



Isha Lankesh, grand daughter of writer and filmmaker P. Lankesh, is set to make her acting debut with a Kannada film directed by Pritam Gubbi. Trained in theatre, Isha marks the third generation of the Lankesh family to enter cinema.

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and actor Pawan Kalyan underwent successful shoulder surgery in Mumbai and is expected to resume public and film commitments after recovery.



Good morning

Start today knowing that the desire for success is the first step to achieving greatness. If you have it, then get all out and take everything that this special day has made for you.

BRIEFS

Bengaluru Driver Kills Family, Dies by Suicide

► Vikrama Vahini | B'luru
A 34-year-old driver allegedly hacked three members of his family to death before dying by suicide in Bengaluru on Saturday, police said.
The incident took place at Kottigepalya under the limits of Kamakshipalya Police Station. The accused, identified as Prashant, allegedly attacked his mother Mangalamma (55), a garment factory worker, his grandmother Nanjamma, and his maternal uncle Satish with a machete at their residence.
Police have launched an investigation to determine the reason behind the killings. Further details are awaited.

Bengal Unveils ₹5 Lakh Health Cover

► Vikrama Vahini | Kolkata
West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari has announced the Mukhyamantri Swasthya Bima Yojana to provide ₹5 lakh annual cashless health insurance to families excluded from the central Ayushman Bharat scheme.
The state scheme will offer free treatment at empanelled hospitals across India, ensuring wider healthcare access for eligible beneficiaries. The move aims to support families left out due to Ayushman Bharat's strict eligibility criteria based on income, property and other conditions.
The new health card will allow patients to avail medical facilities outside West Bengal as well, providing financial relief during major health emergencies.

Footpaths First for Kannadigas: DKS

► Vikrama Vahini | B'luru
Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Saturday said the State government's "first priority is Kannadigas" while reviewing Bengaluru's anti-encroachment campaign under Operation Footpath.
He said the government would not allow unauthorised occupation of footpaths and public spaces, alleging that many encroachments were by migrants from other states. Shivakumar asserted that the drive would continue without yielding to any pressure. The Chief Minister assured that eligible local street vendors would be rehabilitated at alternative locations and provided government-supported pushcarts. He said the initiative aims to restore pedestrian rights, improve civic order and reduce congestion across Bengaluru.



15 Indians Die in Vietnam Boat Tragedy

At least 15 Indian tourists were killed after a tourist boat carrying 32 Indians capsized near Vietnam's Phu Quoc Island. Rescue operations are underway, while the Indian Embassy is coordinating with Vietnamese authorities and assisting affected families. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the tragedy and assured all possible support.

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

At least 15 Indian tourists were killed after a tourist boat capsized near Vietnam's Phu Quoc Island on Saturday, while search and rescue operations continued amid rough sea conditions. The Indian Embassy in Vietnam is coordinating with local authorities and has set up emergency control rooms to assist affected families.
According to local media, the boat was carrying 32 Indian tourists and four crew members when it overturned around 1 pm local time.
The accident occurred about 400 metres off Hon May Rut Ngoai while the vessel was travelling from Hon May Rut to An Thoi Port. Vietnamese authorities are yet to officially confirm the death toll.
The Indian Embassy said it was closely monitoring the situation and working with Vietnamese authorities to ascertain the exact details of the incident.
Emergency control rooms have been established at the Indian Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City and the Indian Embassy in Hanoi to provide information and assistance to families.
Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the tragedy, offering condolences to the families of those who lost their lives and wishing a speedy recovery to the injured.
He said Indian officials were extending all



possible assistance and remained in close contact with Vietnamese authorities.
Officials said the boat, operated by Ocean Pear Island Company, capsized in rough weather, trapping many passengers inside. Nearby tourist boats were the first to respond and rescue survivors before emergency teams reached the scene.
Rescue operations were hampered by strong waves, with only a few passengers reportedly pulled out conscious.
Vietnam has become a popular destination for Indian travellers due to its affordable tourism options and visa-friendly policies. Around 7.46 lakh Indian tourists visited the Southeast Asian nation in 2025.
Local authorities launched a large-scale rescue operation immediately after receiving

information about the accident. Coast guard personnel, rescue teams and nearby boats joined the search efforts to locate missing passengers and provide medical assistance to survivors.
The Indian Embassy officials are also in constant contact with Vietnamese authorities to gather details about the victims and ensure necessary support. Families of the affected tourists are being provided updates through the emergency helplines established by Indian missions.
The tragic incident has raised concerns over tourist safety measures and maritime security protocols in popular travel destinations. Authorities are expected to conduct a detailed investigation into the circumstances that led to the boat capsizing.

Mojtaba Vows Revenge Against US, Israel

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi
Iran's Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei has vowed that retaliation against the United States and Israel for the killing of his father, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, is "inevitable", in his first statement after the funeral.
Mojtaba said the revenge would not depend on his presence or that of any Iranian official, claiming that it represented the will of the Iranian people.



Funeral Held in Mashhad
Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was laid to rest at the Imam Reza shrine in Mashhad, his hometown, nearly four months after his death. The funeral events continued for six days and witnessed large gatherings across Iran and neighbouring Iraq.
Mojtaba thanked

Rising Iran-US Tensions

- * Iran's Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei vowed that revenge for his father Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's killing in US-Israeli strikes was "inevitable."
- * In his first statement after the funeral, Mojtaba said retaliation would not depend on him or any Iranian official.
- * Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was buried at Mashhad's Imam Reza shrine after a

- six-day funeral ceremony.
- * Tensions between Iran and the US remain high amid renewed strikes and disputes over the Strait of Hormuz.
- * Both sides have exchanged warnings, with Tehran asserting control over the key waterway and threatening attacks if targeted in any future military confrontation scenarios.

supporters who attended the ceremonies, describing the turnout as a historic show of public strength.
Tensions Rise Over Strait of Hormuz
The statement came amid renewed tensions between Tehran and Washington following fresh strikes and disputes over the Strait of Hormuz, a key global shipping route.
Both sides have agreed to hold talks, but US President Donald Trump said the ceasefire had ended and warned Iran against further attacks.

Tehran, meanwhile, said it retained control over the strategic waterway and warned of action against US military assets if attacked again.
Iran-US Standoff Continues
The latest developments have heightened fears of further escalation in the region, with both countries issuing strong warnings while diplomatic efforts continue.
Iranian officials said they would continue defending the country's interests amid growing regional tensions.

PG2

Modi Sparks Under-16 Ban Buzz

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi
Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks praising Australia's restrictions on social media access for children under 16 have sparked speculation over whether India could consider a similar policy in the future. However, the Centre has not announced any proposal or legal framework to introduce such age-based restrictions.
Speaking about Australia's approach, Modi said the move was aimed at protecting children from the harmful effects of social media and that India could learn from the country's experience in implementing such measures.
Australia's nationwide law, which came into effect in December 2025, requires social media companies to take reasonable steps to prevent users below the age of 16 from creating or maintaining accounts.



PG2

Baby's Record-Breaking Climb

10-Month-Old Baby Creates World Record. Climbs 21 Steps in Just 36 Seconds

► Vikrama Vahini | Vijayapura

A 10-month-old baby from Karnataka's Vijayapura has earned a place in the Noble Book of World Records after climbing 21 steps in just 36 seconds, an extraordinary achievement for a child of his age.
Riyans Pattanashetti, son of Sachin Pattanashetti and Sinchana, amazed record officials with his speed, balance and coordination at an age when most infants are only beginning to crawl and walk.
Talent Spotted at Home
According to his parents, Riyans first displayed his unusual ability by quickly climbing and descending the staircase at home. Encouraged by his mother, he later attempted a one-foot-high staircase, which he climbed with remarkable ease.
Recognising his exceptional talent, the family



recorded videos of the feat and submitted them, along with the required documents, to the Noble

Book of World Records for evaluation.
Official Recognition

After reviewing the video evidence and supporting documents, officials confirmed the achievement and awarded Riyans a world record certificate for climbing 21 steps in just 36 seconds.
The achievement has brought pride and joy to the Pattanashetti family.
"We never imagined our son would accomplish something so remarkable at such a young age. Even our neighbours were amazed by the speed with which he climbed the stairs," his parents said.
CM Congratulates Family
The family said they were delighted after Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar congratulated Riyans on his achievement. The young record-holder has since received widespread appreciation from people across Vijayapura and on social media, with many wishing him greater success in the future.

Panchatantra Stories

The Old Merchant, His Young Wife and The Thief

Once upon a time, there lived a wealthy merchant named Kamatura. Though he had earned great wealth, he lived a lonely life after losing his wife. As the years passed, he longed for companionship and decided to marry again.

After much effort, Kamatura convinced another merchant to give his young daughter in marriage. He offered a large amount of money and finally married the young woman.

However, the new bride was unhappy with the marriage. She could not accept the fact that her husband was much older than her and remained distant from him.

The old merchant understood his wife's feelings but never stopped trying to win her affection.

He treated her with kindness, care, and love, hoping that one day she would accept him. Despite his efforts, she continued to avoid him and showed no interest in their relationship.

One night, while the couple was sleeping on opposite sides of their bed, a thief quietly entered their house. A small noise woke the young woman, and she quickly realized that someone had broken into their home.

Terrified, she looked towards her husband. Fearing that the thief might harm them, she silently moved closer and tightly hugged Kamatura to avoid attracting the intruder's attention.

The old merchant suddenly woke up and was surprised to find his wife holding him with affection. For a moment, he felt overjoyed. He wondered why she had suddenly changed her attitude towards him.

Looking around, he noticed the thief standing inside the room and immediately understood the reason behind his wife's actions. Instead of becoming angry, he smiled and addressed the thief.

"Dear stranger, I must thank you. I have tried everything to win my wife's love, but she always stayed away from me. Today, because of you, she hugged me with affection. You have brought happiness into my life. Take whatever you want from my house," he said.

The thief was amazed by the merchant's words and the unexpected turn of events.

The story reminds us that situations and people we consider harmful may sometimes bring unexpected benefits. As the wise say, even an enemy can unknowingly become a source of happiness. The incident teaches us to look at every challenge with patience, as hidden opportunities may emerge from difficult situations.

Ashok Demands PRC Order Withdrawal

Vikrama Vahini | Mandya

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok on Friday demanded that the Karnataka Government immediately withdraw its order on issuing Permanent Residence Certificates (PRCs), alleging that it was unconstitutional and could be misused to legitimise illegal immigrants.

Addressing a press conference in Mandya, Ashok claimed that the power to determine citizenship rests exclusively with the Union Government under the Citizenship Act and accused the State Government of overstepping its authority.

He alleged that the move was politically



motivated and aimed at protecting illegal immigrants for electoral gains. He warned that the BJP would approach the Governor if the order was not withdrawn.

Ashok also questioned the State

Government's authority to verify citizenship and alleged that issuing PRCs without proper legal backing could pose a threat to national security.

Criticises Water Release to Tamil Nadu

The BJP leader accused the Congress government of releasing water from the Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) Dam to Tamil Nadu while farmers in parts of Karnataka continued to face drought conditions.

He said only a small portion of farmland in Mandya had been sown and urged the government to prioritise the needs of Karnataka's farmers.

He also criticised the government for

seeking drought relief from the Centre without completing the required assessment and compensation procedures.

Other Issues Raised

Ashok demanded proper rehabilitation for street vendors before removing encroachments and criticised the government's handling of farmer issues.

He reiterated the BJP's commitment to continue protests against alleged land acquisition affecting farmers and expressed support for simultaneous elections under the One Nation, One Election proposal, saying it would reduce expenditure and improve governance.

DOOR-TO-DOOR VOTER SURVEY GETS PUSH

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Bengaluru South Additional District Election Officer K.N. Ramesh on Saturday inspected the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and door-to-door voter verification in the Bommanahalli Assembly constituency, directing officials to complete the exercise within the stipulated time and ensure an error-free electoral roll.

During his visit to Vaishnavi Terrace Apartments in Puttenahalli ward, Ramesh instructed Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to make effective use of weekends to distribute and collect enumeration forms, as more residents would be available at home. He also urged apartment associations to cooperate in creating awareness and ensuring timely submission of forms.

Reviewing the exercise at Doresanipalya, he directed BLOs to identify eligible but unregistered voters, process new applications quickly and



verify the details of shifted and deceased voters in accordance with Election Commission of India guidelines.

Ramesh also inspected the Voter Assistance Centre in Arakere ward and instructed officials to provide prompt services to the public. He emphasised close monitoring of the revision process and directed supervisors to complete all SIR-related work within the prescribed deadline. Joint Election Officer Vandana, Assistant Electoral Registration Officer S.C. Manjunath and other election officials were present during the inspection.

Somanna Reviews Rail Line Progress

Vikrama Vahini | Tumakuru

Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti V. Somanna on Saturday inspected the ongoing Tumakuru-Rayadurga New Railway Line Project and directed officials to complete the remaining works within the scheduled timeframe.

The Minister reviewed construction on the Urukere-Koratagere (18 km) and Koratagere-Madakasira (56 km) sections and inspected station works at Koratagere, Madhugiri, Hosakere and Bedatturu.

Somanna said the 207-km railway project has made significant progress, with 110 km already completed. He announced that the Doddahalli-Pavagada section has cleared railway safety inspection and train services between Rayadurga and Pavagada will begin shortly. He also noted that the Tumakuru-Davangere railway line is progressing well.



Railway officials said construction is underway on the Madakasira-Pavagada section, while the Urukere-Koratagere stretch is expected to be completed by February 2028 and the Koratagere-Madakasira section by May 2028. Madhugiri MLA K.N. Rajanna and senior railway officials were present during the inspection.

The Tumakuru-Rayadurga New

Railway Line is expected to improve rail connectivity across central Karnataka, boost passenger and freight movement, and support the region's economic development. Once fully operational, the project will provide faster transport links for industries, farmers and commuters while enhancing connectivity with neighbouring Andhra Pradesh.

Modi Sparks Under-16 Ban Buzz

From PGi

The rules apply to platforms including Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, X, Reddit, Threads, Twitch and YouTube, while messaging services such as WhatsApp, Messenger and YouTube Kids are exempt.

Under the Australian law, the responsibility for enforcing the restrictions rests with social media companies.

Children and parents do not face penalties for violations, and parental consent cannot be used to bypass the age limit.

Despite the renewed discussion following the Prime Minister's remarks, there is no official indication that India is preparing a similar nationwide ban.

Vijayendra Slams PRC, Plans Legal Fight

Vikrama Vahini | B'luru

Karnataka BJP President B.Y. Vijayendra on Saturday announced that the party would explore legal options and submit a petition to the Governor against the State Government's decision to issue Permanent Residential Certificates (PRC), alleging that the move is unconstitutional and an attempt to encroach upon the Centre's powers.

In a statement, Vijayendra termed the PRC initiative a "devious strategy" aimed at protecting illegal immigrants and consolidating the Congress party's vote bank.

He said the BJP would soon convene a meeting of its legal team to examine the constitutional validity of the policy and determine the next

course of action.

Governor to Be Petitioned
Vijayendra said the BJP would also approach the Governor, describing him as the Constitutional Head of the State, and urge him to intervene.

He alleged that the State



Government was attempting to usurp powers that constitutionally belong to the Union Government.

Criticising the Congress, Vijayendra accused the party of adopting double standards

on issues related to citizenship. He pointed out that the Congress had opposed the National Register of Citizens (NRC) when it was proposed by the Centre but was now introducing the PRC in Karnataka.

Mojtaba Vows Revenge Against US, Israel

From PGi

Regional Security Concerns Grow: The latest exchange of threats has increased concerns among neighbouring countries and the international community over the possibility of a wider conflict in the Middle East.

Analysts are closely watching developments as both sides maintain a strong military posture.

Global Shipping Routes Under Focus: The Strait of Hormuz remains a major point of concern due to its importance for global energy supplies. Any disruption in the region could impact international trade and oil markets.

Diplomatic Efforts Continue:

Despite rising tensions, diplomatic channels remain active, with officials from both sides exploring possibilities for dialogue to prevent further escalation.

International Community Watches Closely: World leaders and security agencies are monitoring the situation, urging restraint and a peaceful resolution to avoid further instability in the region.

US-Iran Relations Remain Strained: The ongoing confrontation has further deepened tensions between Washington and Tehran, with both nations issuing warnings while facing pressure to avoid a broader military conflict.

NEWS

BWCC WARNS BULK WASTE RULE VIOLATORS

Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Bengaluru West City Corporation (BWCC) Commissioner Dr. Rajendra K.V. has directed officials to take strict action against bulk waste generators (BWGs) violating solid waste management rules and against unauthorised garbage vendors.

The directions were issued during a meeting with BWGs, Assistant General Managers (AGMs) of the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Division and marshals.

Addressing the meeting, the Commissioner said there are 1,552 registered bulk waste generators within the BWCC limits and stressed the need to identify those failing to manage waste as per regulations.

He instructed AGMs, Junior Health Inspectors (JHIs) and marshals to closely monitor compliance and encouraged Residents' Welfare Associations (RWAs) to report violations to the civic body.

Process Waste at Source

Dr. Rajendra urged bulk waste generators to process as much waste as possible within their own premises and utilise it as a resource. Where on-site processing is not feasible, waste should be handed over only to authorised agencies after paying the prescribed charges.

He said proper waste management would help convert waste into a valuable resource and



urged successful BWGs to serve as model examples. "There is no use blaming each other for the garbage problem. Systematic action is the only solution," he said.

Action Against Violators

The Commissioner directed officials to initiate action against bulk waste generators who fail to process waste scientifically or hand it over to authorised agencies. He also ordered strict action against unauthorised waste collectors operating within the city.

Transfer Stations Planned

As part of efforts to improve waste transportation, Dr. Rajendra announced that existing garbage collection lorry points would be converted into transfer stations across all Assembly constituencies under the corporation's jurisdiction. The initiative aims to ensure scientific waste transportation and prevent leachate from spilling onto roads.

Mandatory Registration and Segregation
Earlier, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) Chief Operating Officer Ramamani briefed participants on

the responsibilities of bulk waste generators under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026.

She said registration with the Central Pollution Control Board is mandatory for all bulk waste generators. Bengaluru has nearly 6,000 registered BWGs, who are required to process waste on-site. Where this is not possible, waste must be handed over only to authorised agencies.

In the West Zone, Material Solutions for Green Planet (MSGP) and Swacha Eco Solutions have been authorised for waste collection and processing.

Ramamani also emphasised that waste must be segregated into wet, dry, sanitary and special-care waste before disposal.

She warned against mixing, burning or dumping waste in open spaces, drains or water bodies, adding that compliance would be monitored through the Greater Bengaluru Authority's Command Centre.

Officials from BWCC, BSWML, authorised waste management agencies, bulk waste generators and marshals attended the meeting.

HEALTH & Lifestyle

Avoid These Post-Meal Mistakes

A balanced diet alone is not enough for good health—your habits after eating also play a crucial role in maintaining healthy digestion. Health experts say several common post-meal practices can interfere with the digestive process, leading to problems such as bloating, indigestion, acidity and acid reflux.

After a meal, the body focuses on breaking down food and absorbing nutrients. Certain activities immediately after eating can disrupt this natural process and cause discomfort. Experts recommend adopting healthy post-meal habits to improve digestion and overall well-being.

Habits to Avoid After Eating

Avoid Heavy Exercise Immediately
Intense physical activities such as running, gym workouts or strenuous exercise right after meals may lead to stomach pain, nausea and indigestion. It is advisable to wait at least 1.5 to 2 hours before exercising.

Do Not Lie Down Immediately
Sleeping soon after dinner increases the risk of acid reflux, heartburn and slower digestion. Experts recommend maintaining a gap of two to three hours between dinner and bedtime.

Avoid Drinking Excess Water
Consuming large quantities of water during or immediately after meals may cause bloating and discomfort in some people. Drinking small sips, if necessary, is considered a better option.

Stay Away from Smoking and Alcohol

Smoking or consuming alcohol after meals can impair digestion and irritate the stomach lining, increasing the risk



of digestive disorders.

Do Not Overeat

Eating beyond your body's needs can lead to gastric discomfort, heaviness, indigestion and gradual weight gain.

Healthy Habits After Meals

- **Health experts recommend a few simple practices to support digestion:**
- **Take a gentle walk for 10–15 minutes after eating.**
- **Chew food thoroughly before swallowing.**
- **Avoid sitting for long hours on mobile phones or laptops immediately after meals.**
- **Eat fruits one to two hours after meals rather than immediately.**
- **Maintain a regular meal schedule every day to support healthy digestion.**

When to Consult a Doctor

Persistent symptoms such as frequent acidity, bloating, indigestion or gastric discomfort should not be ignored. If these problems continue despite healthy eating habits, experts advise consulting a qualified doctor or gastroenterologist for proper evaluation and treatment.

This article is intended for general awareness only and should not be considered medical advice.

SCIENCE & Technology

OpenAI Shuts Down Atlas Browser

Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

OpenAI has announced that it will discontinue its standalone AI-powered browser, Atlas, from August 9, with its browsing capabilities set to be integrated into the ChatGPT desktop application for Windows and macOS.

The company said the decision is part of its broader strategy to strengthen the ChatGPT desktop experience instead of maintaining a separate browser. The move also reflects OpenAI's increasing focus on AI agents and core artificial intelligence products.

Browser Features Shift to ChatGPT

Launched last year, Atlas was designed to make web browsing more conversational by combining ChatGPT with internet search. However, it entered a highly competitive market alongside AI-powered browsers such as Microsoft Edge with Copilot, Perplexity's Comet and Brave Browser.

OpenAI said the technology developed for Atlas will continue to power new AI tools within the ChatGPT desktop app, offering users a more integrated experience.

Focus on AI Ecosystem

OpenAI developer James Sun confirmed that Atlas will cease to exist as a standalone browser from August 9. He said user feedback from Atlas played a key role in shaping the company's future AI products and browser-based AI capabilities.

Earlier this year, OpenAI had also outlined plans to develop ChatGPT into a comprehensive desktop AI platform for Windows and macOS users. The integration of Atlas features marks another step towards that vision as the company shifts its focus from standalone software to a unified AI ecosystem.

Yoga Leads to Holistic Health: Justice Dr. V. Sreeshananda

► **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**

Justice Dr. V. Sreeshananda of the Karnataka High Court said yoga is the key to achieving holistic health, emphasising that true well-being is a balance of the body, mind and soul. He was speaking as the chief guest at the International Yoga Day programme organised by the Sri Prasanna Veeranjaneeya Yoga Kendra, a wing of SPV Seva Trust, at Ravindra Kalakshetra in Bengaluru.

He said every individual has a unique physical constitution and health cannot be measured by a single standard. Referring to Ayurveda, he explained that good health depends on maintaining the balance of the three doshas—vata, pitta and kapha. Stressing the importance of yoga, he said Maharishi Patanjali had given the world a scientific system that continues to guide humanity towards physical



and mental well-being.

Padma Shri Dr. Shubha Venkatesh Iyengar Honoured

Padma Shri awardee Dr. Shubha Venkatesh Iyengar shared her journey from education to

scientific research, crediting her parents, teachers and mentors for her success. She highlighted her contributions at the National Aeronautical Laboratory (NAL), including work on the Agni missile programme, aviation



technology and scientific instruments.

She also made an emotional appeal urging people to care for their ageing parents instead of sending them to old-age homes.

Arun Yogiraj Stresses Devotion in Sculpture

Renowned sculptor Arun Yogiraj, who carved the idol installed at the Ayodhya Ram Temple, was felicitated during the event. He said sculpture requires devotion, dedication and love, not merely technical skill. He also spoke about his newly established sculpture training centre near Mysuru to encourage young artists.

Yoga Awards and Performances

The Trust honoured Virupaksha Belawadi with the 'Yoga Ratna' award and Ashoka V. with the 'Yoga Shri' award for their contributions to yoga promotion and public health awareness.

The programme featured group yoga demonstrations, individual asana performances and cultural events. More than 500 yoga practitioners, students and members of the public participated in the celebrations, organised under this year's theme, "Yoga for Healthy Ageing."

PAK WOMAN, SON HELD FOR VISA OVERSTAY

► **Vikrama Vahini | Chikkaballapur**

A Pakistani woman and her son have been arrested in Karnataka's Chikkaballapur district for allegedly staying in India after the expiry of their visas. Police are also investigating claims that the duo possessed Indian identity documents despite not being Indian citizens.

A Pakistani woman and her son were arrested in Karnataka's Chikkaballapur district for allegedly overstaying their visas. Police are also probing how the duo allegedly obtained Indian identity documents, including Aadhaar, voter ID and ration cards, despite being Pakistani nationals. The investigation is underway.

The accused, identified as Farhanaz and her son Mohammed Fardeen Khan, were arrested from Dasagarepalli village in Bagepalli taluk. A case has

been registered against them for allegedly remaining in the country without valid travel documents after their visa period ended.

According to the preliminary investigation, Farhanaz had married Ayub Khan, a resident of Dasagarepalli village.

The couple has two children, and police confirmed that Mohammed Fardeen Khan, who was also arrested, is among them. Investigators said both Farhanaz and her son are Pakistani nationals.

Police are verifying the authenticity of identity documents allegedly issued in their names, including Aadhaar cards, ration cards, voter identity cards and bank account records.

Police said the visas of Farhanaz and her children had expired, but they continued to stay in India. Officials added that the visas were not renewed following Operation Sindoor, leading to a complaint over their alleged illegal stay.

Yogi Alleges Temple Funds Misused

► **Vikrama Vahini | Lucknow**

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday accused the Samajwadi Party of misusing temple donations during its tenure, alleging that funds offered by devotees were used for the construction of mosque walls.

Addressing a public meeting in Ayodhya, Yogi also criticised the Congress and the Samajwadi Party, claiming they had opposed the development of Ayodhya and questioned Lord Ram's legacy. Referring to an alleged attempt to offer namaz near the Hanumanagarhi temple in 2003, he questioned why such an act was permitted and accused the previous SP government of appeasing particular communities.

Jaipur Murder Case Takes Shocking Turn

The Jaipur murder case has taken a dramatic turn, with the woman accused of plotting her mother's killing now facing allegations over her father's death as well. Police are probing claims that both deaths were linked to a conspiracy to secure a government job and gain control of the family's property.

► **Vikrama Vahini | Jaipur**

A fresh twist has emerged in the Jaipur murder case, with the woman arrested for allegedly plotting her mother's murder now facing allegations linked to her father's death. Police have begun examining the new claims while continuing their investigation into the murder conspiracy.

Ayushi, a final-year LLB student, was arrested for allegedly masterminding the killing of her mother, Neeraj Sharma, who died after being struck by an SUV on July 3. Investigators allege that she, along with her cousin Balram, hired contract killers for ₹7 lakh to stage the murder as a road accident.

According to police, the alleged motive was to secure her mother's government job on



compassionate grounds and gain control of the family's property. Neeraj Sharma was working as a clerk in a Jaipur court after being appointed on compassionate grounds following the death of her husband, Vijay Sharma, a court master.

The accused's maternal uncle, Rakesh Sharma, has now alleged that Ayushi and her cousin kept

Vijay Sharma away from relatives after he suffered a brain stroke. He claimed they admitted him to a hospital without informing the family and concealed his treatment for nearly three months.

Rakesh further alleged that after Vijay Sharma returned home in a critical condition, Ayushi removed his feeding tube, leading to his death. Police are questioning the accused and verifying these allegations as part of the ongoing investigation.

Police said Balram remains absconding, while his father, Mohan, has also been named as an alleged conspirator. Investigators suspect the trio planned to divide the family's property after the deaths.

ENTERTAINMENT

'Lenin' Gives Akhil Career-Best Opening

► **Vikrama Vahini | Hyderabad**

Akhil Akkineni's latest film 'Lenin' has recorded the biggest opening of his career, marking a significant milestone for the young actor. The rural action drama, directed by Murali Kishor Abburi, released in theatres on July 10 and opened to a strong response at the box office despite receiving mixed reviews from critics.

According to the film's production house, Sithara Entertainments, 'Lenin' grossed ₹16.7 crore worldwide on its opening day, making it Akhil's highest-ever Day 1 collection.

Announcing the achievement on social media, the production banner described the film's opening as a grand success and thanked Telugu audiences for their overwhelming support.

Trade Estimates Differ

Trade tracker Sacnilk, however, reported lower figures. The portal estimated that the film earned ₹5.90 crore net and ₹6.73 crore gross in India on its opening day. Including an estimated ₹3 crore from overseas markets, the worldwide gross was placed at around ₹9.73 crore.

If the figures released by the production house are considered, Lenin has surpassed the ₹13 crore worldwide opening of Akhil's debut film Akhil: The Power of Jua (2015), making it the biggest opening of his acting career. His previous releases, Agent (2023) and Mr. Majnu (2019), reportedly opened with worldwide collections of ₹8.14 crore and ₹7 crore, respectively.

Emotional Celebration

Following the impressive opening, Akhil celebrated the success with his family and the film's team at Annapurna Studios in Hyderabad.

Videos from the celebration showed veteran actor Nagarjuna cutting a cake before Akhil, visibly emotional, touched his father's feet and embraced him.

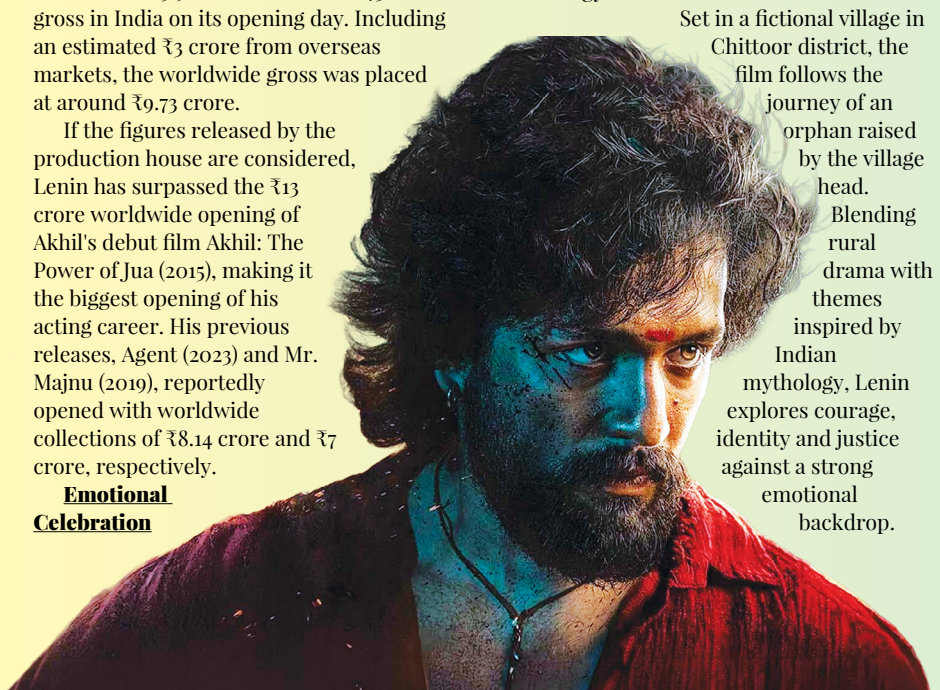
The actor was seen wiping away tears and thanking Nagarjuna for his constant support throughout his career. The heartfelt father-son moment quickly gained attention on social media.

The makers also organised a success meet in Hyderabad, where the cast and crew expressed gratitude to audiences for their support and positive response to the film.

About the Film

Produced by Nagarjuna under Annapurna Studios in association with Sithara Entertainments, Lenin stars Akhil Akkineni and Bhagyashree Borse in the lead roles.

Set in a fictional village in Chittoor district, the film follows the journey of an orphan raised by the village head. Blending rural drama with themes inspired by Indian mythology, Lenin explores courage, identity and justice against a strong emotional backdrop.



'Jana Nayagan' UK Bookings Boom

► **Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi**

Advance bookings for actor Vijay's much-awaited film Jana Nayagan have opened in the United Kingdom, receiving an overwhelming response from fans ahead of its worldwide release on July 24.

UK distributor Ahimsa Entertainment announced that the film had secured a large number of shows across Cineworld cinemas and claimed that thousands of tickets were sold within the first 60 minutes of bookings opening. Describing the response as "unbelievable", the distributor called on fans to make the release the biggest send-off for Vijay, whose film is widely expected to be his last before entering full-time politics.

CBFC Clears Film

The strong overseas response comes after the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) cleared the film for release following months of delay. Initially scheduled for release in January, the film was referred to the revising committee after objections were raised during the certification process and reportedly underwent several modifications before receiving an 'A' certificate.

Production house KVN Productions confirmed the certification and announced that the film is ready for release.

Star-Studded Cast

Directed by H. Vinoth, Jana Nayagan features Vijay alongside Pooja Hegde, Bobby Deol, Mamitha Baiju, Gautham Vasudev Menon, Prakash Raj, Narain and Priyamani. The film is reportedly inspired by the 2023 Telugu blockbuster Bhagavanth Kesari.

Advance bookings in India and other overseas markets are expected to begin shortly.

The film has generated tremendous anticipation among Vijay's fans, with trade



analysts expecting it to register one of the biggest overseas openings for a Tamil film this year. The strong response in the UK is seen as an indication of robust advance booking trends in other international markets as well.

Jana Nayagan is particularly significant as it is widely regarded as Vijay's final film before he makes a full-fledged entry into politics.

The actor recently announced his political plans, making the release an emotional occasion for his fans, who are expected to turn out in large numbers for the film's opening weekend.

Industry observers believe the film's box office performance will depend on both strong fan support and positive word-of-mouth after release.

With advance bookings expected to begin soon in India, distributors are optimistic that Jana Nayagan will open to packed theatres across domestic and overseas markets.

BUSINESS

SBI FUND IPO SEES STRONG GREY MARKET BUZZ

► **Vikrama Vahini | Kolkata**

The much-awaited SBI Funds Management IPO, the largest public issue of 2026 so far, has generated strong interest ahead of its opening on July 14, with the grey market indicating a healthy premium. The company has fixed the price band at ₹345-₹374 per share, while the grey market premium (GMP) was reported at around ₹117, suggesting an estimated listing price of about ₹691. However, market experts caution that the GMP is only an unofficial indicator and does not guarantee listing gains.

₹11,693-Crore Offer

The IPO aims to raise ₹11,693 crore through an Offer for Sale (OFS) of over 20.37 crore equity shares by promoters State Bank of India (SBI) and Amundi India Holding. The issue will remain open for subscription from July 14 to July 16.

Reservation for Investors

As per the prospectus, 50% of the issue has been reserved for Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs), 35% for retail investors and 15% for non-institutional investors.

The company has also reserved 1.3 crore shares for eligible SBI shareholders. Investors who held SBI shares on July 8 are eligible to apply under this category. Additionally, shares worth ₹170 crore have been reserved for eligible employees, who will receive a ₹34 per share discount.

India's Largest Asset Manager

Established in 1992, SBI Funds Management is India's largest asset management company and a joint venture between State Bank of India and Amundi. As of 2025, the company managed assets worth ₹16.32 lakh crore, accounting for nearly 15.5% of the country's mutual fund assets under management. According to the IPO schedule, share allotment is expected on July 17, while the company's shares are proposed to be listed on the stock exchanges on July 21.

The IPO is expected to attract strong participation from both institutional and retail investors, given SBI Funds Management's dominant position in India's mutual fund industry. Analysts believe the issue will be closely watched as a key indicator of investor sentiment in the primary market.

SPORTS

India Take 115-Run Lead

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | London**

India Women gained a strong advantage in the historic Lord's Test against England after bowling out the hosts for 170 runs, securing a crucial 115-run first-innings lead. The impressive bowling performance was led by Kranti Gaud, who claimed a five-wicket haul to put India in a commanding position.

After scoring 285 runs in their first innings, India restricted England's batting line-up on the second day of the Test. Amy Jones top-scored for England with a fighting 52-run knock, while captain Nat Sciver-Brunt contributed 44 runs.

Kranti Gaud Creates History

Kranti Gaud was the star performer for India, taking five wickets in the innings. She became the first woman bowler to claim a five-wicket haul in a Test innings at Lord's. She also became the youngest Indian bowler to take five wickets in a Test match at the age of 22 years and 333 days.

England Collapse After Brief Recovery

England began the second day at 22 for one after India had been bowled out for 285 on the opening day. India's bowlers quickly put pressure on the hosts, reducing them to 40 for five.

However, Nat Sciver-Brunt and Amy Jones steadied England's innings with an 84-run partnership, taking the score from 47 for four to 131. Spinner Sneha Rana broke the crucial stand, after which England lost their remaining wickets for just 40 runs.

India in Strong Position

With a significant first-innings lead and momentum on their side, India Women are now in a strong position to push for a memorable victory at the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground.

Smriti Creates History at Lord's

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | London**

Indian star batter Smriti Mandhana created history at the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground by becoming the youngest woman cricketer to complete 300 international appearances during the ongoing Test match against England Women.

Mandhana reached the milestone at the age of 29 years and 357 days, breaking South Africa's Sune Luus' previous record of being the youngest player to play 300 international matches. Luus had achieved the feat at 30 years and 163 days.

Batting first after England opted to bowl, India were bowled out for 285 runs on the opening day. Mandhana played a crucial knock of 83 runs off 108 balls, becoming the first woman batter to score a half-century in an international match at the historic Lord's ground.

With this achievement, Mandhana added another milestone to her remarkable international career and further strengthened her position among the leading names in women's cricket.

The landmark performance highlighted Mandhana's consistency and impact on the global women's cricket stage.

INDIA, NZ FORGE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | Auckland**

India and New Zealand on Saturday elevated their bilateral ties to a Strategic Partnership, unveiling the Roadmap to 2030 aimed at expanding cooperation in trade, defence, maritime security, agriculture, education, technology and regional affairs.

The announcement came during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's official visit to Auckland, the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to New Zealand in 40 years.

Modi held wide-ranging talks with New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, with both leaders committing to stronger political and economic engagement.

A key outcome of the visit was the conclusion of the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement, with both countries setting



a target of doubling bilateral trade to NZ\$7 billion by 2030.

The two nations also agreed to enhance defence and maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific through naval exercises, logistics support, hydrography and an annual Maritime Security Dialogue.

Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment

to combating terrorism, cybercrime and organised crime, while strengthening cooperation in agriculture, education, climate resilience, research and emerging technologies.

On global issues, India and New Zealand reiterated support for a free and open Indo-Pacific, reforms of the UN Security Council and peaceful resolution of international conflicts.

New Zealand also reaffirmed its support for India's permanent membership in a reformed UN Security Council.

Prime Minister Modi thanked the New Zealand government for its hospitality and invited Prime Minister Christopher Luxon to visit India, with both leaders agreeing to ensure timely implementation of the Roadmap to 2030.

Conductor Asks Minister Off Bus Over Change

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**

Karnataka Transport Minister Byrathi Suresh conducted a surprise inspection of Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMT) services by travelling in more than 10 buses for nearly two hours on Saturday night.

Wearing a mask to avoid being recognised, the Minister travelled from Jayamahal to several parts of the city, including TV Tower, RT Nagar, CBI Road, Hebbal, Bhoopasandra, Manyata Tech Park, Nagavara, Hennur and surrounding areas, to personally review passenger experiences and bus services.

During the journey between 7.10 pm and 9.10 pm, Suresh purchased regular tickets and interacted with passengers to understand issues related to BMT operations.

During the inspection, the Minister noticed that a BMT bus bearing registration number KA 57 F 3372 failed to stop at Fun World bus stop despite a passenger signalling the driver. He directed officials to suspend the conductor Dayanand and driver Mustak for negligence.

In another incident, while travelling from



Hebbal towards Nagashettihalli, the Minister boarded a bus and offered a ₹100 note for two tickets. When the conductor asked for change, Suresh said he did not have any. The conductor informed him that he had no change and asked him to get down from the bus.

Hubballi Minor Birth Case Under Probe

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | Hubballi**

A 14-year-old girl who delivered a baby at her home has been admitted to the Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) in Hubballi, prompting a police investigation into the circumstances surrounding the case.

The minor, aged 14 years and three months, was admitted to the hospital's Nirbhaya Ward on July 8 after being referred for specialised medical treatment. According to hospital authorities, she had delivered the baby at her residence before being brought to KIMS.



Doctors said both the minor mother and the newborn are in stable condition and are receiving the required medical care.

Hospital Raises Concern

KIMS Assistant Medical Superintendent Dr. Rajshekhar Dyaberi said the hospital was not informed in advance about the girl's

A 14-year-old girl who delivered a baby at her residence has been admitted to KIMS Hubballi, with both mother and newborn reported stable. Police have launched an investigation after hospital authorities flagged concerns over the minor's pregnancy and home delivery.

pregnancy or home delivery. Officials also noted that no family members were staying with the minor during her treatment, raising further concerns about the case.

Police Begin Investigation

Following mandatory legal procedures in cases involving minors, KIMS authorities informed

the police about the incident.

Police have registered the case and launched an investigation to determine the circumstances that led to the girl's pregnancy and home delivery. Officials said further legal action will be taken based on the findings of the investigation.

Indian-Origin Techie Killed in Georgia

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | Washington**

An Indian-origin technology professional was allegedly shot dead by her husband following a domestic dispute in Georgia, United States.

The victim, identified as Sheetal Vrijesjan, was a senior engineering leader at Google and a Georgia Institute of Technology alumna. Police said her husband, 56-year-old Kirk B. Vrijesjan, also shot their 23-year-old son during the incident.

The injured son reportedly sought help from neighbours in the Laurel Creek Trail area before being taken for medical treatment.

Police arrested Kirk and charged him with murder and two counts of aggravated assault. He is currently being held at the Cobb County Adult Detention Centre.

Sheetal had more than two decades of experience in the technology sector, having worked in various engineering roles across leading organisations.

She grew up in England, India and Ghana before moving to the US to pursue a degree in Computer Science from Georgia Tech.

Centre Slashes Prices of 39 Essential Drugs



➤ **Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi**

The Central Government has announced a major relief for patients by reducing the prices of 39 essential medicines used for treating chronic and critical health conditions.

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has issued an order fixing the revised prices of medicines used for ailments such as diabetes, blood pressure, infections, eye disorders, respiratory diseases and other long-term illnesses.

The authority has directed pharmaceutical companies and sellers not to charge more than the revised prices.

Those found selling medicines above the approved rates will be required to refund the excess amount with interest and may face action under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 and the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Ram Temple Trust to Get New CEO

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | Ayodhya**

Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple Construction Committee Chairman Nripendra Mishra on Saturday announced that a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will be appointed for the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, even as he described the alleged theft of temple offerings as a "stigma" and assured stricter management measures.

Speaking to reporters in Ayodhya, Mishra said the alleged incident had caused deep disappointment and embarrassment.

"We are saddened by the incident and feel humiliated. The system will be strengthened to ensure that such incidents do not happen again," he said.

Committee to Recommend CEO

Mishra said a high-level committee has been constituted to recommend a



suitable candidate for the post of CEO. The panel is likely to be headed by a retired judge, and its recommendations will be placed before the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust for a final decision.

Construction Work Nears Completion

Clarifying the agenda of the Temple Construction Committee meeting, Mishra said the discussions would focus only on construction-related matters and review the progress of the remaining work with implementing agencies.

He expressed confidence that the remaining construction work at the Ram Temple complex would be completed by July 20, adding that continuous monitoring was being carried out to ensure quality and timely execution.

Political War of Posters

Meanwhile, the alleged theft of temple offerings triggered a political exchange in Uttar Pradesh.

Supporters of Samajwadi Party leader Upendra Dutt Shukla put up posters in Gorakhpur criticising the alleged theft and questioning the management of temple donations.

In response, Rahul Singh, National General Secretary of the Vishwa Hindu Raksha Parishad (VHP), displayed counter-posters in Rae Bareilly defending the temple trust and accusing the Samajwadi Party of politicising the issue.

NEET Leak Case: 13 Held Till July 24

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi**

The Rouse Avenue Court in Delhi has extended the judicial custody of 13 accused in the NEET-UG question paper leak case till July 24. The CBI had sought a 14-day extension, stating that the investigation was still underway and more arrests were possible. The accused appeared before the court through video conference from jail.

The NEET-UG exam held on May 3 was cancelled following allegations of paper leakage, and the case was handed over to the CBI. A re-examination was later conducted across the country on June 21 under strict security arrangements. The court extended the custody of the accused following the CBI's submission that several aspects of the case were still under investigation.

Officials said efforts were underway to trace other individuals who may be involved in the alleged leak.

The NEET-UG paper leak case had triggered nationwide concern among students and parents, leading to demands for a thorough probe and stricter measures to ensure transparency in competitive examinations.

VIKRAMA VAHINI | INFO GRAPHICS

INS MAHENDRAGIRI:
INDIA'S NEW
MARITIME GUARDIAN

INS Mahendragiri, the sixth Project 17A Nilgiri-class stealth frigate, has been commissioned into the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet. Built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders with over 75% indigenous content, the advanced warship strengthens India's maritime capabilities, defence self-reliance and operational readiness with cutting-edge weapons, sensors and multi-domain warfare capabilities.

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INS DUNAGIRI
COMMISSIONED
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INS MAHENDRAGIRI
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