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**HYDERABAD** 

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### **IN BRIEF**

#### CPI(M) demands rollback of increased bus pass fares

Hyderabad, June 9 (UNI) :The CPI(M) Telangana State Committee strongly opposed the recent hike in TGRTC bus pass fares for the general public and students, terming it a severe burden on the poor and daily commuters.

In a statement issued by State Secretary John Wesley on Monday, the party condemned the state government and TGSRTC for increasing bus pass rates by over 20 percent, resulting in an additional monthly expense of Rs. 250 to 300 for passengers in Greater Hyderabad.

"The government's decision is unjustified, especially when it is promoting free bus travel under the 'Mahalaxmi' scheme on one hand, while imposing higher charges on regular commuters on the other," Wesley said.

He added that the fare hike contradicts the spirit of welfare and disproportionately affects poor families already reeling from inflation and rising prices of essential goods. "This is like giving with one hand and taking away with the other" he said

#### Telangana **Tourism** felicitates contributors to **Miss World** event success

Hyderabad, June 9 (UNI): Describing the 72nd Miss World event organised by the Telangana government as a "grand success, the Tourism State Department hosted a special felicitation programme titled 'Champions Behind the Crown' on Monday to honour the efforts of those who made the prestigious event possible. The event celebrated the collective efforts of various departments, senior officers, and staff who worked tirelessly for the smooth conduct of the month-long international pageant. As a token of appreciation, mementoes were presented to all contributors by the Tourism Department. Miss World Opel Suchata Sri graced the occasion along with Telangana Tourism Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, Special Chief Secretary for Tourism Jayesh Ranjan, Director General of Police (DGP)Jitender, and other senior officials.



A road leading to Imphal is blocked by residents amid ongoing protests over ongoing violence, near Imphal on Monday.

## **Empower one crore women as** crorepatis: Seethakka to Collectors

Panchayati Raj, Women and ensuring implementation reopening day, a sharp SHGs, particularly ST Child Welfare Minister, Dr starts immediately. Solar contrast to previous delays. district Collectors to work agreements already in place with the goal of transforming with installation companies. one crore women into with Collectors from

been explained': KTR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose Commission, probing the

alleged irregularities in the execution of Kaleshwaram Lift

Irrigation Project (KLIP) by former Irrigation Minister and

BRS MLA T Harish Rao, BRS working President K T Rama

Rao (KTR) on Monday evening denounced the issuance

of notices by investigation bodies as 'politically motivated

harassment'. The Commission had earlier also served notice

to BRS President and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar

are simply attempts to irritate and distract us. We have

already stated everything that needs to be said. Today,

Harish Rao presented all the facts before the commission

in full detail." Commision has nothing new to ask for KCR

— everything that needed to be said has already been

"KCR achieved in four years what Congress couldn't

Drawing comparisons, KTR noted that while Congress

"This is no small accomplishment. Had this occurred

governments took decades to construct major projects

like Bhakra Nangal, Nagarjuna Sagar, Narmada, and SRSP,

in another country, KCR would have been decorated with

the highest awards. But here, the very parties that failed to

deliver for decades are trying to demonize a leader who

Revanth Reddy, KTR said, "They came to power by making

Criticizing the Congress regime under Chief Minister

"This Congress government is leading the state down

In a statement issued here, KTR said, "These notices

Rao (KCR) to appear before it on Wednesday.

said," KTR, the son of KCR, declared.

KCR completed Kaleshwaram in record time.

420 fake promises, only to betray the public."

a dangerous, destructive path," he said

manipulation to mislead the public.

incompetence forever," he added.

delivered the impossible," he said.

in decades," he pointed out.

Hyderabad, June 9: A few hours after appearing before

Anasuya projects are to be launched

The Minister crorepatis through the Indira emphasised completion of such as drinking water, empowerment through the ruling Congress party for Mahila Shakti, the Chief Indira Mahila Shakti Minister's flagship program Bhavans in 22 districts by aimed at women's economic November, in coordination shifted to vacant empowerment. Speaking with the Panchayati Raj during a video conference Engineering Department.

Secretariat on Monday, children, Minister Seethakka Minister Seethakka said that underscored the importance achieving the vision of of Anganwadis and standards to that of private surgeries if needed. "Telangana Rising 2047" is government schools, noting play schools. possible only by strengthening their critical role in shaping government also plans to prompt issuance of the ethanol factory could women's self-help groups Telangana's future. She construct 1,000 new disability certificates, with cause severe damage to (SHGs). She urged officials to revealed that 90 per cent of Anganwadi buildings, and tests ongoing at 38 local crops and livelihoods. facilitate solar plant and school uniform stitching by land acquisition for this must hospitals across the state, It demanded the immediate

(Standard Post Bureau) women's groups by and all students will receive Seethakka directed officials Hvderabad, June 9: identifying suitable land and uniforms on the school to enroll new members into

instructed

She

Anganwadi centres, ensure moneylenders. She stressed reopening on June 11, and provide essential amenities electricity, and toilets. group formation and Dilapidated centres are to be Panchayat-level reviews. launched from June 11 to elevate Anganwadi

women and those in extreme

She also announced the government buildings. A upcoming "Bala Bharosa"

Additionally, she urged petrol station ventures for SHGs has been completed be expedited. Minister an official statement said.

## 'Notice drama won't shake Telangana CEO us - Everything has already launches pre-revision drive for flawless electoral roll update

instructed District Collectors and Electoral Registration polling stations. Officers (EROs) to complete electoral rolls.

officials. ensure He further accused Revanth Reddy of using media accessibility.

All vacant positions— "This media-management trickery cannot cover up their including those of EROs, details, and assisting voters Assistant EROs, and Booth in form submissions.

Hyderabad, June 9:(UNI) Level Officers (BLOs)— Telangana Chief Electoral should be filled immediately. Officer (CEO) C Sudharshan Additional BLOs must be Reddy on Monday appointed to manage the anticipated increase in

The CEO highlighted

all pre-revision activities for that pre-revision activities the upcoming Special are critical to maintaining Summary Revision (SSR) of accurate and credible electoral During a video Rationalization, as outlined conference, he emphasised in the ECI's Manual on members assigned to the He said, as per the same polling station. harmed "Indian democracy, guidelines of the Election Community halls in the economy, and the Commission of India (ECI), residential complexes and country's social fabric". polling stations with over accessible locations in 1,200 electors must be underserved areas will be media platform X, Kharge rationalised to enhance prioritized. To facilitate the accused the BJP-RSS voter convenience. Surveys revision process, training alliance of systematically must be conducted to will be provided to EROs, weakening constitutional identify new locations, AEROs, BLOs, and institutions especially in high-rise supervisors on electoral undermining their autonomy. buildings, group housing laws, IT systems, and

economy, the need to rationalise Polling Stations 2020, is Congress polling stations, fill vacant intended to ensure the Mallikarjun Kharge on posts, and provide equitable distribution of Monday hit out at the Modi comprehensive training to electors and keep family government alleging that the

In a statement on social

He claimed that societies, and slum clusters, house-to-house verification democratic values have been better procedures. BLOs will be eroded through backdoor responsible for conducting efforts to topple elected door-to-door surveys, verifying governments and by imposing a one-party

(Contd on page 3)

#### CPI(M) condemns arrest of leaders and farmers protesting against ethanol plant in Gadwal

Hyderabad, June 9 (UNI) The Communist Party of India (Marxist) Telangana State Committee strongly condemned the arrest of its State Secretary John Wesley, State Committee member R Sriramnayak, Gadwal District Secretary A. Venkataswamy, and other party leaders, along with farmers from 12 villages protesting against the establishment of an ethanol plant near Peddadanwada village in Rajoli mandal, Gadwal district.

In a statement issued on Monday, the CPI(M) accused the state police of creating a climate of fear in the region by deploying pickets and resorting to excessive force. The party alleged that a Dalit woman named Mariyamma was poverty, to shield them from brutally beaten by police, Seethakka, has called on on October 2, with Collectors to inspect exploitation by private while 46 farmers were arrested on what it the provision of interest-free described as false and illegal loans and financial charges. The CPI(M) slammed reversing its earlier stance on the ethanol plant. "While in opposition, the Congress vocally opposed the project, new initiative, "Amma Maat scheme, which will offer but after coming to power, it On the welfare of Anganwadi Pata", will be comprehensive medical is now pushing forward with screenings for children the factory's construction in under five, including free a dictatorial manner," the

party stated. The CPI(M) warned that cancellation of the ethanol project, the unconditional release of arrested farmers, withdrawal of police forces from the villages, and legal action against the officers responsible for assaulting Mariyamma. The party reaffirmed its support for the ongoing farmers' protest and called on the state government to respect democratic values and the rights of rural communities.

#### Modi govt's 11 years have harmed democracy, society: Kharge

New Delhi, June 9 (UNI) past 11 years have deeply

resolution.



## tenure as era of ....

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday lauded the 11-year tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, calling it a period of "unprecedented development" and "epoch-making political, social, and economic transformations." Highlighting India's growing self-reliance in the defence sector, Singh credited PM Modi's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat for empowering the country to stand confidently among the world's top five economies. (See on page 2)

#### Restoration of statehood remains a core demand and ....



National Conference President and former J&K Chief Minister Faroog Abdullah on Monday said the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood remains a core demand and a prerequisite for addressing the region's developmental challenges.

(See on page 4)

#### **Anderson stars but Northants** stay unbeaten



James Anderson delivered a second three-wicket haul of his T20 Blast return for Lancashire but it was not enough to stop Northants Steelbacks making it five wins from five to tighten their grip on the top of North Group. The veteran seamer's 3-31 at a blustery Old Trafford backed up his 3-17 against Durham at Chester-le-Street. (See on page 7)

#### Rajasthan CM asks officials to solve complaints in public hearing



Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma on Monday morning listened to complaints of women, persons with disabilities, and the elderly during a public hearing and directed officials to ensure their immediate (See on page 8)

## Rajnath hails PM Modi's 11-yr tenure as era of unprecedented development

New Delhi, June 9 (UNI) : Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday lauded the 11-year tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, calling it a period of "unprecedented development" and "epochmaking political, social, and e c o n o m i c transformations."

Highlighting India's growing self-reliance in the defence sector, Singh credited PM Modi's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat for empowering the country to stand confidently among the world's top five economies. "India today stands well-equipped, confident, and unwavering in its resolve to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity at all costs," he said in a series of tweets on social media

Reflecting on the broader impact of the last decade, Singh stated, "These 11 Years of Seva have been a story of the realisation of the dreams of our freedom fighters and Constitution makers—who envisioned a democracy that is not just political, but also social and economic in nature."

He emphasised that under PM Modi's dynamic leadership, India is not merely progressing, but rising to claim its "rightful place in the comity of nations." Singh also congratulated every citizen who has contributed to this transformative journey, stating, "Together, we move forward—stronger, prouder, and united."

Enumerating the key achievements of the Modi government, the Defence Minister pointed to initiatives that have enhanced the ease of living for citizens and ease of doing business for entrepreneurs. From women empowerment to farmers' welfare, Singh said, the administration has worked with a "focused and committed effort to uplift and strengthen every section of society."

He cited flagship welfare schemes such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Ayushman Bharat, and Ujjwala Yojana as historic initiatives that have ensured dignity, health, and empowerment for millions of the poorest of the poor.

"Alongside, massive expansion in physical infrastructure from highways to railways, from smart cities to digital connectivity—and the strengthening of human resources in healthcare and education have laid the foundation for a new India," the Defence

## EAM in Brussels, holds talks with **Belgium DPM and FM Maxime Prevot**

June 9 (UNI): External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who is visiting Brussels, today met the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Belgium Maxime Prevot, during which he welcomed Belgium's support and solidarity with India in combatting terrorism.

In a post on X, the EAM also said that he appreciated the strong momentum of the bilateral engagement and the India-EU partnership.

"Pleased to meet DPM & FM @prevotmaxime at the start of my visit to Belgium."Welcomed Belgium's support and solidarity in combatting terrorism."Appreciated the strong momentum of our

"Also held wide - Defence Minister Theo (PNB) of Rs 13,850 crore.

Brussels/New Delhi, ranging discussions on Francken, deepening our cooperation including in trade, investment, technology, defence & security, pharmaceuticals, clean energy and mobility." Notably, EAM Jaishankar is visiting Belgium, the EU and France from June 8-14.

> Besides meeting the DPM and FM Maxime Prevot, EAM would also meet the senior leadership of Belgium and interact with the members of the Indian community. The visit of the EAM to Brussels comes three months after the visit to India of Princess Astrid of Belgium, who had come at the head of a 300-member economic mission to India, and had held talks with PM Modi and the EAM.

Princess Astrid's team

Minister-President Matthias Diependaele and Belgian ambassador Didier Vanderhasselt. The two sides had discussed a wide range of issues during the meeting in March with PM Modi, including labour migration, pharmaceuticals, defence, diamonds, space exploration and green energy.Interestingly, EAM's visit comes as fugitive Indian diamantaire Mehul Choksi, wanted in the PNB loan fraud case, is currently in a Belgian jail. He was arrested in mid-April on India's extradition request.India has an extradition treaty with Belgium.Choksi, 65, along with his nephew Nirav Modi-who is in London awaiting extradition—is bilateral engagement and had comprised Foreign accused of defrauding the India - EU partnership. minister Maxime Prévot, Punjab National Bank

## Raigad's Jaykrishna Ramram Gore honored with Dr. APJ **Abdul Kalam Bharat Award**



(Standard Post Bureau)

Raigad, June 9: The honor of the son of Raigad district, who reached the pinnacle of success through achievement, perseverance and selfconfidence, has become a matter of pride for the entire district. Raigad's Jaykrishna Ramram Gore was honored with the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Bharat Award in Mumbai. This award was presented to him

by the grandson of Dr. APJ

Abdul Kalam.

Famous film director Ramesh Sippy and singer Udit Narayan were also honored at this award ceremony, which is a matter of pride in itself.

Jaykrishna Gore's journey is an inspiring story of hard work and determination. Starting as a simple mechanic, he set up his own two-wheeler showroom. Honest service, transparent transactions and honest relationship with customers became the strengths of his business. Behind his success lies not only a business approach, but also a sense of social commitment."

Today, Jayakrishna Gore has become a role for young entrepreneurs. The entire Raigad district is proud to honor his successful journey.Congratulations are pouring in from all walks of life for his distinguished achievement.

#### **SC** declines urgent listing of Tamil Nadu's suit for **Rs 2,291 crore** education funds

New Delhi, June 9 (UNI) The Supreme Court on Monday declined to urgently list a suit filed by Tamil government against the Union Government, seeking the release of over Rs 2,291 crore under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme (SSS).

A bench comprising Justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and Manmohan rejected the plea for early listing during the court's partial working days, observing that there was "no urgency" in the matter.

New Delhi on Monday.

Mumbai, June 9 (UNI)

In the wake of a tragic rail

accident near Thane, where

four passengers lost their

lives after falling from an

overcrowded local train

between Diva and Mumbra

stations on Monday, the

Central Railway has

announced three key

safety enhancements aimed

at preventing similar

this morning at around 9:20

AM to Chhatrapati Shivaji

Maharaj Terminus (CSMT)-

bound local train from

Kasara. Due to severe

overcrowding, many

passengers were forced to

stand on the footboard. As

the train passed close to

another, eight passengers

fell off, resulting in four

deaths and serious injuries

to four others, who are

treatment at a hospital in

officials, led by Public

committed to three major

joining the Central Railway

fleet will be equipped with

automatic door closing

systems. Specifically, 238

new air-conditioned local

trains are slated to feature

this safety mechanism.

Secondly, the railway plans

to retrofit existing trains

with automatic door closers

receiving

Railway

currently

initiatives.

Central

Kalwa.

The accident occurred

incidents in the future.

Senior Advocate P. Wilson, representing the Tamil Nadu government, pressed for an urgent hearing, arguing that nearly 48 lakh students in the state were being deprived of essential education

"All students in Tamil Nadu are being denied their right to education funds by the central government. The new academic year began on June 3, and admissions are underway," Wilson submitted.

When Justice Mishra enquired when the funds had stopped, Wilson responded that the funds had not been released since last year and that the original suit was filed on May 20, 2025. Despite this, the bench declined the urgent listing request.

Tamil Nadu has approached the Supreme Court under Article 131 of the Constitution, accusing the Centre of unlawfully withholding funds under

The state contends that the denial is tied to its nonimplementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the PM SHRI (Schools for Rising India) scheme.

In its suit, Tamil Nadu seeks a direction the Union Government to release the pending Rs 2,291 crore along applicable interest.

The state also seeks a declaration that making the release of SSS funds contingent upon the adoption of NEP 2020 and the PM SHRI scheme is "unconstitutional, illegal, unreasonable, and arbitrary.

to enhance passenger protection across the entire suburban network.

"Following this accident, the railway administration has taken decisive steps. The new trains entering our fleet will have automatic door closing systems. We are acquiring 238 new AC local trains equipped with this feature. Additionally, we are working on retrofitting existing trains with automatic door closing systems to

These measures aim to reduce the risk of passengers falling from moving trains, a hazard exacerbated overcrowding and the absence of automatic door closures on suburban rakes. The Central Railway's commitment marks a significant step toward safer public transport in Mumbai's busy suburban

Relations officer Swapnil rail network. Neela, acknowledged the List of Victims recurring nature of such accidents and emphasised the urgent need for improved passenger safety Chhatrapati measures. To this end, the

railway administration has Firstly, all new trains Shivaji Maharaj Hospital.)

3. Rihan Sheikh (Male/ 26 years old, residing in Bhiwandi, travelling from Kalyan to Thane, his condition is stable and he is undergoing treatment at Shivaji Maharaj Hospital.)

Central Railway announces 3 key safety

BJP National President Jagat Prakash Nadda with party leaders inaugurates an exhibition after addressing a press

conference on "Viksit Bharat Ka Amrit Kaal: Seva, Sushasan aur Garib Kalyan ke 11 Saal," marking the completion of

11 years of the NDA government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at the BJP headquarters in

enhancements following accident near Thane

Swapnil Neela stated, ensure passenger safety."

1. Shiva Gawli (Male 23 years old, has been shifted to Jupiter Hospital from Maharaj Hospital as his condition is critical.)

2. Aadesh Bhoir (Male/ 26 years old, residing in Adhgaon, Kasara, his condition is stable and he is undergoing treatment at

#### years old, his condition is critical and he has been shifted to Jupiter Hospital for treatment.) 5. Tushar Bhagat

4. Anil More (Male 40

(Male/22 years old, travelling from Titwala to Thane, his condition is stable and he is undergoing treatment at Shivaji Maharaj Hospital.)

6. Manish Saroj (Male/ 26 years old, address: Diva Sabegaon, Diva's condition is stable and he is undergoing treatment at Shivaji Maharaj Hospital.)

7. Machhindra Gotarne (Male/39 years old, residing in Vashind, is in stable condition and undergoing treatment at Shivaji Maharaj Hospital.) 8. Sneha Dhonde

(Female/21 years, resident: Titwala, travel: Titwala to Thane, is in stable condition and undergoing treatment at Shivaji Maharaj Hospital) 9. Priyanka Bhatia

(Female/26 years, resident: for enhanced safety Shahad, Kalyan, is in stable condition undergoing treatment at overcrowding as a critical Shivaji Maharaj Hospital.) The details of the

deceased are as follows 1. Ketan Dilip Saroj

- (Male/23 years, resident: Tanaji Nagar, Ulhasnagar)
- 2. Rahul Santosh Gupta 3. Vicky Babasaheb Mukhidal (Male/34 years,

Railway Police Employee) 4. Unknown person Maharashtra Chief

Minister has expressed grief for the victims' families and noted that the injured are receiving treatment at Shivaji and Thane General hospitals, with local administration coordinating assistance. He is praying for their recovery, while the Railway Department has initiated an investigation into the

**Deputy Chief Ministers** Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar also expressed sorrow over the accident. Shinde has communicated with doctors at local hospitals to ensure proper care for the injured, while Pawar emphasised the need measures is transport, issue affecting passenger

## damaged by Pak shelling

MHA to give additional

compensation for houses

New Delhi, June 9 (UNI) Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday asked his department to make a provision of Rs 25 crore over and above the Central Government's compensation for 2060 houses damaged in Pakistan's shelling.Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced additional compensation for houses damaged by Pakistani shelling in the border districts of Jammu and Kashmir following Operation Sindoor.

As a special case, the Prime Minister announced additional compensation of Rs two lakh each for fully damaged house and Rs one lakh each for partially damaged house. The Ministry of Home Affairs has ensured swift implementation of this decision. Similar compensation will also be provided in the border areas of Punjab, a Home Ministry statement said. During his visit to Poonch on 29– 30 May, Amit Shah handed over appointment letters on compassionate grounds to the family members of those who lost their lives due to cross-border firing. Immediate compensation was also provided for damage caused by cross-border shelling, under existing norms. After Operation Sindoor, several incidents of cross border shelling were reported in border districts of Jammu and Kashmir. Hundreds of families suffered due to cross-border shelling on residential areas, schools, religious structures, including Gurudwaras, temples, mosques and commercial properties. The administration took proactive measures to anticipate possible events and ensure effective response. A total of 3.25 lakh people were evacuated from the border districts. Nearly 15,000 people were provided shelter in 397 sheds/accommodation centres equipped with facilities like food, water, health care, electricity etc. A total of 394 ambulances were deployed in all border districts to take patients to hospitals for treatment, out of which 62 were deployed in Poonch district alone. A total of 2818 civil defence volunteers were also deployed for services related to health, fire and emergency services, livestock, essential supplies etc.

## 450 MW Shongtong Project in Kinnaur to be commissioned by Nov next year: CM

Kinnaur, June 9 (UNI): Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today announced that the longdelayed 450 MW Shongtong-Karcham hydroelectric project in Kinnaur district is now targeted for commissioning by November next year.He said the project, once operational, is expected to generate annual revenue of Rs 1,000 crore for the state.During a visit to the project site, the Chief Minister inspected the power house at Karcham and the barrage at Powari. He directed officials to complete the work in a time-bound manner,

adding that the project has remained incomplete for 13 years due to negligence by the previous BJP-led government."We are determined to complete this crucial power project by November 2026. It will be a major step towards strengthening the state's economy," Sukhu said. He also interacted with engineers and labourers involved in the construction. Sukhu said his

government is actively working to take over other key hydropower projects like Dhaulasidh, Luhri, and Sunni, and evaluate the costs already incurred. "Going forward, Himachal

will execute such projects on its own terms to safeguard state interests," he said.

Highlighting the need for energy self-reliance during winter months, the CM stressed on scaling up solar and green hydrogen production. He informed that HPPCL is already working on solar projects with a combined capacity of 626 MW. He also revealed plans for a geo-thermal power plant at Tapri in Kinnaur.

Revenue and Tribal Development Minister Jagat Singh Negi and senior officials of the district administration accompanied the CM during the visit.

Quantum

net-zero EV

facility in

manufacturing

Hyderabad to

meet rising

demand

**Energy expands** 

## **TPCC Chief, Min Ponnam meet MLA Malreddy Reddy; address** concerns over cabinet expansion



Hyderabad, June 9 (UNI): Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, along with Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, met senior Congress leader and Ibrahimpatnam MLA Malreddy Ranga Reddy at his residence on Monday to discuss concerns related to the recent cabinet expansion. Mahesh Kumar Goud

emphasised that the cabinet expansion was carried out with due consideration to caste balance.He pointed out that two ministerial berths were allotted to members of the Scheduled Castes (SC) and one to the Backward Classes (BC) category, in line with the findings of the Caste Survey and ongoing demands for SC classification.

He acknowledged

MLA Ranga Reddy's expectations regarding a Ministerial position and said the matter has been brought to the notice of AICC in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy.Goud further assured that Ranga Reddy district will be given due importance in the days ahead, and noted that three cabinet positions are still vacant, indicating possible future inclusions.

## ICRISAT develops world's first heat-tolerant pigeonpea cultivar using speed breeding

Hyderabad, June 9 (UNI): In a landmark achievement for Indian agriculture, scientists at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) have developed ICPV 25444—the world's first extreme heat-tolerant pigeonpea variety.

Developed using the institute's groundbreaking speed-breeding protocol, this cultivar matures in just 125 days and can thrive in temperatures as high as 45 degrees celsius.

The photo- and thermoinsensitive cultivar has been successfully tested in Karnataka, Odisha, and Telangana, yielding up to 2 tons per hectare. This innovation marks a turning point in pulse cultivation, enabling pigeonpea to be

scorching summer, beyond the traditional kharif season. Talking to the media during the field visit on Monday, Dr Himanshu Pathak, Director General, ICRISAT said, "This breakthrough is a shining example of how science, driven by urgency and purpose, can transform farming and address pulse shortages and climate challenges."Developed under the leadership of Dr Prakash Gangashetty, ICRISAT's speed-breeding protocol has cut down the development time for new pigeonpea varieties from 15 years to just five, growing up to four generations per year. Using spaceoptimized planting and

## Modi govt's 11 years have harmed ....

(Contd from page 1) authoritarian rule. "The rights of states have been ignored, and the federal structure has been undermined," he said.

Kharge alleged that the ruling dispensation has created an atmosphere of hatred, intimidation. "Exploitation of Dalits, Adivasis, backward classes, minorities, and other marginalised communities has increased. There is an ongoing conspiracy to deprive them of their rights reservation equality," he added.

He cited the "ongoing violence in Manipur" as a glaring example of what he described as the "BJP's administrative failure".

Kharge also criticised government's economic record, saying the BJP-RSS regime has conditioned the nation to accept a lower GDP growth rate of 5-6 per cent, compared to an average of 8 per cent during the UPA era. He alleged that the "promise of two crore jobs year remains unfulfilled" and claimed that "crores of jobs have actually been lost" under the current administration.

genomic technologies,

scientists maximized seed

"Inflation has reduced public savings to the lowest in 50 years, while economic inequality has reached its highest level in a century. Demonetisation, flawed GST implementation, an unplanned lockdown, and on unorganised sector have destroyed the futures of millions," Kharge claimed.

He further criticised several flagship schemes of government including Make in India, Startup India, Stand Up India, Digital India, Namami Gange, and 100 Smart Cities as having "failed to

He accused the Modi government of merely inaugurating infrastructure built during the UPA era.

grown even in the production and genetic gains.India currently produces 3.5 million tons of pigeonpea against a demand of 5 million tons, leading to annual imports worth USD 800 million. ICPV 25444 supports both vertical and horizontal expansion—offering a viable solution for kharif and summer cropping, particularly in rice fallow and irrigated regions prone to terminal moisture stress.

> The cultivar has shown promising results in field trials, with farmers in Bagalkot, Karnataka, expressing satisfaction over its heat tolerance, short duration, and resilience to pests and diseases.

> As part of its global efforts, ICRISAT is now developing a trait diversity panel using its 13,000accession pigeonpea genebank, supporting breeding programs in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

> "ICPV 25444 is more than a cultivar—it's a climate-smart solution that offers farmers security and sustainability in an era of unpredictable weather," said Dr Sean Mayes, Global Research Program Director, Accelerated Crop Improvement, ICRISAT.

#### Hyderabad, June 9 (UNI): Hyderabad-based electric vehicle (EV) startup Quantum Energy Limited announced the expansion of its state-ofthe-art manufacturing facility at Maheshwaram, near the proposed Future City in Hyderabad. The upgraded plant boasts a production capacity of 2 lakh electric two-wheelers per annum and spans an area of 2.4 lakh square feet.

Designed as a net-zero facility, the expansion aligns with the company's commitment to sustainable manufacturing supports Telangana's vision of becoming a hub for clean and future-ready industries. The new facility is also expected to create substantial employment opportunities in the region, a company statement said

This strategic expansion comes amid growing demand for Quantum Energy's electric twowheeler models, such as Plasma, Milan, and Bziness, as well as upcoming new product launches. These models are known for combining smart features with high performance, tailored to Indian roads and weather conditions.

on Monday.

The company is also strengthening its focus on last-mile connectivity and eco-friendly mobility solutions, aiming to redefine the two-wheeler through segment and innovation affordability.

Commenting on the development, Chakravarthi Chukkapalli, Managing Director, Quantum Energy, said, "The expansion of our Maheshwaram facility marks a significant milestone in our journey. As India accelerates toward electric mobility, we remain committed to delivering technologically advanced, energy-efficient twowheelers. This net-zero facility reflects our vision for a cleaner future and our commitment to building a greener planet for ecoconscious consumers."

He also praised Telangana's role as a fertile ground for innovation and expressed pride in contributing to the state's growing leadership in the EV ecosystem.

## GHIAL terminal expansion earns prestigious LEED **Platinum Certification**

Hyderabad, June 9 (UNI): GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) has been awarded the coveted LEED Platinum certification for its expanded passenger terminal at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), under the LEED v4 Building Design and Construction category.

The terminal scored an impressive 84 points from the US Green Building Council, placing it among the top-rated airport facilities globally for sustainable design and performance. The expanded terminal spans over 379,000 square metres and incorporates high-efficiency systems for HVAC, lighting, water conservation, and energy monitoring, a statement said on Monday.

Key features include rainwater harvesting, LED lighting with occupancy sensors, low-flow plumbing fixtures, native landscaping, and paperless operational enhancements like e-boarding and self-baggage drop.

## Union Minister K Reddy calls for Al-driven, sustainable mineral exploration

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, June 9: Union Minister for Coal and Mines and Telangana BJP President, G Kishan Reddy, emphasised the growing importance of science, sustainability, and emerging technologies in mineral exploration to achieve the goals of Viksit

Speaking inaugurating the "Next-Gen Geophysics 2025: Unlocking Earth's Hidden Treasures" conference at the Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI), Hyderabad, on Monday, he highlighted key initiatives, including

the establishment of the National Landslide Forecasting Centre and an MoU with Italy to enhance disaster preparedness.

The minister praised GSI's 175-year legacy and urged geoscientists to adopt cutting-edge tools like AI and quantum computing for precise exploration. He cited the Rs 10,300 crore India AI Mission and Rs 6,000 crore National Quantum Mission as catalysts for innovation.

He also stressed reducing dependence on imports of critical minerals like lithium and cobalt through responsible, techdriven mining.

Malkajgiri MP Eatala Rajender called geoscience a transformative field, where traditional methods converge with AI and quantum sensing. He lauded GSI's integration of AI/ML in geohazard assessments and mineral investigations, expressing optimism about India's leadership in sustainable resource management.

Earlier in the day, Kishan Reddy and Rajender inaugurated two new hydrostatic drill rigs and the next-gen geophysics expo pavilion, which showcased advanced geophysical tools and AI-enabled

exploration technologies.

The two-day international conference features participants from India, Australia, Canada, Russia, the USA, Poland, Malaysia, Singapore. The agenda includes AI-integrated exploration models, highresolution subsurface imaging, and sustainable mineral development strategies.

Senior GSI officials, international delegates, and geoscientific experts are attending the event, underscoring India's growing global presence in geoscience and innovation, an official statement said.

## Shivraj Singh Chouhan interacts with farmers, emphasises self-reliance in agriculture

(UNI): Union Minister for this year, he credited the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, participated in a direct interaction programme with farmers at Mangalapalli Rangareddy Rural district as part of the ongoing Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan.

Addressing gathering, the Minister managed solely from offices underscored importance of agricultural self-sufficiency in realising the dream of a developed

"For the dream of a developed India to come true, there must be developed work—meaning self-sufficiency agriculture," he said.

Highlighting the record- farmers not only in

level food grain production resilience and hard work of Indian farmers and emphasided that Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan was launched with a vision in to ensure long-term sustainability prosperity in farming.

Chouhan stressed that the agriculture cannot be and research institutes. "Our government reaches wherever agriculture happens—wherever farmers innovate and cultivate. We aim to solve problems by connecting directly with farmers at the field level," he added.

He affirmed the Centre's commitment to supporting cultivation but also in marketing their produce. "Agriculture is not just about vegetables and grains, but also includes avenues like beekeeping which can enhance farmers' incomes," he said.

During the event, the Telangana Farmers' Union, on behalf of the BJP Kisan Morcha, presented a symbolic plough to the Minister as a mark of respect. He was accompanied

by Union Minister of State for Agriculture Bhagiratha Choudhary, who was also warmly welcomed by the Kisan Morcha. Prominent attendees

included BJP State General Secretary Premender Reddy, BJP Kisan Morcha State President Kondapalli Sridhar Reddy, Kisan Morcha National Executive Member Madhusudhan Reddy, Papayya Goud, State General Secretaries Padamati Jaganmohan Reddy and Maripalli Anjaiah Yadav, BJP Rangareddy District President Raj Bhupal Goud, and Kisan Morcha District President Ravinder Reddy, among others.

Various showcasing agricultural innovations and schemes were set up as part of the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan programme held in Ibrahimpatnam, drawing interest from participating farmers and officials alike.

## Govt committed to providing access to basic necessities: Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy

Nalgonda, June 9 (UNI): Irrigation, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Capt. N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday said the Congress government's top priority is ensuring that every family in Telangana has access to basic necessities like shelter, clean water, and food.

He also promised irrigation development, and stronger support for farmers across the state.

He was speaking at a large public gathering in Miryalguda in Nalgonda district during the distribution of sanction letters under the Indiramma Housing scheme, where thousands of beneficiaries received approvals for new homes.

Highlighting the flagship housing programme, he said 4.5 lakh houses would be built across the state with Rs 22,000 crore investment. Each Assembly constituency will receive 3,500 houses, with each unit featuring 400 sq. ft. of space, RCC roofing, kitchen, and toilet facilities. Turning to irrigation, Uttam assured residents that all pending projects in Miryalguda will be expedited, including the much-awaited Srisailam Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel, which will provide 30 TMC of water to Nalgonda district.

He slammed the previous BRS government for failing to secure Telangana's rightful share of Krishna and Godavari

waters. "The BRS regime remained silent while Andhra Pradesh expanded projects like Pothireddypadu and illegally diverted Krishna waters," he said, citing data showing Telangana received as little as 36 per cent of water between 2014 and 2021. The minister also announced that the Yasangi paddy procurement had reached a new high of 72.42 lakh metric tonnes, a significant jump from the 59.77 lakh metric tonnes in 2023 under the BRS government. This, he said, was possible due to the increased number of procurement centres and better outreach. Additionally, over Rs 15,000 crore in financial aid has been season—more than double

distributed to farmers this what was provided in the previous regime. Uttam also highlighted the success of the Free Fine Rice Scheme, which now covers 84 per cent of Telangana's population, offering 6 kg of fine rice per person per month at a cost of Rs 13,000 crore annually.Reaffirming his dedication to the Miryalguda region, the minister called on people to continue supporting the Congress government's vision for a more just, developed, and

Senior leaders including Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy, Ministers Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and

inclusive Telangana.

Komatireddy Venkatreddy, power and credited CM and local MLAs were present. The minister praised Congress workers for their sacrifices in

bringing the party back to SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice No. SG-SWR-PROJ-

UBL-RFP-PSS Dated: 03-06-2025 The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tender

Item of work Rs. 13.80.09.261.96 roposal (RFP) for providing Project upervision Services (PSS) At Various Construction Sites/Sections in the Jurisdiction of Chief Signal & Telecor Engineer/Project Hubballi and Chie Signal & Telecom Engineer/Projec engaluru, South Western Railway.

for the following works:

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 04-07-2025

Deputy Chief Signal & Telecom Engine Project, Hubbal

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**CENTRAL RAILWAY** 

MUMBAI DIVISION

E-tender notice no. NIT/01/25/25 dated 05-June-25

team for driving welfare oriented governance.

Revanth Reddy and his

### EAST COAST RAILWAY

Dt. 28.05.2025 Name of Work: PROVISION OF TACTILE
TILES AND HAND RAILS FOR RAMPS AT
DIFFERENT STATIONS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF SENIOR DIVISIONA ENGINEER/EAST/WALTAIR IN CONNECTION WITH THE WORK OF PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR DIVYANGJAN AT ALL STATIONS OVER

Approx cost of the work : ₹ 3,41,39,601.09, EMD: ₹ 3,20,700/-, Completion Period of the work: 12 months.

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 suc manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any

locuments of the above e-tender is available website www.ireps.gov.in Note: The prospective tenderers are advised

to revisit the website 15 (fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/ corrigendum issued for this tender. Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.)
Waltai

415 Nos. 07-July-25

14534 Nos. 07-July-25

29018.62 | 30-June-25

| or and on behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Materials<br>flanager, Central Railway invites e-tenders for supply of the following items: |           |                                                                                                                                             |            |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 3r.<br>10.                                                                                                                                                  | Tender No | Description                                                                                                                                 | Quantity   | Due Date   |
| 1                                                                                                                                                           | 27253631  | Contactor for Head Light                                                                                                                    | 368 Nos.   | 27-June-25 |
| 2                                                                                                                                                           | 38253311  | Constant contact Poly urethane side bearer pad assembly                                                                                     | 2999 Nos.  | 27-June-25 |
| 3                                                                                                                                                           | 75252504  | Decorative Thermosetting Synthetic Resin Bonded Laminated Sheets.                                                                           | 4307 Nos.  | 27-June-25 |
| 4                                                                                                                                                           | 18252268B | RELAY (GP)                                                                                                                                  | 443 Nos.   | 30-June-25 |
| 5                                                                                                                                                           | 27253674A | End Frame DE Assembly                                                                                                                       | 52 Nos.    | 30-June-25 |
| 6                                                                                                                                                           | 42251387A | SET OF VALVES FOR EMU'S / MEMU'S<br>AIR SUSPENSION BOGIES COMPRISING                                                                        | 1085 Sets. | 30-June-25 |
| 7                                                                                                                                                           | 42251450  | SET OF ITEMS AS PER M/s Schunk<br>Carbon Technology India Pvt., Ltd<br>part no:- [1] BASE BEARING -<br>(a) PART NO. 909010010200 (Floating) | 41 Sets.   | 30-June-25 |
| 3                                                                                                                                                           | 42253452A | LOWER RUBBER WASHER                                                                                                                         | 18418 Nos. | 30-June-25 |
| 9                                                                                                                                                           | 43250001  | Battery fuse box negative                                                                                                                   | 880 Nos.   | 30-June-25 |
| 10                                                                                                                                                          | 18252161  | CYLINDER LOW PRESSURE                                                                                                                       | 68 Nos.    | 01-July-25 |
| 11                                                                                                                                                          | 27255016  | Roof Mounted Air Conditioning System                                                                                                        | 700Nos.    | 02-July-25 |
| 12                                                                                                                                                          | 75251095  | Vinyl coated upholstery fabric                                                                                                              | 34261 Nos. | 02-July-25 |

NOTE: All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website at https://www.ireps.gov.in. For

14 38252505 Hanger for Bolster Spring Suspension

15 | 51256027A | Prestressed Monoblock concrete

For Principal Chief Materials Manager

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Restoration of statehood

remains a core demand

and a prerequisite for

### **STANDARD POST**

# 77 per cent of Russian internet users have played video games

A recent survey conducted by the Russian government-owned research center VCIOM found that 77 per cent of active internet users in Russia have played video games, reflecting a more widespread global trend.

As of 2025, the global gaming community has expanded to around 3.32 billion players, showing a significant rise from previous years. In fact, video gaming has become an increasingly popular hobby for both the younger and older generations.

Of the 77 per cent of Russians who have played video games, 44 per cent consider themselves active players, while 33 per cent say they used to play but no longer do. This shows that while gaming is widespread, almost half of the respondents continue to play on a daily basis.

In Russia, gaming is predominantly favoured by men and younger adults, especially those that are financially stable. In contrast, women, older adults and those with lower incomes tend to have less gaming experience.

A distinctive feature of the Russian gaming landscape is the fact that personal computers remain the most popular gaming platform, Xinhua news agency reported. The findings of the poll show that 82 per cent of gamers use a computer or laptop to play games. A total of 63 per cent of the respondents use mobile phones, while 27 per cent use tablets, and 27 per cent consoles.

Russian mobile games are also becoming more popular among the population. The number of transactions on RuStore, Russia's official application store, has nearly doubled over the past year, with 60 per cent of payments linked to domestic games, Ilya Ulyanov, the Director of business development at RuStore, told Russian media Izvestia.

The improvement of the quality of games, the growth of the diversity of in-game content and the development of convenient payment methods are causing the growth of its domestic games, said Ulyanov, the income of Russian indie developers in RuStore increased four times in the first quarter of 2025 from the same period last year.

Although fewer people use consoles than mobile phones, console gaming remains a promising sector. For those Russians that do use consoles, they note that they offer a way to unwind and spend time with family and friends. PlayStation remains the most popular console, according to the report.

## Pakistani army acts as custodian of ideologies, religion: Former diplomat

(By IANS)

Former Indian diplomat D.P. Srivastava stated that Pakistan's Army challenges the concept of sovereignty by acting as a custodian of ideologies and religion, rather than focusing on national frontiers like the military forces of other nations.

Srivastava also slammed the radical Islamist ideology in Pakistan, which pits the nation against its neighbouring countries, including India.

In an interview with IANS, the former diplomat also talked about Pakistani Army's Field Marshal General Asim Munir's April 16 speech, just days before the Pahalgam terror attack, in which 26 innocent people lost their lives at the hands of terrorists belonging to The Resistance Front (TRF), an offshoot of Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba.

He hailed Operation Sindoor and said that it reflected a major shift in India's security doctrine. He also commented on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's G7 invite.

The following are the excerpts from the interview:

IANS: Could you tell us something about your book "Pakistan -- Ideologies, Strategies and Interests"?

D.P. Srivastava: My postings took me to Karachi, Pakistan, and the early 1990s. I dealt with Pakistan, among other issues, in the UN division of the Ministry of External Affairs for eight years in the '90s, and during this, I dealt with Kashmir talks to the Pokhran nuclear test and Kargil. The inspiration for the book came from my posting to Karachi, where I heard the phrase 'Nazariae-Pakistan', which means the ideology of Pakistan. This is the very phrase used by Gen Munir, who mentioned this in his speech on April 16, days before the Pahalgam terror attack. My book traces the interpretation of ideology and elite interest in the making of Pakistan's domestic and foreign



IANS: What is the ideology of Pakistan? Gen Asim Munir mentioned "superior ideology" and the two-nation theory in his speech on April 16. What is this ideology?

D.P. Srivastava: The

ideology of Pakistan

remains vague due to various influential factors within the country. In 1972, provincial governments dismissed, and the principal opposition party, the National Awami Party, was banned after the Supreme Court of Pakistan stated that the party was contrary to the ideology of Pakistan. Notably, this occurred before the formation of the country's new constitution, indicating that the ideology preceded the Constitution in Pakistan.

There are different views of what this ideology is. Iqbal, who is known as the best explainer of Pakistani ideology, said that in Islam, religion and state are integral to each other, so he ruled out the idea of secularism, and he also opposed the idea of nationalism.

Iqbal also stressed the concept of Umma, which is pan-Islamism, and these are the concepts at the root of Pakistan's current trouble where the jihadi groups do not accept the supremacy of the Parliament, the sovereignty of which, is also challenged by the Army. The jihadi philosophy has always pitted Pakistan against its neighbours, including, what they call "the Hindu India, Shia Iran, and Sunni Afghanistan".

IANS: What is the mindset of the Pakistan Army?

ny? D.P. Srivastava: To understand the mindset Pakistan Army, one should go back to Gen Asim Munir's April 16 speech, where he reminded his Pakistani audience that they belong to a superior ideology. What is this ideology, one may ask? (Former Pakistani President) Ayub Khan

described it as Islam.

It is very strange that the Pakistani army chiefs talk about ideology and Islam. In other nations, the armies protect the national frontiers, while in Pakistan, the army has become a custodian of ideologies and religion. Seems like Gen Munir has assumed the priest and a general.

The Pakistani army has institutionalised its role in the running of the government, where the civilian parties have taken the backseat. This mindset is also reflected in the neglect of socioeconomic indicators. Pakistan's army regards itself as the state, and it has this mindset has led to excessive defensive expenditure to the neglect of economic indicators.

IANS: How do you see Operation Sindoor? Is it part of a larger strategic shift in India's security policy against Pakistan-sponsored cross-border terrorism?

D.P. Srivastava:
Operation Sindoor
represents a strategic shift
in India's security doctrine,
as the Prime Minister has
underlined. Pakistan has
used the threat of
escalation to the nuclear
level in the case of India's
conventional response to
subconventional threats
like terror attacks.

This time, however, there was no statement from the Pakistani side about nuclear escalation during Operation Sindhoor. So Pakistan's bluff has been called, that it cannot escalate a local conflict or deter India from a military response to a terror attack, and this is a major shift in the paradigm. It also sends a message to the global community that India will exercise its right of selfdefence, and we have the strength to do so. We did that in a very responsible manner. We avoided escalation.

The escalation came mostly from the Pakistani side. India's initial strike was only against the terror camps. We avoided hitting any Pakistani, civil or military installation. It was Pakistan which attacked Indian Air Force bases, and that forced India to attack Pakistani military installations, and that brought Pakistan quickly to its knees. The Pakistani DGMO called his Indian counterpart, begging for a ceasefire. This message has also gone home and has been understood well by international community.

IANS: Prime Minister Modi has accepted an invitation by Canadian PM Mark Carney to the G7 Summit. Do you think this will help mend the strained India-Canada ties?

D.P. Srivastava: The Prime Minister has accepted the invitation to go to the G7 summit. So the focus will be on global issues, not on bilateral relations. But, of course, when the leaders meet, they discuss the entire range of issues, and this will be a good opportunity to bring the bilateral relations back on an even keel.

We had good relations with Canada, and I believe, better there's a understanding of the Indian position in the new government there, about the impact of terrorism. And, I think the new government is unlikely to use these incidents as an electoral card. So we hope that this visit will bring about clearer a understanding between the two countries.

## devt: Farooq Abdullah Srinagar, June 9 (UNI) revive the region's vital

Srinagar, June 9 (UNI)
National Conference
President and former J&K
Chief Minister Farooq
Abdullah on Monday said
the restoration of Jammu
and Kashmir's statehood
remains a core demand and
a prerequisite for
addressing the region's
developmental challenges.

At the inaugural function of the historical rail link to Kashmir. Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah had raked up the issue of restoring statehood, saying it was through Prime Minister Narendra Modi that "J&K's status will be restored".

On Monday, Farooq Abdullah reiterated that the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood remains a core demand.

Abdullah said the promise of statehood, made by the central government both in Parliament and before the Supreme Court, must be fulfilled in letter and spirit."Statehood is our issue, and it will never fade away. We hope that what has been promised will be delivered, Insha'Allah," Abdullah said while speaking to reporters in Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir..He stressed that without full-fledged statehood, governance remains incomplete, and the administration's ability to meet the people's needs is severely restricted.

"How can we fulfill people's expectations without statehood? We need to repair roads, rebuild schools and hospitals, and revive tourism," he said.

Abdullah emphasized that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are eager for progress, and their aspirations can only be met through democratic empowerment. "We've met the people. They have placed their trust in us. Now it's time to give them the means to improve their lives," he added

The former CM called for collective efforts to

tourism sector.

He acknowledged the

He acknowledged the sharp decline in tourist footfall following the Pahalgam attack and emphasized the urgent need to eliminate the prevailing sense of fear. "After the Pahalgam incident, tourism has suffered badly. To counter that, we are making every effort," he said.

Abdullah said that a special Cabinet meeting was recently held in Pahalgam to assess the situation and reassure the public and potential visitors of their safety. "I was also there. We were all present to show that we stand with the people and the region," he added.

In a symbolic move to inspire confidence among travelers, the veteran leader said he would personally visit Pahalgam on Tuesday.

"Not just Pahalgam, even the rush at Mata Vaishno Devi has gone down. People are scared. I am going to help dispel that fear," he said.

Expressing concern over the severe economic distress faced by Kashmir's tourism sector following the Pahalgam attack, Abdullah urged the Centre to intervene and provide immediate relief to those dependent on the tourism economy. The NC chief highlighted the widespread impact on hoteliers, taxi drivers, pony operators, and local tour service providers, many of whom had taken bank loans to support their businesses during the tourism boom.

"People took loans to build hotels, expand rooms, buy horses, taxis—everything was done to welcome tourists," he said. Abdullah revealed that he has personally requested the Chief Minister to take up with the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister to direct banks to suspend loan recovery proceedings until the tourism sector stabilizes.

## Marengo Asia Hospitals Faridabad organises Neuro Health Camp and Awareness Talk on World Brain Tumour Day

(Standard Post Bureau)
On the occasion of
World Brain Tumour Day,
Marengo Asia Hospitals,
Faridabad, successfully
organized a dedicated
Neuro Health Camp and
Awareness Talk, in their
hospital premises. The
event drew enthusiastic
participation from the
community and was led
by Dr. Tarun Sharma,
Program Clinical Director
Neurosurgery.

The main aim of this initiative was designed to spread awareness, promote early detection, and empower individuals with knowledge about brain tumours and neurological health.

The event began with a highly informative awareness talk by Dr. Tarun Sharma, who shared insights on the early signs and symptoms of brain tumours, including persistent headaches, unexplained seizures, changes in vision or



elaborated on the importance of not ignoring subtle neurological symptoms, as timely diagnosis plays a critical role in treatment outcomes.

During the awareness

talk, Dr. Tarun Sharma,
Program Clinical Director

Neurosurgery, Marengo
Asia Hospitals Faridabad
said "Brain tumours,

though often feared, can be managed well when detected early.

Through events like these, we aim to educate the community about warning signs and available treatment options, while also breaking the stigma and fear surrounding neurological conditions. Our goal is to empower individuals to seek help without delay and support

them throughout their journey."

A free Neuro Health Check Camp was also conducted alongside the awareness session.

This included neurological assessments, personalized counselling, early screening, and follow-up guidance for individuals showing signs of neurological concerns. Participants received oneon-one consultations with experts, helping them understand their symptoms, risk factors, and necessary next steps.

The camp served as a platform not just for health checks, but for meaningful interaction. An interactive Q&A session followed the awareness talk, allowing attendees to directly engage with Dr. Sharma and ask questions related to symptoms, diagnosis, surgical options, rehabilitation, and lifestyle changes.

The session helped demystify complex neurological topics in a patient-friendly manner.

During the event, several patients who had previously been treated for various neurological conditions shared their personal journeys, highlighting how timely diagnosis and appropriate medical intervention had significantly improved

their quality of life. Their stories served as powerful testimonies to the importance of early detection and expert care in managing neurological disorders. The session proved to be deeply motivating, inspiring attendees to prioritize their neurological health and seek timely medical support without fear or hesitation.

Marengo Asia Hospitals, Faridabad, reaffirmed its commitment to community health through this initiative, highlighting the importance of brain health awareness, especially in a time where neurological disorders are on the rise but still under-discussed. The hospital plans to continue such outreach programs regularly, emphasizing the need for preventive care, timely diagnosis, and patient education as pillars of modern healthcare.

## WINE BY SIGN

Choose your next bottle based on the label or go for the one that is written in your stars as we reveal a perfect match for you

horoscope once in awhile. Sometimes you just can't help but wonder what the day has in store for you, and it's comforting to have it (kind of) predicted. While we can't know whether or not our fate is truly written in the stars, there is one thing we can always

you do.

**Your Drink: Orange Wine** Why: You're not one to get lost in a crowd, so in a world of red and white wine, go for the equally standout orange. Though technically a white wine, it's made like a red, resulting in a sunset-orange color and a tart flavor that's loaded with tannins. The innovative way it's made is the perfect fit for someone who appreciates originality as much as



#### **Your Drink: Riesling**



#### **Taurus Your Drink: Barolo**

Why: You understand that you can't rush perfection and let's be real, you enjoy the finer things in life when you can -which makes this old-world wine ideal for you. Barolo is stored for three years before it's sold, which brings out the drink's spicy, fruity flavour. Plus, like you, it ages well. In fact, some of today's most popular vintages were bottled back in 1998.



**Your Drink: Chenin Blanc** Why: You like to experience all life has to offer, and routines bore you to death, so you need a wine that's as versatile as your tastes. Chenin Blanc tastes refreshing as a sweet or dry wine, and its apple, honey, and orange blossom flavours pair well with everything



#### Cancer **Your Drink: Zinfandel**

Why: Cancers are known for having a tough exterior, but once you get to know them, they're some of the kindest, most welcoming people around. If you take a sip right after opening a bottle, all you taste is alcohol. Give it 30 minutes to decant, however, and the berry and licorice flavors come out, as well as a warmth that lingers long after your last sip.



Your Drink: Champagne Why: You're all about living and celebrating the good life, so really, there is no other drink for you. A glass of bubbly goes flute-in-hand with your outgoing personality, but if the price is a turnoff, try Cava. This Spanish sparkling wine is made the same way as Champers, Ross says, but you can often find a bottle at a fraction of the price.



#### Vrigo

**Your Drink: Pinot Noir** Why: Virgos are purists who appreciate careful attention to detail, and that's exactly how Pinot Noir is made. The delicate grapes can easily die, so growers must be focused on making sure their conditions are just right so the vineyard can flourish, resulting in a light-bodied wine with raspberry jam flavours that you can enjoy year-round.



Why: Most people think of Riesling as a sweet wine, but it actually pairs with just about anything even spicy foods, which clashes with most wines. Not only does it reflect Libras' ability to get along with anyone, but it appeals to the unbridled joy you feel when your drink perfectly complements and enhances your meal. It's the no-fail choice for whatever's on the menu.



#### Scorpio Your Drink: Cabernet Sauvignon

Why: You're basically the walking embodiment of Selena Gomez's Good for You video, so you need a drink that's equally sultry. Many people can't quite pinpoint exactly what makes them so obsessed with this cherry-and-tobaccoflavoured wine, they just know they're hooked. Doesn't that alluring aura of mystery remind you of someone?



**Sagittarius** 

Your Drink: Teran

Why: You love connecting

#### Capricorn

Your Drink: Bordeaux Why: To quote Taylor Swift, we never go out of style and your drink should-n't, either. Bordeaux is every bit as timeless as your taste. It's a classic for a reason, and as someone who values quality and consistency, you'll rest easy knowing that any bottle you buy will have a reliably oaky, full-bodied



#### **Aquarius** Your Drink: Biodynamic

Why: You're known for your progressive, humanitarian views, and you're down to try new things, so if you haven't sampled a biodynamic wine yet, you need to get on that. This wine is made under strict farming practices that focus on sustainability, and it has a pungent, tart flavor that's closer to a sour beer than a traditional red wine.



#### **Pisces** Your Drink: Pétillant-**Naturel** wine

Why: You hate being labeled or forced into a box; you just do you. That's why your wine keeps people guessing bubbly and light, it's Champagne's chiller sister. The fizz isn't as aggressive, and it has no added sugars, giving it a zesty, tart flavour that pretty much embodies your fun-loving, free spirit.



(With inputs from Candace Braun Davison for Goodhousekeeping)

## Toss off!

We list some of the things that you shouldn't just throw away

ry quick fixes can extend the lives of the hardest-working items in your

### Mildewy vinyl shower-curtain liner

Fix it: Wash in the machine on a short cycle with some old towels, using hot water and bleach.

**Keep it longer:** Leave the bathroom door or a window open and or a ventilation fan turned on for 20 minutes post-shower.

#### **Knife with knicked blade Fix it:** Check stores to see when a knife

expert who can grind down the edge will Keep it longer: Use a block, a drawer

insert, or a blade sheath to protect it.

#### Saggy seat cushion Fix it: If the upholstery is still in good

shape, remove the foam insert and take it to a store to have a replacement cut to fit. **Keep it longer:** Flip cushions every few months to help them wear evenly.

Worn and wobbly wood furniture

Fix it: The easiest way to save a wiggly wooden chair leg is stick in a toothpick where the leg meets the seat, then simply break it off.





Keep it longer: Whether with a toothpick or with nails, support a loose chair leg sooner rather than later; if you keep the piece in use as is, you risk breaking it.

#### A lumpy pillow

A literal pain in the neck that's what a worn-out pillow can give you. This is something you definitely should replace. To tell whether to toss yours, give it the break test: For a fiberfill or down or feather-filled pillow, fold it in half with a heavy book on top. If the pillow pops back so it's flat, keep it. If it stays folded in half, it's broken either use the filling to stuff smaller pillows or chuck it.

#### **Before you throw it out**

These businesses will repurpose wellused items:

Animal shelters take old towels and blankets, but did you know most need pillows, pillowcases, bathroom rugs, and T-shirts,

Also some accept used household items like pillows, shower curtains, linens, and furniture, which are resold to fund jobtraining programs.

Or you could donate extra paint, tile, and lumber as well as used furniture, cabinets, and fixtures to help a family in need of

Plus you can also try the secondary method by sending it for recycling purposes. This trade association refers you to local members that accept most textiles including rugs and towels, which can be recycled into, say, home in dosulation or carpet

## What's brewing?

With just a little time in hand and right tool, make your own cappa of cold coffee at home

ting a lot of buzz and keeping a lot of people buzzed lately because enthusiasts swear by its lowacid, smooth flavour. Once only found at specialty coffee shops, even Starbucks now offers it on their menu. Along with the coffee shop, you might spot it at the store. But if you've got time on your hands, you can make it yourself.

♦ Set up your machine. ♦Add coarsely ground coffee and cold water to the brewer. We would suggest a 1:4 coffee-to-water ratio. About 10 ounces (or 284

grams) of coffee and to 40

ld brew coffee is get- ounces (or 5 cups) of water fit into their specialty brew-

♦Let it now do all the

♦ After 12 to 24 hours, you'll have enough rich, concentrated coffee for

about 12 cups. ♦ Store the carafe in the fridge.

♦When you're ready for a drink, combine 1/4 cup of the cold brew with cold water, ice and/or milk as you prefer. For hot coffee, heat milk in the microwave.



## IN A FIX!

#### A lighter and a few minutes can mend your make-up mishap instantly

second to the bottom end of the

broken piece. Again, be very careful

doing this step because you don't

want to burn yourself. Rather than

holding the lipstick, try placing the

broken piece in a spoon with the

edge out, then light it so the flame

s far as beauty accidents go, few things are more frustrat-Aing than breaking a new lipstick. But don't toss it out just yet there's an easy solution. Pro makeup artist and YouTube beauty guru Beeta of BeetaBeauty swears by this DIY fast fix.

PUSH THE BOTTOM ALL

THE WAY UP Twist the tube until the you get all that's left of the lipstick at the top of

#### **SMOOTH IT OUT**

Using a clean Q-tip, clean around the base of the lipstick, then smooth it out so your broken piece will have a flatter surface to adhere to.

#### WARM THE BASE

Using a lighter, carefully and quickly heat the base of the lipstick until it becomes soft and begins to melt slightly.

MELT THE BOTTOM OF THE BROKEN PIECE



Now apply the lighter for just a isn't near your fingertips (or heating up the spoon).

SHAPE THE BROKEN PIECE'S JAGGED EDGE

Using the Q-tip once again, shape the now-softened bottom end of the broken piece and smooth it out so it will sit better on the base.

WARM THE BROKEN PIECE AGAIN AND POP IT ONTO THE BASE

Apply the lighter for just another moment and quickly insert it into the base piece, then twist it into

MELT IT TOGETHER AND **SMOOTH IT OUT** 

Use the lighter one more time to melt the lipstick together so the top properly adheres to the bottom, then use to Q-tip to smooth it out. If you want an even more even finish. use a flat concealer brush for this

#### REFRIGERATE

Let your lipstick cool and harden by putting it into the fridge for an hour, then check on it. Once it's solidified, you're good to use it once again!



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## **BCCI** revises India's 2025 home cricket schedule

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Monday released the revised itinerary for the Indian international home season and the South Africa A tour of India in 2025, with key venue changes affecting both men's and women's fixtures.

According to the updated schedule, India's senior men's team will take on West Indies and South Africa in a series of Tests, ODIs, and T20Is at home. The much-anticipated IDFC First Bank Test series against the West Indies will begin on October 2, 2025, at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, while the second Test, initially planned for Kolkata, has now been shifted to Arun Jaitley Stadium, New Delhi.

Similarly, the first Test against South Africa, scheduled for November 14, will now take place at Eden Gardens, Kolkata, instead of New Delhi. The second Test will be played in Guwahati, followed by ODIs in Ranchi, Raipur, and Visakhapatnam, and T20Is

Mumbai, June 9 (UNI): across Cuttack, New Chandigarh, Dharamsala, Lucknow, and Hyderabad.

> Due to ongoing pitch and outfield revamps at Chennai's Chidambaram Stadium, the ODI series between India Women and Australia Women has been relocated. The first two matches will be played at the New PCA Stadium in New Chandigarh, while the third and final ODI

> will be held in New Delhi. On the 'A' tours front, South Africa A will play two multi-day matches and three one-day games against India A. While the red-ball matches will go ahead at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (COE), Bengaluru, the one-dayers have been moved from Bengaluru to Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Rajkot.

> Meanwhile, Australia Men's A tour of India will see two multi-day games and three onedayers, all of which are set to take place in Lucknow and Kanpur, respectively.

Key Matches and

Mumbai Falcons ready to face Bandra

Blasters in T20 Mumbai semifinal

Mumbai, June 9 (UNI): SoBo Mumbai

Falcons warmed up for the knockout stage

with a facile win against Aakash Tigers

Mumbai Western Suburbs in its last T20

Mumbai league stage tie at the Wankhede

Mulchandani's second fifty of the season

and his crucial partnership with captain

Angkrish Raghuvanshi, who took over

from Shreyas Iyer for Sunday night's game

– was SoBo Mumbai Falcons' fourth win

in five league games. Eagle Thane Strikers

were the only other team to win four league

games. It means that the Falcons will take

on NaMo Bandra Blasters in the second

semifinal on Tuesday under lights at the

Wankhede Stadium. And the Falcons' troupe

led by Shreyas and Raghuvanshi and ably

guided by Team Principal Vikrant Yeligati-has

all the bases covered heading into the

As he showcased during his 99-run

partnership with Raghuvanshi at the

Wankhede Stadium on Sunday night,

Ishan Mulchandani was in sublime touch.

With 147 runs, he is the Falcons' highest

run-getter of the tournament. Similarly,

Siddharth Raut continued his exploits with

the new ball as the seasoned pacer has

justified his billing of the leader of the pace

pack. Add to that the fact that the

business of the tournament.

The five-wicket win – set up by Ishan

Stadium here.

West Indies Men's Tour 19 (Rajkot)

1st Test: Oct 2-6, Ahmedabad

2nd Test: Oct 10-14, New Delhi

South Africa Men's Tour of India: 1st Test: Nov 14-18,

Kolkata 2nd Test: Nov 22-26, Guwahati

ODIs: Nov 30 (Ranchi), Dec 3 (Raipur), Dec 6 (Vizag)

T20Is: Dec 9 (Cuttack), Dec 11 (New Chandigarh), Dec 14 (Dharamsala), Dec 17 (Lucknow), Dec 19 (Hyderabad)

India Women vs Australia Women ODIs: 1st ODI: Sept 14, New Chandigarh

2nd ODI: Sept 17, New Chandigarh 3rd ODI: Sept 20, New

Delhi Australia Men's A Tour: Multi-day: Sept 16–19,

Sept 23–26 (Lucknow) One-dayers: Sept 30, Oct 3, Oct 5 (Kanpur)

South Africa A Tour: Multi-day: Oct 30-Nov 2, Nov 6–9 (BCCI COE,

Bengaluru) One-dayers: Nov 13, 16,

allrounder duo of Vinayak Bhoir and Akash

Parkar – who had a four-wicket haul against

Aakash Tigers – are in top gear underlines

that the Falcons are a well-oiled machine

that's raring to go at full throttle against

the Blasters. Both Bhoir – the left-arm

spinner and left-handed batter - and

Parkar, the big-hitter and a right-arm pacer,

have had at least one notable contribution

maintained the balance of the team, the

Falcons have also unearthed the find of

the tournament in Harsh Aghav. The

young batter has the ability to dominate

the bowlers with textbook shots. He will

be hoping to withstand the big-match

between Eagle Thane Strikers and MSC

Maratha Royals – to be played on

Tuesday afternoon – will be keeping a close

watch on the Falcons' semifinal, just like

scores of the Falcons' fan army that will be

cheering the squad at the top of their voice.

(Jay Bista 69; Akash Parkar 4/24, Yash

Dicholkar 2/15) lost to SoBo Mumbai Falcons

141/5 in 18.5 overs (Ishan Mulchandani 52,

Angkrish Raghuvanshi 41, Harsh Aghav 23

not out; Salman Khan 2/15) by 5 wickets.

Aakash Tigers MWS 136/9, 20 overs

Brief Score:

The winner of the first semifinal

pressure at the Big W on Tuesday night.

While the seasoned duo has

both with the bat and the ball.

## stay unbeaten London, June 9 (UNI)

**Anderson stars** 

**but Northants** 

James Anderson delivered a second three-wicket haul of his T20 Blast return for Lancashire but it was not enough to stop Northants Steelbacks making it five wins from five to tighten their grip on the top of North Group.The veteran seamer's 3-31 at a blustery Old Trafford backed up his 3-17 against Durham at Chester-le-Street.

But the 42-year-old's sterling efforts could not prevent the Steelbacks totalling 180-6 before restricting Lancashire to 156-9 in reply.Liam Livingstone's return to Lightning colours following his Indian Premier League (IPL) victory with Royal Challengers Bangalore saw him take 2-35 and add 18 with the bat as Northants always had the game under their control.

George Scrimshaw was the pick of their bowlers with an impressive 4-19.

#### All eyes on Lyon as Smith signals spin threat in WTC25 Final

London, June 9 (UNI): As Australia prepares to face South Africa in the ICC World Test Championship Final, star batter Steve Smith has hinted at the kind of conditions that could shape the outcome of the summit clash.

Ultimate Test, Smith acknowledged that the surface at Lord's is looking drier than usual and could evolve considerably over the course of the match. This is welcome news for one of Australia's most trusted campaigners, Nathan Lyon.

"Yeah, I think spin will play a big part, particularly as the game wears on," Smith said. "It is dry, I think. The reports, we only came here a week ago. So, it's pretty dry to start the season over

Typically known for its seam-friendly conditions, with predictions being made for the sides to field all-pace attacks in their bowling lineups. However, England's early summer has defied expectations this year, with Smith sharing the sentiment, an ICC report said.

"There's not been much rain, which is rare for England obviously," he said.

"But, yeah. It does look like quite a dry surface," added Smith.

With the conditions seemingly setting up the stage for the legendary tweaker to work his magic, akin to his performance in the 2023 World Test Championship Final, securing figures of 4/41 in the second innings as he cleaned up India's tail to secure Australia's victory at The Oval.

has an impressive record against the Proteas as he has 56 wickets in 14 Test matches. While he can make an impact irrespective of conditions,

The 37-year-old also

the seasoned Aussie will have to hope for the pitch to favour his skillset to help Australia retain their status as Test Champions.

## **India set to take on Hong Kong** in AFC Asian Cup qualifier clash

Kowloon (Hong Kong), June 9 (UNI): India will take on Hong Kong, China on Matchday 2 in Group C of the AFC Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2027 Qualifiers Final Round on Tuesday, at the Kai Tak Stadium here at 17:30 IST.

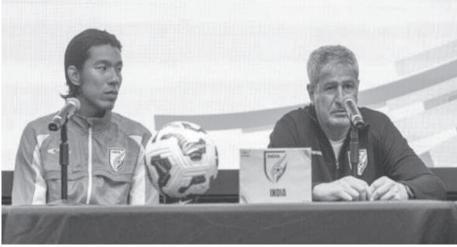
The Group C table is still a clean slate with all four teams level on a point apiece after both games on Matchday 1 on March 25 ended goalless.

India and Bangladesh drew in Shillong, while Hong Kong also got a point away to Singapore. Only the group winners will qualify for the Asian Cup in 2027.

India, who made it to two successive Asian Cups for the first time in 2023, are aiming to extend the historic streak. Hong Kong also qualified for the previous tournament, but with only one available berth, either side is bound to miss out.

India head coach Manolo Marquez exuded confidence on the eve of the Blue Tigers' clash against Hong Kong.

"Our preparations have been much better this time, if we compare with the previous FIFA windows, where you practically don't have too much time. We had about three weeks to prepare, between Kolkata, Bangkok, and here in Hong Kong. And we are ready to



said Marquez."The environment in the team is quite good as well. Obviously, in all teams across the world, the environment is better when you are winning games constantly. But the environment, the relationship between the players, regardless of the results, is very good," he said.India centre-back Konsham Chinglensana Singh echoed the coach's words. "We are well prepared for the game after three weeks in the camp. Mentally, and physically, we have prepared well, and are ready for the game," he said. The Blue Tigers have not had the rub of the green in recent times. Out of the three matches they have played in 2025 so far, they have won one, drawn one, and lost their last match againstThailand last week. Márquez, however, is not

defeat against Thailand.

"In my opinion, most coaches are not worried about the scores in the friendly games. We are focussing on the important match (Hong Kong)," he said. "I know everyone speaks about the score (against Thailand). But if we scored from the chances we created, it would have been different. This is football."

In what will be the inaugural football match at the newly built 50,000capacity Kai Tak Stadium, the tickets, reportedly, have sold out, and a full house can be expected on Tuesday. The stadium features a retractable roof, which will be kept closed during the match. On Monday, the Blue Tigers had an official training session at the venue to get a feel of the conditions.

"We will try to enjoy the situation in this stadium. I

don't know if it will be completely full, but a lot of people will be there. It will be a nice event, but obviously, we are focusing on winning the game," said Marquez.Hong Kong, China's head coach, Ashley Westwood, is no stranger to Indian football, having coached clubs like Bengaluru FC, ATK, and Punjab FC in India before taking up international coaching roles, first in Afghanistan, followed by Hong Kong.

Westwood spoke highly of the development that Indian football has seen over the years. "I went to India in 2013, and the country is a million miles away from where it was back then. I know their coach, I watched the ISL. He's a good coach, and he's been doing good things with FC Goa. He coaches right, he prepares right, and his players are always fit.

#### perform. Nothing special," too worried about the 0-2 Speaking ahead of the **South Africa drawing** on recent success at

awe-inspiring Lord's

Playing at Lord's extracts played a lot of cricket here 'fond memories' for much of as well. But I think we bring the South African stars—a lot of confidence knowing setting themselves for the World Championship Final against Australia.

It was described as a 'thumping victory' in commentary, as a Marco Jansen yorker skittled James Anderson's stumps and sealed a famous win over England at Lord's in August, 2022. The Proteas beat the hosts by an innings and 12 runs, off the back of a five-wicket haul from Kagiso Rabada in the first innings, earning Player of the Match honours.South Africa claimed victory inside three days – a result which looms large as they set their sights on elusive ICC silverware in the World Test Championship Final, at

that very venue. Roughly half of that South African side will be called upon for the Final, which is a whole new ball game. This time, the Proteas will take on Australia, the defending World Test Champions. But they are drawing on the 2022 experience to help grow belief ahead of this new challenge.Lungi Ngidi was one of the Proteas players that experienced a Test win at Lord's in 2022, opening

the attack alongside Rabada, who reaped the rewards against England.

"(There were) very fond memories of the last time we were here," Ngidi told the ICC."I think we bring a lot of confidence, especially having played on the wicket (previously). (But)

London, June 9 (UNI): we know Australia have that we have won a game at Lord's, we have played Test cricket at Lord's," he said.

> "A lot of people talk about the slope for bowlers and things like that, we've seen our bowlers perform out there, our batters have scored the runs, so a lot of confidence," Ngidi said.

> South Africans playing in their first Test at Lord's have spent lead-up days taking in the ground's aura to ensure they're laserfocused once the opening arrives.David Bedingham and Tristan Stubbs revealed that entering the historic ground was a moment they won't easily forget, as they laid eyes on the venue's recognisable features, like the balcony where teams nervously watch from.

> "The first time we got there, everyone was on the balcony with their phones out," Bedingham said.

> "The pavilion, the history," Stubbs added.

> "You watch games from the past, (players) watching from the balcony," he continued.

> Ngidi's bowling will prove pivotal for the challengers at Lord's. He's soaking it all in."It's any cricketer's dream to play at Lord's," Ngidi continued.

> "I've been blessed with the opportunity before, playing England. That was quite something for me the nerves, the excitement. But coming back, this time around, the nerves are a lot more settled," he said.

## Scotland survive scare to beat Nepal in thriller

Dundee, June 9 (UNI): Scotland survived a major scare to beat Nepal in a thrilling Cricket World Cup League 2 match at Forthill.

Nepal won with one ball to spare when the sides met at the same ground on Monday before beating the Netherlands two days later.

They came close to a third straight win on Scottish soil, but fell two runs short in a chase of 323 in a game that swung back and forth throughout.

A magnificent sixth one-day international hundred from Scotland captain Richie Berrington, along with an unbeaten 96 off just 62 deliveries from Michael Leask propelled the hosts to an imposing total.

Nepal ultimately fell two runs short as debutant Mackenzie Jones took three wickets, while Leask and Safyaan Sharif claimed two apiece.

"I don't think I was ready for another close game like that," captain Richie Berrington said.

"Delighted to get over the line. Credit to Nepal for the way they fought back and it's great to see the guys hold their nerve." Mackenzie Jones took really important wickets and then Safyaan Sharif showed all his experience at the end."It's always nice to contribute to the team's efforts

and Leasky took the pressure off me.' After Berrington won the toss, opener Charlie Tear played well for his 68 after George Munsey and Brandon McMullen both fell victim to the new ball. His contribution, paired with his captain's fine effort, allowed Leask to attack in the final 10 overs. Scotland's number seven struck 12 fours and three sixes on his home ground in a brutal display of power hitting.Berrington's side then started in fine fashion with the ball, reducing Nepal to 34-3, including a first international wicket for Jones. Nepal rebuilt through Bhim Sharki (73) and Aarif Sheikh (39), but when they were removed by Leask and Jones, respectively, Scotland appeared to be in total control. However, a partnership of 105 for the seventh wicket between Dipendra Singh Airee (56) and Sompal Kami (67) brought Nepal right back into the contest. Jones caught Singh Airee off Charlie Cassell's bowling and removed Kami himself as the ball followed the Essex seamer on his first Scotland outing.

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## NZ's Fox wins Canadian golf championship in marathon playoff

Ottawa, June 9 (UNI): Ryan Fox ended a marathon final round at the RBC Canadian Open as the New Zealand journeyman birdied the fourth playoff hole to defeat American Sam Burns at the 114th national championship in Ontario.

38-year-old The Auckland native, the overnight co-leader, sank a 17-foot putt on the last hole of regulation for a 66 to get to 18-under 262 at TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley (North Course) to force the playoff on Sunday.

Burns, who finished around 90 minutes before the final group, had closed with his low round of the year, an eight-under 62, to move to the top of the leaderboard.

As both players missed key putts that would have ended it during the first three holes of sudden death, all contested on the 576-yard, par-five 18th hole, on the fourth attempt Fox put his second shot to within eight feet of the flag which had been moved after the second extra hole.

Burns, however, could not answer as his third shot rolled off the green forcing him to settle for a par.

Fox then made two putts to seal the win, his second career PGA Tour title after winning in Myrtle Beach last month.

"It was tough. I hit some great shots down the stretch in regulation. Probably got a little lucky on that putt on 18 in regulation, snuck in the left door," said Fox who earned 1.8 million U.S. Dollars for his 19th win worldwide since turning pro in 2012.

Fox said Burns "let him off the hook" when the Louisiana native missed a five-foot putt on the first playoff hole that would have given him the win.

"I'd almost given him that. We had a couple scrappy holes there, and then to hit the shot I hit on 18 on the fourth playoff, it was pretty surreal. It's the best shot I've ever hit in my life. There's nothing close to that," said Fox who has earned a place in next week's U.S. Open at Oakmont with the win.

"I felt like I put pressure on [Burns] with that shot. It was pretty cool to have a nice little tap-in there and kind of soak it all in."

Kevin Yu of Chinese Taipei made a birdie at the last for 66 to finish third, one shot out of the playoff. Americans Cameron Young (65) and Matt McCarty (67) were equal fourth a shot further back.

## Shahapur lifeguard team rushed to the aid of Mahavitaran

#### Repair of broken power line in Vaitarna riverbed under adverse conditions

(Standard Post Bureau)

Kalyan, June 9: On Sunday midnight, due to a sudden strong wind, the high-pressure power line supplying power to Asangaon broke and fell into the Vaitarna riverbed. Since the riverbed was deep, there were obstacles in the repair work. However, with the help of the Shahapur lifeguard team, power supply to the affected area was restored on Monday morning.

The high-pressure line supplying power to the pumping station supplying water to Asangaon village as well as Shahapur, Khutghar, Cherpoli villages broke on Sunday midnight and fell into the Vaitarna riverbed. Electricity workers rushed in at night and tried to repair it. However, since the riverbed was deep, a boat was needed for the repair. Shahapur Deputy Executive Engineer

Yadav Ingle contacted Sameer Chaudhary of the lifeguard team and requested for the speedboat available with him to work in the riverbed. Responding immediately to this request, Chaudhary along with his Tanmay Nimse and other colleagues



made the boat available early on Monday morning. Using the boat, workers from Janamitra and Satish Electrical Engineers found the power line and immediately repaired it and restored the affected power supply at 10 am. "

Superintendent Engineer Vijay Phunde of Kalyan Mandal 2 and Deputy Executive Engineer Yadav Ingle of Shahapur were personally present during the repair. Chandramani Mishra of Kalyan Mandal has appreciated the work done by Janamitra to restore the affected power supply in adverse conditions.



## Waltair Division shines at All India Hindi Drama Competition, secures 3rd Place for ECoR



(Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, June 9 Waltair Division proudly represented East Coast Railway (ECOR) at the prestigious All India Hindi Drama Competition held in Bhusawal on 6th June-2025, where the team clinched an inspiring 3rd place among competing railways

nationwide.

Selected and nominated by ECOR. the Waltair Division drama troupe delivered a captivating performance of the play "Aakhein" an emotional and thoughtprovoking depiction of societal behavior. The drama tells the story of a man born blind who, with the help and support of

visually impaired beggars, undergoes an eye

operation. However, after regaining his sight, he turns unethical towards those who stood by him, highlighting complex human emotions and social dynamics. The powerful narrative was brought to life by a talented 9-member cast

enactment stole the spotlight and won widespread acclaim from judges and audiences alike. The award was presented by Shri Dharmaveer Meena, General Manager of Central Railway, in recognition of their outstanding performance.

whose compelling

Expressing his pride and congratulations, General Manager East Coast Railway Shri Parmeshwar Funkwal, Divisional Railway Manager Shri Lalit Bohra, ADRM Operations Shri Manoj Kumar Sahoo, ADRM Infra Shri E Santharam, along with other senior officers, extended their best wishes to the team for their remarkable achievement.

This accomplishment highlights the spirit of teamwork and cultural excellence that the Indian Railways fosters

## Safety is Always the Top Priority and Safety Prevails: Arun Kumar Jain, GM, SCR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, June 9: Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager, South Central Railway (SCR), conducted a comprehensive review today, 9th June 2025, at Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad, focusing on train safety and punctuality. Shri Neeraj Agrawal, Additional General Manager, SCR, participated alongside Principal Heads of Departments, while Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) from Vijayawada, Guntakal, Guntur, Secunderabad, Hyderabad, and Nanded

Divisions joined via video conference.

The General Manager reiterated that safety is paramount in railway operations, emphasizing strict adherence to safety protocols and the avoidance of shortcut methods.

He advised staff to remain vigilant and ensure rigorous compliance with safety regulations. Regular field-level counselling was directed to reinforce safety awareness among railway personnel.

Special emphasis was placed on safety measures at Road Under Bridges (RUBs) and Level Crossings, with instructions to install at least two height gauges at all RUBs to enhance track safety.

Addressing recent incidents, he reviewed cattle run-over cases, stressing the necessity of proactive measures to prevent disruptions in train movement.

The status of fencing along vulnerable track sections was also examined.

As part of SCR's ongoing digital transformation, Shri Arun

Kumar Jain launched the 'Alpha Inspector' Application—a web and mobile platform leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) and GPS technologies. Designed to enhance Chief Loco Inspectors' efficiency, the application automates movement tracking and recordkeeping, reducing manual workload.

It provides real-time access to Loco Pilot (LP) and Assistant Loco Pilot (ALP) operational data, enabling quicker responses to anomalies at divisional and Zonal levels.

#### **Temporary** Stoppage of trains at Gorebal **Station: SWR**

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, June 9: South Westren Railway has decided to provide one minute stoppage of the following trains at Gorebal station (GEBL) on an experimental basis with effect from 09.06.2025 the Arrival/Departire timings will be as under:-

The following trains will halt at Gorebal station during the specified

Train No. 56927 SSS Hubballi-Sindhanur Passenger arrives at 12:59 hrs and departs at 13:00 hrs.

"• Train No. 56928 Sindhanur-SSS Hubballi Passenger arrives at 14:39 hrs and departs at 14:40 hrs.

"• Train No. 16545 Yesvantpur-Sindhanur Express arrives at 10:25 hrs and departs at 10:26 hrs.

"• Train No. 16546 Sindhanur-Yesvantpur Express arrives at 17:08 hrs and departs at 17:09 hrs.

"• Train No. 17303 SSS Hubballi-Sindhanur Express arrives at 22:00 hrs and departs at 22:01 hrs.

"• Train No. 17304 Sindhanur-SSS Hubballi Express arrives at 05:25 hrs and departs at 05:26 hrs.

II. Temporary stoppage for Train Nos. 11311/11312 Solapur-Hassan-Solapur Express at Nelamangala (NMGA) station with effect from 5th June 2025 to 1st November 2025.

Train No. 11311 Solapur-Hassan Express (Journey commencing on 05.06.2025 to 31.10.2025) will arrive at Nelamangala at 07:38 hrs and depart at 07:40 hrs.

"• Train No. 11312 Hassan-Solapur Express (Journey commencing on 06.06.2025 to 01.11.2025) will arrive at Nelamangala at 17:59 hrs and depart at

#### Rajasthan CM asks officials to solve complaints in public hearing

Jaipur, June 9 (UNI) Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma on Monday morning listened to complaints of women, persons with disabilities, and the elderly during a public hearing and directed officials to ensure their immediate resolution.

The public hearing was held at the CM's residence where he issued directives to officials. He instructed the district collector to hold regular public hearings to address local issues.

He stressed that authorities must ensure that complainants receive relief at the district level, so they do not have to face unnecessary difficulties.

He directed the timely resolution of all complaints and instructed officers to handle public-related tasks with full responsibility.

During the hearing, a cancer patient, Premlata, who is facing financial hardship, shared her difficulties in accessing treatment.

The Chief Minister instructed officials to ensure her treatment began immediately. As a result, Premlata will now be able to receive free treatment for her serious illness.

## G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister **Dedicates Kacheguda Railway Station** Façade Lighting to the Nation in SCR





(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, June 9: G. Kishan Reddy, Minister of Coal and Mines, Govt. Of India dedicated the façade lighting of Kacheguda Railway station to the Nation today at Kacheguda Railway station. Shri M. Anil Kumar Yadav, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha; Shri Addanki Dayakar, Hon'ble Member of Legislative Council; Dr. Palvai Harish Babu, Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Sirpur other dignitaries and public representatives graced the occasion. Shri Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager, South Central Railway; Shri Lokesh Vishnoi, Divisional Railway Manager, Hyderabad Division and other senior Railway officials were present.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri G. Kishan Reddy stated that earlier while serving as the Minister of Tourism, the project of Kacheguda station façade lighting was approved. He stated that the illumination of façade has been completed with a cost of Rs. 2.23 crores. He said that the iconic Kacheguda Railway station was constructed in the year 1916 with Indo Gothic architecture. Keeping in mind the historical importance of the station building, the illumination of the façade lighting has been taken up using 775 modern LED lighting equipment, he said. He stated that an average of 50,000 passengers visit the station daily. He informed that over the years, Kacheguda station has received many awards and is the No. 1 energy efficient station on Indian Railways. He stated that under the guidance of Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister, a 400 KWP rooftop solar power plant has been installed at Kacheguda station towards energy conservation. Kacheguda Railway station is also No. 1 in digital transaction, he added. Further, the Union

Minister stated that, 40

Railway stations in

Telangana are being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat station scheme, out of which, the works for Begumpet, Karimnagar, Warangal Railway stations have been completed and were recently inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister. He informed that, the redevelopment works of Secunderabad Railway station have been taken up with a cost of Rs. 720 crores and the works are progressing swiftly. He stated that the Union Government under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi is fully committed towards the development of Rail infrastructure in Telangana State. He said that Rs. 42,219 crores worth of Rail developmental project works are being carried out in the State of Telangana.

Mr M. Anil Kumar Yadav, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha; Dr. Palvai Harish Babu, Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Sirpur; Shri Addanki Dayakar, Hon'ble Member of Legislative Council also addressed the gathering on the occasion.

Earlier, Shri Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager, SCR presented the welcome address. He stated that it is a memorable occasion as state-of-the-art illumination for the façade of Kacheguda station building, one of the great heritage structures in the twin cities of Hyderabad is being dedicated to the Nation. The colour themes of illumination will add beauty to the wonderful architecture and will receive the appreciation of rail users and tourists visiting the city, he said.

During the function, the Hon'ble Union Minister along with other dignitaries felicitated the members of 'Kachi Welfare Sangham' as the Kacheguda Railway Station gets its name from "KACHI" Community which resided close to the station.

Kacheguda Railway Station is one of the major terminals in the twin cities of Hyderabad, serving the majority of the rail users in the city. As part of tourism friendly initiatives, the façade of Kacheguda Railway Station has been illuminated with a cost of Rs. 2.23 crores. The proposal was sanctioned by the Tourism Ministry, while the entire work has been executed by Hyderabad Division of South Central Railway.

## High alert at HP High Court over IED threat; Found to be hoax

Shimla, June 9 (UNI) A major security scare gripped the Himachal Pradesh High Court on Monday after Shimla Police received a threat warning about the possible presence of human suicide bombers carrying Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) within the court complex.

The alert prompted an immediate evacuation of the entire premises, including judges, court staff, advocates, and visitors.

Superintendent of Police, Shimla, confirmed that the threat was received earlier in the day, triggering swift action.

DIG Southern Range Anjum Aara led the high-level security response, which included deployment of the Bomb Disposal Squad, Quick Reaction Teams (QRT), Dog Squad, and Special Operations personnel. The court complex and adjoining areas were put under complete lockdown as security personnel fanned out for an intensive sanitization and search operation. Every room, corridor, chamber, and access point was methodically inspected for potential threats. The operation lasted nearly four hours, but concluded without recovery of any suspicious item or explosive device. "It appears to be a hoax, but we are not taking it lightly," said a senior police official. 'Investigations are underway to identify the source of this threat."