

Samantha Ruth Prabhu's blockbuster Maa Inti Bangaaram is set to stream on JioHotstar from July 17 after creating history as the first female-led Telugu film to cross ₹100 crore at the worldwide box office.

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has announced revised donor privilege norms for devotees contributing to various TTD trusts and schemes.

## Good morning

Never stop doing small things for others. Sometimes those little things occupy the biggest part of their hearts.

## BRIEFS

### B'luru Eateries Get Late-Night FIFA Extension

► **Vikrama Vahini | B'luru**  
The Karnataka government has allowed restaurants, hotels, cafés and other food establishments in Bengaluru to remain open until 3.30 am on July 14, 15 and 19 to enable football fans to watch late-night FIFA World Cup matches. The temporary relaxation was announced after a request from the National Restaurant Association of India, citing high public interest in the tournament. Chief Minister D K Shivakumar said the move would help fans enjoy the matches while also boosting the city's hospitality sector. The extension, issued under the Karnataka Police Act, is a one-time measure and will not change regular operating hours on other days.



### Governor Returns Zameer Prosecution Plea

► **Vikrama Vahini | B'luru**  
Karnataka Governor Thaaawar Chand Gehlot has returned the Lokayukta's request seeking sanction to prosecute former Housing Minister B Z Zameer Ahmed Khan in a disproportionate assets case, asking for an authenticated English translation of the investigation records. Raj Bhavan sources said most documents and the investigation report were in Kannada, making translation necessary before the Governor could examine the prosecution request. The Lokayukta had sought permission to prosecute Zameer in a DA case related to the period 2005–2018, involving alleged assets worth around ₹25 crore linked to the IMA scam. The sanction process is expected to be delayed until the translated documents are resubmitted.

### Tiger Hunt Stuns Bandipur Tourists

► **Vikrama Vahini | Chamarajanagar**  
Safari tourists at Bandipur Tiger Reserve witnessed a rare wildlife moment on Tuesday when a tiger was seen hunting and feeding on a wild gaur in the Gundlupet range. Videos of the incident captured by visitors went viral on social media. Meanwhile, a separate tiger attack on a cow near Vadeyanapura village in the reserve's buffer zone has raised concerns among villagers. Farmers have urged the Forest Department to increase surveillance and take steps to prevent further human-wildlife conflicts. The incident highlighted both Bandipur's thriving tiger population and the growing challenge of managing human-wildlife conflicts near forest fringes.

## ₹120-Crore Adichunchanagiri Mutt Land Scam Busted

► **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**  
Bengaluru police have uncovered an alleged ₹120-crore land-grabbing racket involving the illegal takeover of six acres of land belonging to Sri Adichunchanagiri Mahasamsthana Math using forged documents and fake revenue records. Eleven people, including six Revenue Department officials, have been arrested in connection with the case, while the alleged mastermind Naresh Gowda from Nelamangala is absconding. According to police, the accused allegedly created fake family trees, fabricated revenue documents and misused the identities of deceased



persons to claim ownership of the prime property

located at Kambalipura village in Bengaluru South taluk. The land was part of a 45-acre property donated to the Math by devotees nearly three decades ago. Investigators alleged that the accused obtained forged genealogy records, fake loan documents and other papers before allegedly influencing officials in the Revenue Department to approve fraudulent entries. The officials are accused of facilitating fake mutation records and helping transfer ownership of the land despite the documents being allegedly fabricated. Police said the syndicate allegedly used the forged records to obtain court orders, transfer the

property in their names and later sell it to another party, causing an estimated loss of ₹120 crore. The arrested accused include land brokers, a rowdy-sheeter, private individuals and Revenue Department officials such as village accountants, revenue inspectors and deputy tahsildars. Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-West) Anita Haddannavar said the case revealed a well-planned conspiracy involving forged documents and possible involvement of a larger land mafia network operating around Bengaluru. Police are continuing the investigation and are searching for the absconding accused, with more arrests expected.

## Bidadi Row: Farmers Warn Statewide Stir

► **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**  
A coalition of Karnataka farmer organisations has warned the state government of a statewide protest if it proceeds with forcible land acquisition for the proposed Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township (GBIT) project in Bidadi. The Samyukta Horata-Karnataka, a joint platform of farmer, Dalit, labour, student, youth and women's organisations, accused the government of attempting to conduct a joint land measurement and survey (JMC) under heavy police protection despite opposition from landowners. **Farmers Oppose Land Acquisition** The organisations said farmers have been protesting against the township project for more than 18 months and have made it clear that they will neither sell their land nor allow its acquisition. They alleged that the government had assured farmers of a meeting with Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, but instead proceeded with the survey, calling it a "breach of trust."



**Farmer organisations in Karnataka have warned of a statewide agitation against the proposed Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township (GBIT) project in Bidadi, alleging forced land acquisition attempts. The groups have demanded withdrawal of the project, citing threats to fertile agricultural land and farmers' livelihoods.**

Farmer groups urged the government to withdraw the GBIT proposal, stating that the project would

affect fertile irrigated agricultural land and impact the livelihoods of hundreds of farming families dependent on multi-crop cultivation. They warned that any attempt at forced acquisition would turn the Bidadi farmers' protest into a statewide movement involving farmers from across Karnataka. **Appeal for Peaceful Protest** The organisations blamed the government's approach for escalating tensions during Monday's confrontation between farmers and officials over survey activities. They appealed to farmers to maintain peace and continue their protest through democratic means. The statement was issued by leaders of various farmer organisations, including Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha and Hasiru Sene. The farmer groups urged the government to hold discussions with affected landowners and resolve the issue through dialogue. They warned that any move against the wishes of farmers could intensify the agitation across the state.

## NIA COURT ISSUES WARRANT AGAINST HAFIZ SAEED

► **Vikrama Vahini | Jammu**  
A special NIA court in Jammu has issued a non-bailable warrant against Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) founder Hafiz Muhammad Saeed in connection with the Pahalgam terror attack case. The order was passed after the National Investigation Agency (NIA) filed a supplementary chargesheet against Saeed, accusing him of involvement in the terror conspiracy. The court noted that the accused was allegedly evading arrest and that his custody was required for a fair and effective investigation. Saeed, a designated terrorist under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), has been charged under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and UAPA, including charges related to waging war against India and cross-border conspiracy.



A special NIA court in Jammu has issued a non-bailable warrant against Lashkar-e-Taiba founder Hafiz Muhammad Saeed in connection with the Pahalgam terror attack case. The NIA has accused him of involvement in cross-border terror conspiracy and filed a supplementary chargesheet against him. The NIA has accused him of acting as the chief of the banned LeT and its proxy outfit The Resistance Front (TRF). The case was initially registered by Jammu and Kashmir Police before being transferred to the NIA for further investigation.

## Buddhism Inclusion Proposed in Karnataka Anthem

► **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**  
A government-appointed committee has recommended a significant revision to Karnataka's state anthem "Jaya Bharata Jananiya Tanujate" by adding a reference to Buddhism in the iconic composition written by Rashtrakavi Kuvempu. The recommendation was submitted to the Karnataka government by a committee headed by Kannada Development Authority Chairman Prof. Purushottam Bilimale. **Proposal to Modify Existing Line** The committee has suggested changing the existing reference to Jainism in the anthem to also acknowledge Buddhism. It has proposed modifying the line "Jainara Pujya Udyana" to include Buddhism, citing the religion's deep historical connection with Karnataka. The panel said the change would promote greater religious inclusivity and reflect the state's diverse cultural and spiritual heritage.

## Kharg Island: Next US-Iran Flashpoint?

► **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**  
Iran's key oil export hub Kharg Island could emerge as the next major flashpoint in the ongoing US-Iran confrontation, defence analyst G Singh has warned, saying any attack on the strategic facility could have serious global economic consequences. Singh said the failure of a 40-day understanding between Washington and Tehran to achieve a peace agreement has pushed the conflict into a new phase, with strategic economic targets potentially coming under focus. **Oil Infrastructure May Become Target** According to Singh, the US could shift its focus from conventional military targets to Iran's oil infrastructure as part of efforts to increase economic



pressure on Tehran. "Kharg Island could become a major target if reducing Iran's oil export capacity becomes a strategic objective," he said. Kharg Island, located in the Persian Gulf, is Iran's main crude oil export terminal and a major source of government revenue. **Global Oil Markets at Risk** Singh said any attack on the facility could impact global energy markets, with oil prices likely to rise due to concerns over supply disruptions.

## IB Flags Marriage Trap Plot

► **Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi**  
The Intelligence Bureau (IB) has warned that Jamaat-ul-Mominat (JuM), the women's wing of the Pakistan-based terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), is allegedly using online marriage traps to recruit Indian women for espionage and expanding its terror network. According to intelligence inputs, the group targets vulnerable women through social media and online platforms, particularly in border areas, before luring them to Pakistan. **Online Grooming and Radicalisation** The IB said Jaish operatives allegedly use young men to befriend Indian women online, building relationships over several months before proposing marriage. After the women travel to Pakistan, they are reportedly subjected to radicalisation and



**The Intelligence Bureau has warned that Pakistan-based terror-linked networks are allegedly targeting vulnerable Indian women through online relationships and marriage proposals to expand their operations. Officials say border states, especially Rajasthan, have emerged as a focus area, with agencies monitoring suspicious online activities and urging citizens to remain cautious.**

indoctrination before being assigned specific tasks. Officials said some women are allegedly sent back to India to gather information on sensitive locations, while others are tasked with recruiting more women and youth into the network. **Focus Shifts to Rajasthan** Intelligence agencies have observed that the terror group's activities, once concentrated in Jammu and Kashmir, have now expanded towards

Rajasthan, which shares a 1,070-km international border with Pakistan. Officials said several women from border districts have come under the radar after increased online contact with suspected ISI-backed handlers. **Vulnerable Women Targeted** According to the IB, women with weak family support, social isolation or personal vulnerabilities are more likely to be targeted. During the initial months of communication, the handlers avoid

discussing sensitive issues, making the relationship appear genuine before introducing marriage proposals. **Multiple Entry Routes Used** Officials said recruits are encouraged to obtain valid passports and, wherever possible, enter Pakistan through the Rajasthan border. If that is not feasible, alternative routes through Nepal or Saudi Arabia are reportedly used with logistical support from handlers. The IB has advised citizens, particularly women using social media and online matrimonial platforms, to remain vigilant against suspicious contacts and report any doubtful approaches to security agencies. The warning highlights the growing use of digital platforms by terror networks to exploit emotional relationships for recruitment and intelligence gathering.

Editorial

Restore KPSC's Credibility

The Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC), the constitutional body entrusted with recruiting the state's civil servants, has long been mired in controversy rather than celebrated for its integrity. Allegations of corruption, favouritism, political interference, and irregularities have repeatedly overshadowed its primary responsibility of selecting the most deserving candidates. For thousands of young aspirants who invest years of hard work and hope in securing government employment, every scandal weakens confidence in the fairness of the recruitment process. The recent dismissal of the KPSC Chairperson and the appointment of an interim head underline the seriousness of the crisis. However, replacing individuals without addressing systemic flaws will only offer temporary relief. The credibility of a public institution cannot be restored through administrative reshuffles alone; it demands comprehensive institutional reforms.

Successive governments, irrespective of political affiliation, have failed to insulate the KPSC from undue influence. The persistence of allegations across different administrations points to a structural problem rather than an isolated lapse. Delayed recruitments, opaque procedures, and recurring controversies have damaged not only the Commission's reputation but also public faith in governance itself. The government must ensure that every allegation is investigated impartially, the guilty are held accountable, and recruitment processes are made fully transparent through technology-driven systems, independent audits, and strict oversight. Merit must not merely be promised; it must be demonstrably protected.

The time has come to rebuild the KPSC as an independent and professionally managed institution. Its leadership should comprise individuals of impeccable integrity, such as retired judges, eminent administrators, and distinguished public servants, selected through a transparent and bipartisan process. Political interference in appointments and recruitment must end if the Commission is to regain public trust. Strengthening the KPSC is not simply about reforming one constitutional body; it is about safeguarding equal opportunity, protecting the aspirations of millions of young people, and reinforcing the foundations of democratic governance. A credible recruitment system is indispensable to an efficient administration. By undertaking bold and lasting reforms, the Karnataka government has an opportunity to transform the KPSC from a symbol of controversy into a benchmark of transparency, accountability, and public confidence.

-Editor

# SIR DRIVE GETS RWA SUPPORT PUSH

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**

Bengaluru South Additional District Election Officer K.N. Ramesh on Tuesday held a consultation meeting with representatives of recognised political parties on the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and said 76.64 per cent of voter enumeration forms have been distributed so far.

Addressing the meeting at the Corporation Hall, Ramesh sought cooperation from political parties to ensure the timely completion of the voter list revision exercise. He urged all parties to actively involve their Booth Level Agents (BLAs) in assisting Booth Level Officers (BLOs) with the distribution and collection of enumeration forms.

**RWA Representatives to Assist BLOs**

Ramesh also held a meeting with office-bearers of apartment associations and instructed them to appoint one or two



Resident Welfare Association (RWA) representatives in every apartment complex. These representatives will assist BLOs in verifying voter details and collecting completed enumeration forms. He said BLOs, along with officials from various government departments, including the Health Department, will visit every

household to help citizens verify their names in the electoral roll and complete the required documentation.

**Three Ways to Add Names**

The election officer explained that eligible citizens can include their names in the electoral roll by submitting Form-6 with the required documents.

Those whose relatives were listed in the 2002 electoral roll can provide those details, while voters already included in the 2002 roll can use those records to add their names to the SIR draft electoral roll.

He also clarified that even after the publication of the draft electoral roll, eligible voters whose names are missing can still apply for inclusion by submitting a fresh Form-6 along with supporting documents.

Additional Commissioner M. Rachappa, Tahsildar Rashmi, and representatives of various recognised political parties attended the meeting.

# 12-Hour Cauvery Water Supply Halt

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**

The Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has announced that Cauvery water supply will be disrupted in several parts of the city on Thursday, July 16, due to emergency maintenance work on the Cauvery Water Supply Stage IV, Phase II pipeline.

According to the BWSSB, emergency repairs will be carried out to arrest leakage in the scour valve of the 2,700 mm diameter pipeline. To facilitate the work, pumping stations under the project will remain shut from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., resulting in a 12-hour interruption in water supply to areas covered under Cauvery Water Supply Stage IV, Phase II.

BWSSB said normal water supply will resume after the completion of the repair works and restoration of pumping operations. The Board has also appealed to the public to use water judiciously during the temporary disruption.

# Kharg Island: Next US-Iran Flashpoint?

➤ **From PGi**

The Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz are among the world's most important energy routes, and any escalation in the region could affect shipping and oil supplies.

**Impact on India**

As one of the world's largest oil importers, India could face economic challenges if Gulf supplies are disrupted. Higher crude prices could lead to increased fuel costs, inflationary pressure and a larger import bill.

**Iran's Military Capability Weakened**

Singh said continued strikes have affected Iran's military capabilities, including naval strength, air power and drone and missile systems. However, he warned that any move against Kharg Island could trigger a wider regional crisis with consequences beyond Iran.

"Any action against Kharg will have consequences far beyond Iran and could impact the global economy," Singh said. Singh noted that Kharg Island's strategic importance extends beyond oil exports, as it provides Iran with influence over maritime activity in the Persian Gulf. Any disruption to the facility could weaken Tehran's economic position and limit its ability to project power in the region.

Analysts believe that a possible escalation around Kharg Island could increase uncertainty in global energy markets, with countries dependent on Gulf oil closely monitoring developments.

# BNCC Speeds Up Dog Sterilisation Drive

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**

The Bengaluru North City Corporation (BNCC) on Monday reviewed the progress of its Animal Birth Control (ABC) Programme, with Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar directing officials to maintain the pace of sterilisation while ensuring both animal welfare and public safety.

Chairing the review meeting, the Commissioner said 1,075 dogs were sterilised in Zone-2 during June and appreciated the efforts of officials. He noted that existing facilities can accommodate 123 dogs in Dasarahalli Division and 240 dogs in Yeshwanthpur at a time, adding that carrying out 40 to 50 sterilisation surgeries daily would help achieve programme targets faster.

**Public Safety a Priority**

Sunil Kumar said constructive suggestions from citizens and animal welfare activists would be welcomed, but warned that any attempt to obstruct officials or interfere with the implementation of the programme would invite legal action.

**More Facilities Planned**

The meeting discussed establishing an additional animal disposal facility and strengthening systems for animal disposal and



designated dog-feeding spots in accordance with Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) guidelines. Officials were instructed to maintain records of operational challenges and incidents of obstruction during implementation.

**Regulated Dog Feeding**

He said designated dog-feeding spots would be approved only after scientific assessment and site inspection. Dog feeders will have to submit applications and affidavits, and they will be held accountable if approved feeding locations create public inconvenience or safety concerns. Joint Commissioner Mohammed Nayeem Momin, Veterinary Department officials and staff associated with the ABC programme attended the meeting.

# Buddhism Inclusion Proposed in Karnataka Anthem

➤ **From PGi**

**Government to Take Final Decision**

The committee stated that the proposed revision aims to recognise the contributions of various faiths to Karnataka's civilisation while preserving the original spirit of Kuvempu's work.

The final decision on the recommendation rests with the state government. If approved, the revised anthem would be used in schools, colleges and official government programmes across Karnataka.

**Historic Cultural Symbol**

"Jaya Bharata Jananiya Tanujate" is one of Karnataka's most celebrated cultural symbols and is performed at official functions and public events.

The proposed change would mark the first textual revision to the state anthem since its official adoption.

# Bidadi Row: HDK Dares Govt to Book Him

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi**

*Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy on Tuesday strongly criticised the Karnataka government over the registration of FIRs against farmers protesting the proposed Bidadi Township Project, alleging that the cases were politically motivated and based on fabricated complaints. He announced that he would visit Mandahalli on July 16 and challenged the government to name him as Accused No. 1 if it believed he had instigated the agitation.*

**Challenges Government Over FIRs**

*Kumaraswamy questioned the credibility of*

*the complainants, alleging that one of the complaints was filed by a private driver with no connection to Mandahalli. He claimed the FIRs appeared to be "copy-and-paste" complaints prepared to falsely implicate protesting farmers, including women.*

*He alleged that some of those named in the FIRs were not even present at the protest site and said the government was attempting to portray innocent farmers as criminals.*

**Backs Farmers' Agitation**

*The Union Minister urged farmers to*



*continue their protest peacefully, assuring them of legal support. He accused the state government of trying to forcibly acquire fertile agricultural land despite widespread opposition and warned that intimidation through criminal cases would not succeed.*

*Kumaraswamy also demanded that the government disclose how many landowners had agreed to surrender land, how many had opposed the acquisition and the total extent of land proposed for the township.*

**Raises NICE Project Issue**

*Referring to the long-pending NICE Road Project, Kumaraswamy alleged that thousands of farmers who had surrendered land nearly three decades ago were still awaiting the developed sites promised to them. He claimed that while a few individuals received No Objection Certificates (NOCs), many affected farmers were left without compensation or rehabilitation.*

*Warning farmers against accepting similar assurances under the proposed Bidadi Township Project, he alleged that the government was repeating past mistakes and urged it to abandon the project.*

NEWS

India Blames Pakistan for PoK Unrest

➤ **From PGi**

Jaiswal said India has consistently highlighted the plight of people living in Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir and called for their rights and welfare to be protected. He reiterated that the region remains under Pakistan's illegal occupation and that the concerns

of the local population cannot be ignored. The MEA spokesperson also urged Pakistan to stop suppressing peaceful voices and address the grievances of the people through dialogue instead of force. He said the responsibility for the unrest lies with Pakistan's policies and governance in the region.

The developments come amid continued protests in parts of PoK, where demonstrators have raised concerns over economic hardships, governance issues and lack of basic facilities. The situation has drawn attention from regional observers amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan.

HEALTH & Lifestyle

Low Fruit Intake Fuels Diabetes Risk

A major pan-Asian study has identified low consumption of whole fruits as the leading dietary risk factor behind the rising burden of Type 2 diabetes in India, challenging the common belief that fruits should be avoided because of their natural sugar content.

Published in Diabetes Research and Clinical Nutrition, the study analysed data from the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023 across 34 Asian countries. It found that poor dietary habits were linked to nearly 10 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) and 214,810 deaths from Type 2 diabetes across Asia in 2023. Among all dietary risks, inadequate fruit intake accounted for 3.6 million DALYs and nearly 86,000 deaths.

**India's Unique Dietary Challenge**

Researchers said India's diabetes crisis differs from that of many other Asian countries. While high consumption of red and processed meat is a major concern in countries such as China and Japan, low intake of whole fruits and whole grains emerged as the dominant dietary risk factors in South Asia, highlighting the need for region-specific nutrition guidelines.

**Whole Fruits Help Control Blood Sugar**

Doctors noted that the natural fructose found in whole fruits behaves differently from the added sugars present in soft drinks, desserts and processed foods. The fibre and plant compounds in fruits reduce sudden spikes in blood glucose and support better metabolic health.

**Recommended Fruit Intake**

Health experts recommend two to three servings (200-300 grams) of whole fruits daily for most adults. People with diabetes are advised to consume fruits in moderate portions throughout the day and pair them with protein-rich foods such as curd, nuts or roasted gram for better blood sugar control. Apples, guava, oranges, pears and berries are among the preferred low-to-moderate-glycaemic fruits, while fruit juices and dried fruits should be limited.

**Beyond Cutting Sugar**

Researchers said preventing diabetes is not just about reducing sugar and refined carbohydrates but also increasing the intake of protective foods such as whole fruits and whole grains.

They stressed that improving overall diet quality could play a crucial role in tackling India's growing diabetes burden.

SCIENCE & Technology

AI Takes Over Social Media Posts: Report

➤ **Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi**

Nearly one in four posts on major social media platforms are now entirely generated by artificial intelligence (AI), according to a new report by AI detection firm Pangram, raising fresh concerns about authenticity and the growing influence of AI-generated content online.

The report found that LinkedIn has the highest proportion of AI-written content, with around 40 per cent of posts exceeding 250 words and 30 per cent of shorter posts identified as fully AI-generated. Researchers said professionals appear more comfortable using AI to communicate on work-related platforms than on casual social networks.

Medium ranked second, with 31 per cent of long-form posts and 28 per cent of shorter posts found to be AI-generated. On X, nearly half of long-form articles contained at least some AI-generated content, indicating the increasing adoption of AI-assisted writing across different formats.

The report comes as LinkedIn has announced measures to reduce the visibility of spam-like AI-generated posts. Experts believe that while AI can improve productivity and simplify content creation, excessive dependence on it could reduce originality and make online conversations less authentic.

Vikas Chawla, Co-founder of Social Beat, said AI-generated content is likely to become the norm for many creators and brands, making genuine experiences and original ideas even more valuable. Pangram CEO Max Spero noted that the trend reflects increasing comfort with AI-assisted communication but also raises concerns about distinguishing human expression from machine-generated content.

# Bidadi Row: Deve Gowda Threatens Gandhi Statue Protest

► **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**

Former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda on Tuesday launched a scathing attack on the Karnataka government over the proposed Bidadi Township Project, alleging that Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar was pursuing the project to fulfil commitments allegedly made to the Congress high command. He warned that he would stage a dharna in front of the Mahatma Gandhi statue near Vidhana Soudha if the project was not withdrawn.

Addressing a press conference at the JD(S) headquarters, JP Bhavan, Deve Gowda urged the government not to acquire the land of unwilling farmers and demanded that the township proposal be scrapped immediately. **Serious Allegations Against Chief Minister**



Deve Gowda alleged that the township project was linked to political developments within the Congress and claimed it was being pursued to fulfil assurances allegedly given to the party high command.

He further alleged that the project was aimed at mobilising resources and accused the government of targeting farmers' land for political reasons.

**Farmers Oppose Land Acquisition**

The former Prime Minister said farmers in the proposed project area had clearly refused to part with their land. Referring to Monday's confrontation during the joint land survey at Mandahalli village, he said the unrest was a natural reaction to attempts to acquire land against the wishes of cultivators.

He questioned why officials continued the survey despite farmers expressing their opposition and urged the government to understand the hardships faced by small and marginal farmers.

**Demands Withdrawal of Cases**

Deve Gowda criticised the registration of FIRs against protesting farmers, including women, and appealed to the government to withdraw the cases immediately. He said the administration should act sensitively instead of criminalising farmers protesting to protect their land.

**No Response to Letter, Says Deve Gowda**

The JD(S) patriarch said he had written an 11-page letter to the Chief Minister on June 25 outlining his concerns over the Bidadi Township Project but had not received any acknowledgement from the Chief Minister's Office even after nearly 20 days.

He said the government should reconsider the project, especially when several developed

residential layouts, including Kempegowda Layout and Shivaram Karanth Layout, still have unsold sites.

**Threatens Dharna**

Reiterating his stand, Deve Gowda said he would not remain a silent spectator if farmers were subjected to injustice. He urged the government to permanently abandon the Bidadi Township Project and warned that he would launch a protest in front of Mahatma Gandhi's statue if the project was not shelved.

Former MP Kupendra Reddy, MLC T.A. Sharavana, former MLC K.A. Tippeswamy, former MLAs Akhanda Srinivasamurthy and A. Manjunath, and JD(S) Legal Cell President A.P. Ranganath were present at the press conference.

## Remote Robotic Heart Surgery Marks Medical Milestone

► **Vikrama Vahini | Sathya Sai Grama**

India marked a major milestone in robotic cardiac surgery as renowned cardiac surgeon Dr. Sudhir Srivastava successfully performed a live remote robotic heart surgery from Delhi on a patient in Coimbatore while simultaneously conducting robotic procedures at Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (SMSMSR), Muddenahalli, and in Greece. All three patients are stable and recovering well.

The live surgeries highlighted the International Endoscopic and Robotic Cardiac Surgery Conference (IERCSC 2026), a two-day event hosted at SMSMSR under the One World One Family Mission.

The conference is the first international event of its kind to be organised by a free private medical college in India.

Jointly organised by Manipal



Hospitals and SS Innovations, the conference has attracted cardiac surgeons, doctors and medical students from several countries to discuss advances in minimally invasive and robotic heart surgery. It features scientific sessions, expert discussions and live robotic surgery demonstrations.

Organising Secretary Dr. C.S. Hiremath said SMSMSR is the only free medical college in India to have successfully performed remote robotic cardiac surgery and to provide free robotic surgery training for doctors. Dr. Sudhir Srivastava said

indigenous robotic technology can make advanced healthcare more affordable and position India as a global leader in robotic surgery.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Sadguru Sri Madhusudan Sai said medical education should produce compassionate healers alongside skilled doctors, adding that SMSMSR has evolved into a global centre for medical education, research and rural healthcare.

The conference concludes on Sunday with hands-on training in endoscopic and robotic cardiac surgery.



**Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar hands over the National Flag to Smt. Yashodha, wife of former minister Ramachandra Gowda, after his last rites with full State honours at the family's private land in Kamakshipalya, Bengaluru, on Tuesday evening.**

## TTD Revises Donor Rules, Approves Key Projects

► **Vikrama Vahini | Tirumala**

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has announced revised donor privilege norms for devotees contributing to various TTD trusts and schemes. The new rules will come into effect from midnight on July 14, TTD Chairman B R Naidu said on Tuesday.

The changes are aimed at bringing greater transparency and uniformity in the management of donations. However, the revised norms will apply only to future donors, while existing privileges of earlier contributors will continue unchanged.

The TTD Trust Board approved several key development projects, including tenders

worth ₹6.31 crore for permanent shelters, queue lines and toilets near Alwar Tank for devotees holding SSD tokens.

The Board also sanctioned ₹2.77 crore for constructing a double-lane bridge to strengthen the Kumaradhara and Pasupudhara dams in Tirumala.

As part of its green energy initiatives, TTD approved the installation of an 800 KW wind turbine generator near GNC and a proposal to supply power to TTD for 25 years.

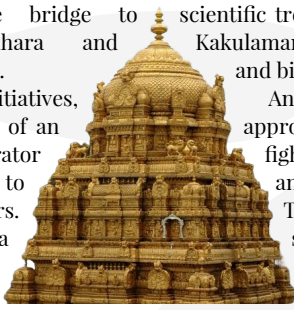
The Board also introduced a ₹50 entry fee (including GST) for visitors above 12 years at

the Tirumala Sri Venkateswara Museum and decided to seek the Tata Group's support in managing the facility.

The Board sanctioned ₹5 crore for scientific treatment of old solid waste near Kakulamanthippa through bio-remediation and bio-mining methods.

An additional ₹2.35 crore was approved for maintenance of fire-fighting systems at TTD temples and rest houses in Tirumala and Tirupati to improve pilgrim safety.

The TTD also approved the demolition of 12 old structures



### ENTERTAINMENT

## Avengers: Doomsday Buzz Builds

► **Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi**

Marvel Studios has revealed major updates about its highly anticipated film 'Avengers: Doomsday', creating excitement among fans worldwide.

The studio has announced early ticket sales, revealed the film's runtime and shared new details about the upcoming Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) blockbuster.

The film is scheduled to hit theatres globally on December 18, 2026, but Marvel will begin selling premium-format tickets as early as July 20, 2026, nearly five months before its release. The move highlights the studio's confidence in the film becoming a major theatrical event.

**'Avengers: Doomsday' Runtime Revealed**

According to reports, the upcoming Avengers film will have a runtime of 165 minutes (2 hours and 45 minutes). The movie will be longer than 'Avengers: Infinity War' (149 minutes) but shorter than 'Avengers: Endgame' (181 minutes). The early ticket sales announcement is also linked to Marvel's new "Infinity Vision" special format, aimed at offering audiences an enhanced cinematic experience.

The film's release date will see competition from 'Dune: Part III', which is also scheduled to arrive in theatres on the same day and is expected to compete for premium IMAX screens.

**Trailer Expected at San Diego Comic-Con**

Marvel is reportedly preparing to showcase the first full public trailer of 'Avengers: Doomsday' at San Diego Comic-Con on July 25.

A short teaser was earlier shown exclusively at CinemaCon but was kept away from public release due to strict security measures. The upcoming trailer is expected to provide the first major glimpse of the film's storyline and characters.



The trailer is also expected to be attached to 'Spider-Man: Brand New Day', which releases in theatres on July 31.

**Robert Downey Jr Returns as Doctor Doom**

One of the biggest attractions of the film is the return of Robert Downey Jr. to the MCU. However, he will not reprise his iconic role as Iron Man. Instead, he will portray Marvel's legendary villain Doctor Doom.

The film is expected to bring together some of Marvel's biggest characters, including members of the Avengers, Fantastic Four, New Avengers and Wakandan heroes.

**X-Men Stars Join Massive Marvel Crossover**

The movie will also feature several popular stars from the original X-Men franchise, including Patrick Stewart as Professor Charles Xavier and Ian McKellen as Magneto.

Other returning X-Men characters reportedly include Cyclops, Beast, Nightcrawler, Mystique and Gambit, adding another major crossover element to the MCU.

**First Concept Art Reveals Epic Battle Setup**

The first official concept art for

'Avengers: Doomsday' was unveiled at the Bilibili World expo in Shanghai. The artwork features Robert Downey Jr.'s Doctor Doom at the centre, wearing his iconic mask surrounded by mystical energy.

The concept art also shows Chris Evans's Steve Rogers carrying Mjolnir, Chris Hemsworth's Thor with a darker appearance and Tom Hiddleston's Loki in his new role as the God of Stories.

**Spider-Man and Doctor Strange Future Still Unclear**

While Marvel has confirmed several major characters, some fan favourites, including Spider-Man and Doctor Strange, have not yet been officially announced. Fans expect more casting updates as the film moves closer to release.

**A New Chapter Before 'Secret Wars'**

'Avengers: Doomsday' is expected to play a crucial role in shaping the future of the MCU and is likely to lead directly into 'Avengers: Secret Wars', scheduled for release in 2027.

With returning heroes, new villains and a massive crossover storyline, Marvel's next Avengers film is already being positioned as one of the biggest cinematic events in the franchise's history.

## YASH'S MEGA PLAN FOR TOXIC PROMOTIONS

► **Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru**

Kannada superstar Yash is gearing up for an extensive promotional campaign for his much-awaited film 'Toxic' as the movie moves closer to its theatrical release.

The film's online promotions have already begun with the release of teasers, posters and songs. Now, Yash is reportedly stepping in personally for the offline promotions and has prepared a grand plan to connect with audiences across India and abroad.

The offline promotion campaign for 'Toxic' is expected to begin from Mumbai and eventually reach Karnataka. Similar to his promotional strategies for 'KGF' and 'KGF: Chapter 2', Yash is likely to visit major cities across the country.

Reports suggest that pre-release events may be organised in different cities, allowing fans to interact with the actor and the film team before the release.

Since 'Toxic' is being made in both Kannada and English, the film's overseas promotion has become a key focus for the team.

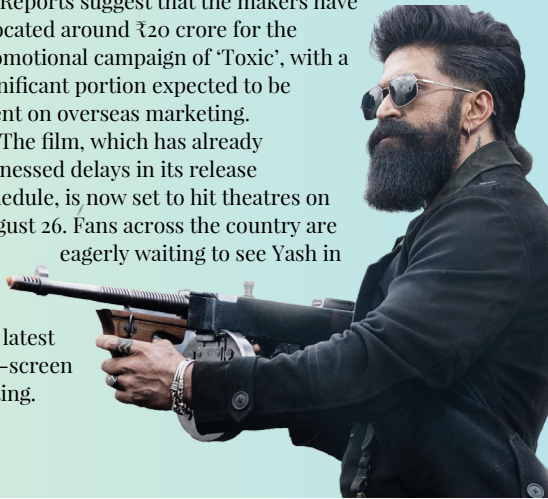
The movie received attention after selected visuals were showcased at Comic-Con, with international distributors reportedly showing interest in the project. Yash is expected to travel to countries including the United States to promote the film and participate in interviews with global media outlets.

The makers are planning a large-scale pre-release event in Karnataka before the film hits theatres. The event is expected to feature the film's major cast members and will reportedly be held in Bengaluru or nearby cities a week before the release.

Reports suggest that the makers have allocated around ₹20 crore for the promotional campaign of 'Toxic', with a significant portion expected to be spent on overseas marketing.

The film, which has already witnessed delays in its release schedule, is now set to hit theatres on August 26. Fans across the country are eagerly waiting to see Yash in

his latest big-screen outing.



### BUSINESS

## Bullion Prices Rise on Global Tensions



► **Vikrama Vahini | Kolkata**

Gold and silver prices registered a marginal rise in the domestic bullion market on Tuesday amid escalating geopolitical tensions between the United States and Iran, which pushed crude oil prices higher and boosted demand for safe-haven assets.

In the futures market, MCX gold was trading 0.69 per cent higher at ₹1,41,550 per 10 grams, while silver futures gained 0.46 per cent to ₹2,18,760 per kg during early trade.

**Prices Rise Across Major Cities**

In the spot market, 24-karat and 22-karat gold prices recorded modest gains across major Indian cities. Chennai reported the highest 24-karat gold price at ₹1,41,750 per 10 grams, followed by Hyderabad (₹1,41,560) and Bengaluru (₹1,41,450). Silver prices also firmed up, with rates ranging between ₹2,17,950 and ₹2,19,570 per kg.

**Factors Driving Bullion Prices**

Market experts said bullion prices are influenced by several global and domestic factors, including geopolitical uncertainty, the strength of the US dollar, expectations regarding US Federal Reserve interest rates, and India's import duties on precious metals.

While gold and silver are considered safe-haven investments during periods of global uncertainty, a stronger US dollar and expectations of higher interest rates generally limit gains in precious metals. India, one of the world's largest importers of gold and silver, is also affected by changes in import tariffs and international market trends.

Analysts said investors will closely monitor global developments and central bank policy signals for further direction in bullion prices.

SPORTS

Rohit, Kohli Fall in 5-Run Blow



► Vikrama Vahini | Birmingham

India suffered an early setback in their chase of 239 runs against England in the first ODI at Birmingham after senior batters Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli were dismissed within five runs of each other.

Earlier, England were bowled out for 258 in 47.5 overs, giving India a competitive target.

Rohit, opening alongside Shubman Gill, struggled to find his rhythm and scored 11 off 21 balls, including one boundary, before being caught off Sam Curran while attempting an attacking shot.

Virat Kohli, making his return to the ODI side, looked positive and struck a fine boundary off Jofra Archer. However, he was trapped LBW for just five runs in the ninth over.

The quick dismissals of India's two most experienced batters put pressure on the middle order, leaving the team with the task of rebuilding the innings to chase down England's total.

Village Girl Kranti Scripts Lord's History

► Vikrama Vahini | London

Indian women's cricket witnessed a historic moment as 22-year-old fast bowler Kranti Gaud became the first Indian woman cricketer to have her name etched on the prestigious Lord's Honours Board after a sensational five-wicket haul against England in the Test match.

India defeated England by 270 runs in the Lord's Test, with Kranti playing a key role in the victory. She claimed 5 wickets for 37 runs in the first innings, breaking England's batting backbone and earning the Player of the Match award after taking a total of seven wickets in the game.

First Indian Woman Fast Bowler on Lord's Honours Board

Kranti created history by becoming the first woman cricketer to record a five-wicket haul in a Test match at Lord's in its 142-year history. She also became the youngest Indian woman fast bowler to achieve the milestone at the age of 22.

Her match-winning spell helped India register a memorable victory on one of cricket's most iconic grounds.

From Village Struggles to Global Glory Kranti's journey from a small village in Madhya Pradesh to Lord's is an inspiring tale of determination. Born in Ghuvara village of Chhatarpur district, she faced financial hardships during her childhood.

When her family struggled to afford cricket equipment, her mother sold her gold jewellery and bangles to buy a cricket kit for her daughter. In her early days, Kranti played cricket barefoot with boys using a tree branch as a bat.

Her talent was spotted by coach Rajeev Bilthare, who provided her free training after witnessing her impressive bowling skills in local matches.

PUTIN LISTENS TO PM MODI: POLISH MINISTER

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

Polish Foreign Minister Wladyslaw Teofil Bartoszewski has praised India's role in efforts to promote peace between Russia and Ukraine, saying Russian President Vladimir Putin pays close attention to what Prime Minister Narendra Modi says.

In an interview with ANI, Bartoszewski described PM Modi as a globally respected statesman and said India's longstanding relationship with Russia places it in a unique position to influence Moscow.

'Putin Listens to PM Modi'

The Polish minister said Prime Minister Modi is among the few world leaders capable of exerting influence on President Putin.

He recalled India's role in 2022, saying Modi had played



Polish Foreign Minister Wladyslaw Teofil Bartoszewski said Prime Minister Narendra Modi is among the few global leaders capable of influencing Russian President Vladimir Putin, praising India's role in peace efforts while highlighting expanding India-Poland defence cooperation.

an important part in discouraging the use of tactical nuclear weapons during the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Bartoszewski expressed hope that India could continue using its influence to help bring an end to the ongoing war.

Defence Cooperation to Expand

The minister also spoke about strengthening defence ties between India and Poland. He said both countries are working towards signing an agreement on the exchange

of classified information, which would facilitate deeper defence cooperation.

He noted that India has shown interest in acquiring Polish military platforms and exploring their production in India.

He added that a Polish company has already established operations in India to manufacture drones after initially exporting them to the country.

Bartoszewski said the growing strategic partnership between India and Poland offers significant opportunities for cooperation in defence and advanced technology.

Taslima Heads Back to Kolkata After 18 Years

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

Bangladeshi author Taslima Nasreen is set to return to Kolkata for the first time in 18 years, marking a significant moment since she left the city in 2007 following protests and security concerns.

Nasreen confirmed her visit through a social media post. She is scheduled to participate in a cultural programme at Rabindra Sadan on August 1, organised by Secular Mission and Paschimbanger Jonno (For West Bengal).

Cultural Programme Planned

According to the organisers, Nasreen will recite poetry, sing songs and address the audience during the event. The programme is expected to attract wide public attention as it marks her first appearance in Kolkata since her departure nearly two decades ago.

Return Sparks Discussion

Nasreen left Kolkata in November 2007 after protests by fundamentalist groups led to unrest in the city, prompting the then Left Front

government to deploy the Army to restore order. Since then, she has repeatedly expressed a desire to revisit the city.

Her proposed return has generated mixed reactions in political and cultural circles. Former IPS officer Humayun Kabir welcomed the development, describing it as a positive step while

expressing hope that the event would remain peaceful and free from controversy.

Nasreen's return is expected to be closely watched by both supporters and critics, given the circumstances surrounding her exit from Kolkata nearly two decades ago.



Karnataka Seeks Centre's Drought Assessment Team

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking immediate deployment of a central team to assess drought-like conditions caused by deficient rainfall across several districts of Karnataka.

In his letter, the Chief Minister said 18 out of 31 districts are facing rainfall shortages, with 141 taluks affected by inadequate rains. He stated that

monsoon sowing activities have also been impacted, with only 34 per cent of the

targeted sowing completed so far.

Shivakumar highlighted that storage in 14 major reservoirs of the state has declined, with only around 34 per cent of the available capacity filled. He urged the Centre to provide necessary assistance for drought management.

The Chief Minister said a central team's visit would

help assess the severity of the situation on the ground and provide confidence to

farmers during the difficult period.

Karnataka has received around 203 mm rainfall against the normal 292 mm as of July 11, reflecting a significant deficit. The state government has attributed the shortage to weak monsoon conditions. Shivakumar pointed out that nearly 77 per cent of Karnataka's geographical area falls under dry and semi-arid zones, and the state has about 84.79 lakh hectares of rain-fed agricultural land, making farming highly dependent on monsoon rains.



SWR Engages Students for Amrit Bharat Drive

► Vikrama Vahini | Hubballi

The Hubballi Division of South Western Railway (SWR) has organised drawing, essay writing and elocution competitions for school students to create awareness about the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) ahead of the inauguration of three redeveloped railway stations on July 17.

The redeveloped Alnavar, Koppal and Badami railway stations, equipped with upgraded infrastructure and modern passenger amenities, will be inaugurated as part of the Centre's railway modernisation



initiative.

Students participated in competitions on the themes "What will the developed railway station in my city look like?" and "What will I do to help build a Developed India?" through drawings, essays

and speeches highlighting world-class railway infrastructure and nation-building.

The programme witnessed an enthusiastic response, with 145 students participating at Koppal, 130 at Badami, and hundreds of

students from eight schools in Alnavar taking part in the competitions.

As part of the awareness campaign, the Hubballi Division will also organise a "Selfie with Station" initiative on July 15 and 16, encouraging the public to visit the redeveloped stations, take selfies and share them on social media.

Railway officials said the campaign aims to familiarise citizens with the transformation of railway stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme while encouraging public participation in the vision of Viksit Bharat.

SC Slaps ₹3 Lakh Fine on Samay Raina

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday imposed a ₹3 lakh fine on stand-up comedian Samay Raina and four others for alleged non-compliance with its earlier directions in the India's Got Latent controversy, warning of stricter action if the lapses continue.

A Bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant, Justice Joymalya Bagchi and Justice J.V. Mohana was hearing petitions related to the controversy involving YouTuber Ranveer Allahbadia, content creator Ashish Chanchalani and the Cure SMA Foundation.

Court Expresses Strong Displeasure

The Bench observed that it had "no reason to doubt" that Samay Raina had "taken the court for a ride" by allegedly failing to comply with assurances given during earlier hearings.

Senior advocate Aparajita Singh informed the court that Raina had neither contacted the Cure SMA Foundation nor reached out to people affected by Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) despite previous directions.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta also criticised the comedian's conduct, referring to remarks made during Raina's recently launched comedy show.

Fine Reduced to ₹3 Lakh



The Supreme Court fined comedian Samay Raina ₹3 lakh for allegedly violating its earlier directions in the India's Got Latent case, warning of stricter penalties if he fails to comply with commitments related to the Cure SMA Foundation.

Initially proposing a ₹10 lakh penalty, the court reduced the fine to ₹3 lakh after Raina's counsel sought leniency. However, the Bench warned that the penalty could be increased to ₹30 lakh if it is not satisfied with compliance at the next hearing.

The case arises from the controversy surrounding Raina's online show India's Got Latent, which triggered multiple legal proceedings involving several digital content creators. The Supreme Court had earlier directed the parties to fulfil commitments related to the Cure SMA Foundation and awareness initiatives for people living with Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

K'taka Cabinet Expansion Talks on July 19

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

The much-awaited expansion of the Karnataka Cabinet is likely to take place this week, with the Congress high command expected to hold a crucial meeting with state leaders in New Delhi on July 19.

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah are likely to travel to Delhi on July 18 evening for discussions with senior Congress leaders. A final decision on new inductees is expected after a two-day round of talks, with the swearing-in ceremony likely on July 20 or 21.

The high command is reportedly considering a strategic move to not fill all vacant ministerial positions. Out of the 20 available posts, three positions may be kept vacant while the remaining slots could be filled.

The final list is being prepared keeping in mind regional representation, caste balance and political considerations.

With the cabinet expansion expected soon, several Congress MLAs and MLCs have intensified efforts to secure ministerial berths. Many leaders have reached Delhi and are meeting high command leaders to push their claims.

Karnataka Unveils ₹1,010-Crore Youth Scheme

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

The Karnataka government has approved a ₹1,010-crore youth empowerment programme to establish 10,000 Bharat Jodo Yuva Sanghas (BJYS) across the state, aimed at promoting leadership, sports, social harmony and community development among youngsters.

Under the scheme, each youth group will receive an annual grant of ₹10 lakh to conduct various activities, including sports events, cultural programmes, health campaigns and environmental initiatives.

The initiative will be implemented in 6,000 gram panchayats and 4,000 urban wards. One BJYS will be formed in every gram panchayat, while urban units will be created based on population norms in town panchayats, municipalities, city municipal councils and municipal corporations.

The scheme will be executed by the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports in coordination with Rural Development,

Urban Development, Revenue and Education departments.

Announcing the programme, Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara said the objective is to build leadership skills among youth while encouraging sports, scientific thinking, cultural activities and civic participation.

Each sangha will organise rural sports tournaments, yoga camps,

sanitation drives, environmental campaigns and other youth-focused programmes.

To establish a BJYS, applicants must enrol at least 100 members aged between 16 and 35 years through the designated online portal or citizen service centres. Each unit will be registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960.

Every sangha will be managed by a 15-member elected executive committee with a two-year term. District-level committees will monitor implementation, while a state-level committee headed by the Chief Minister will oversee the scheme.



Heatwave Alert in Uttara Kannada



► Vikrama Vahini | Karwar

Despite the onset of the monsoon, Uttara Kannada district has witnessed a significant decline in rainfall over the past three to four days. The region is now experiencing hot and humid conditions, prompting the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to issue a heatwave warning for the next two days.

The IMD has declared a Yellow Alert in the district, cautioning residents about the possibility of increased heat discomfort due to high humidity levels combined with reduced rainfall.

Authorities have advised people to avoid unnecessary outdoor activities during afternoon hours and consume adequate water and fluids to prevent heat-related illnesses. Special precautions have been advised for children, senior citizens, and people with existing health conditions.

Outdoor workers have also been urged to limit prolonged exposure to heat and take necessary safety measures.

B'luru PSI Arrested in Dowry Case

► Vikrama Vahini | Bengaluru

A Police Sub-Inspector was arrested on Tuesday following allegations of dowry harassment, domestic violence and criminal intimidation by his wife, police said.

The woman, who is an advocate, approached the Director General of Police (DGP) seeking action against her husband, a PSI posted at the Bengaluru Police Commissioner's Office.

Based on her complaint, police initiated action and arrested the officer. Further investigation into the allegations is underway.

Police officials said the complaint was registered following the allegations made by the woman, and necessary legal procedures were initiated after a preliminary inquiry. The case has been taken up for further investigation to verify the claims and collect relevant evidence.

Cauvery Row: K'taka, Tamil Nadu Face-Off at CWMA

► Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

A crucial meeting of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) will be held in New Delhi on Tuesday, with Karnataka and Tamil Nadu set to present their respective views on water sharing.

Karnataka is expected to maintain that it cannot release water to Tamil Nadu due to a severe shortage of monsoon rainfall in the state. It will urge the authority to implement a distress-sharing formula during the crisis period.

Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu is likely to demand the release of its allocated share as per the Cauvery water-sharing schedule. The state has sought 40.43 TMC feet of water, including 9.19 TMC for June and 31.24 TMC for July.

Tamil Nadu has also pointed out that Karnataka has released only around 4 TMC of water over the past two months and will press for the immediate release of the remaining quantity during the meeting.

The CWMA meeting is expected to decide the next course of action amid the ongoing dispute between the two states.

Karnataka officials are expected to highlight the reduced reservoir levels and rainfall deficit, stating that priority must be given to drinking water needs and agricultural requirements within the state. They are likely to seek a balanced approach considering the prevailing water availability.

The meeting comes amid renewed tensions between the two neighbouring states over the Cauvery water-sharing arrangement. The decision of the CWMA will be closely watched as both states continue to press their respective demands.