

FALAKNUMA NEWS

ENGLISH DAILY

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VOL: 1 Issue No: 43 FRIDAY, 26 JUNE 2026 PUBLISHED FROM HYDERABAD PAGES: 4 RS.1/-

Work for one hour extra every day: CM Revanth Reddy to govt employees

Hyderabad, June 25 (GNS) Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, on Thursday, appealed to all state government employees to work for an extra hour every day to achieve more productive outcomes in administration, especially in enhancing state revenues. The Chief Minister stressed that illegal activities should be curbed and leakages should be plugged to generate more revenue.

Addressing a meeting after signing MoUs with banks to provide insurance coverage to all government employees, the Chief Minister said that the hard work of employees will only help in the successful implementation

of welfare schemes.

Stating that employees' trust is the government's strength, he said all employees should work an extra hour each day to increase the state government's revenue. He added that the increased revenue would be used for employees' welfare, and that earning a good reputation for the government is also in the hands of state employees.

He called upon all employees to come together to make Telangana the number one state in the country. The government has accorded top priority to maintaining law and order and attracting investments to the state, the Chief Minister said, and as-



ensured that the government will stand by the employees.

The Chief Minister highlighted the government's commitment to provide insurance coverage to all government employees, as well as outsourcing and contract

workers. After handing over Rs 1 crore insurance payout to the families of 45 Singareni workers who died in accidents, the state government decided to extend similar insurance coverage to all employees. He said it

was the responsibility of the government to provide financial support to the families of employees who died suddenly, and that such a big insurance scheme would instil courage and a sense of reassurance in employees'

families in difficult times.

He said this was why the government signed an agreement with bankers today to provide accident insurance for state government employees. CM Revanth Reddy appealed to employees to

bring their demands and grievances to his notice, as the government is ready to address them.

The Chief Minister blasted the KCR government for landing the revenue surplus Telangana into bankruptcy, amassing a debt of Rs 8.11 lakh crore in just 10 years.

He recalled that during the BRS rule, employees were never paid salaries on the first day of every month. He said that, despite hurdles, his government was ensuring that employees received their salaries promptly.

The Chief Minister took strong exception to the opposition's use of the term "Gumpu Mestry" (group

leader) in a negative sense.

He stated that, in fact, he is a group leader of government employees who are active in bridging connections with common people and poorer sections, and added that this group is his strength and also his pride. Stating that he had not taken a single day's leave in the last 30 months, the Chief Minister said he was visiting Delhi only to protect the state's interests. He added that today, all the plans envisaged by the government are fructifying, and his only agenda is to resolve people's issues and lead the state on the development path, aiming to achieve a 3-trillion-dollar economy by 2047.

188 killed, over 200 trapped as twin quakes devastate Venezuela

La Guaira (Venezuela), June 25 (GNS): Venezuelans searched for survivors beneath collapsed buildings Thursday and rescue teams raced to northern areas rocked by a pair of powerful earthquakes that officials say killed at least 188 people and left more than 200 trapped. Many more were feared dead. The 7.2- and 7.5-magnitude earthquakes that struck Wednesday evening were among the strongest in Venezuela in more than a century and were felt throughout the region. Some 1,500 people were injured and thousands were reported missing across the country. The coastal region of La Guaira, which is north of the capital, Caracas, experienced some of the heaviest damage and casualties, officials said.



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Buildings were evacuated as far away as Brazil's Amazon, about 1,700 kilometers (1,050 miles) from Caracas, where the country's main airport was damaged and closed.

Amazon's \$48 Billion India Push: PM Modi

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday welcomed Amazon's record \$48 billion investment in India, saying that this investment will create new opportunities for youth in the country.

Amazon has announced a total investment of \$48 billion to expand and support its businesses in India from 2026 to 2030, after its CEO, Andy Jassy, met PM Modi in the national capital.

"A great meeting with Mr. Andy Jassy. I welcome Ama-



zon's record \$48 billion investment in India. This will create new opportunities for our youth. At the same

time, it shows the growing interest across the world to invest in India," PM Modi posted on X.

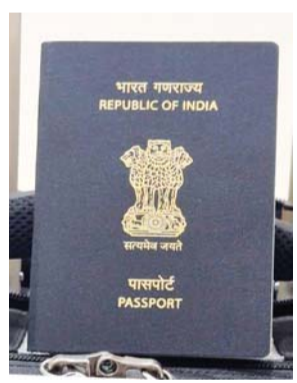
Jassy earlier reiterated Amazon's long-term commitment to India and announced plans to invest an additional \$13 billion to expand AI and cloud infrastructure in the country by 2030. This takes Amazon's total planned investment in expanding and supporting AI and cloud infrastructure to over \$21 billion between 2026 and 2030, establishing it as one of the largest global AI and cloud infrastructure investors in the country.

Passport not proof of citizenship: MEA cites law, HC ruling

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS): The Ministry of External Affairs on Thursday clarified that the passport has never been proof of citizenship, after a controversy erupted on the issue a day before.

It said this position has been there since the Passport Act came into force. It is not that it was decided in the last 12 years. The ministry said a passport is mainly a travel document, and its legal status has remained unchanged for many years.

The issue gained attention after an MEA official said at a Passport Seva Di-



vas event on Wednesday that a passport should primarily be understood as a document for travel.

That comment drew criticism from opposition leaders, lawyers, and

commentators, who questioned how a document issued by the government after checks and verification could fail to establish citizenship on its own.

In response to the backlash, the MEA issued a clarification saying the position was not new and had nothing to do with the present government. It said Indian law has never treated a passport as final proof of citizenship.

"It was not decided yesterday that a passport is not proof of citizenship. It was not even decided in

the last 12 years. The Passport has never been a proof of citizenship. The Passport Act, 1967 says that passports can be given to non-citizens," the ministry said.

The ministry also pointed to judicial precedents, particularly a Bombay High Court judgment delivered in 2013, which held that possession of a passport alone does not automatically establish Indian citizenship. "Judgments of the Bombay HC from 2013 have made it clear that a passport is not proof of citizenship."

UCC bill likely in Bengal assembly next week

Kolkata, June 25 (GNS): The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) bill is likely to be introduced in the West Bengal Assembly next week, marking a potentially significant shift in the state's legal framework, according to a report by News18. The move could usher in one of the most significant legal and social reforms in West Bengal in recent years, with the BJP projecting the UCC as both a key governance commitment and a landmark policy initiative.



If passed, Bengal would follow states such as Uttarakhand, Gujarat and Assam in adopting measures aimed at establishing a common set of personal laws across communities.

The push for a Uniform Civil Code has gathered momentum in recent years, with Uttarakhand leading the way by passing its UCC Bill in February 2024. Gujarat adopted a similar law in March 2026, followed by Assam in May.

The objective is to create common civil laws governing marriage, divorce, succession and live-in re-

lationships across communities. Notably, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had made the UCC a major poll plank in West Bengal Assembly polls. Releasing the party's election manifesto, or 'Sankalp Patra', union home minister Amit Shah had assured that a UCC would be introduced within six months of the BJP assuming power in the state.

"The nation's security is of paramount importance to us. The BJP's resolve is to implement UCC in West Bengal to end the politics of appeasement forever," Modi said, after Shah released the party's manifesto. Claiming that rapid demographic changes were taking place in several parts of the state, the Prime Minister alleged that the TMC had abandoned its old slogan of 'Maa-Mat

Centre approves 6.18 lakh pucca houses for rural poor in UP

Lucknow, June 25 (GNS): Union Agriculture and Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Thursday handed over approval letters, sanctioning 6,18,482 pucca houses for the poor in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh under the new phase of Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) and extending the minimum support price (MSP) procurement for rabi crops to benefit farmers of the state, to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Union Minister Chouhan said the approval for rural houses is part of the new PMAY-G phase for 2024-25 to 2028-29, under which the Centre aims to construct an additional two crore pucca houses across the country.



"Out of these, 6,18,482 houses have been allocated to Uttar Pradesh, opening the way for providing permanent housing to lakhs of poor rural families in a phased manner."

Union Minister Chouhan said the survey of rural households in Uttar Pradesh has been completed and

the Centre and emphasised timely construction, quality control and inclusion of every eligible beneficiary. In a major relief for farmers, the Union Agriculture Minister also formally handed over the approval letter extending the MSP procurement period for key rabi crops. The approval, granted in response to the Uttar Pradesh government's request and keeping farmers' interests in mind, allows procurement of wheat, gram and masoor at MSP till July 8, 2026. The Union Minister highlighted that the extension aims to ensure that no farmer is deprived of selling produce at MSP due to practical difficulties such as weather conditions, delayed arrivals, weighing issues or congestion in mandis.

Mahesh Dixit Appointed New IB Chief

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS): Mahesh Dixit, a senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, has been named the new Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB), India's leading domestic intelligence agency. He assumes the role amid shifting internal security dynamics and emerging threats. A 1993-batch IPS officer from the Telangana cadre, Dixit's appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. He takes over from the previous Director following the end of the latter's tenure.

Dixit possesses deep expertise in intelligence gathering and internal se-

curity management. He previously served as head of the IB's Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau in Srinagar, overseeing operations across Jammu & Kashmir and Leh. During his tenure, particularly in the years after the abrogation of Article 370, he played a key role in ensuring regional stability and monitoring evolving security threats.

Renowned for building robust grassroots intelligence networks and his proficiency in counter-terrorism, Dixit has managed several high-stakes assignments within the IB. These include efforts against Left-Wing Extremism and cross-border infiltration.

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BUS FACILITY AVAILABLE

If India stopped buying Russian oil, China would gain and global prices would go up

Gopal Krishna Agarwal

India imports around 85-90 per cent of its crude oil requirements. Its crude import bill was approximately \$132-140 billion for FY 2023-24. It is evident that even a minor change in the price of crude can have a large overall effect on the balance of payment position. India does not have the luxury of printing dollars. It must always take steps based on the best interests of its 1.4 billion citizens. In 2022, the world was on the brink of an oil shock after the Russia-Ukraine war. Panic hit the oil markets and crude prices soared to \$137 per barrel. The West had two choices — ban Russian oil completely and let the prices explode or find other ways to keep the market functioning. The G7, therefore, introduced a price cap — \$60 per barrel — to keep the supply flowing. Any country could buy Russian crude legally as long as it was below that price.

Before the war, Russian crude oil import was negligible for India, just 0.2 per cent of imports. In 2024-25, 36-40 per cent of our oil came from Russia. And it was vital for stabilising global oil prices. The US publicly supported India's move. In 2022, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said, "We're happy for India to buy as much Russian oil as it wants... even above the cap..." Former US Ambassador Eric Garcetti said that



the US wanted someone to buy Russian oil at the cap. Russia's crude production in 2024-25 averaged around 10.45 million barrels per day (bpd), which is about 10 per cent of global supplies. Of this, 4.2-4.5 million bpd was exported. Currently, oil demand and supply are fairly balanced. However, in case Russian supplies were disrupted, crude prices would go up by \$10-15 per barrel. The oil market has seen such volatility every time there was talk of Russian flow disruption due to sanctions.

India has always respected global compulsions. But, strategically, India's energy security is also linked to regional geopolitics. In 2007, Iran supplied 12 per cent of our crude. After being sanctioned over its nuclear programme, India stopped buying from Iran. Meanwhile,

China still buys 1.4 million bpd from Iran despite sanctions. Between 2022 and 2025, more than 40 per cent of Russia's crude exports went to China. And if India stopped buying crude from Russia, Moscow would sell more oil to China at bigger discounts. The net result would be that China will be at a greater advantage and global crude prices will go up. In this global turmoil driven by protectionism and trade and tariff wars, India is treading its path carefully, balancing regional and global geopolitics with resilience. The Indian government's prudent policy decisions are being appreciated across the globe and bringing positive results. Recently, S&P Global has also raised India's long-term sovereign credit rating to 'BBB' from 'BBB-', with short-term rating upgraded

to 'A-2' from 'A-3'. The stable outlook reflects confidence in India's strong economic fundamentals, prudent policy management, and effective monetary policy — a recognition of India's growing financial resilience.

The successful handling of the economy by the Narendra Modi government has imparted resilience to the economy, ensuring it can bear economic shocks. We are the fastest-growing major economy, our fiscal position is improving, and there is increasing efficiency in government spending. All these means India will be able to negotiate as a partner and won't be a pushover.

India's imports of Russian crude oil averaged 1.7-2 million bpd in 2024-25, accounting for 36-40 per cent of its total crude im-

ports. The average discount on Russian crude was approximately \$3.5 per barrel, compared to Middle Eastern crude, which was costlier by about \$4-5 per barrel. This translated into estimated savings of \$7-10 billion on India's import bill, including \$2.3-3.8 billion (Rs 19,000-31,500 crore) in direct savings from lower prices compared to alternative suppliers. In addition, India avoided a potential \$9-11 billion increase in its import bill by helping stabilise global supply and preventing price spikes.

If India stopped buying Russian oil, it would be forced to compete in crowded West Asian markets, likely causing a sharp rise in global crude prices. By importing Russian oil, India is not just reducing its own costs but also helping to balance the

When one size does not fit all in Education

A classroom is often imagined as a room where one teacher delivers the same lesson, at the same pace, to the same age group, and expects similar outcomes from every child. That image is neat, efficient, and deeply misleading. In reality, children differ widely in prior knowledge, language ability, home support, motivation, confidence, pace of learning, and the ways in which they understand ideas. An education system that ignores these differences does not create equality; it merely standardises disadvantage.

The phrase "one size does not fit all" is not a fashionable slogan in education. It is a statement of fact. In any classroom, some students learn quickly, some require repetition, some need visual support, some thrive through discussion, and some perform better after hands-on activity. There are also children who are gifted, children who are slow to process, children with learning disabilities, and children whose difficulties arise not from lack of intelligence but from poverty, language barriers, or emotional stress. To teach such a class as though every child were identical is to misunderstand both pedagogy and childhood itself.

Yet school systems, particularly in large public systems, often continue to operate as if uniformity were the goal. The curriculum is fixed, the timetable is rigid, the examination is common, and the classroom pace is dictated by an abstract "average" learner who rarely exists in real life. The result is predictable. Some children are left behind, some are bored, and many are trained not to learn deeply but to survive the system. When learning becomes a race governed by the fastest or the loudest, education loses its moral purpose.

The problem is not that teachers are unwilling to meet diverse needs. In most cases, they are already doing so with admirable patience and ingenuity. The real problem is that the system asks too much of teachers while giving them too little support. A single teacher handling a large class cannot be expected to individualise instruction for every learner without training, time, teaching aids, and a manageable pupil-teacher ratio. Inclusion cannot remain a policy slogan while classrooms remain overcrowded and assessments remain narrow.

What is needed is a serious shift from uniform teaching to differentiated teaching. This does not mean abandoning common standards or lowering expectations. It means reaching the same learning goal through different paths. A child who struggles with text may need oral explanation; another may need group work; a third may need advanced tasks that extend understanding. Differentiation is not an indulgence for weak students or an extra burden for teachers. It is the practical form of justice in education.

This is where teacher preparation becomes crucial. Many teachers are still trained to complete the syllabus rather than diagnose learning gaps. They are taught to cover content, not to observe variation in learning styles. If teachers are to manage mixed-ability classrooms effectively, they must be equipped with methods of formative assessment, flexible grouping, remedial support, peer learning, and classroom adaptation. Teacher education must move beyond theory and prepare educators for the real classroom, not the idealised one.

Assessment, too, must be reconsidered. When the entire system values only memorisation under time pressure, it privileges one narrow type of learner. Children who understand well but write slowly, children who think creatively but do not fit the standard answer pattern, and children who need more time to process are all unfairly penalised. A more humane system would use varied assessment methods, including projects, oral tasks, portfolios, observation, and continuous feedback. Such approaches do not weaken standards; they reveal learning more honestly.

There is also a deeper ethical issue. Uniform schooling often hides inequality by treating everyone the same. But equal treatment is not always equal opportunity. A child who comes from a supportive home, has access to books, receives tuition, and speaks the language of instruction at home begins far ahead of a child who has none of these advantages. If the school pretends that both are identical, it does not become impartial; it becomes blind. Fairness in education requires attention to difference, not denial of it.

The debate on inclusion must therefore be broadened. It should not be limited to children with disabilities, though their needs deserve urgent and serious attention. It must also include children with different abilities, learning speeds, and socio-economic backgrounds. An inclusive classroom is not one where every child is taught the same thing in the same way. It is one where every child is given a meaningful chance to participate, progress, and succeed.

Technology may offer useful support, but it is no substitute for thoughtful pedagogy. Digital tools can help teachers provide practice, adapt content, and monitor progress. However, technology alone cannot solve the core problem of overburdened classrooms and underprepared systems. Nor should it deepen inequality by privileging schools with better infrastructure while leaving others behind. Technology must serve inclusion, not replace it.

Ultimately, the challenge before education is not merely administrative. It is philosophical. Do we see children as identical units to be processed, or as distinct learners to be developed? The answer to that question determines the shape of the classroom, the training of teachers, the design of curriculum, and the nature of assessment. If education is to be meaningful, it must recognise that human beings do not grow in the same way or at the same speed. That is not a defect to be corrected. It is the reality that good education must respect.

A classroom becomes strong not when every child is forced into one mould, but when differences are understood as part of learning itself. True excellence in education lies not in uniformity, but in the ability to teach many minds without leaving any behind.

The success of an education system should not be measured only by how well the top-performing students achieve, but also by how effectively it supports those who need additional guidance. A truly progressive system recognises that every child carries a different story into the classroom. Their experiences, challenges, interests, and strengths shape the way they learn. Education must therefore move from a model of correction to one of cultivation, where the role of the teacher is not merely to deliver information but to help every learner discover their potential.

Parents and communities also have an important role in creating inclusive learning environments. Schools cannot work in isolation when children's learning is influenced by social and emotional factors outside the classroom. Regular communication between teachers and families can help identify difficulties early and provide better support. A partnership approach ensures that education becomes a shared responsibility rather than a burden placed only on teachers.

School leadership is equally important in promoting flexible and inclusive practices. Principals and administrators must encourage innovation, provide resources, and create a culture where teachers are supported in experimenting with new methods. A school that values diversity among students must also value creativity among educators. When teachers are given freedom and encouragement, classrooms become spaces of exploration rather than just places of instruction.

Reform and globalisation India's dual challenge holds the answer to Trump's tariff turmoil

**Sanjay Kathuria
TG Srinivasan**

Protective tariffs imposed by the US on India will hurt. Yet two truths stand out. First, India cannot afford to forsake or even downplay globalisation, as some have suggested. Second, the policy responses needed to mitigate the damage are the very reforms that India should be pursuing, regardless of the tariffs. Since "Liberation Day" tariffs were announced by President Donald Trump in April 2025, US tariffs have become a moving target. As of 1 August, India faces "reciprocal tariffs" of 25 per cent and, from 27 August onwards, an additional penalty tariff of 25 per cent. We estimate that as a result of these tariffs, India's annual exports to the US — currently almost a fifth of the country's goods exports — could decline by \$19 billion to \$35 billion. Some labour-intensive sectors, such as textiles and apparel, diamonds, and shrimps, would be especially vulnerable.

A silver lining in the US tariff imposition is that services have not been included, at least so far. India's services exports are showing greater dynamism than goods exports; in FY25 their value was 89 per cent of goods exports. Thus, services will remain a strong anchor for India's overall export performance. But the bigger lesson goes beyond the short-term hit: the tariffs underscore, once



again, India's dual challenge — embracing globalisation more fully, and accelerating long-debated reforms. On globalisation, India is still a lower middle-income country. Sustained growth and the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047 requires India to leverage the global economy in its entirety, embracing the upsides and managing the downsides. Yet India's high tariffs, frequently called out by Trump, reflect India's ambivalence about full engagement with world markets.

Policymakers should remember that India's best growth years were accompanied by dynamic export performance. Exports enable companies to expand beyond the domestic market (mobile phones being a case in point), and enjoy competition-driven pro-

ductivity growth. Imports provide cheaper products and inputs, and enable technology upgrading.

Finally, note that all the high-performing East Asian economies have achieved much higher peak trade-to-GDP ratios than India, whose 2024 ratio of 45 per cent stands far below its own peak 2012 trade ratio of 56 per cent. This brings us to reforms, without which India cannot fully benefit from globalisation. The agenda is not new, but the urgency is greater than ever. In a recent CSEF Working Paper, co-authored with Prerna Prabhakar, we proposed a core agenda for revitalising manufacturing competitiveness. This includes:

1) Rationalising India's tariff structure to better

align with East Asian competitors. Current high tariffs raise input costs and bias firms towards the domestic market. According to the latest WTO data, the simple average tariff in 2024 on all products was 7.5 per cent for China, 16.2 per cent for India, and 9.5 per cent for Vietnam. 2) Hastening the completion of free trade agreements (FTAs) with the EU, and deepening existing ones with ASEAN, Japan, and South Korea. Unlike its Asian peers, India is not part of any mega-regional trading bloc. New and deeper FTAs will help diversify markets and reduce dependence on a single market. China provides a striking example: in the wake of the US-China trade war, it increased total exports by more than a trillion dollars, even as the US'

share in its export basket fell from about 20 per cent to 10 per cent over the past six years. 3) Enhancing the quality of regulations that impede firm growth, complicate land acquisition, and inhibit efficient urbanisation. Labour laws, for example, create a disincentive for firms to grow, creating a very lopsided industrial structure, wherein medium and small enterprises form 96 per cent of industrial units in India. 4) Fostering technological development through a holistic approach that recognises the core role of competition in spurring research, adaptation and innovation. Moving from lower-middle-income to high-income status will require increasing innovation to accompany investment and technology diffusion.

NIA Jaipur to be developed as a Global Centre of Excellence in Ayurveda: Union Minister Jadhav

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS) The Union Minister of Ayush today chaired the second meeting of the Society of the National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur, in New Delhi. The Deputy Chief Minister and Ayush Minister of Rajasthan, Dr. Premchand Bairwa, along with the Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, Vaidya Rajesh Kotcha, senior officials of the Ministry, and distinguished members of the Society, were present on the occasion. In his address, the Minister stated, "Our vision is to develop the National Institute of Ayurveda as a Global Centre of Excellence that symbolizes advanced research, innovation, quality education, and public health leadership. This Institute must not only achieve excellence but also inspire other Ayurvedic institutions across the country and the world." He emphasized that the meeting was not merely an



administrative formality but a platform to chart the Institute's future direction, aligning with the global rise of traditional systems of medicine. The Minister underlined that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Ayush sector has made historic progress. The establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in India marks global recognition

of Indian knowledge systems, embraced with hope and confidence across the world. Achievements of National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA): First Deemed University in the Ayush sector in India. Over 4 lakh OPD patients and 25,000+ IPD patients are treated annually. Free healthcare camps in 12 districts under SC, SP, and STP schemes. GMP-certified pharmacy products more than 100 Ayurvedic

medicines. NAAC 'A' Grade, NABH, and NABL accolades achieved. Students from 15 countries are pursuing education at NIA. Recently declared India's Best Ayurvedic Institution by NCISM. International collaborations and Guinness World Record achievements, enhancing its global profile. Commending NIA's performance in education, research, and healthcare services, the Minister em-

phasized the need for globally benchmarked research, faculty development, modernized curricula, stronger infrastructure, and wider community reach. Reaffirming the government's support, he stated that the Ministry of Ayush stands fully committed to providing all necessary assistance to ensure the Institute continues to elevate the pride of Ayurveda at national and international levels.

Ministry of Coal to Launch 13th Round of Commercial Coal Mine Auctions



New Delhi, June 25 (GNS) The Ministry of Coal is set to launch the 13th round of commercial coal mine auctions on 21st August 2025 in New Delhi. The event will be graced by Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, as Chief Guest, and Minister of State for Coal and Mines, Shri Satish Chandra Dubey, as Guest of Honour.

This event will mark another significant step towards enhancing transparency, competition, and self-reliance in India's coal sector. The commercial coal mine auction process, which has witnessed robust participation from both established and new industry players in every round, aims to accelerate coal production and ensure adequate supply for

the nation's growing energy demand. The upcoming 13th round will continue to offer mines with the most liberal terms, promoting ease of doing business and attracting investments from a diverse set of stakeholders. Launched in 2020 under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the commercial auction framework has transformed the coal sector by fostering transparency, driving competition, and increasing coal availability for domestic industries, thereby reducing dependence on imports. The upcoming round will offer a fresh set of coal mines for auction, covering both fully explored and partially explored blocks, attracting diverse participation from experienced miners, new en-

Promotion of Emerging Sector Skills and Future Readiness

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS) Under the Government of India's Skill India Mission (SIM), the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), to all the sections of the society across the country. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready and equipped with industry relevant skills. To promote new age skills in areas like AI/ML, Robotics and Green technology, MSDE has undertaken the following initiatives: Under PMKVY, more than 200 new age/future skills job-roles have been specially aligned with Industry 4.0 requirements in areas like AI/

ML, Robotics, EVs, Mechatronics, Drone Tech, etc. for upcoming market demand and industry requirements. Directorate General of Training (DGT) under aegis of MSDE has introduced 31 new age/future skills courses in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs) under CTS to provide training in emerging areas such as 5G Network, AI/ML, Cyber Security, Drone Technology, etc. DGT has signed MoU with IT Tech companies like IBM, CISCO, Future Skill Rights Network, Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Microsoft to ensure industry linkages for the institutes at the state and regional levels under CSR initiatives. These partnerships facilitate the provision of technical and professional skills training in modern technologies. IIS established at Ahmedabad and Mumbai, in Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode, provide training to create a pool of industry-ready workforce.

Indian Textile Exports Show Resilience and Growth Despite Mixed Global Trade Sentiments

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS) India's textile and apparel sector has continued to demonstrate resilience in July 2025, recording a steady growth trajectory. As per quick estimates released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCISS), exports of major textile commodities in July 2025 reached USD 3.10 billion, marking a 5.37% year-on-year growth compared to USD 2.94 billion in July 2024. For the period April-July 2025, cumulative textile exports stood at USD 12.18 billion, reflecting a growth of 3.87% over the same period last year (USD 11.73 billion). Readymade Garments (RMG): Exports rose to USD 1.34 billion in July 2025, up from USD 1.28 billion in July 2024 (4.75% growth). Cumulative exports for April-July 2025 stood at USD 5.53 billion, compared to USD 5.13 billion last year (+7.87% growth). Cotton Textiles (includ-



ing yarn, fabrics, made-ups, and handlooms): Cotton exports reached USD 1.02 billion in July 2025, compared to USD 970.5 million in July 2024 (5.17% growth). Cumulative exports April-July 2025 stood at USD 3.88 billion, nearly unchanged from USD 3.89 billion last year. Man-made Fibre (MMF) Textiles: MMF exports touched USD 422.0 million in July 2025, compared to USD 405.6 million last year (4.05% growth). During April-July 2025, exports amounted to USD 1.59 billion, up from USD 1.57 billion in the same pe-

riod last year with a growth of 1.13%. Jute Manufacturing (including floor coverings): Jute exports climbed to USD 32.4 million in July 2025, compared to USD 25.6 million in July 2024 (26.35% growth). Cumulative exports stood at USD 126.1 million, up from USD 108.9 million last year (+15.78%). Carpets: Carpet exports grew to USD 133.0 million in July 2025, compared to USD 123.1 million last year (+8.05%). Over April-July 2025, exports stood at USD 503.9 million, up from USD 486.5 million registering 3.57% growth.

India, Japan ties to benefit Global South

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his meeting with his Japanese counterpart Shigeru Ishiba this week, will review the Special Strategic and Global Partnership between India and Japan, including defence and security, trade and economy, technology and innovation, as well as discuss issues of regional and global importance. The visit, which will reaffirm the longstanding special bond of friendship between the two countries, also comes close on the heels of the Africa summit hosted by Japan last week.

Hisar IMC to Attract 32,417 cr Investment, Create 1.25 Lakh Jobs



New Delhi, June 25 (GNS) The Amritsar-Kolkata Industrial Corridor (AKIC) initiative achieved an important milestone today with the signing of the State Support Agreement (SSA) and Shareholder Agreement (SHA) between the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT), Government of Haryana and Haryana Airports Development Corporation (HADCO). Under this partnership, the National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) will support the Government of Haryana in developing the Integrated Manufacturing Cluster (IMC) at Hisar. It is one of the 20 projects currently being developed by NICDC in collaboration with State Governments across India. These agreements reflect the Government of India's strong commitment to support industrial growth and create world-class infrastructure in Haryana, starting with the development of the Integrated Manufacturing Cluster (IMC) Hisar. By strengthening local manufacturing capabilities and encouraging both domestic and international

investments, the AKIC will play a key role in advancing the Make in India initiative and helping India become more self-reliant and globally competitive. Integrated Manufacturing Cluster (IMC) Hisar in Haryana is expected to become a major driver of economic growth in the state. Its development will foster a business-friendly environment, drive large-scale employment generation, and further strengthen Haryana's position as a leading industrial destination. The cluster is expected to attract significant interest from investors across India and the world, giving a major boost to the country's manufacturing sector. IMC Hisar, spread across 2,988 acres, is being developed under the Amritsar-Kolkata Industrial Corridor near the newly inaugurated Maharaja Agrasen International Airport, Hisar, Haryana. With an investment potential of 32,417 crore and a project cost of 4,680 crore, it is expected to generate 1.25 lakh jobs. Strategically located between the EDFC and WDFC, it offers excellent connectivity via NH-52, NH-09, rail links, and proximity to major logistics hubs.

DAHD's Virtual Program Engages 1 Lakh+ Farmers on Livestock Productivity

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, organized a "Virtual Awareness Program for Enhancing Livestock Productivity" today. 1 Lakh+ livestock farmers, from 2000 Common Service Centers (CSCs) across India namely from states/UTs: Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Kerala, Andaman & Nicobar Island, Lakshadweep, Delhi and Chandigarh joined this session. The meeting was chaired by Union Minister of State, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Ministry of Pan-chayati Raj Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel from New Delhi. Ms. Varsha Joshi, Additional Secretary (DAHD), Shri. Rama Shankar Sinha, Additional Secretary (DAHD) along with the other senior



officials of the department were also present on this occasion. In his address, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, highlighted the invaluable contributions of the livestock farmers in boosting the national economy. He stated that milk production in the country has grown at the rate of 5.7% per annum, during the past 10 years while the world milk production growth rate is only 2% per annum. Prof. Baghel commended the livestock farmers for this achievement. He also appreciated the departmental ini-

tatives like the vaccination programs, use of Sex-Sorted Semen (SSS) etc that has helped in increasing animal productivity in the country. He interacted with the farmers and enquired about the on ground availability of veterinary services like utilization of toll-free number 1962 for treatment related assistance. The Union Minister of State laid emphasis on the need to opt for animal insurance and stressed on the importance of getting the animals vaccinated as per schedule.

Centre cuts wheat stock limit for traders to keep prices in check

New Delhi, June 25 (GNS) As part of continuous efforts to moderate prices of wheat before the upcoming festive season, the Central Government has decided to reduce the wheat stock limit applicable to wholesale and retail traders as well as processors in all States and Union Territories until March 31, 2026. The stock limit of wheat for wholesalers has been reduced to 2,000 metric tonnes (MT) from 3,000 MT earlier, while in the case of retailers, the stock limit has been cut to 8 MT for each retail outlet from 10 MT earlier, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. Similarly, for wheat processors, the wheat stock limit has been scaled down to 60 per cent of the monthly installed capacity (MIC) multiplied by the remaining months of FY 2025-26. Earlier, the limit was



fixed at 70 per cent of the monthly installed capacity multiplied by the remaining months of FY 2025-26. The stock limits are imposed as part of the government's policy to manage overall food security and to prevent hoarding and unscrupulous speculation that drives up prices by creating an artificial scarcity. All wheat stocking entities are required to declare/update the stock position on every Friday on the wheat stock portal (<https://foodstock.dfpd.gov.in>). Any entity which is found not to have registered on

the portal or violates the stock limits will be subject to suitable punitive action under Sections 6 and 7 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. In case the stocks held by these entities are higher than the prescribed limit, they will have to bring them down to the prescribed stock limits within 15 days of the issue of the notification. Officials of the Central and State Governments will be closely monitoring the enforcement of these stock limits to ensure that no artificial scarcity of wheat is created in the country.

CM Revanth Urges Centre to Resolve Tungabhadra Water Sharing Issue Expeditiously

Hyderabad, June 25 (GNS) Karnataka participated in a meeting chaired by the union Minister to discuss the long-pending water-sharing dispute. The Chief Minister stressed that political differences should be set aside in the larger interest of farmers in the three states. He said the first meeting involving the three Chief Ministers and the union Minister marked an important step towards resolving the issue amicably. Reddy said the installation of the new gates at the Tungabhadra Dam was a significant initiative that could help address a dispute affecting generations and provide relief to lakhs of farmers dependent on the river's waters. Recalling past efforts to resolve water-related issues, he said even the erstwhile Mysore rulers had risen above differences to safeguard farmers' interests.



June 2026 | Venue: Government High School Ground, Munirabad Taluk and District: Koppal

The Chief Minister pointed out that farmers in Gadwal, Alampur and Palampur regions were able to utilise only 5 to 6 TMC of the 17.9 TMC water allocated under the Rajolabanda Diversion Scheme (RDS), while nearly 10 TMC remained unutilised due to various constraints. He said the Telangana government had already brought issues relating to silt accumulation in the Tungabhadra river and water allocation disputes to the attention of the union Minister. The meeting, he added, resolved to work towards a permanent solution to the water crisis. Emphasising the need to focus on solutions rather than disputes, Reddy said it was a significant occasion that discussions on interstate water-sharing issues were held on the banks of the Tungabhadra river itself. Expressing optimism, he said the deliberations would pave the way for a lasting resolution to interstate water disputes and ensure equitable utilisation of water resources for the benefit of farmers across the three states.

Welfare is top priority of Indiramma Govt: Dy CM Bhatti



Hyderabad, June 25 (GNS) Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Thursday said the Indiramma People's Government is working with welfare as its primary objective and is committed to strengthening educational and welfare institutions for disadvantaged sections. Chairing a review meeting of the BC, SC and ST Welfare Departments at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat, Bhatti directed officials to explore shifting students currently residing in private buildings to Young India Integrated Residential Schools wherever feasible. Ministers Adhuri Laxman Kumar and Ponnampallam Prabhakar also attended the meeting. The Deputy Chief Minister instructed officials to complete repair works in welfare schools, hostels and residential institutions within a month and asked the Finance Department to prioritise clearance of around 7.5 crore in pending repair bills that have remained unsettled since 2023. He directed departmental secretaries to regularly submit bills relating to hostel and residential school rents, diet charges and cosmetic charges for timely clearance, warning that failure to submit student-related bills would invite serious consequences. Emphasising the need to strengthen Study Circles, Bhatti said efforts should be intensified to improve the success rate of candidates appearing for UPSC, Group Services and other competitive examinations. He also directed officials to prepare a monthly action plan for the construction of the Ambedkar Tower and the Babu Jagjivan Ram Student Hostel Building and set a target of inaugurating the multi-storied Ambedkar Building on April 14, 2027. The Deputy Chief Minister instructed officials to implement all self-employment programmes under the Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme and submit a detailed report on the proposed electric two-wheeler scheme. He also sought annual and quarterly fund requirement estimates for better financial planning. Bhatti further directed officials to prepare proposals for establishing Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Knowledge Centres in all districts. High-

Telangana HC suspends GO 9 on fee reimbursement till next week

Hyderabad, June 25 (GNS) Justice Juvvadi Sridevi of the Telangana High Court on Thursday suspended, until next Tuesday, the operation of the guidelines issued under G.O.Ms. No.9 governing fee reimbursement admissions and questioned the State Government on how private colleges could function when reimbursement dues running into crores of rupees remain unpaid. The interim order came in a batch of petitions filed by 89 private engineering and pharmacy colleges challenging G.O.Ms. No.9, issued after the Government withdrew G.O.Ms. No.7 following adverse observations from the High Court. The colleges contended that the new G.O substantially retained the earlier restrictions by directing institutions not to collect fees from students and by stating in allotment letters that students need not pay fees. During the hearing, the Court repeatedly questioned the Government, asking how colleges would pay staff salaries, meet operational



expenses and admit students for the current academic year if the State neither clears the pending dues nor permits institutions to collect fees from students. Special Government Pleader S. Rahul Reddy submitted that reimbursement arrears had mounted to several thousand crores of rupees and explained that reimbursement for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students also involves Central assistance, which is released only after the State first disburses the entire amount. The State sought two weeks' time to file its counter and assured the Court that fee reimbursement amounts for all eligible students applying between April 1 and July 31 would be released by August 15. Senior counsel appearing for the colleges submitted that if the Government places on record a clear roadmap and honours its assurance of clearing all dues by August 15, the institutions would withdraw their petitions. Students who sought to implead themselves submitted that they were caught between the Government and the college managements and requested that their academic interests be protected. After hearing all parties, Justice Juvvadi Sridevi adjourned the matter to next Tuesday while continuing the interim protection in favour of the institutions.

Defected MLAs asked to file counter affidavits in HC

Hyderabad, June 25 (GNS) Chief Justice Aparesk Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin of the Telangana High Court on Thursday directed MLAs Danam Nagender and Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy to file their counters in the batch of petitions challenging the Assembly Speaker's decision rejecting disqualification proceedings against MLAs accused of defecting from the BRS to the ruling Congress party. The Division Bench was hearing a batch of writ petitions filed by BRS legislators questioning the orders of Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, who had held that there was insufficient material to conclude that the ten legislators had incurred disqualification under the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution. The petition-

ers contended that despite ample material being placed before the Speaker to establish defection, no action had been taken against the legislators who had allegedly switched allegiance after being elected on BRS tickets in the 2023 Assembly elections. The present batch of petitions also includes a plea filed by BJP Legislature Party leader Aleti Maheshwar Reddy seeking disqualification of Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender on the grounds of defection. During the hearing, the Bench took note of the submissions and directed respondents Danam Nagender and Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy to place their stand on record by filing counters. The matter was adjourned to July 22 for further hearing.

GITAM Alumna Shivali Srivastava achieves 30 Guinness World Records

Hyderabad, June 25 (GNS) GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, on Thursday congratulated its School of Technology alumna Shivali Srivastava for achieving a remarkable milestone by securing a total of 30 Guinness World Records. Shivali, a member of the 2016-2020 batch, recently received seven new Guinness World Records along with her parents, Kavita Srivastava and Anil Srivastava, taking the family's overall tally to an unprec-

edented 30 titles, the University said in a release here. With the achievement, Shivali has emerged as one of India's most prolific Guinness World Record holders. Known for her expertise in origami and paper art, Shivali has earned global recognition through her creativity, precision and dedication. Along with her parents, she has handcrafted lakhs of paper creations, setting multiple records and bringing international ac-

Traffic curbs for Bibi-ka-Alam procession on today

Hyderabad, June 25 (GNS) The Hyderabad Traffic Police have announced traffic restrictions and diversions in connection with the historic Bibi-ka-Alam procession scheduled to be taken out from Bibi-ka-Alawa in the old city on Friday. The restrictions will be in force from 12 pm to 10 pm with traffic diverted at several key junctions along the procession route, including Sunargalli, Jabbar Hotel, Etebar Chowk, Purani Haveli, Bibi Bazar crossroads, Gulzar Houz, Charminar, Madina crossroads, Salar Jung Rotary, Chaderghat Rotary and Nayapul, depending on the movement of the proces-

sion. Vehicles heading towards Bibi-ka-Alawa, Shaik Faiz Kaman, Bada Bazar, Etebar Chowk, Charminar, Purani Haveli, Miralam Mandi and Alawa Sartauq will be diverted through alternative routes. Traffic police said diversions would be implemented in phases as the procession progresses through different areas. The police also announced that TGSRTC district buses would be diverted towards Rang Mahal and Afzalgunj for entry and exit between 10 am and 9 pm. Buses will not be permitted on Kalikhabar and Miralam Mandi roads until the procession reaches its destination.

Collector pushes speedy completion of Rs 540 Crore Ailamma University Project

Hyderabad, June 25 (GNS) District Collector Dr. Priyanka Ala has directed the concerned engineering officials to expedite the construction of buildings at the Veeranari Chakali Ailamma University and ensure they are ready for use by the stipulated deadline. On Thursday, she inspected the ongoing construction works—including the hostel block, academic block, auditorium block, sports complex, Vice-Chancellor's room, and residential quarters—at the Veeranari Chakali Ailamma Women's University in Koti, accompanied by Vice-Chancellor Professor Surya Dhanunjaya. Speaking on the occasion, the Collector instructed the construction agency to accelerate the pace of work to ensure the completion of this prestigious project, undertaken by the state government, within the scheduled timeframe. The Collector comprehensively reviewed the progress of the work, construction methods, deployment of labor, and the implementation status of the various construction components. She suggested implementing round-the-clock work in shifts to significantly boost the pace of construction while insisting on strict adherence to quality standards and modern construction techniques. The concerned engineering officials explained that



the work had faced some delays due to factors such as obtaining statutory clearances, university examinations, and the intensity of the summer heat. He directed that all construction works be carried out simultaneously and in a coordinated manner, ensuring completion within the stipulated timeframe. The Collector instructed the construction agency to accord the highest priority to this prestigious government project, placing it above other construction works. He stated that the state government has undertaken this

prestigious redevelopment project at a cost of 540 crore with the aim of upgrading the century-old university with modern educational facilities while simultaneously preserving and sustainably maintaining its heritage structures. After inquiring with the engineers about the building construction and long-term structural stability, he directed them to adhere to the highest quality standards during the project's execution. The Collector also inspected the temporary air-conditioned portable cabins set up for female students following the demolition of the old hostels to make way for the redevelopment work. He reviewed sanitation, drinking water, and other basic amenities, instructing officials to ensure all necessary facilities and precautions are in place so that the students face no inconvenience during the construction period. Subsequently, he interacted with the students, checked the quality of the food being served, and shared a meal with them. Established in 1924, this is the state's first and only women's university. While the campus spans an area of 39 acres and 6 guntas, the redevelopment project involves the construction of several buildings across a three-acre area.

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