drives growth and EU free trade deal boosts global business opportunities



NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said India successfully managed the economic impact of the West Asia crisis while continuing to remain the world's fastest-growing major economy. Speaking in an interview with the French newspaper Le Figaro, she said the country's strong domestic demand, expanding global trade partnerships, and timely government measures helped maintain economic stability during the challenging period.

The Finance Minister said India's growing middle class continues to drive consumption and support economic growth. She also highlighted the importance of the recently concluded free trade agreement between India and the European Union, stating that it is expected to significantly strengthen global trade and create new opportunities for businesses in both regions. Sitharaman explained that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had appealed to citizens on May 10 to reduce unnecessary international travel, postpone gold purchases for a year, limit fuel consumption by using shared transport, and avoid excessive use of cooking oil. She said these measures were aimed at protecting the country's economy during the crisis. Summarising the government's approach, the Finance Minister referred to the "three Fs"—fuel, fertiliser, and foreign exchange. She explained that reducing fuel consumption helps save valuable foreign exchange, as imports are paid for in foreign currency. Encouraging practices such as

carpooling, she said, contributes to conserving foreign exchange reserves. The Minister also said the government continued providing substantial fertiliser subsidies to protect farmers from rising costs despite the financial burden on the country. She noted that while fertiliser prices remained affordable for farmers, the government had to bear the additional cost of imports. Speaking about gold imports, Sitharaman acknowledged the cultural and emotional importance of gold for Indian families.

Defence exports cross Rs 38,000 crore milestone

NEW DELHI

India has achieved record growth in defence production and exports, reflecting the increasing global confidence in the country's 'Make in India' initiative, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Saturday while addressing a media event in the national capital. The minister said annual defence production reached an all-time high of Rs. 1.78 lakh crore during the financial year 2025-26, nearly three times higher than the production recorded in 2014-15. He also announced that defence exports crossed Rs. 38,000 crore, compared to just Rs. 686 crore in 2013-14, marking a nearly 57-fold increase over the past decade. Rajnath Singh said India has moved from shortages to self-reliance, then to self-confidence, and is now progressing towards becoming a developed nation. He stated that

the government's focus on the policy of "Reform, Perform, Transform" is laying a strong foundation for achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat. Recalling the launch of the Make in India programme in 2014, the minister said the initiative had initially faced criticism but has since delivered remarkable results across several sectors. He added that India's voice now carries greater importance in global discussions and international forums. Highlighting technological progress, Rajnath Singh said the India Semiconductor Mission, launched in 2021, has begun producing indigenous semiconductor chips after the establishment of semiconductor parks with modern infrastructure. He noted that the country's manufacturing sector has expanded significantly, with growth in mobile phone production, automobile exports, railway locomotive

Rajnath Singh said India progressed from shortages to self-reliance and self-confidence, moving toward Viksit Bharat through Reform, Perform, Transform policy

manufacturing, and digital infrastructure. The minister also praised India's digital transformation, stating that 22.35 billion Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions worth Rs. 29 lakh crore were recorded in April. He said the digital payment platform is gaining wider international acceptance and strengthening India's position in financial technology. Rajnath Singh further said the nationwide rollout of indigenous 5G technology has progressed rapidly, while preparations are already underway for the development of 6G technology.

South Korea unveiled three megaprojects investing 4,755 trillion won in semiconductors, physical AI, and AI data centres

Lee defends mega projects as future national investment

SEOUL

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung has defended the government's ambitious regional development programme, saying the newly announced mega projects are designed to secure the country's future and are not intended to improve his political approval ratings. He rejected criticism from opposition parties and said the initiative focuses on long-term national growth rather than short-term political gains. Earlier this week, the South Korean government unveiled its "three megaprojects" plan, which aims to transform the country's economy through investments in semiconductors, physical artificial intelligence, and AI data centres. The programme proposes a total investment of 4,755 trillion won,



making it one of the country's largest development plans. As part of the initiative, Samsung announced plans to establish two memory chip manufacturing plants in the southwestern city of Gwangju. SK hynix also revealed plans to build two semiconductor fabrication plants in the surrounding Jeolla provinces under a combined investment plan valued at 800 trillion won. Responding to allegations

from the main opposition People Power Party, Lee said that if the projects had been launched for political advantage, they would have been announced before the local elections held on June 3. Instead, he said the vision for national transformation had been part of his long-term plans even before assuming office. The President said the real measure of success is not public opinion surveys but improvements in the lives of ordinary citizens. He expressed confidence that the projects would generate new opportunities, strengthen the economy, and provide greater hope for future generations. He also pledged to make every effort to create employment, encourage innovation, and inspire young people with better career prospects.

India records strongest ever first-half office leasing

NEW DELHI

India's office leasing market recorded its strongest first-half performance ever during January to June 2026, showing a five percent increase compared to the same period last year. The growth highlights steady demand for office spaces despite global economic uncertainties affecting several countries. A report by Cushman and Wakefield said Global Capability Centres played the biggest role in this growth. These centres leased around 16.5 million square feet of office space during the first six months of the year. This accounted for 38 percent of total leasing activity and marked a 38 percent rise from last year. The second quarter also remained strong, with nearly eight million square feet leased by Global Capability Centres. Overall office leasing reached around 43 million square feet across India during the first half of 2026. Bengaluru, Pune, Delhi NCR, and Mumbai together

contributed almost 80 percent of the total leasing by these centres. Bengaluru led the market, followed by Pune, Delhi NCR, and Mumbai. The report also showed that office demand came from different industries. The IT and BPM sector remained the biggest contributor, accounting for 22 percent of total leasing. Banking, financial services, insurance, engineering, and manufacturing sectors also recorded healthy demand. Flexible workspace operators expanded rapidly, leasing 8.4 million square feet, which represented one-fifth of total office leasing. This segment posted an impressive 55 percent yearly increase and achieved its highest-ever half-year performance. However, the report noted that net absorption slowed because fewer new office spaces entered the market. Even with limited fresh supply, India's office sector remained strong, reflecting growing business confidence and continued interest from both domestic and international companies.

Modi praises digital transformation in consumer protection

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the e-Jagriti platform has changed the way consumer complaints are handled by making the entire process digital. He shared an article by Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, who explained how the system was improved after discussions with different stakeholders. According to the Prime Minister, the platform is an important step towards modernising consumer justice and making it easier for people to seek help. Joshi said consumers now shop through online marketplaces, digital payment sys-

tems, and e-commerce platforms more than ever before. Because of this, the old system of paper files, manual checks, different software, and physical hearings could no longer meet growing needs. He said protecting consumer rights in the digital age required a complete change in the way justice is delivered. The e-Jagriti platform was launched on January 1, 2025. It combines four older systems into one paperless, AI-enabled platform. Since its launch, more than 2.29 lakh consumer cases have been filed, while over 2.07 lakh cases have already been resolved. This has resulted in an

overall disposal rate of 90.75 percent. The platform also allows Non-Resident Indians to file complaints and seek justice without travelling to India. During the 2025-26 financial year, consumer commissions registered over 1.65 lakh new cases and disposed of more than 1.52 lakh cases. The disposal rate improved to 92.3 percent, higher than the previous year. Officials said the platform has made the justice system faster, more transparent, and more accessible, strengthening consumer confidence and improving access to fair and timely decisions across the country.

India auto demand shows strong resilience

NEW DELHI

India's auto sector demand remained strong in June with personal mobility vehicles continuing to perform better. A report said easing supply constraints at manufacturers, healthy retail demand and strong exports supported growth. Two wheeler sales rose across companies while exports of two and three wheelers stayed firm. Commercial vehicles showed mixed performance but wholesale demand improved due to infrastructure and replacement needs. Tractor demand remained stable while passenger vehicle sales grew supported by new launches and affordability.

Centre promises better testing for Indian toy industry

NEW DELHI

The Central Government has announced plans to set up modern testing facilities across toy manufacturing clusters to improve the quality of Indian-made toys.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said the facilities will be developed through the Bureau of Indian Standards, National Test House, and other government and semi-government laboratories. He urged industry members to identify

the testing equipment needed to ensure Indian toys meet high standards in both domestic and international markets. The minister encouraged micro, small, and medium enterprises to continue expanding their businesses. He

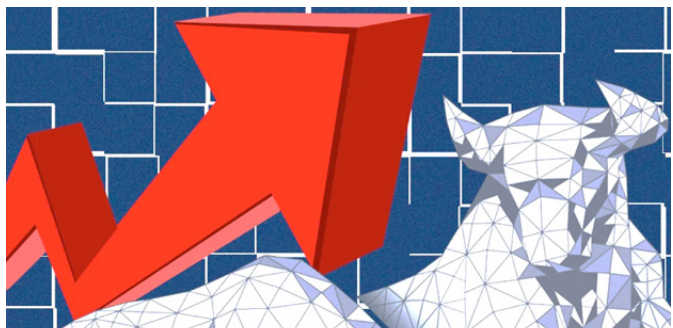
said every micro enterprise should aim to become a small enterprise, every small enterprise should grow into a medium enterprise, and every medium enterprise should strive to become a large company.

WEEKLY STOCK PERFORMANCE

Markets extend winning streak for fourth week

MUMBAI

Indian stock markets ended the week with strong gains, continuing their upward trend for the fourth straight week. The rise came mainly due to falling crude oil prices and hopes of a better global interest rate outlook. Investors also reacted positively to global economic signals and domestic developments. The Nifty index rose 0.89 percent during the week and closed at 24,270 after gaining 0.39 percent on the final trading day. The Sensex also performed well, rising 261 points or 0.34 percent to close at 77,763. Overall, it posted a



weekly gain of 0.86 percent, showing steady investor confidence. Market experts said the ear-

ly part of the week saw some profit booking due to uncertainty over the US and Iran peace situation, weak early earnings expectations, and uneven monsoon progress. However, sentiment improved later as crude oil prices fell after easing tensions around key global supply routes. Investors also responded to comments from the US Federal Reserve suggesting possible softer interest rate policies. Weak US labour data further supported expectations of easier global financial con-

ditions. Domestic optimism also grew after discussions in the India-Japan summit, covering trade, defence, technology, and currency settlement cooperation. Sector-wise, real estate, pharma, and healthcare stocks performed better, while public sector banks and energy stocks lagged behind. The IT sector recovered strongly due to short covering and improved long-term outlook related to artificial intelligence adoption. Midcap and small-cap stocks also showed strength during the week.

The Central government has increased the procurement price of onions by 13 per cent to Rs 2,125 per quintal, aiming to provide better returns to farmers and strengthen buffer stock operations across the country. The Consumer Affairs Ministry announced on Saturday that the revised rate, up from Rs 1,875 per quintal, is effective immediately. It said onion procurement through agencies such as NAFED and

Centre raises onion price to support farmers income

NEW DELHI

NCCF for the Price Stabilisation Buffer is currently underway to ensure smooth market management. Officials said the revised procurement price will help farmers receive fair value for their produce while supporting government efforts to maintain stable onion supplies. They added that overall onion production for 2025-26 is estimated at 307.37 lakh metric tonnes, almost similar to the previous year's output, indicating sufficient national availability.

Kapil Dev Regrets Virat Kohli's Early Test Retirement Decision

NEW DELHI

Former India captain Kapil Dev has expressed disappointment over Virat Kohli's decision to retire from Test cricket, saying the batting star still possessed the skill and determination to succeed in the longest format of the game. Kapil believes Kohli could have earned a return to the national side even if he had initially been left out of the team.

Virat Kohli announced his retirement from Test cricket in May 2025, ending a remarkable 14-year career in the format. During his Test journey, Kohli scored 9,230 runs in 123 matches, including 30 centuries, and established himself as India's most successful Test captain with 40 victories in 68 matches. He retired ahead of India's tour of England, stating that he had given everything he could to Test cricket.

Reflecting on the decision, Kapil said he would have preferred Kohli to continue playing instead of stepping away from the format.

According to the 1983 World Cup-winning captain, retirement should not have been influenced by milestones or temporary setbacks.

Kapil remarked that even if Kohli had not been selected by the selectors or included in the playing eleven by the captain, he should have continued working hard to regain his place. He suggested that strong performances in domestic cricket or other competitive tournaments would have eventually paved the way for his return because of his unquestionable ability as a Test player.

The former captain stressed that Kohli still had the quality required to succeed at the highest level and believed patience would have benefited him. He said setbacks are a part of every cricketer's career and that experienced players often find their way back through consistent performances.

Kapil also compared Kohli's fiercely competitive nature with that of tennis legend John McEnroe, known for his emotional intensity and confrontational style on the court. He observed that some athletes produce their best performances when they channel their emotions and thrive under pressure.

Drawing a contrast with other Indian batting greats, Kapil mentioned Rahul Dravid, Sunil Gavaskar and Sachin Tendulkar as players who preferred to let their performances speak for themselves. However, he said cricketers like Kohli embraced challenges differently, using aggression and passion as motivation to perform at their highest level.

While acknowledging that Kohli's aggressive approach occasionally appeared excessive, Kapil suggested that it may have been an essential part of the former captain's success.

SANJU SAMSON Recalls Family's Bold Move That Changed Career

MUMBAI

India wicketkeeper-batter Sanju Samson has revealed that a bold decision taken by his father to relocate the family from Delhi to Kerala proved to be the defining moment in his cricketing journey. Speaking about his early struggles in Delhi's highly competitive cricket system, Samson said the move gave him the opportunity that eventually helped him establish himself in Indian cricket.

Samson, who enjoyed a memorable campaign earlier this year by playing a key role in India's victorious T20 World Cup campaign on home soil and earning the Player of the Tournament award, admitted that his recent form has not been ideal. He managed scores of five and zero in the T20I series against Ireland before registering just one run in the rain-abandoned opening T20I against England in Durham.

Despite the recent setbacks, the experienced batter is expected to play an important role when India face England in the second T20 International at Old Trafford.

Recalling his childhood, Samson said he always dreamed of representing Delhi after seeing fellow young cricketers wearing the Delhi state team's training jackets. Motivated by that ambition, he attended selection trials, participated in state camps, and consistently scored runs in age-group cricket.

Although he reached the final stages of selection on multiple occasions, Samson was

Sanju Samson credited his father's decision to relocate the family to Kerala for shaping his successful cricket career.

unable to secure a place in the Delhi state team due to intense competition. He remembered returning home after one unsuccessful trial when his father, Viswanathan, made a life-changing decision that altered the family's future.

According to Samson, his father immediately announced that the family would relocate to Kerala. While his mother suggested waiting until the children completed their schooling, his father insisted that the move could not be delayed. Within days, the family packed their belongings, boarded a train, and shifted to Kerala, where Samson began representing the Kerala state cricket team.

The wicketkeeper-batter credited that decision with giving his career a fresh direction, saying it marked the true beginning of his professional cricket journey. He acknowledged the immense sacrifice made by his parents, especially his father, who prioritised his son's sporting ambitions over personal convenience.

Sooryavanshi will do wonders for India, don't pressurise him': Chaminda Vaas

HYDERABAD

Former Sri Lanka fast bowler Chaminda Vaas, currently serving as the official mentor of the Palamuru Strikers in the Telangana T20 League (TG20), believes teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has all the ingredients to enjoy a successful international career but urged fans and experts not to burden the 15-year-old with unrealistic expectations. Vaas said India has consistently produced world-class young cricketers over the years and expressed confidence that Sooryavanshi will eventually establish himself in the national side if allowed to develop naturally.

Well, India has produced so many young talent over so many years. And this new sensation, Sooryavanshi, is still young, and I am sure he will get the opportunity to play for India and do well, but one thing I will ask of the people is that he is still young and not to pressurise him, and I am sure he will do wonders for Indian cricket.

Sooryavanshi, who grabbed headlines by amassing 776 runs at a staggering strike-rate

of 237.30 to bag the Player-of the Tournament honour in IPL 2026 for Rajasthan Royals, is currently eyeing a much-anticipated international debut for India in the ongoing five-match T20I series against England. Sooryavanshi was unused in Ireland, as India suffered a shock 2-0 series loss.

Vaas also lauded the TG20, saying tournaments of this nature are crucial in identifying and nurturing young talent while providing aspiring cricketers with a pathway to the IPL and eventually the Indian team.

Hyderabad Cricket Association organizing the first Telangana T20 is good for the youngsters, and there's so much potential I can see with all the teams. Especially if you take Palamuru Strikers, there are quite a few youngsters coming through the ladder, and I'm really pleased with their performance, but even though as a team we didn't perform, there are a few individuals striking really well, He said.

Asked to compare the TG20 with other domestic T20 competitions across the country, Vaas said India's cricketing ecosystem has be-



come a benchmark in developing young players by ensuring regular competitive opportunities at the state level.

Indian cricket has done a great job for youngsters, and not only in Hyderabad, I think every state they organize a T20 tournament and give so much exposure, so much opportunity, as well as the experience to get into IPL, and that's how most of the cricketers have come up. And it's really good to see the youngsters are stepping into the next level, he added.

FIFA Retains Scheduled Kickoff Times for WC Matches

NEW YORK

FIFA has decided to retain the originally scheduled kickoff times for Sunday's FIFA World Cup Round of 16 matches despite earlier concerns that severe weather conditions could force changes to the match schedule. The decision brings clarity for teams, broadcasters and supporters ahead of two highly anticipated knockout fixtures.

According to a source familiar with the discussions, the Round of 16 clash between Mexico and England at the Azteca Stadium will begin as planned at 6 p.m. local time (0000 GMT). Likewise, the match between Brazil and Norway in New York is also expected to proceed according to its original schedule, with kickoff set for 4 p.m. local time (2000 GMT).

Weather forecasts had prompted FIFA officials to review the timing of Sunday's fixtures, particularly the match in Mexico City. Organisers were monitoring the situation closely to ensure the safety of



players, officials and spectators while minimising disruption to the tournament schedule.

Reports in Mexican media suggested that FIFA had considered moving the Mexico versus England encounter to 12 noon local time in an effort to avoid the expected adverse weather later in the day. Such a move would have significantly altered preparations for both teams and affected tournament logistics.

The possibility of rescheduling one fixture also had implications for the second Round of 16 match. A spokesperson for the Brazilian Football Confederation had indicated that if the Mexico versus England game had been brought forward, Brazil's match against Norway in New York could have been delayed by an hour to accommodate broadcasting and operational requirements.

Anush Agarwalla Wins Silver at Prestigious German Dressage Event

NEW DELHI

Indian dressage rider Anush Agarwalla continued his impressive performances on the international stage by securing the silver medal in the CDI Prix St. Georges event at the Cavalliero Dressage Days held in Hagen, Germany. The achievement further underlines his growing reputation as one of India's finest equestrian athletes competing at the highest level.

Riding Straight Horse Floriana, Agarwalla produced a composed and technically sound performance to earn a score of 70.147 per cent, finishing second among a competitive field of 22 riders. His consistent partnership with Floriana once again proved decisive, with the duo surpassing the coveted 70 per cent mark to secure a place on the podium.

The silver medal adds another significant milestone to Agarwalla's successful European campaign and reinforces his credentials in international dressage.

Parthiv Praises Shreyas Match-Saving Captain's Knock

AHMEDABAD

Former India wicketkeeper-batter Parthiv Patel has praised India captain Shreyas Iyer for his composed and intelligent innings in the rain-affected opening T20 International against England, saying the knock demonstrated the skipper's maturity, game awareness and ability to adapt to difficult situations.

Leading the Indian side in the first match of the series at Chester-le-Street, Iyer scored a crucial 68 runs from 47 deliveries after India suffered an early collapse. The visitors were reduced to 6 for 2 within the opening two overs, placing immediate pressure on the middle order. Despite the difficult start, Iyer steadied the innings with a measured approach while allowing his batting partners to play more aggressively. Abhishek Shar-



ma played an explosive innings of 59 runs from just 24 balls, while Shivam Dube remained unbeaten on 42 from 21 deliveries. Their contributions, combined with Iyer's captain's knock, helped India recover to post a competitive total of 189 for 7 in their allotted 20 overs.

However, continuous rain after India's innings prevented England from beginning their chase. As a result, the match was abandoned without a ball being bowled in the second innings, forcing both teams to

settle for a no-result. Reflecting on Iyer's performance, Parthiv Patel said the India captain displayed excellent awareness of the match situation. Instead of attempting to dominate from the outset, Iyer chose to rotate the strike, build partnerships and support the aggressive stroke play of Abhishek Sharma from the other end.

Patel observed that critics questioning Iyer's place in the T20 side would have found reassurance in the captain's innings. According to him, Iyer has already established himself as a proven performer in the format and showed that he could adjust his game according to the team's requirements rather than focusing solely on attacking cricket.

The former wicketkeeper added that modern Indian batters, influenced by the fast-paced nature of franchise cricket, often rely heavily on

boundary-hitting. In contrast, Iyer demonstrated that strike rotation, well-placed boundaries and sensible shot selection remain equally valuable, particularly when rebuilding an innings after early setbacks.

Patel described the innings as a masterclass in understanding match conditions and ground dimensions. He also suggested that the lessons learned during India's recent T20 matches against Ireland had helped the team improve its approach and make better tactical decisions.

Commenting on the team's overall batting display, Patel said India needed such a performance after an inconsistent start to the tour in Ireland. He believed there had been questions about the team's ability to adapt to varying conditions and alter its strategy when required.

West Indies Eye Early Breakthroughs With Second New Ball

QUEENSTOWN

West Indies are aiming to make immediate inroads with the second new ball on the second morning of the second and final Test against Sri Lanka after the visitors dominated the opening day's play with an impressive batting display in North Sound.

Sri Lanka ended the first day in a commanding position at 338 for 5, recovering strongly after an early setback through a magnificent innings of 188 by Lahiru Udara and a crucial 215-run partnership for the third wicket with Kamindu Mendis. Their resilience placed the visitors in control after they had suffered a heavy defeat by an innings and 217 runs in the opening Test of the series.

Despite Sri Lanka's dom-

inance for most of the day, West Indies bowling coach Ravi Rampaul believes the second new ball, which is only three overs old, offers his side an opportunity to regain momentum when play resumes.

Speaking after the close of play, Rampaul said the team's primary objective is to exploit the conditions with the relatively new ball and strike early. He pointed out that the home side had bowled well with the new ball at the start of the innings, reducing Sri Lanka to 25 for 2 within the first eight overs, demonstrating that disciplined bowling could produce results.

Rampaul stressed the importance of claiming at least two wickets quickly

on the second morning to expose Sri Lanka's lower order. He also underlined the need for the bowlers to maintain a balance between attacking for wickets and defending against easy scoring opportunities. According to him, controlling the economy rate while maintaining consistent pressure will be vital if West Indies are to prevent Sri Lanka from building an even bigger first-innings total.

The West Indies camp has some encouragement from the closing stages of the opening day. Sri Lanka captain Dhananjaya de Silva was dismissed with just the second delivery after the second new ball became available at the beginning of the 81st over.

Los Angeles Knight Riders End Losing Streak With Convincing Victory

LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles Knight Riders registered an impressive six-wicket victory over Texas Super Kings in their Major League Cricket (MLC) 2026 clash on Friday, ending a disappointing three-match losing

streak with a confident all-round performance. Chasing a target of 174, the Knight Riders reached 175 for 4, powered by composed half-centuries from Colin Munro and Rovman Powell.

The victory significantly boosted Los Angeles Knight

Riders' position in the tournament standings, lifting them from sixth to fourth place. In a rare situation midway through the competition, all six teams are now level on six points, with net run rate emerging as the only factor separating them on the table.

Lionel Messi Urges Argentina to Improve After Narrow Victory

MIAMI

Argentina captain Lionel Messi admitted his side have 'many things to correct' after surviving a major scare to defeat Cape Verde 3-2 after extra time and book their place in the Round of 16 of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

The defending champions needed an extra-time own goal, forced by Messi's corner, to overcome a spirited Cape Verde side after being pushed back twice during a thrilling contest at the Miami Stadium on Saturday. Argentina will now face Egypt in the last 16.

Reflecting on the performance, Messi stressed that qualification alone was not enough and said the team must learn from their mistakes ahead of the knockout stages.

Today, we put in a huge effort, as always, playing well and playing badly, just like we always say, but I think the important thing now is to rest, think about what's coming next and try to take positives from today's game.

Beyond just qualifying, I think there are positives because we did some good things, and we also need to correct the bad ones, which I think were many today as well, Messi said after the match as quoted by ESPN.

Messi, who opened the scoring in the 29th minute.