



Actress Kajal Aggarwal praises actor Yash for his professionalism and dedication during the filming of Ramayana, calling her experience of working with him "incredibly exciting and memorable."



MECHANICAL PENCIL DAY



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday launched and laid the foundation stone for development projects worth over ₹1.06 lakh crore in Rajasthan, aimed at boosting transport, aviation, energy and urban infrastructure.

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Citizens Seek Clarity on Karnataka SIR

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

The citizens' platform 'Nanna Mata Nanna Hakku' (My Vote, My Right) has urged the Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer to issue immediate written clarifications on the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, stating that the exercise has created confusion and anxiety among voters.

In a memorandum submitted to Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbukumar, the forum said clear guidelines were essential to ensure that no eligible voter was left out of the electoral rolls.

Raises Concerns Over Verification Process

The organisation alleged that while Election Commission guidelines require Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to distribute and collect enumeration forms through door-to-door visits, several officials were instead asking voters to fill up forms on the spot.

It sought clarification on the official time allowed for submitting the forms.



The forum also questioned why data collected during the earlier voter mapping exercise had not been utilised, forcing voters to trace details from the 2002 electoral rolls.

Seeks Clarification on Documentation

The memorandum highlighted confusion over family linkage requirements, age restrictions for voter mapping, spelling corrections in electoral records and the mandatory matching of Aadhaar and voter ID details for online submissions.

It also requested relaxation of online verification requirements, especially for

BLOs Flout EC Norms in SIR Drive

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Alleged violations of Election Commission guidelines in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls have continued across several parts of Karnataka despite fresh directives mandating door-to-door voter verification.

Reports from Bengaluru, Vijayapura and Chikkamagaluru claimed that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) were conducting the verification process by gathering voters at

anganwadi centres, community halls and other public locations instead of visiting individual households as required.

The Election Commission had recently instructed officials to strictly follow the prescribed house-to-house verification process. However, similar complaints have resurfaced, with visuals of mass verification camps circulating on social media.

Sources alleged that some BLOs were facing pressure from local political leaders

to conduct the exercise at designated common venues instead of door-to-door visits. Several officials reportedly expressed concern over the difficulties in implementing the Commission's guidelines under such circumstances. The allegations have intensified the political controversy surrounding the SIR exercise, with opposition parties accusing the authorities of failing to ensure uniform implementation of the voter verification process.

elderly voters and those with older voter identity cards.

Demands Transparency

The forum expressed concern over reports that a large number of voters had been categorised under "Others" during the

verification exercise and sought disclosure of the criteria used to classify voters as "deceased", "shifted", "duplicate" or "others".

It further urged the Election Commission to organise evening voter assistance camps at polling booths to help working citizens

complete the verification process.

The organisation appealed to the Election Commission to issue official written clarifications on all major issues to ensure transparency and protect the voting rights of every eligible citizen.

Good morning

Every sunrise brings a new chapter. Leave behind yesterday's worries, carry forward today's hopes, and step into the day with faith and a grateful heart.

BRIEFS

Jaishankar Begins 6-Nation Tour

► Vikrama Vahini | Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will embark on a six-nation tour starting Sunday, covering Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Belgium and the United States, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

The minister's visit to four Gulf countries from July 5 to 10 comes amid evolving regional dynamics following the US-Iran peace agreement. After completing his Gulf engagements, Jaishankar will travel to New York, where he is scheduled to launch India's campaign for a non-permanent seat in the UN Security Council for the 2028-29 term on July 13, the MEA added.



Pak Link to B-Tech Student Suicide

► Vikrama Vahini | Bina (MP)

A 21-year-old B-Tech student was found dead in a hotel room in Madhya Pradesh's Bina, in an apparent suicide ahead of his brother's wedding, police said.

The victim, identified as Aman Prajapati, was a final-year student at Dr Hari Singh Gour University. His family has alleged that he was being blackmailed through calls from foreign numbers linked to cyber fraud and loan recovery threats. PG2

Pakistan Invites Trump Amid Economic Strain

► Vikrama Vahini | Islamabad

Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari has invited US President Donald Trump to visit Islamabad while calling for stronger bilateral cooperation in trade, defence, energy and counter-terrorism. In a letter marking the 25th anniversary of US Independence, Zardari stressed the need to expand Pakistan-US relations through greater strategic engagement and cooperation in key sectors

Australia Probes PM Modi Threat

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

Australian authorities have launched an investigation after an alleged death threat targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi surfaced on social media ahead of his official visit to Australia.



The threatening comment reportedly appeared under a Facebook post promoting the "Melbourne Meets Modi" community event scheduled to be held at Melbourne's Marvel Stadium on July 9.

AUSTRALIA INVESTIGATES MODI DEATH THREAT POST

► Australian authorities are investigating an alleged death threat against PM Narendra Modi ahead of his Australia visit.

► The threat was reportedly posted on Facebook under a community event page for "Melbourne Meets Modi."

► The matter was reported to the Australian Federal Police, which has begun examining the IP address and details.

► No arrests have been made so far; security arrangements have been tightened ahead of the visit in Australia.

According to reports, the threat was brought to the attention of the Australian Federal Police (AFP), which has initiated an inquiry. Investigators are examining the social media account and other digital evidence to determine whether any criminal offence has been committed.

The incident comes just days before Prime Minister Modi's

Australia visit, during which he is expected to participate in bilateral meetings and community programmes.

Security agencies have reportedly stepped up vigilance, with the AFP and other law enforcement agencies closely monitoring arrangements for the Prime Minister's visit.

No arrests have been made so far, and the investigation is continuing.

Conflicting BLO Orders Mar Karnataka SIR

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Karnataka's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls has come under scrutiny after Booth Level Officers (BLOs) allegedly issued conflicting instructions to voters during the ongoing verification process.

The month-long exercise, which began on June 30, aims to revise the state's electoral rolls, with the draft rolls scheduled to be published on August 5.

However, voters have complained of inconsistent guidance while filling mandatory enumeration forms, particularly regarding identity verification and correction of pre-filled details.

Several voters alleged that BLOs gave contradictory directions on whether to enter their own names or those of their parents in the forms.

Confusion was also reported over correcting spelling errors in voter records, with different officials offering different instructions. PG2

KUMARASWAMY SEEKS EC NOD TO SCRAP SIR

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Union Minister H.D.

Kumaraswamy on Saturday said he would approach the Election Commission of India (ECI) seeking the cancellation of the ongoing

Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Karnataka, alleging serious irregularities and lack of transparency in the exercise.

Addressing reporters, Kumaraswamy said he would meet the Chief Election Commissioner in New Delhi within the next two days. PG2



KARNATAKA CABINET EXPANSION LIKELY ON JULY 10

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

The much-awaited expansion of the Karnataka Cabinet is likely to take place around July 10, ahead of the commencement of the Ashada month, with political lobbying among ministerial aspirants gaining momentum.

Sources said the Congress leadership is speeding up consultations on the inclusion of new ministers, as the government aims to complete the cabinet expansion before the monsoon Assembly session and Independence Day celebrations.

Several legislators aspiring for ministerial berths have intensified efforts to secure support from senior party leaders. On Friday, aspirants including P.M. Ashok, A.S. Ponnanna, K.N.

Karnataka's long-awaited Cabinet expansion is likely around July 10, with intense political lobbying underway among ministerial aspirants. Congress leaders are holding consultations ahead of the monsoon session and Independence Day events, with the final decision expected from the party high command.

Rajanna and M.R. Seetharam reportedly met former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to press their claims.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar is expected to hold discussions with the Congress high command in New Delhi next week.

Senior leaders, including Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara

and KPCC President B.K. Hariprasad, are also likely to participate in the consultations.

According to party sources, the final decision will depend on approval from the Congress high command, with the cabinet expansion expected before the Assembly session and the appointment of district in-charge ministers for Independence Day celebrations.



Daycare Horror: Nanny Held, Kids Traumatized

Bengaluru daycare abuse case has triggered outrage after viral videos showed toddlers allegedly being locked in bathrooms and mistreated. Parents reported lasting behavioural changes in children, while police have arrested a caretaker and detained others as investigations continue into child safety and labour violations.

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

The alleged abuse of toddlers at a daycare centre operating on the premises of an IT company in Bengaluru has triggered widespread outrage, with several parents reporting disturbing behavioural changes in their children after they were enrolled at the facility.

The case came to light after videos showing toddlers being locked inside bathrooms and made to sit inside washing machine tubs went viral on social media.

Following a complaint by a child welfare officer, police registered a case and launched an investigation.

Parents Recall Disturbing Behaviour

Parents of a two-and-a-half-year-



old girl said their daughter developed an intense fear of bathrooms within weeks of joining the daycare.

They recalled that she resisted entering the washroom for bathing and often tried to run away whenever taken near one.

After watching the viral videos, the parents said they realised the reason behind their daughter's unusual

Bengaluru daycare abuse case has sparked outrage after viral videos allegedly showed toddlers being locked in bathrooms and mistreated. Several parents reported trauma and behavioural changes in their children, while police have arrested a caretaker and launched a wider probe into child safety and labour violations at the facility.

behaviour, as one of the clips allegedly showed children being locked inside toilets.

Parents of another toddler said their son became visibly frightened whenever he saw certain women caretakers. They alleged that some caregivers frequently shouted at children, leaving many of them anxious and fearful.

Caretaker Sent to Judicial Custody

Police have arrested a 55-year-old caretaker, identified as Vijayalakshmi, from Kolar. Investigators alleged that she locked a child inside a bathroom for crying continuously.

She was produced before a court and remanded to 14 days of judicial custody. Four other caretakers have been detained and are being questioned as part of the ongoing investigation.

Labour Department Begins Probe

The Karnataka Labour Department has also initiated an inquiry following allegations that daycare caretakers were paid only ₹8,000 per month, far below the prescribed wage of ₹25,000.

Officials have sought statements recorded by the police and will question the agency managing the daycare over the alleged violation of labour norms. Authorities are also examining whether poor working conditions and low wages contributed to the abuse of children.

The investigation into the daycare facility is continuing, with police and labour officials probing both the alleged child abuse and possible labour law violations.

Panchatantra Stories

The Lioness and the Young Jackal

A lion and a lioness lived happily in a dense forest after becoming parents to two cubs. The lion took responsibility for hunting and providing food, while the lioness stayed back to care for the cubs.

Their life was peaceful and well-balanced. The forest around them was calm, filled with birdsong and flowing streams, making their den a safe and nurturing home.

One evening, the lion searched the forest for prey but returned empty-handed. On his way back, he found a baby jackal. Feeling pity for the helpless creature, he chose not to kill it. Instead, he carried it home and gave it to the lioness.

The lioness was surprised but agreed to raise the jackal along with their cubs. She believed that growing up together would make them bond like siblings. The lion and lioness cared for all three without discrimination.

As the cubs and the jackal grew, differences began to appear. The lion cubs were bold and fearless, while the jackal showed caution and avoided danger. Though they often argued and fought, the parents ignored these differences, hoping time would bring harmony.

One day, a wild elephant entered their territory while the young ones were playing. The lion cubs instinctively moved forward to confront it, but the jackal urged them to run away. He considered the elephant too dangerous. The cubs mocked him for his fear and later told their parents.

Humiliated, the young jackal became angry. He told the lioness that he was no less than the cubs in intelligence or ability and vowed to take revenge for their insult.

The lioness listened calmly and understood the truth. She told him that while she had raised him with love, his nature remained that of a jackal. She said he was free to choose his path, but revenge and hostility did not belong in their family.

She firmly advised him to return to his own kind, warning him that if he stayed with anger in his heart, it would bring harm to all. Hearing this, the jackal realized the truth. He left the lion's den and went back to his own clan.

True wisdom lies in accepting one's nature rather than imitating others or living in denial of reality.

The wise say: Know the truth about yourself and act accordingly. This lesson reminds us that identity, nature, and values must be understood clearly to live in harmony with society and oneself.

A Century of Service
Cubbon Park Police Station:
Bengaluru's Timeless Guardian

> MV Joshi

Standing quietly amid the greenery of Cubbon Park, the Cubbon Park Police Station is more than just a police station—it's a living piece of Bengaluru's history. Established in 1910, the heritage building has served the city continuously for over a century, making it one of Bengaluru's oldest functioning police stations. Originally a modest guard house during the colonial era, it later evolved into a full-fledged police station as the city expanded and the freedom movement gathered momentum.



Located on Kasturba Road near the iconic Queen Victoria statue and Government Aquarium, the station has witnessed Bengaluru's transformation from a tranquil cantonment town to India's technology capital. Despite the changing skyline, the red-tiled heritage structure has retained its old-world charm through careful restoration. Today, while modern

policing operates from adjoining facilities, the historic building continues to symbolize continuity, discipline and public service. As Bengaluru races into the future, the 116-year-old Cubbon Park Police Station remains a proud reminder that some institutions never lose their relevance—they simply grow stronger with time.

8 POLL OFFICIALS FACE SIR LAPSE NOTICES

> Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Eight election officials, including a Tahsildar and an Assistant Commissioner, have been served notices in Karnataka's Kolar district for allegedly violating Election Commission guidelines during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The officials allegedly failed to conduct the mandatory door-to-door voter verification and instead asked electors to gather at a common location to complete the process, prompting disciplinary action.

Those served notices include Tahsildar Srinivas, Assistant Commissioner Jambagi

Renukaprasad Dileep, Supervisor Muniraju and five Booth Level Officers (BLOs). The action follows directions from Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbukumar, who instructed all district election officers to strictly implement the Election Commission's guidelines requiring house-to-house verification.

Similar complaints have also emerged from Mysuru's N.R. Assembly constituency, where BLOs are alleged to have conducted voter verification at polling stations and public places instead of visiting households.

The district administration is expected to decide on further action after examining the explanations submitted by the officials.

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The district administration is expected to decide on further action after examining the explanations submitted by the officials.

Conflicting BLO Orders Mar Karnataka SIR

> From PG

Following the complaints, Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbukumar directed all District Election Officers to ensure strict compliance with the Election Commission of India (ECI) guidelines.

The CEO also instructed officials to ensure door-to-door distribution of enumeration forms, as mandated by the ECI, after reports that some BLOs had asked voters to collect the forms from their offices instead of visiting households.

He further directed authorities to publicise Voter Facilitation Centres to assist citizens in completing the verification process.

The issue has sparked political criticism, with Opposition parties alleging procedural irregularities and expressing concern that inconsistent implementation could create errors in the electoral rolls and inconvenience eligible voters. Officials said action will be taken against those found violating the prescribed verification procedures.

Ashok Seeks ₹50,000/Acre Drought Relief

> Vikrama Vahini | Mandya

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok on Saturday accused the Karnataka government of failing to address the growing water crisis in the Cauvery basin and demanded immediate release of water from the Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) reservoir or compensation of ₹50,000 per acre for affected farmers.

After visiting the KRS reservoir, Ashok said only about 6 TMC of water remained in the reservoir due to poor rainfall, while over one lakh acres had already been brought under cultivation. He criticised Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar's reported appeal to farmers not to cultivate



crops, alleging that the government had failed to convene even a single meeting with farmer leaders to discuss the drought situation or crop planning.

Alleges Government Neglect

Ashok claimed the state government had made no preparations to tackle drought-like conditions and was focusing on

infrastructure projects instead of addressing farmers' concerns. He urged the government to hold discussions with farmers and announce compensation if irrigation water could not be supplied.

He also criticised the absence of a full-time Agriculture Minister, questioning the government's preparedness to deal with the crisis.

Criticism Over SIR Exercise

The BJP leader also commented on the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, insisting that election officials should conduct door-to-door verification as per Election Commission guidelines.

Ashok opposed the practice of collecting voter verification forms at common locations and urged officials to strictly follow the prescribed procedures to ensure transparency. He further criticised the state government on various administrative issues, alleging neglect of farmers' interests and poor governance.

KUMARASWAMY SEEKS EC NOD TO SCRAP SIR

> From PG

and urge the Commission to scrap the ongoing revision process and conduct a fresh, transparent exercise under its direct supervision.

He alleged that the voter roll revision was being carried out improperly and maintained that the entire process undertaken so far should be cancelled. According to him, the Election Commission should independently examine the alleged irregularities and take corrective action. The Union Minister also claimed that state election officials had informed him they had already submitted a report to the Election Commission and were awaiting further directions.

Criticising the Karnataka government, Kumaraswamy questioned its silence over the controversy and accused it of failing to respond to complaints related to the SIR exercise. He urged the government to clarify the directions issued to officials and ensure accountability in the voter verification process.

Reiterating his demand, Kumaraswamy said a fair and transparent revision of electoral rolls was essential to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process. He also stressed that public trust in the electoral process must be protected at all costs.

FRESH FIR REVIVES VIJAYANAGAR DEATH PROBE

> Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

A fresh FIR has been registered in connection with the suspicious death of a 42-year-old man in Bengaluru's Vijayanagar area following directions from a local court.

According to police, the case has been registered under Section 106 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, at the Vijayanagar Police Station on the orders of the XXIV Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Court.

The complaint, filed by Rajugowda, alleges that S. Nagachandra, a resident of Vijayanagar, died under

suspicious circumstances on October 24, 2024, after consuming medicines and alcohol while undergoing treatment. The complaint also alleges that his wife, J. Chandana, was present during the incident and that the couple had been facing domestic issues. Police, however, said these allegations are yet to be verified.

A fresh FIR has been registered in Bengaluru's Vijayanagar in connection with the suspicious death of a 42-year-old man following a court order. The case, earlier treated as an Unnatural Death Report, has now been reopened for detailed investigation.

An Unnatural Death Report (UDR) had earlier been registered, and a post-mortem examination was conducted.

Investigators said the exact cause of death is yet to be determined and that all possible angles, including alleged negligence, are being thoroughly examined.

Pak Link to BTECH Student Suicide

> From PG

Police are investigating the alleged Pakistan link after the family claimed Aman had received repeated blackmail and loan recovery calls from Pakistani numbers. Investigators are examining his mobile phone, call records and digital communications to verify the allegations.

Family members said the student had been under severe mental stress for several months due to the alleged harassment.

NEWS

HDK Backs Boost for Homegrown EVs

H.D. Kumaraswamy met leading EV manufacturers in Bengaluru and discussed boosting indigenous electric two-wheeler production. Industry players sought policy support, while the Minister assured full backing to strengthen domestic manufacturing and India's clean mobility goals.

> Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy on Saturday held discussions with leading electric two-wheeler manufacturers in Bengaluru on strengthening indigenous manufacturing and building a globally competitive electric mobility ecosystem.

At the meeting held at HMT Bhawan, industry representatives highlighted the progress made in developing homegrown electric vehicle technologies and manufacturing capabilities. They also outlined their vision of making India a global hub for electric two-wheeler production.

The manufacturers sought continued policy support to boost domestic manufacturing, increase value addition and expand exports.

They also requested an extension of the PM E-DRIVE Scheme and suggested revisions to the PLI Auto Scheme to better meet the evolving needs of the electric vehicle industry.

The delegation discussed opportunities to accelerate indigenous EV manufacturing, strengthen innovation and enhance India's global competitiveness in the clean



mobility sector.

Responding to the industry's demands, Kumaraswamy assured the manufacturers that the Ministry of Heavy Industries would provide all possible support to promote domestic manufacturing, innovation and exports.

The Union Minister said the government remains committed to creating an ecosystem that enables Indian companies to innovate and compete globally, contributing to the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047.

Emphasising Prime Minister

Narendra Modi's goal of achieving Net Zero emissions by 2070, Kumaraswamy said the growth of indigenous electric vehicle manufacturing would play a crucial role in India's clean mobility transition.

The meeting was attended by leading EV industry representatives, including Ather Energy Co-founder and CEO Tarun Mehta, Matter Founder and CEO Mohal Lalbhai, River Co-founder and CEO Aravind Mani, Euler Motors Founder and CEO Saurav Kumar, and Raptree. HV Co-founder and CEO Dinesh Arjun.

HEALTH & Lifestyle

Don't Ignore a 5-Minute Mini Stroke Warning

A brief episode of difficulty in speaking, sudden weakness in the hand or leg, or temporary blurred vision may seem harmless if the symptoms disappear within minutes. However, doctors warn that such signs should never be ignored, as they could indicate a Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA), commonly known as a mini stroke. Medical experts say a TIA is often a critical warning signal of a possible major stroke in the near future.

What is a Mini Stroke (TIA)?

A mini stroke occurs when blood flow to a part of the brain is temporarily reduced or blocked. Although the symptoms usually resolve within a few minutes, the condition indicates an underlying risk of a more serious stroke. Health experts emphasize that recovery from symptoms does not mean the danger has passed, and immediate medical attention is essential.

Key Symptoms to Watch Out For

- Medical professionals list several warning signs that may indicate a mini stroke:
- Sudden drooping or numbness on one side of the face
- Weakness or loss of sensation in one arm
- Difficulty speaking or understanding speech
- Blurred or partial loss of vision in one or both

eyes

- Sudden dizziness or loss of balance
- Severe headache without a known cause
- Even if these symptoms last only 5 to 10 minutes, they should be treated as a medical emergency.

Who is at Higher Risk?

Individuals with high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, heart disease, obesity, and smoking habits are at greater risk. People above 55 years of age and those with a family history of stroke are also more vulnerable.

Why the Golden Hour Matters

Doctors stress that in stroke cases, every minute is crucial. Immediate hospital care can significantly reduce brain damage and improve recovery outcomes. Delayed treatment may lead to permanent disability or severe complications.

Prevention and Precaution

A healthy diet, daily physical activity for at least 30 minutes, and avoiding smoking and alcohol can reduce the risk significantly. Patients who experience TIA should strictly follow prescribed medications and attend follow-up check-ups without fail.

Medical professionals conclude that awareness and timely action are the key to preventing serious brain damage. Ignoring early warning signs like a mini stroke could prove dangerous and life-threatening.



SCIENCE & Technology

Instagram CSAM Ads in India: Meta Acts After BBC Exposé

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

A BBC Eye investigation has revealed that Instagram displayed paid advertisements in India promoting child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and directing users to Telegram channels allegedly selling illegal content. Following the report, Meta removed multiple ads and suspended several accounts, acknowledging that its moderation systems do not catch all violations.

According to the BBC, some advertisements contained references to "rape" and "child" and linked users to Telegram channels where illegal videos were allegedly sold starting at ₹99. Investigators identified around 30 ads linked to CSAM content and nearly 20 promoting adult pornography. The BBC said its researchers created a new Instagram account in India to study recommendation patterns. The account, initially followed by users posting suggestive content, later began receiving explicit advertisements, including those linked to CSAM content.

Meta told the BBC that the material represented a "horrific crime" and confirmed it had taken down several ads, suspended accounts, and blocked related links. However, the company admitted that no moderation system is fully foolproof and combines automated tools with human review.

Former Meta executive Brian Boland said he was "horrified and unsurprised," warning that engagement-driven recommendation systems can amplify extreme content if not tightly controlled.



KUMARASWAMY SEEKS FRESH SIR, SLAMS CONGRESS SILENCE

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy on Saturday demanded that the Election Commission of India (ECI) scrap the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Karnataka, alleging large-scale irregularities in the exercise.

He said the Janata Dal (Secular) and BJP would soon meet the Chief Election Commissioner in New Delhi and seek a fresh voter roll revision under the supervision of an officer from outside Karnataka.

Questions Congress Leadership

Kumaraswamy criticised the Karnataka government, questioning the silence of KPCC President B.K. Hariprasad and Home Minister Priyank Kharge over the alleged irregularities.

He alleged that despite widespread public discussion on the issue, the state government had failed to respond and accused it of misusing the administrative machinery during the revision process.

Demands Alternative for Street Vendors

Referring to the removal of street vendors from Bengaluru footpaths, Kumaraswamy said the government must provide alternative rehabilitation before evicting vendors.



Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, along with his family, participated in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls at his farmhouse in Biddadi on Saturday. His wife Anitha Kumaraswamy, State President of Yuva Janata Dal Nikhil Kumaraswamy, and Revathi Nikhil also took part in the voter verification process.

While acknowledging the Supreme Court's directions on clearing footpaths, he said the livelihood of thousands of poor families should also be protected through proper rehabilitation measures.

Criticises Government's Performance

The Union Minister also criticised the state government over its performance during its first month in office, alleging that several major announcements, including large-scale recruitment, remained unimplemented and existed only on paper.

Chandrayaan-3 Finds Match With Lunar Meteorite

► Vikrama Vahini | Chennai

Scientists have found that the chemical composition of the Shiv Shakti Statio, where Chandrayaan-3 landed near the Moon's south pole, closely matches ALHA 81005, the first meteorite confirmed to have originated from the Moon.

According to ISRO, the finding is based on data collected by the Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) onboard the Pragyan rover. Researchers from the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad, compared the Chandrayaan-3 measurements with

66 lunar meteorites and found ALHA 81005 to be the closest geochemical match.

Scientists clarified that the similarity does not mean the meteorite came from the Shiv Shakti Statio, but indicates that both represent the same type of magnesium-rich lunar crust and soil.

Launched on July 14, 2023, Chandrayaan-3 achieved a historic soft landing near the Moon's south pole on August 23, making India the first country to land in the region and the fourth to successfully soft-land on the Moon.

FIVE HELD FOR PARTY PRETEXT RAPE

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Five persons have been arrested for allegedly luring a young woman to a party and sexually assaulting her in Bengaluru's Talaghattapura police limits.

According to police, two of the accused were known to the victim. One of them, identified as Somashekhar, allegedly invited the woman to a party, claiming that friends from Kalaburagi had come to the city. Trusting him, the woman, a native

of Devanahalli, attended the gathering.

Police said that during the party, one of the accused, identified as Ambarish, allegedly raped the woman. The victim managed to escape from the spot and immediately dialled the 112 emergency helpline to report the incident. Acting swiftly on the complaint, Talaghattapura police rushed to the scene, rescued the victim and arrested five accused, including Somashekhar and Ambarish, while they were attempting to flee.



SIT Probes Gold Biscuit Angle in Ram Temple Scam

The SIT probing the alleged Ram Temple donation scam is investigating whether stolen gold ornaments were melted into gold biscuits to erase their identity. With eight arrests made and senior trust officials questioned, the probe has intensified into the handling of devotees' valuable offerings.

► Vikrama Vahini | Ayodhya

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram Temple has uncovered a new angle, investigating whether stolen gold ornaments donated by devotees were melted into gold biscuits to conceal their identity.

The suspicion gained momentum after repeated search operations reportedly failed to recover the missing jewellery. Investigators believe the ornaments may have been melted down, making it difficult to identify or trace the original items.

As part of the probe, SIT officials visited the Ram Temple, offered prayers and questioned temple in-charge K.D. Babu regarding the inventory, storage and maintenance of gold, silver and other valuable donations. The team has also sought detailed records relating to precious metal offerings and is examining transactions carried out with the government-owned Printing and Minting Corporation of India (Mint).

Officials have requested a complete account of the gold and



silver sent to banks and the Mint for testing and processing. The investigation is also reviewing the temple's system for recording, storing and managing donations received from devotees.

Sources associated with the investigation said that while the Shri Ram Jannabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust regularly reviewed cash donations and income during its quarterly meetings, detailed discussions on the quantity, valuation and stock of gold, silver and other valuables were not routinely held.

During the first phase of processing, the trust reportedly sent 9.44 quintals (944 kg) of silver to the government-run Mint for testing and melting to assess the quality and quantity of precious metals received. Former trust general secretary

Champat Rai had earlier stated that the temple had received nearly 13 quintals of silver and around 20 kilograms of gold as donations from devotees.

The alleged embezzlement came to light on June 7, following which the Uttar Pradesh government constituted an SIT to investigate the matter. Based on the team's preliminary findings, an FIR was registered on June 25, and eight persons associated with the temple's donation-counting process have been arrested so far.

Police have also interrogated key accused Avinash Shukla after taking him into custody. According to investigators, the largest cash recovery in the case has been made from his possession.

The SIT has further questioned former trust general secretary Champat Rai, former trustee Anil Mishra and temple official Gopal Rao. Rai and Mishra have submitted their resignations, and the trust is expected to discuss the matter at its meeting scheduled for July 6 as the investigation continues.

Kambala Plan for Dasara Triggers Backlash

► Vikrama Vahini | Mysuru

The Karnataka government's proposal to include the traditional coastal sport of Kambala in this year's Mysuru Dasara celebrations has sparked widespread opposition from heritage experts, environmentalists, farmer organisations and Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar.

Critics argue that introducing Kambala into the state's premier cultural festival would dilute the centuries-old identity of Mysuru Dasara while imposing an unnecessary financial and environmental burden during a drought year.

Environmentalists said organising Kambala in Mysuru would require creating an artificial slush track, consuming large quantities of water and spending several crores of rupees, making the proposal impractical amid water scarcity.

Heritage experts maintained that both Mysuru Dasara and Kambala have unique historical and cultural significance and should retain their individual identities. Farmer leaders also questioned the proposed expenditure of ₹5-8 crore on the event when the state is facing drought and farmers are struggling.

MP Yaduveer urged the government to reconsider the proposal, stating that Kambala is deeply rooted in the traditions and culture of coastal Karnataka and should not be turned into an entertainment attraction during Dasara.

ENTERTAINMENT

Samantha Set to Return with New Talk Show

► Vikrama Vahini | Hyderabad

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu is set to return to the small screen with a new talk show, marking another step in her expanding journey as a host and content creator beyond films.

Samantha, who began her career as a television

presenter before entering films, has previously hosted the Telugu reality show Bigg Boss in the absence of Nagarjuna Akkineni.

She has also successfully anchored the talk show Sam Jam on the OTT platform Aha and hosted a podcast, where she interacted with several film personalities and public figures.

According to industry reports, Samantha is now working on a fresh talk show that will be streamed on Sony LIV.

The upcoming show is expected to follow a similar format to Sam Jam, blending light-hearted conversations with emotional and personal storytelling. Sources suggest that the show will also explore topics such as health, lifestyle, and personal well-being, alongside celebrity interviews.

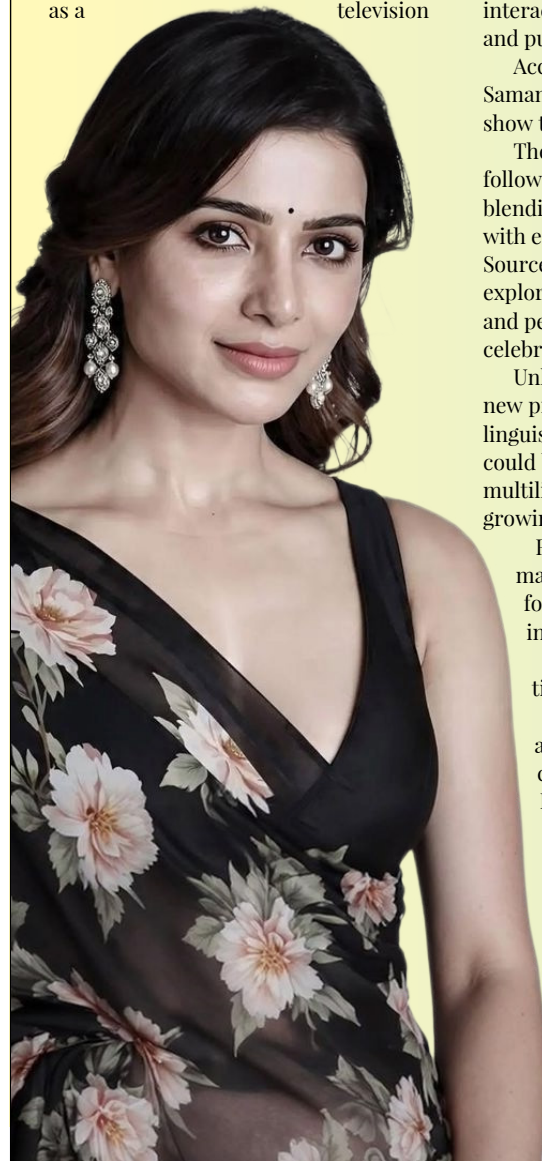
Unlike her previous Telugu show, the new project is expected to have a broader linguistic reach, with speculation that it could be produced in Tamil or a multilingual format, given Samantha's growing pan-India presence.

Reports also indicate that the show may include elements of a podcast format, allowing for deeper and more informal conversations with guests.

However, the official production timeline remains unclear.

Samantha's recent professional activities include acting in and co-producing the film Ma Inti Bangaram, which was released recently and received a positive response.

With her continued presence in films, production, and digital content, Samantha is steadily expanding her role in the entertainment industry beyond acting, positioning herself as a multi-platform media personality.



'PEDDI' OTT RELEASE DATE ANNOUNCED

► Vikrama Vahini | Mumbai

The Telugu blockbuster Peddi, starring Ram Charan, Shiva Rajkumar and Janhvi Kapoor, is all set for its digital premiere after completing a highly successful theatrical run. The sports drama will begin streaming on Netflix from June 9, marking its transition from cinemas to OTT platforms.

Strong Box Office Performance

Peddi emerged as one of the biggest Telugu hits of 2026, despite facing initial controversy during its release. The film went on to perform strongly at the box office and is reported to have collected over ₹400 crore worldwide, making it one of the highest-grossing regional films of the year.

The movie, which was released in theatres on June 4, has now concluded its theatrical run, paving the way for its digital release.

OTT Release Details

The film will stream exclusively on Netflix in multiple South Indian languages, including Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada. However, the Hindi version will not be available on Netflix at the time of release. Industry reports suggest that the Hindi-dubbed version may be released later on a different OTT platform.

Netflix India officially announced the release through its social media platforms, sharing promotional content and key dialogues from the film, building anticipation among digital audiences.

Storyline and Theme

Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, Peddi is a rural sports drama that revolves around a talented athlete from a village setting. The film highlights themes of

perseverance, rural talent, and the challenges faced by underrepresented communities in accessing opportunities in sports.

The narrative combines emotional storytelling with high-intensity sports sequences, making it appealing to both mass and family audiences.

Controversy and Post-Release Changes

The film initially sparked controversy over the portrayal of Janhvi Kapoor's character. Following public criticism, director Buchi Babu Sana issued a clarification and apologised, after which certain scenes featuring the actress were removed and the film was re-censored before its wider release.

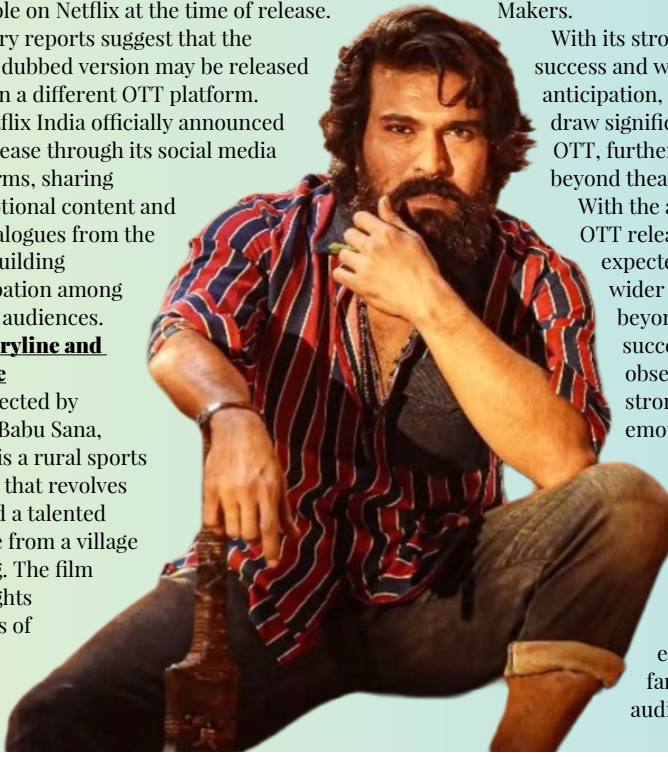
Reports indicate that the OTT version will also feature the revised, edited cut of the film.

Cast and Crew

Alongside Ram Charan in the lead role, the film features Shiva Rajkumar in a pivotal role and Janhvi Kapoor as the female lead. The music for the film has been composed by Oscar-winning musician AR Rahman, while the project is produced by Mythri Movie Makers.

With its strong box office success and widespread digital anticipation, Peddi is expected to draw significant viewership on OTT, further extending its reach beyond theatres.

With the announcement of its OTT release, Peddi is expected to reach an even wider global audience beyond its theatrical success. Industry observers say the film's strong star cast, emotional storyline and AR Rahman's music could make it one of the most-watched South Indian titles on Netflix in the coming weeks, especially among family and youth audiences.



BUSINESS

India Drops to 80th in Passport Index

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

India has slipped two places to rank 80th in the latest Henley Passport Index (July 2026), which ranks global passports based on travel freedom. In May, India was placed at 78th position.

Despite the decline, Indian passport holders continue to enjoy visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 56 countries, including popular destinations such as Thailand, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Mauritius and Kenya.

Visa-Free Travel to 56 Countries

Indian citizens can travel without a prior visa to several countries across Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and Oceania. Key destinations include Bhutan, Nepal, Malaysia, Philippines, Qatar, Jamaica, Fiji and Qatar, among others.

Visa-on-Arrival Destinations

Indian travellers can obtain visa on arrival in countries such as Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia, Jordan, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, making short-term travel relatively easier.

eTA and Special Entry Requirements

Some countries, including Kenya, Seychelles, and St. Kitts and Nevis, require electronic travel authorisation (eTA) before entry.

How the Index Works

The Henley Passport Index is compiled using data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA). It ranks passports based on the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa.

Global Leaders in Passport Power

Countries such as Singapore, Japan, France, Germany, Italy and Spain continue to top the list, with visa-free access to more than 190 destinations.

At the other end of the ranking, passports from countries like Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq remain among the weakest globally. Experts note that India's slight drop is due to changes in global visa policies rather than a significant reduction in visa-free access opportunities for Indian travellers.

India continues to maintain strong regional travel access despite its marginal decline in ranking. Experts say global mobility trends are shifting as countries frequently revise visa policies.

The development highlights India's gradual improvement in global travel freedom over the past decade.

SPORTS

World Cup 2026: Round of 16 Fixtures Announced

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi
The FIFA World Cup 2026 has entered its decisive knockout phase with the completion of the Round of 32 matches, leaving only 16 teams in contention for the prestigious title. The expanded tournament, featuring 48 teams for the first time in history, is now set for the Round of 16 stage, which begins on July 4 and runs until July 8.

Defending champions Argentina, along with football powerhouses Brazil, France, England, Portugal and Spain, have progressed to the pre-quarterfinal stage, maintaining strong title contention. However, several major teams, including Germany and the Netherlands, have already been knocked out of the competition earlier than expected, marking major upsets in the tournament.

The Round of 16 fixtures will be played across venues in the United States, Mexico and Canada. The knockout stage follows a single-elimination format, meaning every match must produce a winner. If teams are tied after 90 minutes, extra time of 30 minutes will be played, followed by a penalty shootout if required.

The fixtures include Canada taking on Morocco in Houston on July 4, followed by Paraguay against France in Philadelphia. Brazil will face Norway in New York/New Jersey, while Mexico meets England in Mexico City. Portugal is set to clash with Spain in Dallas, and the United States will take on Belgium in Seattle. Argentina will meet Egypt in Atlanta, while Switzerland will play Colombia in Vancouver.

Vaibhav Suryavanshi Creates Rare Debut Record

> Vikrama Vahini | Manchester
Vaibhav Suryavanshi made a record-breaking international debut for India in the second T20 against England, becoming the youngest player to represent the national side at just 15 years and 99 days, surpassing Sachin Tendulkar's long-standing record.

However, his debut also saw a rare dismissal as he became the first Indian to be stumped on T20 debut, falling to England spinner Will Jacks off wicketkeeper Jos Buttler's sharp work behind the stumps.

Despite the early setback, Vaibhav showed glimpses of promise, scoring 14 runs off 10 balls with two sixes before being dismissed.

While his feat created new milestones in Indian cricket history, he still falls short of the youngest-ever international cricketer records held globally, including Pakistan's Hasan Raza, who debuted at 14 in Tests and ODIs, and Romania's Marian Gherasim, the youngest T20 player at 14 years and 16 days.

Badrinath Donation Row Sparks Probe

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi
Days after alleged financial irregularities surfaced in connection with donations at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, similar allegations have emerged at Badrinath Dham, prompting the Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee (BKTC) to order an internal inquiry into the handling of devotees' offerings.

BKTC President Hemant Dwivedi said the committee has taken the allegations seriously and has directed the formation of an inquiry committee to investigate the matter. Explanations have also been sought from the employees concerned.

Bhairav Sena Demands Fair Investigation
The controversy gained momentum after an organisation, Bhairav Sena, alleged financial irregularities in the management of temple donations and demanded a transparent investigation into an alleged case of financial misappropriation involving a staff member linked to the Temple Committee Chairman. Responding to the allegations, Dwivedi rejected social media claims



identifying the employee as his personal secretary. He clarified that the individual is a regular government employee of the BKTC who had previously served as a personal assistant to three former chairmen of the temple committee. He assured devotees that strict action would be taken if any employee was found guilty after the inquiry.

CCTV Footage Examined
BKTC Chief Executive Officer Sohan Singh Rangad said CCTV footage from the Badrinath Temple premises was reviewed after the allegations surfaced online. However, he

noted that the available footage lacked sufficient clarity to establish the facts.

Rangad said the committee chairman had been informed of the developments, and, following his directions, explanations were being sought from the employees concerned. A proposal to constitute an internal inquiry committee has also been submitted for approval.

Detailed Inquiry to Be Conducted
According to the CEO, the inquiry committee will examine all available evidence, record statements of the concerned persons and submit a detailed report. If any financial irregularities are established, statutory and departmental action will be initiated under the Shri Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee Act, 1939, and the Employee Conduct Rules.

Appealing to the public, Rangad urged people not to circulate unverified claims on social media, stating that the issue is closely associated with the faith and sentiments of millions of devotees across the country.

Modi Unveils ₹1.06 Lakh Cr Rajasthan Push



> Vikrama Vahini | Jodhpur
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday launched and laid the foundation stone for development projects worth more than ₹1.06 lakh crore in Rajasthan, giving a major boost to the state's transport, aviation, energy and urban infrastructure sectors.

The Prime Minister began his visit by inaugurating the newly constructed terminal building at Jodhpur Airport, built at a cost of ₹480 crore. Designed to handle up to 20 lakh passengers annually, the terminal combines modern passenger facilities with architectural elements inspired by Rajasthan's royal heritage, including traditional arches, domes and cultural motifs.

Mega Infrastructure Push
Later, at Balotra, the Prime Minister launched and laid the foundation stone for a series of

infrastructure projects covering petrochemicals, railways, highways, urban transport, renewable energy and power transmission.

A key highlight was the foundation stone for Phase II of the Jaipur Metro Rail Project, estimated to cost over ₹13,000 crore. The 41-km north-south corridor from Prahladpura to Todi Mod will include 36 stations and connect major residential areas, industrial hubs, Jaipur Airport, the railway station and the central bus terminal, significantly improving urban mobility.

Boost to Regional Aviation
Prime Minister Modi also launched the Modified UDAN Scheme aimed at strengthening regional air connectivity across the country.

Under the revamped programme, 100 unserved or underutilised airstrips will be developed into operational aerodromes over the next decade.

KHAMENEI LAID TO REST AMID FAMILY TRAGEDY



> Vikrama Vahini | Tehran
Iran on Saturday began the state funeral of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, who was killed in US and Israeli airstrikes on February 28. Thousands of mourners gathered at Tehran's Grand Mosalla to pay their last respects. Khamenei's coffin, draped in the Iranian flag and topped with his signature black turban, was placed alongside the coffins of several family members, including his 14-month-old granddaughter, who was also killed in the strikes.

Senior Iranian leaders attended the ceremony, while India was represented by Bihar Governor Syed Ata Hasnain and Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita.

The funeral processions will continue across Iran and Iraq over the next six days before Khamenei is laid to rest in his hometown of Mashhad.

Modi Greets Trump on US Independence Day

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi
Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended greetings to US President Donald Trump and the American people on the occasion of the United States' 250th Independence Day celebration.

In a post on X, Modi conveyed wishes on behalf of 1.4 billion Indians and highlighted the strong India-US partnership based on shared democratic values, rule of law, and mutual respect.

He expressed hope that the coming years will bring greater peace, prosperity, and deeper ties between the two nations.



Chairpersons of the District Committees of the State Guarantee Scheme Implementation Authority met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in Bengaluru today. State Authority Chairman H.M. Revanna, Vice-Chairmen Dinesh Gooligowda and S.R. Patil were also present during the meeting.

TMC Turmoil Deepens as State Chief Quits

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi
The political turmoil in the Trinamool Congress (TMC) intensified on Saturday after West Bengal party president Chandrima Bhattacharya resigned from all her party responsibilities, dealing another setback to party chief Mamata Banerjee amid an escalating internal rebellion.

Bhattacharya, who assumed charge as the West Bengal TMC president following the party's Assembly election defeat, submitted her resignation from the post as well as all other organisational positions. She had replaced Subrata Bakshi after Mamata Banerjee dissolved all party committees and restructured the organisation on June 3, 2025.

In her resignation letter, Bhattacharya stated that she was stepping down from the post of State President of the All India Trinamool Congress and relinquishing all other responsibilities she currently held within the party.

She also withdrew herself as the authorised signatory for the party and its affiliated organisations in bank accounts, besides surrendering her role as the party's authorised representative before the Election Commission of India. Despite her resignation, she expressed her highest respect for Mamata Banerjee. The resignation has fuelled speculation over the future of the party after Bhattacharya reportedly met leaders of the rebel faction shortly after stepping down.

The TMC has been grappling with a deep internal crisis following its Assembly election defeat, with reports indicating that nearly 80 MLAs, led by Ritabrata Banerjee, have broken



away from the party.

Around 20 Members of Parliament have also reportedly extended support to the NDA after merging with a lesser-known political outfit, NCP.

Reacting to the development, senior TMC leader and MLA Kunal Ghosh criticised Bhattacharya, questioning why she had not resigned while serving in key ministerial positions under Mamata Banerjee's government. He alleged that her decision had come only after enjoying important responsibilities within the party and the government.

The resignation came just a day after dramatic developments at Trinamool Bhavan, the party headquarters in Kolkata.

A rebel faction reportedly took control of the office, replaced the locks, installed a new signboard naming Arup Roy as party chairman, and claimed before the Election Commission that it represented the "real" Trinamool Congress.

The tense situation prompted heavy deployment of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Kolkata Police around the party office as authorities worked to maintain law and order.

Mumbai Reels Under Heavy Rain Fury

> Vikrama Vahini | Mumbai
Heavy rain continued to batter Maharashtra for the fourth consecutive day, disrupting normal life across Mumbai, Pune, Thane and neighbouring districts. At least five people were reported dead in rain-related incidents in Pune and Thane, while several areas witnessed severe flooding and traffic disruption.

In Mumbai, incessant rainfall submerged roads, leaving cars and trucks stranded in waterlogged streets.

High tides near the iconic Gateway of India sent large waves crashing against the waterfront, with videos of the dramatic scene widely shared on social media. Continuous rain also caused a portion of a road to cave in at Sonapur in Bhandup, while another vehicle fell into a collapsed section of the road.

No casualties were reported in either incident. In Vasai and Navi Mumbai, major roads remained inundated, causing significant inconvenience to commuters.

Heavy showers in Thane and Palghar damaged electric poles and uprooted trees, while floodwaters entered several low-lying residential areas.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a Red Alert for Sunday, warning of continued heavy to extremely heavy rainfall across parts of Maharashtra.



Court Denies Bail to Khalid, Imam

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi
A Delhi court on Saturday rejected the bail applications of student activists Umar Khalid and Sharjeel Imam in the larger conspiracy case related to the 2020 Delhi riots.

Additional Sessions Judge Sameer Bajpai at the Karkardooma Court held that there was no significant change in circumstances since their earlier bail pleas were rejected. The Delhi Police argued that both accused allegedly played key roles in the conspiracy and opposed their release.

The defence had sought bail citing a recent Supreme Court ruling on prolonged incarceration under the UAPA. However, the court declined to grant relief, and both accused will remain in judicial custody while the trial continues.

Parliament Monsoon Session from July 20

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi
The Monsoon Session of Parliament will be held from July 20 to August 13, covering a total of 25 days with 19 sittings, according to official sources. The upcoming session is expected to witness intense political debates amid changing political dynamics following recent assembly elections across several states.

The session comes at a time when the political landscape appears to be shifting, with signs of strain within sections of the opposition.

Reports indicate internal challenges for parties such as the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and Shiv Sena (UBT), while the Congress has also witnessed realignments in certain regional alliances, including developments in Tamil Nadu politics.

On the other hand, the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is entering the session with renewed confidence after recent electoral gains in states including West Bengal, Assam, and Puducherry. These results are expected to strengthen the government's position in the House and influence the tone of parliamentary proceedings.

TTD Sells Record 1.26 Crore Laddus in June



> Vikrama Vahini | Tirumala
The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) recorded its highest-ever monthly sale of 1.26,81,805 Srivari Laddu Prasadam in June 2026, driven by a sharp rise in pilgrim footfall.

According to TTD, laddu sales increased steadily from 1.11,96,170 in April to 1.21,35,528 in May, before reaching a record 1.26 crore in June.

The June sales surpassed 1.19,21,353 laddus sold in June 2025, registering a 6.37 per cent increase, and were 23.55 per cent higher than the 1.02,64,364 laddus sold in June 2024.

TTD attributed the record sales to the growing number of devotees visiting Tirumala for the darshan of Lord Venkateswara. The temple administration said laddu production was increased to ensure uninterrupted distribution of the sacred prasadam to pilgrims.

TTD officials said special arrangements were made at the laddu counters to manage the rising demand, with additional staff deployed during peak hours to ensure smooth distribution and avoid long waiting times for devotees.

The temple administration also strengthened its supply chain and production capacity at the laddu preparation centres, ensuring that hygiene standards and traditional preparation methods were maintained despite the increased output. With Tirumala witnessing a consistent surge in pilgrim arrivals throughout the year, TTD is expected to further scale up prasadam production and improve queue management systems in the coming months.