



“Very happy that D.K. Shivakumar has become Chief Minister.” says actress and former MP Ramya (Divya Spandana) after attending the swearing-in ceremony.

RCB's massive popularity shines in IPL 2026 as six of the seven most-watched matches featured the champions, including the final against Gujarat Titans topping the viewership charts.



Good morning

RESPECT is the most important element of your personality it is like an investment whatever you give to others it will return you with profit.

BRIEFS

TMC Rebel Becomes LoP

Vikrama Vahini | Kolkata
Expelled Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Ritabrata Banerjee has been appointed as the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the West Bengal Assembly after Speaker Rathindra Bose accepted a letter of support from 58 TMC MLAs, marking a major political setback for party chief Mamata Banerjee.

Banerjee's appointment follows internal turmoil within the TMC, with rival factions claiming control of the legislative party. He stated that a majority of MLAs support his leadership and indicated further possible alignments.

The Speaker's decision came after reviewing submissions from the MLAs, even as earlier procedural disputes and allegations of fake signatures led to a CID probe and deepened the crisis within the party.

Banerjee also announced key appointments within the legislative group, while expressing willingness to seek guidance from Mamata Banerjee as an advisor.

“Sanatan Lives On, India's Soul Unbroken”

Vikrama Vahini | Varanasi
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that foreign invaders failed to destroy India's cultural identity, asserting that “Sanatan resides in India's consciousness.”

Speaking at an event in Varanasi, he credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the revival of key religious centres like Kashi Vishwanath Dham and Somnath Temple, calling them symbols of India's civilisational pride.

21 Dead in Delhi Hotel Fire

Vikrama Vahini | Delhi
At least 21 people, including several foreign nationals, were killed in a devastating fire at a hotel in Delhi's Malviya Nagar area on Tuesday, officials said. The fire broke out at Micasa Homes, a bed-and-breakfast facility in Hauz Rani, trapping guests inside the building.

Preliminary reports suggest the fire may have been triggered by a cylinder explosion, although the exact cause is yet to be confirmed. Authorities are also examining possible fire safety violations at the property. Witnesses and survivors alleged serious safety lapses, including poor ventilation. A video circulating on social media shows guests jumping from upper floors while locals attempted to rescue them using mattresses. **PG2**

Dream Realised, Duty Begins

People-Centric Start Signals A New Era

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

In a significant political development, D.K. Shivakumar was sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Karnataka today at a formal ceremony held at the Glass House of Vidhana Soudha. The event also witnessed the swearing-in of the Deputy Chief Minister and a 12-member Cabinet.

Chief Minister Takes Oath of Office

D.K. Shivakumar took oath as the Chief Minister of Karnataka in the name of Veera Gangadhara Ajjappa. The oath of office and secrecy was administered by Governor Thaaavarchand Gehlot at a specially arranged east-facing dais set up for the ceremony.

The swearing-in marked the beginning of a new administrative phase for the state, with senior leaders and dignitaries in attendance.

Deputy Chief Minister Sworn In

Dr. G. Parameshwara was sworn in as the Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka. He took oath in the name of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, paying tribute to the architect of the Indian Constitution during the ceremony.

Prominent Leaders and Dignitaries Attend Ceremony

The swearing-in ceremony witnessed the presence of several national and state-level leaders and dignitaries.

Among those present were former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, AICC President and Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

Chief Ministers of Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, and Kerala also attended the event, along with senior Congress leaders, Members of Parliament, legislators, and judicial representatives.

Wide Public Participation

The event saw participation from a broad cross-section of society, including students from Kanakapura Dodda Halli Government School, labourers, civic workers, farmers, women's self-help groups, Dalit and backward class leaders, media representatives, film personalities, legal professionals, artists, writers, industrialists, hotel and business entrepreneurs, youth leaders, and members of various Kannada organisations.

The large turnout reflected widespread public and political interest in the new government formation.

Official Programme Coordination

The ceremony was formally anchored and conducted by Chief Secretary Dr. Shalini Rajneesh, who managed the proceedings of the oath-taking event.



12-MEMBER CABINET TAKES OATH

Alongside the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister, 12 Cabinet ministers were also sworn in by the Governor.

- K.H. Muniyappa and K.J. George took oath in the name of God.
- M.B. Patil invoked Basavanna, the Basava saints, and Vishwateertha Siddeshwara Mahaswamiji.
- R. Ramalinga Reddy, Satish Jarkiholi, Krishna Byre Gowda, and Priyank Kharge took oath with

solemn commitment to office.

- U.T. Khader also took oath in the name of God.
- Eshwar Khandre invoked God and late Chennabasavaiah Pattadevaru while taking oath.
- Yathindra Siddaramaiah took oath in the name of the Constitution.
- Bairathi Suresh and Sharan Prakash Patil also took oath in the name of God.

People's Chair, People's Service: CM Shivakumar

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Karnataka Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar on Wednesday dedicated his office and authority to the people of the state, stating that the Chief Minister's chair does not belong to an individual but to the citizens of Karnataka.

Addressing the media after chairing his first Cabinet meeting following the swearing-in ceremony, Shivakumar said he had assumed office with a commitment to serve the public and work for the welfare of the state in the remaining two years of the term.

“This CM's chair does not belong to D. K. Shivakumar — it belongs to the people. I will dedicate the power given by the people to their service,” he said, adding that his focus would be on delivering governance and creating new opportunities.



He said that political uncertainties regarding leadership transition had been put to rest by the party high command, which had clarified the situation. “The confusion being spread over

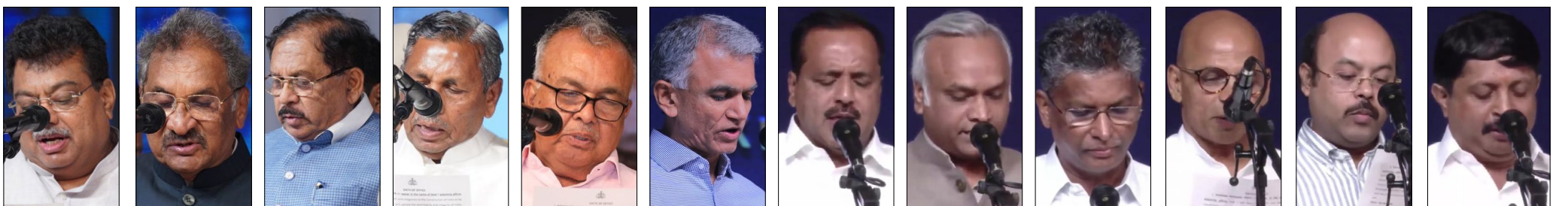
leadership change has ended. The high command has made its decision clear,” he noted.

Reflecting on his political journey, Shivakumar said he had faced both praise and criticism over four decades in public life. “Criticism dies, but work remains. I will use my experience since 1985 to bring effective governance,” he said.

The Chief Minister also thanked Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and outgoing Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for their support and unity in the leadership decision.

He further said his governance approach would focus on inclusivity and addressing the concerns of both rural and urban populations.

“I do not believe in caste or religion in governance. My faith is in the religion of humanity,” he stated.



VIKRAMA VAHINI

ENGLISH DAILY

LOCAL • NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL • BUSINESS • SPECIAL REPORTS • RELIGION • HEALTH • CINEMA

ELEVATE YOUR SUCCESS STORY TO NEW HEIGHTS!

- ✓ Earned a Prestigious Doctorate?
- ✓ Want to Showcase Your Business Achievements?
- ✓ Need to Promote Your Products & Services?

VIKRAMA VAHINI IS YOUR PLATFORM TO SHINE!

CONTACT US TODAY FOR MAXIMUM REACH & IMPACT!

89040 62598

WHERE YOUR SUCCESS MAKES HEADLINES.



Editorial

A New Political Dawn

The elevation of D. K. Shivakumar as Karnataka's new Chief Minister marks a defining moment in the state's political history. For a leader who has spent decades building the party organization, weathering political storms, and demonstrating unwavering loyalty to the Congress, the achievement represents the culmination of a long-cherished dream. His rise to the top office is not merely a personal victory; it is also a reflection of his reputation as a skilled strategist capable of overcoming both internal resistance and external challenges. The transition signals the beginning of a new chapter in Karnataka's governance and raises expectations among party workers, supporters, and citizens alike.

However, the road ahead is far from easy. The state is expected to face Assembly elections within the next two years, followed by another crucial electoral battle. At the same time, the government must continue implementing its flagship guarantee schemes, which have become central to its social welfare agenda. Balancing welfare commitments with fiscal discipline will require careful planning and effective administration. Beyond these immediate responsibilities, Shivakumar has repeatedly spoken of his vision for a transformed Karnataka—particularly the modernization of Bengaluru through major infrastructure initiatives such as new airport facilities, township development, tunnel roads, and urban expansion projects. Turning these ambitious plans into reality will demand not only political will but also administrative efficiency and financial prudence.

The coming months, therefore, will serve as a crucial test of leadership. Every decision, statement, and policy initiative will be closely scrutinized by both supporters and critics. Expectations are understandably high, but so are the challenges. The success of the new Chief Minister will depend on his ability to balance ambition with accountability, development with inclusiveness, and political management with good governance. Karnataka now stands at an important crossroads. If the new administration can convert promises into measurable outcomes, it could usher in a period of transformative growth. The moment calls for cautious optimism, steady leadership, and a commitment to delivering results that extend beyond politics and into the lives of ordinary citizens.

-Editor



Venkatachaladham 15th Festival on June 5

Vikrama Vahini | Mysuru

The 15th annual festival (Samvatsarotsava) of Sri Venkatachaladham, located on Chamaraja Double Road in the city, will be held on June 5 with grand religious and cultural observances.

The celebrations will be held under the divine presence (sannidhya) of Sri Vidyeshya Teertha Swamiji, pontiff of Sri Bhandarakere Matha, Udupi. A series of sacred rituals and cultural programmes have been planned for the occasion.

The day will begin at 7 a.m. with Panchashat Kalasharadhane. At 10 a.m., Sri Vidyeshya Teertha Swamiji will perform the Brahma Kalashabhisheka of the principal deity Sri Venkateshwara.

This will be followed by Panchamrita Abhisheka, special decoration of Sri Raghavendra Swamy Brindavana, adornment of Lord Venkateshwara with a golden crown, institutional puja, and Maha Mangalarati.

In the evening at 7 p.m., Rangapuja and Rathotsava (chariot festival) will conclude the day's religious proceedings.

Sri Venkatachaladham is known as a sacred confluence of Lord Venkateshwara, as described in the Padma Purana, and the Brindavana shrine of Sri Guru Raghavendra Swamy, revered as the wish-fulfilling Kamadhenu of the Kali Yuga.

The divine complex is popularly known as Bhagavata Ashrama, attracting devotees seeking blessings for marriage, progeny, education, and employment. Devotees who have their wishes fulfilled often return to offer Abhisheka, floral decorations, and Kalyanotsava services.

The first inauguration of the new Sri Venkatachaladham complex was held on May 24, 2011, by Sri Vishvesha Teertha Swamiji of Pejawar Matha and Sri Vishwaprassanna Theertha Swamiji. Daily rituals at the temple include special

Panchamrita Abhisheka and Tantrasarokta pujas to Lord Venkateshwara and the Raghavendra Brindavana. Weekly celebrations such as Rathotsava, Deepotsava, and Rangapuja are held every Thursday with devotion and grandeur.

The Bhandarakere Matha also continues its efforts in preserving Indian tradition, culture, and values. During the annual Sri Vidyamanyu Teertha Aradhana, national awards are presented every year. Institutions contributing to Vedic education and four scholarly researchers are honoured with Vidvat Sanmana along with a cash prize of ₹1 lakh each. The Matha also prioritizes the publication of Kannada scriptures and continues its knowledge-driven initiatives through lectures and discourses, said Sri Vidyeshya Teertha Swamiji.

The organisers have extended an open invitation to devotees from Mysuru and surrounding regions to participate in the celebrations and seek the blessings of Sri Venkateshwara and Sri Raghavendra Swamy.

CT Ravi Targets CM Shivakumar

Vikrama Vahini | Chikmagalur

Legislative Council member C.T. Ravi on Wednesday said that while Karnataka's new Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has strong political experience, enthusiasm and energy, what he lacks is "willpower".

Speaking at the DCC Bank premises, Ravi extended his congratulations to the Chief Minister on taking oath while also offering a series of suggestions for governance.

Ravi said the Chief Minister should prioritise the interests of the state over personal or party considerations. He warned that governance outcomes would fall short if political or individual interests were given precedence.

"If personal and party interests are kept

above state interest, people cannot have expectations from governance," he said.

The BJP leader urged the new government to focus on long-term development plans, especially in creating employment opportunities for unemployed youth.

He also emphasised the need to ensure that governance does not lead to any form of social injustice and should remain development-oriented.

Ravi further remarked that political interests should never override state welfare. He said that unless the Congress party changes its approach, "appeasement politics" would continue.

He also cautioned that excessive focus on financial aspects in governance could weaken administrative discipline.



HARIPRASAD TAKES CHARGE AS KPCC CHIEF

Vikrama Vahini | B'uru

Senior Congress leader B. K. Hariprasad has been appointed as the new president of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC), replacing D. K. Shivakumar following his elevation as Chief Minister.

The organisational reshuffle comes after Shivakumar took oath as Chief Minister on Wednesday, prompting a leadership transition within the state unit of the Congress party.

Hariprasad, a Member of the Karnataka Legislative Council whose term ends this month, is a veteran leader with extensive experience in both organisational and parliamentary roles. He has previously served as a Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha and held key positions in the All India Congress Committee (AICC).

A known critic of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Narendra Modi-led government, and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Hariprasad has been active in national-level political debates. He had also contested the

election for the post of Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman, where he was defeated by NDA nominee Harivansh Narayan Singh.

Born on July 29, 1954, Hariprasad belongs to the Billava community, classified under the Other Backward Classes (OBC). He had earlier contested the 1990 Lok Sabha elections from Bengaluru South constituency but was defeated by senior BJP leader and former Union Minister Ananth Kumar. Former minister Satish Jarkiholi was also considered for the post, but the party ultimately chose Hariprasad as part of its post-leadership



change organisational restructuring in Karnataka. Party sources said Hariprasad's appointment is aimed at strengthening the organisational structure of the Congress in Karnataka and ensuring coordination between the government and the party ahead of upcoming political challenges. His experience is expected to play a key role in consolidating the party base across regions and communities.

21 Dead in Delhi Hotel Fire

From PG

According to Delhi Police, the building had only one common entry and exit point, which may have hampered evacuation efforts. Reports also indicate that the hotel may not have had a valid No Objection Certificate (NOC). Fire officials and police are investigating the incident, and a case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder is likely to be registered.

Fire officials said rescue operations were carried out on a war footing, with multiple fire tenders rushed to the spot to control the blaze. Several injured persons were immediately shifted to nearby hospitals, where some remain in critical condition. Authorities confirmed that a detailed investigation has been initiated to determine



the exact sequence of events leading to the tragedy. Meanwhile, the Delhi government has ordered a comprehensive safety audit of similar guest houses and small hotels across the city to prevent such incidents in the future.

371 Staff Relieved from Siddaramaiah's CM Office

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

In a major administrative reshuffle following the change in state leadership, the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR) has relieved 371 officers, staff members and contractual employees from the Chief Minister's Secretariat and various advisory units.

The order, issued on June 3, comes after the resignation of the Chief Minister was accepted under Article 164(i), leading to the dissolution of the Council of Ministers on May 29.

All personnel appointed on deputation, contract and temporary basis have been directed to return to their parent departments or be discharged with immediate effect.

According to the official annexure, the relieved staff include 212 from Group C, 73 Group D employees, 16 drivers, and others

from advisory units and special representative offices in New Delhi.

The government has also issued strict instructions to return all official files, e-office access, laptops, identity cards and vehicle passes. It warned that any loss of government property will attract strict action, holding concerned officials accountable.

The move is aimed at streamlining administration and ensuring accountability during the transition of power.

Officials said the reshuffle is part of standard administrative procedure during a change in government and is intended to facilitate a smooth transition for the incoming administration.

It is also expected to pave the way for fresh appointments and restructuring within the Chief Minister's Secretariat and associated units.

NEWS

Brahmin Community Seeks Cabinet Representation

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

The Akhila Karnataka Brahmana Mahasabha has extended its congratulations to Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and his Council of Ministers while also requesting representation for the Brahmin community in the upcoming cabinet expansion.

In a press statement, Mahasabha State President S. Raghunath said that the organisation and its office-bearers have welcomed the formation of the new government



and conveyed their best wishes to the Chief Minister. He noted that after nearly four decades of political experience, Shivakumar has now been entrusted with the responsibility of leading the state and expressed confidence that he would govern with fairness, compassion, and dedication. The Mahasabha further expressed hope that the Chief Minister would consider providing representation to the Brahmin community during the next round of cabinet expansion.

11 DISTRICTS ON RAIN ALERT

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast widespread rainfall across Karnataka, with heavy rain and strong winds expected in several parts of the state over the coming days. An orange alert has been issued for 11 districts, warning of intense monsoon activity accompanied by gusty winds.

According to the forecast, northern and interior regions of Karnataka are likely to experience the most severe weather impact on Wednesday, with rainfall activity expected to continue across the state until June 9.

Strong winds, thunderstorms expected. The IMD has warned of wind speeds reaching 40-50 kmph, along with thunderstorms and lightning in coastal, northern and southern interior districts. In some areas, there is also a possibility of

hailstorms.

Authorities have advised residents to take precautionary measures, especially in vulnerable regions prone to wind damage and waterlogging.

Districts likely to witness heavy rain. Heavy rainfall is expected in districts including Chikmagalur, Hassan, Kodagu, Dakshina Kannada, Udipi, Haveri, Belagavi, Mysuru, Mandya, and Raichur. Bengaluru is also expected to see increased rainfall activity from next week.

The IMD has urged the public to remain alert and follow safety advisories during adverse weather conditions.

Orange alert in 11 districts. An orange alert has been declared for Bidar, Kalaburagi, Vijayapura, Yadgiri, Bagalkot, Belagavi, Raichur, Koppal, Gadag, Dharwad, and Haveri, where heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected.



HEALTH & Lifestyle

DAILY PROTEIN FOR WEIGHT LOSS

Protein has become a major focus in the fitness and wellness world, with high-protein diets widely promoted for weight loss, muscle gain, and overall health transformation. However, experts caution that while adequate protein intake is essential, excessive consumption can lead to health complications, especially for individuals with underlying kidney conditions.

Why Protein is Essential for the Body

Protein plays a vital role in building and repairing muscles, supporting bone health, producing enzymes and hormones, strengthening immunity, and maintaining body tissues. Regular daily intake is necessary for children, adults, and older individuals alike.

Recommended Daily Protein Intake

Experts outline the following general guidelines:

Children: Approximately 0.9-1 gram of protein per kilogram of body weight per day, supporting growth and development.

Adults: Around 0.8-1 gram per kilogram of body weight per day. As per ICMR-NIN 2020, this equals about 54 grams per day for moderately active adult men and 45.7 grams per day for women.

Older Adults: About 1-1.2 grams per kilogram of body weight per day to help prevent muscle loss associated with aging.

Dr Nayak advises individuals to consult a doctor before making significant changes to their protein intake.

Risks of Excess Protein Consumption

Overconsumption of protein can lead to

several health issues, including:

Bloating: Excess protein may cause abdominal discomfort.

Constipation: High-protein diets often lack sufficient fibre.

Dehydration: Protein metabolism increases fluid requirements.

Kidney strain: Particularly risky for individuals with existing kidney disease.

Healthy Sources of Protein

* Experts recommend obtaining protein from a balanced diet rather than relying heavily on supplements.

* **Animal-Based Sources:** Milk, curd or yoghurt, eggs, fish, and chicken.

* **Plant-Based Sources:** Pulses, beans, soy products, nuts, and seeds.

* These sources provide essential nutrients along with protein, supporting overall health.

* **Simple Method to Calculate Protein Needs**

* **To estimate daily protein requirement:**

* **Multiply body weight (in kg) by recommended intake level**

Example: A 60 kg adult needs approximately 48-60 grams of protein per day

Key Takeaway

While protein is essential for health and weight management, experts stress that more is not always better. Balanced intake based on individual needs is crucial, and dietary changes should ideally be made under medical guidance rather than following popular fitness trends.



SCIENCE & Technology

ChatGPT Hits 1 Billion Users, Leads AI App Boom

Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

ChatGPT has surpassed 1 billion global monthly active app users, according to estimates by market intelligence firm Sensor Tower, as reported by Reuters. The milestone makes the OpenAI chatbot the fastest consumer app to reach the 1 billion monthly active user mark, highlighting the rapid mainstream adoption of artificial intelligence tools. Launched just three years ago, ChatGPT reached this level in May 2026. Sensor Tower data indicates that its growth has outpaced major global platforms such as Google Maps, TikTok, Instagram and YouTube in achieving similar user scale.

The widespread usage reflects how AI chatbots have moved beyond early tech adoption circles into everyday digital life. Users now rely on ChatGPT for a variety of tasks including drafting emails, coding assistance, academic support, presentation preparation, and general information queries. ChatGPT had previously crossed 100 million users by January 2023, just two months after its launch, marking one of the fastest early adoption curves in consumer technology history.

Meanwhile, competition in the AI assistant space is intensifying. Anthropic's Claude is estimated to have reached 56 million global monthly active users in the second quarter of 2026 so far. Although significantly smaller than ChatGPT, Claude has recorded a year-on-year growth of around 640 per cent, compared to ChatGPT's 62 per cent growth.

Sensor Tower also noted that users in the United States who installed Claude in early 2026 spent around 5 per cent less time on ChatGPT one month later, compared to their average usage over the previous eight months, indicating early signs of shifting engagement patterns.

PADMANABHANAGAR GARBAGE CRISIS: STRICT ACTION PLANNED

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

A crucial meeting on solid waste management was held today at Padmanabhanagar playground, chaired by Leader of Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and Padmanabhanagar MLA R. Ashoka. Bengaluru Municipal Corporation Commissioner K.N. Ramesh, officials of BSWML, contractors, waste-collection auto drivers, and members of the public participated in the meeting.

South Municipal Corporation limits, including Kumaraswamy Layout, Padmanabhanagar, and Banashankari, along with neighbouring wards under the West Municipal Corporation, raised serious concerns over irregular door-to-door garbage collection and the rise of "black spots" due to uncollected waste.

Citizens also complained that waste-collection autos were not arriving on schedule and that the number of operational vehicles was lower than the sanctioned requirement.

Following the grievances, MLAR Ashoka and Commissioner K.N. Ramesh issued strict directions mandating that every ward must deploy the designated number of garbage collection autos without fail. Waste



collection must be carried out daily between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., ensuring coverage of every household.

Officials instructed that each auto must visit every home daily and mark attendance at the doorstep to ensure accountability.

It was decided that residents can directly contact contractors if waste collection autos fail to arrive. For this purpose, contact numbers of drivers and contractors must be clearly displayed on all vehicles.

The MLA also announced that citizen volunteers will be deployed to monitor the movement of garbage collection vehicles, and daily attendance reports will be submitted to his office for verification.

Officials warned that contractors failing

to deploy the full sanctioned number of autos will face strict financial penalties, including deduction of bills.

The Commissioner also issued a one-week ultimatum to all solid waste management contractors to resolve garbage-related issues across all wards. Failure to comply will result in blacklisting of the concerned contractors.

Chief Engineer Basavaraj Kabade, Deputy General Manager Tanuja, local leaders, and other officials were present during the meeting.

The initiative aims to improve waste management efficiency and ensure cleaner neighbourhoods across Bengaluru's affected wards.

India Engages US on Trade Probe

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

India is actively engaging with the United States on issues related to Section 301 investigations into alleged forced labour and excess industrial capacity, while simultaneously progressing on negotiations for an interim bilateral trade agreement, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said on Wednesday.

The ministry stated that India is pursuing both tracks in parallel, in line with earlier commitments made in a joint statement issued in February 2026.

India-US Engagement on Trade Issues

According to the ministry, discussions with the United States are ongoing under the Section 301 proceedings initiated by the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR), while efforts continue to finalise a framework for a bilateral trade agreement.

"India remains engaged with the US on the matter as part of Section 301 proceedings. India is also parallelly engaged with the US for finalisation of a framework agreement," the ministry said.

Background of Section 301 Investigations

The USTR launched two Section 301 investigations on March 11-12, 2026, covering forced labour practices across 60 economies and



excess industrial capacity across 16 economies.

On June 2, preliminary findings from the forced labour probe proposed additional tariffs on imports from the investigated countries. The proposal includes:

10% tariff on imports from countries including Canada, Ecuador, the European Union, Indonesia, Mexico, and Pakistan, 12.5% tariff on imports from 54 other economies, including India and China

Next Steps in the Process

The proposed tariffs are not final. Stakeholders may request participation in public hearings until June 22, 2026, while written submissions will be accepted until July 6. Public hearings are scheduled for July 7, after which the USTR will review all inputs before taking a final decision.

Tirumala Laddu Sales Hit Record High



► Vikrama Vahini | Tirumala

Srivari Laddu sales at Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) reached an all-time high in May 2026, with over 1.21 crore laddus sold to devotees visiting the hill shrine of Lord Venkateswara.

According to TTD officials, a total of 1,21,35,528 laddus were sold during the month, surpassing 1.01 crore in May 2024 and 1.10 crore in May 2025, indicating steady year-on-year growth.

The iconic prasadam continues to be in high demand among pilgrims, with TTD producing over four lakh laddus daily using around 68 tonnes of ingredients. The preparation follows traditional "Dittam" standards, established in 1950-51 and strictly maintained to preserve quality and sanctity.

Officials said modern measures, including AI-based sorting machines and laboratory testing of raw materials, have been introduced to ensure hygiene and quality control. The Srivari Potu operates round the clock with around 700 staff members working in shifts.

CM Shivakumar Unveils Youth-Focused Six-Point Plan

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Immediately after taking oath as Karnataka Chief Minister, D.K. Shivakumar on Wednesday unveiled a six-point governance plan aimed at ushering in what he described as a "new youth era" in the state. The announcements were made following the first Cabinet meeting held soon after the swearing-in ceremony.

The measures focus on education, employment, urban infrastructure, land regularisation, and rural development, with a strong emphasis on youth empowerment and economic opportunities.

Free bus pass for school and college students

One of the key announcements is the introduction of free bus passes for school and college students.

The Chief Minister said the decision was taken after students raised concerns about unequal travel benefits.

"Students are our children. They should be supported in every possible way. Those who wish to avail the facility must apply," he said.

Private employment exchange and government recruitment drive

The government also announced the creation of a private-sector employment exchange system alongside filling 56,000 government vacancies.

Shivakumar said the state possesses strong human resources and a framework will be



developed within a month to connect job seekers with private employers, with priority for Kannadigas.

10,000 youth associations across Karnataka

As part of his vision for youth development, the Chief Minister announced the formation of 10,000 youth associations across panchayats and urban wards.

Each association will receive a ₹10 lakh grant, aimed at promoting sports, cultural activities, leadership development, and social harmony.

OC-CC issue to be resolved

The government also addressed long-pending concerns regarding Occupancy Certificate (OC) and Completion Certificate (CC) for housing.

A one-time relaxation has been proposed

for eligible applicants who constructed houses with up to 20% deviation in areas up to 2,500 sq ft, subject to conditions.

Statewide conversion of B Khata to A Khata

In a major relief for property owners, the government announced the conversion of B Khata properties to A Khata across Karnataka.

The move is aimed at improving land record transparency and ensuring legal clarity for property ownership.

₹2,000 crore for Bengaluru road infrastructure

For Bengaluru city, the government has approved a ₹2,000 crore grant for road asphalt works, excluding ongoing projects.

The Chief Minister said the works will be completed within 3-4 months to improve urban mobility and road quality.

Focus on farmers and long-term planning

Shivakumar said the government will prioritise agricultural issues after consultations with experts. He stressed that policies for farmers, labourers and rural communities will be designed carefully rather than implemented hastily.

"We must ensure people do not migrate from villages to cities for basic opportunities," he said.

"Youth era" vision for Karnataka

Describing the package as a "six-point gift to the people," the Chief Minister said the initiatives mark the beginning of a youth-

driven governance model.

The Cabinet meeting, he said, discussed key issues for over two hours before finalising the decisions.

Strong political message after swearing-in

Responding to questions about funding, especially for youth associations, Shivakumar said the government would allocate necessary resources.

"This is D.K. Shivakumar's government," he remarked, underscoring confidence in implementing the ambitious agenda.

The announcements are being seen as an attempt to strike a balance between immediate public welfare measures and long-term structural reforms, particularly in areas such as employment generation, urban infrastructure, and rural sustainability.

Policy experts note that effective implementation and timely execution will be key to translating these promises into tangible outcomes on the ground.

Political observers also view the six-point plan as a strategic move to consolidate youth support and strengthen the government's position ahead of future electoral challenges.

By focusing on education, jobs, and grassroots engagement, the new administration appears to be positioning itself as development-oriented while addressing both urban and rural aspirations.

ENTERTAINMENT

Peddi Set for Big Opening



► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

Ram Charan and Janhvi Kapoor's upcoming sports drama Peddi is heading for a strong box office debut, with industry analysts expecting a solid opening when the film releases on June 4.

The film has already generated approximately ₹35 crore in worldwide advance bookings, according to industry tracker Sacnilk. Out of this, ₹8.55 crore has been earned without accounting for block bookings, indicating strong early audience interest.

Strong Advance Booking Performance

Peddi has witnessed impressive pre-release demand, particularly in Telugu markets. Over 28 lakh tickets have been sold in the Telugu version alone, while the Hindi version has recorded more than 2,900 advance ticket sales.

The film is releasing across five languages — Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam — with a total of 4,248 shows scheduled across India.

► Telugu version: 2,809 shows

► Hindi version: 1,073 shows

► Tamil version: 235 shows

► Kannada version: 54 shows

► Malayalam version: 77 shows

► Trade Experts Expect Big Opening

Trade analyst Taran Adarsh, speaking exclusively, said that while the Hindi version

of the film has limited pre-release buzz, the strong fan base of Ram Charan in Telugu markets is expected to drive a powerful opening.

He noted that the combination of director Buchi Babu Sana and production banner Mythri Movie Makers adds further credibility, helping the film open on a "big note" despite mixed national-level hype.

About the Film

Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, Peddi features Ram Charan in the lead role alongside Janhvi Kapoor. The ensemble cast also includes Divyenndu, Boman Irani, Shivarajkumar, and Jagapathi Babu in key roles.

Ram Charan described the film as a "multi-sport drama" centred around identity and purpose, stating that the story follows a crossover athlete involved in multiple sports. He added that the film is deeply rooted in culture and focuses on the protagonist's journey to discover his identity and that of his community.

The actor also said the script was one of the most challenging he has worked on, praising the director for its strong emotional depth and inspirational theme.

With significant advance bookings and strong regional momentum, Peddi is expected to be one of the major openings in the current box office cycle.

Bollywood Dialogues Go Viral

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

Bollywood films have long been known for their powerful dialogues, but several iconic lines have gone beyond cinema to become part of everyday digital culture. From vintage classics to modern blockbusters, these dialogues continue to trend on social media platforms as memes, motivational quotes and humorous expressions.

Experts in digital media trends note that Bollywood dialogues often gain a second life online, especially when they capture emotion, humour or attitude in a simple, repeatable format. Here are 12 iconic dialogues that remain viral even today.

Timeless Dialogues That Defined Pop Culture

"Kitne Aadmi The?" – Sholay (1975)

Delivered by Gabbar Singh (Amjad Khan), this legendary line is still widely used in memes to mock confusion, failure or unexpected outcomes.

"Don Ko Pakadna Mushkil Hi Nahi, Namumkin Hai" – Don (1978)

Amitabh Bachchan's powerful dialogue became a symbol of confidence and is frequently used in digital content to represent invincibility.

"Rishte Mein Toh Hum Tumhare Baap Lagte Hain..." – Shahenshah (1988)

A classic punchline that continues to feature in roast content and humorous online debates.

"Mogambo Khush Hua" – Mr. India (1987)

Amrith Puri's iconic villain dialogue is now widely used as a reaction to success or satisfaction on social media.

Comedy Dialogues That Became Meme Culture Staples

"Utha Le Re Baba, Utha Le..." – Hera Pheri (2000)

Paresh Rawal's frustrated expression of chaos has become a go-to meme for exhaustion and helplessness.

"Babu Bhaiya, Paisa Hi Paisa Hoga" – Hera Pheri (2000)

A humorous take on dreams of sudden wealth, often used in finance-related jokes and reels.

Modern Era Dialogues That Went Viral

"Ek Baar Jo Maine Commitment Kar Di..." – Wanted (2009)

Salman Khan's dialogue is widely used to describe determination and stubborn promises.

"How's The Josh? High Sir!" – Uri: The Surgical Strike (2019)

One of the most viral motivational dialogues, now used in sports, workplaces and social media motivation posts.

"Tumse Na Ho Payega" – Gangs of Wasseypur (2012)

A sarcastic line that has become one of India's most shared meme formats online.

"Mera Toh Itna Life Kharab Ho Gaya Hai" – Queen (2014)

A relatable expression of disappointment that later turned into a popular meme for everyday struggles.

"Jaa Simran Jee Le Apni Zindagi" – Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (1995)

A symbolic line representing freedom and independence, still widely quoted online.

"Main Apni Favourite Hoon" – Jab We Met (2007)

A self-confidence anthem that continues to trend in motivational captions and self-love content.

Bollywood's Lasting Digital Impact

From emotional storytelling to comic timing and powerful villain dialogues, Bollywood continues to influence internet culture deeply. These dialogues remain evergreen, proving that cinematic lines often outlive the films themselves in the age of social media.

As meme culture grows, film dialogues are increasingly becoming a bridge between generations, keeping Bollywood firmly rooted in India's digital conversations.

In recent years, content creators and influencers have also played a major role in reviving these dialogues by remixing them into reels, short videos and remix audio tracks, further amplifying their reach among younger audiences who may not have even watched the original films.

BUSINESS

Services PMI Hits 6-Month High

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

India's services sector recorded its fastest growth in six months in May, driven by strong domestic demand and increased job creation, according to the latest HSBC Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) data. The rise signals continued expansion in one of the country's most critical economic segments.

The Services PMI increased from 60.8 in April to its highest level in six months in May, reflecting robust business activity and sustained momentum in new orders.

What is PMI?

The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an important economic indicator that measures the health of the manufacturing and services sectors. It is based on monthly surveys of supply chain managers and considers factors such as new orders, output, employment, supplier delivery times, and inventory levels.

A PMI reading above 50 indicates expansion, while a reading below 50 signals contraction. India's services PMI has consistently remained above the 50-mark, indicating steady growth in the sector.

Key Drivers of Growth

The latest expansion in the services sector was supported by several factors:

Strong domestic demand: Increased consumption across sectors such as financial services, insurance, real estate, information technology, and tourism contributed significantly to growth.

Rise in new orders: Companies reported a sharp increase in new business inflows, prompting expansion in operations.

Employment growth: To meet rising demand and clear backlogs, firms in the services sector expanded hiring, positively impacting the job market. Improved global demand: Along with domestic strength, Indian services also saw healthy demand from markets in Asia, Europe, and the United States.

Business Confidence Strengthens

Despite inflationary pressures, firms reported improved cost management and operational stability. Service sector businesses expressed strong confidence that growth momentum will continue in the coming months.



DKS FACES 2028 POLL CHALLENGE

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar faces a challenging tenure ahead as he balances governance responsibilities with preparations for the 2028 Assembly elections, while addressing cabinet expansion, fiscal issues, and internal party coordination.



including the Chief Minister, and further expansion is expected in the coming weeks.

Balancing Governance and Party Strategy

Apart from administrative responsibilities, Shivakumar will also have to focus on strengthening the Congress organisation in the state ahead of the 2028 Assembly polls.

Political observers note that maintaining internal balance within the party while delivering governance will be crucial for his leadership.

Multiple Challenges Ahead

The new government is expected to address several pressing issues, including fiscal management, administrative efficiency, and coordination among various departments.

At the same time, political stability and alliance management within the party will remain key priorities.

With both governance responsibilities and electoral preparations ahead, Shivakumar's leadership will be closely watched in the coming months as Karnataka navigates a crucial political phase.



Karnataka Cabinet Caste Breakdown

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has unveiled the first phase of his Cabinet, comprising a 14-member team (including the Chief Minister and one Deputy Chief Minister), in a move aimed at balancing caste, community, and regional representation while maintaining internal equilibrium within the Congress party.

The Cabinet composition reflects the Congress party's continued reliance on the "Ahinda" strategy—focusing on backward classes, minorities, and Dalit communities—while also ensuring adequate representation for influential Vokkaliga and Lingayat groups.

Balanced Representation Across Communities

The newly formed ministry includes members from major social groups across Karnataka, reflecting a deliberate effort to maintain political and social balance.

Political Strategy Behind Cabinet Formation

Political analysts view the Cabinet announcement as a carefully crafted exercise to maintain social balance while consolidating electoral support across key communities.

The appointment of G. Parameshwara as Deputy Chief Minister is seen as an effort to reassure Dalit communities.

The strong representation of Lingayat leaders is aimed at strengthening the party's presence in northern Karnataka, while the

Key appointments include

- * D.K. Shivakumar — Vokkaliga
- * G. Parameshwara — Scheduled Caste (SC-Right), Deputy Chief Minister
- * K.H. Muniyappa — Scheduled Caste (SC-Left)
- * K.J. George — Christian
- * M.B. Patil — Lingayat
- * Satish Jarkiholi — Scheduled Tribe (Valmiki)
- * Krishna Byre Gowda — Vokkaliga
- * U.T. Khader — Muslim
- * R. Ramalinga Reddy — Reddy
- * Priyank Kharge — Scheduled Caste (SC-Right)
- * Eshwar Khandre — Lingayat
- * Yathindra Siddaramaiah — Kuruba
- * Bairathi Suresh — Kuruba
- * Sharan Prakash Patil — Lingayat

inclusion of Vokkaliga leaders reinforces support in the Old Mysuru region.

The representation of minority leaders, including U.T. Khader and K.J. George, further strengthens the Congress's outreach to diverse social groups.

Cabinet Expansion Likely in Next Phase

Sources indicate that this is only the first phase of Cabinet formation. The government is expected to expand the ministry to around 30-34 members in the coming weeks after further consultations within the party leadership.



Shivakumar Oath Ceremony Protocol Mix-Up

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

A brief protocol confusion was reported during the swearing-in ceremony of Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Wednesday, when the state anthem was played before "Vande Mataram." Officials quickly intervened and corrected the sequence, averting a major protocol breach.

The ceremony, held at the Glass House in Vidhana Soudha, was administered by Governor Thaaawarchand Gehlot. The mix-up occurred when the master of ceremonies reportedly announced "Vande Mataram," but Karnataka's state anthem "Jaya Bharatha Jananiya Tanujate" began playing instead.

Officials Step in to Rectify Error

The state anthem was immediately stopped after the mistake was identified,



and the correct protocol sequence was restored. Officials ensured the rest of the ceremony proceeded smoothly without further disruption.

Reference to Similar Protocol Debates

The incident comes amid recent discussions in other states regarding the order of playing the national song and

state anthems during official functions, highlighting ongoing sensitivities around ceremonial protocols.

Top Leaders in Attendance

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar took oath in the presence of senior Congress leaders including Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and Chief Ministers of Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, and Kerala.

G. Parameshwara was sworn in as Deputy Chief Minister, while several other senior leaders, including Priyank Kharge and Yathindra Siddaramaiah, also took oath as ministers.

The ceremony concluded smoothly after the brief disruption, with officials confirming that protocol procedures were restored immediately.

CM DKS Symbolic Start to Tenure

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar marked the beginning of his tenure with a series of symbolic gestures reflecting gratitude, cultural pride, and respect for constitutional values during his swearing-in ceremony held at Lokabhavana.

Before taking the oath of office, Shivakumar bowed before the people of the state from the stage, expressing gratitude for the trust placed in him. As the Governor was preparing to administer the oath, the Chief Minister briefly prostrated on stage, acknowledging the responsibility entrusted to him by the citizens of Karnataka.

Kannada cultural identity highlighted at ceremony

The swearing-in event showcased a strong presence of Kannada culture and tradition. The stage at Lokabhavana was decorated in red and yellow, symbolising Karnataka's identity and cultural heritage.

The ceremony also featured the singing of both the national anthem and the state anthem, reinforcing regional pride alongside national unity. The Chief Minister was seen wearing a traditional silk panche (dhoti) and shirt, reflecting local cultural attire.

He also carried the Indian Constitution during the ceremony, with a shawl featuring the Congress tricolour, symbolising his political affiliation and commitment to constitutional governance.

Floral tributes to national leaders



Following the oath-taking ceremony, Shivakumar visited the Vidhana Soudha and paid floral tributes to several prominent national and state leaders. He first removed his footwear and offered respects at the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Constitution.

He later paid homage to the statues of Jagajyoti Basavanna, Nadaprabhu Kempegowda, former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, and Mahatma Gandhi.

Entry into Vidhana Soudha marked with traditional respect

Before entering the Vidhana Soudha through the northern gate, the Chief Minister bowed to the steps in a symbolic gesture of respect. He then proceeded to the Chief Minister's office on the third floor.

Amid Vedic chants, Shivakumar bowed to the Chief Minister's chair before formally assuming office. He later signed his first official file and attended the inaugural cabinet

D.K. Shivakumar Symbol of Culture

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Newly sworn-in Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Wednesday marked the beginning of his tenure with a series of symbolic gestures reflecting respect for the people, the Constitution, and the state's cultural identity.

Gesture of Gratitude to People of Karnataka

Before taking oath, Shivakumar turned towards the audience at the Glass House in Vidhana Soudha and expressed gratitude to the people of Karnataka, bowing in acknowledgment of the trust placed in him with the responsibility of leading the state.

Kannada Cultural Presence at Swearing-In

The swearing-in ceremony reflected a strong Kannada cultural identity, with the venue decorated in red and yellow themes symbolising the state's heritage. Both the national anthem and the state anthem were rendered during the event, highlighting the occasion's cultural significance.

Shivakumar attended the ceremony in traditional attire, wearing a silk panche and



shirt. He also wore a stole featuring the Congress tricolour and held a copy of the Indian Constitution, symbolising his commitment to constitutional values and

meeting of his government.

The series of ceremonial actions set the

tone for his tenure, blending tradition, cultural identity, and administrative

party ideology.

Tribute to National and State Leaders
After the ceremony, the Chief Minister visited Vidhana Soudha and paid floral tributes to prominent national and state leaders.

He offered respects to statues of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Jagjivan Ram, Nadaprabhu Kempegowda, former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, and Mahatma Gandhi.

He also removed his footwear before offering homage, underscoring respect at the memorial sites.

Entry into Vidhana Soudha and Office Assumption

Shivakumar later entered Vidhana Soudha by bowing to the steps of the North Gate before proceeding to the third floor. At his office, amid Vedic chants, he offered salutations to the Chief Minister's chair before formally assuming charge.

He then signed his first official file and participated in the initial Cabinet proceedings, marking the commencement of his administrative responsibilities as Chief Minister.

responsibility as he officially began his role as Chief Minister of Karnataka.