

FALAKNUMA NEWS

ENGLISH DAILY

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Email:falaknumanews@gmail.com

VOL: 1

Issue No: 20

WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE 2026

PUBLISHED FROM HYDERABAD

PAGES: 4

RS.1/-

Armed forces must be prepared for longer conflicts: Rajnath Singh

Mhow (MP), June 2 (GNS): India's armed forces must be prepared for all kinds of security challenges including short-duration conflicts to even a five-year war in view of an unpredictable geopolitical environment, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Wednesday.

In an address at the 'Ran Samvad' at the Army War College here, Singh said India does not want anyone's land, but it is ready to go to any extent to protect its territorial integrity. "In today's era, wars have become so sudden and unpredictable that it is very difficult to predict when any war will end and how long it will



last," Singh said. The Indian military must be prepared for every situation, he said. "That is, if any war stretches for two months, four months, a year, two years, even five years, then we should be fully prepared for it," he said. Singh said national secu-

rity is no longer a matter of the military, but has become an issue of a "whole-of-nation approach".

"We do not want anyone's land, but we are ready to go to any extent to protect our land," the minister said in the presence of India's top military brass, including Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan, Air Chief Marshal A P Singh and Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi. He lauded the three services on Operation Sindoor and said it has emerged as a great example of the success of India's indigenous platforms, equipment and weapon systems. "Its achievements have

once again underlined that in the times to come, self-reliance is an absolute necessity. We have indeed made significant progress on the path of self-reliance, but there is still a long way ahead," he said.

Singh said the success of Operation Sindoor is a "perfect example" of bravery and swiftness with which the armed forces acted against the terrorists in Pakistan.

It was something those terrorists could never have even imagined, he said.

"If we speak of Operation Sindoor, it was indeed a striking demonstration of technology-driven warfare," Singh said.

Terror masterminds sent clear message of consequences of playing with Indian citizens' lives: Amit Shah

New Delhi, June 2 (GNS): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said that Operation Sindoor and Operation Mahadev have sent a clear message to the masterminds of terror about the consequences of playing with Indian citizens' lives. Shah also said that while Operation Sindoor brought satisfaction among the people, Operation Mahadev transformed that satisfaction into confidence. Shah said this while honouring the Indian Army, J-K Police and CRPF personnel, who successfully carried out Operation Mahadev and neutralised terrorists involved in the Pahalgam attack.

The armed forces carried out Operation Sindoor in May, targeting terror hideouts and military installations in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in response to the April 22 Pahalgam attack that claimed 26 lives. Through Operation Mahadev, the security forces in July eliminated the terrorists involved in the Pahalgam carnage.

"Operation Sindoor and Operation Mahadev have sent a clear message to the masterminds of terror



about the consequences of playing with the lives of Indian citizens," Shah said.

The security forces have shown the world that no matter how many tactics or strategies terrorists may adopt, they can no longer hurt India and escape, the home minister said.

At a time when tourism was at its peak in Kashmir, the Pahalgam attack was a failed attempt to derail the 'Kashmir Mission', he said. Shah also said that alongside the Army and paramilitary forces, the Jammu and Kashmir Police now plays a leading role in the fight against terrorism.

"Whether from the ruling party or the opposition, everyone felt joy and enthusiasm about operations

Sindoor and Mahadev, and expressed gratitude towards the security forces," the home minister said.

This very trust in national security is the foundation for India's aspiration to achieve the highest position in the world in every field, he added.

The forensic lab of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has proved that the terrorists killed during Operation Mahadev were the same who carried out the massacre in Pahalgam, Shah said.

"On behalf of Prime Minister (Narendra) Modi and the entire nation, I congratulate the security forces for strengthening the sense of security in the hearts of Indian citizens," the home minister said.

US Tariffs Result Of Modi Govt's Superficial Foreign Policy, Will Lead To Huge Job Losses: Kharge

New Delhi, June 2 (GNS): Taking a swipe at the Modi government after the additional tariffs imposed by the US on India came into effect on Wednesday, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge termed them a result of its "superficial" foreign policy that would result in "huge job losses". US President Donald Trump has imposed an additional 25 per cent tariff on Indian goods effective.

"Narendra Modi ji, your dear friend 'Abki Baar, Trump Sarkar' has imposed 50 per cent Tariffs on India starting today. We will lose an estimated Rs 2.17



lakh crore as the first jolt to this Tariff, across 10 sectors alone," Kharge said in a post on X. Noting that "our farmers, especially cotton farmers, have been badly hit", Kharge said, "You had said you are ready to pay any 'personal price' to protect them, but you have done absolutely nothing to soften the blow and protect their livelihoods." The Congress chief said the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) suggests that almost 1 per cent of India's GDP could be impacted, and that

China would benefit from it. "Several export-oriented important sectors, including MSMEs, will experience massive job losses. A snapshot — which is just a tip of the iceberg — reveals the Indian textile export sector is facing potential job losses of about 500,000, including both direct and indirect employment. "In the gems and jewellery sector, 150,000 to 200,000 jobs could be at risk if the tariffs continue," the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha said.

Kharge also claimed that close to 1,00,000 workers involved in diamond cutting and polishing across

the Saurashtra region have already lost their jobs since April, when the 10 per cent base US tariff was put in place.

The livelihoods of half-a-million shrimp farmers directly and another 2.5 million indirectly are at grave risk, the Congress leader claimed. "Indian national interest is supreme. A robust foreign policy needs substance and deft but your superficial foreign policy engagements smiles, hugs and selfies have hurt our interests. You failed in securing a trade deal. Now you are failing to protect our country," Kharge alleged in his post.

Freedom of speech does not mean freedom to lower dignity of House: LS Speaker

NEW DELHI, June 2 (GNS): Freedom of speech and privilege of members of legislative bodies should not be construed as the freedom to lower the dignity of the House, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said. Delivering the valedictory speech at the All India Speakers Conference hosted by the Delhi Assembly, Birla voiced concern over the "gradual decline" in upholding the dignity of legislative bodies and asked all stakeholders, including the members of the Houses and political parties, to reflect on the matter.

He also emphasised that the presiding officers of the legislative Houses need to be seen as "undisputed, independent and doing justice" while chairing sessions. "Our Constitution makers guaranteed the privilege of saying anything in the House, even speaking against the government. However, the intention behind this freedom has seen a decline.

This is a matter of concern for all of us," he said. The speaker also stressed how imperative it was to ensure the Houses are conducted with the objective of meaningful debate and consideration of public interest issues. He urged members of Parliament to rise above partisan interests and focus on the expectations of the people who elect them. The freedom of speech in the legislative institutions should be tempered with proper conduct, he stated. "Members need to raise issues that concern the people. The Houses must become the voice of the people and reflect their suggestions and opinions meaningfully," he said. Birla emphasised the significance of maintaining decorum and respectful language in the House and outside it.

"Disagreement is the strength of democracy. But members must maintain a code of conduct inside and outside the House.

IAF Chief cautions against rolling out theaterisation plan in hurry

MHOW (MP), June 2 (GNS): Air Chief Marshal A P Singh on Tuesday cautioned against the implementation of the theaterisation plan in a hurry and proposed the setting up of a joint planning and coordination centre in Delhi comprising top military brass to ensure tri-services synergy. In a fireside chat at the Army War College, the Chief of Air Staff, referring to proposed theatre commands, said creating a new structure while disrupting everything is not a very good idea at this point of time.

The hugely significant remarks by the Air Chief Marshal came three-and-a-half months after India carried out Operation Sindoor that reflected various elements of synergy among the three services.

In his remarks, Singh said the operation once again established the "primacy" of air power even as he highlighted the tri-services coordination during the May 7 to 10 conflict with Pakistan. The Chief of Air Staff said that Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan played a "very big role" during Operation Sindoor. He highlighted how Gen Chauhan and the three ser-



vice chiefs worked closely in planning and executing the operation. "I personally feel that having a joint planning and coordination centre in Delhi is what is required," he said, suggesting that it should be kept under the Chiefs of Staff Committee directions that can be issued jointly.

With Gen Rawat listening, Air Chief Marshal Singh said that "centrally planned" decisions can be executed under a de-centralised framework. "That will work out the best." The IAF chief was replying to a question on the proposed theatre commands. "But yes, we can start with this first, implement it and see how it pans out."

If we need any more structure, we can think about it. But disrupting ev-

everything and making one structure now at this time, I do not think it is a very good idea," he said.

The Chief of Air Staff also said that India should not be inspired by any other country, like the US, in rolling out theatre commands.

"Everybody has their own requirements. We need to think about what we need there, and then only we should go about it. Otherwise, we will go wrong," Singh said.

"We should not just come under any pressure and say we have to implement it now. Somehow, we have to do it. It should not be done this way. I think we can stand our ground and discuss things," he said.

The Air Chief Marshal said there is a need to prepare for tomorrow's war.

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BUS FACILITY AVAILABLE

SBI raises Rs 25,000 crore, CET1 capital rises to 11.50 pc post QIP

Mumbai, June 2 (GNS) The State Bank of India on Monday announce the successful completion of the qualified institutional placement (QIP) of its equity shares, raising Rs 25,000 crore.

The equity shares were priced at premium to floor price of Rs 811.05 per share.

The capital will augment SBI's CET-1 buffer that will improve to 11.50 per cent from 10.81 per cent as on March 31, 2025, support calibrated credit growth across retail, MSME and corporate segments, the bank said in a statement. The book received robust demand and was oversubscribed 4.5 times, reflecting strong investor confidence in SBI's strategy and the outlook for India's banking sector.

Foreign investors accounted for 64.3 per cent of total demand. Marquee long term investors received 88 per cent of the final allocation, including 24 per cent of the issue size placed with



foreign long-term investors.

"This landmark equity raise is a vote of confidence in SBI's solid fundamentals, prudent risk management and digital-first growth agenda. We are grateful to both domestic and international investors for their overwhelming support, which also speaks volumes about the current strength and future potential of the Indian economy," said C.S. Setty, Chairman, SBI.

Earlier in May this year, SBI's board gave the go-ahead for raising equity capital of up to Rs 25,000 crore

during FY26. The objective was to boost SBI's Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital ratio — which will bolster the bank's financial health.

SBI gave a dividend cheque of Rs 8,076.84 crore to the government for the financial year 2024-25. The public sector bank's net profit for the financial year 2024-25 shot up to Rs 70,901 crore.

The bank is celebrating its 70th year of operations with a balance sheet that has soared to Rs 66 lakh crore and the number of its customers surging past a staggering 52 crore.

Underground mining at Gondkhari: A sustainable boost to environment and local economy

Ahmedabad, June 2 (GNS) The development of Gondkhari Underground Coal Block near Nagpur will witness least disturbance to the villages and forests on the surface. The Ministry of Coal that awarded the block to Adani Power Limited through competitive bidding will produce two million tonnes of coal annually using underground technology. The block awarded to Adani Power Limited through competitive bidding forms part of the Coal Ministry's strategy to produce two million tonnes of coal annually in the country, using underground technology.

The project will set a precedent for environmentally conscious resource extraction. Unlike traditional open-cast mining, the Gondkhari project will ensure minimal surface disruption. Of the total

862.00 hectares, including 87.351 hectares of revenue forest land, will remain undisturbed as no infrastructure development or mining operations will occur on forest land. As a result, the underground mining project will prevent tree felling and forest degradation, which are the major concerns of the stakeholders today. The company will develop mine entries and infrastructure on privately acquired land, ensuring that forest patches remain intact.

This underground approach not only safeguards biodiversity but also aligns with the principles of ecological conservation. The Forest Diversion Proposal underscores the project's commitment to regulatory compliance, especially with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

India's smartphone market grows 7 pc to reach 39 mn units in April-June

New Delhi, June 2 (GNS)

Driven by easing inventory challenges and renewed vendor activity, India's smartphone market rebounded in the April-June period, growing 7 per cent year to reach 39 million units, according to a new report. The growth was primarily fuelled by fresh launches concentrated in the second quarter, following a cautious Q1 where vendors held back due to elevated inventory levels, according to Canalys (now part of Omdia).

"Heightened competition beyond the top five is reshaping India's smartphone landscape, as premium incumbents and design-led challengers refine their playbooks," said Sanyam Chaurasia, Principal Analyst. Apple ranked sixth in Q2 2025, with the iPhone 16 family accounting for over 55 per cent of its shipments, while the iPhone 15 and 13 continued to drive demand



across price tiers. According to the report, Vivo (excluding iQOO) led the market with 8.1 million units shipped and a 21 per cent market share. Samsung followed in second place with 6.2 million units and a 16 per cent market share.

OPPO (excluding OnePlus) climbed to third with 5 million units, edging past Xiaomi, which also shipped 5 million. Realme completed the top five with 3.6 million units. "With limited organic demand, India's smartphone market in H2 2025 will hinge more on chan-

nel execution than product launches," stated Chaurasia. Brands are actively locking inventory with distributors and retailers through channel incentive programs ahead of the upcoming festive season in India. These include high-value rewards ranging from foreign trips to vehicle rewards — tied to performance during Monsoon sales, Durga Puja and Diwali cycles, the report said. Retail infrastructure upgrades are gaining pace, with improved booth setups, structured shelf placements and stricter quarterly targets.

Government to ensure country's interests are protected as India, US negotiate trade deal



New Delhi, June 2 (GNS) India and US are currently negotiating a bilateral trade agreement (BTA) which has not been signed as yet, as the government takes care of all the sensitivities associated with the free trade agreement (FTA) and ensures that India's interests are protected, the Parliament was informed.

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Jitin Prasada, stated this in a written reply to the Lok Sabha. "Every FTA is unique and is based on specific dynamics of trade and is aimed at maximising benefits for both nations. India and US are negotiating a Bilateral

Trade Agreement which has not been signed as yet," he added. "The govt of India takes care of all the sensitivities associated with the FTA and ensures that India's interests are protected. The FTA comes into force after signing and ratification by both the countries," he added. Intense discussions are currently on to reach an interim trade deal between New Delhi and Washington before the August 1 deadline. On the India-UK trade deal, the minister informed that Prime Ministers of India and UK have announced the successful conclusion of India-UK FTA negotiations on May 6, 2025.

"The FTA with the UK is a modern, comprehensive and landmark agreement which seeks to achieve deep economic integration along with trade liberalisation and tariff concessions. The FTA ensures comprehensive market access for goods, across all sectors, covering all of India's export interests," said Prasada in his reply. The FTA seeks to promote good regulatory practices and enhance transparency that are in sync with India's own focus on domestic reforms to enhance the ease of doing business.

Meanwhile, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal will accompany

Prime Minister Narendra Modi to London for the signing of the free trade agreement between India and the UK this week.

At the invitation of UK Prime Minister, Keir Starmer, PM Modi will undertake an official visit to the United Kingdom from July 23 to 24. This marks his fourth visit to the UK. The agreement opens up massive export opportunities for India's labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, marine products, leather, footwear, sports goods and toys, gems and jewellery, and other important sectors such as engineering goods, auto parts and engines.

Mobile production surges by 146 pc to Rs 5.25 lakh crore in 4 fiscals, exports up 775 pc: Piyush Goyal

New Delhi, June 2 (GNS) The production of mobiles in India in value terms has increased by around 146 per cent from Rs 2,13,773 crore in FY 2020-21 to Rs 5,25,000 crore in FY 2024-25, the Parliament was informed.

During the same period, exports of mobile phones in value terms has increased by around 775 per cent from Rs 22,870 crore in 2020-21 to Rs 2,00,000 crore in 2024-25.

The government's PLI and national industrial corridor schemes have incentivized domestic manufacturing, leading to increased production, job creation and a boost in exports, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, said in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha. PLI Scheme has encouraged major smartphone companies to shift their production to India. As a result, India has become a major mobile phone manufacturing country.

Due to the PLI scheme, there has also been a significant



reduction in imports of raw materials in the pharmaceutical and bulk drugs are being manufactured in India including Penicillin-G, and transfer of technology has happened in manufacturing of Medical Devices such as (CT scan, MRI etc.).

The PLI Scheme for White Goods is aimed at developing a robust component ecosystem for the Air Conditioners and LED Lights industry

in India, with the goal of making the country an integral part of global supply chains. Following its launch, India has begun local production of key components such as compressors, copper tubes, heat exchangers, motors, and control assemblies for air conditioners, as well as LED chip packaging, drivers, engines, light management systems, and metallized films for capacitors in the LED segment.

This shift is significantly reducing import dependency and strengthening domestic manufacturing capabilities, the minister further stated. The government has also launched Make in India 2.0 initiative which presently focuses on 27 sectors implemented across various ministries/departments and state governments.

He further stated that the government has approved 12 new project proposals under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) with total project cost of Rs 28,602 crore to facilitate manufacturing investments into the country. Besides Atmanirbhar Bharat packages provide investment opportunities under National Infrastructure Pipeline and National Monetization Pipeline, India Industrial Land Bank, Industrial Park Rating System, soft launch of the National Single Window System etc. to promote manufacturing, the minister added.

Blue Jet Healthcare's net profit falls 17 pc, shares hit 10 pc lower circuit

Mumbai, June 2 (GNS) Blue Jet Healthcare Limited on Tuesday reported a 17.18 per cent drop on sequential basis in its net profit for the April-June quarter (Q1) of FY26, with earnings falling to Rs 91.1 crore from Rs 110 crore in the previous quarter. Following the earnings report, the company's shares hit a 10 per cent lower circuit on Tuesday, closing at Rs 906.15 on the National Stock Exchange (NSE). Total expenses also jumped significantly by 16.89 per cent to Rs 240.1 crore, according to its stock exchange filing.

However, the company's revenue from operations rose to Rs 354.7 crore in Q1, up from Rs 340.4 crore in the previous quarter -- marking a 4.2 per cent growth. Total income also increased by 2.95 per cent to Rs 363 crore during the quarter, the company said in its regulatory filing.

Blue Jet's EBITDA for the quarter came in at Rs 121



crore, down 13.1 per cent compared to the March quarter. The EBITDA margin narrowed by over 700 basis points quarter-on-quarter, although the company noted an improvement in both EBITDA and margin when compared to the same period previous year.

Over the past five days, the stock has delivered a negative return of Rs 66.75 or 6.86 per cent. However, it has still gained Rs 49.9 or 5.83 per cent in the past month and Rs 347.4 or 62.17

per cent over the last six months. Since the beginning of 2025, the stock has risen by 57 per cent, as per the official data. Commenting on the quarterly results, Shiven Arora, Managing Director of Blue Jet Healthcare, attributed the performance to the ramp-up in the PI and API product categories.

He also expressed confidence in the company's growth strategy, backed by capacity expansion, strong R&D, and a solid pipeline of high-value products.

NPA's of public sector banks declined from 9.1 pc to 2.58 pc: Union Minister

New Delhi, June 2 (GNS) Gross non-performing assets (NPAs) of public sector banks have been steadily declining and have come down from 9.11 per cent of total loans in March 2021 to 2.58 per cent in March 2025, Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance Pankaj Chaudhary informed Parliament. The total amount locked up in the gross NPAs of public sector banks has declined from Rs 6,16,616 crore in March 2021 to Rs 2,83,650 crore in March 2025, the minister said in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha.

Comprehensive measures have been taken by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to recover and reduce NPAs. These include a change in credit culture that has come into effect, with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) fundamentally changing the creditor-borrower relationship, taking



away control of the defaulting company from promoters/owners, and debarring wilful defaulters from the resolution process. To make the process more stringent, personal guarantors to corporate debtors have also been brought under the ambit of IBC, the minister said. The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the Recovery of Debt and Bankruptcy Act have been amended to make them more effective in recovering bad loans.

Besides, pecuniary jurisdiction of Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) was increased from Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs to enable the DRTs to focus on high-value cases, resulting in higher recovery for the banks and financial institutions, he further stated.

Public sector banks have also set up specialised stressed assets management verticals and branches for effective monitoring and focused follow-up of NPA accounts, which facilitates quicker and improved resolution/ recoveries.

Deployment of Business correspondents and adoption of the feet-on-street model have also boosted the recovery trajectory of NPAs in banks, the minister said. He also pointed out that the prudential framework for the resolution of stressed assets was issued by RBI to provide a framework for early recognition, reporting and time-bound resolution of stressed assets, with a built-in incentive to lenders for early adoption of a resolution plan, which has helped in the recovery of bad loans.

As per RBI guidelines, banks have a board-approved policy in place for the valuation of properties done by professionally qualified independent valuers. RBI mandates banks to have a procedure for empanelment of professional valuers based on prescribed minimum qualifications and maintain a register of an approved list of valuers.

Centre has surplus stocks of rice and wheat to control inflation: Govt

New Delhi, June 2 (GNS) The Centre currently has surplus stocks of rice and wheat which exceed the buffer norm requirement for the public distribution system and social welfare schemes of the poor, the Parliament was informed on Tuesday.

The Centre's total stocks of rice and wheat at 736.61 lakh metric tonnes (MT) are well above the buffer stock requirement of 411.2 lakh MT for the two cereals as of July 1 this year, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Nimuben Jayantibhai Bambhaniya told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply. The rice stocks are 377.83 lakh MT compared to the buffer norm requirement of 135.40 lakh MT, while wheat stocks at 358.78 lakh MT exceed the buffer stock need of 275.80 lakh MT, the minister said in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha.

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

New Delhi, June 2 (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 Kotecha, 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 emphasized

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 2 (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-

terprises. The event will also showcase the potential benefits of underground and surface coal gasification.

The Coal Mine Development & Production Agreements (CMDPA) will be signed for 11 successfully allocated coal mines of previous rounds of Auction.

The Ministry of Coal invites industry leaders, investors, and stakeholders to participate in this significant event and contribute to shaping the future of India's coal sector.

As India advances toward its vision of Viksit Bharat, the Ministry of Coal remains dedicated to driving reforms, enhancing ease of doing business, and cultivating a dynamic ecosystem for responsible coal mining.

Promotion of Emerging Sector Skills and Future Readiness

New Delhi, June 2 (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 2 (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).

Ready-made 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 2 (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 2 (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 2 (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-

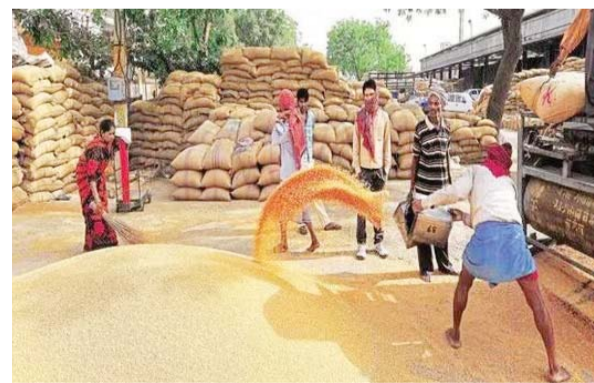
tatives like the vaccination programs, use of Sex-Sorted Semen (SSS) etc that has helped in increasing animal productivity in the country. He interacted with the farmers and enquired about the on ground availability of veterinary services like utilization of toll-free number 1962 for treatment related 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 2 (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.

Telangana celebrates Formation Day; CM Reddy, Guv unfurl Tricolour

Hyderabad, June 2 (GNS) Telangana celebrated its 11th Formation Day on Tuesday with the unfurling of the National Flag and homage to martyrs by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, Cabinet ministers and leaders of various political parties across the state.

The main official celebration was held at Parade Grounds, Secunderabad where Chief Minister Revanth Reddy hoisted the Tricolour, reviewed a colourful parade and took salute.

Standing in an open-top jeep, Chief Minister Reddy reviewed the parade by various contingents of state police and took their salute.

Chief Minister Reddy presented medals of gallantry and meritorious services to the police officers and prizes to the best contingents.

The Chief Minister in his speech paid tributes to



those who laid down their lives during the decades long struggle for statehood of Telangana.

"Many of the Telangana activists fought for Telan-

gana and stood as valiant fighters. On the occasion of Telangana state Formation Day today, I am bowing my head and paying humble homage to their sacrifices

and the indomitable courage displayed during the Telangana movement," he said. "June 2 is an emotional occasion as we commemorate our history of sacrifice

and chart a road map for the development of the youngest state of Telangana," he added. On behalf of Telangana people, he expressed profound gratitude to the

then Prime Minister late Manmohan Singh, and the then UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi for fulfilling the dream of statehood that the Telangana people had cherished for a long time.

The Chief Minister cut short his speech in view of the heatwave conditions. He said that his prepared text should be treated as read.

Contingents from various wings of Telangana Police participated in the colourful march past. Seventh battalion of Telangana Special Police was honoured with the best contingent award for its outstanding performance.

The event also highlighted the rich cultural heritage of Telangana. Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, Director General of Police C.V. Anand and senior officials were also present. The Chief Minister paid tributes to Telangana martyrs at the memorial at Gun Park

near the Assembly building before reaching Parade Grounds for the main event. Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla hoisted the Tricolour at his official residence Lok Bhavan to mark the state's formation day. Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar hoisted the Tricolour at Assembly premises.

Ministers and top officials led the formation day celebrations in all district headquarters. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka unfurled the National Flag at Khammam. He said that for a decade Telangana was deceived and neglected. "Today, it is breathing new life again, with a people's government reviving the shattered economy and rebuilding the future of the state," he said. Minister for Minority Welfare Mohammed Azharuddin unfurled the National Flag at Jagtial Collectorate.

Telangana Formation Day celebrations were also held at the offices of all political parties. Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President, Mahesh Kumar Goud, hoisted the Tricolour at the Congress headquarters Gandhi Bhavan. At Telangana Bhavan, the headquarters of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), party Working President K.T. Rama Rao unfurled the Tricolour. He along with several BRS leaders paid tributes to Telangana martyrs and garlanded statues of Telangana Thalli and Professor Jayashankar. Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Bandi Sanjay, former Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya participated in the Telangana Formation Day celebrations at state BJP office in Hyderabad. Telangana Rakhshana Samithi (TRS) leader K. Kavitha led the celebrations at her party office.

TG completes 68.30 pc mapping under SIR

Hyderabad, June 2 (GNS) Telangana Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) C. Sudharsan Reddy said on Tuesday that 68.30 per cent of the mapping has been completed across the state under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. He assessed the preparedness for Phase III of the SIR at a review meeting attended by senior officials from the Election Commission of India (ECI), including Principal Secretary Avinash Kumar and Under Secretary Sanjay Kumar.

Commissioner of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and District Election Officer, Hyderabad, the Collector, as well as Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) of Hyderabad and



Medchal-Malkajgiri districts were also present.

The CEO briefed the ECI officials on details of the Assembly Constituencies, the manpower drafted for SIR (including EROs, AEROs, BLO Supervisors, and BLOs), and the setting up of help desks.

The ECI officials gave a comprehensive presentation on the Special Intensive Revision,

covering relevant provisions of the Constitution, the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960.

They explained the importance of the SIR and detailed the key steps involved in the process: the enumeration phase (online/offline), the draft publication of the electoral roll, the filing and

disposal of claims and objections, the issuance and disposal of notices, and the final publication of the roll.

The officials stressed the need to remain vigilant while filling out and collecting enumeration forms. They instructed officials to widely publicise the online submission of forms via the official portal (voters.eci.gov.in), as well as the "Book a Call" facility, which helps voters get quick information about the SIR. Additionally, District Election Officers were directed to hold regular all-party meetings and actively involve Booth Level Agents (BLAs) in the SIR process. Meanwhile, Telangana Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao has directed district Collectors to involve people in the SIR process and create awareness among them.

TSPTA, MEWA Efforts Pay Off; 11 Urdu Schools to Reopen in Nirmal

Nirmal, May 26 (Patriotic Views): The sustained efforts and effective representation by the Telangana State Primary Teachers Association (TSPTA) and the Minority Employees Welfare Association (MEWA) have yielded results, with authorities announcing the reopening of 11 closed Urdu medium primary schools in Nirmal district.

In a joint press statement, TSPTA and MEWA president Shaik Shabbir Ali and

TSPTA general secretary Dr Sajid Meraj stated that nearly 12 Urdu primary schools in the district were closed following the implementation of GO 317 due to the lack of adequate measures by the district education department. They alleged that one Urdu medium primary school in Nirmal Urban was also shut down due to biased actions by the then former Mandal Education Officer (MEO).

They said MEWA took up

the issue at various levels, from the district educational officer to the Chief Minister and Education Minister A. Revanth Reddy, demanding the restoration of the closed schools and strict action against the former MEO. Following these representations, action was reportedly initiated against the official, and a written assurance was given to reopen the affected school. According to the leaders, MEWA also brought the is-

sue of other closed schools to the notice of higher authorities. Acting on this, the District Educational Officer recently issued orders (Proc. RC No. B2/53/Spl/2026, dated May 19, 2026) directing the reopening of all closed Urdu primary schools, paving the way for the revival of 11 institutions. MEWA has appealed to in-service Urdu teachers, trained teachers, parents, local leaders, and representatives.

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

Hyderabad, June 2 (GNS) Punitive 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 penal 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 productivity 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 CSEP Working Paper, co-authored with Purna 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.

Jai THR
HAPPY
Birthday
T HARISH RAO
garu

"Your leadership inspires us and your dedication drives us forward. Wishing you a year filled with good health, happiness and continued success in your service to the people."

From
ADV MIR QURRAM ALI
Brsv ghmc coordinator | Chairman BRS Wf | SSLA