FRIDAY
June 13, 2025

HYDERABAD
CITY EDITION
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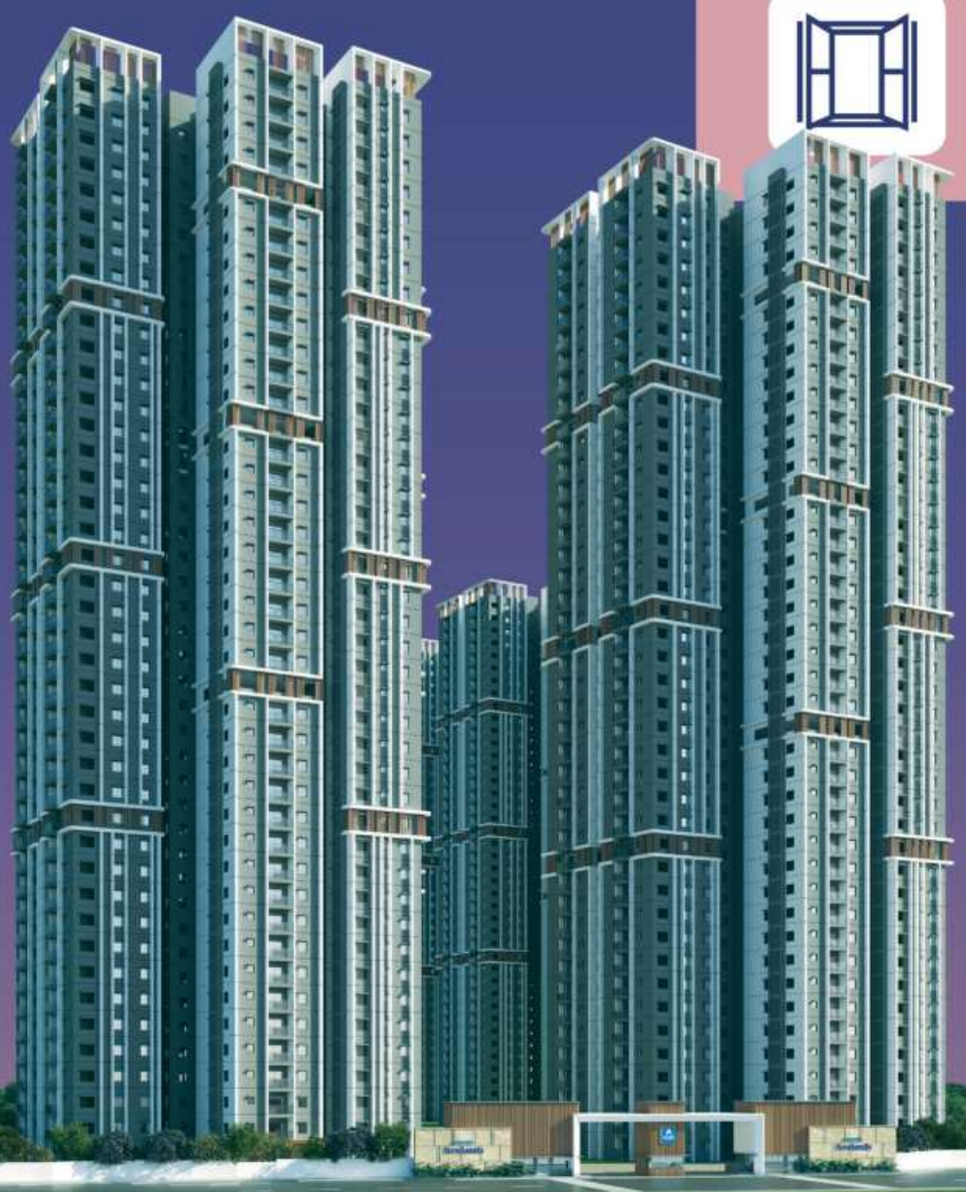


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- Open Yoga Deck
- Meditation Plaza
- Fitness Zone
- Outdoor Gym
- Amphitheatre
- Outdoor Créche Area
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- Elderly Seating Deck
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- Flea Market
- Barbeque Zone
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- Aroma Garden
- Zen Garden
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- Maze Garden

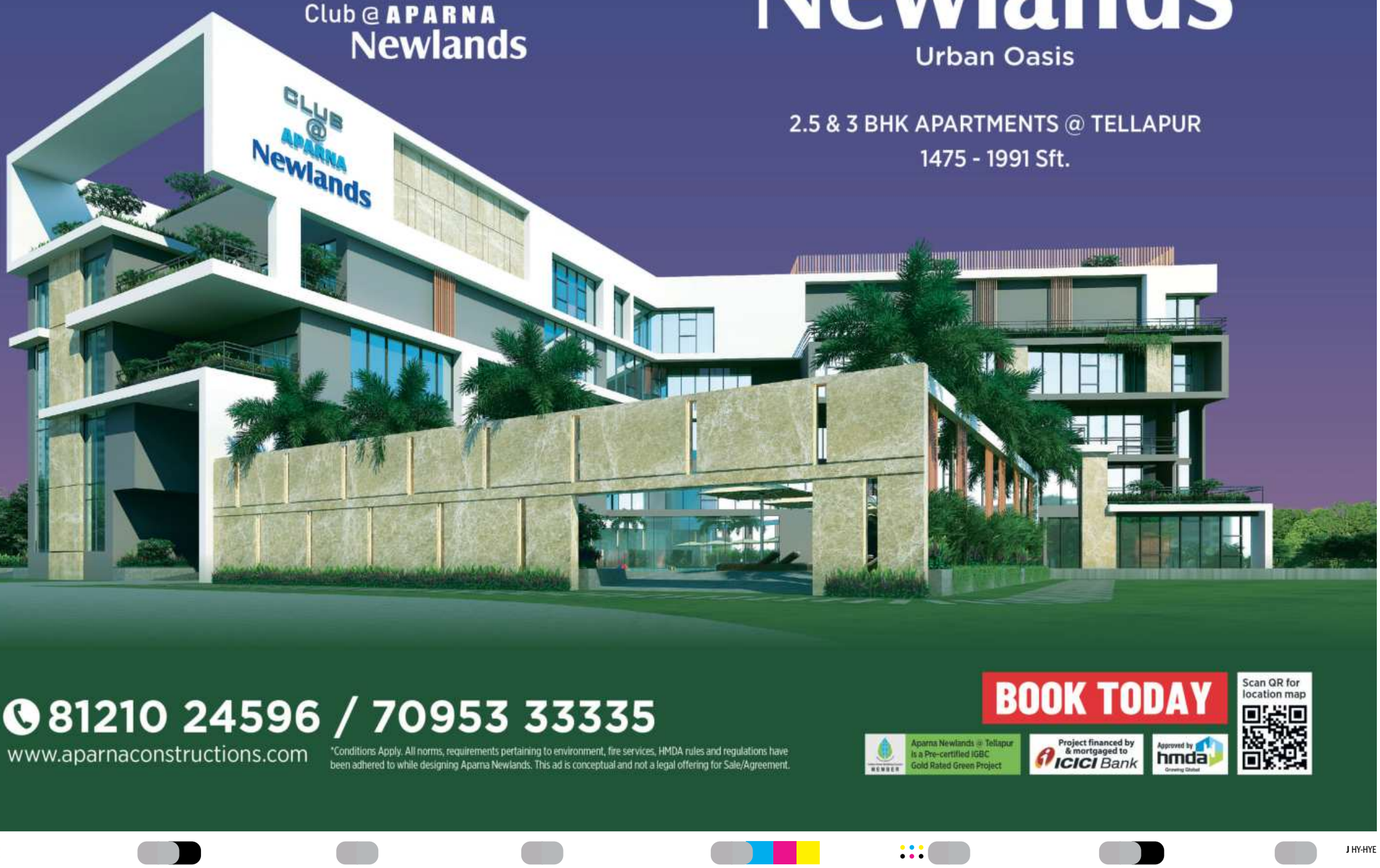




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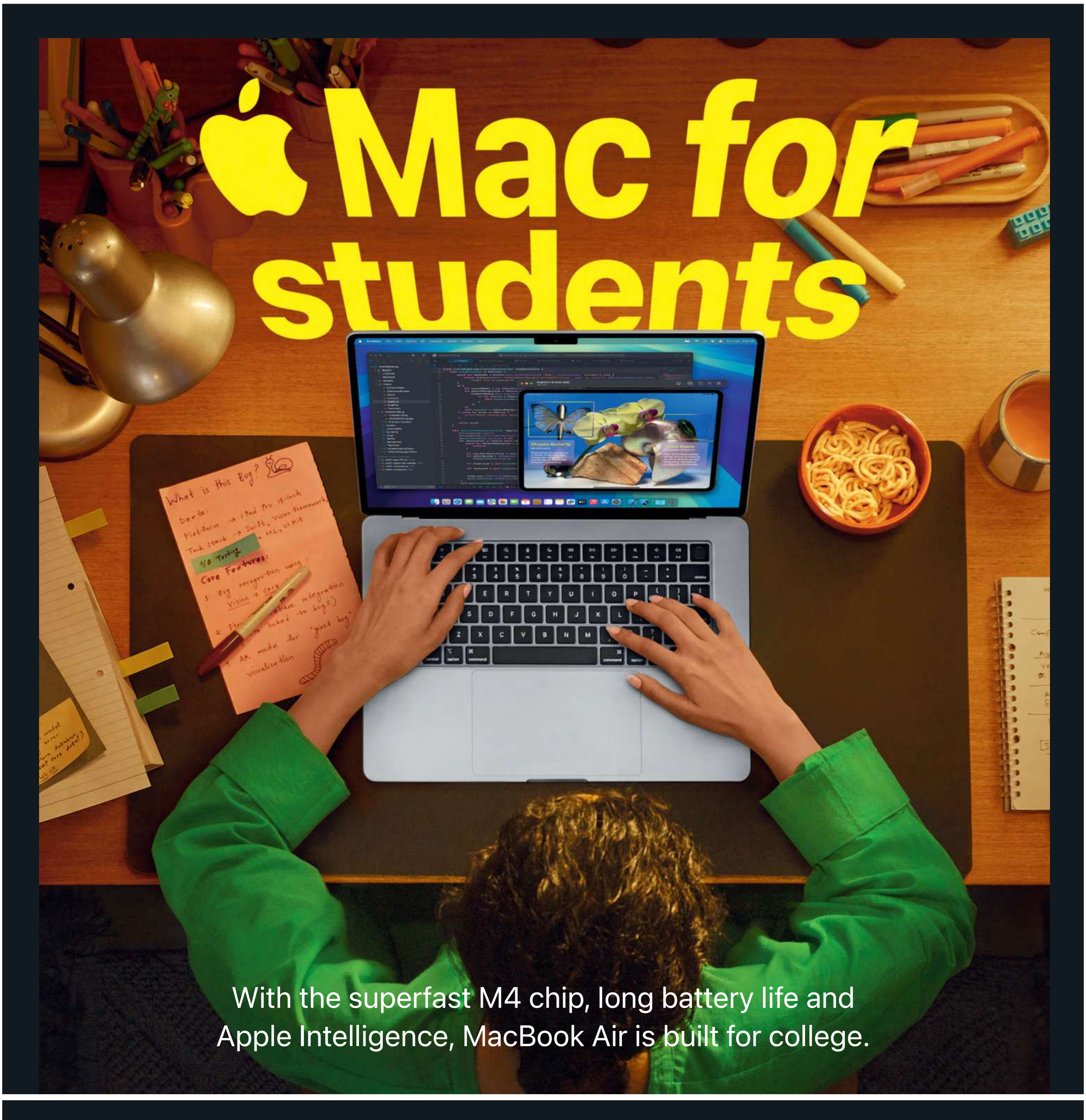
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VESSEL FIRE

Efforts hit as salvor ship runs out of fuel

SOUTH » PAGE 5



NUCLEAR ENRICHMENT

Iran announces new site after censure from IAEA board

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'DANGEROUS' MANOEUVRE

Japan, China row over aircraft coming 'close'

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PARLEY

Concerns over the future of Bangladesh

Is the country slipping into authoritarianism?

OPINION » PAGE 9



BOWLERS DOMINATE

Cummins takes six, but SA strikes back

SPORT » PAGE 15

AI flight with 242 on board crashes in Ahmedabad

- London-bound Boeing 787 aircraft crashes into medical college complex after take-off
- Pilot issues 'Mayday' alert soon after take-off, goes silent before the crash
- Several casualties feared on the ground with official count of those killed awaited
- One passenger survives miraculously; he was identified as a British national

Jagriti Chandra
AHMEDABAD

An Air India flight from Ahmedabad to London, carrying 230 passengers and 12 crew members, crashed shortly after take-off on Thursday afternoon. A towering plume of smoke was visible from afar following a massive explosion after the aircraft plummeted into a medical college hostel five kilometres from the airport as students were gathered for lunch.

Barring one passenger who survived miraculously, no one aboard the aircraft could be rescued.

The Boeing 787-8 aircraft took off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport in Ahmedabad at 1.38 p.m and was headed to Gatwick Airport in London. Immediately after take-off, it crashed in the residential area of Meghani Nagar.

Fast turn of events

According to CCTV footage captured by the CISF, the aircraft crashed under 40 seconds of being airborne. The aircraft was steered by pilot-in-command Sumit Sabharwal and co-pilot Clive Kunder. Government sources said the pilots gave a 'Mayday' call immediately after take-off, signalling a life-threatening emergency, but did not respond to subsequent calls made by the airport traffic control.

According to Air India, of the 230 passengers, 169 were Indians, 53 British, and seven Portuguese. One was Canadian. Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani was among the dead.

Thursday's crash is the first involving a variant of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner series.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who met the sole survivor of the crash in hospital, said none of the other people on board could be saved. "Due to the huge amount of fuel at 1.25 lakh litres and high temperature from the explosion, no one could be rescued," he said. The Press Trust of India identified the survivor as Viswashkumar Ramesh, a U.K. citizen travelling in the A11 seat of the aircraft.

Mr. Shah said that the process of retrieving bodies was almost complete, and that the official death toll would be released after DNA samples are matched and all bodies are identified.

The search was also on for the aircraft's black box for clues to understand what happened in the last crucial moments of flight.

As many as 265 bodies were brought to civil hospital in Ahmedabad, Deputy Commissioner of Police Kanan Desai told pressperson, suggesting that 24 people on the ground were killed in the crash.

Air India and Tata Sons Chairman N. Chandrasekaran said the Tata Group would provide ₹1 crore to the families of each person who lost their life in the tragedy. Air India is also organising two relief flights, one each from Delhi and Mumbai, to Ahmedabad for the next of kin of passengers and Air India staff.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10
MORE REPORTS ON » PAGES 11 & 12

> The tragedy in Ahmedabad has stunned and saddened us. It is heartbreaking beyond words
>
> **NARENDRA MODI**
> Prime Minister



Emergency response team at the site of the crash on Thursday. PHOTOS: VIJAY SONEJI

Rupani's trip to meet his family in U.K. turns fatal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, 69, was among those who perished in the crash of Air India flight AI-171, Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Paatil confirmed on Thursday.



The Union Minister described the loss as one "deeply felt by the BJP family". Rupani, who held the post of Chief Minister of Gujarat between 2016 and 2021 in two terms before being replaced by the current Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, was *en route* to London to join his wife and other members of his family.

FULL REPORT ON » PAGE 11

At least 5 MBBS students killed, says medical body

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

At least five MBBS students, one PG resident doctor and the wife of a superspecialist doctor of the B.J. Medical College in Ahmedabad were killed and over 60 medical students injured when the Air India flight AI-171 crashed into residential quarters of the institution shortly after take-off on Thursday, the Federation of All India Medical Association said.



Rescue efforts ongoing at the crash site. VIJAY SONEJI

STUDENTS MISSING » PAGE 11

NEARBY



KTR warned for vilifying CM

HYDERABAD
Congress warned BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao against making 'derogatory' comments on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, and accused him of stooping to 'low-level language'. » Page 4

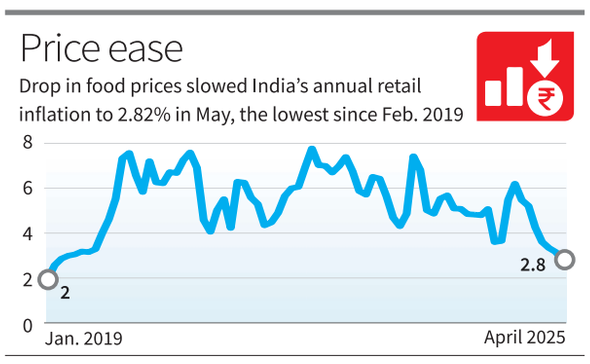
METROPLUS » PAGE 7

Retail inflation eases to six-year low

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

India's retail inflation eased to a 75-month low of 2.8% in May 2025, driven downwards by falling food inflation, according to data released on Thursday. Inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index was last lower than this in February 2019.

Overall, retail inflation has averaged 2.99% in 2025-26 – based on the two months of data available – the lowest average for the first two months of a financial year since 2017-18.



Source: CMIE

Inflation in the food and beverages category eased to 1.5% in May 2025, down from 2.1% in April. This marks the seventh consecutive month of slowing food inflation.

"Deflation in key components such as vegetables, pulses, spices, and meat contributed to this decline," said Rajani Sinha, Chief Economist at CareEdge Ratings. "However, double-digit inflation in edible oils and fruits partially offset the broader moderation."

Likely pause in rate cuts

Economists say that the substantial easing of inflation and the RBI's recent interest rate cuts mean the central bank will likely pause further rate cuts in the short term.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

6 farmers killed, several injured in lightning strikes across Adilabad

The Hindu Bureau
ADILABAD

At least six farmers, including five women, were killed and several others injured in separate incidents of lightning strikes in Adilabad district on Thursday.

Lightning struck a group of farmers at Pipri village in Gadiguda mandal while they were taking shelter under a makeshift hut at a cotton field amid sudden downpour around noon, killing four of them on the spot, injuring eight others.



Congress leader Athram Suguna checking on a youth injured in a lightning strike.

The deceased were identified as Bheembai (40), Sanjana (22), Rambai (45), and Pendur Madhav Rao, a middle-aged farmer. The injured were shifted to the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) in Adilabad. Two women farmers identified as Nandini (30) and Sunitha (35) died after being struck by lightning in two separate incidents at Sangdi and Sonkas villages in Bela mandal on Thursday afternoon, sources said.

In another incident, three farmers of the same family were injured when lightning struck a cattle shed, where they took shelter during heavy rain at Kummari Thanda village in Utnoor mandal. The condition of the injured trio is said to be stable.

India marks a relative drop in gender parity

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

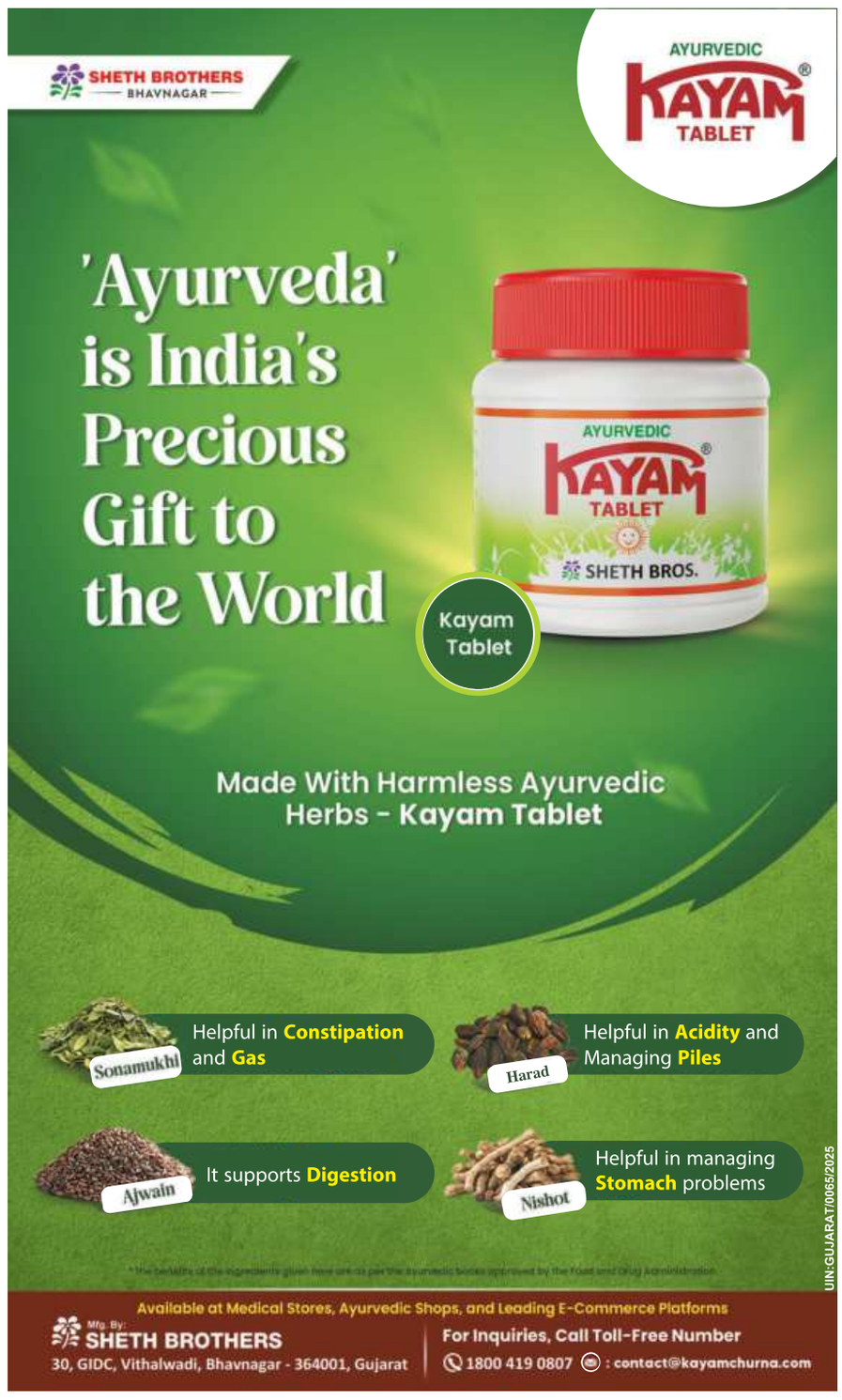
The World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2025 has ranked India at 131 out of 148 countries, with a parity score of just 64.1%. The report released on Thursday puts India among the lowest-ranked countries in South Asia. India had ranked 129 out of 146 countries last year.

The report said that while the global gender gap has closed to 68.8%, marking the strongest annual advancement since the COVID-19 pandemic, full parity remains 123 years away at current rates.

Iceland leads the rankings for the 16th year running, followed by Finland, Norway, the U.K. and New Zealand.

Bangladesh emerged as the best performer in South Asia, jumping 75 positions to rank 24 globally with notable gains in "political empowerment and economic participation".

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10



Morning bustle back on the roads as schools reopen after summer vacation

While government and aided schools officially reopened on Thursday, many private institutions had already resumed earlier this week

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD





Study time: Parents accompanying children as schools reopened on Thursday after the summer vacation. Autorickshaws carrying schoolchildren were back on the roads. SIDDHANT THAKUR

Hyderabad witnessed a lively transformation on Thursday morning as the summer silence gave way to the familiar bustle of school buses, autorickshaws, and parents hurrying to drop their children off, marking the end of the 49-day summer vacation in Telangana.

Outside school gates across Hyderabad, from colonies in the Old City to arterial roads in the Information Technology (IT) corridor, emotions swelled as children returned to classrooms. At the International School in Shaikpet, a mix of excitement and nervousness filled the air. For pre-primary students, the day began with tearful goodbyes and anxious glances back at their parents. Meanwhile, senior students were cheerful, exchanging hugs and smiles as they reunited with classmates for the new academic year.

The first day of the new academic year led to minor traffic snarls, especially around schools located on major roads, as parents and school vehicles gathered at the entrances. This also added to the already busy weekday traffic, with increased movement of institutional vehicles contributing to congestion at key junctions across the city.

"The last few days have been hectic. Covering books, labelling notebooks, and getting everything ready is a yearly ritual that signals the end of holidays," said P. Rekha, a parent from Yousufguda.

While government and aided schools officially reopened on Thursday, many private institutions had already resumed earlier this week. "Some schools have been operational from Monday itself, while a few have informed parents that they will reopen only next week," said Kiran Kumar, an IT professional and a parent.

This academic year also marks a new beginning for over 1.12 lakh teachers across Telangana, who completed a five-day capacity-building training. Senior administrators and school leaders, too, participated in residential workshops to gear up for the year ahead.

'More enrolment needed in government schools'

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Hyderabad District Collector says Telangana government has been prioritising public education by investing crores of rupees to improve infrastructure

Hyderabad District Collector Anudeep Durishetty on Thursday urged parents to ensure 100% classroom attendance for their children and encouraged students to pursue academic excellence with determination.

Speaking to the students at Syed Murtuza Hussaini Memorial Government Upper Primary School at Langar Houz in Golconda, the Collector said the Telangana government has been prioritising public education by investing crores of rupees to improve infrastructure and learning outcomes in government schools. The Collector also distributed uniforms and books to the students.

"Education is the real jewel. No matter how much wealth one has, without education, it is meaningless," he said, addressing students and parents.

He pointed out that each student of a government school in the State benefits from government expenditure of over ₹1 lakh annually, covering uniforms, teacher salaries, midday meals, textbooks, notebooks, and workbooks.

He also appealed to parents to spread awareness about the facilities available at government schools and motivate them to enrol their children. "We want to see an increase in new admissions under the Badi Bata (Back to School) campaign," he said.



Hyderabad district Collector Anudeep Durishetty interacting with students of a government school at Langar Houz on Thursday.

40 school vehicles seized

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

With schools reopening, the Transport Department seized around 40 school buses for alleged violations.

Department officials told *The Hindu* that most of these vehicles were seized for not having proper paperwork. Most of them lacked fitness certificates. A case was booked for hiring a driver over 60 years of age against MV rules. The drive to check documentation was held in Hyderabad, Rangareddy and Medchal-Malkajgiri districts.

INBRIEF



Plea to name submarine after Abid Hasan Safrani of INA

A relative of Abid Hasan Safrani, a member of the Indian National Army, and a close associate of freedom fighter Subhash Chandra Bose, has urged the Indian Navy to name a submarine after him. Prof. Ismat Mehdi, who is Safrani's niece, has written to Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, recalling that Major Safrani was Netaji's companion on the historic voyage aboard a submarine from Germany to Sumatra. In his reply, Admiral Tripathi said the suggestion has been duly noted and forwarded to the concerned authority for consideration, subject to established guidelines.

Chief of Air Staff to review parade at AFA Dundigal

Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, will serve as the Reviewing Officer for the Combined Graduation Parade (CGP) of the 215th course at the Air Force Academy (AFA) Dundigal on June 14. The event marks the culmination of pre-commissioning training undertaken by flight cadets across various branches of the Indian Air Force (IAF). During the ceremonial proceedings, the Air Chief Marshal will confer the 'President's Commission' upon the graduating trainees, officially inducting them as officers in the IAF.

Woman with spinal column tumour treated successfully

Doctors at KIMS Sunshine Hospital, Hyderabad, have successfully treated a 55-year-old woman from Madhya Pradesh who was diagnosed with a spinal column tumour that had caused paralysis due to compression of her spinal cord. The case was led by Dr. Himanshu Prasad, Consultant Spine Surgeon, who along with his team performed a surgical procedure known as En Bloc Resection. This technique involves the complete removal of the tumour in one piece, reducing the chances of recurrence.

Telangana building norms set for an overhaul

Swathi Vadlamudi
HYDERABAD

The Telangana Building Rules, which are the yardstick for issue of buildings permissions across the State, are up for an overhaul soon. The State government has begun the exercise to revise the existing building norms, in order to revitalise them and make them suitable for the contemporary needs. It is reliably learnt that an order was issued over a month ago, constituting a committee with the Commissioner, Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority as its chairman, with the express mandate of preparing draft building norms.

The committee is to pore over each and every norm, and hold consultations with the stakeholders including builders, architects, resident welfare associations and others, before making its recommendations. It is learnt that the committee was given a month's time, but could not complete the task.

Two meetings were held within the committee, but meetings with the stakeholders are yet to begin. It may take two to three months more for the draft rules to be framed, sources informed.

The building rules were first framed in April, 2012, in the era of the joint State, and adopted in toto by the Telangana State after its formation. "The aim is to simplify the rules and make the process user friendly. There are several rules which are outdated which need to be removed, and several other conditions need to be incorporated," an official informed.

After the building rules were framed, the Central government had come up with two versions of National Building Code, one in 2016 and the next in 2023. The Energy Conservation Building Code too has undergone two revisions, and it is time for comprehensive stock taking, and remodelling the building norms in consonance with the national guidelines, the official said.

Time for change

The building rules were first framed in April, 2012, in the era of the joint Andhra Pradesh State

- There are several rules which are outdated and need to be removed, and several conditions need to be incorporated
- After the building rules were framed, the Centre had come up with two versions of National Building Code



The Energy Conservation Building Code too has undergone two revisions, and it is time for comprehensive review

'AI in healthcare' conference in Hyderabad on June 21

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Yashoda Hospitals, Hyderabad, is set to host an international conference titled 'Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare: Revolutionising Lives in Healthcare' on June 21 at its Hitech City branch. The event aims to bring together some of the world's leading voices in medicine, artificial intelligence, and policy to discuss the transformative impact of emerging technologies on patient care.

According to a press release, the conference will serve as a platform for global healthcare leaders, AI experts, clinicians, researchers, and policymakers to exchange insights on the integration of Artificial Intelligence, robotics, and precision medicine in healthcare systems.

The event will feature a lineup of speakers including Dr. Michael D. Howell, Chief Clinical Officer at Google Health, J. Satyanarayana, former IT Secretary of India and Dr. Chinnababu Sunkavalli, a surgical oncologist and Clinical Director at Yashoda Hospitals.

New CPRO to CM appointed

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Senior officer G. Malsur has been appointed as the Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) to the Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. He has been appointed on contract basis and his terms and conditions of the appointment will be released later, said a press release.

తెలంగాణ రాజపత్రం
THE TELANGANA GAZETTE
PART -1 EXTRAORDINARY PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
OFFICE OF THE REVENUE DIVISIONAL OFFICER, KHAMMAM PRELIMINARY DECLARATION

FORM – VII
(See sub-rule(1) of rule -25 and section -19(1) of the Act-30/2013)

District Gazette No. A3/18/2025 Dated: 06.06.2025
District Collector, Khammam, Procg. No. G1/1027/2018 Dated: 31.05.2025
LAO/RDO, Khammam, Rc. No. C1/4690/2018 Dated: 26.05.2025

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/Collector that a total an extent of **Acs. 01-20 Gts (7260 Square Yards)** land is required in MADHIRA Village of MADHIRA Mandal of Khammam District for public purpose, namely for 3rd Railway Line with Electrification between Kondapally-Kazipeta Section under Section 11(1) of the right fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

Therefore, declaration is made that piece of land measuring, more or less **Acs. 01-20 Gts (7260 Square Yards)** standard measurement under acquisition for 3rd Railway Line with electrification between Kondapally-Kazipeta in MADHIRA Village of MADHIRA Mandal of Khammam District of whose detailed description is as follows.

SCHEDULE
Village: MADHIRA Mandal: MADHIRA District: KHAMMAM

Sl.No.	Survey No. (SD Record)	Sy. No.(Dharani)	Type of Title	Type of Land	Area under acquisition (Ac. Gts)	Name of the Pattadar	Name of the Cultivator	Structures/ Trees/Etc. if any	Boundaries
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	10/2	-	Patta	Dry	00-22 (2662 SY)	Kona Venka teswara Rao S/o. Raghava Rao (NALA Land)	Kona Venka teswara Rao S/o. Raghava Rao (NALA Land)	-	E: Lurdu & Others W: Vasamsetti Koteswara Rao N: Railway Track S: Shiva Nageswara Rao
2	11/1/2	-	Patta	Dry	00-38 (4598 SY)	Kona Venka teswara Rao, S/o. Raghava Rao (NALA Land)	Kona Venka teswara Rao, S/o. Raghava Rao (NALA Land)	-	E: Kona Venka teswara Rao W: S. Phani Krishna N: Railway Track S: Vasamsetti Koteswara Rao
Total Extent					01-20 (7260 SY)				

This declaration is made after verifying the objections of persons interested (no objections filed) as provided u/s 15 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act – 2013 (Act No.30/2013) as none of the families are displaced under this land acquisition. Therefore, the families which are likely to be displaced due to this land acquisition are to be treated as "NIL".

Mines of Coal, iron-ore, slate or other minerals lying under the said land or any particular of the said land, except such parts of the mines and minerals which may be required to be dug or removed or used during the construction phase of the project for the purpose of which the land is being acquired are not needed.

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector, Khammam and Land Acquisition Officer/ Revenue Divisional Officer, Khammam on any working day.

Sd/- Land Acquisition Officer & Revenue Divisional Officer, Khammam | **Sd/- Additional Collector Khammam** | **Sd/- Collector & District Magistrate, Khammam**

DIPR RO NO. 224/LA/PP-Advt/Agency/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT
FORM-VI
(See Sub-rule (1) of rule-19 and Section-11(1) of the Act-30/2013)
Preliminary Notification

Gazette No.33/2025 Dated: 02-06-2025
No.F/6597/2025 Dated: 30-05-2025
No.G/773/2025 Dated: 31-05-2025

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/ Collector that a total of **Ac. 10.08 gts** land is required in the **Damargidda** Village, Damargidda Mandal, Narayanpet District for public purpose namely for construction and formation of Jayamma Tank under Narayanpet Kodangal Lift Irrigation Scheme at **Damargidda** Village of Damargidda Mandal.

The Government of Telangana has issued G.O. Ms. No.3 dated 12.02.2025 Irrigation & CAD (LA) Department for exemption of the Project i.e. Narayanpet - Kodangal Lift Irrigation from the application of Chapter II and III of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act of 2013. Therefore Social Impact Assessment study has not been conducted as required U/s 4 (1) of the said Act. The additional Collector (Revenue), Narayanpet is appointed as administrator for the purpose of Rehabilitation and Resettlement of the effected families.

Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the **Damargidda** village of Damargidda Mandal, Narayanpet District land measuring, more or less **Ac. 10.08 gts** of standard measurement, whose detail description is as following, is proposed for acquisition.

Sl.No.	Survey No.	Type of Title	Type of Land	Area under Acquisition (in acre) Ac-gts	Name & Address of person interested	Boundaries N	Boundaries E	Boundaries W	Boundaries S	Trees Variety	Trees Number	Structures Type	Structures Plinth Area
1	241/AA/5	Assigned Land	Dry	0.07	Bhojya Naik S/o Veerya Naik	241	241	241	241	-	-	-	-
2	241/4	Assigned Land	Dry	1.00	Sangya Naik S/o Govind Naik	241	241	241	241	-	-	-	-
3	241/2A	Assigned Land	Dry	1.00	Venkat Naik S/o Shankya Naik	241	241	241	241	Babul	1	-	-
4	241/26	Assigned Land	Dry	1.00	Gopal Naik S/o Shankya Naik	241	241	241	241	-	-	-	-
5	241/5A	Assigned Land	Dry	0.06	Chandya Naik S/o Shankirya Naik	241	241	241	241	-	-	-	-
6	241/4i	Assigned Land	Dry	1.00	Devya Naik S/o Govind Naik	241	241	241	241	Nemali Neem	8 7	-	-
7	241	Govt. Land	Dry	0.05	Govt. Land **Encroacher:** (Sangya Naik S/o Eetya Naik)	241	241	241	241	-	-	-	-
8	241	Govt. Land	Dry	0.08	Govt. Land **Encroacher:** (Eetya Naik S/o Pikya Naik)	241	241	241	241	-	-	-	-
9	241	Assigned Land	Dry	0.20	**Pattadar:** Shevya Naik S/o Kashya Naik **Occupants:-** 1.Gundya Naik 2.Ramu Naik 3. Venkat Naik 4.Thirupathi Naik S/o Laxman Naik	241	241	241	241	Neem Nemali Medi	1 1 1	-	-
10	241	Govt. Land	Dry	4.25	**Govt. Land**	241	241	241	241	-	-	-	-
11	185/A/3	Patta	Dry	0.17	Manikyamma W/o Manik Naik	241	241	241	241	Neem	10	-	-
	Total			Ac. 10.08 gts									

This notification is made under the provisions of Section 11(1) of The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013 (Central Act No.30/2013).

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the Revenue Divisional Officer & Land Acquisition Officer, Narayanpet on any working day during the working hours. The Government of Telangana / Collector-cum-Appropriate Government is pleased to authorize Revenue Divisional Officer & LAO and his staff Deputy Inspector of Surveyor to enter upon and survey land, take levels of any land, dig or bore into the sub-soil & do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in section-12 of the said Act.

Under section 11(4) of the Act, no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land i.e sale / purchase, etc or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such notification without prior approval of the Collector.

Objections to the acquisition if any, and claims from all the persons interested/affected for settlement by negotiation of the compensation, may be filed by the person interested in the land within 60(sixty days) from the date of publication of this notification as provided under section 15 of the Act before District Collector /Authorized officer.

Sd/- Revenue Divisional Officer & Land Acquisition Officer, Narayanpet | **Sd/- Additional Collector (Revenue) Narayanpet** | **Sd/- District Collector Narayanpet**

DIPR RO.No.233/LA/PP/Advt/Pub/2025-26

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.49, 4th & 5th Floor, East Wing, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560001. Phone No. 080-22265383
Website: www.kiadb.in email: cdoce1@kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-22/431/2025-26 Date: 12.06.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GoK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work: Formation of Industrial Layout, including Construction of Roads, RCC Side Drains, Utility Ducts, Culverts & HDPE Water supply pipeline at Sira Industrial Area Phase 2, Sira Taluk, Tumakuru District.

Applicants may download bidding documents from the e-procurement portal **htpps://kppp.karnataka. gov.in.**

Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **18.07.2025 up to 04:00 pm.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1
K.I.A.D.B, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1216/AKAR/2025-26

15 cm rain sinks western Hyderabad

Downpour leads to inundation of low-lying areas, reopening of schools added to the traffic woes. Parents navigated flooded lanes and drivers taking shortcuts through narrow colonies turned many intersections into chaotic bottlenecks.

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

A deafening spell of thunder, along with sharp flashes of lightning and heavy rain, jolted residents of western Hyderabad out of their sleep in the early hours of Thursday. From Gachibowli to Serilingampally and Lingampally, the skies rumbled for nearly an hour, and water swiftly filled the city's low-lying roads.

The downpour, which began around 3 a.m., was quickly documented by bleary-eyed residents on social media. "Lightning strikes so bright, they woke me up," one user wrote at 3:19 a.m. "Sounded like explosions and it's non-stop," another user said.



Traffic movement slowed down at RUB Lingampally and Doyens Colony due to waterlogging.

Waterlogging

"The street under my apartment is literally looking like a river," another used wrote, describing the scene in Nallagandla. Many users noted that the storm didn't ease up until around 4.15 a.m., after which a light drizzle followed. In Serilingampally, the stretch from the Revenue Office to BHEL turned into a shallow stream, forcing two-wheeler riders to inch through calf-level water with their feet half-submerged. Commuters trying to reach Doyens Colony via the Road Under Bridge at Lingampally were stuck in a slow-moving mess due to water-logging, while the arterial Gachibowli roads bore the brunt of the early rain and post-rain traffic.

Aditya Sharma, an IT professional working in Gachibowli, said he woke up to a message from his cook cancelling her visit due to waterlogging. "In the morning, the rain was very heavy. By 7 or 8 a.m. it had slowed, but since my cook didn't turn up, I had to head out hungry for my shift," he said. Fortunately, he reported a relatively smooth commute via the Miyapur-Gachibowli route, which had dried up somewhat by noon, when he left for work.

The first day of school reopening also added to the traffic woes. Parents navigating flooded lanes and drivers taking shortcuts through narrow colonies turned many intersections into chaotic bottlenecks. A Cyberabad traffic police official said that the National Disaster Response Force teams had been deployed and were on standby round-the-clock, especially in low-lying areas known to flood quickly.

Heavy rain alert in six districts

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a heavy rainfall warning for six districts in Telangana for Friday. The latest bulletin says, heavy rains are expected at isolated locations in Jayashankar Bhupalpally; Mulugu; Bhadradri Kothagudem; Mahabubabad; Warangal and Hanumakonda districts. In addition to the rain alert, the IMD has also warned of thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds at isolated places across all parts of the State. For Hyderabad and surrounding areas, the forecast indicates a generally cloudy sky over the next 24 hours.

TGMC raids 'first-aid centres'

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Telangana Medical Council (TGMC) conducted surprise inspections on multiple unauthorised clinics in Devarakonda town of Nalgonda district on Thursday (June 12) morning, exposing rampant allopathic treatment being practiced under the guise of first-aid and primary care centres. Six such establishments were raided.

Inspection revealed

The inspections, held in coordination with district health authorities, revealed a shocking number of individuals without valid medical qualifications operating clinics and prescribing potent medications, including antibiotics and steroids, without medical justification.

Individuals lacking the requisite medical qualifications were found administering potent medications.

INBRIEF

Man ends life by jumping in front of train in Ghatkesar

A 36-year-old man died by suicide on Wednesday afternoon after jumping in front of a moving train near the Ghatkesar Upline.The deceased was identified as Nirudi Narsing Rao, a resident of Ghatkesar and a professional driver by occupation. The incident was reported around 1.08 p.m. when Narsing, who had reportedly arrived from M.T. Raku, Kazipet, was struck by the engine and died on the spot due to grievous injuries. According to the police, the reason behind the suicide remains unclear but they noted that the deceased had a history of alcoholism and mental health issues.

(Roshini suicide prevention helpline number are: 8142020033/44 and 040 66202000/2001.)

10 sweet shops ordered to suspend operations

Food Safety officials of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation conducted surprise inspections on sweet shops in the city and issued orders for closure of ten establishments for not having Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) license. A total of 69 sweet shops were inspected on June 11, during which they found violations of the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006 and Rules & Regulations, a note informed. The food business operations are being counselled on maintenance of hygiene standards, proper labelling indicating the date of preparation and shelf life of the food item.

Two-day programme on export business

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Federation of Indian Export Organisations is organising a two-day programme on export opportunities and how to start an export business in Hyderabad starting from June 19.

The objective of the programme, to be held at Federation of the Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry premises in Red Hills is to equip entrepreneurs, start-ups, exporters, and businesses with the knowledge and skills required to succeed in international markets.

The programme will have several sessions, including those on introduction to international trade; setting up an exporting company; Foreign Trade Policy; export finance; overview of export incentives; selection of product and market; identification of foreign buyers; and export documentation and GST provisions.

For details one may send an email to kulkarni@fieo.org.

Interstate coordination sought to curb drug menace

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) organised the first convergence meeting of Drug Law Enforcement Agencies on Thursday at the Integrated Command Control Centre (ICCC) mini conference hall in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.

The session brought together senior officers from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Goa, and Tamil Nadu, along with central agencies including the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Enforcement Directorate (ED), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Bureau of Immigration (BOI), and Customs.

'Operational synergy'

The meeting was convened to address the increasing complexity of narcotic drug trafficking in India, especially in border-sharing and transit states. Officials deliberated on the need for a structured interstate coordination mechanism, timely intelligence sharing, and operational synergy to combat the evolving threats posed by interstate syndicates, synthetic drug proliferation, digital trafficking methods, and shifting trafficking routes. The meeting covered key areas such as mapping regional trafficking routes and hotspot locations, sharing information on major traffickers, habitual offenders, accused absconding, and pending non-bailable warrants.

Timings
HYDERABAD

FRIDAY, JUN. 13		
RISE	05:42	SET 18:51
RISE	20:51	SET 07:07
SATURDAY, JUN. 14		
RISE	05:42	SET 18:51
RISE	21:39	SET 08:04
SUNDAY, JUN. 15		
RISE	05:42	SET 18:52
RISE	22:22	SET 09:02

Hyderabad Weather	max	min
Sangareddy	33	24
Warangal	31	23
Hyderabad City	33	24

Hyderabad City Today
34°C The weather will be warm. Spell of light rain and thundershower is a chance. Night will be comfortable.

Hyderabad City Tomorrow
33°C Morning will be comfortable. Day will be warm. Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

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THE HINDU
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MUSIC DANCE DRAMA
SOUTH INDIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION (SICA) invites to the FOUNDATION DAY CONCERT on Tuesday 17th June 2025 at Ravindra Bharathi at 6.30 pm Sri G.Ramanathan and Party Saxophone (Chennai) All are welcome. New Members Enrolled. Phone: 9440884863; 9247721233; 9849003539

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Nature of Work	Due date
252613 001799	Transportation of Paper Reels / Bundles / Boxes from TNPL Unit - I at Kagithapuram to various branches / destinations throughout India.	30.06.2025

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
DIPR/3000/Tender/2025 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
O/o the Executive Engineer, Hayathnagar Circle-3, Beside MRO Office, Saroornagar, Hyderabad.
E-mail: eec3.ghmc@gmail.com
QUOTATION NOTICE
QUOTATION NOTICE NO. EE/HYTNR/LBNZ/6/2025-26/... DT: 12-06-2025.
Sealed Quotations are invited from reputed firms, which should be received to undersigned on or before 16-06-2025. The quotation will be received on or before 16-06-2025 upto 3.00 P.M. and the same will be opened at 3.30 A.M. Other particulars can be obtained from the Executive Engineer, during the office hours.

Sl. No.	Description Of Items	Qty	Unit	Amount
1.	Supply of old (scrap) mild steel grills, ms flats, steel reinforcement and any other items with Mild steel etc - per kg		Kg	
2.	Supply of Galvanized iron scrap and any other items made with GI etc		Kg	
3.	Supply of precast cc blocks (of 600*325*150/115mm) for kerbing made with rubberized moulds of M30 grade design mix with 350 kgs cement/ cum of concrete .20mm - 6mm nominal hard granite machine crushed metal at 0.80 cum/cum of concrete and sand at 0.4 cum/cum of concrete including cost and conveyance of all materials like sand water coarse aggregate etc complete. Including Fixing of Precast kerbing blocks of 600 mm length true to its alignment as specified by the Dept to form divider including pointing with cement mortar (1.3) prop Cost and conveyance of all materials like cement, sand, water etc to site, including curing and labour charges for mixing, etc complete.		Each	
4.	Fixing of precast cc blocks (of 600*325*150/115mm) for kerbing made with rubberized moulds of M30 grade design mix with 350 kgs cement/ cum of concrete .20 mm - 6 mm nominal hard granite machine crushed metal at 0.80 cum/cum of concrete and sand at 0.4 cum/cum of concrete including cost and conveyance of all materials like sand water coarse aggregate etc complete. Including Fixing of Precast kerbing blocks of 600 mm length true to its alignment as specified by the Dept to form divider including pointing with cement mortar (1.3) prop Cost and conveyance of all materials like cement, sand, water etc to site, including curing and labour charges for mixing etc complete.		Each	

CONDITIONS:
1. The quotations should be received on or before 16-06-2025 upto 3.00 P.M. and the same will be opened at 3.30 A.M. in the O/o. Executive Engineer, Circle-3, Hayathnagar, GHMC.
2. The Executive Engineer, Hayathnagar has the reserve right to cancel the quotations without assigning any reason.
Address of concerned officer: K.Ramesh Babu, Executive Engineer, Hayathnagar Circle-3 GHMC. Hyderabad.
Sd/- Executive Engineer
Hayath Nagar Circle-3, GHMC
DIPR R.O.No.3482-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 12.06.2025

भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान कोट्टायम
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY KOTTAYAM
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Tel: 04822-202100 (Office), 202135 (Academics), 202110 (Security), 202102 (Accounts)
Email: registrar@iiitkottayam.ac.in, Website: www.iiitkottayam.ac.in
No. IIITK/01/12/2025/1522 Date : June 11, 2025
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The online Interview is scheduled on 23.06.2025 from 10:00 AM onwards
sd/-
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hmda
HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
7th Floor, East Wing, Swarna Jayanthi Commercial Complex, Ameerpet, Hyderabad-500038.
E - Procurement Tender Notice
NIT. No. HMDA/DEV/CE/10/2025 Dt: 12.06.2025
Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority is issuing the Request for Proposal (RFP) for "Selection of Consultant for rationalization and simplification of existing development & building rules and preparation of unified development & building code for the State of Telangana". The detailed scope of work, eligibility criteria and other details can be seen in RFP on website https://tender.telangana.gov.in. The last date for submission of the pre-bid queries online is dt: 20-06-2025 up to 05:00 PM. The pre-bid meeting will be held on dt: 24-06-2025 @ 03:30 PM. The last dale for submission of bids online is dt: 08-07-2025 upto 03:00 PM.
Chief Engineer
HMDA
R.O No.: 230-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
SALEM DIVISION (SIGNAL & TELECOM BRANCH)
E-Tender Notice No. SA-SG-120-I-OT-04-2025 Date : 11.06.2025
Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer / Southern Railway/ Salem Division, Salem - 636005 for and on behalf of the President of India invites ONLINE tenders for the following works as per tender notice given in our e-tender portal www.ireps.gov.in. The tenderer(s) / contractor(s) intending to apply for e-tender for WORKS in Salem Division, need to get enrolled in the e-tender portal "www.ireps.gov.in" and only online tenders will be accepted. Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Tender Document Cost (TDC) in respect of e-tendering, should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited on IREPS (e-tender portal).

Tender Notice No.	SA-SG-120-I-OT-04-2025
Name of work : Salem Division - Signal and Telecommunication work in connection with various Track and allied Engineering works over Salem Division.	
Approximate cost of the work	Rs. 3,16,61,002.52
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 308300.00
Cost of tender form including tax : Nil	
Eligibility criteria for similar single work previously executed : Applicable	
Period of Completion in months : 12 months	
Tender closing date and time : 04-07-2025 at 15.00 hrs.	

Note : Details of approximate value of tender, tender form cost, EMD & location are given on the e-portal "www.ireps.gov.in'
For other Details, terms and conditions, the tenderers are advised to refer to the Tender documents which are available at "www.ireps.gov.in" website
Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer,
Southern Railway, Salem - 636 005

OFFICE OF THE TELANGANA HOUSING BOARD,
"GRUHAKALPA" M.J. ROAD, NAMPALLY, HYDERABAD - 01
Notification No. 611/Open plots/LXG/Auction/EE(S)/2025 Date: 24.05.2025
Auction Notice
The Telangana Housing Board proposed to conduct public auction for Disposal of vacant open plots Residential at Laxmiguda (V) Ranga Reddy District in Sy. No. 51 and 52/1 under the jurisdiction of Executive Engineer (Hg), South division on "as is where is condition" at Laxmiguda Housing Board Colony on 20-06-2025 from 11:00 A.M onwards. Due to unforeseen circumstances, if the auction date happens to be holiday, the same will be conducted on next working day. The details of vacant open plots to be auctioned are as follows.

Sl. No.	Locality	Description of the Property	Extent in Sq.Yd	Upset Price in Rupees	EMD Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 1	229.16	45,000.00	Rs. 5,00,000-00 (Rupees: Five Lakhs only)
2	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 2	284.16	45,000.00	
3	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 3	305.55	45,000.00	
4	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 4	220.00	45,000.00	
5	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 5	241.38	45,000.00	
6	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 6	317.77	45,000.00	
7	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 7	220.00	45,000.00	
8	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 8	220.00	45,000.00	
9	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 9	220.00	45,000.00	
10	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 10	220.00	45,000.00	
11	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 11	220.00	45,000.00	
12	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 12	220.00	45,000.00	
13	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 13	220.00	45,000.00	
14	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 14	220.00	45,000.00	
15	Laxmiguda	Open Plot No. 15	213.88	45,000.00	

Interested persons desirous to participate in the above auction should deposit an amount of Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs only) towards EMD in the shape of Demand Draft in favour of " Director (EDS), e-seva" payable at Hyderabad on any nationalized bank and submit the same before 11.00 A.M on date of commencement of auction.
For further details please see website https://tghb.cgg.gov.in/ or contact the Assistant Engineer, Phone No.6300560384, Executive Engineer, Phone No.9866656540 & Assistant Estate Officer, Phone No. 9949424806, South Division, Telangana Housing Board on any working day during office hours.
The EMD DD's will be received from 09:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M on the date of auction.
Sd/- 24.05.2025
Vice Chairman & Housing Commissioner,
Telangana Housing Board, Hyderabad
R.O No.: 231-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26

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INBRIEF



Bus from Karnataka rams lorry on NH, 18 injured

At least 18 passengers were injured when a Hyderabad-bound private sleeper bus from Karnataka rammed into a stationary lorry on NH 167 in Narayanpet district in the early hours of Thursday. The bus, carrying 29 passengers from Shivamogga to Hyderabad, met with the accident around 4.30 a.m. The lorry had come to a halt in the middle of the highway due to a mechanical breakdown, and heavy overnight rain had further reduced visibility, explained Inspector Ramlal from Makthal police. "Although highway patrol teams had placed reflective cones to alert oncoming traffic, the speeding bus failed to stop in time and ploughed straight into the vehicle," he said. The impact left the front portion of the bus completely mangled.

Govt. announces in-charge ministers for districts

Government has announced in-charge ministers for various districts after the induction of new Cabinet ministers. Damodar Rajanarasimha (Mahabubnagar), D. Sridhar Babu (Ranga Reddy), Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy (Warangal), Ponnam Prabhakar (Hyderabad), Seethakka (Nizamabad), Tummala Nageshwar Rao (Karimnagar), Jupally Krishna Rao (Adilabad), Vivek Venkataswamy (Medak), Adluri Laxman Kumar (Nalgonda) and Vakiti Srihari (Khammam) will be the in-charge ministers. The in-charge ministers will review and monitor the implementation of Praja Palana activities in their respective districts.

Cong. warns KTR against making 'derogatory' comments on Revanth

BRS working president completely rattled by the Kaleshwaram fiasco, say party leaders; complaint filed in Cyber Cell against KTR and Kaushik Reddy for using social media to post baseless remarks

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Congress warned BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao against making 'derogatory' comments on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, and accused him of stooping to 'low-level language' and trying to incite political unrest.

At separate press conferences at Gandhi Bhavan on Thursday, MLC Venkat Balmoor, Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy, Tourism Development Corporation Chairman Patel Ramesh Reddy, Road Development Corporation Chairman Malreddy Ramreddy and TPCC general secretary Chanagani Dayakar, termed KTR's 'outburst' as "rattled by the Kaleshwaram fiasco being exposed".

Mr. Balmoor said that the unwarranted remarks were aimed at instigating party workers to create tensions so that the situation could spiral into street-level clashes. Congress workers will not tolerate such 'nonsense' from KTR, he warned.



Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy and MLC Venkat Balmoor (right) at a press conference in Hyderabad on Thursday.



In the line of fire: BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao

Won't be spared

Mr. Patel Ramesh Reddy said those speaking ill about the Chief Minister will not be spared, questioning the tone and tenor of KTR's words.

"His utterances only reflect the frustration set in the BRS leadership as they are bound to face punishment for their corruption and inefficiency in executing the Kaleshawaram project," he said.

Mr. Dayakar said that the entire KCR family was shaken by the probe into Kaleshwaram project and KTR speaking in abusive language against the CM was not acceptable.

Echoing similar sentiments, Mr. Ramreddy accused the previous BRS regime of turning Telangana into a "debt trap" and said that the Congress government under Mr. Revanth Reddy was committed to reversing that legacy through comprehensive welfare and development initiatives. "People of Telangana will give BRS a fitting reply in the local body," he asserted.

Later, Mr. Venkat Balmoor complained to the Cyber Cell against KTR and also MLA Kaushik Reddy for using their social media platforms to post objectionable and baseless remarks against the CM.

He said that the defamatory comments posed a serious threat to law and order in the State.

He specifically condemned Mr. Kaushik Reddy's remarks and said, "It is unacceptable for a public representative to stoop to such levels and misuse digital platforms."

Mittal is Energy Secy, Harichandana new Hyderabad Collector

M. Rajeev
HYDERABAD

After putting in place grievance redressal mechanisms in different sectors, government has embarked upon a major reshuffle of IAS officers late on Thursday evening, effecting transfers and new postings to almost three dozen bureaucrats.

One major transfer was of Revenue Principal Secretary Navin Mittal, who has been posted as Energy Department Secretary, relieving Finance Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania from full additional charge.

Telangana Bhavan Special Chief Secretary Shashank Goel has been posted as Resident Commissioner, Telangana Bhavan, Delhi, relieving Gaurav Uppal, who has been posted as Secretary to Government, Coordination (GoI Projects & CSS) in TG Bhavan.

Another senior official, N. Sridhar, has been posted as Principal Secretary of the Panchayat Raj Department. He will continue to hold full additional charge as Principal Secretary of Mines & Geology and I&C Departments.

Registration and Stamps Inspector General Jyoti Buddha Prakash has been posted as SC Development Department Secretary. Nizamabad Collector Rajeevgandhi Hanumanthu is posted as Special Secretary (Registration & Stamps) in place of Dr. Buddha Prakash, who will forthwith hold full additional charge as Planning Secretary and Executive Officer of Telangana Remote Sensing Applications Centre (TGRAC).

Additional Chief Electoral Officer D.S. Lokesh Kumar has been placed in full additional charge of the post of Revenue Secretary in place of Mr. Mittal, and he will also hold the charge as CCLA. B. Bharati Lakpathi Naik will be the Secretary of Telangana Information Commission.

Harichandana Dasari will be the new Hyderabad Collector in place of Anudeep Durishetty, who has been posted as Khammam Collector. GHMC Additional Commissioner K. Sivakumar Naidu is posted as Irrigation Department Land Acquisition and R&R Commissioner in place of T. Vinay Krishna Reddy, who has been posted as Nizamabad Collector.

Panchayat Raj Director G. Srijana has been given full additional charge as WCD Director replacing A. Nirmala Kanthi Wesley. Siva Sankar Loheti has been posted as Joint Secretary of Agriculture Department in place of P. Uday Kumar.

Plumage hues



Monsoon revelry: A peacock in full glory at KBR Park as heavy rainfall hits parts of the city and rest of Telangana. NAGARA GOPAL

Godavari, Krishna Collectors alerted over heavy rainfall

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Telangana Government has put the collectors in the districts having Godavari and Krishna river basins on high alert in view of the above normal rainfall forecast during the monsoon season.

Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy directed the district collectors to take steps in advance to prevent loss of lives and property in the event of heavy rains. The administration should be ready with steps in advance to avoid damages rather than taking relief and rehabilitation works after the calamity strikes.

The State Government has constituted a high-level committee with the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) commissioner, Fire Services director general, Disaster Management commissioner and other senior officials to recommend measures for strengthening the disaster management mechanism and for taking steps to check the impact of floods in the affected areas on the lines of Hyderabad.

The committee is likely to submit its report within a week, and necessary action will be initiated on the recommendations made by the panel, he said at a video conference with the district collectors on Thursday. He recalled that monsoon entered the State 15 days in advance and said the district collectors should ensure effective coordination with the departments concerned to minimise the damages in the event of heavy rains/floods. Officials should also factor in the heavy flooding witnessed in July, August and September months and should prepare effective plans to meet any eventuality.

Accordingly, the administration should identify people residing in river flow areas and shift them to Indiramma houses. Floods in Godavari river resulted in more damages last year and officials should be prepared if it recurs this year.

BJP: No info on extent of loans to ryots

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The BJP has accused the Congress Government of neglecting farmers and pushing them into misery despite the new agriculture season commencing early this year.

At a press conference at the BJP office here on Thursday, Deputy Floor leader in the Assembly, Payal Shankar, said that there is no official information about the extent of loans sanctioned by banks and how much has been disbursed so far. "Many farmers are unable to go for fresh loans due to the 'half-baked' loan waiver scheme," he said.

Why not CBI?

Regarding the KLIP probe, he questioned why the government has been reluctant to hand over the case to the CBI considering that there are allegations of money laundering in the case.

State making big efforts in energy transition: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Telangana government is making big efforts in energy transition, sustainable urban planning and technology-driven environmental initiatives, Industries and IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu said here on Thursday.

It also offers a conducive investment environment that favours innovation, energy efficiency and environmental responsibility, he said, inviting industries that align with such values to make Telangana their preferred destination.

Addressing the inaugural session of the two-day GreenCo Summit 2025 of CII GreenCo Council that got underway here, he said this while highlighting a multi-pronged approach pursued by the government, which includes the target of generating 20,000 MW of green energy by 2030. The Clean Energy Policy seeks to achieve this by encouraging solar, wind, floating solar and hydro energy as well as energy storage projects. The policy is eyeing 1,418 KTPA green hydrogen projects by 2030.



Industries and IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu with CII leaders at the inauguration of GreenCo Summit 2025 in Hyderabad on Thursday.

He also underscored the need for States with a strong IT industry like Telangana to strike a balance between development and environmental protection, especially in the context of power-guzzling data centres that are a must for harnessing the potential of emerging technologies such as AI. Over time, with government support industries should adopt green measures in the process making the pollution control boards redundant, he said.

GreenCo Rating Platinum Awards for excellence in environmental performance, energy efficiency and green manufacturing practices were presented to more than 60 firms.

Spring Semiconductor of Malaysia, TConsult to train 10,000 youth

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Malaysia-based Spring Semiconductor in association with teleconsulting and skilling platform TConsult intends to train 10,000 youth in semiconductor manufacturing and design by the end of 2030.

CEO Ken Ku conveyed Spring Semiconductor's willingness to train the youth at a meeting IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu chaired at the Secretariat on Wednesday, in which representatives of UK-based semiconductor firm ARM Holdings conveyed their interest in investing in Telangana.

Responding to the investment proposal, the Minister said, "We extend our sincere gratitude to ARM Holdings for expressing interest in partnering with us in the semiconductor sector. The government will provide all necessary support to facilitate their entry and growth."

He said this highlighting TG's business friendly ecosystem and the proactive support extended by the State government to industries. He noted ARM Holdings interest in investing in Telangana reflects the efficiency and credibility of the State's governance, his office said. Mr. Sridhar Babu also reiterated the government's commitment to skilling TG youth in line with industry needs.

Commending government's dedication to emerge as a global hub for skilled talent, Mr. Ku said Spring Semiconductors will develop a specialised curriculum to train local youth in semiconductor manufacturing and design. The training will involve six months of instruction in TG, followed by international internships in countries like Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan.



A delegation of BC leaders felicitating TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud in Hyderabad on Thursday.

Goud lauded for more BC representation

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

A delegation of Backward Class (BC) leaders met TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud in city on Thursday, hailing his efforts to promote social justice and ensure representation of marginalised communities within the party and the government.

Led by BC Welfare Association national president Jajula Srinivas Goud, the delegation felicitated Mr. Goud commending the Congress party for giving due priority to the BCs, SCs, STs, and minorities in both appointed and elected posts.

Mr. Srinivas Goud said during the PCC chief's term, a new era of empowerment has been ushered in for the poor and underprivileged in Congress.

He credited Mr. Goud with convincing top party leaders like Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for the caste survey. "The Cabinet expansion also reflected the same spirit," he said.

Edu. system in bad shape: BRS leader

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The education system in Telangana is in a bad shape due to its complete neglect by the Revanth Reddy Government since December 2023, BRS leader and former IPS officer R.S. Praveen Kumar alleged.

Speaking to the media in Hyderabad on Thursday, he said that during the BRS rule, the education sector had made rapid strides with government establishing 660 residential schools and providing quality education to students.

He alleged that the Chief Minister had intentionally kept the education portfolio with him to destroy it with negligence in the name of promoting Young India schools.

Hyderabad thief linked to burglary at don's place arrested

The Hindu Bureau
VISAKHAPATNAM

The city police have arrested a notorious offender, Mohammed Salim Qureshi (51), from Attapur, Hyderabad, who has been allegedly involved in over 200 property offences across multiple states on Thursday. The arrest was made in connection to three recent property offences under the III Town police station limits in Visakhapatnam.

Commissioner of Police, Shankabratha Bagchi, said that the accused Qureshi was apprehended with stolen property, which includes 71 gram gold, worth ₹25 lakh. Two of his associates are currently absconding

Mr Bagchi said that Qureshi has over 200 property offence cases against him include 105 cases in Maharashtra, 65 in Telangana, five in Andhra Pradesh, six in Karnataka, one each in Gujarat and Rajasthan. Some of his significant cases included a 2001 theft at the house of gangster Chota Rajan in Mumbai, where he along with some associates, reportedly stole ₹10 crore worth of property. In 2013, he robbed the home of a former Rajasthan MLA during the year 2013.

The C.P said that following thefts in the cityused technical evidence and coordinated with police teams and even travelled to Maharashtra as part of the investigation.

Ship rescue operation hit as salvor vessel runs out of fuel

Director-General of Shipping says *Offshore Warrior* had limited firefighting capability, lacked foam to contain spread of fire; Coast Guard continues efforts despite challenging sea conditions

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM



Fighting fire: A specialised team dispersing 1,000 kg of dry chemical powder directly onto the core of the fire on Thursday. PTI

Even as the authorities have been struggling to contain the fire onboard the Singapore-flagged container vessel *MV Wan Hai 503*, the vessel *Offshore Warrior*, deployed by the owners of the ship to mitigate the imminent danger of a possible explosion, had to leave the site of the accident after running short of fuel, delaying the emergency response operations. The vessel caught fire off the Kerala coast on June 9.

In a letter addressed to Wan Hai International Pvt Ltd, Singapore, on Wednesday, Director-General of Shipping Shyam Jagannathan said *Offshore Warrior* did not have adequate fuel to continue the operation and had departed for Kochi for refuelling.

Though the Indian Coast Guard had successfully managed to connect a towline to the burning vessel, the absence of *Offshore Warrior* is expected to delay the towing of the vessel away from the Indian coast, which could have serious implications given the prevailing conditions, the DGS noted.

Further, it was observed that *Offshore Warrior* that was positioned at the seat of the fire had limited firefighting capability and lacked foam to contain the spread of fire, making the vessel unsuitable for effectively addressing the rapidly evolving and critical situation, he said.

Efforts continue

Meanwhile, the Indian Coast Guard continued its firefighting efforts despite challenging sea conditions, a senior ICG official said.

A specialised team was deployed onboard an Indian Air Force Mi-17 helicopter to carry out aerial firefighting operations. During the mission, the team successfully dispersed 1,000 kg of dry chemical powder directly onto the fire's core, the official said. "Although the external fire has been extinguished, dense smoke continues to emanate, indicating residual internal heat and possible metallic fire," the ICG said.

Meanwhile, the salvage team observed hydrocarbon release near the fuel tank of the burning ship. The presence of hydrocarbon vapours indicates possible heat transfer near fuel tanks. The authorities have been keenly watching the developments as there was a chance for a Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapour Explosion (BLEVE).

At present, continuous onboard assessments are being conducted to monitor any escalation. The vessel remains structurally afloat but poses continued risk due to onboard hazardous cargo.

The ship is drifting within the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone in a southeasterly direction, approximately 42 nautical miles from Beypore, Kerala. The fire remains active but is under steady control due to ongoing boundary cooling and firefighting efforts.

MSC Elsa 3 owner told to begin oil extraction

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Director-General of Shipping issued an ultimatum to the owner of *MSC Elsa 3*, the ship that sank off the coast of Kerala on May 25, for the extraction of oil from the ship in 48 hours.

In a letter addressed to MSC Ship Management Ltd., he said the consistent delay by the owners represent a violation of statutory obligations.

Fire reported in container of ship bound for Mumbai

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

A fire was reported in a container of *MV Interasia Tenacity*, on Thursday while the vessel heading towards the Nhava Sheva port in Mumbai prompting the crew to seek help, official sources said here. "The situation is stable," a Defence source said.

Karnataka Cabinet gave nod for fresh caste survey, says CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday gave its nod for conducting a fresh Socio-Economic and Educational Survey, popularly known as caste survey.

The Congress high command, on Tuesday, suggested to the Karnataka government to conduct a fresh survey within a stipulated time to address concerns of some communities who complained of being "left out." They had been petitioned by the politically-dominant Vokkaliga and Veerashaiva-Lingayat communities against accepting the 2015 report.

With the Cabinet decision, the caste survey of 2015 is no longer valid.

Citing the lapse of 10 years since the conduct of the survey, by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes headed by H. Kantharaj in 2015, as the reason for recount, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, told presspersons: "As per the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1995, a fresh survey is mandated every 10 years. A lot of changes would have taken place in this last 10 years in the social and educational realm."

Stating that fresh survey work would be completed within 90 days of notification, he said that members to the backward classes commission will be appointed in the "next two to three days".

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	3	35.8	26.2	Kozhikode	10	32.8	24.5
Ahmedabad	—	41.9	28.8	Kurnool	25	31.8	24.4
Aizawl	13	33.6	20.9	Lucknow	—	44.0	31.2
Allahabad	—	44.0	31.8	Madurai	—	38.7	26.7
Bengaluru	5	28.8	21.0	Mangaluru	113	27.0	23.1
Bhopal	0.4	41.0	27.4	Mumbai	2.1	34.1	28.0
Bhubaneswar	12.2	30.8	25.5	Mysuru	13	30.2	20.4
Chandigarh	—	41.7	31.8	New Delhi	—	43.9	30.7
Chennai	0.4	37.2	25.4	Patna	—	40.1	31.6
Coimbatore	—	32.2	22.6	Port Blair	45.5	28.0	24.4
Dehradun	7	37.1	27.2	Puducherry	82.8	34.0	24.4
Gangtok	5	27.0	18.8	Pune	7	32.8	23.9
Goa	19	27.5	25.7	Raipur	—	37.8	27.7
Guwahati	1	37.5	25.7	Ranchi	—	33.8	23.5
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	0.2	29.0	18.6
Hyderabad	—	32.7	24.3	Shimla	—	32.2	24.2
Imphal	—	33.3	27.7	Srinagar	—	34.2	18.4
Jaipur	—	45.0	32.2	Thiruvananthapuram	28	31.3	23.5
Kochi	71	29.4	23.4	Tiruchi	—	36.7	27.0
Kohima	—	30.5	19.0	Vijayawada	0.6	35.0	26.6
Kolkata	—	35.9	28.0	Visakhapatnam	22	33.0	25.7

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	9	78	17	64	74	
Bengaluru	20	41	45	65	65	
Chennai	9	14	65	57	56	
Delhi	22	71	41	213	177	
Hyderabad	—	15	47	78	100	
Kolkata	3	64	21	51	49	
Lucknow	9	34	98	152	122	
Mumbai	3	69	21	28	75	
Pune	—	32	88	36	42	
Visakhapatnam	10	54	23	59	69	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Khanna, Punjab recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 255 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 13

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Wg Cdr Anil Yadav R/o OMQ No.98/4, No.1 Officers Mess, AFS, Hakimpet, Sec-bad-500010, have changed my daughter's name from Nandini to Nandini Yadav, vide affidavit dt.12-6-2025, before Sec-Bad Court

I, Wg Cdr Anil Yadav R/o. OMQ No. 98/4, No.1 Officers Mess, AFS, Hakimpet, Sec-bad-500010, have changed my son's name from Pratham to Pratham Yadav, vide affidavit dt.12-6-2025, before Sec-Bad Court

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Wg Cdr Anil Yadav R/o OMQ No.98/4, No.1 Officers Mess, AFS, Hakimpet, Sec-bad-500010, have changed my daughter's name from Mohini to Mohini Yadav, vide affidavit dt.12-6-2025, before Sec-Bad Court

I, Aelgani Vidyanand, S/o. Aelgani Dayanand, R/o. H.No. 16-1-24/283/2RT, Saidabad Colony, Saidabad, Hyderabad–500059, Telangana State, Changed my name from Aelugani Vidyanand to AELGANI VIDYANAND for all puroses.

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EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. eT-HQ-WAT-18-2025, Dt. 06.06.2025

Name of Work : MISCELLANEOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO WATER SUPPLY SUCH AS PROVISION OF COVERS TO OPEN WELLS, LADDER AND HAND RAILING TO OVER HEAD TANKS, CPVC WATER SUPPLY PIPE LINE TO STAFF QUARTERS AND SERVICE BUILDINGS, AND PVC STORAGE TANKS ETC., IN THE SECTION OF SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER/W/ WATER SUPPLY/WALTAIR UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/ESTATE/WALTAIR.

Approx cost of the work : ₹ 1,45,91,464.55, EMD: ₹ 2,23,000/-, Completion Period of the work: **08 months.**

Tender closing date & time : at **1500 hrs.** of **30.06.2025 .**

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/ corrigendum issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), Waltair

PR-223/Q/25-26

EAST COAST RAILWAY

(1) Notice No. eT-West-WAT-20-2025, Dt. 05.06.2025

Name of Work: JAGDALPUR-PROVISION OF QUICK WATERING SYSTEM FOR COACH WATERING AT JAGDALPUR (JDB) STATION UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/JAGDALPUR ON KK-II LINE OF WALTAIR DIVISION.

Advertised Value: ₹ 2,84,13,658.26, EMD: ₹2,92,100/-.

(2) Notice No. eT-West-WAT-21-2025, Dt. 06.06.2025

Name of Work: CIVIL ZONAL WORKS IN THE SECTION BETWEEN SILAKJHORI (IN) TO KIRANDUL (IN) FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30.06.2026 UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/KIRANDUL.

Advertised Value: ₹ 1,35,18,899.96, EMD: ₹2,17,600/-.

Completion Period of the work: **08 Months** (for Sl. No. 1) & **Period ending 30.06.2026** (for Sl. No. 2).

Tender closing date & time : at **1500 hrs.** of **01.07.2025** (for both tenders).

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 10 (Ten) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/ corrigendum issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg), Waltair

PR-224/Q/25-26

JAPIT
Jharkhand Agency for Promotion of Information Technology

(An Autonomous body under Department of Information Technology, Govt of Jharkhand)
Ground Floor, Engineer's Hostel – I, Near Golchakkar, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand
Phone. 0651-2401044, 2401067 e-mail: japit_doit@rediffmail.com

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)
To
Supply and Installation of two Indoor Video Wall system at Annexe Building in Project Building, Dhurwa Ranchi.

Jharkhand Agency for Promotion of Information Technology (JAP-IT) on behalf of Department of Information Technology & e-Goverance, Government of Jharkhand intended to replace the existing Video Wall System installed at first floor and 2nd floor of Annexe Building (New Auditorium) at Project Bhawan (Jharkhand Matralaya) with new Video Wall with advance Technology.

The RFP document is available on GEM portal https://gem.gov.in/. Interested Bidders may view, download the RFP document and submit their e-Bid online only on GEM portal as per the schedule mentioned therein.

Sd /-
OSD, JAP-IT

PR 354870 Information Technology(25-26)D

kotak

Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited
Regd office: 27BKC, C 27, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051
Corporate office: Kotak Infiniti, Bldg No 21, Infinity Park, General AK Vaidya Marg, Malad (E), Mumbai - 400097 **www.kotak.com**

AUCTION-NOTICE

That the below mentioned Borrower/s had availed gold loan facility against security of the gold ornaments/ items, as specified below. The Borrower/s defaulted in due repayment of the installments and outstanding dues and as a result of which the Bank was constrained to issue notices calling upon the Borrower/s to repay the outstanding amounts. However, the Borrower/s has failed to repay/clear his outstanding dues thereby compelling the Bank to auction the gold ornaments pledged in favour of the Bank.

The auction of the below mentioned gold ornaments would be held on/after at Date: 23-June-2025, time: 11.00 AM, Place: Respective Branch Premises

ApplApac	Party Name	State	Sub Location	Branch Name	Gross Wgt	Auction Date
GLN3665702	Dheeraj Kumar Chaubey	Telangana	Hyderabad	Shamshabad	42.10	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3515699	Sabavath Devendar	Telangana	Hyderabad	Gachibowli	7.70	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3526505	Kovvuri Janakirama Raju	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kukatpaly	65.90	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3538939	Jajala Manohar	Telangana	Hyderabad	Malkajgiri	107.30	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3219738	Pothumanchi Madhumathi	Telangana	Hyderabad	Champapet	247.40	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3530203	Takur Prithviraj Singh	Telangana	Hyderabad	Subedari	48.80	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3765986	Sabhavath Pirya	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kamareddy	30.10	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3784460	Daggupati Venkata Maruthi Sandeep	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kukatpaly	105.80	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3834500	Dharavath Kalyan	Telangana	Hyderabad	Vanasthali	51.20	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3832787	Mohammad Rafi	Telangana	Hyderabad	Svnroad	256.70	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3697456	Pitta Venkata Muneswari Devi	Telangana	Hyderabad	Iconbuild	510.20	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3386835	Vemula Kishore	Telangana	Hyderabad	Banjarahi	25.90	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3574530	Bendadi Prathyush	Telangana	Hyderabad	Himayatnag	112.30	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3574526	Bendadi Prathyush	Telangana	Hyderabad	Himayatnag	113.40	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3633008	Pichakuntla Sadashiv	Telangana	Hyderabad	Oxfordplz	23.30	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3443001	Chirumamilla Chakravarthi	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kukatpaly	43.10	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3790117	Daggupati Venkata Maruthi Sandeep	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kukatpaly	65.10	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3653259	Dharavath Kalyan	Telangana	Hyderabad	Vanasthali	49.70	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3792697	Uppunoor Karunaker	Telangana	Hyderabad	Shamshabad	53.40	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3654578	P S A Prasada Rao	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kavhills	48.70	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3442300	Neelarapu Anil Kumar	Telangana	Hyderabad	Dilshuknagr	135.50	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3727750	Pitta Venkata Muneswari Devi	Telangana	Hyderabad	Iconbuild	211.30	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3799674	Manchikanti Sharath	Telangana	Hyderabad	Vanasthali	42.10	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3765561	Md Sajid Pasha	Telangana	Hyderabad	Siddipet	27.00	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3732990	Vemula Kishore	Telangana	Hyderabad	Banjarahi	29.20	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3574453	Bendadi Prathyush	Telangana	Hyderabad	Himayatnag	331.10	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3729993	Putta Madhavi	Telangana	Hyderabad	Sanathnaga	156.50	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3710283	Putta Madhavi	Telangana	Hyderabad	Sanathnaga	156.80	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3727171	Junukunte Venkatesh	Telangana	Hyderabad	Champapet	77.20	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3670343	Hambeer Raghunath Rao	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kamareddy	53.00	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3685562	G Veeranna	Telangana	Hyderabad	Mehaboobna	44.00	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3811834	Yeratapalli Sai Prithvi Reddy	Telangana	Hyderabad	Somajiguda	731.20	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3575232	Vadla Sugunachari	Telangana	Hyderabad	Shamshabad	15.60	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3602308	Panuganti Madhavi	Telangana	Hyderabad	Ramanthapu	9.00	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3571649	Radhika Shiva Sharma	Telangana	Hyderabad	Dilshuknagr	87.70	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3629000	Santosh	Telangana	Hyderabad	Banjarahi	34.70	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3515202	Santosh	Telangana	Hyderabad	Banjarahi	10.20	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3809636	Santosh	Telangana	Hyderabad	Banjarahi	14.90	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3303290	Vadla Raghavendra Chary	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kukatpaly	20.40	On/After:23-June-2025
GLN3492655	Sanjapaga Shekhar	Telangana	Hyderabad	Kukatpaly	98.30	On/After:23-June-2025

Bidders are requested to Submit a copy of their Photo – identity, signature and address proof along with their original for verification together with two recent photographs on the day of auction. The Bank reserves the right to change the venue/date/time of auction or cancel the auction without any notice to bidders.
The cost of the auction process will be debited to the customer account. Bank reserves the right to recover the balance amount from the customer if the bid amount is insufficient to meet the payoff amount of the account.
For any further details regarding the terms and conditions of the auction, you are required to contact the below mentioned person/s.

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.
Ph -7337387284

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED
OPERATION MEDCHAL CIRCLE

Tender Notice No: 03/2025-26

Old-Ext-III-Tsp No. 224, 225, 228, 233, 235, 236, 238 & 256/24-25, New-Tsp No. 15 to 28/25-26 and Mat. Tsp No. 01 to 06/25-26

Sealed tenders are invited from the experienced and GST Registered Vendors for
1. Tsp No. 17 & 18/25-26 & Mat. Tsp No.01 to 06/25-26 - Medchal Circle Office
2. Tsp No. 20 to 27/25-26 - Civil sub-division office, Medchal Circle
3. Tsp No. 256/24-25 & 15 & 19/25-26 - Kukatpally Division Office
4. Tsp No. 224, 225, 228, 233, 235, 236 & 238/24-25 & 16 & 28/25-26 - Medchal Division Office.

Further Details Visit **www.tgsouthernpower.org** Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Operation, Medchal

DIPR R.O.No.3469-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 12.06.2025

DEPUTATION NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited for the post of Director (Information Systems) in Finance Department, **on deputation basis,** from officers working in Central / State / Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous Bodies or **on contract basis,** having B.Tech in any discipline/ MCA with a minimum 15 years experience in IT related projects / Project Life Cycle Management out of which at least 5 years should be in a senior management level.

Applications along with necessary documents should be submitted through proper channel with advance copy to the Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Government Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram **on or before 30.06.2025.**

Applicants once appeared for the interview shall not apply for the post again.

For more details please visit **www.finance.kerala.gov.in** (Phone No.0471- 2518320)

F4/206/2025/I&PRD **ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY (FINANCE)**

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Sl. No.	NIT No.	No. of works	Total amount (Rs. in Lakhs)	Start date/Last Date for receipts of Bids		Address of Officer Cell No
1	'e'Procurement Short Tender Notice NIT No:16/SE(KZ)/ GHMC/TA1/ 2025-26, Dated: 11/06/2025	Painting-1, Cir 17	123.00	Bid submission start date	13-06-2025 @ 3.00 p.m.	SE (KZ), GHMC Phone No. 8790522144.
				Bid Submission Closing Date	16-06-2025 @ 3.00 p.m	
	Total	1 works	123.00			

Further details can be seen at e-procurement @ **www.eprocurement.gov.in**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (KZ), Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

DIPR R.O.No.3485-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 12.06.2025

JHARKHAND MEDICAL & HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & PROCUREMENT CORPORATION LTD.
MCH BUILDING, RCH CAMPUS, NAMKUM, RANCHI – 834010.
(CIN – U85510OJH2013SGC001276)E-mail:jmhidpc2014@gmail.com
Website: https://jmhidpcl.jharkhand.gov.in/
GST NO: 20AADCJ4293L2ZH, PAN NO: AADCJ4293L

Bid Ref. No. JMC/NIT-25/MRI-CT/11 **Date: 10.06.2025**

Selection of Agency for Supply, Installation and Commissioning and operation & maintenance of MRI 3.0 Tesla and CT Scan 256 Slices for selected location in Jharkhand on Trunkey Basis for 10 Years

The **(JMHIDPCL), Ranchi** hereby invites separate **Technical Bid** and **Financial Bid** (two envelope system) through e-procurement from eligible Manufacturer/ their Authorized Dealer /Distributors/ Authorized Stockiest for health facilities of the State of Jharkhand.

The Bid documents with detailed conditions can be viewed and downloaded through website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in and should be submitted through e-procurement system only. The eligible Bidder(s) willing to participate must be registered in e-procurement portal.

Particulars	Date & Time
Date of Publication on e-Portal	**13-06-2025**
Bid Submission Start Date	**27-06-2025**
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time	**04-07-2025 05:00 PM**
Bid Opening Date for Technical Proposal	**05-07-2025 05:00 PM**
Earnest Money Deposit	**Rs 1,000,00,00/- (One crore through Online payment Gateway)**
Contact/ Helpline No. of E-Procurement Cell	**+91-8709368893/9471180967**
Pre-bid meeting Date & Time	**17-06-2025 at 01:00 PM**

Note: The above dates may change due to declaration of holidays. In the event of any of the dates being declared as a holiday for the office of the JMHIDPCL, the Bids will be opened on the next working day at the appointed time.

JMHIDPCL reserves the right to amend or withdraw any of the terms and conditions contained in the Bid document including quantity/ number of items to be supplied or to reject any or all Bids without giving any notice or assigning any reason. The decision of the Managing Director, JMHIDPCL in this regard shall be final.

Managing Director. JMHIDPCL.

PR 354843 (Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Dev & Procurement Corp Ltd) 25-26 (D)



Palm promise: Farmer G.Sridhar Reddy working at his four-year-old oil palm tree plantation in Dandempalli village of Nalgonda district. Under the Telangana State Oil Palm Mission, the government plans to expand cultivation from 2.45 lakh acres to 20 lakh acres. NAGARA GOPAL

The crop that is raising farm incomes — and eyebrows

Once a fringe experiment, oil palm cultivation has rapidly taken root across Telangana, reshaping rural economy and farmer aspirations. Backed by subsidies, buyback guarantees and political push, the crop promises steady returns and sustainability. But beneath the optimism, there are concerns over volatile prices, labour shortages, water stress and ecological fallout. As the State races to expand acreage, experts and farmers have one question – can this boom withstand market shocks and environmental strain? **P. Laxma Reddy and P. Sridhar** report

In Pedavegi, a non-descript dot on the map of West Godavari district in what was then undivided Andhra Pradesh, an act of symbolism took root, literally, way back in 1986. Then Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao knelt on a patch of farmland and planted a palm sapling. At that point, it may have seemed like just another photo op. But that simple act would outgrow its moment in history, rooting itself into the soil, and the future, of two States.

Four decades later, that one sapling has morphed into a sweeping oil palm culture that now sustains thousands of farmers across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

What started in the lush delta districts of West and East Godavari soon crept into Krishna, before leaping across the newly-drawn State borders into Telangana. Khammam was the first to embrace it, followed by Adilabad and Nalgonda, where farmers looked westward for inspiration, and returns too.

Among the early adopters was Gutta Venkatarama Rao, a farmer from Malkaram village in Dammapeta mandal, now in Telangana's Bhadradri Kothagudem district. He vividly remembers the early 1990s, not just for the gamble he took, but also for what it gave back.

"It was N.T. Rama Rao's vision of promoting oil palm cultivation that lit the spark," says the 69-year-old. "He wanted farmers to have a stable income and the country to become self-reliant in edible oil. That is what pushed me to plant oil palm in 1994."

And that decision paid off. For over two decades, oil palm gave him what few crops could: predictability, prosperity and peace of mind. His success did not go unnoticed. Soon, other farmers in Dammapeta followed, turning the region into a hub for oil palm cultivation.

It wasn't long before word spread beyond Dammapeta and Aswaraopeta, also in the same district. Farmers from across the State began travelling to these mandals to see the transformation firsthand. Among them was V. Veerya, a tribal farmer from Singaram village in Mahabubabad district.

Once a chilli grower, Veerya had battled erratic yields and constant crop damage by monkeys. But after a study tour to the oil palm heartlands in 2019, he returned home with a plan, and four acres of land waiting to be repurposed. "Seeing what they had built there, it opened my eyes," he recalls. With support from the Horticulture Department and subsidies for seedlings and drip irrigation, he made the switch.

Today, the results speak for themselves. On June 10 this year, Veerya harvested his first oil palm crop – six tonnes of fresh fruit bunches. "It not just a harvest, it is security. No longer do I have to fear not having a sustainable income."

> It was N.T. Rama Rao's vision of promoting oil palm cultivation that lit the spark. He wanted farmers to have a stable income and the country to become self-reliant in edible oil. That is what pushed me to plant oil palm in 1994.
>
> **GUTTA VENKATARAMA RAO,** Farmer in Malkaram village, Bhadradri Kothagudem

From trial to triumph

What's fuelling this quiet agricultural shift is not just curiosity, it is a strong support system backing the crop. Subsidies, assured buyback arrangements, functional processing units and a farmer-friendly environment have turned oil palm into a serious option in Mahabubabad district, says District Horticulture and Sericulture Officer J.Marianna.

Exposure visits to oil palm clusters in Aswaraopeta and Dammapeta gave local farmers more than just inspiration; they offered a hands-on understanding of the crop's lifecycle, from planting to profit. The district now plans to ramp up cultivation from 8,000 to 12,500 acres in the 2025-26 financial year. To ease the transition, farmers are being offered ₹2,100 per acre annually for the first four years to support intercropping while the palms mature.

Meanwhile, Bhadradri Kothagudem continues to lead Telangana's oil palm march, with over 75,000 acres already under cultivation. The goal is to expand to one lakh acres and make the crop a central pillar of rural income. The district's edge lies not just in its soil and climate, but also in infrastructure – two factories run by the Telangana Co-operative Oil Seeds Growers Federation at Aswaraopet and Apparaopeta, capable of crushing 30 tonnes and 60 tonnes of Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFBs), respectively, per hour, ensure that farmers have a reliable place to process their harvest.

In the districts of Nalgonda and Suryapet – regions better known for their citrus orchards – a new class of oil palm growers is emerging. From NRIs and retired officials to big landowners, many are making the switch, drawn by the promise of higher returns. "In four years, oil palm can fetch ₹1 lakh per acre in profit," explains Narasimha Reddy, vice-president of the Nalgonda Oil Palm Farmers Association, adding, "That is nearly three times what paddy offers."

But even here, challenges remain. A lack of trained harvesters has forced farmers to pay up to ₹1,200 a day per labourer to cut the heavy bunches. "We need to set up processing facilities and train locals to ease this burden," Reddy says.

Still, the numbers tell a story of momentum: from 2016-17 to 2024-25, over 10,800 acres in Nalgonda have been brought under oil palm, cultivated by some 2,450 farmers.

Returns, resilience and ripple effect

Backed by policy muscle and political will, Telangana is now betting big on oil palm. Under the Telangana State Oil Palm Mission, which is part of the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP), the government has unveiled an ambitious plan: expanding cultivation from the existing 2.45 lakh acres to 20 lakh acres.

To make this leap, the State has done more than roll out subsidies. It has opened farmers' eyes to the possibilities. In a strategic move, delegations of farmers and officials were sent on exposure visits to countries like Malaysia to understand modern oil palm farming techniques. The initiative was led by Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageshwara Rao, who hails from Khammam, the district where Telangana's oil palm journey began.

Even during the BRS regime, the push was palpable. Then-MLA Balka Suman not only championed the cause but led by example. He launched oil palm cultivation on 20 acres of his own land, sparking a ripple effect among neighbouring farmers.

At a recent awareness event in Husnabad of Karimnagar district, Minister for Backward Classes Welfare and Transport Ponnam Prabhakar pitched oil palm as a resilient, high-return crop. "It keeps monkeys at bay and withstands unseasonal rains and hailstorms, which are major concerns for our farmers," he had said, highlighting income potential ranging from ₹60,000 to ₹1.5 lakh per acre annually.

> Telangana is inherently dry. Pushing for a crop that thrives in humid, high-rainfall regions could prove ecologically disastrous.
>
> **KANNEGANTI RAVI,** Vice-president, Rythu Swarajya Vedika

The numbers back the intent. Since 2022, the State has aggressively expanded cultivation across 26 districts, targeting five lakh acres by 2025 out of a total identified potential of 20 lakh acres – an exponential leap from just 45,000 acres in 2014. The NMEO-OP scheme, with 60:40 funding ratio between the Centre and State, has identified 246 of Telangana's 563 rural mandals as viable zones for oil palm.

To facilitate this expansion, the government has roped in 14 private companies, each assigned a factory zone to ensure farmers aren't left with unprocessed harvests. Hindustan Unilever is setting up a palm oil processing unit in Kamareddy district, while 12 acres in Incherla of Mulugu district have been earmarked for another unit. These initiatives are aimed at easing the burden on farmers who have started harvesting but do not have processing infrastructure within a 50-km radius.

So far, approximately 2.43 lakh acres are under oil palm in the State, with 1.97 lakh acres added under NMEO-OP between 2021 and 2024 alone. To make the transition attractive and viable, farmers are being offered subsidies of up to ₹50,918 per acre over four years. Of that, ₹22,518 goes toward drip irrigation in the very first year, an essential input for this water-intensive crop.

The momentum is strong, but the clock is ticking. The Agriculture Minister has urged officials in the Horticulture Department and partnering oil palm companies to accelerate efforts and ensure that the five lakh-acre mark is reached by the end of this financial year.

But there is a shadow of uncertainty. NMEO-OP, the backbone of the State's oil palm push, is set to expire at the end of this fiscal. "We are hopeful it will be extended. If not, farmer enthusiasm may take a hit," shares a senior official.

While the atmosphere is largely favourable, the road ahead is far from smooth. At the heart of the concern lies a recent policy shift: the Centre's reduction of import duty on crude and refined palm oils – from 27.5% to 16.5% in May – has sent ripples of worry across the farming community. Many fear this move could depress the price of FFBs, which currently fetch about ₹20,000 per tonne, potentially cutting deeply into profits.

Bonthu Rambabu, district secretary of Telangana Rythu Sangham in Khammam, flags not only the volatile pricing but also the ageing of existing plantations and patchy returns as key issues that could undermine long-term farmer confidence.

According to Rambabu, the onus is now on government agencies and departments to step up, by ensuring timely supply of high-quality seedlings, expanding localised processing capacity and delivering consistent support to cultivators at the grassroots.

Echoing these concerns, Telangana Oil Palm Growers Association president Alapati Ramachandra Prasad says that Minister Nageshwara Rao had recently taken the matter to the national stage. In a meeting with Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, he pushed for a fixed procurement price of ₹25,000 per metric tonne for FFBs – an ask that, if met, could safeguard farmer margins and morale.

In his representation, Nageshwara Rao also made a larger point that oil palm is not just another cash crop; it holds the key to self-reliance (achieving the objective of Atma Nirbhar Bharat) in edible oil production. With a high oil yield of 4-5 metric tonnes per acre and a perennial lifecycle, it offers unmatched productivity. But for it to fulfil that promise, farmers need more than just seeds and subsidies, they need assurance that their investment will pay off.

Price of oil palm ambition

Yet, even as oil palm promises economic transformation, environmentalists and grassroots organisations are raising red flags. A mature oil palm, typically aged 8 to 10 years, requires approximately 250 litres of water per day in red soil and 150 litres per day in black soil. According to the Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research in Pedavegi (West Godavari), the recommended planting density is around 57 plants per acre.

In Telangana, where borewells remain the lifeline for irrigation, such water-intensive cultivation raises serious sustainability questions, especially during peak summer.

"Telangana is inherently dry. Pushing for a crop that thrives in humid, high-rainfall regions could prove ecologically disastrous," says farmer leader Kanneganti Ravi, vice-president of Rythu Swarajya Vedika. He warns that aggressive oil palm expansion could degrade soil health, diminish biodiversity and push groundwater levels further into distress.

Ravi also questioned the wisdom of putting all of Telangana's eggs in one oily basket. By focusing so heavily on oil palm, he argues, the State risks edging out diverse, possibly healthier and more resilient alternatives that could offer long-term sustainability.

India's oil palm map is already lopsided. Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Kerala together account for 98% of the country's oil palm output. Telangana's recent thrust, powered by policy and protected under the Oil Palm Act, 1993, is undoubtedly a bold leap toward redefining that dominance. But ambition must be balanced with ecological foresight.

The sapling once planted by N.T. Rama Rao has grown into something far more symbolic than a productive tree – it now represents a turning point in Telangana's farming economics. For thousands of paddy-dependent farmers, oil palm holds the promise of higher, more stable returns. But success won't be measured by yield alone. Market stability, processing infrastructure, responsible water management and a diversified cropping strategy will be just as critical.

For that, the government must act swiftly and decisively, with strong extension services, sustained subsidies and assured buyback mechanismsto ensure that oil palm doesn't become a short-lived boom or an ecological bust.

Until then, the journey from a hopeful sapling to a truly sustainable plantation may still remain a slippery slope.

(With inputs from R.Ravikanth Reddy)

The written word

Richa Sharma discusses her book, and the quest for home that reflects in her characters

Sangeetha Devi Dundoo
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First step Richa Sharma; (below) her book. SANGEETHA DEVI DUNDOO AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Shot on OnePlus #FramesofIndia

A recurring theme in Richa Sharma's debut novel, *Finding Home Again* (published by Nu Voice Press and distributed by Penguin Random House India), is the search for belonging. Is home the place where one is born and raised? Or is it the space one builds in a new city through education, career, or marriage? Can one truly belong to more than one place, absorbing the best of multiple cultures? Set in the aftermath of a train derailment following floods in Assam, the novel traces characters searching for their loved ones – unfolding deeper ideas of home, identity, and displacement.

Richa was raised in Arunachal Pradesh, though her parents hail from Uttar Pradesh. "My father moved to Arunachal in 1970. As a State government schoolteacher, he helped establish schools in remote interiors," she says, over coffee at a café in Hyderabad.

She and her siblings eventually moved to different cities for higher education. Richa studied journalism, psychology, and literature in Bengaluru before pursuing a Master's in mass communication at the University of Hyderabad – where she met actor Priyadarshi Pulikonda, whom she later married.

The storytelling

Reflecting on the lasting influence of her mother, whom she lost recently, Richa says, "Mum wrote poems and even compiled a book of recipes. She was a gifted storyteller, often regaling us with anecdotes about her parents and grandparents – progressive thinkers in the 1940s who defied norms. All of that shaped who I am today."

The idea for *Finding Home Again* took root over a decade ago, inspired by the annual floods in the North East. "I've witnessed first-hand how the monsoons affect lives in the region, but until recently, much of the country remained unaware of their severity."

Several portions of the novel pay homage to the North East – its food, its rhythm, its people, though set in fictional towns. The use of imagined news clippings about floods and a train derailment was a conscious choice, to avoid any direct parallels with real-life tragedies. Richa coined the town names – Maajorghat and Sigo Dolung – with care, wanting them to reflect a sense of place, yet remain unanchored to one specific location. "Maajorghat refers to a large river bank, and Sigo Dolung to an underground water source in a village. I checked with friends, who in turn asked their elders, to ensure the names felt rooted and authentic."

Question of identity

Richa admits she once felt a sense of displacement. Her understanding of home and identity evolved over the years. "At home in Arunachal, we spoke a purer form of Hindi, but with friends, we'd switch to Arunachali Hindi. I often found myself wondering – who am I? Over time, I came to realise that it is possible to belong to more than one place."

Since Priyadarshi is an artist, he understands what it takes to create something from the ground up.

Her novel began as a love story and underwent several transformations across six drafts. After she completed it, Richa submitted the manuscript to numerous publishing houses. "It was rejected 35 times over two years," she says. "Along the way, I was advised to make it pacier, to tone down the characters' internal conflicts. Some said, 'Who wants literary fiction from a debut writer?' But I stayed true to what I believed in."

The writing process was unhurried. "I waited for the characters to bloom. I had to be patient enough to see the world through their eyes."

To write about the aftermath of a train derailment, Richa read extensively on railway accidents and survivor testimonies. "It was emotionally difficult," she admits. Through it all, she is grateful for the support she received from her husband Priyadarshi, her in-laws, her sister, and close friends. "Darshi is an artist – he understands what it takes to create something from the ground up."



Music arena Snigdha Sharma. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

New band takes flight

Snigdha Sharma has written and composed her first song, unveiled during the launch

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Hyderabad's music scene has welcomed a fresh entrant: Snigdha Live. Launched on June 4, the band is fronted by independent musician Snigdha Sharma, formerly the vocalist of Panaah. The line-up includes Saleem Shayk on bass, Sathvik on guitar, Harry Paulson on keys, and Samuel Sanjeev on drums. Their debut was a nostalgic ride through Telugu and Hindi covers, interwoven with groovy mash-ups and a distinctive female-led sound.

Snigdha's sister Harika Sivaram, also a vocalist, performed at the launch, which doubled as a premiere of Snigdha's first original composition, 'Vinave Vinave' – a witty, introspective take on toxic positivity. "It's about being overly optimistic, believing love can change someone," she explains. "I wrote it like a reminder to myself, and to women, not to play 'Bob the Builder' in relationships." (A nod to the animated series featuring an ever-hopeful fixer.)

For someone who once believed lyric-writing was beyond her, Snigdha has penned three original songs – mostly while doing chores or curating playlists. "Some recent experiences pushed me into that creative space," she shares. "I hide my pain behind a smile, but the songs speak for themselves."

Nostalgia as inspiration

For four years, this promising voice in Hyderabad's indie music scene has drawn inspiration from nostalgia. "Our set-lists are unique," says Snigdha. "Most bands stick to the obvious hits from film albums – we perform those too, but we also bring in the lesser-remembered gems that deserve attention."

Take her pick from *Merupukalalu*, the Prabhu Deva-Kajol starrer. While most would expect the ubiquitous *Vennilave Vennilave*, Snigdha chooses *Ooolalala Ooolalala*.

Her band also plans to reinterpret vintage tracks like *Keechuraalu*, the 1991 title song originally sung by Usha Uthup, and S. Janaki's *Aada Daani Oora Choopulo* from the black-and-white classic *Aradhana*. "What fascinates me is how these timeless songs are layered with jazz and blues influences. We rework them while keeping their soul intact."

It was her mother, Lalita Kumari, who first recognised Snigdha's talent back home in Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh. A diploma holder in Carnatic music, Snigdha moved to Hyderabad in 2021 to sing with M.M. Keeravani's team. She later lent her voice to songs for composers Thaman ('Suguna Sundari' from *Veerasimha Reddy*, *Bro*) and Vivek Sagar (Swag), before gaining recognition as the lead vocalist of the band Panaah.

Snigdha Live will perform at Taberna, Jubilee Hills, on June 13.

STEPOUT



Ode to the Gods

Artist Srikanth Babu will present his recent collection of paintings, Deva Devam, exploring narratives from mythology. *At Chitramayee, State Gallery of Art, Madhapur, till June 17.*



Flavours of Morocco

Taste of Morocco food festival presents flavours inspired by vibrant souks and spice-laden kitchens of North Africa. The menu includes tagines, couscous, the traditional soup Shoraba ma Sherwja and char-grilled chicken with spices Dijaj Mashwi, hummus. Live stations will offer shawarmas, falafels, and desserts. *At Novotel Hyderabad Airport, Saturdays, till June 28, for dinner.*

New expressions

Dawn of a New Expression spotlights the visual language of contemporary artists from Maharashtra. Participating artists include Amol Pawar, Dinakar Jadhav, Mamata Mondkar Shingade, among others. *At Kalakriti art gallery, Banjara Hills, till July 9.*



Emerging voices

Srishti art gallery's annual exhibition Emerging Palettes returns with its 15th edition, in collaboration with Goethe-Zentrum Hyderabad, to present works of 11 promising artists who use wood, textiles, ceramics and found objects to tell stories. *All this month at Srishti art gallery, Road no.10, Jubilee Hills.*



Interfaith Pride Fest in city

The event features talks, storytelling and live performances by queer artists

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Queerness and spirituality come together at Interfaith Pride Fest, a first-of-its-kind event in Hyderabad on June 14. Organised by DragVanti (a performing arts theatre) in collaboration with Rubaroo, Mobbera Foundation, Humans of Nirvana, and Bagh Bean Cafe, the festival aims to create a space for expression, reflection, and celebration. According to drag artiste Patruni Chidananda Sastry, the festival is a response to the rising religious intolerance faced by queer communities across the country.

The festival offers a platform for individuals to share their experiences of navigating faith while being queer. "Many LGBTQIA+ people are often told their faith and identity cannot coexist, leaving them excluded from both religious spaces and queer circles for being too much of one or the other," says Patruni.



In focus Avijit during a performance. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The event features live performances by queer artists from diverse faiths with storytelling sessions and a talk series. When Patruni first started doing drag in 2019, many saw it as an "anti-culture" art form – hyper-sexual and outside traditional norms. But drawing from classical forms, Patruni realised that drag, too, can engage with questions of faith. This interest eventually led to interfaith work.

Patruni was part of a team that travelled to the UK for the Interfaith Youth Leadership programme organised by NGO Rubaroo, which brought together people of all faiths, queer and LGBTQIA+, to reclaim faith spaces. Events like the annual Interfaith Pride Fest in America and the Dragon Spirituality Summit also became sources of inspiration.

Interfaith Pride Fest at Bagh Bean Cafe on June 14, 5 pm onwards. Entry free.

The burger of your dreams

Innovation and authenticity meets Scuzi, the new cloud kitchen

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Food high (Clockwise from left) Naga Chaitanya, Double Pepperoni pizza, and Home Run. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

For a burger fanatic, a good one boils down to a juicy patty, the right bun, and melting cheese. When Scuzi's burgers started popping up frequently on my social media feed, they had my attention. All I could see was that perfect patty, pillowy bun, and a glorious cheese melt. The pizzas looked equally tempting.

Scuzi is a Hyderabad-based delivery kitchen that launched in March 2025. The menu reflects global culinary influences, shaped by travels and food memories of its founders – Naga Chaitanya Akkineni, Varun Tripuraneni, Arjun, and Saniya Jaiswal.

Over slices of pizza

The idea was born over slices of pizza in Goa in 2023. It was the nuanced flavours at Como Agua, a restaurant in Assagao, that first caught Chaitanya's attention. A pizza-tasting session turned into several visits, each one deepening his appreciation for the craft. Eventually, this culinary connection led to a partnership with Como's founders, Arjun and Saniya Jaiswal. Together with fellow co-founder Varun Tripuraneni they set out to bring that same flair and finesse to Hyderabad's delivery dining scene.

Scuzi's menu is vibrant and playful. Alongside signature burgers like The Home Run, you will find indulgent options like Rigatoni Bianca truffle pasta, a charred broccoli and hummus bowl, the pepperoni and Chowringhee pizza, and decadent desserts such as churros and tiramisu. The naming game adds to the fun – pizzas and burgers come with cheeky titles including Hi Gorgeous, Party Boy, and The Bachelor.

"Our pizzas are Neapolitan-style," says Chaitanya. "We wanted to keep the ingredients true to their Italian roots, but also give them a playful twist to better connect with our audience. The idea was to make the menu feel approachable, while incorporating flavours familiar to the Indian palate." The result is a line-up that is authentic and inventive.





When I began planning my own Scuzi tasting, it became clear that a single sitting would not cut it. I had three burgers in mind, then came the pizzas, the pastas, and eventually, a strategic plan to stagger it all over a couple of weeks. On Day One, I started with Maximus (a meaty burger), When in Doubt (a classic Margherita), and Mac & Cheese. The pizzas are a clear win – cheesy, saucy, and balanced by a soft, thin crust. A proper Neapolitan experience. The burger delivered on juiciness and flavour, too. But skip the Mac & Cheese unless you are within a 10-minute radius – it does not travel well.

The following week, I was ready for round two: Double Pepperoni pizza (an absolute steal if you are a pepperoni fan – they do not hold back on the toppings), Chilli Mushroom Fettuccine, and two more burgers – The Home Run and The Bachelor. This was shared between three hungry eaters. I also threw in the Lime and Habanero Hot Wings for good measure.

Something for everyone

Scuzi also offers rice bowls, desserts, and some rather exciting vegetarian options. The Burrata Chaat and Butter-Poached Charred Cabbage Skewers in romesco sauce are standouts. Do not miss the Chilli Mushroom Fettuccine. I also tried the Rigatoni Bianco with Truffle oil, and it was not easy to share.

The rich truffle aroma lingers, coaxing you to polish off the bowl on your own.

As an Assamese, I could not resist ordering the Bhut Jolokia Dutch Crunch – a cold sandwich stuffed with spicy chicken and assortments in a Dutch crunch roll. The heat did not faze me, but the real challenge was the mess. Keep tissues handy – not for the spice, but for the sheer sauciness.

For dessert, go straight to the tiramisu. It will send you into a happy food coma.

The average order for two people ranges from ₹ 1000 to ₹ 1200.

A good fix

Measures to curb agent, bot booking on IRCTC will benefit passengers

The e-ticketing system of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) is one of India's most widely used e-commerce platforms. Crores of Indian rail commuters and passengers use it to book their tickets, which makes it imperative that the system is run robustly. The scale of the operation is revealing – on May 22, 2025, the IRCTC processed a staggering 31,814 tickets in 60 seconds to set a new record. Yet, the popular e-ticketing system, especially the Tatkal booking part, is plagued by issues. Extremely high demand during peak hours, particularly during the designated Tatkal booking window period, often leads to crashes and slow performance. A major concern is that the system is exploited by ticketing agents who use unfair automated tools (or bots), leading to rapidly dwindling ticket availability for passengers. These issues are what prompted the IRCTC to announce two major steps. The first was a major digital overhaul of the ticketing infrastructure using anti-bot systems to prevent unauthorised automated bookings – a measure that led to the de-activation of a whopping 2.5 crore suspect user IDs. Implementation of a content delivery network also helped improve website performance. In addition, Aadhaar verification is necessary immediately after a ticket is booked. The IRCTC has also mandated Aadhaar authentication for all Tatkal bookings, from July 1, along with OTP-based authentication. Authorised agents have been restricted from booking Tatkal tickets during the first 30 minutes of the booking window period.

The idea behind an e-ticketing platform and the provision of Tatkal booking of tickets are to provide equitable chances for passengers to travel. Despite more train services having been introduced over the years by the Indian Railways, which is a state monopoly, demand far outstrips supply, and passengers have to rely on advanced booking and Tatkal tickets for their travel. When agents use bots to game the system, it kills the purpose of equity. Therefore, the IRCTC's steps will bring relief to passengers. That said, the Indian Railways must focus not only on easing the process of ticketing but also on elevating the passenger experience in terms of increasing its train and track capacity to fulfil travel demand, ensuring safety and enhancing its facilities. Seen in this context, while these ticketing fixes are important, the true test for the Indian Railways will be its ability to move beyond just technical and administrative solutions and undertake a fundamental expansion of its services to serve India's large passenger clientele. In a way, meaningful expansion to meet the demand will also obviate the need for reworking technological solutions yet again in the future.

Out of the abyss

South Korea needs to expand trade ties with major countries

When the then South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol declared martial law in December 2024, his objective was to bypass the opposition-controlled National Assembly and rule with the support of the military. He had also planned to arrest opposition politicians, including Lee Jae-myung, the head of the Democratic Party, his bête noire. But the move backfired dramatically, leading to his abrupt downfall and paving the way for Mr. Lee's ascent to the presidency. In the June 3 election, which was necessitated by the impeachment of Mr. Yoon, Mr. Lee, a progressive liberal, won 49.4% votes, defeating Kim Moon-soo of Mr. Yoon's conservative People Power Party, who secured 41.2% votes. The peaceful and democratic transition, following a period of chaos and turmoil, is a testament to the strong fundamentals of South Korea's young democracy. For a nation that endured decades of brutal military dictatorship, the imposition of martial law was tantamount to cutting open the old wounds. South Koreans, both the political class and civilians, offered resistance. Mr. Yoon's political collapse unfolded so fast that future leaders would think twice before undermining the country's democratic institutions. Still, the election of Mr. Lee is only the first step in restoring order and stability.

Mr. Lee, who survived legal challenges and an assassination attempt last year, enters the Blue House with a strong mandate. His party is in a majority in the National Assembly, giving him legislative leeway. However, while those responsible for the martial law fiasco must be held accountable, he must resist the temptation to turn this into a political witch-hunt. On the economy front, Mr. Lee should take swift measures, including the implementation of a promised stimulus package to jump start growth. Just last month, the central bank cut the country's full-year economic forecast by half to 0.8% amid trade and tariff concerns. In foreign policy, Mr. Lee faces a complex balancing act. During the campaign, he had said that the U.S. was "the basis axis of our diplomacy", but expressed a desire to improve commercial ties with China, the largest trading partner. Under Mr. Yoon, relations with China took a hit, and tensions with North Korea escalated. In a first step to improve inter-Korean relations, Mr. Lee decided to turn off loudspeakers on the border that had been broadcasting K-pop songs and propaganda. He has said he does not want South Korea to be reliant only on the U.S. To that end, what he must do is to invest in peace on the Korean Peninsula and expand Seoul's relationship with major powers, while preserving its strategic partnership with the U.S.

Trump's tariffs and a U.S.-India trade agreement



R.V. Anuradha

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At the end of the day, it was not the big fight between nations, but a case brought by five small U.S. businesses that presented the biggest challenge yet, to U.S. President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs.

Tariffs are the substance of laws and regulations formulated after highly rigorous trade negotiations. The binding of tariffs through schedules of commitments in trade agreements, offers much needed certainty and predictability to businesses trading across borders. Which is why Mr. Trump's sweeping tariffs – 10% to 135%, over 100 countries worldwide – were a stunning repudiation of the rules of trade. That it also extended to the barren Arctic marine reserves of Heard and McDonald Islands, uninhabited by humans, just highlighted the irony of a bizarre executive order.

This sweeping executive action also upended the fundamental principle of separation of powers between the three branches of government – the legislature, the executive and the judiciary – which lie at the heart of any democratic constitutional framework. That such an exercise of executive authority could happen without any checks and balances in the U.S., widely regarded as among the modern world's oldest democracies with a strong constitutional framework, was another point of reckoning.

Five small and mid-sized U.S. businesses, dealing with wines, plastics, bicycles, musical circuits, and fishing equipment, took on the U.S. administration, and challenged the presidential executive order at the U.S. Court of International Trade (U.S. CIT), stating that the tariffs were unlawfully harming their operations and economic viability.

A closer look at 'trade deficits'

The Trump administration argued that the tariffs were necessary to address the "national emergency" created by U.S.' trade deficits with all countries worldwide. Trade deficit occurs when imports exceed exports. A "deficit" is not necessarily bad for a country's economic health. It only demonstrates the availability of consumer wealth to purchase imported goods. In any event, the U.S. administration, bizarrely, did not account for U.S. export of services in its calculation. For example, the U.S. has cited the $44.4 billion trade deficit with India. This, however, does not consider trade in services (which includes digital services, financial services, education) and arms trade, after considering which, the Global Trade Research Initiative has estimated that the U.S. actually runs a $35 billion-$40 billion overall surplus with India.

India should stay out of any sub-optimal deal with the United States

The U.S. CIT, in its judgment dated May 28, 2025, ruled that the worldwide and retaliatory tariffs exceeded any authority under law. The court cautioned against the blatant and overarching use of "national emergency" powers by the President. It noted that the mere incantation of "national emergency" cannot sound the "death-knell of the Constitution", and, additionally, cannot enable the President to rewrite tariff commitments in international agreements.

The strong and powerful ruling, so far, has had little practical impact, having been stayed the very next day by a U.S. appeals court. The tariffs and the threat of tariffs, therefore, continue, and so does the pressure to conclude a trade deal with the U.S. The Trump administration had in fact, argued before the U.S. CIT that the enhanced tariffs provided it leverage in trade negotiations – an argument which the CIT ruled does not in any manner mitigate its legal infirmity. More egregious U.S. executive actions are promised as part of the Trump One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB) – a proposed omnibus law which would reportedly also grant the executive immunity from enforcement of judicial orders.

Where India stands

Where does all this really leave India? The governments of both countries have been indicating an early conclusion of a trade agreement, before the U.S. threat of the July 8 deadline. Despite ongoing negotiations, the U.S. has enhanced its existing punitive tariffs of 25% on steel and 10% on aluminium imports (in force since Mr. Trump's first term), to 50% on both. Pursuant to complaints initiated at the World Trade Organization by Switzerland, Norway, China and Türkiye, WTO panels had ruled (in 2022) that the tariffs imposed during Mr. Trump's first term, do not meet the proposed justification of national security. India too had initiated a WTO dispute, but withdrew this on the basis of a "mutually agreed solution" with the U.S. in 2023. That mutual solution clearly did not prevent Trump administration extending the new 50% tariffs on steel and aluminium to India as well. India's contemplated retaliation at the WTO has been resisted by the U.S. A purported target of the Trump administration's ire is China's rise. The argument that the U.S.-China trade impasse presents a possible strategic advantage for India, however, is made uncertain by two recent developments: the U.S. and China's truce, pausing their retaliatory tariffs against each other and working towards a negotiated solution; and, more importantly, the U.S. administration's threats to impose tariffs on Apple's products, should it manufacture in India. Mr. Trump's transactional approach also indicates that there is no guarantee that the U.S. will intervene in India's favour should there be a military standoff with China.

The path ahead

In any trade agreement with the U.S., therefore, a careful balancing of India's interests is paramount. Any deal would need to ensure the removal of all additional tariffs on India's exports, allay concerns about retaliatory tariffs on U.S. investments, such as that from Apple in India, and ensure that the proposed OBBB Act's 3.5% tax on remittances sent from the U.S. does not apply to remittances by Indian citizens. India should also seek assurance that there would be no retaliation against India's digital services taxes. A long-standing concern for India is also the fears and backlash against H-1B visas, used widely by tech companies for their Indian employees. It is critical for a trade deal to address the issue of visas required for services trade.

It is equally important for both sides to iron out the delivery of cross-border trade in services, which includes aspects relating to data flows and their regulation.

Above all, any trade agreement that India negotiates with the U.S. needs to be fully aligned with India's commitments under the WTO. The U.S. disregard for multilateral institutions, notwithstanding, WTO's multilateral set of rules is the only real safeguard in an uncertain world, and India needs to do much more to preserve its foundations, as committed during its G-20 presidency.

Finally, India should have the ability to stay out of any sub-optimal deal. Mr. Trump's tariffs, while painful, are likely to have a short lifespan with the biggest challenge emerging from within the U.S. itself.

The views expressed are personal

Urbanisation and the challenge of ideal transit solutions



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Among the various aspects of Viksit Bharat by 2047, an urbanised India is sure to be a principal one as it is expected that urban India will be the engine of growth in this transformation. Let us note that over 60% of India's population would move from low-productive rural India to highly productive urban India by the 2060s.

Clearly, the mobility of people on such a large scale within cities, from their residential quarters to work areas, will be a test for urban planners. While policymakers have plans to construct smart cities, where the need for the mobility of workers will be substantially reduced, the fact remains that, unlike China, we do not see many of the newly emerging smart cities coming of age. In contrast, the metros/existing tier 1 cities are on an ever-expanding spree, leading to rising challenges for policymakers, such as meeting the transportation demand of workers.

Rising to the challenge

The government is increasingly focused on augmenting the public transport system to meet the urban mobility challenge. This year's Budget saw the launch of the PM e-Bus Sewa-Payment Security Mechanism, with the aim of improving urban bus transportation in India (nearly 10,000 urban buses). The PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM e-Drive) scheme was introduced, which will support the procurement of 14,000 new e-buses, 1,10,000 e-rickshaws, e-trucks, and e-ambulances. However, according to estimates, India needs 2,00,000 urban buses, but only 35,000 are operational (including e-buses). This is far below the requirement.

Another initiative has been the greater emphasis on building metro networks and a higher allocation of funds in multiple metro/tier I cities to cater to the high density. This is in line with the trend seen in the recent Budget.

Planners in India need to look at whether they are investing in the most sustainable and cost-effective transit solutions

However, as the Economic Survey that was released on the eve of the Budget on January 31, has cited, only 37% of urban residents in India have easy access to public transportation. In contrast, in Brazil and China, more than 50% of urban residents have convenient access to mass transit. Clearly, India is too far behind in developing an efficient public system.

The development of a metro network is a long-term and costly venture. Much of it has been developed with the Centre's funding. And invariably, most have yet to recover their total costs (which includes fixed and operational costs). In almost all metros, the ridership projected in the project document has still to be matched. So, recovering the cost may be a difficult proposition unless the route lies along a high-density route. Also, it has been observed that users are extremely fare sensitive – a fare rise invariably leads to a fall in footfalls. Invariably, consumers seek out their ways keeping in mind comfort, time and cost due to the high cost of last-mile connectivity from metro stations to their work/residence points.

Unlike in some developed countries where public transport is highly subsidised in order to make metro transportation cheap, our government is not financially rich enough to dole out recurrent and large subsidies.

Seeking alternatives

India also needs cost-effective, road-based public transport for better last-mile connectivity. This year's Budget has increased allocations for urban bus systems, thus continuing efforts to boost capacity, especially in the metros. However, private investment remains limited due to uncertain returns. Government funds have shifted from CNG to more expensive e-buses. Future bottom-up transport models may focus on road-based modes that use electric, CNG, hydrogen, or biofuel technologies. Yet, they often overlook trams and trolleybuses, which, based on a life cycle cost and revenue analysis, can outperform e-buses in financial terms and deserve serious policy consideration in India's urban transport planning.

Some estimates

Revenue generation and economic viability over time are the necessary parameters to estimate whether urban road-based public transport has a financial deficit or is making a profit in its life cycle. Analysing the profit and loss (P&L) percentages for various public transport modes will help in accurate decision-making on adopting a future transit. We find that trams show a 45% long-term profitability over seven decades, the usual life cycle of the tram, along with scalability and alignment with climate goals. In contrast, an e-bus system, which is currently the preferred mode on Indian roads, fails to maintain profitability due to high operational and replacement costs, resulting in a net loss of 82% over seven decades. Though moderately efficient, trolleybuses fall short of matching the overall benefits of trams, incurring a minimal loss over the specified time frame.

This raises a critical question. Are we truly investing in the most sustainable and cost-effective transit solutions, or are we chasing a future dependent on continuous public subsidies? The planned introduction of trams in Kochi could mark a game-changing moment in India's urban mobility story. Reviving our past is not just a nostalgic choice of what Kolkata thinks – it is a smart and timely move toward a more sustainable and financially viable transport future.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Air accident

The accident to an Air India flight, from Ahmedabad to the United Kingdom, is shocking. We pray for the souls who were on board the plane and wish their families strength and courage. Though the investigation into the crash may take some time, airlines in India should ensure that there are no compromises when it comes to the safety of the air passenger.

A.J. Rangarajan,
Chennai

Limited progress

The progress being made as far as an India-U.S. trade deal is concerned (Page 1 "India, U.S. inch closer to limited trade agreement", June 12) is encouraging, especially amid global economic uncertainty. While an initial "mini-deal" is welcome, India and the United States must resist piecemeal compromises. Instead, they must pursue a holistic, fair, and mutually beneficial pact.

Tariff reductions and market access should be reciprocal, not one-sided. India must safeguard its domestic interests while opening its doors for innovation and investment. A deadline-driven approach, with transparency, will strengthen trust and global credibility.

Dr. Vijay Kumar H.K.,
Raichur, Karnataka

NCERT textbooks

While the National Council of Educational Research and Training is designed to educate children through textbooks that could help them grow as knowledgeable and educated youth, missing portions on the farm sector and farmers is worrying ("New NCERT text books don't carry 'poverty and colonized' narratives", June 11).

Children should know, and be taught early on, that India is basically an agricultural country and that the farm sector is very crucial. Ground reality should be a priority in the syllabus. A recent article that said 2026 will be observed as the year of women in agriculture. Should not there be thinking about the agriculture sector?

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

Maximum Mumbai

The tragic and unfortunate incident of passengers dying while travelling on a Mumbai local train shows that the Railways have miles to go in ensuring the safety of commuters. The overcrowding on these trains was a common sight especially during peak hours when I was a commuter between Thane and Mumbai CST in 1992. When we realise that not much has changed over three decades, it points to serious lapses in the planning, the development and the implementation of basic infrastructure, which is the lifeline of Mumbaikars. I have seen trains operating in Dubai and Japan, and I have travelled on the Dubai Metro for three years, from 2009.

There are a few measures that the Railways and the Government can adopt to minimise such accidents. To flatten the peak in passenger volume, office hours can be staggered. The Railways can increase the frequency of local trains. Providing automatic sliding doors is also needed. More coaches and vestibules to connect them would be ideal.

Jiji Panicker K.
Chengannur, Kerala

With over 80 lakh daily commuters, Mumbai's suburban train system is arguably one of the busiest. Yet, overcrowding, outdated infrastructure, and a lack of real-time monitoring are hurdles. The incident serves as a grim reminder of the urgent need to modernise Mumbai's railway system — not technologically alone, but also structurally and administratively.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Is Bangladesh slipping into authoritarianism?



Smruti S. Pattanaik,

Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses



Sanjay Pulipaka,

Chairperson of the Politeia Research Foundation

PARLEY

On June 7, on the eve of Eid ul Azha, the Chief Adviser to the interim government in Bangladesh, Dr. Muhammad Yunus, delivered a televised address to the nation, promising to hold elections in April 2026. He also announced that the country would witness the launch of the 'July Proclamation', which had been earlier planned by student activists to "bury" the Constitution of Bangladesh, as it is linked to the founder of Bangladesh and Awami League co-founder, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Prof. Yunus said that the document will "include a list of reform proposals, agreed upon by all parties, aimed at building a welfare-oriented state." As the interim government of Bangladesh has announced that there could be constitutional reforms, there are concerns about the country's political direction. Some worry that democratic progress has stalled. Is Bangladesh slipping into authoritarianism? Smruti S. Pattanaik and Sanjay Pulipaka discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Kallol Bhattacherjee**. Edited excerpts:

What prompted the unusually aggressive tone of Professor Yunus in his Eid speech?

Smruti S. Pattanaik: Prof. Yunus has been under a lot of pressure recently. The Army chief, General Waker-Uz-Zaman, insisted in his meeting with commanding officers that elections need to be held by the end of the year. Whenever he (Prof. Yunus) faces challenges, he refers to internal and external threats and defeated forces. The BNP (Bangladesh Nationalist Party) said that the speech was expected to be just an Eid greeting, but ended up being about everything in the country. Prof. Yunus had promised elections earlier too, saying they would be held as early as December 2025. All his reforms do not have any meaning as he is not running an elected government. He is clearly trying to lengthen the term of the interim government.

Sanjay Pulipaka: We need to remember that there is nothing 'interim' about this government. Interim governments come for a short period of time to achieve certain specific objectives, such as conducting elections. For instance, in 1990, a caretaker government came into place in Bangladesh. It was given a 90-day mandate to conduct elections, shut shop, and hand over things to the next government.

What we are seeing now is unique. We are seeing an interim government carrying out constitutional reforms. Interim governments are not constituent assemblies and they are not parliaments; they are arrangements to pave the way for the elected government. They are supposed to leave the bigger issues to the elected government. So, what we are seeing in Bangladesh is undemocratic, and this is of interest to us since it is happening in our neighbourhood.



Chief Adviser to the Government of Bangladesh, Professor Muhammed Yunus. REUTERS

While an interim administration will need to carry out some reforms, actual major reforms can be conducted only by an elected government. The scale at which this interim government is trying to go about its reforms is frightening. It is going on extending its tenure. One of the largest political parties is banned (Awami League). The BNP, the other big political party, is unhappy with the way things are happening. With the major political parties absent from the picture, some political parties with an unhealthy agenda are stepping into the political space.

Do you think the July Proclamation is going to replace the 1972 Constitution that was framed after the Liberation War of 1971?

SSP: That seems to be the objective. The interim government seems to want to ensure that the legacy of 1971 does not remain relevant. I think it wants to make July 2024 the starting point of the students' political movement and a new chapter in Bangladesh's polity. In the history of Bangladesh, December and August are special months (December 16 marks Victory Day, commemorating the country's independence in 1971, and August is associated with the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman). But now, the attempt is to highlight the month of July as a new beginning.

> It appears that the charter of July 2024 will be used to bring some sort of legitimacy to the interim government of Prof. Yunus as elections are at least 10 months away
>
> **SMRUTI S. PATTANAIK**

The idea of bringing out a July Proclamation highlighting the anti-Sheikh Hasina upheaval is something that the BNP is also not comfortable with. The July Charter may not entirely replace the Constitution, but it is a kind of charter which will guide the state. Bangladesh's Constitution had four foundational principles: secularism, democracy, Bengali nationalism, and liberation. Similar features will be part of the July charter too, but they will support the political orientation of the students and the leading figures in the interim government.

We don't know whether the BNP will sign the July Proclamation ultimately. But it appears that the charter of July 2024 will be used to bring some sort of legitimacy to the interim government of Prof. Yunus as elections are at least 10 months away and the current administration wants to implement its agenda in the meantime.

SP: There is no clarity about the July Proclamation. Who is designing it? What is going to be included in it? The interim government is claiming that the charter is based on consensus with political parties. But how can there be consensus in the current political situation? Basically, these are all things that an unelected government is trying to do. Radical religious groups will try to find more and more legitimacy and space. They will try and get into the political process and claim victories when they are not even contesting with the major political parties of the country. We have seen this happening in Myanmar as well. It will push the country into more and more political turmoil.

Prof. Yunus also made a passionate argument in favour of the 'humanitiarian corridor' to help the Rakhine province of Myanmar. A corridor of this nature has to be demilitarised and if it is demilitarised, who is going to enforce the demilitarised status? Will it be the Bangladesh military or an international force?

SSP: These are the concerns that we have in India and Bangladesh. A humanitarian corridor is generally monitored by the United Nations. And as you said, it sometimes gets demilitarised. The Bangladesh Army chief objected to this saying international monitoring or enforcement will be interpreted as violation of sovereignty. As a country that sacrificed a large number of human lives to gain independence, sovereignty is a sacred feature of the state.

Second, how can they be sure that the humanitarian aid that is going into Myanmar through the humanitarian corridor will reach only the Rohingya and not armed groups? This issue is of particular importance for us in India as there is no word about who is going to monitor this corridor. There is also no clarity about how this corridor will actually help the Rohingya. There is also concern that the corridor could be used by international armed groups to smuggle weapons into Myanmar and to other destinations, which will have a spillover effect on India.

The BNP has been unable to take advantage of the situation though it criticised the Yunus government in a major rally on May 28 for delaying elections. Why is the BNP Acting Chairman, Tarique Rahman, not returning to Bangladesh?

SSP: I think there are cases against him, which have not been withdrawn. There are murmurs within the BNP about why the interim government has not withdrawn the cases against Tarique Rahman yet. He has not been able to return as the circumstances are not yet conducive for it. But having said that, since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government, the BNP has been making the right noises about everything. Despite the absence of Tarique Rahman from Dhaka for nearly 18 years, senior leaders of the standing committee have managed the party very well. There have been many attempts to weaken and break the party over the past several years, including after the interim government took charge, but Tarique Rahman's hold over the party remains evident.

The elections will ultimately determine the future of the BNP, especially the percentage of votes that the BNP will get and also the extent to which the Islamist parties will be accommodated by the voters.

That apart, the National Citizens Party was launched recently by the advisers who were part of the interim government under Prof. Yunus. The BNP has been referring to the NCP as the 'King's Party'. So, there is also fear in the BNP that the interim administration could help the NCP to win certain seats.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

From celebration to tragedy: all in a day's work

Reporters in Bengaluru had sketched out a detailed plan to cover the excitement following RCB's victory, but ended up covering a stampede

Jahnavi T.R.

There was victory in the air in Bengaluru on June 4. After a 17-year-long wait, the city's favourite franchise, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), had clinched the trophy in the Indian Premier League (IPL) the previous night. The team was landing in Bengaluru from Ahmedabad, and a victory parade was being planned. For a city reporter, this meant a long day.

At around 10 a.m., the reporting team got on a conference call to plan the stories. We discussed how the city had not slept after the victory, how fans from the city had travelled to Ahmedabad to watch the final match, and how people on the Internet had created a thousand different memes and reels.

We also discussed threadbare how we would cover the proposed victory parade. We anticipated that the Central Business District (CBD), where our office is located, would be choked with vehicles from the afternoon as the victory parade was scheduled to begin after 3 p.m.

While loyal newspaper readers may be willing to wait for more than a day to read about the celebrations that unfolded that night in Bengaluru, online readers move on to other websites if the stories they are looking for are not uploaded on time. So, before leaving for office that morning, I filed some stories on the fan frenzy, describing how firecrackers had kept the skies aglow the previous night, people had danced madly on the streets, and bike rallies had kept everyone awake.

My plan was simple: get to office early, file the special stories for the day, and keep the evening free as a great deal of coordination was necessary for covering such a mammoth event. An army of interns was stationed at multiple points at the city to watch the parade pass by.

By around 1 p.m., fans clad in RCB colours begin to gather in CBD. I noted it down to draw a timeline later in the day. By 3 p.m., I finished filing three stories on the celebrations for online.

But shortly, the unexpected happened. As lakhs of fans gathered around the M. Chinnaswamy stadium and Vidhana Soudha, we first got the news that a woman had lost consciousness. Then, more bad news trickled in: a person had died due to a "stampede-like situation". My colleague immediately checked with her hospital sources and found that at least four people had died. Within an hour, seeing the raucous crowd, we knew that the numbers would climb into double-digits. It did not take too long for us to find out that 11 people had died, and most of them very young.

The mood quickly shifted in the newsroom, just as it did in the rest of the city. We decided that the stories of celebrations would no longer be reported for the print edition. I frantically called the interns one after another to make sure they were safe, and asked them to come back to office. All the reporters in the newsroom breathed a sigh of relief when the last intern made it back to the office.

Then it was the turn of senior reporters to fan out. One went to the stadium, another to the hospital near the stadium, and yet another to the mortuary at the government hospital.

After gathering inputs from multiple sources, colleagues, and eyewitnesses, I wrote a detailed story on how the celebrations quickly turned into a tragedy. I ended up drawing a timeline, but it was not the one I had planned earlier. There were steady developments. Reporters kept filing stories – about the chaos, the mismanagement, the panic, and the grief – without a break. They filed enough stories to fill nearly all the city pages.

At around 11 p.m., I was finally done with work. When I made my way back home, the air was heavy with mourning. The city, which had been alive with celebrations just 24 hours ago, had fallen completely silent.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK | Fields of prawn and Pokkali



Workers preparing fields for cultivation of Pokkali, a saline-tolerant rice variety, at Varapuzha near Kochi. In summer, the same fields are used to cultivate prawn. Thulasi Kakkat

Shot on OnePlus #FramesofIndia

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 13, 1975

Mrs. Gandhi's election set aside

Allahabad, June 12: In a momentous judgment likely to be a landmark in India's history, Mr. Justice Jag Mohan Lal Sinha of the Allahabad High Court to-day set aside the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi's election to the Lok Sabha. Holding her guilty of corrupt practice, the judge debarred Mrs. Gandhi from contesting any election under the Representation of the People Act for a period of six years but, on the plea of her counsel, stayed the operation of his judgment for 20 days. In a 258 page judgment on the petition filed by Mr. Raj Narain, a rival candidate, challenging Mrs. Gandhi's election from the Rae Bareli constituency in Uttar Pradesh in March 1971 the judge found her guilty of obtaining the assistance of gazetted Government officers including Mr. Yashpal Kapoor. The Prime Minister's plea that she decided to contest the election and filed the papers accordingly on February 1, 1971, was not accepted by the judge. He said that she had held herself out as a candidate on December 29, 1970 (the day she addressed a press conference in New Delhi). Mr. Justice J.M.L. Sinha said that Mrs. Gandhi obtained and procured the assistance of Mr. Yashpal Kapoor during the period January 7 to January 24, 1971 in the furtherance of her election prospects when Mr. Kapoor was a gazetted officer of the Government of India and was working as an Officer on Special Duty in the Prime Minister's Secretariat.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 13, 1925

Situation in China

An anti-Communist circular

Shanghai, June 12: The fact that discord exists among the strikers is shown by the distribution in the French concession of a quantity of Chinese circulars accusing the Communists of taking advantage of the disturbances to carry out their plots and asserting that the local Communists have received large funds from Russia. The circular says: "We weep for the deaths of our brethren while the Communists laugh in the dark. We are fighting for our national rights and freedom, while they are selling our freedom to Russia. Citizens! It is not foreigners who are killing us but Communists."

From Page One

Air India flight with 242 on board crashes

Air India CEO Campbell Wilson said the airline was actively working with relevant authorities on the emergency response and a special team of caregivers was being despatched to Ahmedabad to provide additional support.

Shortly after the crash, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Union Minister of Civil Aviation Rammohan Naidu, who reached the accident site in the evening. Investigating teams from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau also arrived in Ahmedabad later in the day.

Mr. Naidu also said that the government is constituting a high-level committee comprising experts from various disciplines to examine the matter. The committee will work to strengthen aviation safety and prevent such incidents in future, he said in a social media post.

Reacting to the accident, Boeing President and CEO Kelly Ortberg said: "Our deepest condolences go out to the loved ones of the passengers and crew on board Air India Flight 171, as well as everyone affected in Ahmedabad. "

Boeing will defer to India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) to provide information about Air India flight AI-171, in adherence with the United Nations International Civil Aviation Organization protocol known as Annex 13, a statement added.

The United States apex probe agency, the National Transportation Safety Body (NTSB), said it would lead a team of U.S. investigators travelling to India to assist the AAIB. The U.S. aviation regulator Federal Aviation Administration said it was "ready to launch a team immediately in coordination with the NTSB." The AAIB investigation will be in line with protocols set by the International Civil Aviation Organization.

(With PTI inputs)

Retail inflation eases to six-year low

"While the overall inflation trajectory is expected to remain benign, the recent frontloaded policy actions and the guidance of limited room for incremental easing suggests a prolonged pause for now, with further actions being highly data dependent," said Upasna Bhardwaj, Chief Economist at Kotak Mahindra Bank.

Vegetable prices contracted 13.7% in May 2025, pulses prices contracted 8.2%, inflation in spices contracted 2.8%, and meat prices contracted 0.4%.

Ms. Sinha added that the persistent rise in edible oil prices remains a concern, driven by a contraction in oilseed sowing, rising global prices, and India's dependence on imports in this segment.

"The government's recent move to reduce the basic customs duty on imported crude edible oils from 20% to 10% is expected to offer some relief going forward," she said.

India marks a relative drop in gender parity

The 19th edition of the report, which covers 148 economies, revealed both encouraging momentum and persistent structural barriers facing women worldwide.

The Global Gender Gap Index measures gender parity across four key dimensions: economic participation and opportunity; educational attainment; health and survival; and political empowerment. The Indian economy's overall performance improved in absolute terms by 0.3 points.

India's performance in labour force participation rate remained the same (45.9%) as last year.

In educational attainment, the report said, India scored 97.1%, reflecting positive shifts in female shares for literacy and tertiary education enrolment, which resulted in positive score improvements for the subindex as a whole.

Higher parity in life expectancy

"India also records higher parity in health and survival, driven by improved scores in sex ratio at birth and in healthy life expectancy," it said.

However, similar to other countries, parity in healthy life expectancy is obtained despite an overall reduction in the life expectancy of men and women, the report said.

Political empowerment

However, India recorded a drop in parity in political empowerment for the second year in a row with female representation in parliament falling from 14.7% to 13.8%, the report said.

Similarly, the share of women in Ministerial roles fell from 6.5% to 5.6%, moving the indicator score (5.9%) further away this year from its highest level (30% in 2019), the report said.

Nepal ranked 125, Sri Lanka 130, Bhutan 119, Maldives 138 and Pakistan ranked at the bottom among all countries at 148.

The global progress in gender parity made in this edition was driven primarily by significant strides in political empowerment and economic participation while educational attainment and health and survival maintained near-parity levels above 95%.

However, despite women representing 41.2% of the global workforce, a stark leadership gap persists with women holding only 28.8% of top leadership positions, the report said.

Central schemes must pass 'effectiveness' test to continue

Every scheme funded partially or fully by Centre should have 'sunset date', says Finance Ministry; it proposes more financial limitations, including for demand-driven schemes such as MGNREGS

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI


There are 54 Central schemes and 260 Centrally sponsored schemes for which approvals end this financial year. C. VENTACHALAPATHY

Schemes that are fully or partially funded by the Union government will be continued beyond the current financial year only if the "evaluation report for the scheme shows positive outcomes", proving that it has been "effective" in achieving its set objectives, and if there is a clear need to "continue the scheme in view of its mandate performance or scaling up of targets", according to a Finance Ministry circular issued on June 6.

To "improve the quality of government expenditure, every scheme should have a sunset date", the circular said.

The government is currently in the process of conducting a third party evaluation of all fully funded Central Schemes, while NITI Ayog is appraising the Centrally sponsored schemes. There are 54 Central schemes and 260 Centrally sponsored schemes for which approvals end on March 31, 2026 and are likely to be submitted for reappraisal. A majority of these will require fresh approval from the Union Cabinet.

These schemes cover a wide gamut, from social sectors such as health, women and child development, school and higher education, and tribal welfare to sectors such as agriculture, urban and rural infrastructure, water and sanitation, environment, and scientific research.

Apart from a "sunset date", the government has proposed other financial limitations. The total projected outlay of a continuing scheme for five years over the 16th Finance Commission (FC) cycle should not ordinarily be more than 5.5 times the average of annual expenditure made between the financial years of 2021-22 and 2024-25, the Finance Ministry circular said.

Instead, another scheme requiring less expenditure could be proposed. "The Ministry and department will have the flexibility to seek more funds for a scheme with commensurate reduction in another scheme based on specific justification. All schemes will operate as fund-limited schemes, which means that the total sanctions over the FC cycle must not exceed the approved outlay," the circular added.

MGNREGS impact

Such limitations also extend to demand-driven schemes, such as the flagship Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, or MGNREGS. "The outlay shall be determined based on the approximate number of beneficiaries to be covered in a Finance Commission cycle and sanctions shall be restricted to the approved outlay with a flexibility to carry forward any committed expenditure within the approved outlay to the next cycle."

For any upward revision, due to increase in the number of beneficiaries beyond the projected figures, Ministries have been told to seek specific approval from the Department of Expenditure.

Modi-Carney meet at G-7 to focus on bilateral reset: MEA

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI


Mark Carney

The upcoming meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Canadian counterpart Mark Carney will provide an "important opportunity" to discuss matters of bilateral interest, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Thursday.

Addressing the weekly media briefing, Mr. Jaiswal noted that mutual security concerns are being addressed through "existing mechanisms" between both countries. "We believe that the forthcoming meeting between the two leaders on the sidelines of the G-7 Summit will offer an important opportunity to exchange views on bilateral and global issues, and to explore pathways to reset the relationship based on mutual respect, shared interests, and sensitivity to each other's concerns," Mr. Jaiswal said.

Prime Minister Modi is scheduled to attend the G-7 summit hosted by Canada between June 15 and 17. The summit marks the first multilateral engagement for Mr. Modi following the conclusion of Operation Sindoor.

Earlier, Prime Minister Mark Carney had acknowledged India's global standing and said that India's stature made its participation in the G-7 dialogue imperative.

Bilateral ties between India and Canada had witnessed a sharp downturn following accusations by former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who had alleged the involvement of Indian State actors in the killing of pro-Khalistan activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. In response, India raised the issue of Khalistan separatists and organised criminal elements operating from Canadian territory.

Bengal clashes: tension lingers in the lanes of Rabindra Nagar, locals reel in aftermath

Shrabana Chatterjee
MAHESHTALA


A vandalised shop in the violence-hit area of Rabindra Nagar in the Maheshtala area of South 24 Parganas district. SHRABANA CHATTERJEE

Tensions simmered in the bylanes of Rabindra Nagar in Maheshtala (South 24 Parganas) on Thursday as residents grappled with the aftermath of violence that erupted a day earlier. Most shops remained shuttered; some bore signs of vandalism, with shattered glass and broken stones strewn across the neighbourhood.

Though municipal workers cleared debris through the early hours of Thursday, the air was still heavy with the acrid smell of soot and burnt fuel from torched vehicles. The police removed the charred remains of a motorbike set ablaze on Wednesday, while people collected the stones thrown during the clashes. Several vehicles were damaged, and a number of residents sustained injuries.

"We are sitting and counting losses. Our shop was vandalised. Police have also asked us not to open today. How will we survive?" said a local shopowner in Rabindra Nagar, tearfully surveying the damage. The West Bengal Police arrested 40 individuals in the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday in connection with the violence, which left several police personnel injured. Seven FIRs have been registered so far, officials confirmed.

The violence broke out in Ward No. 7, Maheshtala, on Wednesday morning, reportedly over the setting up of a shop. The situation took a communal turn following allegations of an attack on a place of worship. Tensions escalated rapidly as two groups clashed, throwing stones and attacking police personnel. The police resorted to tear gas shelling and baton charge to disperse the crowd.

The incident occurred just metres from the Rabindra Nagar police station. However, police officials said the deployment at the time was insufficient to contain what they described as a "frantic" mob.

A senior IPS officer present at the site told *The Hindu* that the "situation was under control". Authorities imposed Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in the area, restricting movement and assembly.

On Thursday, a heavy police presence, including units of the Rapid Action Force, was maintained in a five-kilometre radius around Rabindra Nagar.

"We closed down our shutters and ran inside to save our lives. They vandalised the outside portion of our shop," said Gopal Basu, a food stall owner near the police station who sustained injuries during the clashes, as he picked up the remnants of his damaged shed. Leader of Opposition and BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari was denied permission to visit the area. BJP state president Sukanta Majumdar was stopped a few kilometres away as he attempted to enter the locality.

40 held over violence; BJP meets Bengal Governor

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Forty persons have been arrested from Maheshtala in West Bengal in connection with the violence that left several police personnel injured. Clashes broke out between a few locals at Maheshtala on Wednesday afternoon over the setting up of a shop that took a communal turn.

"Prohibitory orders have been imposed in the area and the situation is under control," Jawed Shamim, Additional Director General (Law and Order) West Bengal Police, told *The Hindu*.

BJP MLAs led by Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari met Governor C.V. Ananda Bhavan over the violence.

SJM launches national drive to shun use of foreign goods

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Giving credit to Operation Sindoor for "exposing" China and Türkiye as a threat to India's sovereignty and trade, Swadeshi Jagran Manch, the economic wing of Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), on Thursday said India must see this as a wake-up call to totally shun foreign goods and become self-reliant.

While launching a pan-India drive to create awareness about use of '*swadeshi*' goods in Delhi on Thursday, the SJM said that it will "awaken people" about domination of e-commerce websites in the Indian market causing heavy losses to local traders.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, SJM's national co-convener Ashwani Mahajan said the drive for mass awareness named 'Swadeshi Suraksha evam Swavlamban Abhiyan' was launched with industrialists, traders, and farmers from across the country attending it.

Bihar polls: INDIA bloc says it will expose failures of Nitish Kumar's govt.

Amit Bhelari
PATNA



Working together: RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav chairs a meeting of the coordination committee of INDIA bloc in Patna. PTI

A meeting of the INDIA bloc's coordination committee for the Bihar Assembly election was held at the residence of Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav in Patna on Thursday. Mr. Yadav, who is the Leader of Opposition in the Bihar Assembly, also heads the committee.

Top leaders of the alliance, including Bihar Congress in-charge Krishna Alavaru, Bihar Congress president Rajesh Kumar, Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) and senior leaders of the Left parties, were present.

A senior leader who attended the meeting told *The Hindu*, "Before the next meeting, the parties involved in the INDIA bloc have been asked to provide details of the seats on which they want to contest the Assembly election."

Rajya Sabha member and senior RJD leader Manoj Jha said, "Five sub-coordination committees have been formed. These committees will look into the manifesto, media, social media and campaign strategy and election-related issues, including legal issues. Representatives of constituent parties have been included in these committees." He added, "It was also decided to launch a joint programme against the Nitish Kumar-led State government at the block, district and panchayat levels. Jointly, we will expose how the State government has failed on every front."

Asked about the seat-sharing formula among the six parties, Mr. Jha said, "Seat sharing was not discussed today and the only formula is to bring a change in the State."

Bihar Janata Dal (United) president Umesh Singh Kushwaha issued a statement saying that the "so-called unity" of the alliance is based on the weak foundations of selfishness and opportunism. "No concrete result will come out of such meetings because the public knows the reality," he said.

'Accused wife confesses to murder of husband'

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

The Meghalaya Police said on Thursday that Sonam Raghuvanshi confessed to having played a part in the conspiracy to kill her husband Raja Raghuvansi, an Indore businessman.

Another prime accused, Raj Kushwaha, also confessed to his involvement in the conspiracy, Deputy Inspector General of Eastern Range Davis N.R. Marak told journalists in Meghalaya's capital, Shillong.

Raja and Sonam went missing from the Sohra (Cherrapunji) area on May 23. Raja's decomposed body was recovered from a deep gorge near a waterfall on June 2, while the latter surrendered before the police in Uttar Pradesh's Ghazipur on June 9.

"Sonam and Raj confessed to being a part of the conspiracy. We are trying to find out who the mastermind is, as they are blaming each other," Mr. Marak said while giving updates on the ongoing interrogation of the two prime accused and three contract killers – Akash Rajput, Vishal Singh Chauhan, and Anand Kurmi – by the Special Investigation Team (SIT).

APPEAL



Master Vishwas Rudraswamy Hiremath, MRN No. 10020001642285, 7 years son of Mr. Rudraswamy Hiremath admitted Mazumdar Shaw Medical Center is diagnosed with X-Linked Agammaglobulinemia. The only curative treatment is Bone Marrow Transplant. We are planning a Haploidentical Bone Marrow Transplant using one of the parents as the stem cell donor and TCR ALPHA/BETA and CD45RA Depletion Therapy. The approximate cost for the treatment is **Rs. 42,30,000/-.**
Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Vishwas Rudraswamy Hiremath, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.
SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**



Tragic turn: Dabu Patni cries as her brother Akash Patni was on the Air India plane that crashed in Ahmedabad on Thursday. REUTERS



One who lived: Home Minister Amit Shah meets Viswashkumar Ramesh, the lone survivor of the crash, in a hospital.



In safe custody: Rescue personnel collect personal belongings of the victims of the crash. VIJAY SONEJI



Enormity of crash: The mangled remains of the Air India Boeing 787 Dreamliner near a building. VIJAY SONEJI

Disasters in the past

Some of the big aviation disasters in India

NUMBER OF DEATHS



Place: Arabian Sea

Jan. 1, 1978:
Air India Flight 855

213 The plane crashed 101 sec. into flight

Oct. 19, 1988:
Indian Airlines Flight 113

Place: Ahmedabad — 133

Feb. 14, 1990:
Indian Airlines Flight 605

Place: Bengaluru's HAL Airport — 92

Place: Charkhi Dadri

Nov. 12, 1996
Collision of Saudia Flight 763-Kazakhstan Airlines Flight 1907

349 Most devastating accident so far

July 17, 2000:
Alliance Air Flight 7412

Place: Patna — 60



Place: Mangaluru International Airport

May 22, 2010:
Air India Express Flight 812

158 The plane overshot runway, caught fire

Text: Lalatendu Mishra

Giant plane tears through hostel; some students missing, 60 hurt

MBBS students were having lunch in the boys' hostel of a medical college in Ahmedabad when the plane rammed through; college is now a site for collecting DNA samples of relatives of dead passengers; injured are being treated in Civil Hospital

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Over 100 MBBS students of B.J. Medical College at Meghani Nagar in Ahmedabad were having lunch in the boys' hostel mess on Thursday afternoon when an Air India flight to London crashed into the building shortly after take-off.

At least five MBBS students, one PG resident doctor and the wife of a superspecialist doctor of the medical college were killed and over 60 medical students injured, the Federation of All India Medical Association (FAIMA) said.

The State government is yet to confirm the extent of the casualties on the ground.

The college is now a site for collecting DNA samples from the families of passengers on the doomed flight, so that they can be matched with victims, if needed. The injured are being treated at the Ahmedabad Civil Hospital, authorities said.

As of 5 p.m., 50 MBBS students have been admitted to the hospital, according to Dhawal Gameti, president of the resident doctors' association and vice-president of the Federation of All India Medical Associations. Three of them are in intensive care and high dependency units, but most of the others are in a stable condition, he said.

He said five students were missing. "A few of the super-specialist resident doctors and one relative of a doctor are missing right now. Most of the passengers of the flight were brought dead," he said.

"One or two bodies were unrecognisable," Shyam Govil, an MBBS student involved in the rescue.

The Civil Hospital's students hostel, staff quarters, and residential areas are located in the area where the plane crashed, Dhanjay Dwivedi, Additional Chief Secretary, Gujarat Health and Family Welfare Department, told the news agency ANI. "The residents of that area were also injured. About 50 injured people have been brought to Civil Hospital, Ahmedabad. They are being provided the best treatment. They are serious but stable," he said.

"DNA testing arrangements have been made at B.J. Medical, so families of the flight passengers, especially their parents and children, are requested to submit their samples at the location so that victims are identified at the earliest. If relatives of the passengers and other injured who have been brought to the Civil Hospital have to make any enquiry, Civil Hospital Ahmedabad has issued two helpline numbers: 6357 373831 and 6357 373841. You can contact these numbers for any help," he said.



Collateral damage: Part of the tail of an ill-fated plane wedged to a wall of a college hostel in Ahmedabad on Thursday. VIJAY SONEJI

Lunch hour

Shubham Gupta, an MBBS student at B.J. Medical College who was involved in the emergency rescue operations, said that at the time of the crash, a little over 100 students from the college, mostly young men aged 18 to 22 years, were eating their lunch in the mess rooms on both the ground and first floor of the building. Pictures taken after the crash show plates with food left uneaten and glasses lying on tables in the mess. A wall of the mess was also damaged due to the crash.

Mr. Govil said that a number of students had sustained haematoma, which is the result of trauma or injury that causes ruptured blood vessels.



Vijay Rupani was en route to London to join his wife and other members of his family. FILE PHOTO

Ex-Gujarat CM was among passengers on the fateful flight

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, 69, was among those killed in the crash of an Air India flight from Ahmedabad to London on Thursday, confirmed Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil, who described the loss as one "deeply felt by the BJP family". Mr. Rupani was *en route* to London to join his wife and other members of his family.

Born in Yangon in Myanmar in 1956, he moved with his family to Rajkot in Gujarat as a child and studied law at the University of Saurashtra. He held the post of Chief Minister of Gujarat between 2016 and 2021 in two terms.

Beginning his political life with the RSS and the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), he had been imprisoned during the anti-Emergency movement in 1976. Associated with the BJP since its inception, he served as a BJP corporator in Rajkot, and as a general secretary of the Gujarat BJP in the 1990s. He was elected to the Rajya Sabha in 2006.

In 2014, when then Rajkot (West) MLA Vajubhai Vala vacated his seat after being appointed the Governor of Karnataka, Mr. Rupani was offered that seat. He won the bypoll by a large margin and was made a Minister.

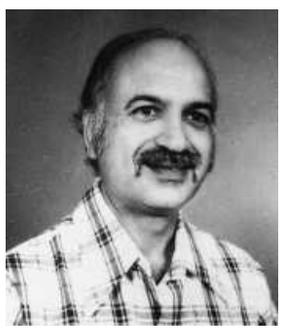
He served as the BJP chief for a few months in 2016, but with the resignation of then Chief Minister Anandiben Patel in the wake of the Patidar movement in the State, Rupani was chosen to replace her.

Just before the 2022 election, Mr. Rupani declared his retirement from electoral politics, bringing an end to one phase of his political life as the BJP effected a generational shift in the party. He was appointed a national vice-president of the party and held the charge of Punjab and Chandigarh for the BJP as part of that assignment.

AI 171 crash resembles crash of Emperor Ashoka 47 years ago

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The crash of an Air India Boeing Dreamliner in Ahmedabad on Thursday almost mirrors the January 1, 1978 crash of an Air India Boeing 747-237B named Emperor Ashoka that had crashed into the Arabian Sea soon after take-off from the Mumbai airport 47 years ago.



Capt. M.L. Kukar of the ill-fated Air India Flight 855.

Like flight AI 171, which crashed within minutes after take-off into a residential area near the Ahmedabad airport, flight AI 855 plunged into the sea near the airport, off the coast of Bandra, within 3 km of flying distance at night due to disorientation of the captain soon after instrument failure, killing all the 190 passengers and 23 crew members on board. The flight was headed to Dubai.

"That was one of Air India's biggest air disasters and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation [DGCA] took strict action after investigations and safety levels were enhanced substantially," said Jitender Bhargava, former Executive Director, Air India, and aviation expert.

According to the investigation report, the aircraft, after one minute of take-off, took a right turn after crossing the coastline and soon after turned to left and never gained level. It lost altitude and then nose-dived into the sea.

Terror attack

On June 23, 1985, Air India flight AI 182, a Boeing 747-237B, named Emperor Kanishka, blew up midair due to a terrorist attack on the coast of Cork, Ireland over the Atlantic Ocean, killing 307 passengers and 22 crewmembers. The flight was coming from Montreal to Mumbai. On August 7, 2020, Air India Express flight 1344 skidded off the runway at the Kozhikode International Airport, plunged into a valley and split into two, killing 21 people.

Leaders across the political spectrum express grief

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The country's leadership stood united in grief and expressed condolences for those who lost their lives when a London-bound Air India plane carrying 242 passengers and crew crashed in a residential area in Ahmedabad minutes after taking off.

President Droupadi Murmu in a post on X said that she was deeply distressed to learn about the "heart-rending disaster".

"My thoughts and prayers are with the affected people. The nation stands with them in this hour of indescribable grief," she said. Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar also expressed his "thoughts and prayers" for all those affected.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the tragedy had "stunned and saddened" everyone. "It is heartbreaking beyond words. In this sad hour, my thoughts are with everyone affected by it. Have been in touch with Ministers and authorities who are working to assist those affected."

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai expressed "deepest condolences" to the families of passengers and the inmates of the B.J. Medical College and Civil Hospital affected by the crash.

> My thoughts and prayers are with the affected people. The nation stands with them in this hour of indescribable grief
> **DROUPADI MURMU**
> President of India



'Overtaken by grief'

Chairperson of Congress Parliamentary Party Sonia Gandhi said, "The entire country is overtaken by grief and is praying."

BJP president J.P. Nadda and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge have directed their respective party workers to extend all possible help to those dealing with the tragedy.

Mr. Kharge, in a post on X, said, "It is heartbreaking beyond words. In this sad hour, my thoughts are with everyone affected by it."

Later, speaking to reporters, he said that the accident should be investigated. "Was it the pilot's fault or the one who was tasked with providing information? All these things need to come out."

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, in a post on X, said, "The pain and anxiety the families of the passengers and crew must be feeling is unimaginable. My thoughts are with each one of them in this incredibly difficult moment."

Special trains to Mumbai and Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In light of the tragic Air India 171 plane crash, Western Railway is running two special trains from Ahmedabad to Delhi and Ahmedabad to Mumbai, a spokesperson from the Ministry of Railways said on Thursday.

Bookings for train nos. 09497, 09494 and 09493 are open on Tatkal basis. The train calendars can be checked on *www.enquiry-.indianrail. gov.in*.

'We could not determine if the victims were children or adults'



Rescue and relief work under way after the Air India plane crashed moments after taking off from the Ahmedabad airport. PTI

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

DNA and blood samples are being preserved for identification, says Police Commissioner

The bodies retrieved from the B.J. Medical College premises where the London-bound Air India plane crashed on Thursday were charred, making it difficult to determine if they were children or adults, paramilitary officials involved in the rescue operation told *The Hindu*.

Police Commissioner G.S. Malik told *The Hindu* that 204 bodies were recovered from the crash site, and 41 injured persons were rushed to the hospital. He said the DNA and blood samples of the deceased were being preserved for identification.

"The chances of survivors may be there, we cannot say anything at this point," Mr. Malik said.

He said the total number of people present at the medical college at the time of the incident is not known yet.

"We must have pulled out around 200 bodies. They were charred beyond recognition, some bodies were dismembered. Due to the impact of the fire, the bodies had shrunk. We wrapped them in yards of white cloth brought in by the local administration, and put them in ambulances," an officer from one of the CAPFs said.

Hundreds of CAPF personnel drawn from the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Army were pressed into rescue and relief work at the crash site.

The CAPFs posted in Gujarat, including the medical units, were mobilised to help the civil administration in rescue work and crowd management.

"It was a horrific site. We could find no survivors. All we were doing was pulling out bodies from the rubble. We found carcasses of several cats and dogs too," said the CAPF official.

INBRIEF




2 cabin crew members from Manipur aboard Gujarat flight

Two of the 10 cabin crew members aboard the Air India flight that crashed in Gujarat on Thursday were from conflict-affected Manipur. The fate of both women – Kongbrailatpam Nganthoi Sharma, 22 (left), and Lamnunthem Singson, 28 – remained unknown as relatives and neighbours gathered at their residences, awaiting official confirmation about their condition. Ms. Sharma is from Thoubal district in the Imphal Valley. Ms. Singson's family has been residing in the Kuki-majority Kangpokpi district after their displacement from Imphal owing to ethnic violence erupted in May 2023.

India condemns vandalism of Tagore's home in Bangladesh

India on Thursday "strongly" condemned the vandalisation of the ancestral home of Rabindranath Tagore in Bangladesh's Sirajganj district. Addressing the weekly press briefing, Randhir Jaiswal, Official Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, said the attack was part of a "broad pattern" of assaults on the pluralist culture of Bangladesh. "We strongly condemn the despicable attack and vandalisation of the ancestral home of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore by a mob on June 8, 2025... The violent act is a disgrace to the memory and the inclusive philosophy and teachings that the Nobel Laureate espoused in Bangladesh," he said.

Sri Lankan Commander visits South Western Command

Lieutenant-General BKGM Lasantha Rodrigo, Commander of the Sri Lankan Army, on Thursday visited the South Western Command headquarters in Jaipur on the second day of his official tour of India from June 11 to 14. "Lt Gen Rodrigo was warmly welcomed by Lt Gen Manjinder Singh, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, South Western Command. They engaged in detailed discussions on issues of mutual interest, focusing on areas such as regional security, joint training initiatives, capability development, and the exchange of best practices," the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

Speeding SUV with BJP flag kills constable in Patna; 3 held

A woman police constable was killed and two other officers sustained serious injuries after a speeding SUV mowed them down during a vehicle checking drive in Patna in the early hours of Thursday. The vehicle involved in the incident bore a BJP flag. The incident took place at half past midnight on Atal Path. Three police officials were inspecting vehicle documents when the SUV rammed them, killing constable Komal Kumari on the spot. A sub-inspector and an assistant sub-inspector were critically injured in the incident. Of the four persons in the car, three (including the car's owner) were arrested, the police said.

U.K. PM Starmer, King Charles express shock over crash

High Commission of India in London sets up hot-line for emergency visas for those seeking to travel to India; lone survivor of plane crash confirmed to be British national Viswashkumar Ramesh

The Hindu Bureau
LONDON


Employees stand at the closed Air India check-in area at Gatwick Airport in the U.K. on Thursday. REUTERS

A cloudy day in London turned darker as news emerged that London-bound Air India flight 171 had crashed moments after it took off from Ahmedabad. The flight, bound for London's Gatwick airport, was carrying 169 Indians, 53 British citizens, seven Portuguese nationals and a Canadian. One passenger was confirmed as having survived the flight by the authorities in Ahmedabad. The passenger was later confirmed to be a British national, Viswashkumar Ramesh.

"The scenes emerging of a London-bound plane carrying many British nationals crashing in the Indian city of Ahmedabad are devastating," U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said, as he offered support to those impacted.

U.K. Foreign Secretary David Lammy made a statement in the House of Commons expressing his shock and saying the U.K. Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) was working with local authorities and had crisis teams involved in London and New Delhi.

Britain's monarch King Charles III called the incident "appallingly tragic".

"My wife and I have been desperately shocked by the terrible events in Ahmedabad this morning," he said in a statement, in which he commended the efforts of first responders.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said the news was "deeply distressing" and said he was in close touch with the Indian High Commission.

The High Commission of India in London has set up a hot-line for emergency visas for those wishing to travel to India.

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said he was "devastated" and that transport officials in Canada were working with their Indian counterparts.

"We share your shock and grief on this tragic day," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said.

Others who expressed their condolences and solidarity with India included French President Emmanuel Macron, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz.

Leaders from Russia, U.S., Australia, Israel offer condolences

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

U.S. President Donald Trump, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Bangladesh interim government's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar, and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese were among the world leaders who condoled Thursday's air tragedy in Ahmedabad that left at least 242 people dead and dozens injured.

Mr. Trump described the incident as "one of the worst in aviation history", and said, "That was a terrible crash. I have already told them, anything we can do, we will be there immediately."

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the country is monitoring the situation and promised support.

"The news of a passenger plane crash in Ahmedabad is absolutely devastating. In this time of tragedy, Australia's thoughts are with everyone affected. Our government is receiving regular updates, and we will continue to monitor the situation closely," Mr. Albanese said.

Putin writes to Modi

Mr. Putin wrote to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his condolence message saying, "Kindly convey the words of sincere sympathy and support to the families and near ones of the victims, as well as wishes for a speedy recovery to all those injured in this catastrophe."

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, in a social media post, said, "Saddened by the tragic crash. We extend our condolences to the families of the victims grieving this immense loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by this heartbreaking tragedy."

Mr. Yunus expressed shock at the crash of the Air India flight. "At this trying hour, our thoughts and prayers remain with the victims and their loved ones. We stand in solidarity with the people and Government of India, and offer our full support in any form," he said in his letter of condolence to Mr. Modi.

Ex-Minister defends India's 'robust' safety monitoring system

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI


Praful Patel

Former Civil Aviation Minister Praful Patel, during whose tenure the decision to induct the Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft into the then state-owned Air India was taken, said these aircraft were the "workhorses" of long-haul flights and only a detailed inquiry could shed light on the cause of the Ahmedabad plane crash.

Mr. Patel said India had a "robust" safety monitoring mechanism and there was no reason for any alarm.

"Look, 787 Dreamliners are really fine aircraft and there are thousands of them flying all over the world. These are really the workhorses of long-haul flights," Mr. Patel told *The Hindu*.

He pointed out that the aircraft involved in the Ahmedabad crash was about 11 years old and had done thousands of flights, including a Delhi-Ahmedabad flight before it took off on a fateful flight for London.

"The pilots were also experienced. So, what could have gone wrong is something only a detailed inquiry can tell us," he said.

The Ahmedabad crash has not only put the spotlight on flight safety but also on several Boeing models, including the Dreamliner.

"Let me tell you that we have good safety oversight system in the DGCA [Directorate General of Civil Aviation] and there shouldn't be any speculation," Mr. Patel said.

Overloading, 'bird hit' among likely causes of air crash, suggest experts

Jacob Koshy
Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI


While Boeing has been in the spotlight over safety issues, this is the first time its Dreamliner has crashed. AFP

While the cause of the A1-171 flight crash in Ahmedabad were being investigated and information from the flight data and cockpit voice-recorder was awaited, aviation experts theorise – judging from videos of the plane's short flight – that overloading, a potential bird hit and the rare instance of both engines failing could have prevented the aircraft from getting sufficient 'lift' to ascend.

The Boeing 787 Dreamliner has a maximum take-off weight of 227.9 tonnes and a fuel capacity of 1,26,206 litres. Twin-engine flights are equipped, even under the worst scenario, to operate for up to 330 minutes on a single engine. "The odds of both engines failing simultaneously during take-off are quite small, or about one in a billion," Abhay Pashilkar, Director, CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), which designs civilian planes, told *The Hindu*.

A plausible scenario was the plane being overloaded, he said. This meant an incorrect estimate of the combined weight of the loaded airplane and the quantity of available fuel. This, along with the external temperature, determines the speed the plane must attain to keep rising, and a misjudgment on that can cause the plane to stall and drop.

"High temperatures on a hot day can thin out the air, meaning you get less lift from the same speed. Weight, temperature, altitude – all affect lift. Prior to take-off, the pilots have charts and are informed of the weights and the necessary speeds for specific altitudes," Mr. Pashilkar said. "If the pilot didn't hit the appropriate speeds, it would reflect in the flight recorder and we will know."

Growth of grass

Aviation expert Capt. Mohan Ranganathan told *The Hindu* that a "bird hit", or birds being sucked into both engines couldn't be ruled out. He explained that the growth of grass near the runway during the monsoon attracts a lot of insects, which in turn, attract birds.

"I suspect bird ingestion may have happened. And from the footage that we have seen, the landing gear did not retract. If that happened, the aircraft could have climbed higher and travelled further and possibly would have crossed the residential areas," he said.

The Ahmedabad air crash has once again brought the spotlight back on safety with regard to Boeing aircraft, including the Dreamliner. Though this is the first time a Dreamliner has crashed, the aircraft has faced safety issues earlier.

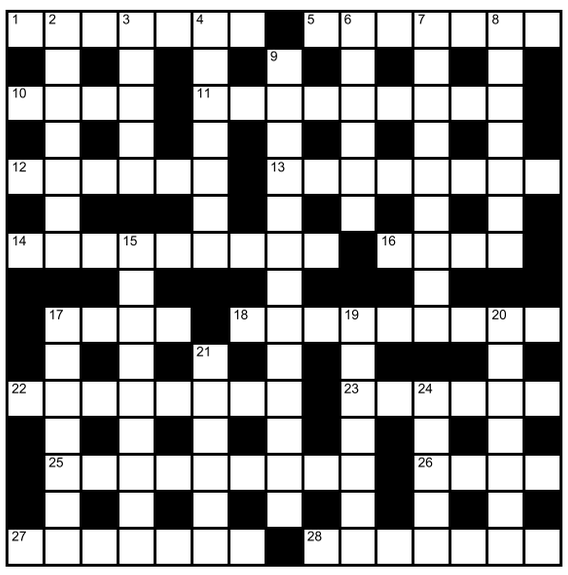
The initial lot faced battery heating and forced groundings of planes. The manufacturer also halted deliveries of their existing orders and reworked some design aspects after concerns were raised over the fuselage design.

TH CROSSWORD + 14510

(set by Vidwan)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Guard quietly learning by repetition at court (7)
5 Iron hand overcoming resistance of central government (7)
10 Work without slightest of hate in heart (4)
11 Form of true crust (9)
12 Grow old, plan and plan (6)
13 Time wasted in diplomacy, creeper takes it as process (8)
14 Thoroughly popular team abroad (6-3)
16 Ideal company within Indian borders (4)
17 See giant? Could be Egyptians! (4)
18 Anger was felt occasionally with a small bit of hared towards this standard feature in TV media broadcasts (9)
22 More depressing or good place to relieve men? That is right! (8)
23 Drug with love transforming into ecstasy as in this place (6)
25 Prepare brews, infusing boundless love to resolve differences for time being (5,4)
26 Soundly criticise King's work (4)
27 Cures almost all sick, nothing concerning faith (7)
28 Small round urban habitat housing European people (7)

Down

2 Something used to control mob in Brazilian city - the generic usual name basically! (4,3)
3 Hook-up with model? That is cool! (3-2)
4 Fall of scoundrel involved in argument (7)
6 Time for small tax stir (6)
7 Uncertain like one very old Catholic in uniform (9)
8 Old Iranian in a waistcoat darns regularly (7)
9 True, voters are exploited valuable mass (8,5)
15 One minute dance put up spontaneously (9)
17 Cover cut out for a comfort (7)
19 Lively piece of music at school with zero jiggles (7)
20 Pass pins (4,3)
21 Corbusier razed some mountain range (6)
24 Priest losing last buck (5)

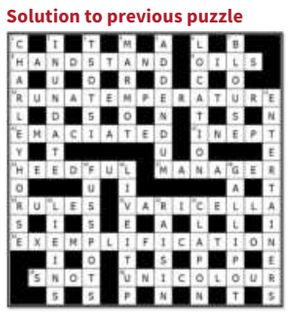
SUDOKU

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		7	2		8	6		
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			5		9			
8				6		4		2

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	6	5	7	8	2	4	9	1
9	7	1	3	4	5	8	2	6
8	4	2	1	9	6	5	7	3
2	8	3	9	5	7	6	1	4
6	9	4	8	3	1	7	5	2
5	1	7	6	2	4	3	8	9
4	2	6	5	7	9	1	3	8
1	5	8	2	6	3	9	4	7
7	3	9	4	1	8	2	6	5

FAITH

Ramanuja's compassion

Tiruvalluvar says, "The crown of wealth is one's compassion; all other wealth is found among even the meanest of men." One may say it is very difficult to show kindness to one's persecutor in the Kali Yuga, but when one decides to overlook faults in others who set out to injure one, then one is walking in God's way, as shown by our acharyas, said Damal S. Ramakrishnan.

Saint Ramanuja had a harrowing experience when his guru himself orchestrated an attempt to cause injury to Ramanuja, while they had crossed the forests of the Vindhyas. Sensing the mood in the camp, Ramanuja slipped away and made his escape through the forests, keen on returning to Kancheepuram. However, he did not know the direction to travel and lay down exhausted under a tree. A hunter and his spouse appeared forthwith and enquired about his travails. Out of respect and regard for his guru and impelled by his inherent compassion, he refrained from naming anyone; instead, he merely says he has to reach Kanchi and whether they can guide him. The hunter couple readily offers to take him to Kanchi as they were also headed there. Ramanuja says, "*Ramaya Ramabhadraya*" (You appear like Rama and Sita to me). The couple asks, in feigned innocence, "Who is this Rama and Sita that you speak of?"

Ramanuja, stunned by their 'ignorance' , immediately narrates the Ramayana in great detail, which ends as they reach Kanchi. Here, the couple disappears as soon as they enter the town and that is when Ramanuja realises that the hunter couple was none but Varadaraja Perumal and Perundevi Thayar, the deities of Kancheepuram temple.

INBRIEF



Škoda Auto eyes automatic vehicles to boost India growth

Škoda Auto India, celebrating 25 years in India, has now decided to focus on automatic cars as a major differentiating factor to power its next round of growth. While the industry automatic average is 25%, it is 53% for Škoda Auto and the company plans to take it to over 70%, Ashish Gupta, brand director, Škoda Auto India told *The Hindu*. "We are very strong in automatic and have a robust portfolio. We want to play on our strength in the market," he said.

Shriram Group, Sanlam foray into wealth management JV

Shriram Group announced its entry into wealth management business though its joint venture with South African financial services firm Sanlam. The latter will hold a 50% stake in the joint venture. "With Shriram Wealth, our vision is to be the most trusted partner, maximising client wealth and creating value over time," said Vikas Satija, MD & CEO of Shriram Wealth. The JV targets a ₹50,000 crore in Assets Under Advice (AUA) in next five years, as per a statement.

GSK, Bharat Biotech ally for Shigella vaccine development

Bharat Biotech International and global biopharma major GSK will collaborate to advance the development of latter's Shigella vaccine candidate altSonflex1-2-3. Under a pact, Bharat Biotech will lead further development of altSonflex1-2-3, including Phase 3 clinical trials, regulatory advancement and large-scale production. GSK will continue to support the programme by assisting in clinical trial design, external funding and commercialisation.

'AI plane crash may harden aviation insurance premia'

This 'significant incident' in the insurance industry is expected to influence aviation insurance rates going forward and influence renewal terms, premia, say insurance industry officials

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The Air India A1-171 Boeing 787 Dreamliner crash at Ahmedabad on Thursday, which has been termed as a 'significant incident' in the insurance industry is expected to influence aviation insurance rates going forward, said insurance industry officials

"General Indian aviation insurance premium market is estimated at about ₹900 crore. While most large losses are reinsured, this event is expected to influence aviation insurance rates going forward," said Amit Agarwal, CEO & MD Howden, India.

Narendra Bharindwal, President, Insurance Brokers Association of India (IBAI) said the liability coverage, especially for flights operating in or to regions like Europe–typically exceeds $500 million.



Tragic end: Remains of the Air India plane that crashed moments after taking off lies on a building in Ahmedabad. PTI

"This incident, along with others in recent months, will likely result in a hardening of the aviation insurance market, not just for the airline involved, but across the entire aviation sector," he added.

Stating aviation insurance programmes for major airlines such as Air India are arranged on a fleet basis and reinsured across international markets like London and New York, he said no single insurer bears the entire risk.

Distributed coverage

"Coverage is widely distributed among global reinsurers, with shares as small as 1.5% to 2% and a lead reinsurer typically taking 10-15%," he said.

"The financial impact of such incidents is shared globally across this network. While immediate premium adjustments are unlikely, the cumulative effect of multiple aviation incidents worldwide – including this one – will influence renewal terms and premiums for the sector in the next underwriting cycle," he emphasized

Aviation policies are all-risk policies providing cover to airlines during incidents such as Thursday's Air India crash.

"This incident is likely to trigger multiple aspects of a typical aviation hull all-risk policy. Aircraft damage would be covered under the aviation hull all-risk section, which insures the current valuation of the aircraft," said Mr. Agarwal.

For a Dreamliner, depending on its configuration, age, and other factors, this value could range between $211 million and $280 million.

Sensex slips 1% as U.S. hints Israel-Iran attack

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Indian stocks dipped 1% on Thursday after United States withdrew diplomats from West Asian nations saying that Iran was "not safe" and may be attacked by Israel.

Benchmark Nifty 50 and Sensex fell 1% to 24,888.20 and 81,692 points respectively on Thursday.

All sectoral indices dipped with financial services indices falling almost 2%. With this slump, Indian markets broke a consecutive six day positive returns.

'Intense profit booking'

"The downturn was attributed to intensified profit-booking and risk-off sentiment, as escalating geopolitical tensions in Middle East overshadowed positive macro cues such as softening inflation and encouraging trade data," said analysts at Bajaj Broking.

The slump in equity markets also led to a nine-paise intra day depreciation of the rupee.

"The Indian rupee becomes the worst-performing Asian currency, battered by risk-averse sentiments and a surge in crude oil prices driven by geopolitical concerns.

"Weak domestic equities have further weighed on the local currency," said Dilip Parmar senior analyst at HDFC Securities.

Boeing shares decline 8% pre-market after Air India plane crash

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Shares of North American airplane maker Boeing fell 8% in pre-market trade on NASDAQ after an Air India aircraft crashed near Gujarat's Ahmedabad airport on Thursday.

The private carrier informed that the London-bound Boeing 787-7 aircraft had 242 passengers and crew members combined on board. At about 8.15 a.m. ET, the Virginia-headquartered manufacturer's scrips were trading 7.71% lower at $197.50.

In a statement, Boeing informed it was in touch with Air India, further affirming it was ready to extend support to the private carrier. "Our thoughts are with the passengers, crew, first responders and all affected," Boeing said.

The London-bound airplane crashed within minutes after it took off from Ahmedabad airport at 1.38 p.m. The exact reason for the crash is not yet clear.

Mayday call

A PTI report, quoting a senior official, said the aircraft gave a Mayday call to ATC after taking off from Ahmedabad.

Thereafter, the ATC received no response to calls.

"Immediately after departure from Runway 23, the aircraft fell on the ground outside the airport perimeter. Heavy black smoke was seen coming from the site of the accident," the official added.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,692	-1.00
US Dollar	85.52	0.01
Gold	99,340	0.86
Brent oil	69.80	2.35

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2543.70	-37.50
Adani Ports	1445.80	-10.60
Apollo Hosp	6996.50	69.00
Asian Paints	2219.40	10.60
Axis Bank	1212.90	-18.50
Bajaj Auto	8567.00	-152.00
Bajaj Finserv	2028.80	15.90
Bajaj Finance	9368.50	-56.50
Bharat Elec	387.40	-5.50
Bharti Airtel	1844.20	-16.00
Cipla	1502.80	-18.90
Coal India	392.70	-9.40
Dr Reddys Lab	1362.70	11.60
Eicher Motors	5315.50	-36.50
Eternal Ltd.	251.56	-5.51
Grasim Ind	2689.10	-33.10
HCL Tech	1701.20	-20.70
HDFC Bank	1943.40	-7.00
HDFC Life	754.50	-9.70
Hero MotoCorp	4362.80	-47.50
Hindalco	651.05	-4.15
Hind Unilever	2332.70	-43.70
ICICI Bank	1425.20	-5.80
IndusInd Bank	829.90	-6.40
Infosys	1608.60	-22.50
ITC	421.00	-5.15
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	296.00	-6.65
JSW Steel	995.65	-11.45
Kotak Bank	2126.80	-18.50
L&T	3603.90	-80.90
M&M	3019.20	-61.50
Maruti Suzuki	12390.00	-62.00
NestleIndia	2385.60	-33.60
NTPC	333.70	-4.40
ONGC	247.88	0.56
PowerGrid Corp	289.00	-6.45
Reliance Ind	1441.60	-7.30
SBI Life	1766.00	-33.30
State Bank	805.95	-9.10
Shriram Finance Ltd.	668.05	-18.00
Sun Pharma	1687.40	-3.20
TataConsumerProduct	1085.10	-19.20
Tata Motors	715.35	-21.05
Tata Steel	152.89	-3.52
TCS	3434.20	-37.70
Tech Mahindra	1644.40	6.90
Titan	3452.70	-88.90
Trent Ltd.	5627.50	-149.00
UltraTech Cement	11323.00	-141.00
Wipro	259.61	0.69

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 12

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.40	85.72
Euro	99.07	99.45
British Pound	116.01	116.45
Japanese Yen (100)	59.44	59.67
Chinese Yuan	11.90	11.94
Swiss Franc	105.09	105.49
Singapore Dollar	66.79	67.05
Canadian Dollar	62.66	62.90
Malaysian Ringitt	20.21	20.33
Australian Dollar	55.66	55.87

Source:Indian Bank

RBI eases KYC norms for customer convenience

T. Ashokamithran
MUMBAI

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) eased the Know Your Customer (KYC) norms for convenience of the customers, according to a circular released June 12.

Banks shall complete the KYC updation of customers who are flagged as 'low risk' whose KYC have not been updated, within a year or June 2026, whichever is later. Moreover, the Central bank also introduced the facility to upload KYC through video. The facility is called Video based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP) for customer onboarding and information updation.

The RBI also said banks shall enable its banking correspondents to undertake the KYC updation activity. These facilities shall be provided to reactivate inoperative accounts, RBI said in a separate circular.

Banks have been advised to reach out to semi-urban and rural areas and set up camps to complete the process.

Updation an issue

The circular becomes important at a time when a lot of PMJDY accounts were reportedly inoperative due to difficulties in KYC updation and eligible beneficiaries for Direct Benefit Transfer-based (DBT) schemes faced snags in withdrawing money.

"Simplifying KYC while maintaining regulatory safeguards will enable the ecosystem to onboard customers faster, reduce friction, and accelerate the adoption of formal financial services," said Payments Council of India (PCI) in its release.

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
VIJAYPUR, JAMMU-181134

Employment Notification No. 11 / 2025

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Vijaypur, Jammu invites online applications from Indian Citizens as per Govt. of India Residency scheme, for the tenure posts of Senior Residents/Demonstractors in the following Departments/Speciality for a maximum period upto 3 years.

Post Code	Department/Specially	EWS	UR	OBC	SC	ST	Total
1.	Anaesthesiology	-	1	3	-	-	4
2.	Anatomy	-	-	1	-	-	1
3.	Burns & Plastic Surgery	-	-	1	-	-	1
4.	Cardiology	-	1	-	-	-	1
5.	Cardiothoracic Surgery	-	1	1	-	-	2
6.	Community Medicine	-	2	1	-	-	3
7.	Dermatology	-	-	-	1	-	1
8	Endocrinology & Metabolism	-	-	2	-	-	2
9.	Forensic Medicine & Toxicology	-	-	1	-	-	1
10.	Gastroenterology	-	-	1	-	-	1
11.	General Medicine	-	2	-	1	2	5
12.	General Surgery	-	-	5	-	1	6
13.	Hospital Administration	-	3	-	2	-	5
14.	Medical Oncology	-	-	1	-	-	1
15.	Microbiology	1	-	1	1	-	3
16.	Neonatology	-	1	-	-	-	1
17.	Nephrology	-	1	1	-	-	2
18.	Neurology	-	-	-	1	-	1
19.	Neurosurgery	1	-	1	-	-	2
20.	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	1	-	2	-	-	3
21.	Ophthalmology	-	-	1	-	-	1
22.	Orthopaedics	-	-	1	-	-	1
23.	Paediatric Surgery	-	1	2	-	-	3
24.	Paediatrics	-	-	2	-	-	2
25.	Physiology	-	-	1	1	-	2
26.	psychiatry	-	1	1	-	-	2
27.	Radiology (Radio-Diagnosis)	-	-	1	1	-	2
28.	Radiotherapy	-	-	1	-	-	1
29.	Surgical Gastroenterology	-	-	-	1	-	1
30.	Transfusion Medicine & Blood Bank	-	-	1	-	-	1
31.	Trauma & Emergency Medicine	1	1	2	2	2	8
32.	Urology	-	1	-	-	-	1
	Total	**4**	**16**	**35**	**11**	**5**	**71**

Important Dates	
Opening of Online Application Form	30.05.2025 (Friday)
Closing of Online Application form	10.07.2025 (Thursday)

Online Application form, Vacancy details, general terms & conditions and prescribed recuritment Rules etc. For the aforesaid posts are available at www.aiimsjammu.edu.in under "Recruitment> open Jobs'.

Sd/-
Registrar
On & behalf of ED & CEO AIIMS, Vijaypur, Jammu

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STOCKHOLM

Israel's starvation of Gaza is a 'war crime': Sweden's Foreign Minister



REUTERS

Sweden's Foreign Minister Maria Malmer Stenergard on Thursday condemned Israel for blocking humanitarian aid and targeting aid points in Gaza, causing "starvation", which she called a "war crime". She urged swift delivery of food, water, and medicine, highlighting Israel's failure to meet humanitarian law commitments. AFP

CAIRO

Hamas says its police force killed twelve 'Israeli-backed' fighters



AFP

A unit of Gaza's Hamas-run police force said it killed 12 members of an Israeli-backed militia after detaining them early Thursday. The militia said its fighters had attacked Hamas and killed five militants but made no mention of its own casualties. Verification of the killings remains unclear amid conflicting claims. AP

WASHINGTON

Trump unveils website for $5 mn 'Gold Card' U.S. residency visa



AFP

U.S. President Donald Trump launched a website, *TrumpCard.gov*, for his $5 million "Gold Card" visa, offering wealthy foreigners permanent U.S. residency and a path to citizenship. The card aims to attract investors, promising green card privileges and economic benefits amid ongoing immigration debates. AFP

CAIRO

Sudan's RSF claims control of key border zone with Libya and Egypt



REUTERS

Sudanese paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) claimed control of a strategic border zone with Libya and Egypt amid ongoing civil war. The military had on Tuesday evacuated the area, accusing Libyan commander Khalifa Hifter's forces of supporting RSF attacks in a "blatant aggression against Sudan, its land, and its people". AP

IAEA board censures Iran for not complying with nuclear obligations

The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran and the Foreign Ministry state that Tehran has 'no choice but to respond to this political resolution'; U.S. embassy in Jerusalem restricts staff movements due to security concerns amid heightened tensions

Associated Press
Agence France-Presse
VIENNA/WASHINGTON

The UN nuclear watchdog's board of governors on Thursday formally found that Iran is not complying with its nuclear obligations for the first time in 20 years, a move that could lead to further tensions and set in motion an effort to restore UN sanctions on Tehran later this year.

Iran reacted immediately, saying it will establish a new enrichment facility "in a secure location" and that "other measures are also being planned".

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has no choice but to respond to this political resolution," the Iranian Foreign Ministry and the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran said in a joint statement. U.S. President Donald Trump previously warned that Israel or America could carry out air strikes targeting Iranian nuclear facilities if negotiations failed to reach an agreement – and some American personnel and their families have begun leaving the region over the tensions, which come ahead of a new round of Iran-U.S. talks Sunday in Oman.



Tense presence: Armoured vehicles deployed outside the U.S. embassy building in Baghdad's Green Zone on Thursday. AFP

Nineteen countries on the International Atomic Energy Agency's board, which represents the agency's member nations, voted for the resolution, according to diplomats who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe the outcome of the closed-doors vote. Russia, China and Burkina Faso opposed it, 11 abstained and two did not vote.

The resolution was put forward by France, the U.K., Germany and the U.S.

Dangerous region

Meanwhile, the U.S. embassy in Jerusalem announced it was restricting staff movements after President Donald Trump said U.S. personnel were being moved from the potentially "dangerous" West Asia.

"Due to the increased regional tensions, United States government employees and their family members are restricted from travel outside the greater Tel Aviv (area)... Jerusalem, and Be'er Sheva areas until further notice," the embassy said.

Israel should not strike Iran, as deal is 'close', says Trump

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump called on Thursday on Israel not to attack Iran, saying a deal on its nuclear programme remained close, but Tehran defiantly vowed to increase its output of enriched uranium ahead of new talks.

Mr. Trump acknowledged that an Israeli strike on Iran "may very well happen," although he stopped short of calling a strike imminent, and said the risk of "massive conflict" led the United States to draw down staff in the region.

"We are fairly close to a pretty good agreement," Mr. Trump told reporters.

Asked about his discussions with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Mr. Trump said: "I don't want them going in, because I think it would blow it."



Talks afoot: Delegations arrive at the Omani embassy in Rome for a fifth round of nuclear talks between Iran and the U.S. in May. AP

Mr. Trump quickly added: "Might help it actually, but it also could blow it."

Upcoming talks

Mr. Trump's West Asia pointman Steve Witkoff is set to hold a sixth round of talks with Iran on Sunday in Oman, which has mediated.

Mr. Trump again described himself as a man of peace.

"I'd love to avoid the conflict. Iran's going to have to negotiate a little bit tougher – meaning they're going to have to give us some things that they're not willing to give us right now," he said.

On the draw



China says it issued rare earth export licences

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

China said on Thursday it had issued a "certain number" of licences to export rare earths after U.S. President Donald Trump hailed this week's deal that would see the country provide the vital elements "up front".

The economic superpowers said after talks in London that they had achieved progress in dialling down a brutal trade war that has threatened global supply chain chaos.

Japan, China trade blame over latter's jets flying close to Japanese aircraft

Associated Press
TOKYO

Japan and China blamed each other on Thursday after Tokyo raised concern that a Chinese fighter jet came dangerously close to Japanese reconnaissance planes.

The Chinese fighter jets took off from one of two Chinese aircraft carriers that were operating together for the first time in the Pacific, Japan's Defence Ministry said.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi told reporters that Japan conveyed its "serious concern" to China that such close encounters could cause accidental collisions.

According to Japan, a Chinese J-15 fighter jet took off from the *Shandong* aircraft carrier on Saturday and chased a Japanese P-3C aircraft on reconnaissance duty, coming within an "abnormally close distance" of 45 metres for about 40 minutes.



A Chinese J-15 fighter jet making an 'unusual approach' to a Japanese P-3C patrol aircraft above the Pacific Ocean. AFP

A Chinese jet also crossed 900 metres in front of a Japanese P-3C for about 80 minutes on Sunday, the Ministry said.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian defended China's activities as being fully consistent with international law and practices, and blamed Japanese vessels and aircraft for conducting close reconnaissance of China's military activities.

The incidents occurred in the Pacific, where Japan's Self-Defence Force spotted the two carriers, the *Shandong* and the *Liaoning*, almost simultaneously operating near southern Japanese islands for the first time.

Aircraft carriers are critical to projecting power at a distance. China routinely sends coast guard vessels, warships and warplanes around disputed East China Sea islands, but now they also reach as far as Guam, a U.S. Pacific territory with military bases.

Both Chinese carriers operated in waters off Iwo Jima, about 1,200 kilometres south of Tokyo.

The *Liaoning* also sailed inside Japan's exclusive economic zone near Minamitorishima, the country's easternmost island, Japan's Defence Minister Gen Nakatani said.

There was no violation of Japanese territorial waters, he said.

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

NIT No.02: Tender Notice No.02/SE(P-C, N&EZ)/GHMC/2025-26 (2nd Call), Dt:11-06-2025; **Name of the work:** "Repair and Rehabilitation measures for Begumpet ROB at Begumpet Railway Station, Hyderabad"; **Estimate Amount/ECV:** Rs.2000.00 Lakhs; **Start date/ Last Date & Time for receipts of Bids: Start Date:** 13-06-2025 @ 3.00 p.m.; **Last Date & Time for receipts of Bids**: 01-07-2025 @ 3.00 p.m.; **Name & Address Officer Cell No:** O/o Superintending Engineer (Projects-C,N&EZ), GHMC, 9063843646. Further details can be seen at "e" Procurement @ **www.tender.telangana.gov.in.** Or can be contact Office of the Superintending Engineer (P-C,N&EZ), GHMC in office working hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Projects-C, N&EZ), GHMC

DIPR R.O.No.3496-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 12.06.2025

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION JHUNJHUNU

No.:- Date:-

NIB code PWD2526A0848 and UBN is: PWD2526WLOB02727

Notice Inviting Bid No. 08/2025-26

Bids for 06 (Six Nos) Road Work are invited from interested bidders upto 06:00 PM dated 27.05.2025 to 17.06.2025 Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and PWD departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 1248.54 Lacs.**

NIB No.

1. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727 2. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727
3. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727 4. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727
5 UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727 6. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727

Executive Engineer
PWD Division JHUNJHUNU

DIPR/C/7143/25

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer(Project) PHED, Churu
E-mail-ace.chu.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
No. 359-396 Date:- 23-05-2025

Corrigendum No. 01 For this office NIT No. 01/2025-26

Corrrigendum No. 01 for this office NIT NO. 01/2025-26 Estimated Rs. 237.87 Crore(UBN is: PHE2526WLOB01689 & Tender ID 2025_PHCJ_462297_1) may be visited on the procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in

SAVE WATER-SAVE LIFE

(Rammurti)
Add. Chief Engineer(P)
PHED, Project Region Churu

DIPR/C/6996/2025

RAJASTHAN STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Rajasthan Government Undertaking)
Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur- 302005, Phone- 0141-2227751, 4593201
E-mail: riico@riico.co.in Website-riico.rajasthan.gov.in

TENDER NOTICE

RIICO invites sealed tenders/bids through eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for the following works/ services/supply etc.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.in Lacs)
1.	**Advisor (A&M), RIICO, Udyog Bhawan, Jaipur**	
1.1	Providing Taxi Vehicles on Hiring Basis at RIICO Office, Udyog Bhawan Jaipur for a period of Two Years. **UBN-RDC2526SLOB00332**	480.00

Bidders/contractors may download and submit tender online. Detailed information of tenders and any kind of corrigendum/ date extension, if any in future, may be seen by bidders on websites riico.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in
For queries please contact: Manager (GAD) Mob No. 9414040169

Raj.Samwad/C/25/4161

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
252613 001810	Erection and Testing of CS & SS Pipes and Fittings including Valves and supports in OSBL area for RSPS #2 Project at TNPL Unit - I, Kagithapuram Karur.	02.07.2025
252613 001828	Procurement of Maize Based Native Starch (In Jumbo Bags) for Unit - I.	26.06.2025
Email	252613001810 - pmd8@tnpl.co.in 252613001828 - purchase.rawmatl@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/2999/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

FLUID CONTROL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(Autonomous Body under Government of India, Ministry of Heavy Industries)
Kanjikode West, Palakkad, Kerala – 678 623
www.fcriindia.com

Invites applications for the post of DIRECTOR

Notification No. 8-18/2/2020-PE-VIII dated 07 June 2025

Educational Qualifications	Experience	Pay Level	Maximum Age
Essential: *Post Graduate in any branch of Engineering from recognized University / Institution* ***Desirable:*** *PhD in Engineering or PG in Management Sciences from recognized University / Institution*	***Essential:*** *20 years in any industry or institute, with last 5 years at senior management level dealing with technical & administrative matters, financial control, HR management.* ***Desirable:*** *5 years' experience in fluid flow domain.*	*Level 14 in pay matrix 7th CPC*	*55 years and for internal candidates 58 years as on closing date for receipt of applications*

For details, refer notification in The Employment News or at websites of Ministry of Heavy Industries, DoPT or FCRI (www.fcriindia.com/career).

Applications Closing Date: 09/07/2025

The Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited
Door No. 294/1D, 100 feet Road (Tadigadapa to Enikepadu Road), Kanuru, Vijayawada-521137, Andhra Pradesh, India, Tel: +91-866-2429999
Fax: +91-866-2429977, Email: contracts-ho@apmdc.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No: APMDC/HO/P&C/Pipe Line Dismantling and Placing of new Pipe Line-M'pet/2025-26 Dt:13.06.2025

APMDC invites E-tender from reputed Agencies for **"Selection of Agency for Dismantling & Removing of Existing 300mm Dia of Pipe Line and Placing in new Alignment at Mangampeta Barytes Project, Mangampet Village, Obulavaripalli (M), Andhra Pradesh".** For more information on the eligibility criteria, tender fees, timelines and other details, please visit e-procurement website of **GoAP www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in**) or APMDC website (**www.apmdc.ap.gov.in**). The Tender document is available for downloading from **13.06.2025** and the last date for bid submission is **03.07.2025 by 17:00 Hrs.**

Place : Vijayawada **Sd/- Managing Director**
Date : 13-06-2025 **The A.P. Mineral Development Corporation Limited**

DIPR 4182PP/CL, Dt: 12-06-2025

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा
क्रमांक 652 दिनांक: 28/5/2025

संशोधित निविदा संख्या – 02 /2025-26

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 272 दिनांक 28.04.2025 एवं संशोधित पत्रांक 627 दिनांक 27.05.2025 के द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा सूचना संख्या- 02 /2025-26 में निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र.सं.	पूर्व में	अब यह पढ़ा जावे
1	Clasue 3. (ii) The Bidder should have completed at least one work of similar nature of Road work in last five years (including current year, if opted by the bidder) 50% of the cost of the work (bid work.)	Clasue 3. (ii) The Bidder should have completed at least one work of similar nature of Road work in last five years (including current year, if opted by the bidder) 33.33% of the cost of the work (bid work.)
2	Clasue 3. (iii) The Bidder should have achieved a financial turnover of atleast 60.00% of the cost of work (bid coast) in any of the last five financial years (audited). However, the bidder amy opt the current year in the five years assessment period.	Clasue 3. (iii) The Bidder should have achieved a financial turnover of atleast 33.33% of the cost of work (bid coast) in any of the last five financial years (audited). However, the bidder amy opt the current year in the five years assessment period.
1	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने एवं जमा कराने की तारीख 06.05.2025 से 30.05.2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने एवं जमा कराने की तारीख 06.05.2025 से 09.06.2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
2	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख 03.06.2025 अपरान्ह 3.00 बजे तक	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख 11.06.2025 अपरान्ह 3.00 बजे तक
3	बोली प्रतिभूति जमा कराने की तारीख 02.06.2025 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. संभाग कोटा	बोली प्रतिभूति जमा कराने की तारीख 10.06.2025 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. संभाग कोटा

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

UBN No.

1. PWD2526WLOB01047 4. PWD2526WLOB01050 7. PWD2526WLOB01055
2. PWD2526WLOB01048 5. PWD2526WLOB01051 8. PWD2526WLOB01056
3. PWD2526WSOB01049 6. PWD2526WLOB01053 9. PWD2526WLOB01057

अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. संभाग कोटा

DIPR/C/7204/25

LEADER OF THE PACK

Cummins has the best figures by a captain in Tests at Lord's



REUTERS

Pat Cummins, with a six for 28 in South Africa's first innings, registered the best figures by a captain in Tests at the Lord's Cricket Ground. He bettered Bob Willis' six for 101 against India in 1982. He also equalled Richie Benaud's tally of nine five-wicket hauls in Tests by a skipper, with the pair only behind Imran Khan (12).

ELITE CLUB

Cummins eighth Australian bowler with 300 or more Test scalps



REUTERS

Pat Cummins became the eighth Australian to take 300 or more wickets in Tests, joining an elite club comprising Shane Warne, Glenn McGrath, Nathan Lyon, Mitchell Starc, Dennis Lillee, Mitchell Johnson, and Brett Lee. He also went past Starc (11 wickets) to become the bowler with the most scalps in ICC tournament finals.

INSPIRATIONAL

Gambhir all praise for Karun's never-say-die attitude



GETTY IMAGES

Head coach Gautam Gambhir praised Karun Nair, who made a comeback to the Indian team. "Comebacks are never easy, someone who has made a comeback after seven years had a phenomenal last year. That never-say-die attitude, which got you back into the team, is inspiring for everyone in this group," he said.

IN THE MIX

Radha replaces injured Shuchi in India squad for England tour



FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Left-arm spinner Radha Yadav has replaced injured Shuchi Upadhyay in the India women's squad for the upcoming England tour starting on June 28. BCCI said the 20-year-old left-arm spinner Shuchi, who made her ODI debut last month during the tri-series in Sri Lanka, has sustained a left shin injury.

Tantalising finish on the cards in title clash

After Cummins' six-for skittles out South Africa for 138, Ngidi & Co. return the favour to keep Australia to 144 for eight at stumps; 28 wickets fall in just two days of play



Speedsters' day out: While Australia's Cummins produced a sensational spell, Ngidi sparked South Africa's fightback. REUTERS, GETTY IMAGES

WTC FINAL

Associated Press
LONDON

A low-scoring World Test Championship final was heading to a thrilling conclusion after Australia took a 74-run first-innings lead before being reduced to 144 for eight by South Africa at close on day two at Lord's on Thursday.

It was a landmark day for Australia captain Pat Cummins, who took six for 28 to get to 300 wickets in his Test career and dismiss the Proteas for 138 following a whirlwind hour after lunch when the Baggy Greens claimed South Africa's last five wickets for 12 runs in just 5.5 overs.

A Test dominated by pace bowling continued in that vein in Australia's second innings, with Kagiso Rabada – who took five for 51 to help restrict the Australians to 212 on day one – again removing Usman Khawaja and Cameron Green in one over before Lungi Ngidi took three wickets, including that of dangerman Steve Smith (13), in an inspired spell.

Tottering at 73 for seven, Australia managed to rebuild in the final hour through an eighth-wicket partnership of 61 between wicketkeeper Alex Carey (43) and Mitchell Starc (16 batting).

Rabada (three for 44) trapped Carey lbw in another twist in the penultimate at the home of cricket as 14 wickets tumbled for the second straight day.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA — 1ST INNINGS
212 in 56.4 overs.

SOUTH AFRICA — 1ST INNINGS
Aiden Markram b Starc 0 *(6b)*, Ryan Rickelton c Khawaja b Starc 16 *(23b, 3x4)*, Wiaan Mulder b Cummins 6 *(44b)*, Temba Bavuma c Labuschagne b Cummins 36 *(84b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Tristan Stubbs b Hazlewood 2 *(13b)*, David Bedingham c Carey b Cummins 45 *(111b, 6x4)*, Kyle Verreynne lbw b Cummins 13 *(39b)*, Marco Jansen c & b Cummins 0 *(3b)*, Keshav Maharaj run out 7 *(15b, 1x4)*, Kagiso Rabada c Webster b Cummins 1 *(6b)*, Lungi Ngidi (not out) 0 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-10, nb-2): 12; Total (in 57.1 overs): 138.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-0 (Markram, 0.6 overs), 2-19 (Rickelton, 8.4), 3-25 (Mulder, 15.2), 4-30 (Stubbs, 20.2), 5-94 (Bavuma, 39.2), 6-126 (Verreynne, 51.3), 7-126 (Jansen, 51.6), 8-135 (Bedingham, 55.2), 9-138 (Maharaj, 56.5).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING
Starc 13-3-41-2, Hazlewood 15-5-27-1, Cummins 18.1-6-28-6, Lyon 8-3-12-0, Webster 3-0-20-0.

AUSTRALIA — 2ND INNINGS
Marnus Labuschagne c Verreynne b Jansen 22 *(64b, 2x4)*, Usman Khawaja c Verreynne b Rabada 6 *(23b)*, Cameron Green c Mulder b Rabada 0 *(2b)*, Steve Smith lbw b Ngidi 13 *(25b, 1x4)*, Travis Head b Mulder 9 *(18b, 1x4)*, Beau Webster lbw b Ngidi 9 *(11b, 1x4)*, Alex Carey lbw b Rabada 43 *(50b, 5x4)*, Pat Cummins b Ngidi 6 *(5b, 1x4)*, Mitchell Starc (batting) 16 *(47b)*, Nathan Lyon (batting) 1 *(4b)*; Extras (b-4, lb-6, nb-9): 19; Total (for eight wkts. in 40 overs): 144.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-28 (Khawaja, 10.2), 2-28 (Green, 10.4), 3-44 (Labuschagne, 17.5), 4-48 (Smith, 18.5), 5-64 (Webster, 22.6), 6-66 (Head, 23.4), 7-73 (Cummins, 24.5), 8-134 (Carey, 38.2).

SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING
Rabada 11-0-44-3, Jansen 12-3-31-1, Mulder 6-0-14-1, Ngidi 9-0-35-3, Maharaj 2-0-10-0.

India loses after dramatic contest

Press Trust of India
AMSTELVEEN

India's late goal from a penalty was disallowed as it lost 1-2 to Argentina for its fourth successive defeat in the European leg of the FIH Pro League hockey on Thursday.

Drag-flicker Jugraj Singh struck in the fourth minute off the first penalty corner of the match, but Tomas Domene (ninth and 49th) scored, both from PCs, to hand Argentina a win.

India earned a penalty stroke two minutes from the final hooter, and Jugraj was successful. Argentina asked for a video referral that Jugraj's left foot was ahead of the ball while he took the stroke.

The video umpire ruled in Argentina's favour, but India captain Hardik Singh asked the referee to check whether goalkeeper Tomas Santiago was already ahead of the goal-line before Jugraj took the stroke.

This time, India got a favourable decision. Jugraj was allowed to retake the stroke, but his shot was saved this time by Santiago.

Come out of comfort zone: coach Gambhir to players

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Press Trust of India
BECKENHAM



Ready to go: Gambhir feels the Gill-led team can do something special. X@BCCI

India head coach Gautam Gambhir has urged his team to move out of its "comfort zone" and make the upcoming Test series against England a "memorable" one, especially in the absence of retired stars Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and R. Ashwin.

India will aim for their maiden series victory in England since 2007, when the five-match rubber starts with the first Test at Leeds on June 20.

"There are two ways of looking at this tour. One is we are without our three most experienced players or we got this phenomenal opportunity to do something special for the country," said Gambhir, referring to the recent retirements of Ashwin, Rohit and Kohli.

The former India opener said he can feel the "passion and the commitment" to achieve something special flowing through the current bunch, led by Shubman Gill.

"When I look around in this group, I think I see the hunger, the passion and the commitment to do something special. If we make sacrifices, if we come out of our comfort zone, if we start fighting not every day but every session, every hour and every ball, I think we can have a memorable tour," he added.

Gambhir welcomed the whole squad to the tour of England, and extended a special tribute to some of the members, starting with Sai Sudharsan.

Always special

"First Test calls are always special, so I want to welcome Sai, who has a fabulous three months with the bat and make sure you have a very very successful red ball career."

"I want to welcome Arshdeep Singh. You have been phenomenal with the white ball and I am sure you will make it count with the red ball in your hand."

Intra-squad match

Meanwhile, the senior Indian team's four-day intra-squad warm-up game against India-A, starting here on Friday, will be a precursor to the first Test.

The Indian team under Gambhir opted for a "closed door" session to prevent the opposition from getting any ideas on the tactical front, emulating a long-established practice among European football clubs.

The four-day game, which doesn't have official first-class status, gives batters a second go if someone is dismissed cheaply.

With 360 overs of match simulation available over four days, it will give the team management a chance to allow the bowling unit get enough overs under their belt.

That would be handy in ensuring that the bowlers -- be it a spinner or a pacer -- have the requisite rhythm in actual match.

Gambhir will have some work to do in terms of zeroing in on the lone specialist spinner for the Headingley Test.

U Mumba overcomes Dabang, seals a spot in the semifinal

UTT

Amol Karhadkar
AHMEDABAD

Around an hour into the final league match of the Ultimate Table Tennis-season six, the moment Quek Izaac sent a forehand topspin out of the table, Akash Pal and Bernadette Szocs, U Mumba TT's tried and tested mixed doubles combination, had a big smile on their faces.

Players of Dabang Delhi TTC also rose to celebrate, with Lilian 'T-Rex' Bardet - who breached G. Sathiyan's defence to start the night on an ideal note for U Mumba - all smiles along with coaches. The elementary objective of winning five points - and thus confirming the final semifinal spot for U Mumba had been achieved.

While it meant a heartbreak for Kolkata ThunderBlades, glued to their screens at the hotel on the other side of the Sabarmati, U Mumba became the first team to defeat Dabang Delhi this season.

The reverse singles saw debutantes' day out, with youngsters fielded by both the teams coming up with an impressive show. Thanks to his control on the backhand, courtesy a short-pimpled rubber, and forehand winners close to the table, P.B. Abhinandh surprised Quek Izaac to put U Mumba on the cusp of a win.



Pumped up: Abhinandh pulled off an impressive win over Izaac. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Suhana Saini, the Delhi debutante, then stretched in-form Yashaswini Ghorpade but couldn't convert two golden points off her senior.

Homage

The UTT organisers paid homage to the victims of the Air India plane-crash close to the Ahmedabad airport. Sporting black armbands, members of both teams observed a minute's silence at the start of the match. The organisers did not play music right through the evening.

The result: U Mumba TT bt Dabang Delhi TTC 10-5
(Lilian Bardet bt G. Sathiyan 11-10, 4-11, 11-4; Bernadette Szocs bt Diya Chitale 3-11, 11-10, 11-8; Szocs & Akash Pal lost to Diya & Quek Izaac 11-5, 7-11, 5-11; Abhinandh bt Izaac 11-4, 11-9, 7-11; Yashaswini Ghorpade bt Suhana Saini 11-10, 11-10, 11-3).

League standings:
Dabang Delhi TTC 44 points, Dempo Goa Challengers 44, U Mumba TT 42, Jaipur Patriots 41,Kolkata ThunderBlades 36, PBG Pune Jaguars 34, Ahmedabad SG Pipers 30, Stanley's Chennai Lions 29.

Semifinal line-up:
Dabang Delhi TTC vs Jaipur Patriots (Friday, 7.30 p.m.); Dempo Goa Challengers vs U Mumba TT (Saturday, 7.30 p.m.).



Growing in confidence: Sreeja has remained unbeaten in this campaign. VIJAY SONEJI

Sreeja finds a purple patch in Jaipur's pink

Amol Karhadkar
AHMEDABAD

Almost a year ago, Sreeja Akula was flying high.

While achieving a rare feat of an Indian paddler featuring in the singles round-of-16 at the Olympics, Sreeja was also on the brink of breaking into the top-20 world rankings.

But soon after returning from Paris, Sreeja was diagnosed with a stress fracture that took longer than expected to heal.

But the Hyderabad girl has revelled in the pink jersey of Jaipur Patriots in the Ultimate Table Tennis. After missing the fifth season due to the stress fracture, Sreeja has remained unbeaten in season six - Zeng Jian of Goa Challengers is the only other unbeaten singles player this season - to spearhead Patriots' smooth ride into the semifinals.

"UTT has helped because I have played different opponents and mixed doubles as well," Sreeja told *The Hindu*. "I have been continuing my routine every day. But I also wanted to play many matches, and this league is a very good stage where I can try different things."

While Patriots - who had a forgettable UTT debut last season without Sreeja - started on a disastrous note, Sreeja was the only bright spot in their campaign-opener against Dabang Delhi TTC. Groomed in confidence with a close win against Maria Xiao, Sreeja went on to account for Bernadette Szocs, the World No. 12.

Sreeja is confident that the three weeks at UTT will help her in her future endeavours, starting with the US Open and heading into three major Smash events on the world circuit.

"It took some time for me to recover, it's all about ups and downs, and I just have to accept it and take the learnings and move on. I've tried to figure out what went wrong, and I am getting back to my best. I am confident that I will be in the zone pretty soon".

INBRIEF



Pacers bounce back to down Thunder, take 2-1 lead

Indiana Pacers bounced back to defeat the Oklahoma City Thunder 116-107 and take a 2-1 series lead in the NBA Finals at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on Wednesday. Bennedict Mathurin scored 27 points off the bench and Tyrese Haliburton finished with 22 as the Pacers shrugged off Sunday's emphatic game-two loss to reignite their finals challenge.

The result: Indiana Pacers 116 (Mathurin 27, Haliburton 22, Siakam 21) bt Oklahoma City Thunder 107 (Williams 26, Gilgeous-Alexander 24, Holmgren 20). *Pacers lead series 2-1.*



'I'm very excited to show my game to Madrid fans'

Trent Alexander-Arnold was officially introduced by Real Madrid on Thursday, saying he was fulfilling his dream to play for the Spanish powerhouse. "To sign with a club like Real Madrid doesn't happen very often. It's a dream come true. I'm very happy and proud to be here. I'm very excited to show my game to Madrid fans," he said.



De Bruyne signs for Serie A champion Napoli

Kevin De Bruyne has signed for Napoli on a two-year deal as a free agent after being released by Manchester City, the Serie A champion confirmed on Thursday.

LIVE TELECAST

WTC Final: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3 p.m.
TNPL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.
Ultimate Table Tennis: JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.

PSG aims for Club World Cup glory after historic Champions League win

The French club is one of 12 from Europe, including stellar names like Real, Manchester City, Bayern, Inter and Juventus; Brazil's Botafogo, Palmeiras, Flamengo and Fluminense along with Argentina's River Plate and Boca Juniors will likely present the biggest challenge to the European teams

FOOTBALL

Associated Press
PARIS



Getting ready: Inter Miami's Luis Suarez, right, and Maximiliano Falcon at a training session. AP

Just weeks after winning the Champions League for the first time in its history, Paris Saint-Germain's eyes are now fixed on FIFA's shiny new Club World Cup.

The newly-crowned European champion can add the world title to a trophy haul that also included a French league and cup double this season.

"We want to finish the season in style with the cherry on the cake," coach Luis Enrique said.

PSG had already qualified for the rebooted Club World Cup in the United States, but its Champions League triumph may still have come as a relief to FIFA, the governing body.

That's because, while the winner of the bumper tournament will officially be crowned the best club football team in the world, there are some notable absentees from the 32-team roster.

The tournament will be without the Premier League champion given Liverpool's failure to meet the qualifying criteria. The same goes for Barcelona and Napoli – champions of Spain and Italy, respectively.

No place either for current Asian champion Al-Ahli from Saudi Arabia or Pyramids – the African champion from Egypt.

The qualifying criteria was based on winners of continental trophies in the four years prior to the tournament, but not including the season directly before it.

That's why Chelsea – Champions League winner in 2021 – has a seat at the table despite finishing fourth in the Premier League last month.

The club is one of 12 from Europe, including stellar names like Real Madrid, PSG, Manchester City, Bayern Munich, Inter and Juventus.

Some of Latin America's biggest teams are in the tournament – including reigning Copa Libertadores champion Botafogo from Brazil. Three other Brazilian teams have qualified: Palmeiras, Flamengo and Fluminense.

Argentina's famous rivals River Plate and Boca Juniors will also be there. It is the Latin American contingent that likely will likely present the biggest challenge to the European teams.

In its previous format, which involved a mini-tournament of just seven teams instead of 32, it never fully captured global interest. Played in the middle of the season for Europe's top leagues, it had the feel of an exhibition, rather than a serious tournament. European teams dominated the modern era, winning all but one of the last 17 editions.

Referees to wear body-cams, but no controversial incidents on air

Agence France-Presse
MIAMI



Stated goal: Collina, chairman of the FIFA Referees Committee, says the objective is to offer the TV viewers a new experience. AFP

Referees at this month's Club World will wear 'body cams' with the footage used in broadcasts of the game – but only if the images are of non-controversial incidents, FIFA refereeing officials said on Wednesday.

The match referees in the tournament will wear a small camera protruding from their earpiece which will be able to generate video from the referees point of view.

But while broadcasters will be able to offer unique angles on goals and saves – as well as close-up live video and sound from the pre-match coin toss – viewers won't get to see penalty decisions or other disputable moments from the new camera angle.

"The objective is to offer the TV viewers a new experience," said Pierluigi Collina, the chairman of the FIFA Referees Committee.

Collina said that IFAB, which sets the laws of the game had allowed a trial of the technology and suggested that footage of controversies might be part of a later phase in the future.

What Club World Cup fans will be able to see are the VAR reviews, as seen by referees on the pitch-side monitor, which will be broadcast on giant screens in the stadium.

That video will then be followed by the referee announcing the final decision over the public address system and the television broadcast.

The tournament will also see the use of 'enhanced semi-automatic offside' technology which will use 16 cameras linked to AI technology and algorithms.

The system will likely see the flag raised earlier for offside and reduce cases of play continuing after a clear offside until a later VAR review.

Sift bags rifle 3-position bronze for second medal of the season

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau



Sift..another podium finish. ISSF

World record holder and Asian Games gold medallist, Sift Kaur Samra bagged the bronze medal in the 50-metre rifle 3-position event in the shooting World Cup in Munich, Germany, on Thursday.

After qualifying with the top score of 592, Sift slipped behind the leaders initially, and eventually fought her way past Sagen Maddalena of USA to the medal. It was the second medal this season for the 23-year-old Sift, following the gold in the World Cup in Buenos Aires. Norway's Jeanette Duestad won gold.

Kiran Jadhav had the best performance among the Indians in men's air rifle gold, as he shot 631.7 and missed the final by 0.1 point.

China was on top of the medals table with three gold and a bronze, while Norway had two gold and a silver. India has won two bronze medals so far.

The results: 10m air rifle: Men: 1. Ilia Marsov (AIN) 252.3 (633.5), 2. Jon-Hermann Hegg (Nor) 252.0 (633.0), 3. Sheng Lihao (Chn) 230.2 (635.3); 11. Kiran Jadhav 631.7; 43. Arjun Babuta 629.1; 53. Sandeep Singh 628.3; RPO: Umamahesh Maddineni 632.3; Niraj Kumar 629.6.

50m rifle 3-position: Women: 1. Jeanette Duestad (Nor) 466.9 (591), 2. Emely Jaeggi (Sui) 464.8 (590), 3. Sift Kaur Samra 453.1 (592); 11. Ashi Chouksey 589; 53. Shriyanka Sadangi 582; RPO: Anjum Moudgil 586; Nischal 580.

Verstappen seeks fourth Canada win and a trouble-free weekend

FORMULA ONE

Agence France-Presse
MONTREAL



Much to ponder: Verstappen will hope nothing untoward happens that could affect his chances. REUTERS

Max Verstappen will be seeking a record fourth consecutive Canadian Grand Prix triumph this weekend and a trouble-free race that helps him banish the threat of a suspension following his "rash" moment in Spain.

The four-time World champion goes into Sunday's race knowing that, if he collects one more penalty point on his racing license, he will automatically miss the Austrian Grand Prix later this month.

The 27-year-old, who lies third in the drivers' championship with 137 points, behind Oscar Piastri (186) and his McLaren team-mate Lando Norris (176), was penalised at the Spanish Grand Prix for ramming into George Russell's Mercedes.

"Barcelona was disappointing for us," admitted Verstappen. "Although we gave it everything, it was not the way we would have liked the race to turn out...We are looking forward to Canada...the track is unique, has some old school kerbs and plenty of opportunities for overtaking."

Mercedes and Ferrari will also hope for encouragement at the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve where a big crowd is likely to give home hope Lance Stroll support as he returns after a medical procedure to reduce wrist and hand pain.

Barren run

The Silver Arrows are winless since the Las Vegas Grand Prix last year while McLaren, remarkably given its current supremacy, has not won in Canada since 2012 when seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton claimed one of his seven wins at the venue, a record that he shares with Michael Schumacher.

Ferrari's Hamilton arrives in Canada without a single podium finish this year and in need of a boost as he struggles with his car amid much paddock debate about the wisdom of his decision to leave Mercedes, where he won six of his seven titles.

Haas team will mark its 200th race by switching to a grey livery that recalls its original colours in 2016.

Stroll passed fit to race at the Canadian Grand Prix

Associated Press
MONTREAL

Lance Stroll has been cleared to race at the Canadian Grand Prix this weekend after missing the Spanish GP because of pain in his hand and wrist, Aston Martin said on Wednesday.

"I am excited to get back behind the wheel with the team for my home Grand Prix this weekend," the Montreal native said in a statement.

"I was always going to fight hard to be ready to race in front of the Montreal crowd."

Aston Martin said Stroll underwent a "successful medical procedure to resolve the symptoms" and that he completed some laps in France this week in an old F1 car.

The team did not specify which hand was hurting Stroll.

It previously said that he had been experiencing pain for six weeks and that doctors believed the problem was related to a medical procedure he underwent in 2023 following a cycling accident to treat fractures and a broken toe.

HYDERABAD ROUND-UP

TFA announces U-15 trials

The Telangana Football Association has announced under-15 boys' selection trials for players from the twin cities and cantonment areas.

It is set to get underway at 6.30 a.m. on July 14 at the Gymkhana Football Ground in Secunderabad.

Weather plays spoilsport

The weather threw a spanner in the works on day four of the 16th YAI Monsoon Regatta at Hussain Sagar. The afternoon session was fully abandoned due to the wind being less than five knots.

Earlier, Thanuja and Shravan maintained their winning spree in mixed doubles.

The results: Junior under-19: Mixed doubles: Thanuja and Shravan (TN) 8, Deekshita and Ganesh (TN) 16, Samriddhi and Parth (MP) 23; **Boys Skiffs:** Hriday Joshi and Kartik Korolla (NYSC GOA) 17, Krishna and Tangai (TSC Mysore) 22, Vikram and Shivam (NYSC GOA) 24.

Under-18 Laser: Boys: Sharanya Jhadav (NYSC GOA) 12, Ramakant (NYSC GOA) 25, Ankit Kumar (NSS Bhopal) 28; **Girls:** Alia Sabreen (TNSA TN) 12, Aastha Pandey (NSS Bhopal) 17, Mahi Verma (NSS MP) 21.

Vakiti Srihari handed the sports portfolio

The Telangana government, in its first cabinet expansion, has allocated portfolios to the newly inducted ministers, with Makthal MLA Vakiti Srihari getting the Sports and Youth Services portfolio along with Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries.

Wimbledon's prize money set for boost



Overhaul: In a another major change, line judges are being replaced by a live electronic calling system. FILE PHOTO

TENNIS

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Wimbledon prize money will increase by seven percent to a record pot of £53.5 million for this year's championships as pressure grows from players for a greater slice of Grand Slam profits. The winners of the men's and women's singles titles will each receive £3 million, an increase of more than 11 % on 2024, while a main draw spot is worth a minimum of £66,000, up 10 %.

The All England Club's announcement comes after growing player demands for a bigger share of revenue from the four Majors.

All England Club chairwoman Debbie Jevans said at Wimbledon's pre-tournament media briefing on Thursday the club was "absolutely committed to continuing our longstanding commitment to player compensation".

"We're immensely proud of the fact that if you look back 10 years, you can see the increase over that period (of 100 per cent) and seven per cent this year," she said.

In a major change at Wimbledon this year, line judges are being replaced by a live electronic calling system.

Can Jaiswal pass the Dukes' challenge?

English conditions will be a litmus test of the opener's technique, with both edges of the bat set to be challenged; the southpaw must assume greater responsibility as India approach the post-Rohit-Kohli era

R. Kaushik



In Rahul Dravid's first stint as India head coach – it was originally scheduled to end at the conclusion of India's campaign in the 50-over World Cup in November 2023 – not too many specialist batters broke into the Test team. Shreyas Iyer was one of the exceptions, celebrating his debut in Dravid's first game as coach with a century against New Zealand in November 2021, while Suryakumar Yadav was forced into action for a solitary Test against Australia, in Nagpur in February 2023.

Then came India's tour of the West Indies in July that year, in what at the time was Dravid's last Test series in charge. Before the start of the two-Test showdown in the Caribbean, Shubman Gill requested the think-tank to slot him in at No. 3 after having opened exclusively until that point, since his debut in Melbourne in December 2021. Rohit Sharma and Dravid obliged, which meant the captain needed a new opening partner.

That opened the door for Yashasvi Jaiswal to storm through. Only 21 then, the left-hander had already made a name for himself. His journey from the anonymity of Suriyawan in Uttar Pradesh to Mumbai, India's financial and possibly cricketing capital, to pursue his passion for cricket is too well documented to bear repetition. Under the tutelage of Jwala Singh, Jaiswal began to catch the eye of the discerning, and it came as no surprise when the hunt for a replacement for Gill at the top of the batting tree ended with Jaiswal.

The young man didn't disappoint. Against Kemar Roach and Alzarri Joseph and Jason Holder, he held his own. He struck up an immediate understanding with his vastly more experienced captain, matching him stroke for breathtaking stroke during an opening stand of 229 that alone was worth 79 more than the hosts' first-innings tally. By the time Jaiswal was finally dismissed to a loose, tired stroke outside off, trying to drive Joseph on the up and nicking to the wicketkeeper, he had batted 501 minutes and negotiated 387 deliveries in making 171 of the finest.

During that innings, Jaiswal showcased immense powers of concentration and a hunger for runs that was impressive in one so young and inexperienced. Needless to say, he benefited immensely from Rohit's presence at the other end. Rohit has always had a lot of time for his fellow Mumbaikar – that's what Jaiswal's cricketing identity is, after all – but he was also aware that the younger man had a propensity to lapse into looseness (perhaps he saw in Jaiswal a younger version of his own self). Under his captain's benevolent but stern mentorship, Jaiswal made his debut series a breakthrough one, backing up that big hundred with 57 and 38 in the next Test in Port of Spain.

A difficult tour of South Africa followed, in December-January on challenging surfaces – the one laid out for the second Test in Cape Town was a disgrace, the match ending in a seven-wicket win for India inside six sessions – and while many were quick to pounce on Jaiswal for lack of returns (50 runs in four innings), those within the leadership group recognised that batting was anything but straightforward against a combination of tough tracks and an exceptional attack. Back home that same month, Jaiswal reiterated his quality with 80 in the first Test against England in Hyderabad, a spectacular assault that came off only 74 deliveries and bore no resemblance to the hard graft on debut.

That was the start of a purple patch. He hammered 209 in Visakhapatnam in the next Test and backed it up with an unbeaten 214 in the following game in Rajkot, when he became only the third Indian after Vinod Kambli and Virat Kohli to make double-hundreds in consecutive Tests. Jaiswal continued to impose himself on the English attack in the next two Tests and was one of the few bright spots against New Zealand when India were routed 3-0 at home, though he did show a distinct propensity to get himself out in the 30s.

A volume of impressive runs behind him, Jaiswal then travelled to Australia for the first time, bracing for an examination by fire against Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood and Pat Cummins. One of the greatest trios to have graced the Test stage, this pack is formidable anywhere but especially at home, where it has used its familiarity with conditions and the extra height that translates to pronounced bounce to terrific effect.

Jaiswal's series began disastrously. On the first morning of the series at Perth's Optus Stadium, he was dismissed in the third over by Starc for an eight-ball duck, trying to drive on the up and nicking to gully.

This Perth Test was the first time in his fledgling career that Jaiswal wasn't opening with Rohit. The skipper was away on paternity leave, which earned yo-yo man KL Rahul a promotion to the top of the order. Their first-innings alliance lasted a mere 13 deliveries and produced just five runs, but in the second innings, the two put on 201 to build handsomely on India's 46-run advantage and compel Rohit to bat in the middle order for the first time in more than five years when he returned for the second Test in Adelaide in December.

Of similar nature

During that stand with Rahul, Jaiswal showed that he was comfortable in his new partner's company. In many ways, Rohit and Jaiswal are cut from the same cloth, both positive-minded and always on the lookout for runs. Neither has been shy of taking the aerial route even in the first over of a Test. Rahul belongs to the more traditional and conservative school, a throwback to an era where the first hour, if not the session, was given to the bowlers after which runs would be accumulated with care, without too many risks, without veering away from the percentages.

The pair of contrasts struck up an immediate rapport and Jaiswal was effusive in his praise of the role Rahul played during their five hours together. Rahul missed out on a deserved hundred, nicked off by Starc for 77, but Jaiswal carried on unflustered, breezing to 161 and leaving even battle-hardened former Australian players in raptures.

It was his third big hundred of the calendar year, which he finished with as much panache as he had started in Hyderabad; in a dispiriting defeat in Melbourne that gifted Australia a 2-1 lead with one to play, Jaiswal sparkled with 82 and 84. Australia had braced for a bushel of runs from the Kohli bat, especially after the former skipper brought up an unbeaten century in the second innings of the Perth game.

That proved a false dawn, Kohli's inadequacies outside off ruthlessly exposed as all his seven subsequent dismissals were to catches behind the



stumps. But the Australian fans had a new name to contend with, a new star to celebrate – they do that there, you know, even if their team is at the receiving end. Jaiswal was India's highest run-getter with 391, second overall only to Travis Head (448).

Five months on, Jaiswal is on the cusp of a fresh, new examination in another country where he hasn't played a Test before. England, the Dukes ball and an army of exciting pacers – not in the James Anderson league, yes, but then again, who is? – lie in wait, seeking to exploit what is by all accounts a light-on-experience batting line-up following the Test retirements of Rohit and Kohli. Jaiswal is still just 23, he only has 19 Test appearances to his name, but he is almost in the 'seasoned' category alongside his new five-day skipper, Gill, and Rahul.

It will to this trio, and the left-handed middle-order duo of Rishabh Pant and Ravindra Jadeja, that India will look for leadership and guidance – neither Abhimanyu Easwaran nor Sai Sudharsan has played a Test, and Karun Nair's last appearance was more than eight years back. Jaiswal is no longer the exciting young kid on the block. He must shoulder greater responsibility now. Whether that means cutting out the frills, going against his natural grain and adopting a semi-defensive mien, or continuing to bat at his own pace while being a little more selective in his choice of strokes, is something Jaiswal will already have worked out in consultation with head coach Gautam Gambhir and his support staff.

Historically, England has asked more questions of openers than any other land except perhaps New Zealand. Facing the new ball is fraught with danger anywhere but particularly in England, though given their recent romance with scoring frenetically even in red-ball cricket, the hosts have perforce had to lay out more batter-friendly surfaces. Jaiswal has quietly eased himself into the tour with scores of 24, 64, 17 and 5 in his four knocks for India 'A' against the England Lions in two unofficial 'Tests'. Not jaw-dropping by any standards, but he has spent time out in the middle in a competitive first-class setting, which should count for a lot.

Jaiswal travels to England armed with an impressive average of 52.88, needing 202 more to complete 2,000 Test runs. He is coming off a grand run for Rajasthan Royals in the IPL and while the temptation might be to write them off as 'just' T20 runs, nothing gives a batter more confidence than recent form, even if in a different format.

Jaiswal is the kind who will welcome the furthering of his cricketing education this early in his career – how many 23-year-olds can boast multiple Test appearances in the West Indies, South Africa and Australia? – while making sure that learning on the job doesn't come at the expense of pulling his weight.

THE GIST

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- Jaiswal has quietly eased himself into the tour with scores of 24, 64, 17 and 5 in his four knocks for India 'A' against the England Lions in two unofficial 'Tests'
- Jaiswal travels to England armed with an impressive average of 52.88, needing 202 more to complete 2,000 Test runs. He is the kind who will welcome the furthering of his cricketing education this early in his career



Study finds how genes influence symptoms of mental disorders

A study has uncovered genes that govern how sensitive one is about their environment, levels of which can influence symptoms they present of mental disorders. An international team of researchers analysed nearly 10,900 pairs of identical twins from 11 studies and examined how changes in sensitivity to environment can influence one's chances of presenting symptoms of ADHD, autism, anxiety and depression, psychosis and neuroticism. PTI



May was world's second warmest on record, EU scientists say

The world experienced its second warmest May since records began this year, a month in which climate change fuelled a record-breaking heatwave in Greenland, scientists have said. Last month was Earth's second-warmest May on record – exceeded only by May 2024 – rounding out the northern hemisphere's second-hottest March-May spring on record, the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service said in a monthly bulletin. REUTERS



Experts slam Kennedy's move to fire independent CDC advisers

U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s dismissal of an independent panel of experts citing the goal of restoring trust in vaccines could undermine confidence in those available now, putting Americans at risk of preventable infectious diseases, health experts have said. Mr. Kennedy had said he was firing all members of the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices at the CDC. The AMA has passed a resolution asking for an investigation. REUTERS



India well-equipped to contain new COVID variants: ex-ICMR DG

The emergence of the XFG variant is part of the SARS-CoV-2 virus's natural evolution, said Balram Bhargava, former Director-General of the Indian Council of Medical Research and former Secretary of the Department of Health Research. He said India was well-positioned to detect and contain emerging variants swiftly due to the widespread deployment of rapid molecular diagnostic platforms. "Vigilance is critical now, and not panic," he said. ANI

Science behind right AC temperature

The Union Ministry of Power has indicated that it is considering restricting the temperature range of new air conditioners to between 20 degrees and 28 degrees Celsius; studies indicate that apart from energy saving benefits, there are also public health benefits to support case for a fixed temperature range

Vasudevan Mukunth

The Union Ministry of Power has said it is mulling restricting the temperature range of new air conditioners (ACs) in the country to between 20 degrees and 28 degrees Celsius.

In a press conference on Tuesday, Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar told presspersons the restriction would apply to ACs in households, hotels, and cars.

The idea is not new: in 2018 and then in 2021, R.K. Singh, then the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power had said the Ministry was speaking to AC manufacturers about labelling ACs with the optimum temperature setting and fixing the default temperature setting at 24 degrees. At the time the Ministry had also said in a statement that it would consider instituting the default setting following an awareness campaign for four to six months and after public consultations.

"Every 1 degrees Celsius increase in the air conditioner temperature setting results in saving of 6% of electricity consumed," Mr. Singh said. He added that the 24 degrees Celsius recommendation had come from a Bureau of Energy Efficiency study and that should all consumers adopt the setting, the country would save 20 billion units of electricity per year. The BEE had said at the time that the total connected load due to ACs would be 200 gigawatt by 2030.

Aside from calling the 18-21 degrees Celsius range "uncomfortable", the Minister said it was "unhealthy". Indeed, many studies have found that the blood-pressure load rises quickly below 18 degrees Celsius, with vasoconstriction and sympathetic activation being found to drive the systolic blood pressure up by about 6-8 mm (Hg) and long-term exposure translating to higher risk of hypertension. Separate trials involving children in Japan, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom have also found they breathed easier when they slept with ACs set to more than 18 degrees Celsius.

In 2018, the International Energy Agency estimated there were 2 billion ACs in use around the world and that the number of residential units tripled from 2000 to 2022, to 1.5 billion. The agency also said that as of 2022, 43% of people in the Asia Pacific region were still in need of additional cooling.

An AC works by pumping heat from one space to another. Heat naturally flows from warmer to cooler areas, which means continuously moving it in the other direction – e.g. from a room at 30 degrees Celsius to an environment at 35 degrees Celsius – requires work. This work is represented in the AC's power consumption.



Beating the heat: People purchasing air conditioners during the summer in Patna. The power-cost of ACs is not the only reason to want to steer clear of lower temperatures. ANI

The typical vapour-compression cycle of an AC uses a liquid called a refrigerant to transport the heat. A device called the evaporator holds the refrigerant at just about its boiling point. When a fan blows air in the room over the evaporator, the refrigerant boils by absorbing heat from the air. The air also becomes dehumidified as moisture in the air condenses on the evaporator and drains away. Next, it flows to the compressor as a superheated vapour. The compressor compresses it by 3-4x, in the process heating it to about 90 degrees Celsius. This is the step during which the AC consumes most of its power.

The high-pressure superheated vapour then moves to the condenser, where it naturally loses its heat to the environs while turning back into a liquid. Since its pressure is still high, it passes through an expansion device that turns it into a low-pressure liquid-vapour mix close to its boiling point, and sends it back to the evaporator.

The temperature range in which a refrigerant takes up and releases heat most efficiently is the range within which the AC is also said to be most efficient.

Risks of low temperatures

The power-cost of ACs is not the only reason to want to steer clear of lower temperatures. Numerous studies have ascertained that save for the small fraction of people that need access to cold spaces, the general population can develop higher risks of hypertension, asthma, and respiratory infections when exposed to living spaces under 18 degrees Celsius.

Researchers have generally treated 'comfort' to be the point where a body's core temperature (around 37 degrees Celsius) and mean skin temperature can be kept constant without any sweating or shivering and when no more than about 10% of the occupants of a space say they feel too hot or too cold (called the predicted mean vote). The ASHRAE-55 and ISO 7730 standards begin from this thumb rule before adjusting 'comfort' according to the clothing, cultural sensibilities, and the prevalent types of cooling in different parts of the world.

The body at rest dissipates around 100 W of metabolic heat. Around 20 to 24 degrees Celsius, a lightly clothed person can shed that heat by radiation and convection alone without breaking a sweat or restricting skin blood flow. ASHRAE-55 allows the zone to rise roughly 0.3 degrees Celsius for every 1 degrees Celsius rise in the mean ambient temperature, up to about 30 degrees to 32 degrees Celsius.

Some sleep studies have converged on 16-19 degrees Celsius for healthy young and middle-aged adults. Cool air reportedly helps the core temperature dip by about 1 degrees Celsius, quickening sleep onset and ensuring deep sleep is stable. Infants and older adults may prefer the upper limit of around 19 degrees Celsius because their bodies' thermoregulation is less robust.

This said, the WHO's 2018 Housing and Health Guidelines recommend using 18 degrees Celsius as the minimum safe living-room temperature in temperate or cooler climates because cardiovascular and respiratory admissions were found to climb steeply below that threshold. One cross-sectional study published in 2014 reported a strong correlation between indoor temperatures under 18 degrees Celsius and 9% of the "population attributable risk" of hypertension. Similarly, a 2016 study used data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing 2012-2013 to compare differences in symptoms between people exposed to living space under and over 18 degrees Celsius. It showed that those living in the colder homes had higher cholesterol and weaker grip strength.

Another longitudinal study the same year said 16% of people over the age of 50 and living in spaces cooled to under 18 degrees Celsius had higher blood pressure, lower vitamin D levels, and poorer lung function.

On the respiratory front: a study published in 2013 involving 309 children and more than 12,000 child-days analysed the effects of each 1 degrees Celsius drop below a mean bedroom temperature of 14-16 degrees Celsius. It revealed a drop in how quickly children could exhale air and lower lung function.

In 2022, researchers in the U.K. reported that people living in persistently "cold homes" were at twice as much risk of new episodes of depression and anxiety, even after adjusting for incomes and baseline mental distress.

The case for moving towards a fixed temperature range on ACs is clear – supported by public health benefits as well as energy savings.

(mukunth.v@thehindu.co.in)

THE GIST

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Reclaiming the Golden Hour: how technology can help beat traffic and save lives

V. Viju Wilben

The difference between life and death during a medical emergency often hinges on a single factor: time.

In cities such as Bengaluru, Mumbai and Delhi, traffic congestion routinely swallows precious minutes, undermining even the best medical interventions.

Urban traffic delays are a critical, often overlooked cause of preventable mortality. Multiple studies and audits confirm that delays in ambulance response times are directly linked to increased trauma fatalities and deteriorating patient outcomes. For example: in Delhi, the average ambulance response time has risen to over 17 minutes, up from 13 minutes in 2014, despite an increase in fleet size. A 2021 Comptroller and Auditor General report on Karnataka found that nearly 90,000 crash victims did not receive timely care due to ambulance unavailability and delays, and in 6,000 cases, dispatch itself was delayed by over 30 minutes.

Response time

Nationally, the average ambulance response time ranges from 25 to 30 minutes, with rural areas faring even worse. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, a significant proportion of accident deaths in Indian cities occur in transit, before patients reach a hospital.

The 'Golden Hour' – the first 60 minutes after trauma or acute medical events is critical for survival, particularly in cases of stroke, cardiac arrest, or severe injuries. Yet, in India's congested metros, this window is often lost to traffic



In limbo: Urban traffic delays are a critical, often overlooked cause of preventable mortality. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

To address these systemic delays, hospitals and civic authorities are increasingly turning to technology to optimise emergency medical logistics.

One example of this is GPS-based ambulance tracking: real-time GPS integration allows for dynamic route optimisation, live-tracking, and early hospital alerts. In cities where such systems are implemented, response times have improved. In Chennai and Kolkata, GPS-enabled fleets have reduced response times by 12-15%. Door-to-CT scan times for stroke patients have also improved, enabling quicker thrombolysis and better outcomes.

Signal override system

Another intervention is traffic signal pre-emption: pilot projects have demonstrated that traffic signal override systems – where ambulances automatically trigger green lights – can reduce journey times.

However, only a few urban intersections in India are currently equipped for such digital interventions.

Bike ambulances in gridlocked or narrow urban zones have proven invaluable. Under Karnataka's 'Platinum Ten Minutes' initiative, bike ambulances were first responders in one-third of trauma cases in Bengaluru, with a median arrival time of under six minutes – less than half that of traditional ambulances. Early stabilisation in such cases has been lifesaving.

Despite technological advances, several barriers persist. One of these is inadequate infrastructure: fewer than one in five urban traffic signals can support override systems; most still rely on manual or timer-based controls. This apart, there are technology gaps as well: GPS signal loss, uncharged devices, and software glitches can cause further lapses.

Another barrier is public apathy. Surveys indicate that 62% of ambulance drivers report motorists refusing to yield, and 45% have to personally request drivers to make way at least once a week. Laws on "ambulance right of way" need to be enforced more stringently.

Improving emergency care outcomes in India's cities will require coordinated action.

Time is the most critical element in emergency treatment. When the Golden Hour is lost to traffic, it is not merely a delay - it is often a preventable death.

(Dr. V. Viju Wilben is a consultant, Emergency Department, Narayana Health, Bengaluru)

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Persons forcibly displaced by the end of April this year

122.1 In million. The people forcibly displaced from their homes worldwide has dropped slightly from a record peak but remains "untenably high", the United Nations said on Thursday. A record 123.2 million were displaced at the end of 2024, said UNHCR. AFP

Crop-destroying monkeys in Sri Lanka counted during census

7 In million. Sri Lanka counted more than seven million monkeys during a census of crop-destroying wildlife, authorities said on Thursday. Officials say more than a third of crops are destroyed by wild animals, including elephants, which are protected by law because they are considered sacred. AFP

Number of Congo fever cases recorded in Iraq this year

123 Iraq said on Thursday it has recorded 19 deaths from Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever already this year and urged farmers and abattoir workers to step up precautions when handling livestock. Most cases have been reported in the livestock industry. AFP

India's retail inflation dips to over six-year low in May

2.82 in per cent. Retail inflation dipped to an over six-year low of 2.82 per cent in May mainly due to subdued prices of food items, including vegetables, fruits, and protein-rich items, showed government data released on Thursday. PTI

Pro-Palestinian activists detained ahead of Gaza march

200 Egyptian authorities have detained pro-Palestinian activists in Cairo ahead of a planned international march with the stated aim of breaking Israel's blockade on Gaza, the organisers said Thursday. AFP

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Moody's downgrade and U.S. fiscal reality

Moody's downgrade of the U.S. credit rating unfolds without panic, but marks a quiet shift in global fiscal confidence; for India, this moment mirrors deeper fiscal vulnerabilities and calls for urgent reflection, restraint, and financial discipline

ECONOMIC NOTES

Deepanshu Mohan



Matter of discussion: The Indian economy is not immune to global fiscal contractions. GETTY IMAGES

THE GIST

- Moody's downgrade of the U.S. credit rating marks a silent but significant shift, piercing the illusion of fiscal permanence without triggering immediate market panic.
- The world begins to look around, as the dollar's centrality faces quiet challenges and global confidence undergoes a subtle recalibration.
- For India, this moment is a mirror reflecting its own fiscal vulnerabilities, highlighting the urgent need to resist populism and lead with financial discipline.

Amid the chaos set in by churning events and spurring global uncertainty, there is an interesting financial trend that mainstream analysts are perhaps missing. It is well known in economic history how certain shifts don't arrive with the roar of crisis or the panic of a crash, but with the quiet authority of inevitability – which does have a crisis bearing, a fact that often emerges post the aftermath of a shock.

When Moody's Investors Service finally downgraded the credit rating of the Unites States on May 16, there was no dramatic nosedive in the markets, no frantic emergency meetings, no calamitous plunge in investor confidence.

Outwardly, the world barely flinched. Yet beneath that projected calm, a silent but monumental shift occurred – one, we argue, may be remembered not for the noise it made, but for silently indicating the end of a long era of unchallenged U.S. fiscal supremacy.

Foreshadowed for years

What made this moment so striking was not that it happened suddenly, but that it had been forecast in whispers and footnotes of financial discourse for years. For many, this was a long-delayed acknowledgement that the financial world had been indulging in a fiction for far too long.

For most of the post-war period, the U.S. held a rarefied status in the global economy. Its treasury bonds were the closest thing the financial system had to a sacred object, utterly liquid, unfailingly safe, and supported by the full faith and credit of the world's largest and most dynamic economy. This privileged position was not merely a reflection of economic size or military might; it was about trust.

Trust in America's institutions, its political system, its capacity for self-correction, and its willingness, however flawed, to eventually rein in excess.

But the numbers have grown impossible to ignore.

From discipline to dependence

A national debt that once stood at manageable levels has ballooned into a structural liability, breaching 120% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and with U.S. President Donald Trump's latest 'Big New Bill', it's showing no signs of retreat. Policymakers now speak about fiscal sustainability in theoretical terms, while pushing actual solutions further down an ever-narrowing road.

This erosion has been gradual but persistent.

The post-2008 era ushered in a new norm of emergency spending, first to rescue banks, then to stimulate recovery, and later to shield households from the pandemic's chaos.

Each intervention may have been justified in its own moment, but together they forged a long-term addiction of monetarists to deficit finance.

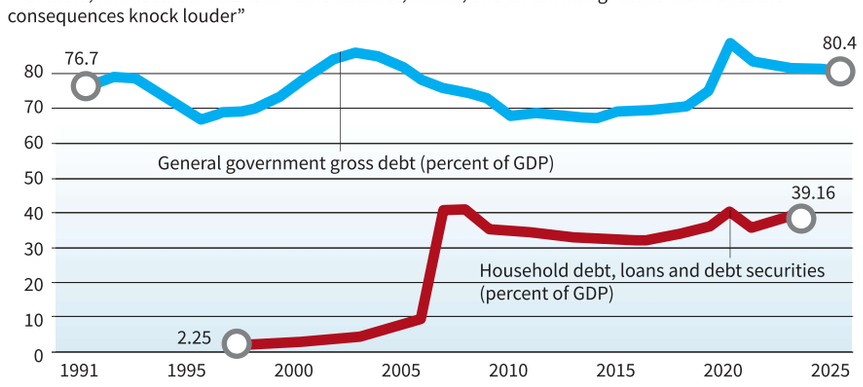
Unlike the post-World War II generation that slashed debt aggressively through a combination of growth and fiscal discipline, today's political class appears paralysed by polarisation and unable to even pass budgets without the threat of shutdown.

The confidence that also once underpinned U.S. borrowing, rooted as much in political stability as in economic fundamentals, has taken a series of subtle but significant blows, culminating in Moody's reluctant decision to strip away its final vote of unquestioning faith.

Quiet warning

The chart shows India's general government gross debt climbing to 80.4% of GDP and household debt rising to 39.16%

"For India, it reflects our financial vulnerabilities, habits, and an unwillingness to learn until the consequences knock louder"



Source: IMF 2023. 2025

Global recalibration

But this downgrade, though symbolic, carries implications that ripple far beyond Wall Street. It comes at a time when global financial allegiances are shifting, when the dollar's centrality in international reserves is already under quiet attack, and when major economies are exploring alternatives to a U.S.-centric system.

Central banks that once loaded up on treasuries with near-religious regularity are now hedging with gold. The euro and other digital currencies are not a distant idea. And while the markets have taken this moment in stride, history teaches us that great financial unravelings rarely begin with panic – they begin with a shrug. The cost becomes visible only later.

It is in this context that the Moody's downgrade must be understood, not as a trigger of immediate collapse, but as a marker of long-building pressure finally piercing the illusion of permanence.

The world has not yet turned away from the dollar, but it has begun to look around. And that moment of looking, that quiet recalibration of confidence, may ultimately prove more consequential than any single rating change.

As the curtain lifts on a new era of fiscal realism, it is worth asking what this development means not just for the U.S., but for countries that have built their own economic strategies around American reliability. The implications for India and the rest of the world are only just beginning to come into focus.

India's fiscal mirror

For India, this moment is less about what happens in Washington and more about what it reveals back home: about our financial vulnerabilities, habits, and unwillingness to learn until the consequences knock louder and harder in a crisis like emergency-response mode.

The Indian economy is not immune to global fiscal contractions.

With general government gross debt hovering near 80% of GDP (IMF 2025), our buffers are limited, especially in an environment of rising global interest rates. As U.S. Treasury yields climb to accommodate perceived risk, investors begin to reprice emerging market debt, and India, despite its growth story, remains vulnerable. This isn't just speculation.

We saw it vividly during the 2013 taper tantrum, when capital outflows pummelled the rupee and exposed our dependence on external financing. A similar shift today would pressure the Reserve Bank of India, complicate deficit management, and test India's ability to shield growth without stoking inflation.

Deeper fiscal malaise

But beyond macro shocks lies a deeper malaise, which is our domestic fiscal culture.

While India dreams big, it continues to drag a ball and chain of fiscal populism.

Successive governments have treated pre-election seasons as open tabs of irrational fiscal exuberance, which come with serious budgetary and fiscal health warnings.

The recent Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections also saw parties tripping over themselves with giveaways, and if Bihar's upcoming polls are anything to go by, we should probably brace for another round of headline-grabbing promises. One suspects the only limit left is creativity.

This fiscal approach comes with compounding ripple effects. High deficits crowd out private investment, distort credit flows, and leave little room for developmental capital. Structural inefficiencies, such as low tax compliance and judicial delays in insolvency cases, to underperforming logistics and lagging education outcomes, further create friction that slows down our momentum when we most need agility. The result is a disconnect.

Globally, the downgrade of the U.S. credit ratings serves as a mirror and a point of deeper financial, fiscal strategic introspection.

Emerging markets with heavy debt burdens and borrowing positions accompanied by low-growth cycles, like Brazil and South Africa too are already facing rising borrowing costs. Even developed economies, including Germany (debt-to-GDP at 62.5%) and Canada (at 110.8%), now operate under closer scrutiny. The message is clear: credibility is no longer inherited; it must be earned and maintained.

For India, this is surely not a moment to panic, but a moment to pause, reflect, and enact fiscal caution and financial discipline. Not because we are in the line of fire, but because the conditions that brought the fire elsewhere are not unfamiliar. The discipline we often defer cannot be delayed forever.

If fiscal credibility is being repriced globally, India must ask whether it wants to wait for markets to demand change or lead that change on its own terms.

Caution and prudence for India

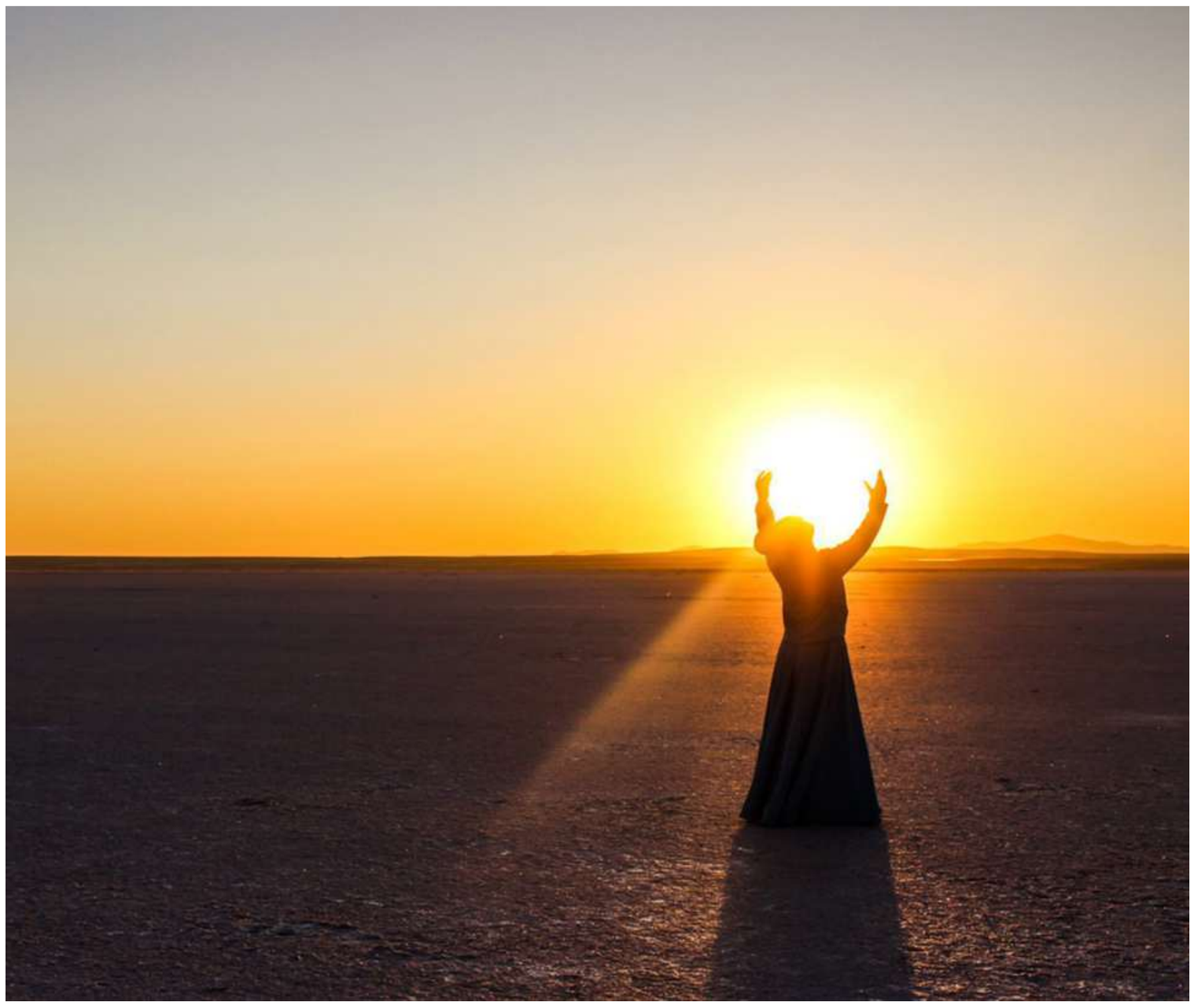
Fiscal caution and prudence are no longer virtues for crisis moments, they are the foundation for resilience in this age of the new normal. Caution for India does not mean a widespread adoption of austerity measures; rather, it means there is more clarity needed in strategy, both in the short, medium-and-long term. It means investing not in headlines, but in core economic foundations: job-creating infrastructure, future-ready skills, and systems that outlast election cycles. It means resisting the seduction of easy populism.

Loan waivers and free power may win votes, but they do little to build the trust that both global capital and citizens themselves seek in a modern state. Structural reforms must move beyond committee reports. Trade resilience must be rooted not in slogans but in strategic diversification.

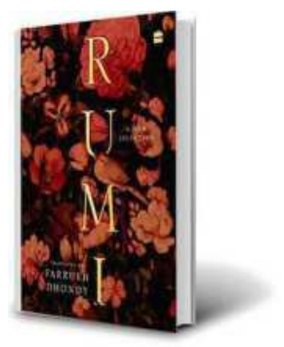
Above all, Indian policymakers need to recognise that in the age of capital mobility, the loss of credibility is rarely noisy, but always consequentially expensive. While the U.S. has reminded the world that prestige is not protection, India should take the hint early.

(Deepanshu Mohan is Professor and Dean, O.P. Jindal Global University.
Ankur Singh contributed to this column and is a research analyst)

BIBLIOGRAPHY









GETTY IMAGES

All you need is love: Why Rumi lives inside everyone in times of gloom

The Sufi poet is the bestselling author in many parts of the world, and books on this 13th century advocator of love keep coming; writers like Brad Gooch point out that Rumi made claims for a religion of love that went beyond organised faith, and therein lies the reason for his universal appeal

Ziya Us Salam

There may not be a Shams around to guide us and lend a helping hand, but there is a bit of Rumi inside each one of us. He resides in every heart that's loved and lost, and understands that a man who knows no love knows no sorrow. He resides in a heart that confides, "I once had a thousand desires but in my one desire to know you, all else melted away."

Each heart reverberates to Rumi. Ask Coleman Barks, whose works on Rumi can light up the gloomiest of evenings besides filling up your bookshelf. As Robert Bly once wrote, recommending Barks' *The Essential Rumi*, "Coleman Barks has brought an immense gift to the study of Islamic poetry. His versions, witty and touched by Southern courtesy, support an exuberant Rumi never achieved before in English."

Room for conversation

A few pages into the book, and one realises there is a bit of Rumi to take away from each poem. For instance, 'The Far Mosque', where Rumi, alluding to Suleiman, one of the prophets of Islam, writes, "The place that Solomon made to worship in, called the Far Mosque, is not built of earth and water and stone, but of intention and wisdom and mystical conversation and compassionate action/Every part of it is intelligence and responsive to every other."

Called Jelaluddin Balkhi by the Afghans, where he was born in 1207, the fear of the rampaging Mongols forced his family to migrate to Konya in Turkey. The son of a well-respected theologian father, Rumi was initially an orthodox scholar of Islam. It all changed with a chance meeting with a wandering dervish, Shams of Tabriz. The two became inseparable.

Even as a debate rages about the nature of their relationship, most agree that Shams did become Rumi's mentor. So much so that even after Shams was probably murdered, Rumi continued to believe that Shams was now part of him, and when he wrote his poetry, it was Shams writing through him.

The making of a mystic

Brad Gooch, an authority on Rumi, writes in *Rumi's Secret: The Life of the Sufi Poet of Love*, "of the disruptive appearance of Shams" who "taught him to whirl and transformed him from a respectable Muslim preacher into a poet and a mystic". Such indecipherable love led to millions reading Rumi to turn a mirror to their inner selves. A Rumi reader is an explorer, a seeker. Rumi, writes Gooch, "made claims for a religion of love" that went beyond organised faith.

Rumi was a font from which everyone drank and came back richer, wiser. Today, he is the best-selling poet in the U.S. and his words have soothed musicians like Madonna and Chris Martin during challenging times in their lives with the latter often quoting one of Rumi's poems, "This being human is a guest house/Every morning a new arrival/ A joy, a depression, a meanness/some momentary awareness comes/ as an unexpected visitor."

Unsurprisingly, the Rumi books keep coming. Noted author-translator Farrukh Dhondy has just penned *Rumi: A New Selection* (HarperPerennial), wherein he explains the reason for the abiding love for Rumi. Dhondy writes in a book itself deserving of much love and re-reading, "The sales of his books in American translation surpass those of William Shakespeare, John Keats, T.S. Eliot...Why? Rumi's great work, the 'Masnavi', is sometimes dubbed 'the Quran in verse'. It certainly is devoted to Islam, but to a version and interpretation of Islam with a long and widely adopted history loosely referred to in all its variations as 'Sufism'."

Dedicated to the divine

Interestingly, most of his ardent fans are not followers of Islam. They come to Rumi for mystical self-realisation. And for love. Dhondy analyses, "Rumi's verse doesn't celebrate explicit Romeo and Juliet interaction. The 'love' it celebrates can never be interpreted as the desperate emotion one has for the girl next door. The love expressed in Rumi's works, the six volumes and twenty-four thousand verses of the Masnavi, his Diwan-i-Shams dedicated to his inspiration and 'lover' Shams-u-Tabrez, and in his discourses and lectures, is a dedication to the divine....When Rumi openly professes 'love' for his inspiration and spiritual partner, Shams, it's not an expression of a gay relationship, but rather a metaphor for a divine bond, a union of individual souls in a universal soul."

Not known to many, Shams himself had great respect for Rumi's acumen, learning and intellect. And Shams, as Dhondy quotes Franklin Lewis, "specifically says that there was no question of him being the master and Rumi the pupil".

Let the scholars agree to disagree; the joy is in discovering Rumi all over again, with each new book, each new author. Whether one is seeking love or languishing without it, Rumi's words provide a fine accompaniment. As disclosed in *Rumi's Little Book of Life* by Maryam Mafi and Azima Kolin, "Do not grieve over past joys, be sure they will reappear in another form. A child's joy is in milk and nursing but once weaned, it finds new joy in bread and honey... In sleep when the soul leaves the body you may dream of yourself as a tall cypress or as a beautiful rose, but be warned, my friend, all these phantoms dissolve into thin air once the soul returns to the body".

Of dreams, love, past and present, body and soul, Rumi's works encapsulate them all. Never quite like a Persian miniature garden, more like a walk in the wilds, full of the joy of the unseen.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

W.B. Yeats was born on this day in 1865. Here is a quiz on one of the foremost figures of 20th century English literature

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
Which country was Yeats from?

QUESTION 2
In which year did he receive the Nobel Prize in Literature?

QUESTION 3
In later life, Yeats paid a tribute to which poet, describing him as one of the "great artificers of God who uttered great truths to a little clan"?

QUESTION 4
The influence of this writer is evident in Yeats' works. The theory of masks developed by the writer in his work *The Decay of Lying* can clearly be seen in Yeats's play *The Player Queen.* Name the writer

QUESTION 5
His association with this poet (answer to visual question) drew him towards which Italian politician for whom he expressed admiration on a number of occasions?



Visual Question:
Identify this American poet, whom Yeats described as "the only poet worthy of serious study."

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. In 2014, the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction launched the #ThisBook campaign to find out which books written by women have had the biggest impact on readers. X is one of the books listed. The protagonist of X has the surname of a bird. Name X. **Ans: *To Kill a Mockingbird***
2. This influential writer, who has won the Women's Prize for Fiction, published her latest book this year. A TED talk by her on feminism became a worldwide conversation and was published as a book. An essay she wrote about losing her father was also published as a book. Name her. **Ans: Chimamanda Adichie**
3. This novel re-imagines Sophocles' play *Antigone*. Name the book, written by a Pakistani-British novelist. **Ans: Home Fire**
4. A book by a U.S. writer was longlisted for the Prize. An anonymous letter addressed to the Prize argued for the book's elimination from the contest. What issue did the letter-writers have? **Ans: She was a transwoman**
5. Grizel Niven is a British sculptor. What is the name of the sculpture she created that is presented to the award winners every year? **Ans: Bessie**
Visual: This bust motif is of an Italian archaeologist and architect. His name is also the name of a fantasy fiction novel that won the Prize. **Ans: Piranesi**
Early Birds: Tamal Biswas | Sunil Madhavan | Tito Shiladitya | Haridas Pal | Gowri Praveen



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"How do you pronounce i.o.t.a?

"The 'i' is pronounced like the word 'I'. The 'o' in the second syllable sounds like the 'oa' in words like 'boat', 'goat' and 'coat'. And the final 'a'.

"...sounds like the 'a' in 'China', I suppose."

"Yes, that's right. And the stress is on the second syllable: iOta."

"So, it's pronounced iOta?"

Right again. Do you know what iota means?"

"No, I don't. But this newspaper article says that the Prime Minister did not receive an iota of encouragement."

"In that sentence it means that the Prime Minister did not receive even a tiny bit of encouragement. An 'iota' of something is an extremely small amount of it. For example, when I asked my boss for a raise, he said he would not increase it. Not one iota."

"Why would anyone want to give you a raise? You're lucky to have a job! I would say that the person who hired you didn't have an iota of sense."

"That's a good example. But I'm sorry to say that there's not an iota of truth in what you're saying. I happen to be really good at my job."

"I am sure you are. I was only joking."

"You've been joking ever since you were a kid. You know, you haven't changed one iota. So, what have you been doing these days?"

"Nothing much. I saw the film they showed on T.V. last night. I didn't like it."

"Me neither!"

"Me neither! I thought it was grammatically unacceptable."

"It is unacceptable in writing, but not in speech. You can use it in everyday conversation."

"I see. So, if you say, 'I like coffee', can I say 'Me neither'?"

"No, you can't. You see, you normally use 'me neither' to agree with something negative that a person has said."

"What do you mean by that?"

"If I say, 'I don't like tea' and you don't like tea either, then you could say: 'Me neither'."

"But suppose you say 'I like ice cream' and I want to agree with you, what do I have to say? Can I say 'Me neither'?"

"No, you can't. Remember, you use 'me neither' with something negative that the person has said."

"Ok. So, if you say 'I like ice cream', what's an informal way of agreeing with you?"

"You could say 'me too'."

"Me too! So, if you say 'I like Tendulkar', can I respond with 'Me too'?"

"In an informal situation, yes."

"What about a formal situation? What do I say then?"

"You could say, 'So do I' or 'I do too'."

"I see."

"I love masala dosas."

"So do I. I do too."

"No, you don't. There's not an iota of truth in what you are saying. You hate masala dosas and you know it."

"I was just trying out the expressions that you'd taught me. No need to get excited about it. Chill out, will you?"

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Word of the day

Hackneyed:
repeated too often; overfamiliar through overuse

Synonyms: worn out, common, cliche

Usage: *He delivered a speech full of hackneyed phrases.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/hackneyedpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /'hækni:d/

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