

## IN BRIEF

### Two cars with ganja seized, seven smugglers held

Kakinada, May 26 (UNI) : P police on Monday seized two cars with 163 kgs ganja and arrested seven smugglers including two women in Kakinada district on Monday, an official said.

Acting on intelligence input, the Peddapuram sub division police intercepted the vehicles near Krishnavaram toll plaza on the national highway and nabbed the smuggling gang including four men, two women and a minor boy.

Eight mobiles were also seized from them.

The arrested smugglers are aged between 17 and 42 years. They all are from Visakhapatnam district.

It is stated that the accused under the guise of travellers were smuggling the ganja from Odisha to a smuggler in Shirdi.

The Kirlampudi police have registered the case and sent the accused to remand.

### Heavy rain likely in North Coastal AP in next 4 days: Met

Amaravati, May 26 (UNI) : Heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places in North Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam and Rayalaseema during the next four days, Meteorological Centre said on Monday.

In a daily weather report here, it said that the same situation is likely to prevail in South Coastal Andhra Pradesh during the next 24 hours, and on May 28 & 29, and in Rayalaseema on May 27 and 28.

Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds with speeds ranging from 40-50 kmph are likely to occur at isolated places in Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, and Rayalaseema during the next five days.

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers are likely to occur at a few places in Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, and Rayalaseema during the next seven days.

South west Monsoon has set over Andhra Pradesh on Monday.

Heavy rainfall occurred over Prakasam district in Coastal Andhra Pradesh during the last 24 hours.



In this image posted by X/@narendramodi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi during dedication of the Loco Manufacturing Shop in Dahod to the nation.

## AP Dy CM Pawan Kalyan bats for ONOE, surprised over DMK's opposition after MK favoured it in past

Chennai, May 26 (UNI) : Bating for the One Nation One Election (ONOE) concept which was not an untested theory and was successfully implemented in the past, Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief

Minister Pawan Kalyan on Monday recalled late DMK Patriarch and Chief Minister M Karunanidhi voicing support to it earlier, while expressing surprise over ruling DMK's opposition to it now.

Speaking at a seminar on ONOE here, this concept was not successfully implemented in the country in the formative years and the Mr Karunanidhi had supported it.

Stating that ONOE was not just a political reform,

but also economical, administrative and governance reform, he expressed surprise over the DMK opposing it now.

Referring to the DMK and Opposition Congress-led INDI block terming ONOE went against the principles of federalism, Mr Pawan asked "If it is so, why did Kalaigarnar Karunanidhi support it?" and requested Tamil Nadu Chief Minister a DMK President M K Stalin to revisit its stand and consider its potential".

Tamil Nadu is no stranger to this concept as it has experienced simultaneous elections from 1952 to 1967, he pointed out and recalled that Mr Karunanidhi had in the past had insisted that

simultaneous elections must continue in Tamil Nadu when the cycle was broken after 1967."Today, whoever is opposing "ONOE should read 'Kalaigarnar' Karunanidhi's argument in favour of simultaneous elections in his autobiography 'Nenjukku Needhi', Mr Pawan Kalyan.

Urging the Centre to form a panel to restore simultaneous elections in the country, he said the BJP National leadership is implementing the vision and dreams of Karunanidhi.

"It is strange that Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin is opposing what his father proposed," he noted. Mr. Kalyan said ONOE will avoid wastage of public funds, loss of man-days.

## 8 youths drown in river Godavari

Amalapuram, May 26 (UNI) : In a tragic incident, eight youths drowned in the river Godavari at Kaminilanka village of Mummdivaram mandal in Andhra Pradesh on Monday.

A large police force, revenue and fire prevention department personnel rushed in and launched a massive search to trace the

drowned youths. The SDRF personnel too swung into action. Police said a group of youths went to Sheurulanka village of K Gangavaram mandal from Kakinada, Ramachandrapuram, I. Polavaram and Mandapeta towns to attend a family function.

After spending a joyful time at the function, 11 youths went to the river

Godavari to have a bath. They entered the river and went forward some distance, slipped and drowned. However, three of them swam ashore safely while 8 drowned.

The drowned youths were identified as Kranthi (18), Pal (18), Sai (18), Satish (19), Mahesh (20), Rajesh (13) and Rohit (20) and Mahesh (21). The clothes

## Akhanda Godavari project works will be launched by Dy.CM: Tourism Minister

(Standard Post Bureau)

Rajahmundry, May 26 : Minister for Tourism Kandula Durgesh announced that Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan, flanked by MP D Purandeswari, will lay the foundation stone for the construction of 'Akhanda Godavari' project works in the first week of June.

Addressing a press conference here on Monday, the Tourism Minister informed the media about the mega tourist project works, including the Akhanda Godavari, Gandikota, and Suryalanka beach, to be taken up in the State. Durgesh revealed that the combined East Godavari district would gain more tourism charm through the Akhanda Godavari Project, adding that this project does not belong to just one region or one constituency, but is a comprehensive tourism project consisting of the Havelock Bridge, Pushkaraghat in Rajahmundry and Kadiyam, Kovvur, and Nidadavolu constituencies in Rajahmundry Rural constituency.

Tourism Minister said that the tender process for some of the Akhanda Godavari works had already been completed. Kandula Durgesh asserted that he had explained the DPR of the tourism projects to Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat two or

three times. "The historic Havelock Bridge across the River Godavari will be made attractive. The Pushkar Ghat will be made a spiritual center. The Kovvur Goshpada Kshetram will be developed as a place for world tourists to visit. The beautification works of Bridgelanka are being carried out," he highlighted.

Regarding the Gandikota project in Kadapa district, Kandula Durgesh said that the project works would be launched soon. He stated that the required funds for the project had already been sanctioned by the Central government.

He acknowledged that Gandikota would be developed as the Grand Canyon of India, which would create better employment opportunities in the area, stating that the hills and valleys are suitable for adventure tourism.

Regarding the Suryalanka beach in Bapatla district, he explained that steps were taken to modernize the beach for which the Centre sanctioned funds. "If the works are completed, the Surya Lanka beach will become a national tourist centre and it attracts a large number of tourists," he hoped.

Tourism Minister Durgesh anticipated that the Centre would sanction some more tourist projects to AP, as the DPRs of the projects are being given at the earliest.

Plans were also formulated to bring some tourism projects under the PPP mode also, he added.

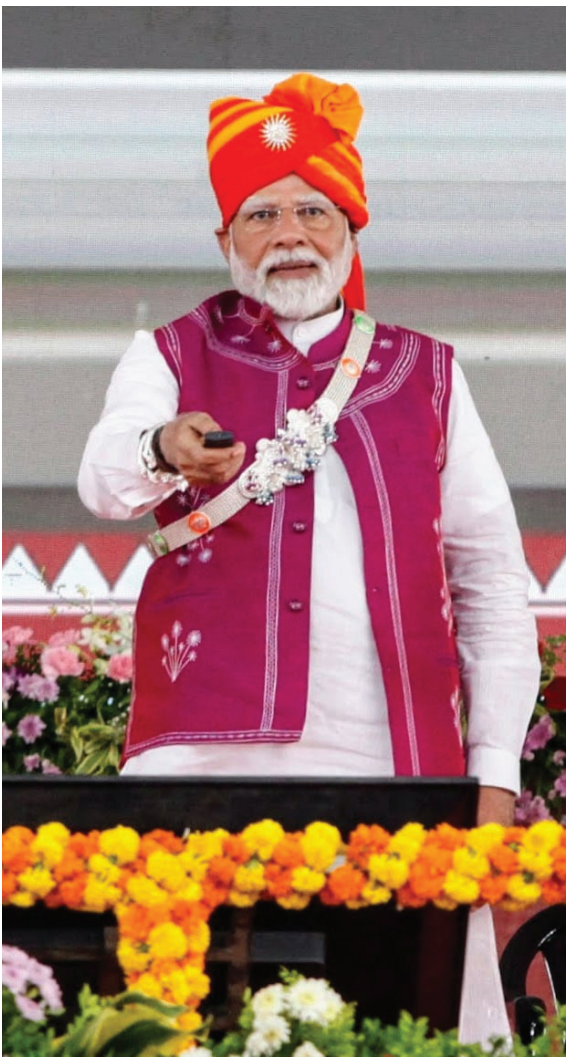
Taking a cue from the Kumbhamela held in UP a few months ago, tent cities would be built to provide accommodation facilities to the pilgrims at 21 important spiritual places, the Tourism Minister mentioned.

### Eight youths feared drowned in Godavari while bathing

Kakinada, May 26 (UNI) : Eight youths, mostly in their late teens, were feared drowned while bathing in river Godavari at Kamini in Mummdivaram Mandal, 45 km from here, on Monday, police said. The youths while returning from a marriage stopped for a dip in Godavari river when this mishap occurred.

Among those feared drowned, four are from Kakinada and identified as Kranthi (20), Paul (18), Sai (18) and Sathish (19).

The others include Mahesh (14) and Rajesh (13) from Yerragaruvu village of I. Polavaram Mandal, Rohit (19) Mandapeta and Mahesh (18) . Expert swimmers have been engaged to search for the drowned youth, police added.



### 140 crore Indians are united in building a Viksit Bharat: PM

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone, inaugurated and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 24,000 crore in Dahod, Gujarat today. Addressing the gathering, he remarked that May 26 holds special significance as it marks the day he first took the oath as Prime Minister in 2014. He acknowledged the unwavering support and blessings of the people of Gujarat, who entrusted him with the responsibility of leading the nation. The Prime Minister highlighted that this trust and encouragement have fueled his dedication to serving the country day and night.

(See on page 4)

### Aaditya Thackeray slams govt, BMC for disruption of normal ....



Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and former Maharashtra minister Aaditya Thackeray on Monday slammed the Mahayuti government and the BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) over disruption of normal life in Mumbai due to waterlogging following heavy rains.

( See on page 3)

### Raducanu alleges preferred treatment for top stars



In a bold post-match statement, Britain's Emma Raducanu has raised eyebrows at Roland Garros by accusing French Open organisers of favouritism, claiming that some players are being granted privileged access to the tournament's main courts."

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### FS Misri to visit Washington ....



Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri will be on a three-day visit to Washington, from May 27, during which he will meet with senior officials of the US Administration. The visit is a follow up to Prime Minister Modi's visit to the United States in February 2025.

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# BJP ST Morcha files complaint with DGP over fake seeds

Hyderabad, May 26 (UNI) : The BJP ST Morcha state team on Monday filed a formal complaint with Telangana DGP Jitender Reddy, seeking justice for tribal farmers who have suffered severe crop losses due to the alleged distribution of fake seeds in the Venkatapuram agency areas of Mulugu district.

Speaking on the occasion, ST Morcha State President Dr Kalyan Nayak alleged that for the past few months, companies like SIMJANTA, HITECH, BAYER, and SIBI have been supplying fake seeds to farmers. He claimed these scams have been carried out under the tacit approval of the government, accusing it of gross negligence. He said that tribal farmers, who placed their trust in these seeds, were left devastated as their crops failed, and in some tragic cases, debt-ridden farmers reportedly committed suicide.

He demanded that criminal cases be registered under the PEDIAC and Money Laundering Acts against those responsible, including company officials like Godavarthy Narasimha Murthy and Sunkara Prasad of SIMJANTA, Manyam Suresh Babu of HITECH, Danapaneni Nagaraju of BAYER, and Thanniru Rambabu of SIBI. He further

urged the government to provide immediate compensation to farmers who lost nearly 3,000 acres of crops and support to over 800 affected tribal families. He also called for ex gratia payments to the families of the five deceased farmers.

Dr Nayak stressed the need for an investigation into the role of government officials and demanded preventive measures and awareness programs to stop such fraudulent activities in the future.

He came down heavily on the state government, criticising Minister Seethakka for focusing on sand quarries and beauty pageants while ignoring the dire situation of tribal farmers. He also expressed disappointment that neither the Agriculture Minister nor the Chief Minister had taken the issue seriously, and condemned the government's failure to appoint even a single tribal Minister in the cabinet, calling it an insult to tribal communities.

The complaint was supported by BJP ST Morcha State General Secretary Ravi Nayak Nenawat, State Secretary Kunja Santosh, Mahesh Rupawat, Banoth Anusha, Ramesh Nayak, and others who were present during the submission at the DGP office.

# India Becomes 4th largest economy: BJP lauds PM Modi, slams Revanth's 'hollow rhetoric'

Hyderabad, May 26 (UNI) : The BJP Telangana unit on Monday praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for propelling India to the position of the world's fourth-largest economy, overtaking Japan—an achievement realised within just 11 years of BJP-led NDA governance.

“This is a proud moment for every Indian. Under Modi's visionary leadership, India has surged from the 10th to the 4th position globally, whereas during the Congress regime, the country slipped from 12th to 14th,” said NV Subhash, Chief Spokesperson and Media In-Charge of BJP Telangana, in a statement here. In contrast, Subhash criticised Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for what he called “empty rhetoric” about the state's progress while admitting to the financial crisis the state is currently facing. “It's laughable. On one hand, he claims there's no money for development, yet on the other, he makes grand announcements about growth. The truth is, the treasury is empty, promises are unfulfilled, and students are being neglected,” Subhash

remarked.

Calling out the contradiction, Subhash cited Revanth's recent participation in the NITI Aayog meeting chaired by the Prime Minister. “He boasted of Telangana's development there, while back home, students in Gurukulas don't even have basic facilities,” he noted. He criticised the government for failing to address pending student scholarships and for its hollow announcement of constructing permanent Gurukula buildings.

“Over 600 Gurukula institutions are housing 7 lakh students. Most are functioning out of private buildings, with rent dues totalling Rs 215 crore. As many as 63 landlords have issued eviction notices. Is this the ‘revolution’ Revanth promised?” Subhash questioned.

He also pointed to the deteriorating state of the state's universities, where faculty recruitment has stalled and infrastructure is in decline. “Instead of misleading people with grandstanding and false bravado, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy should focus on reviving Telangana's economy and delivering real governance, not theatrics,” Subhash asserted.



Supporters at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow in Vadodara, Gujarat on Monday.

# African delegates captivated by Charminar's splendour during Hyderabad visit

Hyderabad, May 26 (UNI) : A group of African delegates visiting Hyderabad as part of a five-day cultural tour organised by the Union Ministry of External Affairs were left awe-struck by the architectural beauty of the Charminar, the iconic symbol of the city.

The delegates, who are content creators from various Central and South African countries, arrived in Hyderabad on Sunday. On Monday, they explored some of the city's most historic landmarks, including the Charminar, Salar Jung Museum, and Golconda Fort. Professor Sai guided the group throughout the tour, offering insights into the cultural and architectural significance of each site.

At the Charminar, the visitors spent over an hour

exploring the monument. They were particularly fascinated by the view from the first floor and the intricate architectural details, capturing the experience on their cameras with great enthusiasm.

Following their visit to Charminar, the group toured the Salar Jung Museum, where they examined an extensive range of artefacts — from rare manuscripts and ivory works to paintings, porcelain, textiles, and antiques from Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. The musical clock featuring a human figure that chimes the hour especially captured their attention and admiration.

The final stop was the historic Golconda Fort. Despite a steady downpour, the delegates spent over an hour and a half admiring the grandeur

and historical significance of the site.

The Telangana State Information and Public Relations Department is coordinating the group's itinerary during their Hyderabad visit.

A standout among the visiting delegates is South African content creator Yovani Naidoo, who has been a major attraction on the tour. Though born and raised in South Africa, Yovani's heritage traces back to India — her father is of Telugu descent and her mother from Tamil Nadu. She proudly represents the sixth generation of her family settled in South Africa, whose ancestors migrated centuries ago.

Despite being physically distant from India, Yovani expressed a deep emotional connection to the country. Wearing a

traditional sari, she impressed onlookers with her Indian appearance and cultural grace. Though she doesn't speak Telugu or Tamil, Yovani is deeply rooted in Indian traditions. She creatively blends Western and Indian music in her content, actively promoting Indian culture, language, and heritage to a global audience.

An ardent fan of Tollywood and Kollywood, Yovani also revealed her admiration for singers like Shreya Ghoshal, K.S. Chitra, and composers like A.R. Rahman and Anirudh. Passionate about music from a young age, she said her parents' encouragement helped nurture her talent, which she now uses to represent Indian culture proudly on international platforms, an official statement said.

# Home ownership a priority for 80 pc Indians: reveals Knight Frank's latest report

Hyderabad, May 26 (UNI) : Home ownership is a priority for 80 per cent of Indians, according to the latest report ‘Home Buyer Survey’ released by Knight rank, India's premier real estate consultancy.

The report ‘Beyond Bricks: The Pulse of Home Buying’ has revealed that 80 percent of respondents have positive purchase sentiments across the country, and the majority prefer ownership of homes over any other format.

The report, which mapped various trends within the residential real estate space, noted that a significant majority (80 percent) of Indians still hold strong home ownership ambitions. This intent was noted to be the strongest amongst high earners with annual incomes above Rs 5 million (91 percent) and millennials (82 percent). 1,629 respondents were interviewed from across the top eight cities 1 across the country to get a comprehensive understanding of home buying sentiment in India.

The purchase sentiment was strongest in areas such as Chennai (86 percent), Mumbai Metropolitan Region (85 percent), and Ahmedabad (83 percent), driven by growing disposable wealth, greater financial stability, and cultural sentiments, the report stated.

Other regions, such as Kolkata (80 percent) and

Hyderabad (81 percent), also demonstrated high ownership preference owing to a desire for long-term security.

The reasons behind home ownership also varied markedly from region to region. A large number of respondents from Bengaluru (40 percent) and Mumbai Metropolitan Region (34 percent), for example, wanted to make investment-driven purchases while most prospective buyers from Chennai (51 percent), Ahmedabad (48 percent), and Delhi-NCR (42 percent) were looking to buy their first homes for end-use.

This latter trend reflected in the more robust early purchase sentiments in markets such as Delhi-NCR, where homebuyers demonstrated keen interest in under-construction and pre-launch properties, driven by modern amenities, pricing flexibility, and renewed confidence in project delivery.

Two main markets that somewhat lagged in this regard were Delhi-NCR (74 percent) and Bengaluru (73 percent), owing to higher property prices and an influx of young, migrant professionals who favoured rental accommodations over ownership. More than half (58 percent) preferred their new homes to be closer to health facilities, while a similar number (53 percent) indicated a preference for

shopping outlets. Public transport access was also a prominent factor in the decision-making process of most buyers, with 40 percent of respondents indicating it to be something they sought while selecting a home.

Somewhat surprisingly, features such as fitness centres (16 percent) and community clubs (23 percent) ranked much lower in the priority of homebuyers, with most expecting them to be a standard feature in modern housing projects. This indicated a growing shift amongst new-age homebuyers toward more informed and strategic decision-making, balancing financial viability, convenience, and long-term value. Factors like location, affordability, and developer reputation continue to hold significance, while lifestyle amenities and financing options were also noted to be increasingly influential in buyer preferences, the report said.

Shishir Bajjal, Chairman and Managing Director, Knight Frank India, said, “Homeownership has emerged as a robust and enduring trend, particularly in the post-pandemic period, resulting in a marked increase in residential demand. This momentum was further supported by proactive measures undertaken by regulatory authorities, including

# KCR family in feud over Rs 2000 crore party empire, alleges Nizamuddin

Hyderabad, May 26 (UNI) : Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) spokesperson Syed Nizamuddin launched a scathing attack on the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on Monday, claiming the party has devolved into a family-run business torn apart by greed and internal power struggles.

Addressing the media at Gandhi Bhavan, he alleged that a feud among K T Rama Rao, K Kavitha, T Harish Rao, and Santosh Rao is centred not on ideology but on control of assets worth over Rs 2,000 crore.

Nizamuddin presented financial data and donor records, showing BRS's declared assets skyrocketed from Rs 5 crore in 2011–12 to Rs 1,191 crore in 2022–23. He argued the actual value, including benami assets, shell companies, and undisclosed income, could far exceed this figure. “Such exponential growth in a political party's assets is only possible through systemic corruption,” he said. He further revealed

that BRS earned Rs 738 crore in 2022–23, with Rs 154 crore coming from just 47 donors, most allegedly linked to government contracts and policy favours during the BRS regime. He claimed the party's matching expenditure hinted at possible money laundering.

Nizamuddin also pointed to signs of internal collapse, including a leaked letter from Kavitha to her father KCR, expressing concerns over the party's direction and alleged BJP-friendly tilt. He termed recent private meetings and shifting political stances within the KCR family as signs of a corporate-style succession battle.

Accusing the BRS of hijacking the Telangana movement for personal gain, he called for a court-monitored investigation into the party's financial dealings and assets. “The people deserve to know how a public movement was turned into a private fortune,” he said, urging citizens to reject dynastic politics and support transparent governance.

# Minister Sridhar Babu applauds public, officials for collective effort

Kaleshwaram May 26 (UNI) : IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu lauded the successful conduct of Saraswati Pushkaram, describing it as a collective achievement despite the challenges posed by time constraints and election regulations.

The minister participated as the chief guest in a review meeting held at Saraswati Ghat on Monday evening, chaired by Principal Secretary of the Endowment Department Shailaja Ramaiyar. Speaking on the occasion, Sridhar Babu congratulated the district administration and all stakeholders for ensuring that nearly 30 lakh devotees were able to participate in the 12-day holy event without inconvenience.

“It was a challenge, but with commitment and coordination, we turned it into a celebration. God gave me the fortune to be part of this sacred event,” he said, noting that Rs 40 crore was sanctioned for the arrangements.

Highlighting the

spiritual significance, he expressed happiness over organising Pushkarams for the first time at the confluence of Godavari, Pranahita, and Antarvahini Saraswati, where a 17-foot statue of Goddess Saraswati was also installed. He thanked voluntary organisations for their support in providing clean water and food to the pilgrims and assured that the upcoming Godavari Pushkaram would be held with even greater grandeur. Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao expressed appreciation for officials who worked tirelessly behind the scenes and praised Principal Secretary Shailaja Ramaiyar for proactive planning. “Despite rainfall on the final day, the arrangements stood firm—proof that the deities' blessings were with us,” he remarked. Ramaiyar shared that although Sri Kaleshwara Mukteshwara Swamy temple is located in a small village, meticulous five-month planning and community cooperation made the event a grand success.

# NSA Ajit Doval unable to attend key security meet in Moscow due to seasonal flu

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) : National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, who was to attend a key security meeting organised by Russia's Security Council on May 27-29 in Moscow, is unable to participate due to indisposition with a seasonal flu, sources said. NSA Doval was invited for the 13th international meeting of high representatives for security issues, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of the Security

Council of the Russian Federation Sergei Shoigu.

“He is, however, unable to participate in the meeting due to indisposition with a seasonal flu.

“He looks forward to take forward bilateral engagement with Russia on strategic and security matters at an early date,” the sources added.

Over 125 delegations from more than 100 countries and 14 international organisations have already confirmed

their participation. Pakistan, which is also a member of the SCO, will be attending, with its NSA Lt Gen Asim Malik expected to be in Moscow for the meeting.

The forum is expected to focus on international cooperation in the field of security. The Security Council of the Russian Federation has been organising the annual international meeting of high representatives in charge of security issues since 2010.





Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan shakes hands with British High Commissioner to India Lindy Cameron as Prof. Tim Jones, Vice-Chancellor, University of Liverpool and Vineet Joshi, Interim Chair, UGC, look on, during the Letter of Intent (LoI) hand-over ceremony for the establishment of the University of Liverpool's campus in Bengaluru, in New Delhi on Monday.

## Social reformer Raghupati Venkatarathnam Naidu remembered

Kakinada, May 26 (UNI) : Rich tributes were paid to the memory of Raghupati Venkatarathnam Naidu, noted social reformer, Brahma Samaj founder in Andhra, First Telugu vice chancellor of Madras University, by several organisations at different functions held here on Monday to mark his 86th death anniversary.

At the function held at the Boat club under the walkers association, former director of AP medical

education Dr M Raghavendrarao described Venkatarathnam as a great social reformer who strived for women upliftment and paved the way for co-education.He recalled how Venkatarathnam Naidu gave admission to women for the first time in P R Government college as its principal here during 1904.

As an MLC of Madras province, he strived for eradication of prostitution and opposed the tradition of 'Bogum Melams' during

the festivals and other occasions.He arranged free education for poor students and orphans, he added. A s s o c i a t i o n president Adabala Rathna Prasad presided over the function. Secretary Dasari Sridhar, Prasad Naidu, Chinthapalli Subbarao, Relangi Bapiraju were among those who offered floral tributes to the statue of Venkatarathnam Naidu.At another function held at the district sports grounds under the auspices

of RVN Study circle several prominent people of the city including YD Ramarao, B a l a k r i s h n a , Satyanarayana offered floral tributes to the statue of Venkatarathnam Naidu.

At the function held under the auspices of Indian Medical association and Indian Dental association Dr Chitla Kiran, Dr Addala Satyanarayana and others paid homage to the great social reformer recalling his yeomen services to the society.

## EAM meets Maldives FM Khaleel, welcomes Male's support and solidarity in combatting terrorism

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) : External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar today met visiting Maldivian Foreign Minister Abdulla Khaleel, and said that India remains committed to Maldives progress and development.

In a post on X, the EAM also said that India welcomes Male's support and solidarity in combatting terrorism.

“Pleased to meet FM @abkhaleel of Maldives today. “Welcome Maldives’ support and solidarity in combatting terrorism.”“India remains committed to Maldives’ progress and development.”The Maldives FM in a post said the two sides explored ways for early implementation of the Vision Document set forth by their leaders.

“Wonderful to meet my counterpart, EAM @DrSJaishankar in India, today.

“We reviewed our ongoing political and development cooperation and explored ways for early implementation of the Vision Document set forth by the two leaders of Maldives and India for strengthening Maldives - India relations.”The Maldives FM was in India for the 2nd India-Maldives High Level Core Group (HLCG) meeting held in New Delhi today.MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal in a post on X, said the discussions during the meeting “focused on implementation of the India-Maldives Joint

Vision of a Comprehensive Economic and Maritime Security Partnership by intensifying political exchanges, defence & security cooperation, development partnership, trade, economy, health and people-to-people linkages.”An Indian readout said:

“Foreign Minister Dr. Khaleel led Maldives at the 2nd India-Maldives High Level Core Group (HLCG) meeting to oversee progress in the implementation of the India-Maldives Vision Document on Comprehensive Economic and Maritime Security Partnership.

“During the meeting, discussions focused on implementation of the Joint Vision by intensifying political exchanges, defence & security cooperation, development partnership, trade, economy, health and people-to-people linkages.

“Foreign Minister Dr. Khaleel strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam in April 2025. He expressed Maldives’ solidarity with the people and Government of India and its firm support to India in the fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

“Foreign Minister Dr. Khaleel also thanked Government of India for the timely emergency financial assistance extended to Maldives, which has made a positive impact on the everyday life of Maldivians.

## SC orders immediate recount in SCBA 2025 Presidential poll amid vote discrepancy allegations

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) : The Supreme Court was informed today that a recount of votes in the 2025 Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) elections will take place following serious complaints of irregularities.

The recount is being conducted particularly for the post of President, as the number of votes counted exceeded the number of voting slips issued.

A bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Dipankar Datta took note of the submissions made by Senior Advocate Vijay Hansaria, a member of the SCBA Election Committee constituted by the Court.

He reported that candidates Dr. Adish C. Aggarwala and Mr. Pradeep

Rai had raised objections after it was found that 2,651 votes were counted, even though only 2,588 ballot slips had been issued.

Hansaria said, “We are proposing to recount today at 11:30 a.m.”Justice Kant directed that the results of the recount not be declared until a report is submitted to the Court for its scrutiny.

The bench also emphasised the importance of fairness, stating, “We’d like to see if it’s fair after recounting.”The recounting will also extend to Executive Committee (EC) members, as complaints regarding discrepancies were received in those categories as well.The Registrar General of the Supreme Court has been appointed Observer for the recount

process.This development follows a May 23 hearing, during which the same bench had taken a strong stand on electoral integrity in response to Dr. Adish C. Aggarwala’s plea.Justice Surya Kant had then stated, “If the allegations are substantiated, we will set aside the election.” The Court also reiterated that any evidence of “gross illegality, including impersonation of voters”, will be taken seriously.

Aggarwala, former president of the SCBA, had filed a plea challenging the 2025 SCBA election results after losing to Senior Advocate Vikas Singh, who reportedly received 1,047 votes to Aggarwala’s 683.

The plea alleges electoral fraud, model code violations, and collusion

between the Election Committee, Vikas Singh, and former SCBA President Kapil Sibal.He also accused Election Commissioner and Senior Advocate Mahalakshmi Pavani of campaigning for Singh in breach of neutrality norms. The plea states that excess votes, uncounted ballots, and election-day campaign messaging tainted the fairness of the poll.

Justice Kant, while maintaining judicial restraint, warned against attempts to “browbeat” the Election Committee, calling its members “extended arms of the Court”.He expressed displeasure at a letter allegedly written by Aggarwala suggesting criminal prosecution of the Election Committee

## YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra sent to 14 days judicial custody

Hisar, May 26 (UNI) Jyoti Malhotra, who was arrested on charges of spying for Pakistan, was brought to Hisar court by police on Monday.

Jyoti Malhotra was produced in the court of Civil Judge Sunil Kumar, from where she was sent to judicial custody for 14 days.According to the information, Jyoti will be kept in Hisar Central Jail. This is a jail for women. During the production, the gates inside the court were closed and heavy police force was deployed on the spot.Jyoti was earlier taken on remand for five days and the second time for four days.

She was produced in the court after the completion of the four-day remand.

There was speculation that Jyoti would be produced in the court in the morning itself, but the police brought Jyoti to the court in the evening.

At the same time, the police has received the report of the call details deleted from Jyoti's mobile.

However, the report of the data deleted from the laptop has not come yet.

## NIA arrests CRPF personnel from Delhi for espionage activities

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) : The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested a CRPF personnel for sharing sensitive information with Pakistani Intelligence officers.

The accused, Moti Ram Jat, was actively involved in espionage activity and had been sharing classified information related to national security with Pakistan Intelligence Officers (PIOs) since 2023, a NIA statement said.

The agency has further found that the was receiving funds from the PIOs through various conduits.

NIA, which nabbed and arrested Moti Ram from Delhi, is continuing to interrogate the accused, who was remanded to the agency’s custody till June 6 by the Special Court at Patiala House Courts.

members.Hansaria told the

bench that recounting for Executive Committee posts may take 2–3 days, and that some members are currently unavailable. The Court responded that it may substitute EC members if needed to ensure the recount proceeds without delay.The bench has already directed the preservation of CCTV footage from the polling process.Meanwhile, Justice Kant advised Aggarwala to file a formal application along with an affidavit, which will be considered by a Special Bench including himself and Justice K.V. Viswanathan, which is handling broader SCBA electoral reform issues in the SCBA v. B.D. Kaushik case.

## Controversies created before release of Pawan Kalyan movies: Minister Durgesh

(Standard Post Bureau)

Rajahmundry, May 26 : Minister for Cinematography and Tourism Kandula Durgesh on Monday alleged that controversies were created before the release of Pawan Kalyan-starred movies and made it clear that an inquiry is being held on the decision to close cinema theatres in the state from June 1.Addressing a press conference here, the Cinematography minister said that the committee led by the Home Commissioner was investigating the intention behind the distributors' and exhibitors' decision to close the cinema theatres on June 1.He alleged that controversies were being created before the release of Pawan Kalyan-starred movies. Pawan Kalaya is the deputy Chief Minister of AP and chief of Jana Sena party.

At the same time, Kandula Durgesh made it clear that the government would not act vindictively against the cinema sector. “My intention is not that the cinema bigwigs should meet the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister,” he clarified.

“The facts should come out why they decided to close cinema theatres from June 1, when the Pawan

Kalyan starred ‘Hari Hara Veeramallu’ movie slated to be released on June 12. We will not tolerate whoever tries to destabilise the cinema industry,” Kandula Durgesh said.

The Cinematography Minister vehemently objected to the campaign launched against the “Hari Hara Veeramallu’ movie with claims the movie would flop. He questioned how a verdict could be given before the movie released.

He also condemned Film Chamber Secretary Damodar Prasad’s remarks that they do not want anybody’s intervention when there is a conducive atmosphere between the film industry and the government. “If they do not want government support, why did they meet the then Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy?” he questioned.Significantly, Kandula Durgesh defended the comments made by film producer Allu Aravind. The Minister claimed that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan are working hard for the development of the film industry. He also revealed the government is committed to bringing a new policy on the cinema industry in the state.

## SC urged to list plea against two-shift NEET PG 2025 exam before June 2

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) : A petition challenging the two-shift format of the NEET PG 2025 examination was mentioned today before the Supreme Court, with the petitioners seeking urgent listing of the matter before June 2, the scheduled date for the release of admit cards.

Appearing before a bench comprising Chief Justice of India BR Gavai and Justice AG Masih, counsel for the petitioners pressed for early hearing, citing the approaching issuance of admit cards.

“My lords had said they would list the matter this week... it has not come in the list. The urgency is that the admit cards will be issued in the first week of June, June 2. Kindly have it tomorrow or the day after,” the counsel submitted.

Responding to the request, the bench assured that the matter would be listed soon.This is the second time the petition has been mentioned before the bench.On May 23, the matter was previously brought to the Court’s attention and the bench had indicated that it would be taken up in the last week of May.

The NEET PG 2025 examination is scheduled to be held on June 15, with results expected by July 15.

On May 5, the Supreme Court had issued notices to the National Board of Examinations (NBE), National Medical Commission (NMC), and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare seeking

their response to the petition.The petitioners have contested the NBE’s decision to conduct the postgraduate medical entrance examination in two shifts, alleging that it violates the principles of fairness and equality guaranteed under Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution.

According to the plea, conducting the exam in multiple shifts risks disparity in difficulty levels, potentially leading to unfair advantages for certain candidates. It seeks the Court’s direction to conduct NEET PG 2025 in a single shift to ensure a “just, fair, reasonable, and equitable” competitive environment.

The petition also raises concerns about

## Delhi court accepts police closure report in case against ex WFI chief Brij Bhushan Singh

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) A Delhi court on Monday accepted the closure report filed by Delhi Police in a sexual harassment case against former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.Additional Sessions Judge (ASJ) Gomti Manocha after the hearing said, “Cancellation accepted. File be consigned to RR.”In this matter, the Connaught Place police station had registered an FIR under section 10 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and 354/354A,354D/34 of Indian Penal Code (IPC).

The Police had earlier sought cancellation of the minor wrestler's complaint against Singh by submitting that no corroborative evidence was found.In this matter during an in-chamber proceeding in the month of August 2023, the minor had submitted that she was not opposing the closure report and was satisfied with the investigation of Delhi Police.

The police had recommended the dropping of the POCSO Act case against Singh on June 15, 2023, when the father of the minor made a startling claim through the probe that he had made a false complaint of sexual harassment against Singh to get back at him for perceived injustice to the girl.

transparency in the normalisation and moderation process used to balance scores across shifts. It points to NEET PG 2024, which was also held in two shifts, and resulted in a similar legal challenge. The petition cites an analysis by a prominent online coaching platform, highlighting a disparity in subject-wise question distribution between shifts.

“It is humbly submitted that to weed out such discrepancies and provide a uniform and equitable testing ground and fair competition, a single shift is the only viable solution,” the plea states.

EAST COAST RAILWAY	
Auction Catalogue No. CAT-PARK-00078	
Lot No./Category: PARKING-WAT- PVP-MX-130-25-2 (Parking - Mixed)	
DESCRIPTION : PARKING LOT FOR TWO WHEELERS AND FOUR WHEELERS AT LOCATION PARVATIPURAM IN (DIVISION WALTAIR).	
Lot Start Date & Time : 28.05.2025 at 11:00hrs.	
Lot End Date & Time : 28.05.2025 at 11:40 hrs.	
Minimum Increase : 0.2%, Lot Status : New in Published Catalogue.	
Auction Catalogue No. CAT-PARK-00079	
(1) Lot No./Category: PARKING-WAT- VZM-MX-129-25-2 (Parking - Mixed)	
DESCRIPTION : PARKING LOT FOR TWO WHEELERS, THREE WHEELERS AND FOUR WHEELERS AT LOCATION VIZIANAGARAM JN. IN (DIVISION WALTAIR).	
(2) Lot No./Category: PARKING-WAT- VBL-MX-11-25-1 (Parking - Mixed)	
DESCRIPTION : PARKING LOT FOR TWO WHEELERS, THREE WHEELERS AND FOUR WHEELERS AT LOCATION BOBBILI RAILWAY STATION IN (DIVISION WALTAIR).	
(3) Lot No./Category: PARKING-WAT- DVD-MX-10-25-1 (Parking - Mixed)	
DESCRIPTION : PARKING LOT FOR TWO WHEELERS AND FOUR WHEELERS AT LOCATION DUVVADA, PLATFORM -4 IN (DIVISION WALTAIR).	
Lot Start Date & Time : 06.06.2025 at 11:00hrs. (for all SI. Nos.).	
Lot End Date & Time : 06.06.2025 at 11:30 hrs (for SI. No. 1), 11:40 hrs (for SI. No. 2) and 11:50 hrs (for SI. No. 3).	
Minimum Increase : 0.2% (for all SI. Nos.), Lot Status : New in Draft Catalogue (for all SI. Nos.).	
Complete details available at website: www.irfps.gov.in	
Sr. Divt. Commercial Manager/ PR-167/Q/25-26 Waltair	

EAST COAST RAILWAY	
e-Tender Notice No.: DYCEGSUWAT ENGCG2025005, Dated : 15.05.2025	
NAME OF WORK : EXECUTION OF WORKS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD OVER BRIDGE WITH (1X60 MTR ROW STRING GIRDER + 2X18.0 MTR COMPOSITE GIRDER + 8X24.0 MTR T-BEAM GIRDER AND BRIDGE APPROACHES) SERVICE ROADS AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS WORKS FOR LEVEL CROSSING-393 AT KM. 702/31-33 BETWEEN NOWPADA-KOTABOMMALI STATIONS OF WALTAIR DIVISION.	
Approx. Cost of the Work : ₹ 49,17,88,735.00, EMD : ₹ 26,09,000/-, Completion Period of the Work : 24 (Twenty Four) Months.	
Tender Closing Date & Time : At 1500 hrs. of 13.06.2025.	
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.irfps.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 / corrigenda issued for this tender. The tenderers/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/ bidder can participate on e-tendering.	
The tenderers should read all instructions to the tenderers carefully and ensure compliance of all instructions.	
By, Chief Engineer (GSU)/ PR-34/C/25-26 Waltair	



STANDARD POST

3 sleepless nights may raise your risk of heart disease

People with poor sleep for just three nights may be at an increased risk of developing heart diseases, according to a study.

With chronic lack of sleep growing as a public health concern, researchers from Uppsala University in Sweden found that disturbed sleep may raise inflammation, increasing the risk of heart disease.

“Many of the larger studies that have been done on the link between sleep deprivation and the risk of cardiovascular diseases have generally focused on slightly older individuals who already have an increased risk of such diseases. That is why it was interesting that the levels of these proteins increased in the same way in younger and previously perfectly healthy individuals after only a few nights of sleep deprivation. This means that it’s important to emphasise the importance of sleep for cardiovascular health even early in life,” said Jonathan Cedernaes, a physician at Uppsala University.

The team analysed 16 healthy young men of normal weight -- all with healthy sleep habits.

The participants spent time in a sleep laboratory where their meals and activity levels were strictly controlled in two sessions.

In one session, participants got a normal amount of sleep for three consecutive nights, while during the other session, they got only about four hours of sleep each night. During both sessions, morning and evening blood samples were taken, and following high-intensity exercise lasting 30 minutes.

The researchers measured the levels of around 90 proteins in the blood and were able to see that the levels of many of these that are associated with increased inflammation rose when the participants were sleep-deprived.

Many of these proteins have already been linked to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease such as heart failure and coronary artery disease, said the researchers, in the study published in the journal Biomarker Research.

Further, the team found that physical exercise generated a slightly different response after a lack of sleep.

However, the number of key proteins increased equally, whether the person was sleep-deprived or not. Thus, proteins that can be linked to the positive effects of exercise increased, even if the person had too little sleep.

The researchers have previously shown that exercise in the presence of sleep deprivation can result in a slightly increased load on the heart’s muscle cells.

Cedernaes said that “further research is needed to investigate how these effects might differ in women, older individuals, patients with heart disease, or those with different sleep patterns”.

140 crore Indians are united in building a Viksit Bharat: PM

(Standard Post Bureau)

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone, inaugurated and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 24,000 crore in Dahod, Gujarat today. Addressing the gathering, he remarked that May 26 holds special significance as it marks the day he first took the oath as Prime Minister in 2014. He acknowledged the unwavering support and blessings of the people of Gujarat, who entrusted him with the responsibility of leading the nation. The Prime Minister highlighted that this trust and encouragement have fueled his dedication to serving the country day and night. Over the years, India has taken decisions which were unprecedented and unimaginable, breaking free from decades-old constraints and advancing across every sector. “Today, the nation has emerged from an era of despair and darkness into a new age of confidence and optimism”, he added.

“140 crore Indians are united in building a Viksit Bharat”, exclaimed Shri Modi, emphasising the importance of manufacturing essential goods within India, stating that self-reliance is the need of the hour. He remarked that India is advancing rapidly in the global manufacturing sector, noting that both domestic production and exports are increasing consistently. India is now exporting a wide range of products, including smartphones, automobiles, toys, defense equipment, and medicines. He further stated that India is not only manufacturing rail and metro technology but also exporting it globally. Citing Dahod as a prime example of this progress, where major projects worth thousands of crores were inaugurated and launched, Shri Modi highlighted the Dahod Electric Locomotive Factory as a significant achievement. He recalled laying its foundation stone three years ago and expressed pride that the first electric locomotive has now been successfully manufactured. He flagged off the locomotive, marking a moment of pride for Gujarat and the entire nation. Additionally, he announced that Gujarat has achieved 100% electrification of its railway network, calling it a remarkable milestone and congratulated the people of Gujarat for this achievement.

Reflecting on his long-standing connection with Dahod and recalling the many memories associated with the region, the Prime Minister remarked that he has been visiting Dahod for decades, and during his early years, he often explored the area on a bicycle. He highlighted that these experiences allowed him to understand both the challenges and potential of Dahod. Even after assuming office as Chief Minister, he continued to



visit the region multiple times and took decisive steps to address its issues. He emphasized that every development initiative in Dahod brings him immense satisfaction, and today is yet another meaningful day for him.

Highlighting the rapid development of India’s railway sector over the past 10-11 years, Shri Modi emphasized the expansion of metro services and the introduction of semi-high-speed trains, transforming connectivity across the country. He remarked that Vande Bharat trains now operate on nearly 70 routes, further strengthening India’s transportation network. He announced the commencement of a new Vande Bharat Express between Ahmedabad and Veraval. Shri Modi further stated that the rise of modern trains in India is due to the country’s advancements in technology. He emphasized that coaches and locomotives are now manufactured domestically, reducing reliance on imports. “India has emerged as a leading exporter of railway equipment”, stated Shri Modi, noting that India exports metro coaches to Australia and train coaches to England, Saudi Arabia, and France. He added that Mexico, Spain, Germany, and Italy also import railway-related components from India. Shri Modi further remarked that Indian passenger coaches are being used in Mozambique and Sri Lanka, and ‘Made in India’ locomotives are being exported to multiple countries. He stated that this reflects the continuous expansion of the ‘Make in India’ initiative, reinforcing national pride.

“A strong railway network enhances convenience and boosts industries and agriculture”, remarked the Prime Minister, highlighting that several regions in India received railway connectivity for the first time in the past decade. He remarked that many areas in Gujarat previously had only small, slow-moving trains, but several narrow-gauge routes have now been expanded. Announcing the inauguration of multiple railway routes, including the new express train between Dahod and Valsad, which will greatly benefit the tribal belt, the Prime

Minister stated that factories create large-scale employment opportunities for youth. He highlighted that Dahod’s rail factory will manufacture 9,000-horsepower locomotives, significantly enhancing the power and capacity of India’s trains, noting that every locomotive produced in Dahod will bear the name of the city. The Prime Minister remarked that hundreds of locomotives will be built in the coming years, generating substantial employment for local youth. He emphasized that the factory will also support small-scale industries producing railway components, leading to economic growth in surrounding areas. He stated that employment opportunities extend beyond the factory, benefiting farmers, livestock owners, shopkeepers, and laborers, ensuring widespread economic progress.

Shri Modi highlighted that Gujarat has made remarkable progress across multiple sectors, including education, IT, semiconductors, and tourism. He emphasized that the state has established itself as a leader in various industries. He remarked that a major semiconductor plant is being set up in Gujarat with an investment of thousands of crores, further strengthening India’s position in the global semiconductor industry. He stated that these initiatives are creating new employment opportunities for lakhs of youth in Gujarat, contributing to the state’s economic growth and development.

Underlining that Dahod, Vadodara, Godhra, Kalol, and Halol have collectively established a high-tech engineering and manufacturing corridor in Gujarat, the Prime Minister remarked that Vadodara is rapidly advancing in aircraft manufacturing, with the Airbus assembly line inaugurated a few months ago. He noted that Vadodara is also home to India’s first Gati Shakti University. He emphasized that Savli already has a major rail-car manufacturing factory, while Dahod now hosts a facility producing India’s most powerful locomotives—9,000-horsepower engines, marking a moment of pride

for the nation. The Prime Minister stated that Godhra, Kalol, and Halol have a significant presence of manufacturing units, small industries, and MSMEs, contributing to Gujarat’s industrial growth. Envisioning a future where this region of Gujarat will be known for producing everything—from bicycles and motorcycles to railway engines and aircraft, the Prime Minister remarked that such a high-tech engineering and manufacturing corridor is rare globally, reinforcing Gujarat’s position as an industrial powerhouse.

“The development of tribal regions is essential for building a developed India”, emphasised Shri Modi, underlining that unprecedented efforts have been made over the past 11 years to uplift tribal communities. He remarked that his long experience working in Gujarat’s tribal areas has contributed to national-level initiatives. Shri Modi recalled a time when tribal children in Gujarat faced challenges in studying science. He highlighted that today, the entire tribal belt has access to quality education, with good colleges, ITIs, medical colleges, and two dedicated tribal universities serving these communities. Stating that the network of Eklavya Model Schools has strengthened significantly over the past 11 years, ensuring better educational opportunities for tribal students, Shri Modi noted that Dahod itself has several Eklavya Model Schools, further supporting tribal education.

Highlighting the significant efforts being made for the development of tribal communities across the country, the Prime Minister stated that for the first time in independent India’s history, a major scheme has been launched to uplift tribal villages. He remarked that the ‘Dharti Aaba Janjati Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan’ is a landmark initiative, with the Central Government investing approximately ₹80,000 crore to implement the program. He stated that under this scheme, development work is being carried out in more than 60,000 villages across the country, including Gujarat. The Prime Minister highlighted that these villages are being equipped with electricity, water, roads, schools, and hospitals to

improve the quality of life. He emphasized that pucca houses are being built for tribal families, ensuring better living conditions for the community.

Shri Modi emphasized his commitment to uplifting the most marginalized tribal communities, stating that his government prioritizes those who have long been overlooked. He highlighted that for the first time, the government has introduced the PM Janman Yojana to support particularly vulnerable tribal groups who have been deprived of essential facilities for decades. Shri Modi remarked that under this scheme, new infrastructure and amenities are being developed in tribal villages, and new employment opportunities are being created, ensuring greater economic and social inclusion for these communities.

Highlighting the launch of a national mission to free tribal communities from sickle cell anemia, the Prime Minister stated that millions of tribal citizens have already undergone screening under this initiative. He emphasized that the government is committed to accelerating the development of regions that have lagged behind. He noted that over 100 districts were previously classified as backward, with many of them being tribal-dominated areas. He remarked that Dahod was one such district, but today, it is progressing as an Aspirational District, undergoing a transformation with modern infrastructure and smart facilities. The Prime Minister highlighted that South Dahod faced severe water shortages, but now, hundreds of kilometers of pipelines have been laid, ensuring Narmada water reaches every household. He stated that over the past years, 11 lakh acres of land from Umargam to Ambaji have been connected to irrigation, making agriculture easier for tribal communities.

Acknowledging the overwhelming presence of thousands of women in Vadodara, who gathered to honor the nation and its armed forces, Shri Modi expressed his deep respect and gratitude to the women of India for their unwavering support. He highlighted that Dahod is a land of sacrifice and dedication, recalling that

Maharishi Dadhichi gave up his life on the banks of the Dudhimati River to protect creation. Shri Modi also noted that this region supported freedom fighter Taty Tope in times of crisis and that Mangarh Dham stands as a symbol of the sacrifices made by Govind Guru and hundreds of tribal warriors. Emphasizing that India’s cultural values demand action against injustice, questioning whether the nation could remain silent after the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Modi stated, “Operation Sindoor was not just a military action but a reflection of India’s values and emotions”. He remarked that terrorists had no idea of the consequences of their actions, recalling the brutality of killing a father in front of his children. He stated that such images still ignite anger across the nation, as 140 crore Indians were challenged by terrorism. Shri Modi declared that he fulfilled his responsibility as the nation’s leader, giving full freedom to India’s armed forces, who then executed an operation unseen in decades. He highlighted that nine major terror hubs across the border were identified and destroyed in 22 minutes, and stated that Pakistan’s military attempted retaliation but was decisively defeated by Indian forces. Shri Modi reiterated his deep respect for the valor of India’s armed forces, saluting their courage and dedication from the sacred land of Dahod.

Prime Minister remarked that the country born after partition has focused on hostility towards India and causing harm. “India, on the other hand, is committed to eradicating poverty, strengthening its economy, and achieving development”, he added. The Prime Minister highlighted that a developed India can only be built when both its armed forces and economy are strong. He stated that the government is continuously working in this direction, ensuring national security and economic growth go hand in hand.

Highlighting the immense potential of Dahod, stating that the event is just a glimpse of its capabilities, Shri Modi expressed full confidence in the hardworking people of Dahod, emphasizing that they will make the best use of the newly developed facilities and transform Dahod into one of the most developed districts in the country. He concluded by congratulating the people of Dahod once again, reaffirming his belief in their dedication and progress.

The Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Bhupendraabhai Patel, Union Minister for Railways, Information and Broadcasting & Electronics and Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw were present among other dignitaries at the event.



# Relationships



## Is your kid Travelling to school safely?

With increasing safety concerns and instances of bullying, inculcating school-bus discipline is essential, say experts

Pakhi Jain was in for a shock when she heard her seven-year old return from school one day and mouth expletives. "When asked who taught such words, he said everyone in his school bus used them and he was following suit because he wants to be like his seniors," says Jain, who didn't know how to deal with the situation at that time.

She is not the only one. While most parents and school authorities impress the need to inculcate discipline within the four walls of the classroom, these rules often do not apply to school buses. In the recent times, there have been several cases of rowdy behaviour in buses, with children even hitting each other.

### Ground for unruly behaviour

After hours of being cooped up in classrooms, the bus ride provides a perfect ground for the child to let out all that pent-up energy.

Says consulting psychiatrist Dr Pavan Sonar, "Unlike classrooms, there is more freedom in buses, as there is an absence of parentteacher supervision. So,

children feel the liberty to do some mischief."

Adds clinical psychologist Saloni Sawnani, "Kids of all ages travel together in the bus. If the older kids are using foul language or behaving badly, younger kids follow suit to fit in. That leads to more cases of rowdy behaviour."

More often than not, these buses are understaffed with only one attendant taking care of around 40-50 children. Moreover, the attendant is only equipped to ensure that the children are not physically injured. "They are not responsible towards children's behaviour, so there is no supervision at all," she adds.

### When your child turns rowdy

Do you feel your kid is picking up bad habits from the school bus?



Discipline your kid and firmly explain that inappropriate language will not be tolerated. Also, impress upon him/her that there is no greatness in being like the older children and doing wrong things. "Often, when a child gets into a fight in the bus and it comes to the parents' attention, they confront the driver or school authorities. This is not the way to tackle the situation as you would be setting a wrong example," says Sawnani.

Instead, get to know both the versions and if you feel that your kid is at fault, act with concern rather than harshness. "Make your child understand that bullying another person is wrong. Often, children don't report instances of bullying. So, teach him/her to understand and report such instances to you, the teachers or the supervisor of the bus," says Dr Sonar.

### School authorities' role

With safety and discipline in buses being a concern, school authorities are now taking strict measures. While a few city schools have student monitors in every bus -they not only maintain discipline, but also keep an eye on the bus staff -some even have plans of installing CCTV cameras in the vehicles.

Interestingly, at an international school at Chandivali, a text message is sent to the parent when the child swipes his I-card and boards the bus.

Most schools have also hired a lady attendant to comply with the guide lines issued by the RTA (Roads and Transport Authority). "Having trained staff in buses is important. If younger and older kids are travelling together, the attendant should ensure that the younger ones are seated behind and the older ones in front. Any kind of intermingling between the two should be avoided," says Sawnani.

### Measures school authorities can take

- Provide instructions about school bus safety in classrooms.
- Send students on time, so that they don't have to run to catch the buses.
- Get the bus inspected for technical snags and ensure safety measures.
- Ensure that the bus has adequate staff and that a lady attendant is always present.
- Install CCTVs in buses for monitoring the behaviour of kids.

### Things parents should remember

- Check the background of the agency from where the buses are hired.
- Teach your child the importance of safety, how to wait for the school bus and how to board it.
- Any misbehaviour, on the part of a student or the bus staff, should be brought to notice immediately.
- Teach your child to maintain cleanliness in the bus.

## How to get kids to perform better in exams

It's time for First Unit tests in most schools in the city. But it's also a time when kids will be most vulnerable to pressures and stress.

It's important that parents and children work in cohesion to avoid feeling this way. While at the parents' end there is anxiety and restlessness, the situation can be detrimental for younger kids who suffer loss of appetite and sleep and fears on account of it.

While parents must always show that they are there for their children, it's important that they stay away from doing a few things like going over the question papers again and again, as well as continuously discussing the

score that they want their kids to meet.

What kids can do

1. Discuss not just the highs and lows of studying. Keep them in the loop about your issues and difficulties.
2. Do not create unrealistic goals. Instead, set reasonable daily targets and try to achieve them.
3. Do not allow pressure from peers to affect you. Find the difference between friendly advice and a brag that a friend might throw at you. At the end of the day, you are your own judge and answerable to yourself.
4. Always feel proud and happy of a task well done.



## Asking yourself 'why' very important

### Life is a journey:

Asking yourself 'why' is part of that journey, as it helps you to understand yourself, those around you. When you ask why, you are looking at your life as an outsider and this gives a perspective. To question yourself will provide you a clear picture because you will know why you do these things and what



changes are needed in your life. So, don't feel scared and be open about asking questions.

### Say bye to fear:

Fear stops a lot of people from asking 'why', because people just don't want to be in that uncomfortable state of knowing the answer. And there are some who probably know the answer but live in denial. Remember, acceptance is the ultimate freedom. Getting a reality check is so very important in life.

### Essential to your happiness:

Have you asked yourself recently if you are doing the things you love? Do you think that you are on the right track and following your passion? Are you where you always wanted to be? Are you just letting life to control you? Are you making a conscious decision to follow your dreams? Are you living life king/queen size? Are you pushing your creative boundaries? It's so important to ask yourself these fundamental questions. These questions will give you a ring side view of life. It might be a good time to make some changes, take a new direction, or have an open discussion with someone who matters in your life. What's most important is that you are following your own bliss.

## ‘Gurgaon is such an animal unfriendly zone’

Reportedly, the victim's neighbour first injured her servant who was walking their pet and, on her (the victim's) intervention, took her inside the house and assaulted her, both mentally and physically. A week later, she is back home but, like her husband Suresh Yadav told GT, she is still in shock from the entire experience. We spoke to Suresh about their struggle as an animal loving couple in Gurgaon and the urgent need for Gurgaon residents to condemn this attack and to warm up to animals.

According to Suresh, their neighbour first threw a slipper at their servant, screaming at him for walking the dog on the road. Suresh told us, "When my wife intervened, he screamed at her saying, 'Yeh meri road hai, tumhe pata nahi hai kya? You can't walk your dog here.' When she continued to argue, the man lost it. What happened after that is disturbing for both of us. I rushed back home when I found out and took her to the hospital and have been trying to get her to come back to normal ever since." He added, "We live in an independent plotted community. There are no dog parks or special areas. So, the dogs are walked on the roads. The roads are cleaned on a daily basis and nobody should have a problem with that."

According to Yadav, this isn't the first time that they faced a problem with this particular neighbour, who has now been arrested for abuse. However, he says that this wasn't a personal issue between them, but an attack on the animal loving community of Gurgaon.

### I hope animal lovers of Ggn condemn this attack: Suresh

He told us, "Gurgaon is such an animal unfriendly zone. Pets are not welcome and feeding of strays or even getting them vaccinated is looked down upon. Even with our bad history with this resident, we never saw this coming. The attack is just another example of the attitude people have towards animal lovers in Gurgaon. We have been taking care of a number of strays in our street, and slowly and gradually, people in our independent plotted community were getting used to the idea of taking care of animals. But this one incident has taken us back to the very start of that struggle. We're still being treated as criminals and I hope that the animal lovers of Gurgaon condemn this attack. The real villain of this story needs to be identified and it's not us."

He added, "She has been at the forefront of this



## It's been a week since the news of the horrifying incident of a Gurgaon woman being stripped and thrashed for walking her dog, first came out.

movement for a very long time. Feeding strays and getting them vaccinated is not a crime. Initially, people used to complain about these strays and the MCG van would come and take them away. But we would get them back because these strays were not harmful to anyone. With time, our neighbours also became okay with the strays - everyone except this one guy. There are many other haters like him all over Gurgaon. Now if he isn't punished with severity, this will encourage these haters to take really extreme steps against dog lovers, which is scary." Alok Mittal, commissioner of police, Gurgaon said, "I do not have data regarding such incidents. Surely there have not been many fights between neighbours over petty issues. In this case we had registered a case under sections 323, 354, 452 of the IPC."

The incident shocked pet owners and animal

lovers in not just Gurgaon, but in all parts of the world. The Facebook awareness page formed after the incident, which is like a discussion portal on different animal-related topics, was started by an international supporter of the cause. According to Suresh, "This just shows the support that we have for this incident. It is still gaining momentum in India, but internationally, it's a big movement."

In our Gurgaon residential society, I want the authorities to come forward and put up posters highlighting the basic animal feeding rights that we animal lovers have. So far, there is no rule book on the same, just lots of judgmental stares and angry neighbours in both gated and non-gated residential properties. I want to fight against this, and hope for some support from the government."



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Raducanu alleges preferred treatment for top stars

Paris, May 26 (UNI) In a bold post-match statement, Britain's Emma Raducanu has raised eyebrows at Roland Garros by accusing French Open organisers of favouritism, claiming that some players are being granted privileged access to the tournament's main courts. "I feel like certain players get preferred treatment," the world No.42 said, alluding to an uneven playing field ahead of her anticipated showdown with reigning champion Iga Swiatek. Raducanu, who rocketed to fame after her 2021 US Open triumph, took aim at what she described as an "unfair" practice scheduling system that limits lower-ranked players' time on iconic courts such as Court Philippe-Chatrier.

"The tournament doesn't really help in terms of getting you court time on the bigger courts or on the match courts, really," she said, voicing concerns over being made to transition abruptly from peripheral practice courts to the spotlight of stadium play.

The 21-year-old acknowledged the challenge of making such a leap. "It's very different from the annex courts across the road. To then jump onto Chatrier or any stadium court—it isn't easy." While Raducanu appreciated the atmosphere on the smaller court she played on—describing it as "cute" and "intimate"—she made it clear that more equitable scheduling would benefit all players, not just the top seeds.

Her remarks have added a fresh layer of scrutiny to how Grand Slam tournaments manage practice court allocation and whether rising or mid-ranked players are being unfairly sidelined.

Ninth seed Navarro suffers 6-0 6-1 first-round upset

Paris, May 26 (UNI) Ninth seed Emma Navarro exited the French Open in just 57 minutes as she suffered a 6-0 6-1 first-round thrashing by Spain's Jessica Bouzas Maneiro.

Navarro, a semi-finalist at last year's US Open, did not hold serve all match in a wayward performance on the second day in Paris.

Up 6-0 5-0, Bouzas Maneiro was attempting to become the first woman to beat a top-10 player 6-0 6-0 at a Grand Slam since the 1989 US Open, when Martina Navratilova crushed world number seven Manuela Maleeva.

But Navarro got on the board and avoided a 'double bagel' scoreline with help from a double fault by the 68th-ranked Bouzas Maneiro. Earlier this year, Navarro became only the fifth player this century to win a WTA final 6-0 6-0 with victory over Emiliana Arango at the Merida Open in Mexico, the BBC reported. But the American was broken seven times, claimed just 30 of the 86 total points and won only 44% of her first-serve points. Navarro was also hindered by 23 unforced errors compared to just four winners.

PBKS down MI by 7 wkts, seal Qualifier 1 berth



Jaipur, May 26 (UNI) : Punjab Kings stormed into Qualifier 1 of the IPL playoffs with a commanding 7-wicket victory over Mumbai Indians at Sawai Mansingh Stadium here on Monday, chasing down 185 with 9 balls to spare.

The win not only sealed Punjab's place in the top two of the points table but also assured them of two chances to reach the final.

Chasing 185, Punjab were led by a dazzling 73 off 42 balls from wicketkeeper Josh Inglis, who anchored the innings with flair and authority. The Australian right-hander struck 9 fours and 3 sixes, dominating Mumbai's bowling attack even as wickets fell at the other end.

Young opener Priyansh Arya continued his fine form, hammering a brisk 62 off 35 deliveries with 9 boundaries and 2 sixes, before holing out to

Suryakumar Yadav off the bowling of Mitchell Santner.

Earlier, Punjab lost Prabhsimran Singh (13) cheaply in the fifth over to Jasprit Bumrah, but the Arya-Inglis partnership of 109 runs for the second wicket took the game away from the hosts. Skipper Shreyas Iyer then guided the chase home with an unbeaten 26 off 16, while Nehal Wadhwa struck the winning runs. Santner was the most effective bowler for Mumbai, returning 2 for 41, while Bumrah was economical yet wicketless in his 4 overs. Mumbai's other bowlers, including captain Hardik Pandya, were taken apart on a flat pitch that offered little assistance.

Earlier in the evening, Mumbai Indians posted 184 for 7 after electing to bat first, courtesy of a fluent 57 from Suryakumar Yadav and useful late cameos from

Hardik Pandya (26 off 15) and Naman Dhir (20 off 12).

Suryakumar's innings was the bedrock of Mumbai's effort, coming in at a tricky stage and playing with a blend of finesse and aggression. But Mumbai lost momentum in the death overs, scoring just 33 runs in the last 4, as Punjab's bowlers tightened the screws. Arshdeep Singh led the bowling effort with 2 for 28, including the key scalp of Suryakumar off the final delivery of the innings.

Marco Jansen and Vijaykumar Vyshak also picked two wickets apiece. The result sends a strong statement from Punjab Kings, who have gathered steam at the business end of the tournament and now march into Qualifier 1 with confidence and momentum on their side. Mumbai Indians, meanwhile, face an anxious wait to know their fate in the playoff race.

Isco & Gavi back but no Rodri in Spain Nations League squad

Madrid, May 26 (UNI) : Spain national team coach Luis de la Fuente on Monday named his squad for the Final Four of the UEFA Nations League which will be played during the first week of June in Germany.

Spain will play France in the semi-final hoping to play the winner of the other semi-final between Germany and Portugal, with De la Fuente recalling Betis midfielder Isco and Barcelona's Gavi to his squad.

"It was a good moment for what Isco can bring to us. He has been playing very well, otherwise he would not be here," said the coach, who was glad to recall Gavi after a knee injury.

"It has been a natural process. We

French Open rejects automated line-calling systems

Paris, May 26 (UNI) : In a move that harks back to old guard of tennis, the French Open has become the last Grand Slam tournament to resist the tide of technology, retaining human line judges and refusing to implement automated line-calling systems on its courts this year. French Tennis Federation (FFT) President Gilles Moretton on Monday defended the tournament's decision to persist with traditional officiating, citing a recent controversy at the Madrid Open involving world No 3 Alexander Zverev.

The German received a warning after asking the chair umpire to inspect a disputed mark on the clay, an appeal that was denied, prompting Zverev to take a photo with his phone in protest of a call made by the automated system.

"This is important for us," said Moretton during a press briefing ahead of

the main draw at Roland Garros. "We know that it's 10 percent errors possible, 10 percent. That's what we know. Regarding clay, we think that it's very important... we saw it with Zverev in Madrid. He took the picture. We think it can happen, and it did happen already."

While the ATP has implemented electronic line calling across most of its events, including those played on clay, Roland Garros remains a bastion of manual officiating. Even Wimbledon, known for its own emphasis on tradition, has confirmed a shift to full electronic line calling this year.

Moretton further elaborated that preserving the human element of the game was crucial, especially for the development of tennis at the grassroots level. "It's more human. First of all, we need those people working all year long in our tournaments, promoting

tennis in small clubs, being there for club matches," he said. "If we stop having those linesmen, referees, we feel it's not too good for tennis in France... For Roland Garros, we want to keep our linesmen as long as the players agree with that." The president, however, hinted at a possible future shift if players' sentiment turns. "Sometimes the players say we don't want no more. Maybe we will have to change."

The decision comes amid rising discontent among players over the reliability of electronic systems. Zverev, who was at the centre of the Madrid incident, has indicated his intent to take up the matter with ATP authorities.

"I honestly think that there was a malfunction in the system in that moment... I said, 'Please, come down to have a look at this, I'm not crazy,'" he told reporters following the match.

Mbappe wins European Golden Shoe for first time

Madrid, May 26 (UNI) Kylian Mbappe has won the European Golden Shoe for the first time after scoring twice in Real Madrid's 2-0 defeat of Real Sociedad on Saturday.

The France international scored 31 league goals in his debut season in Spain, meaning he also won La Liga's top scorer prize. A double in Real's final game of the season secured Mbappe top spot in the rankings ahead of Sporting striker Victor Gyokeres (39 goals) and Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah (29 goals). Though Gyokeres scored eight more league goals than Mbappe, he finished runner-up because a weighted-points based system decides the rankings.

Goals scored by players competing in Europe's top five leagues - Premier League, La Liga, Bundesliga, Serie A and Ligue 1 - are worth two points, the BBC reported.

Goals from those who play in leagues ranked sixth to 22nd in UEFA's coefficient, including the Portuguese Primeira Liga, are worth 1.5 points. Mohamed Salah needed a hat-trick in Liverpool's final Premier League match against Crystal Palace on Sunday in order to share the prize with Mbappe. The Egypt international scored once in a 1-1 draw.

Mbappe is just the third Real player to win the award, after Hugo Sanchez (1989-90) and Cristiano Ronaldo (2010-11, 2013-14 and 2014-15).

Gyokeres - who has been heavily linked with a summer move to Arsenal - had no chance of catching Mbappe because Sporting's league campaign ended the previous weekend.

After scoring in his side's 3-1 defeat of Lisbon rivals Benfica in the Portuguese Cup final on Sunday, the Sweden international finished the season with 53 goals in 51 games in all competitions.

The top five in the rankings were as follows: Mbappe (62 points), Gyokeres (58.5), Salah (58), Robert Lewandowski (54), Harry Kane (52).

Thailand a good test before Hong Kong in AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers : Wangjam

Kolkata, May 26 (UNI) : The preparations in the Indian men's national team camp are in full swing here as the Blue Tigers gear up for the AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers Final Round match against Hong Kong on June 10.

Midfielder Suresh Singh Wangjam believes that the friendly game against Thailand on June 4 will be the perfect way to groom for the all-important clash in Kowloon, Hong Kong.

"The good thing is that we will be playing a friendly against Thailand, who are a similar opponent, in my opinion," said Suresh.

"We got 15 to 20 days of break after the domestic season, and we started our camp on the 18th of this month. We're getting into form day by day, and it's very important to play an international friendly match before Hong Kong. So, it

Ten Reliance Foundation athletes to represent India at Asian Athletics Championships

Mumbai, May 26 (UNI) : A stellar contingent of ten athletes supported by Reliance Foundation is all set to represent India at the Asian Athletics Championships 2025, taking place in Gumi, Republic of Korea from May 27.

This continental championship will be a key milestone ahead of the Asian Games next year, offering

a critical platform for the region's finest talent to shine.

The athletes are part of the Reliance Foundation's high-performance programme aimed at enabling Indian athletes to excel at the global level. From grassroots development to elite performance, Reliance Foundation has remained committed to building a robust sporting ecosystem in India.

Speaking ahead of the championships, James Hillier, Athletics Director, Reliance Foundation said, "We are incredibly proud of our athletes and their dedication. Their recent performances, including multiple national records, reflect their hard work and the comprehensive support they receive from the Reliance Foundation. The

Asian Athletics Championship is a crucial platform, and I am confident that our contingent will showcase their talent and make the nation proud. We've focused not just on physical conditioning but also on mental fortitude, ensuring they are prepared for the intense competition ahead." James also expressed excitement about coaching India's national relay team in Mumbai—an effort that recently led to the breaking of the longest-standing national record in Indian athletics in the 4x100m relay.

India's top female hurdler Jyothi Yarraji will compete in two events – the 100m hurdles, where she's the defending champion and the 200m, where she bagged the silver medal in the previous edition in Bangkok in 2023.

The 25-year-old has consistently redefined the boundaries of Indian hurdling, holding the national record with a scorching 12.78 seconds – a mark she has matched multiple times. She is the first Indian woman to dip below the 13-second barrier in the 100m hurdles and is the reigning Asian champion in the event, having secured gold at the

2023 Asian Athletics Championships, along with a silver at the 2022 Asian Games.

Animesh Kujur recently shattered the national record in the men's 200m. His blistering time of 20.40 seconds at the Senior Federation Cup earlier this year not only set a new national benchmark but also established him as the current Asian leader in the event. Animesh from the Odisha Reliance Foundation HPC will also be a vital cog in the men's 4x100m relay team, alongside Manikanta Hoblidhar, Amlan Borgohain, and Gurvinder Singh. This dynamic quartet recently rewrote the national record books in the 4x100m relay with an impressive 38.69 seconds, showcasing their explosive synergy and readiness to challenge Asia's best.

All eyes will be on India's champion long distance runner Gulveer Singh, a force to be reckoned with in both the 5000m and 10,000m. Gulveer has been on a record-breaking spree, recently setting a new national record in the 10,000m with a time of 27:00.22s, a significant improvement on his previous best.

Fourth seed Fritz falls; Tsitsipas, Badosa march on

Paris, May 26 (UNI) : The second day of the 2025 French Open was marked by significant upsets and remarkable comebacks, as top-seeded players faced unexpected challenges on the clay courts of Roland Garros. In a major upset, Germany's Daniel Altmaier, ranked 66th globally, eliminated fourth seed Taylor Fritz with a 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 victory. Altmaier's aggressive baseline play and strategic shot-making disrupted Fritz's rhythm, leading to a decisive win. This marks one of the most significant victories in Altmaier's career, as he advances to face Vit Koprieva in the next round. Fritz, who had high hopes following a strong clay-court season, struggled with unforced errors and appeared physically unsettled as the match wore on.

Fifth seed Stefanos Tsitsipas showcased his clay-court prowess, defeating Argentina's Tomas Martin Etcheverry 7-5, 6-3, 6-4. Tsitsipas's consistent groundstrokes and tactical

variety secured his progression to the second round. The Greek, a former finalist in Paris, looked in control throughout and maintained a high first-serve percentage. The match offered a glimpse of the confidence Tsitsipas brings into this year's tournament, especially on his preferred surface. In the women's draw, Paula Badosa overcame a challenging start to defeat former world No. 1 Naomi Osaka 6-7(1), 6-1, 6-4. Badosa, returning from a persistent back injury that had disrupted her season, demonstrated resilience and mental fortitude. After a nervy first-set tie-break loss, she shifted gears in the second and third sets, striking clean winners and defending stoutly from the baseline. She credited her focus on mental preparation and the energy from the Court Simonne Mathieu crowd for the turnaround. Badosa now prepares to face the winner between Elena-Gabriela Ruse and McCartney Kessler in the second round.

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# Mahavitaran appeals to be alert to power systems during rains

## 24-hour control room operational in Kalyan Circle

(Standard Post Bureau)

Kalyan/Vasai/Palghar, May 26 : There is a possibility of electrical accidents due to storms and continuous rains or heavy rains, flood conditions, broken power lines due to falling trees and branches, short circuits in electrical equipment or systems, etc. Against this backdrop, citizens should be alert to public and domestic power systems and equipment. Also, keeping in mind the possibility of adverse conditions and danger arising at any moment due to floods or heavy rains, the power supply of Rohitras is being shut down as a precautionary measure. In such a situation, Mahavitaran has appealed to electricity consumers to cooperate. 24-hour control rooms have been operational in all the mandal offices under Kalyan Circle. Chief Engineer Chandramani Mishra has given instructions to be ready with equipment and manpower in case of emergency. Electrical accidents are possible due to broken power lines, power poles, feeder pillars on the side of the road, iron fences of power lines, fuse boxes, as well as damp electrical appliances in the house, switchboards of agricultural pumps, other damp objects, materials, etc. due to heavy rains, storms, etc. Since water is a conductor of electricity, it is necessary to protect electrical appliances from water during the monsoon. Due to heavy rains and strong winds, trees and branches fall on power lines. In this, power poles bend, power lines break or remain dangling. Since there is a possibility of electricity flowing in such power lines, one should be careful of it. Do not try to



touch or remove these power lines. If such a situation is found, one should immediately contact Mahavitaran."

During the monsoon, one should take care that the switchboard or various electrical appliances in the house do not come into contact with moisture. Ensure that the power supply in the house is properly earthed. Instead of copper, a special metal wire called aluminum alloy should be used as the fuse wire. Always

turn off all electrical appliances from the switchboard. Especially in rural areas, animals should not be tied to electric poles. Clothes should not be dried near electric poles or wires. The toll-free numbers of Mahavitaran's Central Customer Service Center 1800-212-3435 or 1800-233-3435 are available 24 hours a day for electricity consumers. Along with this, complaints are also accepted through the mobile app and website [www.mahadiscom.in](http://www.mahadiscom.in). To complain about power outage, a complaint will be registered by giving a missed call to 022-50897100 from the mobile number registered with Mahavitaran or by sending the message NOPOWER<space><Consumer Number> from the mobile number to Mahavitaran's mobile number 9930399303."

Apart from this, the control room numbers for Kalyan Mandal One and Two (Kalyan East and West, Dombivli, Ulhasnagar, Ambernath, Badlapur, Shahapur, Titwala) in Kalyan Mandal are 8879626151, for Vasai Mandal (Vasai, Virar, Nalasopara, Achole, Wada) 7875760602, for Palghar Mandal (Boisar, Dahanu, Jawhar, Palghar, Mokhada, Safala, Talasari, Vikramgad) 9028154278, for customer complaints and alerts.

### Disruption in Badlapur, Ambernath, Ulhasnagar due to Mahatranshan failure

A failure occurred in the ultra-high voltage power line from Padgha to Pal and Anandnagar to Palava of Mahatranshan at 6:30 am on Monday (May 26), disrupting the power supply of Mahavitaran customers in Ambernath East, Badlapur East and Ulhasnagar 4 and 5 sub-divisions. After the failure in the Mahatranshan power lines was repaired, power supply to all the above areas was restored in phases at 8:15 am. This resulted in a power supply disruption in Pal and Palava areas for 18 minutes.

# Repair work of power distribution system in Palghar district on war footing

## Chief Engineer Chandramani Mishra himself on the field; power supply restored in most places

(Standard Post Bureau)

Kalyan/Palghar:, May 26 : On Friday, unseasonal rains accompanied by stormy winds caused extensive damage to the power distribution system in Palghar district throughout the day. As a result, the employees of Mahavitaran worked day and night to restore the affected power supply and restored power supply in most places by Saturday afternoon. Chief Engineer of Kalyan Circle Chandramani Mishra was personally present and gave essential instructions regarding the repair work throughout the day on Saturday.

Eight poles on the 33 KV Vikramgad power line were damaged near Savade village due to Friday's stormy rains. Due to this, the 33/22 KV Vikramgad substation has been closed since Friday evening. The power supply of consumers at 11 and 22 kV Bhopodi,



Chillar, Wada, Hamrapur, Vasa substations originating from this substation was disrupted. Four poles fell near Manor village and one pole of the Jawhar to Mokhada power line fell. A total of 40 electricity poles of high and low voltage lines collapsed in this disaster. Along with this, power lines were affected due to uprooted trees and falling tree branches in various areas.

Chief Engineer Chandramani Mishra himself has been stationed in Palghar since Saturday morning.

Earlier, since Friday afternoon, he had been closely monitoring every aspect, advising to restore the affected power supply by carrying out repairs as soon as possible. Despite the adverse situation, the officers and employees of Mahavitaran along with the

employees of registered contractors have worked tirelessly and restored power supply in most places. All the poles of the power line leading to the 33/22 KV Vikramgad substation have been erected and power supply to Vikramgad is expected to be restored by Saturday evening. Mahavitaran has appealed for cooperation in view of the natural disaster situation.

# Army, Federalism, Democracy and People: Uniqueness of Manipur

(By Amar Yumnam)

Imphal, May 26: We all know what the army is . They wear uniforms and carry guns; some may not wear uniforms but perform things as they feel like in the company of their uniformed compatriots in places far-off- like Manipur - from the Cenfederating units, diverse by the demographic features of the composing population, and so on. Now, a word on federalism may be of interest. Without going longer time back, what Daniel Dujah Elajar introduced his book on Federalism (1987) would be of interest: "Human, and hence scholarly, concern with politics focuses on three general themes: the pursuit of political justice to achieve political order; the search for understanding of the empirical tre of the country. They are fundamentally meant to protect the country where they are recruited, trained, and ensured their livelihood. It is also their primary responsibility that they do not try to antagonise the people of their country and take the things to take on the people for granted as they feel like.

This issue is particularly paramount in a diverse country following democratic federalism – diverse in the geographic size of the country, diverse by distance from the capital of the country, diverse by geographic features of the reality of political power and its exercise; and the creation bust component of this: "One of the major recurring principles of political import which informs and encompasses all three themes is federalisman idea that defines political justice, shapes political behaviour, and directs humans toward an appropriately civic synthesis of the two.

Through its covenantal foundations, federalism is an idea whose importance is akin to natural law in defining justice and to natural rights in delineating the origins and proper constitution of political society. of an appropriate civic environment through civil society and the civil

## FS Misri to visit Washington tomorrow

New Delhi, May 26 (UNI) : Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri will be on a three-day visit to Washington, from May 27, during which he will meet with senior officials of the US Administration.

The visit is a follow up to Prime Minister Modi's visit to the United States in February 2025, when both sides had launched the India-US COMPACT (Catalysing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology) for the 21st Century, a statement said.

The visit comes as an all-party delegation from India briefed US officials on Operation Sindoor and on Pakistan's role in fomenting cross-border terrorism.

The visit also comes as India and the US are firming up a trade deal.



community capable of integrating the first two themes to produce a good political life. .... In that pursuit, political scientists have uncovered or identified certain architectonic principles, seminal ideas, and plain political truths that capture the reality of political life or some significant segment of it and relate that reality to larger principles of justice and political order and to practical yet normative civic purposes." Now the element of justice is a fundamental

Although those foundations have been somewhat eclipsed since the shift to organic and then positivistic theories of politics, which began in the mid-nineteenth century, federalism as a form of political organization has grown as a factor shaping political behaviour. Now, in the crisis of transition from the modern to the postmodern epochs, the federal idea is resurfacing as a significant political force just as it did in the transition from the late medieval to the modern epoch, which took place from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries."

While it was a subject analysed mainly by the political scientists, it has now joined the transformation of the disciplines of the Social Sciences towards an integrated one with varied perspectives merging. It is under this federalism that Manipur happens to have

a large population (comparatively speaking) following the religion of Hinduism. The major destinations for worship for the followers lie in West Bengal and central India. It has been a very common experience for the Hinduism-following elders in Manipur to go to these places in groups by hiring a bus on which one would generally find the name and banners indicating the origin of the team from Manipur.

While there could be stories of like the experience of pick-pockets, as is common as anywhere, there would be no story like the recent case of the Indian Army manifesting the power of capability by removing the banner on Manipur; the political economy of this power can only be defined in a very adverse way. Now, what is the recent case. The Shiroi Lily of the Ukhrul is an internationally known flower – the beauty and attractiveness of a flower can never be defined completely. Since it is the time of flowering, the population of the district naturally organised a festival on the flower such that people would have the opportunity to enjoy watching of the beauty of the flower in situ and in a systematic way. An interestingly rare thing happened to the bus carrying the journalists to the place of the festival.

Well, before reaching the place, the Indian Army

stopped the bus and saw to it that any Manipur written on the bus should be invisible. There is a concept in economics called "public good" under which anyone should be accessible to appreciate this, and none can be excluded. But in this recent case, while going to the Vrindavan for worshipping the Hindu deities with Manipur banner in the bus of travel was never a social and administrative challenge, in the present case the travel with the banner was completely restricted.

Second, the beautiful public good – the Shiroi Lily was converted into a private good by the imposition of the restrictions. The implications for public policy of the difference between the 'public good' and the 'private good' are not simple ones, which can never be settled by the army. The interesting part here is that all these were performed by none else but the Army.

This makes us recall what Ivo Duchacek had said more than half a century back that Federalism had become 'one of those good echo words that evoke a positive response but that may mean all things to all men, like democracy, socialism, progress, constitution, justice, or peace.'" But Duchacek was definitely not talking of the armed, but it is the Army which had make it look like to mean anything in Manipur case. The involvement of the Army in the manner happened, and the 'supposed' Democratic Federalism India follows and, in an event, acting against the agents of sharing information with the public that is most painful. In fact, this amounts to insulting nature and compromising the prestige of the precious the Shiroi Lily. The evolution of governance as a modern approach from plain government and the usual social pluralism associated with it have been hurt hard by this plain act.

Besides insulting Manipur, this act has insulted humanity and humanism.

# Historic British-era DC Underslung Portal Dismantled, Marking Completion of 100-Year-Old Infrastructure Removal

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, May 26 : In a significant milestone towards modernising Mumbai's suburban railway infrastructure, Central Railway's Mumbai Division (TRD Department) has successfully dismantled the last remaining three-track British-type Direct Current (DC) underslung portal at Vidyavihar station on 24.05.2025. This 100-year-old portal has been replaced by a modern three-span overlap system, thereby enhancing the reliability and maintainability of the Overhead Equipment (OHE).

The British-type DC underslung portals were iconic symbols of early railway electrification in India, and their phased removal marks the end of an era and the beginning of a more robust and efficient railway network."

The project to remove these old portals began in 2012, and with this final dismantling, all 22 such portals along the CSMT-Kalyan suburban main line have now been successfully removed. This



achievement reflects Central Railway's commitment to safety, reliability, and modernization of railway infrastructure.

This work was completed with meticulous planning and dedicated efforts by the Mumbai Division's TRD team, ensuring minimal disruption to train operations.