

Collectors Should Align with Government’s Vision: Ponguleti



- **Ponguleti urges collectors to solve land issues by August 15**
- **Hundreds of families in every village suffering due to Dharani**
- **Priority to be given to applications under Bhu Bharati**

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has urged district collectors to align their work with the vision and direction of the Revanth Reddy-led government, especially in resolving land-related problems that have plagued villages across Telangana. At the Secretariat on Monday, the minister held a meeting with newly appointed collectors and officials, stressing the need for urgent action to address the fallout from the Dharani portal introduced by the previous government. He expressed deep concern that land disputes have become a major issue in almost every village due to complications arising from the Dharani system. Ponguleti made it clear that the solution lies in effective implementation of the newly proposed ‘Bhu Bharati’ Act. He emphasized that land is a crucial and emotional issue in Telangana society and that the government intends to bring clarity and justice to affected families. The Minister instructed collectors

to prioritize applications being submitted under Bhu Bharati and at revenue grievance meetings. He set a deadline of August 15 to resolve legal land issues, calling the next two months crucial for the functioning of the Revenue Department. Ponguleti reiterated that the goal is to alleviate the burdens placed on farmers and citizens due to the previous system. Reflecting on the progress of public administration under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the minister said the government has already been delivering welfare and development schemes efficiently and is committed to transparency. He reminded the collectors of their responsibility in ensuring that all eligible beneficiaries receive government support without delay. Those who met the minister included newly appointed Sangareddy Collector Praveenya, Siddipet Collector Haimavati, Hyderabad Collector Harichandan, Nizamabad Collector Vinayakrishna Reddy, and Stamps and Registration Special Secretary Rajiv Gandhi Hanumanth. The minister urged all present to follow a mission-driven approach and ensure that the government’s aspirations for a people-centric administration are realized through their actions on the ground.

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Telangana Phone Tapping Case...

With the SIT probe gaining momentum and more high-profile names coming to light, this case is snowballing into one of the most controversial political scandals in recent times. The

public and political circles alike are now keenly watching for further revelations in what appears to be a systematic violation of privacy.

Kaleshwaram Commission Pressures Govt for Cabinet Minutes

According to sources, the commission had earlier sent two letters—one after statements were given in open court by engineers, and another following the interrogation of senior IAS officers involved in the project. However, the government has yet to provide a clear or complete response. Now, with former CM KCR’s statement under scrutiny, the commission has sent a third formal letter seeking access to the minutes of cabinet meetings that discussed and approved major decisions on the project. Officials close to the commission say that without the cabinet documentation, it would be difficult to prove the administrative chain of responsibility, especially if any intent of wrongdoing needs to be established against the then Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao. The commission is reported-

ly frustrated with the government’s lack of cooperation and has termed the delay “deliberate and unhelpful.” It is learnt that the government is now considering whether or not to release those minutes, and a discussion on the matter is likely to take place in the upcoming cabinet meeting. If the minutes are withheld, political observers believe it may send the wrong message and weaken the government’s stated commitment to transparency and accountability. On the other hand, releasing the documents may open up the possibility of direct legal implications for top leaders of the previous regime, including KCR himself. As the commission’s probe intensifies, the issue of cabinet minutes could prove to be a turning point in the high-profile investigation.

DGP Dr. Jitender Reviews Law and Order in Vikarabad

Focus on swift case disposal and strict action against drugs

TPN Correspondent | Vikarabad
Director General of Police Dr. Jitender conducted a detailed review of the law and order situation in Vikarabad district on Tuesday as part of his ongoing visits to districts across the state. Addressing a meeting of police officials, he laid out clear directives to strengthen policing, improve public safety, and enhance the image of the Telangana Police. Dr. Jitender stressed that crime prevention must begin with proactive policing. He instructed officers to expedite the disposal of long-pending Under Investigation (UI) cases and to keep a close watch on habitual offenders. “Open rowdy sheets or invoke the PD Act where necessary,” he urged, emphasizing accountability and deterrence. Expressing serious concern about the rise in narcotics-related activity, the DGP called for a zero-tolerance approach towards drugs under the NDPS Act. He directed intensified enforcement and constant surveillance, particularly at border police stations, to prevent inter-district drug trafficking. “Eliminate ganja and all forms of narcotic substances from the region,” he said firmly. He also ordered strict action against illegal activities such as the transportation and sale of PDS rice, sand smuggling, matka gambling, and online gaming. Officers were told to increase night-time vehicle checks and remain alert about gatherings in tourist spots, farmhouses, and weekend events. Reiterating the importance of women



and child safety, Dr. Jitender directed that all crimes against women, including POCSO and SC/ST atrocity cases, be reported and investigated without delay, ensuring that accused persons face strict legal consequences. On the issue of rising road accidents, he advised officers to identify accident-prone hotspots and coordinate with relevant departments like RTA, Revenue, and R&B to implement preventive measures. “An accident may just be a statistic to us, but to a family, it is a devastating loss,” he remarked. The DGP underlined the need to use technology for effective policing, urging the installation and maintenance of CCTV cameras in all villages and public places. He emphasized prompt response to Dial 100 calls and directed

officers to maintain a visible and approachable presence in their communities. Dr. Jitender also emphasized the importance of timely updates in online policing platforms and warned officers against delays or pendency in any area of functioning. He concluded the session by asking police personnel to focus on quality investigation and legal follow-up to improve the conviction rate, thus ensuring robust law enforcement and public trust. The review meeting was attended by Multi Zone-II IGP Sri V. Satyanarayana, Charminar Zone DIG Sri Tafseer Iqbal, District SP Sri K. Narayana Reddy, along with Additional SPs, DSPs, Inspectors, and other key police officials of the district.

Uttam Urges Centre to Reject ToR for Modified Polavaram Project

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Telangana Irrigation, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Capt N Uttam Kumar Reddy has written to Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, urging the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) to reject the Terms of Reference (ToR) sought by Andhra Pradesh for the modified Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP). Citing serious violations of environmental and legal guidelines, he called the modifications by Andhra Pradesh “detrimental to riparian interests and legally untenable.” In the letter, dated June 16, the Minister accused the Andhra Pradesh government of making significant deviations in both the Krishna and Godavari basins, expanding several components of the PIP without appropriate approvals. He stated that these actions contravene permissions granted under the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal Award (GWDTA) and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). He recalled that the Polavaram Proj-

ect initially received Environmental Clearance from the MoEF on October 25, 2005. However, due to extensive unapproved changes, the Ministry issued a ‘Stop Work Order’ on February 8, 2011. Although this order was kept in abeyance—most recently extended until July 2, 2026—it has allowed the project to continue despite formal objections from Telangana, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh. While the Polavaram Project holds “National Project” status and receives reimbursements from the Centre, Uttam stated that these reimbursements are limited to components approved under the original scope. “Yet the AP government has proceeded with major infrastructural modifications,” he noted. Referring to the Supreme Court’s order dated September 6, 2022, Uttam pointed out that the Court had underlined the need for further technical and environmental assessments. It had recommended that the Ministry of Jal Shakti and MoEF&CC convene all

stakeholders to resolve outstanding issues. Uttam Kumar Reddy highlighted that AP is now designing the head sluice of the Polavaram Right Main Canal (PIPRMC) for 40,000 cusecs—double the original 20,000 cusecs capacity. Twin tunnels, each with a 20,000 cusecs discharge, are being constructed, and the headworks have already been modified accordingly. Urging immediate intervention, the Minister requested that the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) not undertake any appraisal of AP’s proposal in its forthcoming meeting. “It is requested to outrightly reject the grant of ToR in the upcoming meeting of EAC,” he wrote. Copies of the letter were also marked to the Secretary of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, the Chairman of the Central Water Commission (CWC), the CEO of the Polavaram Project Authority (PPA), and the Engineer-in-Chief (General) of Telangana.

Complete Beautification of Shilpa Layout

Phase 2 Flyover Quickly: GHMC Commissioner Karnan

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan on Tuesday directed officials to expedite the remaining beautification and greenery works of the Shilpa Layout Phase 2 flyover, which has been developed at a cost of ₹178 crore on ORR to Gachibowli. With the flyover nearing completion and expected to open to the public soon, the Commissioner emphasized the need to wrap up the finishing touches quickly. During his inspection, Karnan also visited the Gachibowli and Hafizpet flyovers and instructed engineering officials to prepare proposals for further development works in the area. He specifically ordered the installation of rumble strips (transfer bars) as per IRC norms on the Shilpa Layout flyover to enhance road safety. Project CE Bhaskar Reddy, Deputy EE Harish, and Zonal SE Shankar Nayak accompanied the Commissioner during the inspection. The Commissioner later visited various locations in Hafizpet. He instruct-



ed officials to remove waste accumulated under the Hafizpet flyover and repurpose the area for sports-related activities. He also reviewed the Eerla Cheruvu drainage diversion project and ordered swift completion of the pending works. The SE was directed

to ensure that the Majira pipeline is planned appropriately for each stage of the CC road work. Corporator Jagadish Goud, Lakes EE Narayana, the Deputy Commissioner and other officials were present during the inspection.

KCR and KTR should hang their heads in shame

Phones of 650 Congress leaders tapped since 2022, alleges TPCC chief
Mahesh Kumar Goud appears as witness in phone tapping case

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud has made serious allegations against the previous BRS government, claiming that phone tapping of Congress leaders was carried out in blatant violation of the law. Speaking to the media after appearing as a witness in the ongoing investigation into the phone tapping case, Mahesh Kumar Goud revealed that he had earlier filed a complaint with the then Chief Secretary after suspecting that his phone was being tapped. He stated that the phones of around 650 Congress leaders, including his and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's, were illegally monitored since 2022. "We filed a complaint only after suspecting our phones were being tapped. What has come out now through the SIT proves that a large-scale, systematic breach of privacy occurred under the previous regime," he said. Goud squarely blamed former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and former minister K.T. Rama Rao for orchestrating the illegal surveillance. "KCR and KTR should hang their heads in shame for violating the Telegraph Act and undermining democracy. Their aim was to monitor Congress leaders' movements and destroy the opposition," he said. He further alleged that Intelligence offi-



cials, including retired officer Prabhakar Rao, were used to carry out these surveillance operations. "This is unprecedented in Indian democratic history. Officers who are meant to work impartially became tools in the hands of BRS leaders," he said. Citing the SIT probe, he said phones of Congress leaders like Kumbh Anil Kumar Yadav, Gali Anil, and many others were unlawfully tapped. Goud condemned the previous government's tactics of linking opposition leaders to Naxalism as a pretext to justify the surveillance. "This is not just an invasion of privacy, it is a political crime. Personal privacy is a fundamental right in this country. The previous government has not only broken the law but has also betrayed the trust of the people," he said. He demanded that the state government take swift action against all those responsible, including senior IAS and IPS officers involved in the illegal activity. "We urge the government to complete the investigation smoothly and ensure that such despicable acts are never repeated in the future," Goud concluded.

KTR Acting Brave Outside, Trembling Inside: Adi Srinivas

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Government Whip and TRS rebel leader Adi Srinivas launched a sharp attack on BRS Working President and former minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), questioning why he would be afraid if he had done nothing wrong. His comments came in the wake of the ACB investigation into the alleged irregularities in the Formula E-race project. Speaking to the media, Adi Srinivas asked, "Why is KTR afraid of arrest if he claims to be innocent?" He alleged that KTR was putting up a brave face publicly while being rattled behind the scenes. Referring to KTR's statement calling the Formula E probe a 'scam case', Srinivas said, "Is he the goat of dignity or just pretending to be one?" He ridiculed the BRS leadership for giving a hero's welcome to KTR after his ACB appearance. "Are you celebrating just because he wasn't arrested? Is this how far the party has fallen?" he mocked. "People who did wrong are now being treated with royal honors. Brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law

are hugging each other in celebration," he added sarcastically, pointing to the BRS cadre's dramatic gestures of solidarity. Adi Srinivas went further, stating that the Kalvakuntla fam-



ily is now politically cornered and isolated in their farmhouse, following the crushing defeat in the recent elections. He alleged that even BRS MLAs, who managed to win, are no longer actively engaging with the people. "They've distanced themselves from public service, and are instead consumed by a series of legal troubles," he remarked. The comments have added fuel to the political tension in the state, as the BRS continues to face scrutiny over multiple allegations tied to the previous regime.

Strengthening Singareni is the State Government's Priority

Singareni must grow in line with changing market conditions
The company should expand into other mining sectors beyond coal

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu stated that strengthening Singareni, a public sector enterprise with over 45,000 employees, is a key goal of the state government to ensure livelihood opportunities for future generations. On Tuesday, he conducted a review meeting with senior officials at the Singareni GM office in Bhupalpally. He said the government's primary objective is to ensure that Singareni remains profitable, benefiting its employees, local communities, and the state government. In the past, Singareni and Coal India held

a monopoly in the coal sector, but due to recent global changes in the coal industry, there is now a need for Singareni to withstand market competition, the Deputy CM observed. He advised that officials and staff must consistently compare coal production costs and selling prices in the open market — both of private companies and Singareni. To ensure transparency, he instructed officials to install boards at mining sites displaying coal production costs and market prices to raise awareness among workers and officers. This is just one aspect. Given Singareni's 136-year experience in mining, the Deputy



He emphasized that Singareni should not only focus on business but also maintain a humanitarian approach. The entire region where Singareni mines are operational must benefit in terms of welfare, he instructed. Locals informed that two villages in the Bhupalpally constituency have been affected. Responding to

Notably, bonuses are being paid not just to permanent employees but also to contract workers. The review meeting was attended by Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, MP Kadiyam Kavva, MLA Gandra Satyanarayana, Singareni CMD Balram Naik, District Collector Rahul Sharma, and others.

Operation KAGAR Is a Corporate Grab in the Name of Security



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Strongly opposing the Centre's newly launched Operation KAGAR, Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLC Dr. Dasaju Sravan Kumar on Monday described it as a "corporate-backed attack on Adivasi rights" during a Maha Dharna at Indira Park. He called it a premeditated assault disguised as a national security operation that threatens the livelihood, land, and dignity of tribal communities. "Operation KAGAR is nothing but 'Operation Corporate Grab.' It is a systematic

aggression against India's indigenous people and stands in direct violation of the Constitution," Sravan said, accusing the Centre of using the operation to benefit corporate interests at the cost of tribal lives. He lambasted the use of state force to silence questions and democratic dissent. "Bullets are not the answer to questions. Adivasis are not asking for bloodshed; they are demanding equality and dignity—constitutional rights that this government is denying them," Sravan said.

Highlighting the persistent socio-economic inequality, Sravan added, "As long as injustice continues, people will question the system. But this government answers those questions with guns instead of dialogue. This is not democracy; it is destruction in the name of development." Drawing parallels to authoritarian regimes, he asserted, "This is not Taliban rule. India was built on constitutional values—not corporate greed. Forests and tribal lives are not for sale." The BRS MLC reiterated his party's firm position, as already declared by KCR at the Warangal Sabha—calling for an unconditional ceasefire and immediate peace talks. "Suppressing people with guns cannot be the policy of any democratic nation. If this continues, BRS will lead a strong political and moral battle to defend the Constitution and the Adivasi people." He concluded with a powerful message: "You may silence a voice, but you can't silence an entire people. If lives are being sacrificed for corporate profits, it is not growth—it is state-sanctioned violence."

Hearing on Kaushik Reddy's Anticipatory Bail Postponed to 23rd

TPN Correspondent | Warangal
The Telangana High Court on Monday postponed the hearing on the anticipatory bail petition of Congress MLA and former minister Padi Kaushik Reddy to June 23. The court directed the public prosecutor to file a counter in the case. Kaushik Reddy's counsel requested interim protection from arrest until the next hearing, but the High Court rejected the plea. A case had been registered against the MLA at the Subedari Police Station under Warangal Commissionerate based on a complaint filed by Umadevi, the wife of quarry businessman Manoj. In her complaint, Umadevi alleged that Kaushik Reddy threatened her and demanded



₹50 lakh. Earlier, Kaushik Reddy approached the High Court with a petition to quash the case filed against him. However, the High Court dismissed the quash petition, following which he applied for anticipatory bail. With political implications surrounding the case, all eyes are now on the next hearing scheduled for the 23rd.

Kishan Reddy Meeting Sought by MLA Raja Singh

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Goshamahal BJP MLA T. Raja Singh has sought a personal meeting with Union Minister and Telangana BJP President G. Kishan Reddy to discuss key issues. On Tuesday, Raja Singh publicly requested that Kishan Reddy allocate time for the meeting, stating he would reach the designated place at the scheduled time if informed in advance. Raja Singh emphasized that the meeting was important to convey several matters directly to the Union Minister. Without elaborating on the specific issues, he expressed a

strong desire to have a one-on-one discussion to ensure better coordination within the party and address concerns crucial to the party's growth in Telangana. He also issued a call to BJP leaders and cadres to set aside personal differences and focus on the collective goal of bringing the party to power in Telangana. "A BJP government is essential for Telangana. We can achieve this only if everyone works together," he said. His comments are being seen as a step towards reconciliation and internal consolidation, especially amid ongoing reports of factionalism within the state BJP leadership.



GHMC to seal illegal buildings with red ribbon marking

Occupants given 3-day deadline to vacate
Action taken after High Court’s strong criticism of GHMC

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
In response to scathing remarks from the Telangana High Court, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has taken a decisive step against illegal constructions across the city. GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan has issued a circular directing officials to immediately seize buildings constructed without proper approvals or in violation

of sanctioned plans. The Commissioner, invoking powers under Section 461-A of the GHMC Act, 1955 and TG-BPASS regulations, has ordered officials to act swiftly. As per the newly issued standard operating procedures, if any individuals are currently residing or operating within illegal constructions, they must vacate within three days. Further, GHMC has instructed its teams to seal such build-

ings by blocking entrances, exits, staircases, elevators, and ramps using red ribbons, marking them as non-compliant structures. This is part of a visible crackdown to deter future violations and send a strong message to encroachers. The move comes a day after the Telangana High Court expressed deep frustration over the increasing number of unauthorized constructions in Hyderabad. During a hearing

on a petition filed by a builder, the court sharply questioned the role of GHMC and local supervisory officers. “Are the authorities blind while illegal constructions come up in broad daylight?” the court asked, pointing out the lack of accountability and supervision. The bench observed that illegal constructions are thriving due to the negligence and inaction of GHMC officials. It stressed the urgent need for structural



reforms and direct accountability mechanisms within the civic body. In light of these remarks, GHMC’s latest orders are being seen as a much-needed corrective measure to restore public trust and maintain urban planning integrity. Civic officials are expected to begin implementing the seizure orders in the coming days, with affected building owners and occupants already being notified.

Golkonda Bonalu Festivities From June 26: Ponnam

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Minister Ponnam Prabha-kar conducted a review meeting with officials ahead of the Golkonda Bonalu festival, which marks the beginning of Ashadha month festivities on June 26. Stressing the importance of seamless arrangements, he directed authorities to ensure that this year’s Bonalu is celebrated without any inconvenience to devotees. “This is not just a religious event but also a symbol of Telangana’s rich culture. Golkonda Bonalu, being the first of Ashadha month, attracts devotees from across the state,” he said. The Minister urged departments to act responsibly and treat it as a privilege to serve during the festival. He reminded officials that

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has already released funds to support the Bonalu festivities across the state. “We have already reviewed preparations at MCHRD. Officials must now focus on execution at ground level,” he stated. Instructions were given for coordinated efforts across departments. Police were directed to ensure foolproof security, manage large queues under the Golkonda Fort, and install barricades for crowd control. GHMC was asked to ensure sanitation, continuous drinking water supply, and uninterrupted electricity, with backup generators. Health camps, ambulances, and SHE teams for women’s safety must be deployed. The Fire Department was told to stay alert with fire tenders on standby. TSRTC



should arrange special buses from major points in Hyderabad, considering high turnout due to free travel for women. Ponnam also instructed the Information and Broadcasting Department to provide historical insights about Bonalu through live coverage and work in coordination with the Department of Culture. He asked Tourism officials to showcase

Telangana’s destinations, including green hotels and lakes, during the celebrations. Calling for people’s cooperation, he said, “Let us make the Ashadha Bonalu a grand success. These celebrations should reflect Telangana’s spirit beyond caste, religion, or politics, and bring the blessings of Goddess Ammavaru to everyone.”

Actress Ramyasri Attacked in FCI Colony, Gachibowli

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
In a shocking incident that unfolded in broad daylight near the Gachibowli Police Station on Tuesday, actress Ramyasri and her brother Prashantha were attacked by the followers of Sandhya Convention owner Sridhar Rao. The attack took place during a road marking operation carried out under the supervision of Hydra officials in the FCI Colony Layout, opposite the police station. According to eyewitnesses, the road marking work was being conducted peacefully in the presence of plot owners. However, tensions escalated when some plot owners, including actress Ramyasri and her brother, began recording videos of the proceedings. Followers of Sridhar Rao allegedly objected to the recording and launched a violent assault on the duo using a knife and a cricket bat. Both Ramyasri and Prashantha sustained injuries in the attack and have

since lodged a formal complaint with the Gachibowli police. The actress expressed outrage, stating that such a brutal attempt on their lives was



carried out openly, just meters away from a police station. She demanded immediate action against Sridhar Rao’s associates and urged the police to put an end to what she described as ongoing intimidation and violent behavior linked to the Sandhya Convention circle. “This was nothing less than an attempt to murder us in broad daylight. Are people not safe even in front of a police station?” Ramyasri questioned, urging authorities to ensure that law and order prevail in the area.

New Multi-Level Parking System Introduced at KBR Park

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
In a major step towards easing parking woes in one of Hyderabad’s busiest areas, a new multi-level parking system has been set up at KBR Park using advanced Korean technology. The system is designed to accommodate up to 72 cars at once and is currently undergoing a trial run. Full operations are expected to begin within ten days. The area surrounding KBR Park, especially during early morning and evening hours, sees heavy vehicle movement with walkers and visitors crowding the space. Due to limited parking facilities, vehicle owners often face difficulties, contributing to congestion in the Banjara Hills and Jubilee Hills zones. To address this persistent issue, authorities have now introduced a high-tech parking solution on a 400-yard stretch near the park. The newly introduced facility, built at a cost of ₹6 crore, is being positioned as a model for future implementations in Hyderabad. Officials explained that the multi-level setup was built using Korean engineering, which ensures optimal space utilization and efficient parking. This is part of a broader strategy to resolve the city’s parking and traffic issues by adopting modern infrastructure. Authorities expressed confidence that if this pilot model at KBR Park proves successful, similar systems will be deployed in other high-traffic locations across the city. Local residents and park visitors have welcomed the move, anticipating smoother traffic flow and hassle-free parking in the coming days.



IRCTC Launches Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has announced a special spiritual tour titled “Ganga Ramayana Punya Kshetra Yatra” under its Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train initiative. The nine-day journey will begin on June 23, 2025, from Secunderabad Railway Station and cover key pilgrimage sites in Varanasi, Ayodhya, Naimisharanya, and Prayagraj, culminating on July 1, 2025. The train will take devotees to sacred locations including Kashi Viswanath Temple and Corridor, Kashi Vishalakshi Temple, Annapurna Devi Temple, Evening Ganga Aarti in Varanasi, Ram Janma Bhoomi and Hanumangarhi in Ayodhya, Chakra Tirtha, Vyasa Gaddi and Hanuman Garhi in Naimisharanya, and Triveni Sangam and Shringverpur in Prayagraj. To facilitate pilgrims from both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, IRCTC is providing boarding and

deboarding options at multiple stations en route. These include Bhongir, Jangaon, Kazipet, Warangal, Mahbubabad, Dornakal, Khammam, Madhira, Vijayawada, Eluru,

Tour Package Pricing:			
Category	Economy (Sleeper)	Standard (3AC)	Comfort (2AC)
Adult (Double/Triple Sharing)	₹16,200/-	₹26,500/-	₹35,000/-
Child (5–11 years)	₹15,200/-	₹25,300/-	₹33,600/-

Rajahmundry, Samalkot, Tuni, Duvvada, Pendurti, Vizianagaram, Palasa and other stations extending into Odisha like Brahmapur, Khurda Road, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Jajpur Keonjhar Road, Bhadrak, and Balasore.

The complete tour will span 8 nights and 9 days, offering pilgrims a fully inclusive package with train and road transportation, accommodation in budget hotels, and onboard/offboard catering (tea, breakfast,

lunch, and dinner). Additional amenities include CCTV in coaches, public announcement systems, travel insurance, and dedicated Tour Managers throughout the trip.

Accommodation includes Non-AC rooms for economy, and AC rooms for standard and comfort categories. Road transport will be arranged via Non-AC vehicles for economy and standard, and AC vehicles for comfort category travelers. IRCTC encourages interested pilgrims to book early due to limited availability and high demand for this spiritual yatra, which offers a rare opportunity to visit multiple sacred sites in a single curated journey.

Notorious House Burglary Gang Busted

Joint operation by Narayanguda Police and East Zone Task Force

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
In a significant breakthrough, the Narayanguda Police of East Zone, in coordination with the East Zone Task Force, apprehended a notorious gang of house burglars involved in a major theft case. The arrest followed a joint operation in which the sleuths managed to recover stolen property worth approximately ₹1.7 crore, including gold ornaments, cash, and luxury watches. The burglary occurred during the intervening night of June 5 and 6, 2025, in a residence located in Avanthi-nagar, Basheerbagh, under the Narayanguda Police Station limits. The accused broke into

the house of businessman Nukala Rama Krishna by removing a window grill while the family was away. They looted around 173 tolas of gold, ₹17.5 lakh in cash, and expensive watches. The victim lodged a complaint on June 7, leading to the registration of a case under Cr. No. 164/2025 U/s 331(4), 305 BNS. Following the complaint, special teams were formed under the supervision of senior officials including Dr. B. Bala Swamy, IPS, DCP East Zone, and Addl. DCPs of East Zone and Task Force. A team comprising SHO U. Chandrashekar, DI Nagarjuna, and the crime staff of Narayanguda Police, along with another team led by Inspector Nagar-

juna of the Task Force, tracked the culprits using CCTV footage and technical surveillance. The four accused were apprehended at Kummawadi, Asifnagar, on June 16, 2025, at around 6:00 PM, just as they were planning to escape from Hyderabad. The arrested individuals include Chaupal Sagar Kumar (22), a pan shop owner from Karwan; Akash Kumar Mandal (19), a bike mechanic from Bihar residing in Asifnagar; Saqlain Khan (19), a student from Tallagadda; and Chandra Shekar Chaupal (49), a businessman and receiver of stolen property. Three other accused – Ashish, Ashwini Rachu, and Shalini Rachu – are currently absconding. The recov-

ered property includes 158 tolas of gold, ₹10.75 lakh in cash, and eight high-end watches. The combined value of the seized items stands at approximately ₹1.7 crore. This successful operation was carried out under the close supervision of senior officers, including Dr. B. Bala Swamy IPS, DCP East Zone; Sri A. Srinivas Rao, Addl. DCP Task Force; Sri J. Narsaiah, Addl. DCP East Zone; and Sri M. Mattaiah, ACP Sultanbazar Division. The efforts of the officers and staff involved in cracking this case have been recognized and appreciated, with commendations and rewards issued by the DCP East Zone.

Couple Ends Life in Bhuvanagiri

Vinay and Shruti end lives after families reject their union

TPN Correspondent | Yadadri Bhuvanagiri
A tragic incident unfolded in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district on Sunday night, where a young couple ended their lives by jumping under a train, unable to bear the rejection of their relationship by their families due to caste differences. The victims have been identified as Kote Vinay Kumar (25) and Shruti (23), both natives of Namiligonda village in Station Ghanpur mandal of Jangaon district. According to the Railway Police, Vinay and Shruti had been in love for the past five years, having known each other since childhood and growing up as neighbors. Shruti, who completed her engineering, was working in a software company and staying with her sister in Hyderabad,

while Vinay had completed his degree and was employed at a private bank in Jangaon. The couple, who had dreams of getting married, recently approached their families seeking approval. However, their hopes were shattered when both families refused to support their union due to caste differences. Making matters worse, Shruti's family reportedly began searching for other marriage prospects for her. Distressed by the situation, the couple met in Hyderabad on Sunday and later traveled to Bhuvanagiri. Around 8 PM, near the Anantaram railway bridge on the outskirts of Bhuvanagiri, they allegedly committed suicide by jumping in front of the Secunderabad-Visakhapatnam train. Following an alert from the train's loco pilot, railway police reached

the scene and recovered the mutilated bodies around 11 PM. During the panchnama, police found Shruti's Aadhaar and office ID card in her handbag. Their mobile phones were found destroyed. Based on the recovered ID cards, police identified the victims and informed their families. Shruti's parents are farmers by profession and have two daughters; her elder sister is married. After postmortem procedures were completed at the Bhuvanagiri Government Hospital on Monday, the bodies were handed over to the bereaved families. Railway GRP In-charge Krishna Rao confirmed that a case has been registered and an investigation is underway. The tragic incident has cast a shadow of grief over Namiligonda village and the surrounding areas.



Goal is to ensure that no family in the state is homeless

TPN Correspondent | Bhupalpalli
Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka came down heavily on the previous government over alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram project, accusing them of brazenly looting state funds. He made these remarks while addressing a public meeting in Bhupalpalli district after inaugurating power substations worth ₹8.70 crore. Bhatti called the previous government "shameless" for admitting to embezzling public money in the name of the Kaleshwaram project. He warned that the project's flawed design poses a grave danger, pointing out that the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) had itself confirmed discrepancies between the approved design and the actual construction. "The Congress governments have constructed many projects in this state, and none of them have caused such structural disasters. Kaleshwaram is an example of misgovernance and arrogance,"

Bhatti said. Reaffirming the Congress-led government's commitment to welfare, Bhatti said, "Our goal is to ensure that no family in the state is homeless or income-less. No one should go hungry. We will not allow welfare to lag behind or development to come to a halt." Highlighting the achievements of the current government, Bhatti said the Congress regime holds the record for supplying uninterrupted electricity in a state that has witnessed a 2,000 MW increase in power demand. "Even with this extra load, there hasn't been a single minute of interruption in supply. That is the Congress government's history," he noted. He further said that the government is spending ₹13,992 crore annually to provide free electricity to farmers and citizens across Telangana. "This shows our commitment to the people of the state—not just in words but in action," Bhatti added.



TET Exams Begin in Telangana Today

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
All arrangements have been made for the smooth conduct of the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) in Telangana, beginning today and continuing till June 30. The School Education Department has announced that the exams will be conducted in two sessions daily across 66 designated centres in the state. The first session will be held from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM, while the second session will take place from 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM. The department has issued a detailed schedule for Paper-1 and Paper-2 exams on different dates throughout the exam window. Paper-2 exams are scheduled on

June 18, 19, 24 (first session only), 28, 29, and 30. Paper-1 will be conducted on June 20, 23, 24 (second session only), and 27. The application process, which was open from April 15 to 30, attracted 1,83,653 applicants. Of them, 63,261 candidates applied for Paper-1 (meant for teaching classes I to V), and 1,20,392 for Paper-2 (for classes VI to VIII). Officials confirmed that nearly 15,000 candidates have applied for both papers. With exam day logistics in place and centres prepared, authorities have urged candidates to strictly follow instructions, carry valid ID proof, and report well ahead of time.

Farmer Means Congress, Congress Means Farmer: Arun Raj



TPN Correspondent | Bhadrachalam
Bhadrachalam constituency Congress Party youth leader Chintirala Arun Raj expressed heartfelt gratitude to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy for releasing the much-awaited farmer guarantee funds. He termed the initiative as a "historic decision" in the state's agricultural history. Speaking to the media, Arun Raj stated that on the first day of the Farmer Guarantee Scheme implementation, ₹6,000 was deposited into the accounts of farmers owning two acres of land as monsoon season investment assistance. The state government released a total of ₹2,349.83 crore, directly benefiting 41.25 lakh farmers. He added that in the next nine days, the remaining farmers, irrespective of their landholding size, will receive the assistance. "There is no cap on the acreage. Every farmer will receive ₹12,000 annually for each acre cultivated," he emphasized. Additionally, the government has also announced a payment of ₹1,199 crore as a ₹500 per quintal bonus to small grain farmers, a move aimed at further strengthening the farming community. Arun Raj criticized the previous BRS government, stating that despite ruling for ten years, they failed to stand by the side of the farmers. "Instead of resorting to baseless criticism, the BRS leaders should respect the people's mandate and acknowledge this pro-farmer Congress government," he remarked. He concluded by stating, "A government that stands for the farmer is Congress. A government that loves the farmer is Congress. A farmer means Congress, and Congress means farmer."

Ex-Army Men Held for Illegal Defense Liquor Sale

TPN Correspondent | Medchal-Malkajgiri
Authorities have seized a total of 61 bottles of defense liquor in two separate operations in Malkajgiri and Medchal, arresting former Army personnel involved in illegal liquor sales. Acting on a tip-off, the Malkajgiri AES Mukunda Reddy team raided two locations and seized 37 bottles of defense liquor. The seized stock was identified as tiffin liquor from Karnataka. Ex-serviceman Purushottam was caught selling the bottles in Yaprul, while Mupparapu Siddaiah, another Army personnel, was found selling liquor at Kaukur. The estimated value of the seized liquor is Rs. 75,000. AES Mukunda Reddy, CI Bharat Bhushan, DTF

Excise SI Srinivas Reddy and their team carried out the operation. Excise Superintendent Naveen appreciated the team for their swift action in curbing illegal liquor trade. In a separate incident in Medchal, a joint operation led by Medchal CI Navneetha, AES Madhavaiah, and DTF Narsi Reddy resulted in the seizure of 24 liquor bottles believed to have been brought in by labourers from Haryana and other states. The seized liquor is valued at around Rs. 48,000. Excise Superintendent S.K. Fayazuddin congratulated the team for their successful crackdown on unauthorized liquor sales.



Collector Jitesh V. Patil urges youth to stay away from addiction

TPN Correspondent | Bhadrachalam
District Collector Jitesh V. Patil on Wednesday called upon all stakeholders to join hands in making Bhadrachalam a drug-free district. Speaking at the district-level anti-drug committee coordination meeting held at the IDOC office, he emphasized the need to keep students and youth away from bad habits and substance abuse. Alongside District SP Rohit Raju, the Collector stressed that colleges and parents must remain vigilant. "Awareness on the dangers of marijuana and drugs should be raised in



parent-teacher meetings and through real-life video stories. Such campaigns can help high-

light the irreversible impact of addiction on one's future," he said. He also instructed officials to identify addicts and assist them through rehabilitation programs. "If anyone notices children addicted to substances in their area, they must report immediately. Forest department officials must inspect lands to check for illegal marijuana cultivation and alert the police," he directed. The Collector asked the Drug Inspector to conduct monthly checks of stock details at hospitals and medical shops. He noted that bad habits not only harm health but also destroy the mental faculties of young minds. "Let us build a generation that stays informed and free from addiction," he added.

PD Act for Drug Offenders: SP Rohit Raju District SP Rohit Raju warned that the PD Act would be applied against those found using or transporting drugs. "We have seized 3,500 kg of ganja so far this year. Surveillance has been intensified through the Bhadrachalam check post to curb trafficking from Orissa," he said. In a first for the state, two narcotic-detection dogs have been deployed in the district, earning state-level recognition for the SP. "Spiritual technology and special task forces are also being set up to dismantle the drug network," he informed. The SP further emphasized

the importance of awareness among students and suggested that schools also educate children on the POCSO Act. Drug testing kits and a de-addiction center in Bhadrachalam are now available to support the anti-drug mission. Officials including Bhadrachalam ASP Vikrant Singh, Excise Superintendent Janaiah, Ilandu DSP Ramanamurthy, Kothagudem RTO Venkataramana, District Medical Officer Bhaskar Nayak, DEO Venkateswara Chari, Intermediate Officer Venkateswarlu, and Agriculture Officer Baburao also participated in the meeting.

China’s Military Aggression: White Paper Reveals Underlying Pressures

Recent sightings of China’s air-craft carriers—Liaoning and Shandong—operating near Japan’s southern islands have triggered alarm across the Indo-Pacific. Simultaneously, an uptick in Chinese Coast Guard patrols near disputed Japanese territories has raised fears, especially after new Chinese guidelines permitted use of lethal force to enforce maritime claims.

A deeper look into China’s newly released national security white paper offers insight into Beijing’s growing belligerence. The document outlines a mix of internal vulnerabilities and external threats that Beijing believes endanger national stability. Central to this are economic concerns, geopolitical rivalries—especially with the US—and internal discontent.

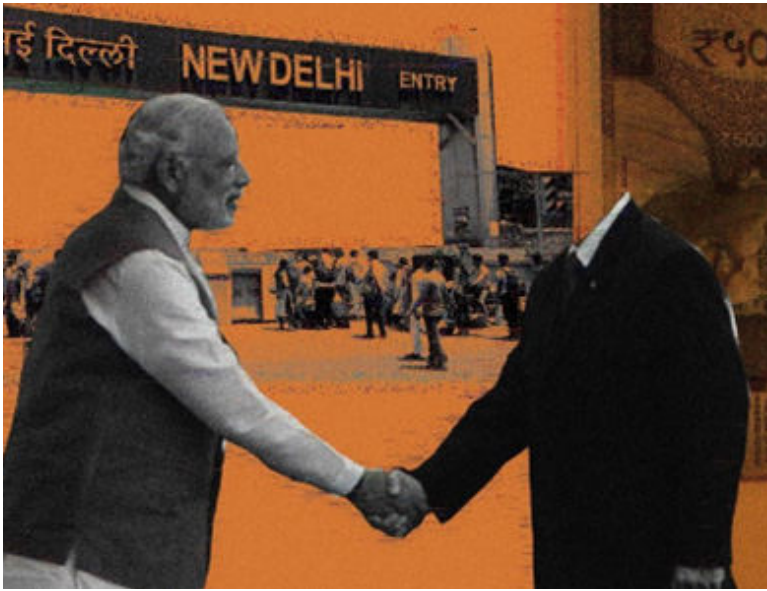
Former US President Donald Trump’s trade policies and continued economic decoupling have destabilized China’s export-led growth model. This economic strain threatens the informal social contract where the Chinese middle class trades political freedoms for economic prosperity. Though the government projects around 5% GDP growth, economists like Gao Shanw-



en question the credibility of these figures, citing signs of deeper malaise. Domestically, China fears color revolutions, religious and ethnic unrest, and growing dissent. These anxieties are compounded by turbulence within the People’s Liberation Army (PLA), with high-level suspensions, disappearances of key military figures, and allegations of corruption. Defence Minister Dong Jun’s absence at the Shangri-La Dialogue further signals instability within the PLA’s leadership.

Externally, Beijing perceives containment by the US and its allies. Xi Jinping has openly accused Washington of encirclement, and Beijing’s military actions—whether near Taiwan, Japan, or Australia—appear to be calculated responses. Reports of China supporting Pakistan diplomatically and militarily following the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack illustrate Beijing’s use of proxy partnerships to challenge India. This aggressive posturing mirrors previous patterns—

during Trump’s first term in 2020, China clashed with Japan over the Senkaku Islands and with India at Galwan. The 2025 resurgence of similar tensions, amid renewed US-China hostilities, indicates a deliberate strategy. As Xi grapples with economic and institutional challenges, external aggression might be used to consolidate domestic support. For India, the message is clear: it must remain alert and adapt its China strategy to navigate this increasingly complex regional landscape.



Who Truly Stands by India in Times of Crisis?

In the evolving global power game, recent events have laid bare an uncomfortable reality for Indian diplomacy: while Pakistan can count on China as a steadfast “all-weather friend,” India finds itself increasingly isolated during moments of crisis. The May 2025 conflict with Pakistan, sparked by the Pahalgam terror attack, underscored this stark imbalance.

China’s support for Pakistan was not only vocal but strategic. Beijing offered diplomatic backing and reportedly aided Islamabad with air defense and satellite intelligence. It even hinted at using the Brahmaputra waters as leverage after India threatened to revise the Indus Waters Treaty. China’s motivations are clear: Pakistan is a key customer for its arms industry, a central node in its \$68 billion Belt and Road Initiative via the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, and a means to counter India’s regional influence and its deepening ties with the United States.

Meanwhile, India struggled to find strong allies. The U.S. under President Trump intervened during the conflict not in India’s favor but with a neutral posture, promoting itself as a peace broker and even reviving the idea of international mediation on Kashmir—something India has long opposed. The result: India’s diplomatic messaging was undercut, and the conflict was perceived internationally as a draw, not a deterrent success.

Even Russia, once a reliable partner, showed ambivalence. It remained silent on the terror attack and bolstered ties with Pakistan, launching infrastructure projects and train routes linking Lahore to Moscow. At the UN, India failed to gather support to raise concerns over Pakistan’s use of international aid, while Pakistan secured influential UN posts.

Ironically, while India faces military threats from China and diplomatic undercutting by the West, it is also economically dependent on China. Bilateral trade favors China heavily, especially in intermediate goods vital for India’s industries. Only Israel and, briefly, Afghanistan, voiced clear support for India. But relying solely on transactional diplomacy and avoiding formal alliances may have weakened India’s strategic leverage. As the China-Pakistan axis grows stronger, New Delhi may need to reconsider its approach to partnerships—because in a world of shifting alliances, transactional friendships may not be enough.

Beyond Utopia: Is India Addressing Inequality Effectively?

India’s rise to become the world’s fourth-largest economy in 2025, with a GDP of \$4.19 trillion, marks a major milestone. Yet, amid this economic success, questions persist: Is the growth inclusive? And is India doing enough to tackle inequality? The Gini coefficient, a key measure of inequality, suggests some progress. According to the 2024-25 Economic Survey, rural inequality dropped from 0.266 in 2022-23 to 0.237 in 2023-24, while urban inequality fell from 0.314 to 0.284 in the same period. However, critics argue that consumption-based metrics understate long-term wealth inequality, especially as lower-income groups tend to spend more than they earn. Reports offer mixed perspectives. Bhal-la and colleagues (2022) observed that inequality in India had returned to levels seen in the early 1990s. Yet, the World Inequality Lab estimates that the top 1% earn 22.6% of the income and hold over 40% of the nation’s wealth, while the bottom 50%



control just 6.4%. These disparities raise concerns about concentrated wealth and opportunity. Despite this, India’s inequality isn’t unusual globally. Nations like South Africa and Brazil exhibit even higher disparities. The OECD also notes widening inequality across advanced economies, reflecting a structural challenge in free-market systems. Rather than aiming for an unattainable utopia, India must focus on practical solutions. The philosophy of Antyodaya—uplifting the

poorest—provides a roadmap. Government schemes like Ayushman Bharat and Poshan have helped reduce healthcare-related poverty risks. Between FY15 and FY22, public health spending rose significantly, while out-of-pocket costs dropped from 62.6% to 39.4%. Additionally, India’s success in reducing multidimensional poverty and supporting first-generation entrepreneurs through initiatives like Start-up India reflects a pragmatic approach to inclusion. Sustainable economic growth, paired with investments in education, health, nutrition, and skill-building, can bridge social and economic gaps. In essence, while inequality may persist to some degree in any economy, India’s challenge lies in ensuring upward mobility and equitable access to opportunity—not by hindering growth, but by empowering those at the bottom to become active participants in the nation’s progress.

A Birthday Bash Amid Unrest: Trump’s Parade Overshadowed by Protests

June 15, 2025, marked a turbulent turning point in American politics, coinciding with President Donald Trump’s 79th birthday and a grand military parade in Washington, D.C., celebrating the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Army. The \$45-million spectacle, replete with tanks and troops, was intended as a display of national pride. Instead, it served to deepen political divides, as protests against recent immigration crackdowns escalated across California and beyond. The demonstrations, sparked by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids that began on June 6, quickly grew in scale and intensity. Protesters decried what they see as a militarised campaign targeting undocumented migrants. The situation worsened after 4,000 National Guard troops and 700 Marines were deployed to Los Angeles to suppress the largely peaceful protests—a move widely viewed as excessive and provocative. California Governor Gavin New-



som and Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass both voiced strong opposition to the federal crackdown, calling it an abuse of power. Their objec-

tions, however, were brushed aside by President Trump, who appears to be using federal muscle to assert his authority and silence dissent. Critics

argue that this approach not only undermines democratic norms but also risks further inflaming tensions. Ironically, Trump—who granted par-

adons to many involved in the January 6, 2021 Capitol riot—now presides over an administration using military force against peaceful American demonstrators. His actions have triggered concern over the growing politicisation of the armed forces and the erosion of constitutional checks on executive power. While Trump’s parade projected an image of strength, it has been overshadowed by nationwide outrage and a growing sense of unease. The use of the military to police domestic unrest evokes comparisons to authoritarian regimes and undermines the democratic ideals the parade was meant to honour. What was meant to be a birthday celebration has instead revealed deep fractures within American society and governance. Rather than unifying the country, the events of the day have amplified fears of executive overreach and the dangerous blurring of lines between political power and military force.

PM Modi Arrives in Canada for G7 Summit Amid Renewed Diplomatic Engagement

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Canada on June 16, 2025, to attend the G7 Summit at Kananaskis, marking his first visit to the country in a decade. The summit, hosted by Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, comes at a critical juncture in global geopolitics and bilateral relations. Mr. Modi is also scheduled to hold several bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the summit, including discussions on energy security, technology, innovation, and the AI-energy nexus.

The visit comes just over a month after India's Operation Sindoor, which targeted terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in retaliation for the April 22 Pahalgam terror attacks. The operation underscored India's commitment to national security and has been a focal point of international dialogue, including at the G7.

This summit marks Modi's sixth consecutive G7 participation, and his presence reflects India's growing global stature as the world's fifth-largest economy. At the Outreach session, India will share views on pressing global challenges, including the Russia-Ukraine war and escalating tensions in the Middle East.

Crucially, this visit is seen as a reset in India-Canada relations, which hit a low



after the 2023 diplomatic fallout over the killing of pro-Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. The situation led to the mutual expulsion of diplomats and strained bilateral ties. Carney's invitation signals a desire to mend relations. Following Justin Trudeau's resignation earlier this year, both sides have resumed high-level security contacts, with discussions underway to appoint new high commissioners.

India and Canada enjoy significant economic ties. In 2024, bilateral trade in goods stood at USD 8.6 billion, while trade in services reached USD 14.3 billion.

Canada also hosts a large Indian diaspora, including 1.8 million Indo-Canadians and 1 million NRIs, many of whom are students, professionals, and temporary workers. However, recent immigration curbs in Canada have impacted Indian students, who comprised 41% of Canada's international student population in 2022.

As the G7 Summit continues, the meeting between Modi and Carney is expected to offer an opportunity to explore new pathways for cooperation, restore mutual trust, and chart a more stable and strategic future for India-Canada relations.



Heavy Rain and Winds Bring Relief to Delhi-NCR, IMD Issues Red Alert; Flights May Be Affected

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Residents across Delhi-NCR finally experienced relief from the relentless heatwave as heavy rain and strong winds swept the region on Tuesday, June 17. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a red alert for Delhi, Noida, Ghaziabad, Faridabad, and surrounding areas in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan, warning of thunderstorms, hailstorms, and wind speeds reaching up to 70 kmph.

The change in weather brought welcome relief, with visuals from Noida and parts of Delhi showing heavy showers and cooler conditions. However, the IMD's red alert indicates potential risks due to intense weather activity, including flash flooding, falling trees, and power disruptions. The alert was issued around 2 PM and forecasted storms within two hours for several parts of North India.

The IMD advisory also warned that flight operations at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport could be disrupted due to adverse weather. "Our on-ground teams are coordinating with all stakeholders. Passengers are advised to contact their airlines for the latest updates," a statement from airport authorities read.

IMD Forecast Breakdown:

- Severe Weather (Heavy rain, hailstorm, winds 50–70 kmph):**
 - Delhi:** Jafarpur
 - NCR:** Noida, Dadri, Greater Noida, Faridabad, Bahadurgarh
 - Haryana:** Jhajjar, Mattanhail, Farukhnagar
 - Uttar Pradesh:** Sikandrabad, Gulaoti
 - Rajasthan:** Laxmangarh, Rajgarh
- Moderate Thunderstorms (Gusts 50–70 kmph):**
 - Delhi:** IGI Airport, Dwarka, Tughlakabad, Narela, Dilshad Garden, Mundka, and others
 - NCR:** Ghaziabad, Gurugram, Indirapuram
 - Haryana:** Sonapat, Rohtak
 - Uttar Pradesh:** Modinagar, Hapur
 - Rajasthan:** Deeg, Nadbai
- Light to Moderate Rain (Winds 40–60 kmph):**
 - Delhi:** Karawal Nagar, Rohini, Kashmiri Gate, Lajpat Nagar, Palam, Safdarjung
 - Haryana, UP & Rajasthan:** Additional scattered areas listed under milder impact

Following Tuesday's red alert, a yellow alert has been issued for the following days, indicating the possibility of continued rain and storms through Thursday.

Meanwhile, the city's air quality showed improvement, with the AQI recorded at a 'satisfactory' 96, and temperatures ranging from a minimum of 29°C to a maximum of 34°C.

Air India Cancels Two More Dreamliner Flights After Deadly Crash

Technical Issues Raise Concerns



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Amid growing concerns over safety, Air India has cancelled two more international Boeing 787 Dreamliner flights — one from Delhi to Paris and another from Ahmedabad to London — just days after the tragic crash of flight AI-171. The cancellations have heightened scrutiny around the airline's Dreamliner fleet, which has faced multiple technical snags in recent days.

Air India's Delhi-Paris flight (AI 143), scheduled for Tuesday, was grounded after mandatory pre-flight checks revealed a technical issue. The return flight (AI 142) from Paris to Delhi, planned for Wednesday, has also been cancelled due to the delay, which would breach night-time flying restrictions at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport.

"We regret the inconvenience and are arranging alternate travel and hotel accommodation for affected passengers. Full refunds or complimentary rescheduling are also being offered," the airline said in a statement.

Earlier on Tuesday, the airline cancelled its Ahmedabad-London Gatwick service, citing airspace restrictions and precautionary checks in the aftermath of the AI-171 crash — a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner that tragically crashed seconds after take-off from Ahmedabad on June 12, killing 241 of the 242 people on board. The aircraft crashed into buildings near the airport, including a college hostel, killing 33 people on the ground as well. Air India has since retired the "AI 171" call sign in tribute to the victims.

Following the crash, at least three other India-bound Boeing 787s operated by Air India, British Airways, and Lufthansa were forced to return to their departure airports due to technical faults. One Air India flight from Hong Kong to Delhi (AI-315) returned just 15 minutes after take-off due to an unspecified issue. Other incidents involved Dreamliners flying from Frankfurt to Hyderabad and London to Chennai.

On Tuesday, a San Francisco-Mumbai flight via Kolkata also experienced a left engine snag, prompting deplaning of passengers in Kolkata. Investigators have recovered the Cockpit Voice Recorder and Flight Data Recorder from the crashed aircraft, and analysis is underway to determine the cause of the fatal incident.



India Expands Nuclear Edge Over Pakistan with Canisterised, MIRV-Ready Missiles: SIPRI Report

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India has strengthened its strategic edge over Pakistan by expanding its nuclear arsenal and advancing its delivery systems, according to the latest annual report by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), released on June 17, 2025.

The report estimates that India now possesses approximately 180 nuclear warheads, up from 172 in 2024. Alongside this modest expansion, India has made significant strides in modernising its nuclear delivery platforms. Notably, India is developing 'canisterised' missile systems, which allow nuclear warheads to be pre-mounted on missiles and safely transported even during peacetime. This technological leap enhances the readiness and survivability of India's nuclear arsenal.

Among the most advanced additions is the Agni Prime (Agni-P), a new-generation ballistic missile with a range of 1,000 to 2,000 km. It is fully canisterised and more accurate than its predecessors. India also successfully tested the MIRV-capable Agni-5 missile, capable of delivering multiple warheads to independent targets at distances exceeding 5,000 km. Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the success of this test, calling it a proud moment for India's defence establishment.

In addition, India tested a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) with a range of about 3,500 km, marking progress toward a credible second-strike capability.

SIPRI also observed that Pakistan, while continuing to develop its own nuclear platforms and increasing fissile material production, has not kept pace with India's recent advancements. The think tank warned of heightened escalation risks, referencing a brief India-Pakistan military confrontation in early 2025, which raised fears of potential nuclear miscalculation.

SIPRI further noted that China is rapidly expanding its nuclear arsenal, adding about 100 warheads annually and constructing around 350 new ICBM silos. China could match U.S. and Russian missile capabilities by 2030, SIPRI warned.

Globally, the total number of nuclear warheads stood at 12,241, with 9,614 in military stockpiles. Around 3,912 are deployed, with 2,100 on high operational alert. The report highlights a troubling global trend: while the dismantlement of warheads has slowed, deployment and modernisation efforts are accelerating across all nine nuclear-armed states.



Israeli Airstrike Kills Iran's Top Commander Ali Shadmani, Close Aide to Khamenei

TPN Correspondent | Iran

In a significant escalation of the ongoing conflict, Israel announced on Tuesday that its military had killed Ali Shadmani, Iran's top military commander and a close aide to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in an overnight airstrike. The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) confirmed that Shadmani, who served as Iran's wartime Chief of Staff, was eliminated during a targeted strike on a command center in the heart of Tehran.

According to a statement released by the Israeli military, the attack took place after "a sudden opportunity" emerged overnight. The airstrike targeted a key military installation, resulting in Shadmani's death. The IDF described Shadmani as "the most senior military commander" and one of the closest figures to Khamenei, playing a central role in both the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and the Iranian armed forces. The killing of Shadmani is seen as a major blow to Iran's military leadership. As the wartime Chief of Staff, he was responsible for coordinating operations between various military branches and playing a pivotal role in Iran's military strategy. His death will likely have profound implications for Iran's military operations, especially in the ongoing tensions with Israel.

Israel's military leadership emphasized that the strike was part of its broader efforts to neutralize high-ranking officials involved in planning and executing military operations that threaten Israeli security. Shadmani's death follows a series of Israeli airstrikes targeting key Iranian military figures and installations amid rising tensions in the region. This targeted strike underscores the intensifying conflict between Israel and Iran, with both nations engaged in a dangerous escalation of military actions that have already led to significant casualties on both sides. The situation remains volatile, and the geopolitical consequences of Shadmani's death are yet to unfold.

'Iran a source of instability': G7 expresses support for Israel

TPN Correspondent | Washington

The Group of Seven (G7) nations issued a statement late Monday expressing strong support for Israel and condemning Iran as a principal source of instability in the Middle East. The leaders of the G7, comprising major global economies, reiterated Israel's right to self-defense and called for broader de-escalation in the region as hostilities between Iran and Israel intensified.

The conflict, which erupted on Friday when Israel launched airstrikes on Iran, marks a new chapter in the ongoing tensions between the two Middle Eastern nations. Israel's airstrike was described as a preemptive move aimed at halting Iran's potential nuclear weapon development. Since then, the two countries have exchanged attacks, with Iranian officials reporting over 220 deaths, mostly civilians, while Israel con-



firmed the deaths of 24 civilians on its side.

In the G7 statement, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to Israel's security and labeled Iran as "the principal source of regional instabil-

ity and terror." The statement also underscored that Iran "can never have a nuclear weapon," reinforcing Israel's stance on preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear capabilities. Iran, however, denies any ambitions to develop nuclear weapons, assert-

ing its right to peaceful nuclear technology under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Israel, which is not a signatory to the NPT, is widely believed to possess nuclear weapons, although it neither confirms nor denies the claim.

As the situation in the Middle East worsens, U.S. President Donald Trump announced plans to leave the G7 summit early due to the escalating crisis. While the U.S. maintains it is not directly involved in the Israeli strikes, Trump praised Israel's actions, calling them "excellent." Washington has also warned Tehran against targeting U.S. interests or personnel in the region.

The G7 urged the resolution of the Iranian crisis to lead to a broader de-escalation of hostilities, including a ceasefire in Gaza, and vowed to work together to stabilize energy markets affected by the conflict.

Germany, France, and UK Offer Immediate Nuclear Talks to Iran Amid Middle East Tensions

TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

Germany, France, and the United Kingdom have offered to hold immediate negotiations with Iran regarding its nuclear program in a bid to ease escalating tensions in the Middle East. German Foreign Minister Johann Wadepful, currently visiting the region, emphasized the urgency of de-escalating the conflict between Israel and Iran through diplomatic engagement.

Speaking to German broadcaster ARD on Saturday, Wadepful expressed hope that Iran would accept the offer for talks, despite Tehran's previous reluctance to engage constructively. He stressed that resolving concerns over Iran's nuclear ambitions is crucial for achieving lasting peace and ensuring the safety of Israel, the wider region, and Europe.



"The conflict will only end when pressure and influence are applied to both Iran and Israel from all sides," Wadepful said during his visit to Oman on Sunday. He added that there is a shared expectation

that serious efforts must be made in the coming week to interrupt the ongoing spiral of violence.

When asked if he believed Iran's government might fall amid the

crisis, Wadepful stated that he did not think Israel intended to bring down Tehran's administration.

Turning to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, Wadepful described the situation as "unacceptable" and called on Israel to allow unrestricted access for aid organizations. He highlighted the severe hunger and suffering of civilians in the enclave and urged an end to their plight.

Wadepful also blamed Hamas for sparking the conflict and insisted that the Islamist group must release hostages it has held since militants launched attacks on Israel in October 2023.

The offer by Germany, France, and the UK for renewed nuclear talks signals a push by European powers to bring diplomacy back to the forefront amid a volatile and dangerous regional conflict.

Iran Accuses Israel of Sabotaging Nuclear Talks Amid Rising Conflict

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi accused Israel of deliberately trying to derail ongoing nuclear negotiations with the United States as tensions between the two nations escalated sharply. The comments came after Israel launched deadly strikes on Iranian nuclear and military sites, killing several and sparking retaliatory missile attacks by Iran on Israeli territory.



Araghchi stated that Iran's missile barrages on Israel would cease only if Israel ended its military campaign against Iran. He emphasized that Iran's actions were purely in self-defense and that Tehran did not seek to expand the conflict to neighboring countries unless forced. However, he warned that Israeli strikes on the South Pars gas field—shared by Iran and Qatar—were a dangerous provocation aimed at widening the war beyond Iranian borders.

The foreign minister condemned Israel for crossing a "new red line" by attacking Iran's nuclear facilities, which he said was a blatant violation of international law. He further accused Israel of sabotaging the sixth round of Iran-US nuclear talks, which had been scheduled for Sunday but were postponed due to the recent escalations. Araghchi insisted that Israel does not want a diplomatic resolution or an

agreement on the nuclear issue.

Araghchi also accused the United States of backing Israel's military campaign, claiming Iran has solid evidence that American forces and bases supported Israel's attacks. He expressed skepticism over U.S. denials and called on Washington to condemn the Israeli strikes on Iran's nuclear sites to demonstrate true goodwill.

Finally, the Iranian minister criticized the United Nations Security Council for its perceived indifference toward Israel's attacks. He said Western nations have unfairly condemned Iran instead of Israel, despite Iran being the party whose sovereignty was violated. The escalating conflict continues to cast a shadow over delicate nuclear negotiations and regional stability.

Russian Missile and Drone Strike on Kyiv Kills 15

Injures Over 100 in One of the Deadliest Attacks of 2025

TPN Correspondent | KYIV

In a devastating overnight assault, Russia launched a massive missile and drone attack on Ukraine, killing at least 15 people and injuring 116 others, Ukrainian officials reported on Tuesday, June 17. The brunt of the attack hit the capital, Kyiv, where explosions rocked the city for hours, leaving widespread destruction and panic.

Tymur Tkachenko, head of the Kyiv City Military Administration, confirmed that 14 people were killed and 99 injured in Kyiv alone. A nine-story residential building was directly hit, collapsing dozens of apartments and trapping residents under rubble. Emergency crews, including over 2,000 personnel, rushed to the scene to rescue survivors and tend to the wounded.

In the southern port city of Odesa, a separate Russian drone strike killed one person and injured 17 more, according to Oleh Kiper, head of the regional administration.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy condemned the assault as "one of the most terrifying strikes on Kyiv" and revealed that Russian forces had launched more than 440 drones and 32 missiles in the overnight bombardment. He accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of prolonging the war intentionally and criticized global leaders for failing to act decisively.



"There's no military infrastructure here — nothing. Just civilians dying at night," said Olena Lapyshniak, a 49-year-old Kyiv resident whose building was nearly leveled. Witnesses described hearing a whistling sound followed by powerful blasts that destroyed windows and doors in nearby homes.

Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko revealed that a U.S. citizen died in the attack due to shrapnel wounds. Fires also broke out in multiple districts after Ukrainian air defenses shot down several drones, causing debris to fall across the city.

The attack coincided with the G7 Summit in Canada, which Zelenskyy was scheduled to attend. However, U.S. President Donald Trump unexpectedly returned to Washington early due to rising tensions in the Middle East. Peace talks between Russia and Ukraine have seen little progress, except for planned prisoner exchanges expected next week.

Geopolitical Heat and Rupee Weakness Drag Markets Down

Domestic stock markets fell on Tuesday. Benchmark indices fell moderately. The NSE market breadth, however, turned completely in favor of sellers. The ongoing war in West Asia, Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz, and continued missile and air strikes led to negative sentiment. The rupee also weakened. With this, cautious investors preferred to take profits. Metal and pharma stocks were hurt by the impact of Trump's tariffs. Overall, Nifty lost 93 points and Sensex lost 212 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,796 in the previous session, opened at 81,869 on Tuesday. It touched an intraday low of 81,427. It reached an intraday high of 81,890. It ended at 81,583, down 212 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,977, touched a low of 24,813 and a high of 24,982. It closed at 24,853, down 93 points. The Nifty Bank fell 230 points to settle at 55,714.



In the Nifty50, 12 companies gained and 38 lost. Tech Mahindra, Infosys, Asian Paints, TCS, and Maruti Suzuki were the top gainers. Adani Enterprises, Sun Pharma, Dr. Reddy's, Eternal, and ONGC lost the most. All sectoral indices, except IT, were mixed today. Pharma, healthcare, metal, commodities, consumer durables, oil, media, PSU bank, realty and auto indices rose.

Market breadth turned in favor of buyers on NSE today. Out of a total of 2961 stocks traded, 939 gained and 1946 lost. 57 shares hit 52-week highs and 24 hit 52-week lows. The upper circuit reached 91 and the lower circuit reached 70.

The rupee weakened by 18 paise to settle at 86.24 against the dollar. Silver prices crossed Rs 1.07 lakh per kg on MCX. Profit booking continues in Reliance Power after rising 50% in a month. It has lost 17% in the last four sessions. Today, it touched the 5% lower circuit. Jefferies maintained its buy rating on Naveen Fluorine with a target price of Rs 5280. Defense stocks rose by 5% as the Iran-Israel war entered its fifth day. Oswal Pumps IPO received a response of 19.17 times on the third day in the afternoon. Pharma stocks were shaken after Donald Trump announced that pharma tariffs would be coming soon. CLSA has given an outperform rating to Tata Motors with a target price of Rs 805. Tanla Platforms board has approved the buyback proposal. The board has approved the investment of Rs 2237 crore by the promoter of Zee Entertainment Enterprises. CLSA has maintained an underperform rating for Westlife Food World and Jubilant Food Works. Raminfo has bagged an order worth Rs 474 crore for the installation of rooftop solar projects.

Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL)

A Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Ministry of Defence, BDL is a leading manufacturer of missiles and allied defense equipment in India. BDL's order book remains robust. As of April 1, 2025, the provisional order book stood at approximately ₹22,700 crore, providing strong revenue visibility for the next 3-4 years. The company also achieved its highest-ever export turnover of over ₹1,200 crore in FY25, a significant growth of over 640% YoY. Analysts remain positive due to the strong order book and the government's increased focus on defense R&D.



Astral Ltd.

Astral is a prominent player in the manufacturing and distribution of piping systems (PVC, CPVC, UPVC) and adhesives. While the YoY consolidated profit showed a slight dip,



the sequential growth indicates an improving trend. Analysts have an average target price of around ₹1637.86, suggesting a slight upside from current levels. The company's expansion in its product portfolio and market reach remains a key driver for future growth, catering to the growing demands of the building materials and infrastructure sectors.

CRISIL Ltd.

CRISIL is a global analytical company providing ratings, research, and risk and policy advisory services. CRISIL's management remains optimistic about capitalizing on emerging opportunities in the Indian economy, despite global uncertainties impacting client budgets. The company's focus on domestic operations and strategic investments in technology and talent are expected to sustain its growth momentum across its service lines. CRISIL's strong fundamentals and stable cash flows are key positives.



PB Fintech Ltd (Policybazaar)

PB Fintech operates Policybazaar, India's largest online insurance aggregator, and Paisabazaar, a leading online lending marketplace. The company's growth is fueled by India's massive underinsured market, aggressive expansion into Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, and a strong digital moat. Key strategic levers include the booming health insurance segment, the Point-of-Sale Person (POSP) model, and renewed traction in Paisabazaar. Analysts have mixed views, with some maintaining "Buy" ratings due to strong growth and profitability, while others express caution regarding high valuation and potential slowing new premium growth. The company continues to build a profitable, cash-rich, and defensible business model.



Godrej Industries Ltd (GIL)

Godrej Industries is a diversified conglomerate with interests in chemicals, agri-inputs, estate and property development, hospitality, vegetable oil, finance, and investments. It is also part of the broader Godrej Group, which recently underwent a restructuring. In 2024, the Godrej family restructured its businesses into two independent entities: Godrej Enterprises Group (GEG) and Godrej Industries Group (GIG). Godrej Industries Ltd belongs to the Godrej Industries Group. The strong Q4 and FY25 results indicate a healthy recovery and growth across its diversified segments. The board also approved raising funds up to ₹2,000 crore via NCDs/bonds to support future growth and operations



Russian Oil Freight Rates Ease, EU Price Cap Could Shift Trend



Freight rates for Russian oil shipments from Baltic ports to India have eased from late May to early June, primarily due to increased tanker availability. However, this downward trend may be reversed if the European Union's newly proposed sanctions, including a reduction in the Group of Seven (G7) price cap on Russian crude oil, are implemented.

The EU has put forward a fresh sanction package targeting Russia over the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. A key element is the proposal to lower the G7 price cap on Russian crude from \$60 per barrel to \$45 per barrel. The G7 and EU initially introduced the \$60 price ceiling in late 2022 to limit Moscow's oil revenues by restricting access to Western shipping and insurance services for crude sold above that price.

Since early April, the price of Russia's flagship Urals crude has remained below the \$60 cap, allowing Western shipowners, especially from Greece, to resume transporting Russian oil. This has significantly boosted tanker availability, which in turn has pressured freight rates downward.

As of mid-June, Urals crude prices at Russia's Baltic ports, including Primorsk and Ust-Luga, hovered around \$54.72 per barrel. Correspondingly, shipping costs from these ports to India dropped to between \$5.5 million and \$5.7 million per one-way voyage, down from approximately \$6 million in April and May, and much lower than the \$8 million recorded in early March.

Despite the easing, freight rates remain elevated compared to January levels, when shipping costs were between \$4.7 million and \$4.9 million per trip. The increase earlier this year followed new U.S. sanctions introduced in January targeting Russian energy interests, which forced Russian oil exporters to seek alternative tankers to replace those affected by restrictions. The potential implementation of the EU's proposed lower price cap could tighten market conditions once again, pushing freight rates higher and complicating shipping logistics for Russian crude to India and other destinations.

TCS Powers Digital Transformation for Danish Retailer Salling Group

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has entered into a long-term, strategic partnership with Danish retail conglomerate Salling Group to enhance sustainability, technological innovation, and organizational efficiency. The collaboration will span Salling Group's extensive network of over 2,100 stores and brands across Denmark, Poland, Germany, Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia, including popular outlets such as BR toy stores, Carl's Jr., Starbucks franchises, and grocers fØtex, Bilka, Netto, and RIMI Baltic.

Under this partnership, TCS will support Salling Group's cloud adoption journey, aiming to stabilize and optimize operations for greater agility, scalability, and sustainability. A key focus will be on accelerating the retail group's digital transformation, especially enhancing its e-commerce platform to better meet rapidly evolving consumer demands.

TCS will leverage its AI-driven cloud operations platform, Cloud Exponence, which employs a Machine First approach to optimize collaboration between machines and humans. This smart managed services solution is designed to operate efficiently in hybrid cloud environments, automating operational tasks with intelligent AI tools while ensuring robust security and compliance. The result is reduced cloud management overheads, consistent service delivery, and comprehensive full-stack infrastructure support. Vikram Sharma, Country Head of TCS Denmark,



highlighted the significance of this collaboration: "Salling Group is an esteemed retail leader with a century-long legacy, deeply embedded in the Danish community and across Europe. With our global retail expertise and technological capabilities, we are committed to helping Salling Group build resilience and leverage new technologies to achieve their strategic ambitions."

TCS has maintained a strong foothold in Denmark for over 30 years, currently employing more than 20,000 professionals who serve leading Nordic enterprises. The company has played a vital role in driving growth and transformation across multiple sectors in the region, including banking, financial services, insurance, telecom, and high-tech industries.

This partnership marks a significant step forward for both companies in embracing digital innovation and sustainability in the retail sector.

New Steel Import Rule May Disrupt Supply Chains, Increase Costs for MSMEs: GTRI

The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) has raised concerns over a recent regulation issued by India's Ministry of Steel, warning that the new rule could disrupt supply chains and impose significant compliance costs on the country's micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

According to GTRI, the sudden implementation of the regulation has caused panic among MSMEs reliant on imported semi-finished steel, with fears of substantial financial losses and potential factory closures. The rule, announced on June 13, mandates that not only finished or semi-finished steel products but also the raw materials used in their manufacture must comply with Indian Standards (IS) and be registered on the Steel Import Monitoring System (SIMS) portal. This regulation affects all products under India's Quality Control Orders (QCOs). Previously, foreign exporters were required to obtain Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification only for finished steel products. Now, raw materials such as billets, slabs, or hot-rolled coils must also meet BIS standards before import.



For example, if a Malaysian firm supplies steel slabs to a Vietnamese company that processes them into steel sheets for export to India, both companies must now obtain BIS certification.

GTRI pointed out that many importers have already paid advances for shipments scheduled to arrive between June and August, which now risk being deemed non-compliant despite contracts being finalized months earlier.

The report also criticized the exemption of finished products like welded pipes from the traceability requirement, calling it inconsistent, especially since BIS officials already inspect and certify finished products at overseas factories.

GTRI highlighted that BIS certification for upstream suppliers can take six to nine months, yet the ministry enforced the new rule with only three days' notice and no stakeholder consultation. The organization urges the government to reconsider the move, warning that without relief or an extension, widespread factory closures and financial distress among MSMEs could follow.

Why Antarctic Penguins Are the ‘World’s Most Dedicated Dads’

On Father's Day 2025, a touching tribute by National Geographic spotlighted the emperor penguin as a true symbol of selfless fatherhood. In one of Earth's harshest environments, these Antarctic birds show extraordinary dedication to their offspring—earning them the title of the “World’s Most Dedicated Dads.”

In emperor penguin families, once the female lays a single egg, she heads out to sea in search of food. The male is left to care for the egg alone, balancing it delicately on his feet and covering it with a protective flap called a brood pouch. For nearly two months,



the father penguin endures the brutal Antarctic winter without food, never abandoning the egg—not even for a moment.

What makes their parenting even more remarkable is how they survive together. Penguin dads huddle in tight groups to conserve warmth, taking turns standing in the center where it's warmer. This cooperative behavior helps them shield themselves and their precious eggs from fierce polar storms and subzero temperatures.

National Geographic's tribute, shared on social media alongside clips from

their documentary Secrets of the Penguins, resonated deeply with viewers. Comments poured in celebrating the emperor penguin's devotion. One user called it “ultimate dad goals,” while another noted how “humans have so much to learn from animals.”

The post ended with a powerful reminder: “Through darkness, hunger and polar storms, these fathers give everything to keep the next generation alive.” On a day meant to celebrate fatherhood, emperor penguins offered a moving example of what it truly means to protect and nurture—against all odds.

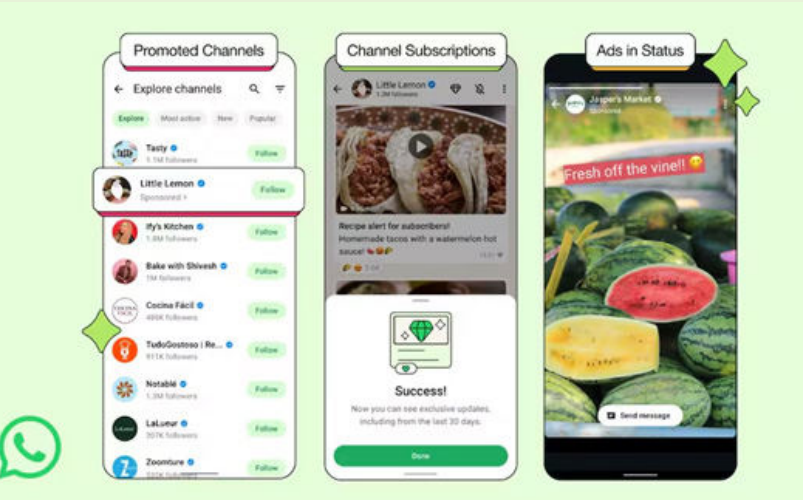
WhatsApp Introduces Ads in Status, Channel Subscriptions, and More Business Features

WhatsApp has officially rolled out advertisements and new monetisation tools, marking a significant shift in how the platform supports businesses and creators. The changes, announced by Meta, include ads in the Status section, Channel subscriptions, and Promoted Channels—all aimed at enhancing business growth and creator support on the messaging app.

For the first time, ads will appear in the Status area under the Updates tab. These ads are designed to help users discover businesses and initiate conversations about their offerings. Importantly, WhatsApp has assured users that ads will be confined to the Updates tab and will not appear in personal or group chats, which remain protected by end-to-end encryption.

To personalise ads, WhatsApp will use limited data such as country, city, language, followed Channels, and how users interact with ads. Additionally, ad preferences and data from linked Meta accounts in the Accounts Centre may be used. However, WhatsApp has firmly stated it will never share or sell users' phone numbers to advertisers.

In addition to ads, WhatsApp is introducing Channel subscriptions, allowing users to pay a



The image shows three smartphone screens displaying WhatsApp features. The first screen shows 'Promoted Channels' with a list of channels like 'Little Lemon', 'Ry's Kitchen', and 'Bake with Blush'. The second screen shows 'Channel Subscriptions' with a 'Success!' message. The third screen shows 'Ads in Status' with a food-related ad.

monthly fee to access exclusive content from their favourite creators. This also includes tools for admins to promote their Channels for better visibility in the directory.

These updates follow years of speculation about WhatsApp integrating ads. Back in 2018, former WhatsApp VP Chris Daniels hinted that ads would become the platform's primary revenue model. Now, that plan has materialised.

While this move aims to support businesses and content creators, WhatsApp stresses that user privacy remains a top priority, and no private messages, calls, or groups will be used for ad targeting. The changes are a clear signal of WhatsApp's evolving business strategy under Meta's broader ecosystem.

Man and His Golden Retrievers’ Top 7 Selfies From World Tour Are Pure Joy

Traveling the world is a dream for many—but doing it with your furry best friends takes the joy to another level. American vlogger Kevin Bubolz, along with his wife Katie and their golden retrievers, Ellie and Emma, has been capturing hearts with their wholesome globe-trotting adventures. Their latest Instagram reel, titled “Top 7 Global Selfies,” showcases their most joyful travel moments, and it's a guaranteed smile-maker.

The heartwarming video begins in Paris, with Kevin standing in front of the iconic Eiffel Tower. Calling Ellie for a selfie, she bounds over with excitement, hops onto his shoulders, and strikes a grin as he says, “And smile!” From there, the trio journeys through Poland, Canada, Belgium, and Germany—each location becoming the perfect backdrop for tail-wagging selfies.

Emma, the other golden retriever, joins in the fun as the video progresses. The two dogs light up each frame, their happy expressions making every destination even more delightful. A hilarious moment unfolds in Italy, where Kev-



in prepares for another selfie in front of scenic gardens. While Emma jumps into position, Ellie takes off toward a nearby lake, prompting Kevin to laugh and say, “She left us!” The caption of the post reveals their motivation: “Ever since Ellie was a puppy, she's loved the camera. So a few years ago, we started taking selfies and working on smiles. Here are our top 7 global selfies.”

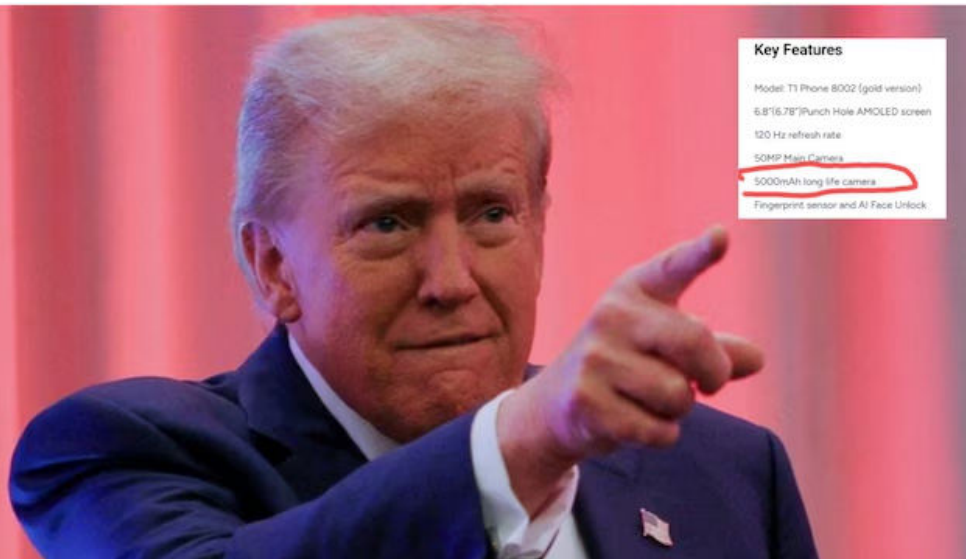
The clip quickly went viral, with viewers leaving heartfelt comments like “We were smiling along” and “This just made my day!” It's a reminder that sometimes, the best travel companions have four legs and the brightest smiles.

For pet lovers and travelers alike, Kevin, Katie, Ellie, and Emma are living proof that joy is best when shared.

Reddit Spots Hilarious Typo in Donald Trump’s Gold T1 Phone Description

Donald Trump's organization recently launched a shiny, gold smartphone dubbed the T1 Phone, and while it's generating buzz for its flashy looks and political branding, it also gained attention for a humorous typo that Reddit users couldn't ignore. The T1 Phone, priced at \$499 (approximately ₹42,000), is part of a larger mobile service initiative from the Trump family. Announced by Eric Trump, the phone targets Trump supporters and comes with a wireless plan priced at \$47.45—a not-so-subtle nod to Trump's status as the 45th and 47th U.S. President.

The smartphone itself features a 6.8-inch Punch Hole AMOLED display, 120Hz refresh rate, Android 15, a 50MP primary camera, and even includes a 3.5mm headphone jack. But the standout moment came from its description on the official Trump Mobile website, which read that the T1 is powered by a “5000 mAh long life camera” instead of a battery—an obvious typo that quickly became internet fodder. Reddit users jumped on the mistake. “I heard the battery has 10x optical zoom too,” joked one. An-



other wrote, “This is next-gen tech straight from your mobile king,” poking fun at the over-the-top branding. Some even speculated the phone might be a rebranded Chinese device sold at a premium. “Looks like an Escobar phone,” said one Reddit user, comparing it to the infamous rebranded gold smartphones linked to Pablo Escobar's brother.

Despite the typo and skepticism, the Trump Mobile site emphasizes “American values” in its service—promising simple pricing, reliable coverage, and customer support rooted in “freedom and fairness.” Pre-orders for the T1 Phone are now open, with an expected release in September. Meanwhile, the typo has already secured a viral spot in tech humor history.

UP Woman Leaves Husband Over Instagram Follower Dispute

In a surprising case from Uttar Pradesh's Hapur district, a couple's marriage has hit a breaking point over a disagreement related to social media. What started as a minor dip in Instagram followers spiraled into a domestic conflict, job loss, and police intervention. Nisha, a resident of Pilkhuwa, is known locally for her regular Instagram reels. After marrying Vijendra from Noida, tensions reportedly began building over her social media activity. According to sources, Vijendra had advised Nisha to reduce her time online and focus more on household responsibilities. Nisha briefly complied, cutting back on content creation.

However, when Nisha noticed she had lost two followers, she believed the decline was linked to her husband's earlier suggestion and blamed him. A heated argument followed, and Nisha left their Noida home to return to her parents' house in Pilkhuwa. She then filed a complaint at the Women's Police Station in Hapur. The police initiated counselling sessions to mediate between the couple. While tempers have since cooled, the two continue to live separately. Police say reconciliation remains uncertain at this point.



In an unfortunate twist, Vijendra reportedly lost his job amid the chaos, adding financial strain to the already tense situation. He is currently job-hunting and attending interviews in the city.

The peculiar nature of the conflict—triggered by the loss of just two Instagram followers—has become a major talking point in the region. Neither Nisha nor Vijendra have made public comments regarding the issue. The case highlights the growing impact of social media on personal relationships, raising questions about the balance between digital lives and real-world responsibilities. For now, the couple's future remains unclear, but their story has certainly captured the public's attention.

World Padel League Returns to India with Expanded Season and New Teams



Following a successful debut in India earlier this year, the World Padel League (WPL), managed by Iconik Sports and Events Ltd. and supported by the Indian Padel Federation, is set to return for its highly anticipated third season. Scheduled from August 12 to 16 at Mumbai’s Nescio Centre, this edition promises to deliver thrilling padel action and showcase the sport’s rapid growth in India. Building on the momentum from the previous season held in February 2025, which featured 32 international players competing fiercely, the WPL is expanding its footprint by increasing the number of franchises from four to six. The inclusion of two new teams reflects the surging popularity and development of padel in India, with participation and infrastructure witnessing more than double growth over the past year. Hemali Sharma, Co-Founder of the World Padel League, expressed enthusiasm about the sport’s rising profile in India, calling the expansion a major milestone. “India is fast emerg-

ing as a high-potential growth hub for padel,” she noted, emphasizing WPL’s mission to offer a dynamic, world-class sporting experience that appeals to both dedicated fans and newcomers. Krishnan Kannan, Promoter of Iconik Sports and Events Ltd., highlighted the league’s tailored approach to the Indian market. He remarked, “Season 3 is a celebration of padel’s incredible progress here, with new teams and an extended player roster ensuring the energy this season is electric.” Sneha Abraham Sehgal, President of the Indian Padel Federation, praised WPL’s role in enhancing the sport’s visibility and encouraging local talent to compete on the global stage. The previous season ended with the SG Pipers Cheetahs triumphing over the Vernost Jaguars in a thrilling final, setting high expectations for this August. With fresh teams and fierce rivalries on the horizon, WPL Season 3 promises a festival-like atmosphere and world-class entertainment for padel fans across India.

ICC Plans Four-Day Tests for Smaller Nations in 2027-29 World Test Championship



The International Cricket Council (ICC) is considering introducing four-day Test matches for smaller cricketing nations in the 2027-29 World Test Championship (WTC) cycle, while allowing traditional five-day Tests to continue for India, Australia, and England, according to recent reports. This significant change aims to encourage more Test cricket among emerging teams by reducing the time and costs involved in hosting longer matches. At the WTC final at Lord’s, ICC Chair Jay Shah reportedly expressed support for sanctioning four-day Tests starting with the 2027-29 cycle. However, marquee series like the Ashes, the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, and the newly named Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy between England and India will maintain the traditional five-day format. The Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy is set to debut with the first Test at Headingley this Friday. Four-day Tests are not new to international cricket. The ICC

first permitted them in 2017 for bilateral series, with England recently playing Zimbabwe over four days at Trent Bridge, following similar matches against Ireland in 2019 and 2023. Smaller nations have often been hesitant to host Tests due to the time commitment and expenses, but four-day matches could allow a full three-Test series to be completed in under three weeks. To compensate for the reduced days, playing hours in four-day Tests would be extended to ensure a minimum of 98 overs per day, instead of the usual 90. This adjustment aims to reduce time lost during matches and keep the game competitive. The upcoming 2025-27 WTC cycle will continue with the existing five-day format. It will feature 27 Test series among nine countries, including 17 two-Test series and six three-Test series. England, Australia, and India are set to play multiple five-day Tests, preserving their traditional role in the longest format of cricket.

Smriti Mandhana Reclaims ICC ODI Batting No. 1 Spot After Six Years

India’s star opener Smriti Mandhana has climbed back to the pinnacle of the ICC Women’s ODI batting rankings after a gap of more than six years. On Tuesday, Mandhana surged to the world No. 1 position, ending a long wait since she last held the top spot at the beginning of 2019. The left-handed batter’s return to the summit comes after South African captain Laura Wolvaardt, who previously occupied the No. 1 ranking, dropped 19 rating points, allowing Mandhana to reclaim her place at the top. While Mandhana has consistently featured among the top 10 ODI batters over recent years, this is her first time back as the leading batter in the world since her initial rise. Mandhana’s resurgence reflects her remarkable form and consistency in international cricket. Known for her elegant strokeplay and ability to anchor innings, the Indian opener has been a vital cog in India’s batting lineup across formats. Her performances have played a key role in India’s recent successes in women’s cricket, both at home and abroad. This milestone is significant not only for Mandhana personally but also for Indian women’s cricket, which has seen steady growth and increasing global recognition over the last decade. Mand-



hana’s return to the No. 1 ODI batting ranking highlights the depth of talent in the Indian squad and underscores her status as one of the finest batters in the game today. As Mandhana reclaims her top spot after a six-year gap, cricket fans and ex-

perts alike will be keen to see how long she can maintain her dominance in the ODI format. With her skill and determination, Mandhana appears poised to continue making valuable contributions to Indian cricket in the years to come.

Chelsea Cruise, Boca and Benfica Brawl in Dramatic FIFA Club World Cup Day

The 2025 FIFA Club World Cup served up a thrilling day of action on Monday, as Chelsea began their campaign with a comfortable 2-0 win over Los Angeles FC, while Boca Juniors and Benfica delivered a fiery 2-2 draw in one of the most dramatic encounters of the tournament so far.

Chelsea 2-0 Los Angeles FC (Group D)

Chelsea showcased their class with a dominant performance against MLS champions Los Angeles FC. The London club controlled possession and dictated tempo from the outset, eventually securing the win through goals from Pedro Neto and Enzo Fernández.

Neto opened the scoring in the 34th minute, collecting a long ball from Nicolas Jackson, turning LAFC defender Ryan Hollingshead inside out, and calmly finishing



past veteran goalkeeper Hugo Lloris. Chelsea continued to press and maintain control, with 65.3% possession and 17 shots compared to LAFC’s seven.

Their second came in the 79th minute when substitute Liam Delap whipped in a sharp cross that Fernández converted with precision. While the match had a few heated moments, including a confrontation between Neto and Denis Bouanga before halftime, Chelsea’s compo-

sure and depth proved decisive.

Goalkeeper Robert Sánchez made four important saves to preserve the clean sheet, while Chelsea’s seven corners to LAFC’s one reflected their attacking dominance.

Boca Juniors 2-2 Benfica (Group C)

In contrast, the clash between Boca Juniors and Benfica in Miami Gardens erupted into chaos and drama. Boca raced to a 2-0 lead with goals from

Miguel Merentiel (21’) and Rodrigo Battaglia (27’), capitalizing on sharp wing play and aerial superiority.

Benfica halved the deficit before halftime through a penalty converted by Ángel Di María, awarded after a VAR review of Nicolás Otamendi being fouled. The drama intensified as Boca midfielder Ander Herrera was shown a red card from the bench for dissent.

Andrea Belotti was then sent off in the 72nd minute for Benfica following a dangerous high challenge, yet the Portuguese side equalized through Otamendi’s powerful header in the 84th minute. Boca’s Jorge Figo received a red in the 88th minute, but the Argentine club held on with nine men to secure a hard-fought point in an explosive encounter.

India Juniors End Europe Tour with Shootout Loss to Netherlands

The Indian junior women’s hockey team concluded a strong European tour with a narrow 2-3 shootout defeat to the Netherlands after a hard-fought goalless draw in regulation time. The match, held in the Netherlands, was the final fixture of their preparatory tour for the upcoming Women’s Junior World Cup scheduled for December 2025.

Heading into the game on the back of four straight victories—three against Belgium and one against Australia—India showed resilience and tactical discipline against a technically superior Dutch side. The encounter saw both teams generating multiple scoring opportunities across the four quarters, but neither could break the deadlock due to solid defensive structures and outstanding goalkeeping.

Despite the high intensity, the regulation time ended 0-0, pushing the match into a shootout. For India, Lalrinpuii and Priyanka Yadav successfully converted their attempts, showcasing composure under pressure. However, the Netherlands managed to clinch the win with



clinical finishes from Imme de Leeuw, Roos Alkemade, and Lotte Rust.

Although the match ended in a loss, the Indian team’s overall performance during the tour was commendable. They demonstrated consistent improvement, strategic maturity, and an ability to match up against top-tier international opponents.

This European tour served as a crucial component of India’s preparations for

the Women’s Junior World Cup. The experience gained from playing against strong teams like Belgium, Australia, and the Netherlands is expected to be invaluable in building confidence and sharpening skills ahead of the global event.

The Indian junior squad now returns home with positive momentum and clear areas for growth as they continue to gear up for the challenges that lie ahead in December.



Rana Naidu Meets Kattappa: “Why Did You Kill Baahubali?” – A Hilarious Crossover Promo Goes Viral

The popular Net-flix web series Rana Naidu, starring Daggubati Venkatesh and Rana Daggubati, has returned with a highly anticipated Season 2. Available in multiple languages including Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, and English, the show continues to captivate audiences with its gritty drama and intense performances.



As part of the ongoing promotional campaign for Season 2, the makers have released a special video that’s gaining attention for its unique and humorous crossover. In the video, the legendary character Kattappa from Baahubali (played by Sathyaraj) makes a surprise appearance in the Rana Naidu universe. The scene is set in the dead of night, with Rana Naidu (Rana Daggubati) restless and unable to sleep, overwhelmed by family issues and emotional struggles.

Just then, Kattappa arrives and questions Rana in a dramatic yet comical tone: “Are you the ruler of Mahishmati, and still suffering sleepless nights over family issues?” To this, Rana humorously responds, “What did I even do in the kingdom of Mahishmati? Now I’m just a family man

with real-life problems.”

The most hilarious moment comes when Kattappa, seemingly having watched the Rana Naidu series, suddenly asks Rana, “Why did you kill Baahubali?” In a clever twist, Rana shoots back with a smile, “You’re the one who killed him!” To which Kattappa jokingly replies, “Because you asked me to!”

This light-hearted promotional skit blends iconic cinematic moments with modern-day storytelling, drawing laughter and nostalgia alike. It’s a brilliant move that not only promotes Rana Naidu Season 2 but also nods to the epic legacy of Baahubali. Fans are loving the crossover and sharing it widely across social media platforms.

Can “Golden-Leg” Samyuktha Revive Puri Jagannadh’s Fortunes?

Renowned director Puri Jagannadh is gearing up for a powerful comeback with his upcoming film starring the versatile Vijay Sethupathi in the lead role. The project is steadily gaining buzz, thanks to its ever-growing star-studded cast. With every new update, expectations from this yet-to-be-titled film are reaching new heights.



After confirming National Award-winning actress Tabu for a crucial supporting role and roping in Kannada star Duniya Vijay for a key character, the makers have now officially announced Samyuktha as the female lead. Samyuktha, often referred to as the “golden-leg” heroine of Tollywood, has become a lucky charm at the box office—four of her five Telugu films have turned out to be commercial successes.

Given director Puri Jagannadh’s recent slump at the box office, fans and industry insiders alike are curious to see whether Samyuktha’s golden streak can bring back some much-needed luck to the seasoned filmmaker. With her growing popularity and consistent track record, her presence could be a game-changer.

Welcoming Samyuktha to the team, the

production house Puri Connects shared on social media:

“Grace in her stride. Fire in her eyes. Welcoming the stunning @iamsamyuktha_ on board into the electrifying world of #PuriSethupathi. A #PuriJagannadh film. Starring Makkalselvan @VijaySethuOffl, #Tabu, and @OfficialViji. Produced by Puri Jagannadh & @Charmmeofficial under @puriconnects.”

The film is being produced by Puri Jagannadh and Charmme Kaur under their home banner, Puri Connects. With a powerful cast and renewed creative energy, the film is set to go on floors soon. Whether this combination proves to be a turning point in Puri’s career remains to be seen—but it certainly has all the right ingredients.

Supreme Court Clears Thug Life Release in Karnataka, Slams Mob-Driven Censorship



In a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court of India has allowed the release of Thug Life in Karnataka, pulling up the state government for yielding to mob pressure and failing to uphold the rule of law. The film, starring Kamal Haasan and directed by Mani Ratnam, was caught in controversy following Haasan’s remarks on the Kannada language, which triggered protests from pro-Kannada groups.

As tensions rose, the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC) halted the release of the film, citing threats of violence. The Supreme Court took strong exception to this, stating that a film cleared by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) cannot be blocked due to mob pressure, political sentiments, or threats of unrest. The Court transferred the case to itself, overriding the Karnataka High Court, which had controversially suggested that Haasan issue an apology — a move the apex court called an “overreach” of judicial boundaries.

The Court also directed the Karnataka government to ensure police protection for theatres choosing to screen Thug Life and demanded a compliance report by June 18, 2025. This ruling is being hailed as a significant win for artistic freedom and a bold stance against mob censorship and unofficial bans.

Despite the legal green light, the film’s release date in Karnataka is yet to be confirmed. Meanwhile, Thug Life has underperformed at the box office, with mixed reviews and a lukewarm audience response. Industry sources suggest that the film may arrive on OTT platforms soon.

This Supreme Court intervention reinforces the constitutional protection of creative expression, sending a strong message against the rising trend of mob vetoes in India’s entertainment industry.

Prabhas’ ‘The Raja Saab’ Teaser Creates History with 59 Million Views in 24 Hours

The much-anticipated teaser of The Raja Saab was finally unveiled on June 16, and it has taken the internet by storm. Within just 24 hours of its release, the teaser racked up an astonishing 59 million views across all languages, instantly catapulting it to the No. 1 trending spot on YouTube.

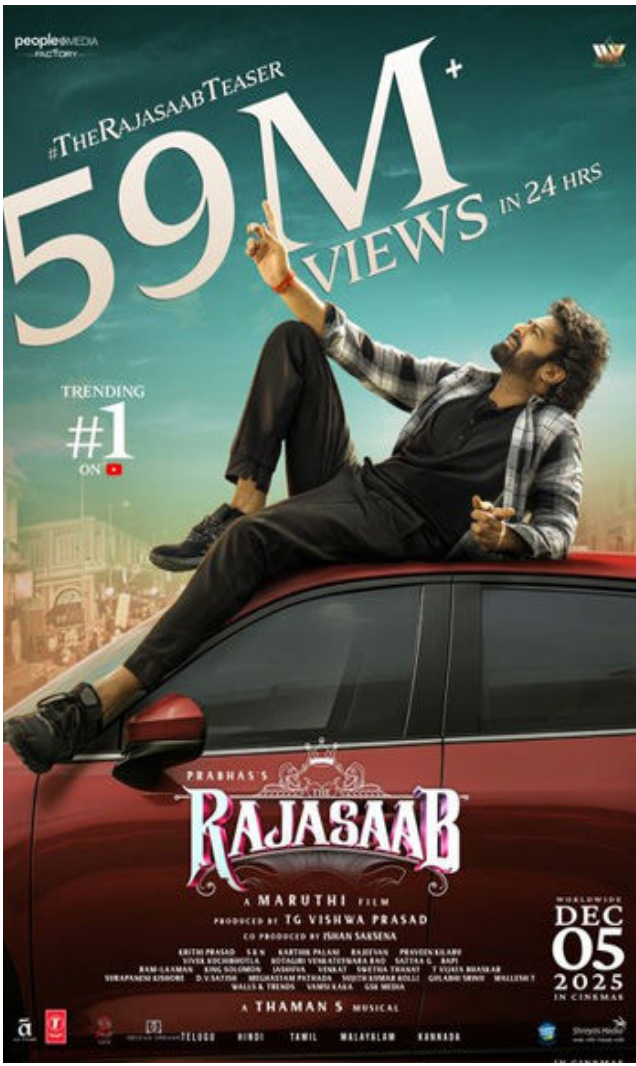
Directed by Maruthi, the teaser showcases Prabhas in a charming and stylish avatar — a look that fans have long been waiting to see. The actor’s suave presence, paired with sleek visuals and high-energy sequences, has ignited a massive buzz around the film. Social media platforms are flooded with reactions from fans who are watching and rewatching the teaser, praising the fresh vibe and presentation.

The makers have teased that the actual film holds far more than what the teaser reveals, calling it just the “tip of the iceberg.” This statement has only

heightened excitement, with the full trailer now one of the most anticipated events for fans.

The Raja Saab boasts a strong cast, including Nidhhi Agerwal, Malavika Mohanan, and Riddhi Kumar as the female leads. Adding to the star power, veteran actor Sanjay Dutt plays the pivotal role of Prabhas’ grandfather. The film is being produced by People Media Factory and features music composed by Thaman, promising a power-packed soundtrack to match the film’s grandeur.

With its grand theatrical release set for December 5, 2025, The Raja Saab has made a thunderous entry into the limelight. If the teaser is anything to go by, this could be one of the biggest cinematic events of the year, setting the stage for Prabhas’ triumphant return to the big screen.



Candid Click of Ram Charan and Buchi Babu Goes Viral as Peddi Hype Grows

As excitement builds around Peddi, one of Tollywood’s most eagerly awaited upcoming films, a candid photo of Global Star Ram Charan with director Buchi Babu Sana has set social media ablaze. Shared by Buchi Babu himself on Instagram, the picture captures a lighthearted moment between the actor and director, and fans couldn’t get enough of it. The image quickly went viral, with fans celebrating the duo’s chemistry and praising the star’s charisma.

Peddi marks a powerful collaboration, featuring Ram Charan in the lead alongside Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor. Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, known for his storytelling prowess, the film promises to be a unique cinematic experience blending emotion, action, and visual grandeur.

The shooting is currently progressing at a swift pace, with the team aiming to complete production in time for its much-anticipated release on March 27, 2026 — a date that also marks Ram Charan’s birthday, making it a double celebration for fans. Behind the scenes, the cast and crew are working hard to deliver a film that lives up to the massive expectations surrounding it.

In addition to Ram Charan and Janhvi Kapoor, Peddi features an impressive ensemble cast including Sandalwood superstar Shiva Rajkumar, veteran actor Jagapathi Babu, and Bollywood actor Divyenndu Sharma, among others. The film is backed by Vriddhi Cinemas and boasts a powerful musical score composed by the



Oscar-winning maestro A.R. Rahman, adding yet another layer of anticipation.

With viral moments like this candid click and an all-star team both in front of and behind the camera, Peddi is shaping up to be one of the biggest film events of 2026. Fans eagerly await more glimpses as the journey to the big screen continues.