BENGALURU

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# Ram Mandir On Hit List? Karnataka Terror Suspect's Phone Reveals Chilling Audio, Pakistan Links

Suhail, a terror suspect arrested in Davanagere, Karnataka, is under investigation for allegedly planning to target the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya. Police recovered evidence from his phone, including a Pakistani contact, audio files discussing a temple attack, and photos of him with weapons. Authorities are probing his possible links to Pakistan, efforts to recruit and radicalise youth, and the extent of a terror network. His arrest followed leads from other recent terror suspect interrogations, and investigations are ongoing, according to Karnataka's home minister.... **Read More** ↓

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# Another Day, Another

# Namma Metro Glitch: Bengaluru's Purple Line Train Stalls At Cubbon Park

Bengaluru's Namma Metro suffered its second technical disruption in a week on Thursday, as a Purple Line train fault at Cubbon Park station left passengers stranded and disrupted services. The issue was later resolved, but the incident marks the 21st reported Metro glitch since January 2024, according to MP Tejasvi Surya, who has called for an inquiry and greater transparency from

BMRCL. The repeated disruptions have sparked commuter frustration and renewed criticism of the city's Metro maintenance and reliability.... Read More ↓

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## Bengaluru Businessman Found Dead At Actor Krishi Thapanda's Apartment

A 45-year-old Bengaluru businessman, Vaishak, was found dead at actor Krishi Thapanda's R R Nagar apartment, where he had been staying. Thapanda was away at the time but alerted Vaishak's family after receiving distress messages from him. Police registered an unnatural death case, found no suicide note, and are investigating the circumstances. Vaishak had previously been arrested in an extortion case. Authorities are examining his communications and past incidents to determine the cause of death.... **Read More** ↓

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# Misty Hills, Waterfalls And Forests: 10 Must-Visit Places In The Western Ghats This Monsoon

The monsoon season transforms the Western Ghats—a UNESCO World Heritage mountain range spanning six Indian states—into a lush, vibrant landscape. Popular destinations like Munnar, Coorg, Wayanad, Mahabaleshwar, Agumbe, Athirappilly, Kudremukh, Lonavala, Khandala, Valparai, and Silent Valley National Park become especially scenic, featuring misty hills, roaring waterfalls, dense forests, and rich biodiversity. These locations attract nature lovers and trekkers, offering dramatic views and unique experiences during the rains, making the monsoon the best time to visit the region.... Read More ↓

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# ‘We’ll Come With JCBs’: Bengaluru Minister Sets July 1 Deadline To Free The City’s Footpaths

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Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda has given shop owners, advertisers, and vehicle owners until July 1 to remove all footpath encroachments or face demolition, penalties, and removal drives, citing a Supreme Court order recognizing pedestrian rights. The city will launch a Rs 70-crore campaign to repair 2,000 km of footpaths and clear abandoned vehicles. The minister emphasized that footpaths are public property and warned strict enforcement will follow the deadline to ensure pedestrian safety and improve city infrastructure.... **Read More** ↓

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4 Karnataka State Buses Fares May Rise Up To 44% — Here's Why Transport Corps Want A Hike

5 Tech Founder's Bengaluru Land Post Gets Swift Pitch From 'Investor-Friendly' Andhra

## *Life Hack of the Day*

Store fruits like apples and bananas separately from other produce, as they emit ethylene gas that speeds up ripening. Keeping them apart in your kitchen can help your fruits and vegetables last much longer!

## Today in History

- On 26th June 1975, the Emergency was declared in India by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, suspending civil liberties and censoring the press for 21 months.
- On this day in 1947, the Indian Independence Act received royal assent from the British Parliament, paving the way for India's independence.
- The United Nations Charter was signed on June 26, 1945, officially establishing the foundation for global cooperation and peace.

# Daily Brief Capsule

# Bengaluru businessman alleges Rs 1.09 crore abduction and robbery

A Bengaluru businessman, RI Shivashankar, has alleged that he and his driver were kidnapped and robbed of Rs 1.09 crore by an armed gang on June 15. The gang reportedly stole cash from both his car and residence. Police are investigating the case from multiple angles, including possible insider involvement and the source of the cash. Shivashankar is also an accused in a previous cheating case. No arrests have been made yet, and all aspects of the complaint are under scrutiny.

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## Explain It Like I Am 5

Yoga Day is celebrated because yoga helps people stay healthy and calm. It began in India, and now people all over the world practice yoga together on this day to feel happy and peaceful.

# Karnataka DGP issues strict order on sextortion and revenge porn

Karnataka's police chief has issued Standing Order 1061, mandating strict guidelines for handling cybercrimes against women, including unauthorized recordings, revenge porn, and sextortion. The directive requires immediate FIR registration, clarifies that consent to record does not mean consent to share, and enforces confidentiality for victims. Offenders face prosecution under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and IT Act, with penalties up to seven years in prison. Police must act swiftly, and officers delaying or mishandling cases will face disciplinary action.

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## Did You Know?

FUN FACT

Which Indian city is known as the 'City of Lakes'? Hint: It's famous for its beautiful palaces and water bodies.

# Bengaluru PGs hit by spate of burglaries, CCTV gaps exposed

Bengaluru's paying guest (PG) accommodations are experiencing a surge in burglaries, with thieves targeting laptops, mobile phones, and cash despite the presence of CCTV cameras. Incidents have been reported across major localities including HSR Layout, Bellandur, Marathahalli, Electronics City, and Whitefield. Police attribute the rise to security lapses, insider involvement, and the high concentration of valuable electronics. Authorities are urging PG owners to upgrade security measures and residents to remain vigilant to curb further thefts.

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## Meme of the Day

When you check the weather app and it says 'sunny', but it's pouring outside!

# RITES clears Namma Metro Phase 3, double decker corridor viable

Namma Metro Phase 3 in Bengaluru has received a boost after RITES certified its economic viability, with an EIRR of 15.9%. The Rs 9,700 crore project will add 44.65 km of Metro lines and 31 stations through two elevated corridors, including a double-decker road-cum-Metro structure. The expansion aims to improve connectivity, create new interchange points with existing and upcoming transport networks, and reduce reliance on road travel, benefiting underserved areas in western and north-western Bengaluru.

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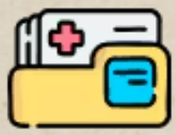
## *Five Things to Do Today*



1. Practice 10 minutes of mindful breathing meditation.
2. Try a new monsoon-friendly Indian recipe.
3. Declutter one corner of your home or desk.
4. Read a chapter from a favourite book.
5. Call or message a friend you haven't spoken to lately.

# What a Comfortable Life in Bengaluru Costs a Family of Four in 2026

A family of four in Bengaluru now needs between Rs 85,000 and Rs 1.35 lakh per month for a comfortable lifestyle, according to a News18 breakdown. Major expenses include rent (Rs 35,000–Rs 40,500), groceries (Rs 15,000–Rs 20,000), school fees (over Rs 2 lakh annually for two children), domestic help, commuting, and utilities. High security deposits and rising costs add to the financial burden, making a six-figure monthly income essential for comfort in India's tech capital.

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## Ram Mandir On Hit List? Karnataka Terror Suspect's Phone Reveals Chilling Audio, Pakistan Links

Suhail, a terror suspect arrested in Davanagere, Karnataka, is under investigation for allegedly plotting an attack on the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, according to police sources. The probe intensified after authorities recovered significant evidence from Suhail's mobile phone, including contacts with suspected handlers in Pakistan, audio files discussing terror activities, and photographs of Suhail posing with weapons. Suhail, who had been living in Davanagere under the guise of a painter, reportedly maintained communication with individuals in Pakistan. Investigators found a Pakistani phone number saved as “Ranaji” on his device, which they believe may belong to his handler. Audio conversations in Hindi and Urdu, some of which allegedly mention plans to bomb the Ram Mandir, were discovered and translated by police staff. Additionally, Suhail was active in several WhatsApp and Instagram groups and channels, where he allegedly shared provocative content, images of himself with weapons, and material deemed detrimental to India’s national security and communal harmony. The police FIR details the digital evidence, including locked chats with the Pakistani contact and membership in groups such as

“Memon & Jutt 333” and “Rana Bhai Group 333,” where further incriminating material was found. Authorities are also investigating whether Suhail was attempting to recruit and radicalize local youth, and are working to uncover the broader terror network potentially involved. Suhail’s arrest was the result of a joint operation between Karnataka Police and Central Intelligence agencies, following leads from the interrogation of two other terror suspects recently detained in Tumakuru and Davanagere. Karnataka’s Home Minister, Priyank Kharge, confirmed the arrest and ongoing investigation, emphasizing that Suhail’s cross-border communications are a key focus. The case highlights ongoing concerns about terror networks operating within India and the persistent threat to high-profile religious sites.

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## Another Day, Another Namma Metro Glitch: Bengaluru's Purple Line Train Stalls At Cubbon Park

Bengaluru's Namma Metro experienced its second technical disruption within a week, as a Purple Line train developed a fault at Cubbon Park Metro Station on Thursday, temporarily stranding passengers and causing delays across the corridor. The Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) resolved the issue and restored normal operations, but the incident has reignited concerns about the reliability of the city's Metro system. The disruption follows a similar incident on June 23, when a technical snag at Cubbon Park during evening rush hour affected multiple stations, including Vidhana Soudha, Central College, Majestic, and Railway Station. Thousands of commuters were stranded, leading to long queues and prompting some to seek alternative transport, such as hitching rides on trucks and lorries. These repeated failures have highlighted the challenges faced by Bengaluru's public transport infrastructure, particularly during peak traffic hours. Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya publicly criticized BMRCL, noting that this was the 21st reported technical disruption since January 2024. He emphasized that despite high fares, Namma Metro has experienced an unusually high frequency of glitches compared to other metro systems. Surya has written to the Commissioner of Railway Safety (Southern Circle), requesting an inquiry into the recurring disruptions. He also demanded BMRCL provide transparency by answering questions regarding inspection protocols, maintenance records, and the latest technical failure, including the frequency and findings of inspections, third-party involvement, and the completion of root cause analyses. The incidents have sparked widespread criticism on social media, with commuters demanding greater accountability and improved safety standards. The repeated disruptions underscore the urgent need for BMRCL to address maintenance and operational challenges to ensure reliable and safe metro services for Bengaluru's growing population.

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## Bengaluru Businessman Found Dead At Actor Krishi Thapanda's Apartment

A 45-year-old businessman from Bengaluru, identified as Vaishak, was found dead on Wednesday night at the apartment of actor and former Bigg Boss contestant Krishi Thapanda in the city's R R Nagar locality. According to police reports, Vaishak, a resident of Girinagar, had been staying at Thapanda's apartment for several days prior to his death. At the time of the incident, Thapanda was reportedly in Nelamangala, away from her residence. Authorities revealed that Vaishak had communicated with Thapanda shortly before his death, sending her distress messages. In response, Thapanda alerted Vaishak's family, who then rushed to the apartment and notified the police. Upon arrival, officers found

Vaishak unresponsive. Following a complaint lodged by his father, the R R Nagar police registered a case of unnatural death and have initiated a thorough investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident. No suicide note was discovered at the scene, and police are currently examining Vaishak's recent communications and activities to determine the sequence of events leading up to his death. Investigators are also scrutinizing his background, particularly a previous arrest in an alleged extortion case involving businessman Aravind Reddy. In that case, Vaishak was accused of sending a threatening letter to Reddy demanding money and an apology, for which he was arrested and subsequently released on bail. The case has drawn public attention due to the involvement of a well-known television personality and the mysterious circumstances of Vaishak's death. Police are continuing their inquiry to ascertain the cause of death and to determine if any external factors or foul play were involved. The investigation remains ongoing as authorities seek to piece together the events that led to this incident.

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## Misty Hills, Waterfalls And Forests: 10 Must-Visit Places In The Western Ghats This Monsoon

During the monsoon season, the Western Ghats—a UNESCO World Heritage mountain range stretching across six Indian states—undergoes a dramatic transformation, emerging as one of the country's most spectacular natural landscapes. The region, renowned for its mist-shrouded hills, dense forests, and cascading waterfalls, becomes a magnet for tourists and nature enthusiasts seeking to experience its vibrant biodiversity and scenic beauty at its peak. Key destinations within the Western Ghats each offer unique monsoon experiences. In Kerala, Munnar's rolling tea plantations and Wayanad's caves, waterfalls, and wildlife sanctuaries become especially lush and inviting. Athirappilly, home to Kerala's largest waterfall, presents a dramatic spectacle as rain-swollen waters thunder through dense forests, while the untouched wilderness of Silent Valley National Park enchants visitors with its rich flora and fauna. Karnataka's Coorg, often dubbed the "Scotland of India," is famed for its coffee estates and forested hills, which turn a vivid green during the rains. Agumbe, known as the "Cherrapunji of the South," receives some of the region's heaviest rainfall, nurturing rainforests teeming with biodiversity, including the elusive king cobra. Kudremukh's grasslands and peaks attract trekkers eager for scenic monsoon trails. In Maharashtra, the hill stations of Mahabaleshwar, Lonavala, and Khandala are enveloped in clouds and fog, with waterfalls and green valleys drawing crowds seeking respite from the heat. Tamil Nadu's Valparai offers a quieter retreat amid tea plantations and forests, with the monsoon bringing misty vistas and increased wildlife activity. The monsoon's arrival not only rejuvenates the Western Ghats' ecosystems but also highlights the region's ecological significance and tourism potential. These destinations underscore the importance of preserving the Ghats' unique biodiversity while offering unforgettable experiences for travelers during India's rainy season.

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## 'We'll Come With JCBs': Bengaluru Minister Sets July 1 Deadline To Free The City's Footpaths

Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda has issued a stern ultimatum to shop owners, advertisers, vehicle owners, and anyone encroaching on the city's footpaths: clear all encroachments by July 1 or face demolition, penalties, and possible action using JCB machinery. This directive follows a recent Supreme Court observation affirming that walking on footpaths is a fundamental right, prompting the city to launch a comprehensive campaign to restore pedestrian spaces. The minister announced a Rs 70 crore Safe Footpath Campaign aimed at repairing and upgrading approximately 2,000 kilometers of footpaths across Bengaluru's five civic zones. The initiative will involve replacing damaged slabs, kerb stones, and fixing uneven surfaces to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility. Gowda highlighted the urgency of the campaign, noting that Bengaluru records nearly 1,000 road accident deaths annually, with pedestrians accounting for about 30% of fatalities—often due to inadequate footpath infrastructure. Encroachers have been given a week's notice to voluntarily remove obstructions, including advertisement boards and abandoned vehicles, which impede pedestrian movement. From July 1, civic authorities will begin enforcement, imposing double penalties and conducting demolition drives against violators. Abandoned vehicles occupying public spaces will be issued notices and, if unclaimed, removed and auctioned. In addition to footpath repairs, Gowda addressed concerns about pothole patchwork quality, directing officials to adopt scientific, mechanised methods for road repairs. He also instructed the Traffic Police to prevent buses from stopping within 85 meters of traffic signals to ease congestion. Acknowledging potential criticism, Gowda emphasized the campaign's significance for public safety and urban mobility, asserting that footpaths are public property for Bengaluru's 1.5 crore residents. The enforcement drive, rooted in Supreme

Court directives, marks a decisive step toward reclaiming pedestrian rights and improving city infrastructure.

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