

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

t°

H 35° C

L 21° C

VIJAYAWADA

t°

H 36° C

L 23° C

TIRUPATHI

t°

H 36° C

L 23° C

Uncle...Is this True...??

Sharmila’s Phone Tapping Bombshell Puts YV Subbareddy in the Crossfire

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Politics in the Telugu states has taken a dramatic turn as AP PCC President YS Sharmila dropped a political bombshell, alleging that her phone was tapped by none other than her own brother and then Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, in collusion with former Telangana CM KCR. In a sensational revelation, she claimed that her uncle YV Subbareddy had personally informed her about this phone tapping and even listened to the audio recordings.

This revelation comes at a time when Telangana is already gripped by political tremors over the phone tapping case, and Sharmila’s move has reignited the debate in Andhra Pradesh. Not only did she accuse the former chief ministers of abusing power, but she also dragged YV Subbareddy — Jagan’s close aide and her own uncle — directly into the controversy, throwing the spotlight on internal family dynamics.

YV Subbareddy, who once attempted to mediate between Jagan and Sharmila during their property dispute, now finds himself caught in a new storm. That earlier intervention failed, and Sharmila went on to launch her party in Telangana, eventually merging it with the Congress. Now serving as AP Congress President, she has escalated her attack against Jagan, prompting the YSRCP to roll out counter-propaganda using Subbareddy to dismiss her claims as false. But by revealing his past involvement, Sharmila has turned the tables and dragged him into the controversy.

Whether Subbareddy will deny Sharmila’s allegations outright remains to be seen, but questions are already swirling. What is his standing with Jagan today? Did he truly reveal the phone tapping to Sharmila out of concern — or was it a tacti-



cal warning? Was it meant to intimidate her, alert her, or plant a feeler for other motives? In any case, YV Subbareddy is now unavoidably entangled in this affair, and insiders say Jagan is bound to question him sternly.

These developments are particularly significant as Jagan is already cornered with multiple challenges, including the liquor scam. Now, the revived phone tapping allegations are adding fuel to the fire. The alliance government had earlier brought the issue to light but set it aside amidst administrative transitions. With Sharmila reigniting it, the case may soon return to center stage.

Within party circles, speculation is rife about how Jagan will respond. Will he limit himself to a stern warning to Subbareddy? Or will he go a step further, making tough political decisions to safeguard his image? The growing bitterness between the siblings — especially after Sharmila’s role in the recent electoral outcome — is making matters worse.

Adding further heat, Sharmila has claimed that KCR and Jagan collaborated in the past, including in this alleged phone tapping operation. She recalled how YV Subbareddy visited her house and listened to the audio

files in question. “Will he admit it now?” she questioned, casting doubt on his credibility. She also accused Jagan of misleading YV Subbareddy in the past regarding property matters involving her children.

Not stopping there, Sharmila declared before the media that she is ready to face any investigation regarding the phone tapping issue. She offered to testify before any forum the Revanth Reddy government recommends and swore on the Bible to affirm the truth of her statements. She called for a fast-tracked investigation not only into her own case but also into the alleged phone tapping of Chandrababu Naidu and Revanth Reddy.

In her own words, Sharmila stated she was unable to fight this injustice in the past but is now prepared for a full-fledged battle. It is clear that she is holding tight to this issue, possibly seeking political and personal revenge against both Jagan and YV Subbareddy.

Now, the key question is: will Subbareddy come clean or maintain silence? Can he withstand the pressure from Jagan, who is already seething with anger? And will this family drama spiral further into a full-blown political crisis? The days ahead may hold the answers.



FASTag-Based Annual Pass Announced By Centre

Available from August 15 for ₹3,000; valid for 200 trips or one year

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Tragedy Strikes Jagan’s Sattenapalli Visit...

- Two Lives Lost in Rally Chaos
- Overcrowding during YSRCP rally blamed
- Political blame game intensifies post-tragedy



TPN | Sumanth Jangam

Guntur: A tragic turn of events overshadowed YSRCP president and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy’s visit to Sattenapalli on Wednesday, as two of his supporters lost their lives during the rally held in his honour.

Jagan had arrived in Sattenapalli, Palnadu district, to unveil a statue of YSRCP vice-sarpanch Korlakunta Nagamalleswara Rao in Rentapalla village and offer condolences to the bereaved family. The visit, marked by enthusiastic crowds and slogans of support, soon turned into a day of mourning due to two separate fatal incidents.

The first incident occurred at the Clock Tower Center in Sattenapalli, where a huge crowd had gathered to greet the YSRCP leader. Amid the overcrowded atmosphere, 27-year-old Papisani Jayavardhan Reddy, a petroleum engineering graduate from Vaddavalli, collapsed after reportedly suffering a heart attack. Though rushed to the Government Area Hospital, he was declared dead on arrival.

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Jagan Alleges Police Harassment Led to Suicide in Palnadu

Criticizes ‘Red Book Constitution’ rule in AP



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CM directs Speedy Procurement of HD Burley Tobacco

- View Crop Production from a Commercial Perspective
- Leverage Technology for Crop Data and Monitoring
- Implement Best-in-Class Grading Practices to Boost Exports
- CM’s Review on Support Prices for Mango, Tobacco, and Cocoa

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu stressed the need to stand by farmers in light of the unique challenges surrounding the production of crops like tobacco and mango. He advised officials to adopt a commercial perspective when dealing with agricultural produce and to take steps to secure the best possible prices for farmers.

At a review meeting held at the Secretariat on support prices for mango, tobacco, and cocoa, the Chief Minister was informed that 80 million kilograms of HD Burley tobacco were produced this year. Of this, 27 million kilograms have already been sold. CM Chandrababu



bu directed officials to expedite the procurement of the remaining 53 million kilograms. Out of this, arrangements have been made for 24 companies to purchase 33 million kilograms, while AP Markfed is set to procure the remaining 20 million kilograms. Procurement centers have been established in Bapatla (3), Guntur

(2), Palnadu (1), and Prakasam (1) districts. Officials informed the Chief Minister that procurement operations at these centers would be intensified starting tomorrow. The CM instructed that all relevant information,

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CM directs Speedy Procurement...

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including details of procurement centers, be promptly shared with every tobacco farmer.

The Chief Minister also directed the implementation of robust grading systems to enhance exports. He noted that he had already discussed the reduction of import duties on palm oil and the lowering of GST on mango pulp from 12% to 5% with the central government. He asked officials to coordinate with the relevant central departments on these matters.

The CM also stressed the importance of keeping farmers informed about crop plans, especially concerning mango cultivation. To ensure fair pricing, farmers need timely information on market demand. Currently, the government is providing an additional support price of ₹4 per kg for mangoes. The Chief Minister instructed officials to ensure that processing units purchase mangoes at no less than ₹8 per kg. He reassured that the government would stand by farmers to prevent any losses.

Regarding cocoa, officials reported that 12,000 metric tonnes have been produced this year, and 10,000 metric tonnes have already been sold. They are currently procuring 80 to 100 metric tonnes per day. CM Chandrababu directed that the remaining stock be procured by the first week of July.

He also instructed the formulation of an action plan to establish more fruit processing units across the state. Emphasizing the importance of exports aligned with international market requirements, the Chief Minister reiterated the need to implement best-in-class grading mechanisms.

Agriculture Minister Achennaidu and senior officials from the agriculture and horticulture departments attended the meeting. District Collectors of Guntur, Bapatla, and Prakasam joined via video conference.

Tragedy Strikes Jagan’s Sattenapalli Visit...

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Jayavardhan had previously worked in the software sector before helping in his father’s engine oil business. His grieving family, especially his mother Savitri who had warned him not to attend the event, is devastated.

The second tragedy struck near Takkellapadu, along the highway leading to Rentapalla. Cheeli Singaiah (53), a devoted YSRCP supporter, was reportedly hit by a vehicle in Jagan’s convoy while trying to run alongside it for a closer look at the former Chief Minister. Eyewitnesses claimed that after the accident, party members failed to assist the victim, leaving locals to transport him to Guntur General Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. Police are investigating the case, and preliminary reports suggest a private vehicle (AP26CE0001 – Tata Safari) may have been involved.

Authorities had previously imposed tight restrictions, limiting the convoy to three vehicles and 100 people, citing safety concerns and recent violence during Jagan’s tours. However, the massive, uncontrolled turnout led to dangerous overcrowding, breaching those guidelines and contributing to the tragic events. In the aftermath, the incident has taken a political turn. The YSRCP alleged obstruction by the ruling TDP-led coalition, while the TDP countered that the YSRCP was responsible for violating safety protocols and crowd control measures. As mourning spreads across Palnadu, both deaths have left a deep impact on the community. Supporters and locals are questioning the handling of the event, even as the political blame game escalates.

FASTag Annual Pass a Game Changer: Pawan Kalyan

- **Rs. 3,000 annual pass to ease travel burden**
- **Pawan calls it a major reform in road infrastructure**
- **Thanks Union Minister Nitin Gadkari for the initiative**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan hailed the Central Government’s decision to introduce a FASTag-based annual pass as a "game changer" for Indian road travel. Expressing his happiness on the announcement made by Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, Pawan Kalyan said this move will bring considerable relief to commuters, particularly those using national highways frequently.

Sharing his views on X (Twitter) on Wednesday, Pawan Kalyan said, “This long-standing demand of motorists has finally been addressed. The new system will simplify toll payments and significantly reduce travel expenses, especially for private vehicle users.”



He also stated that the Rs. 3,000 annual pass would not only provide financial relief but also promote smoother and faster highway journeys across the country. Calling it a people-friendly step, the Deputy CM thanked Union Minister Nitin Gadkari for introducing this reform and praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s government for its commitment to improving infrastructure and public convenience.

“Those living near toll plazas and making frequent trips will benefit immensely. This step will reduce not just the cost but also the time spent at toll gates,” Pawan noted.

The Central Government announced that the FASTag-based annual pass system will be officially rolled out on August 15. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari shared the update via X, stating that the pass can be availed for Rs. 3,000, enabling unlimited travel on national highways for a year. Pawan Kalyan retweeted this post and responded positively, endorsing the scheme’s impact on commuters.

Target Set to Expand Oil Palm Cultivation in Eluru

Goal to cultivate oil palm in 15,000 hectares this year

TPN Correspondent | Eluru

State Civil Supplies Minister and Eluru District In-charge Minister Nadendla Manohar announced that the government has set a target to expand oil palm cultivation to 15,000 hectares in the district this year. He emphasized that the government would extend complete support to farmers involved in oil palm cultivation, especially through technical support and subsidies.

The Minister visited the Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research Center in Pedavegi on Wednesday, where he conducted a comprehensive review of the ongoing research and development activities with scientists, farmers, and company representatives. The meeting focused on introducing high-yielding varieties, promoting intercropping (like cocoa), mechanization, crop diversification from rice and tobacco, and expanding oil palm in delta regions.

Speaking at the event, Manohar praised the Pedavegi Research Center as a premier institution in the state, home to 29 scientists and conducting research on 250 acres. He stated that the government’s objective is not only to increase cultivation but also to elevate Eluru’s development rank from fifth to third among districts.

The Minister said a district-level monitoring committee will be formed under the chairmanship of the Joint Collector to address



farmer concerns promptly. Regular monthly meetings will be held involving horticulture officers, farmer assistance center staff, and company representatives to resolve issues and provide awareness on fertilizers, pest control, and drip irrigation techniques.

He criticized the previous government for failing to support farmers, pointing out that ₹54 crore in dues were left unpaid to oil palm producers and not a single rupee was given as subsidy to growers. He assured that this issue will be brought to the Chief Minister’s attention and promised that the coalition government will avoid repeating such mistakes by ensuring 100% subsidy on essential equipment and inputs.

Manohar added that the initiative aligns

with the National Oil Mission led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aiming for Andhra Pradesh to hold a lion’s share in oil palm cultivation by 2027. The Minister also said that the state would push for central government subsidies and introduce farmer-friendly policies.

Denduluru MLA Chintamaneni Prabhakar stressed the need to encourage oil palm as an alternative to rice, especially in the delta areas like Pedapadu, and brought farmers’ issues to the Minister’s attention.

Joint Collector P. Dhatri Reddy, Research Center Director Kancharla Suresh, District Education Officer S. Rammohan, several scientists, and representatives of oil palm companies participated in the event.

CEC Orders Detailed Report on Pollution Control in Kolleru

TPN | Kishore

Eluru: The Central Empowered Committee (CEC) appointed by the Supreme Court has directed irrigation officials and various departments to submit detailed reports on the pollution prevention measures and environmental impact on Kolleru Lake, one of the largest freshwater lakes in India. During a comprehensive two-day inspection across Eluru and West Godavari districts, CEC member Chandrashekhar Goyal instructed Irrigation SE Nagarjuna Rao to file a report covering The condition of irrigation drains meeting at Upputeru, Measures being taken to prevent pollution through drains, Progress in desilting works.

Review meetings were held on Wednesday at the Godavari Conference Hall in Eluru Collectorate, with participation from officials from Environment, Irrigation, Panchayat Raj, Roads & Buildings, Eluru Municipal Corporation, RWS, and others.

Chandrashekhar Goyal noted that 47 non-notified drains lie within the Kolleru 5th contour, and 67 notified drains lie beyond



it, all converging into Upputeru, the outlet stream of the lake. The committee emphasized the need for immediate attention to these pollution sources.

The Panchayat Raj SE Ramanamurthy was also ordered to submit a detailed report on the internal roads and connectivity in Kolleru sanctuary villages, including under-construction roads and current maintenance.

Eluru Municipal Commissioner Bhanu Pratap informed the committee that Eluru city discharges 32 MLD of wastewater, including 7 MLD of sanitary waste. A 5 MLD treatment plant is operational, while a 50 MLD plant is under construction. However, the remaining waste, particularly from Tamileru, is reportedly flowing into Kolleru.

The Pollution Control Board EE Venkateswara Rao was directed to provide data on Pollution levels in drinking water and groundwater, Wastewater used in aquaculture, Industrial waste entering the lake.

The committee was also concerned about aquaculture in polluted waters. Fisheries Commissioner Ramashankar Nayak stated that Vijayawada’s waste reaches Kolleru via Budameru. The Fisheries Department was tasked with reporting on Fish varieties being farmed, Health risks from fish grown in polluted waters, Use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in aquaculture related pollution in the lake.

All reports are to be compiled and submitted through the District Collector immediately.

AP Declares June 20 as Revenue Day to Celebrate Department’s Vital Role



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The Andhra Pradesh Revenue Services Association (APRSA) announced that the state government has officially declared June 20 as Revenue Day, following the issuance of a gazette notification. Addressing a media conference in Vijayawada, APRSA President Bopparaju Venkateswarlu emphasized the Revenue Department’s foundational role, likening it to a "mother" for other departments, with its origins tracing back to the Board of Revenue established in 1786.

Venkateswarlu revealed that the government has allocated ₹52 lakh per district to conduct awareness programs on Revenue Day, aimed at educating the public about the department’s functions. The initiative includes exhibiting revenue records, honoring retired employees, and recognizing outstanding performers. "This is not merely a celebration but an opportunity to foster commitment among staff to deliver effi-

cient services," he stated, urging employees to pledge dedicated work and address minor errors to enhance service delivery.

Expressing gratitude to the government for safeguarding the department’s dignity through funding and recognition, Venkateswarlu called on revenue employees to shed negligence and embrace accountability. He noted the department’s efforts in resolving diverse issues, including land disputes, but lamented that isolated mistakes by a few tarnish the entire workforce’s reputation. Regarding land-related challenges, he attributed the re-survey confusion to the previous government’s mismanagement and insufficient time, while acknowledging the delays in resolving 22A land issues.

However, he clarified that no cases are currently pending with the tahsildars.

The APRSA hopes Revenue Day will inspire employees to improve performance and strengthen public trust in the department’s vital role in governance.

Jagan Alleges Police Harassment Led to Suicide in Palnadu

Former CM demands action against CI
Criticizes ‘Red Book Constitution’ rule in AP
Visits family of Nagamalleshwara Rao in Rentapalla

TPN Correspondent | Guntur
YSR Congress Party Chief and former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy alleged that harassment by the police and political pressure from alliance leaders forced Nagamalleshwara Rao, a sub-sarpanch of Rentapalla village in Sattenapalli mandal, to commit suicide. On Wednesday, Jagan visited Rentapalla in Palnadu district and consoled Rao's grieving family. He also unveiled a statue in his memory before addressing the media.

Jagan claimed that Nagamalleshwara Rao was falsely implicated by leaders of the Telugu Desam Party and Jana Sena on counting day during last year's Assembly elections. "He was taken to the police station and humiliated over baseless accusations. Later, the police raided his house and the CI threatened him, demanding he leave the village or face a rowdy-sheet," Jagan alleged. He added that after being released by the police on the night of June 5, Rao went to

his brother's house in Guntur, where he reportedly narrated the harassment he faced to his father over the phone before attempting suicide. "Despite the father's efforts, he could not save his son," Jagan said emotionally. The former CM further criticized the ruling coalition, stating that no development or welfare activities were being taken up and instead a 'Red Book Constitution' was being followed. "The prevailing atmosphere in the state is one

of fear and suppression. The police have become a tool for political vendetta. All of this is known to the people in this region," Jagan remarked. He accused the police of turning a blind eye to attacks on Rao's house and ignoring a formal complaint lodged by his father. "What action has Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu taken so far against the CI responsible for threatening Rao? What answer will he give to a wife and daughter who lost their pillar of support?" he asked. Jagan also brought up another case of alleged harassment, stating that Lakshminarayana, a YSRCP supporter from the same constituency, had recently attempted suicide by con-



suming pesticide due to continuous police intimidation. "He is currently in a critical condition," Jagan revealed. He demanded immediate ac-

tion against the Circle Inspector involved and urged the government to stop using state machinery for political persecution.

Chevireddy arrested while trying to leave for Sri Lanka

Says false cases being filed against Jagan loyalists
Urges YSRCP cadres to stand strong and support party programs

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Former Chandragiri MLA and senior YSRCP leader Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy has been arrested by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) in connection with the sensational Andhra Pradesh liquor scam case. He was detained late last night at the Bengaluru International Airport while attempting to board a flight to Sri Lanka. Following a tip-off, immigration officials alerted the SIT, who then took him into custody and transported him to Vijayawada for further investigation. Chevireddy is facing allegations of involvement in the liquor scam, though he claims he has no connection to the case. Soon after his arrest, he addressed party leaders and workers through a voice message, stating that the arrest is politically motivated. He accused the coalition government of targeting YSRCP leaders and filing illegal cases



against those who remain loyal to party chief Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. "Everyone is witnessing the kind of developments taking place in the state. False cases are being registered against those who follow Jagan. But I will not back down, no matter how many cases are filed. I have your blessings and will fight back," Chevireddy said in his message.

Calling on party workers to stay active, he emphasized the importance of participating in party programs with full energy. "The party activities have picked up speed. We must ensure their success. We must act like an army for Jagan. There's a rumor that Chandrababu Naidu wants to put me in jail. I, who have nothing to do with this case, have been dragged into it," he stated. Chevireddy further added that he, along with his family members, remain firm followers of Jagan and urged supporters not to step back. "Whatever happens, we are Jagan's soldiers. We must act in a way that even Chandrababu fears. I will speak again after coming out," he said, rallying the cadre to intensify their commitment to party activities. The arrest has sparked fresh political tensions in Andhra Pradesh, with YSRCP leaders likely to mount a counter-offensive, alleging a witch-hunt by the ruling alliance.

A life was lost due to Jagan's arrogance and selfish politics



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Strong criticism has erupted from the ruling coalition over the recent convoy accident involving former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Palnadu District In-charge Minister Gottipati Ravikumar lashed out at the YSRCP chief, accusing him of arrogance, political deception, and disregard for the lives of party workers. Ravikumar referred to the tragic death of an elderly man named Singayya, who died after being hit by a vehicle in Jagan's convoy near Etukuru, Guntur. He questioned the morality and responsibility of the YSRCP leadership, stating, "If the vehicle had stopped and taken Singayya to the hospital immediately, his life could have been saved. But they didn't even stop—what kind of arrogance is that?" Calling out Jagan's political behavior, Ravikumar said, "The entire party runs on fraudulent promises and fraudulent consultations. He's playing drama now, after losing power, to save his empty party." He accused

Jagan of using the same workers he once ignored, only to regain public sympathy. The minister also blamed Jagan for the mental and financial distress faced by many YSRCP workers during the recent elections. "He sat in the Tadepalli Palace and said 'Why not 175', and workers believed him. Many took bets and suffered. One man, Nagamalleshwara Rao, even died by suicide after believing those empty words," he alleged. Ravikumar questioned the timing of Jagan's outreach programs, pointing out that he had avoided field-level consultations while in power. "You never crossed Tadepalli Palace when you were Chief Minister. Now suddenly you remember consultations after a year? You fooled people once by saying consultations were the only chance. People won't be deceived again," he said. He concluded by stating that the public is no longer in a mood to believe Jagan's tactics and that the damage caused by his leadership, especially to loyal activists, cannot be forgotten or forgiven.

Make International Yoga Day a Grand Success: MLA Sudheer Reddy

TPN | C Shekar

Srikalahasti: As part of the lead-up to International Yoga Day, a grand Yoga Sadhana program was conducted at Rayalavari Galigopuram, in the divine presence of Sri Vayulingeswara Swamy, in Srikalahasti on Tuesday. The event witnessed the participation of local MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy, District Collector, Joint Collector, and Temple EO Bapi Reddy, along with hundreds of students, officials, health workers, and local residents. Addressing the gathering, MLA Sudheer

Reddy emphasized the significance of yoga, stating, "Yoga is India's priceless gift to the world. It not only helps relieve mental stress and anxiety but also cures many physical ailments. A healthy individual contributes to a healthy society and a prosperous nation." Highlighting the global recognition of yoga, he proudly noted that 177 countries are currently practicing yoga, a testament to India's spiritual legacy. He added that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lead the International Yoga Day celebrations in Visakhapatnam

on June 21, and urged the public, alliance leaders, and activists to ensure its grand success. The event reflected the growing enthusiasm for yoga across the region, with MLA Sudheer Reddy himself performing asanas alongside the participants, sending a strong message about the importance of daily health practices. He also told the media that several prominent leaders and officials participated in the event, making it a meaningful step toward health consciousness in the district.

TDP Must Win Kadapa Corporation: R. Srinivas Reddy

Work hard to ensure TDP victory in municipal polls

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

TDP Polit Bureau Member and District President R. Srinivas Reddy has called on all Telugu Desam Party leaders and workers to work with complete dedication to ensure the party wins the Kadapa Municipal Corporation in the upcoming local body elections. Speaking at a Kadapa city organizational meeting held at MLA R. Madhavi Reddy's residence on Tuesday, Srinivas Reddy emphasized the need for a focused strategy and strong groundwork. "Despite having limited organizational structure in Kadapa, we succeeded in making Madhavi Reddy the MLA. Now, the same effort is needed to win the Corporation," he said. He assured that positions in the party will be given in stages to hard-

working leaders and that everyone who toiled during tough times will be rewarded. "Recently, 35 activists were given contract works. More benefits will be provided in the coming days," he said, adding that the party will always stand by its loyal workers. He urged booth, division, and city committee members to regularly interact with the public, identify their problems, and work towards solving them. He warned party activists against indulging in corrupt practices, saying such actions would damage the party's reputation. "If needed, we are ready to support you from our own pockets, but never compromise your integrity," he said. He also stressed the need to build the organization stronger by reach-

ing out to the people and identifying capable leaders, even from opposition ranks. However, he was firm that those who betray the party would not be accepted back, and would instead be treated as political adversaries. Srinivas Reddy revealed that the candidates for 50 municipal divisions in Kadapa city will be unofficially finalized next month, and advised local leaders to intensify ground-level visits and public outreach programs immediately. Anantapur District Central Cooperative Bank Chairman Kesava Reddy attended the meeting as an observer. TDP leaders Poreddy Prabhakar Reddy, Har Prasad, Govardhan Reddy, and Jilani Bhasha also participated.



Sub-Registrar Suspended After Major Land Scam Complaint in Nujiveedu

TPN | V.V.S Madhu Babu
Eluru: A major controversy erupted in Nujiveedu, Eluru district, after a complaint was filed during the public grievance session against Sub-Registrar Raghav Rao, accusing him of large-scale land registration fraud and corruption. The complaint has led to the suspension order issued by the Eluru Joint Collector, though the official stated it is formally under the jurisdiction of the DIG of Registration. According to the complaint, a TDP leader from Nujiveedu alleged that Sub-Registrar Raghav Rao, currently on deputation, facilitated the illegal registration of land worth over ₹3 crore, which had already been agreed upon and partly paid for by the complainant. The land in question was reportedly reg-

Joint Collector orders suspension of Raghav Rao
Victim alleges ₹3 crore betrayal, benami registrations
ACB cases already exist against accused official

istered in the name of benami is Kocharlakota Lakshmipathi Raja and Sai, with fraudulent General Power of Attorney (GPA) and mortgage documents created in Mangalagiri. The complainant further accused Kocharla Lakshmipathi Raja of threatening him after allegedly bribing officials with ₹5 lakh. The grievance, submitted directly to the Joint Collector, detailed how the Sub-Registrar colluded with others to transfer land under survey numbers 889-4CIA and 889-4C3A, covering 9.92 cents, by manipulating classification from square yards to acres.

The issue intensified when the Joint Collector called out District Registrar Srinivas Rao during the grievance session, questioning inaction despite five previous complaints against Raghav Rao. The registrar tried to defend the sub-registrar by citing his impending retirement in a month, but the Joint Collector responded sternly and ordered immediate suspension. The documents in question include Document No. 3138/2025: Mortgage created and later canceled and Document No. 2582/2025 (Nujiveedu) and 3421/2025 (Vijayawada): Illegal registration of four acres

each through two different sub-registrar offices. Victims allege that even government roads were included, with 11 acres registered despite only 8 acres being owned. The complainant, Polavarapu Shyam Prasad, and his father Polavarapu Harinath Babu, claim they had sold the land to Atluri Venkata Ravindra for ₹3.22 crore and that ₹2.71 crore was already paid in part. However, instead of registration, the property was diverted illegally using fabricated documentation. Allegations of long-standing ACB cases against Raghav Rao



and claims of systematic corruption involving senior officers like District Registrar Srinivas Rao have raised concerns of a deeper nexus. There are now strong suspicions that many more illegal registrations have taken place in the Nujiveedu Sub-Regis-

trar office. The victims are demanding immediate action against the entire network of those involved. As the scandal unfolds, in tomorrow's edition we will expose private middlemen operating within the Sub-Registrar office.

Kodali Nani Not Arrested, Clarifies District SP

Arrest rumours on social media are false:
SP Gangadhar Rao

TPN Correspondent | Krishna
District Superintendent of Police Sri R. Gangadhar Rao, IPS, has firmly refuted rumours circulating on social media claiming that former minister and YSRCP leader Kodali Nani was arrested at Kolkata airport in connection with pending cases. Speaking to the media, the SP clarified that no such arrest has occurred and dismissed the reports as completely baseless. "If any such action had taken place, it would have been formally communicated by the police," he stated. He further warned that strict legal action will be taken against those who spread false or misleading news online. "Those who circulate such fake news on social media platforms will not be spared and will face consequences under the law," he added. The clarification comes amid a surge of viral posts and speculative claims regarding Kodali Nani's alleged detention, causing confusion among the public and political circles. Authorities are now monitoring social media activity closely to identify and act against those responsible for spreading misinformation.



Vijayawada Celebrates 11th International Yoga Day

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
The 11th International Yoga Day was celebrated with enthusiasm at Tummalapalli Kshetranya Kalakshetram in Vijayawada. Andhra Pradesh Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography, Kandula Durgesh, attended as the chief guest. He presented prizes to 193 winners of state-level yoga competitions, where 520 people took part. Minister Durgesh highlighted that yoga is India's cultural treasure, now practiced worldwide. He said yoga helps people lead a healthy, peaceful, and happy life. Sharing his recent expe-



rience in Berlin, he noted that European investors see Andhra Pradesh as a great place for yoga

and wellness centers because of its 974 km coastline. He urged everyone to make yoga a part of

their daily life for better health and success in all fields. The minister also praised the state's efforts to make Yogandhra-2025 a grand and memorable event. He said the government is encouraging people to practice yoga regularly to stay healthy in today's fast-paced world. The event was attended by Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav, NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha, AYUSH Director Dinesh Kumar, and other officials. The celebrations showcased Andhra Pradesh's commitment to promoting yoga for a healthier society.

Dwakra Women Honour Kondapalli Vice Chairman

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
In a meeting held in the 27th division of Kondapalli Municipality, the Dwakra Women members came together to elect a new Community Coordinator (CC) and honour key public representatives. Following the resignation of former CC Gayatri, the members unanimously chose Korata Lakshmi Thirupathamma as the new CC. On this occasion, the women extended a warm felicitation to Chuttakuduru Srinivasa Rao, the newly appointed Vice Chairman of Kondapalli Municipality, and Gollapudi Market Director Basava Umamaheswara Rao. The event served as both a celebration and a platform for the women to highlight various local issues. Responding to the concerns raised by the women, Vice Chairman Srinivasa Rao assured them that all the problems in the division would be addressed at the earliest. He



emphasized the importance of public cooperation in ensuring effective governance. Several local leaders were present at the event, including Mylavaram Constituency Telugu Youth Vice President Korata Srin-

ivasaraju, NTR District Minority Vice President Mohammed Afsar, Third Diesel President Bhaiya Ramoji, Goreti Chakravarthy, Korata Naresh, Vijay Mohan, along with numerous Dwakra women.

Skill Development Key to Youth Empowerment: APSSDC Chairman Sesharao

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC), Sri Burugupalli Sesharao, conducted a comprehensive review meeting at the APSSDC head office in Tadepalli today, focusing on skill training and employment generation for the youth across the state. During the session, Mr. Sesharao reviewed the status and progress of various skill development initiatives implemented by the corporation. The meeting was attended by Managing Director & CEO Sri Ganesh Kumar, IAS, Advisor for International Skill and Employment Affairs Smt. Seetha Sharma, Executive Directors Sri G. Anil Kumar, Sri D. Manohar, Sri Raghu, and other senior staff members. Officials provided updates on ongoing training programs, placement drives, and partnerships with industries. Mr. Sesharao emphasized the vision of Chief Minister Sri Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Minister for Human Resources Development Sri Nara Lokesh, stating that the APSSDC must act as a bridge between education and employability. He stressed the importance of designing training programs that directly address industry needs and called for district-level reviews to ensure effectiveness and accountability at the grassroots level. He urged APSSDC employees to work transparently and collaboratively to achieve key performance indicators. Highlighting the need for industry-academia linkages, he said, "A stronger connection between industries and academic in-



stitutions will result in better job opportunities for our youth." The Chairman also revealed plans to extend skill development initiatives to the high school level, preparing students early for emerging job roles. He reiterated the corporation's support for fostering a robust startup ecosystem in the state. Citing the World Economic Forum report, he directed the team to align training modules with global job trends and market demands. He also stressed that the corporation would play a vital role in realizing the long-term targets set under Vision 2047, a developmental roadmap to make Andhra Pradesh a leader in skill development and youth employment. The meeting concluded with a call to action for all stakeholders to work in synergy and contribute to building a skilled, future-ready workforce for Andhra Pradesh.

Ganja Seized Again in Vissannapet

Four suspects detained in second bust in 5 days

TPN Correspondent | NTR District
The illegal cultivation and transport of ganja continues to trouble authorities in Vissannapet, with another 2 kg of ganja seized in a raid conducted on Reddygudem Road—just five days after a similar bust. On June 13, police seized 1.5 kg of ganja from the same area. Acting on reliable information, officials carried out a raid once again, this time in coordina-

tion with the Tahsildar, VROs, and local staff, leading to the latest seizure. The police detained four individuals in connection with the case Gundrapu Satish from Kankipadu, Rakesh from Vijayawada, Pacchigala Nani from Kankipadu, Desireddy Bhuvaneshwari, who had reportedly arrived in Vissannapet three days ago and was residing locally. According to CI K. Giribabu and

SI G. Ramakrishna, a case has been registered, and a detailed investigation is underway. Officials are also probing possible links to larger networks involved in ganja cultivation and transportation in the region. The back-to-back seizures in just five days have raised concerns about the growing presence of ganja activity in Vissannapet, prompting the police to intensify their monitoring and enforcement efforts.



Yoga Andhra Energizes Guntupally Buddhist Temple

Former MLA Ghanta Murali Ramakrishna attends event
Over 8.6 lakh registered in West Godavari district
5,053 locations to host yoga programs on June 21

TPN | Kishore
West Godavari: The historic Guntupally Buddhist Temple in Jilakarragudem, Kamavarapukot mandal, came alive on Wednesday as yoga enthusiasts gathered for a special event under the Yoga Andhra initiative. The event was organized by the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Department, drawing participation from various officials and the public. Former MLA Ghanta Murali Ramakrishna, who attended as the chief guest, said yoga has been playing a transformative role in people's lives over the past decade. He commended the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, both of whom are set to take part in the International Yoga Day celebrations in Visakhapatnam. He appealed to the public to support and actively participate in these statewide programs. ITDA PO Ramula Nayak highlighted that yoga practice sessions have been organized at four prominent tourist sites in the district as part of the ongoing initiative. He noted that since May 21, large-scale Yoga Andhra events have been held



across the district under the guidance of the District Collector. Ramula Nayak further revealed that 8,60,072 people have registered in West Godavari district alone, and that 5,053 venues have been identified across villages, wards, and secretariats to conduct yoga sessions on June 21, marking International Yoga Day. The program aims to set a national re-

cord and promote yoga as a vital practice for holistic well-being. Officials urged citizens to join in mass and contribute to making Andhra Pradesh a model for yoga-led health initiatives. DRDA PD R. Vijayaraju, Setwell CEO Prabhakar, Tourism District Manager Pattabhi, Tahsildar Elijah, YMPDO K. Saralakumari, and several public representatives were also present at the event.

Encounter In Maredumilli Forests: Three Maoists Killed

TPN Correspondent | Alluri Seetharamaraju

A major blow has been dealt to the Maoist movement in Andhra Pradesh with the death of three senior cadre members in a fierce encounter that took place in the early hours today in the Maredumilli forests of Alluri Seetharamaraju district. The exchange of fire occurred in the forest regions near Chintakulu, Koyyalagudem, and Kondamodala, where security forces launched an operation following intelligence inputs about Maoist presence. During the operation, three Maoists were neutralized in the gunfight. Among those killed is Central Committee member Gajarla Ravi alias Uday, a top leader in the Maoist hierarchy. Also killed were Aruna, a Zonal Committee mem-

ber and wife of recently deceased Maoist commander Chalapati, and another Maoist identified as Anju. All three were reportedly involved in various violent incidents in the region over the years. Security personnel recovered three AK-47 rifles from the site of the encounter. The Greyhounds, a specialized anti-Maoist force, are currently conducting combing operations in the surrounding forest areas, as officials suspect that other Maoists may still be hiding nearby. Authorities have yet to release full details of the operation, and further updates are expected as the search continues. The deaths of these key Maoist leaders mark a significant success for the security forces in their ongoing efforts to curb left-wing extremism in Andhra Pradesh's tribal regions.



Solution to Public Issues in Phases: MLA Badeti Chanti

TPN Correspondent | Eluru
Eluru MLA Badeti Chanti stated that the coalition government is addressing public problems in a phased manner, guided by a well-structured future plan. Speaking during a public grievance program held at the Eluru MLA camp office on Wednesday, the legislator reaffirmed the government's commitment to stability and long-term development. He said, "We are resolving public issues one by one, and efforts are underway to find complete solutions for the long-standing and complex problems facing the people of Eluru city." The MLA noted that the coalition government is acting with foresight, focusing not just on immediate relief but on sustainable resolutions. During the event, MLA Chanti personally received grievance petitions from residents of various parts of the constituency and instructed officials to act promptly on the requests. He emphasized that public service remains a top priority and that officials must work with dedication to meet citizen expectations. As part of the outreach program, notebooks were distributed to children, highlighting the importance of education, and a tricycle was handed over to a disabled person, reflecting the MLA's commitment to inclusive governance. The event saw the participation of TDP leaders, party activists, and locals, who appreciated the MLA's efforts to maintain regular interaction with the public and his proactive role in addressing grassroots-level issues.

Six Dredging Boats Seized at Tallapudi

TPN Correspondent | East Godavari
In a major crackdown on illegal sand mining, six dredging boats were seized on Wednesday afternoon at the desiltation point in Tallapudi village, Tallapudi mandal, East Godavari district. The boats were allegedly operated by members of the local Boatman Society, who were found conducting unauthorized dredging activities despite an official ban in place. The action was carried out under the orders of East Godavari District Collector P. Prashanthi, who had earlier imposed a strict prohibition on all sand mining operations in the district. A joint team led by District Mines Officer D. Phani Bhushan Reddy, Tahsildar Lakshmi Lavanya, and Sub-Inspector Anjaneyulu conducted the raids at the site. Officials confirmed that the boats were being used for illegal extraction in violation of the current restrictions. Authorities have reiterated that stringent action will be taken against anyone found violating the sand mining ban, and surveillance at desiltation points across the district has been intensified to curb such activities.



Development Works Beyond Politics: Kotamreddy

TPN | Seshu
Nellore: Nellore Rural MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy has stated that development will continue beyond party lines, with a focus on serving the public. On Wednesday, he laid the foundation stone for 14 parks across 18th, 19th, and 20th divisions in his constituency, as part of a broader initiative to develop 29 parks with a total budget of ₹7 crore under the Chandranna Parks program. Addressing the media during the event, Kotamreddy said, "Development is our sole agenda. Regardless of politics or elections, our focus is on solving public issues." He credited Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu for supporting the initiative and promised unprecedented progress in Nellore Rural with active public cooperation. In a strong message to land grabbers, the MLA declared that park lands worth ₹150 crore have been safeguarded from illegal encroachments. "We will not tolerate the encroachment of public or government properties. If anyone tries to squat on them, we will not hesitate to respond firmly. I will tear the hand that tries to grab public land," he warned. He reiterated that such lands will now be developed into public spaces for community welfare and beautification. The newly laid park projects aim to provide green and recreational zones for citizens, in line with sustainable urban development goals. The program saw the participation of cluster in-charges, corporators, division presidents, TDP leaders, and activists, reflecting broad local support for the initiative.



Minister Savita Visits Jyothibapule Gurukul School



TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram

BC Welfare Minister S. Savita and local MLA Kolla Lalitha Kumari visited the Mahatma Jyothibapule Backward Classes Welfare Gurukul School at Jammadevipet in Lakkavarapukotata mandal on Wednesday. During their visit, they interacted with students and distributed Sarvepalli Radhakrishna kits, while reviewing the infrastructure and facilities available at the school. The minister lauded the vision of former Chief Minister Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, calling him the founder of Gurukul schools and highlighting his goal of ensuring that students from weaker sections receive education on par with those in corporate institutions. "NTR's dream was to see Badugu students compete with those studying in the best schools," she said. Speaking on behalf of the

coalition government, Minister Savita said, "The credit for giving ₹15,000 to each student as a token of gratitude to their mother goes to this government. We are committed to supporting both education and families." She emphasized the importance of the initiative that ensures financial assistance to students in every household. The minister also took part in a sapling plantation drive on the school premises. Stressing the importance of environmental protection, she stated, "Protecting nature is our responsibility and the greatest asset we can pass on to future generations." The event witnessed the participation of Kothavalasa Market Committee Chairman Chokkakula Mallu Naidu, ZPTC member Machi Karedla Eshwar Rao, Chinthalapalem Sarpanch Makena Naveen Patrudu, school principal, teachers, and other local representatives.

MLA Nelavala Vijaya Sri Participates in Yoga Andhra Program

TPN | C Shekar
Naidupeta: Local MLA Nelavala Vijaya Sri stated that along with welfare and development, the health of the people is also a priority for the government, and the Yoga Andhra program is a reflection of this vision. She made these remarks while participating in the Yoga Andhra event held in Naidupeta on Tuesday. Speaking at the event, which was part of the state-wide initiative launched under the leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, the MLA emphasized the importance of yoga for over-

all well-being. "Everyone should make it a habit to dedicate at least one hour daily for yoga. It not only strengthens the body but also brings mental peace," she said. MLA Vijaya Sri actively participated in the yoga session alongside TDP leaders, encouraging the public to adopt yoga as a daily routine. The event saw enthusiastic involvement from local residents. TDP in-charge Nelavala Subramaniam, Municipal Commissioner Fazulullah, leaders 786 Rafi, Rajendra, and several others joined the program. The event reflected



the increasing public interest in health-focused initiatives and the growing success of the Yoga

Andhra campaign across the state.

JUNE-19-WORLD SICKLE CELL DAY

The situation of Sickle Cell Anemia disease in Visakhapatnam(ASR District) agency areas, problems faced by patients, government measures and research

Sickle Cell Anemia (Sickle Cell Disease) is a genetic disorder that affects red blood cells. In people with this disease, red blood cells change into a sickle or crescent shape. Due to this abnormal shape, red blood cells cannot easily flow through blood vessels, which lead to many symptoms and problems. Common symptoms seen in sickle cell disease patients include anemia, severe pain, pain crises, pale skin and eyes, shortness of breath, dactylitis, and frequent infections. In sickle cell disease patients, the spleen is damaged, weakening the immune system. This makes them more susceptible to bacterial infections like pneumonia and meningitis. Reduced blood flow to the brain increases the risk of stroke. Blockage of small blood vessels in the eyes can lead to vision problems and even blindness. A severe problem with pain, fever, and difficulty breathing in the lungs occurs. Due to the rapid breakdown of red blood cells, bilirubin levels increase, causing the skin and eyes to turn yellow, and jaundice frequently occurs. Increased breakdown of red blood cells significantly increases the risk of gallstones. In males, painful, prolonged erections occur due to blocked blood flow to the penis. In children, insufficient oxygen to the body can lead to delayed growth and a longer time to reach puberty. This disease affects millions of people worldwide. Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is more prevalent in tropical and subtropical regions worldwide, especially in malaria-prone areas. Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 80% of global sickle cell anemia cases. Countries like Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa have a very high number of children born with sickle cell anemia. The prevalence of sickle cell anemia is also significant in other countries like Tanzania, Uganda, Angola, Cameroon, Zambia, Ghana, Guinea, and Niger. Approximately 7.7 million people worldwide are estimated to be living with SCD. Approximately 300,000 infants are born with severe SCD worldwide each year. This number is estimated to reach approximately 400,000 births per year by 2050. Over 100 million people worldwide have the Sickle Cell Trait (SCT), also known as traits. Nigeria has the highest number of SCD births in the world. In India, sickle cell disease is more prevalent in tribal areas. India ranks second in the world in the list of sickle cell disease patients. The severity of this disease is high in India, especially in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, West Odisha, North Tamil Nadu, East Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, and Sikkim. India ranks second globally in the number of SCD births. In 2010, approximately 42,016 newborns were estimated to have been born with SCD. In India, the sickle cell gene is prevalent mainly in the marginalized tribal and economically backward populations. The percentage of sickle cell disease carriers ranges from 1% to 35%. In some parts of Central India (such as Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh), the disease prevalence ranges from 9.4% to 22.2%. Neonatal screening programs in Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Chhattisgarh have shown HbAS prevalence rates between 2% and 40%. These statistics emphasize the global burden of sickle cell disease and the need for comprehensive healthcare, screening, and awareness programs in affected regions. Sickle Cell Disease Status in Andhra Pradesh: Sickle cell disease is prevalent among the tribal population of Andhra Pradesh. Especially in the tribal areas of North Andhra, symptoms of this disease are more common. Particularly in the erstwhile Visakhapatnam district, recently conducted special tests revealed that 1,134 people are affected by Sickle Cell Anemia, as stated by District Medical and Health Officer Jamal Basha. Across the district, 3,63,912 people underwent Sickle Cell Anemia tests. Among them, 12,028 people were identified with symptoms, and 1,134 were confirmed positive for Sickle Cell Anemia. The gov-



Dr. Parikippandla Sridevi, (conducting research on sickle cell disease in ASR District)
Associate Professor and Head
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ernment is making arrangements for necessary medicines, nutrition, etc., for patients to prevent the disease. As a pilot project, iron gummies are being distributed to adolescent women in the areas of GK Veedhi, R.V. Nagar, Gemmeli, and Minumuluru PHCs. The government is working with the goal of completely eradicating sickle cell disease in the state by 2047. As part of this, 'Integrated Centers for Hemoglobinopathies' testing laboratories have been set up at five locations in the state. The government provides free counseling and medicines to those diagnosed with the disease. The government provides a pension of Rs. 10,000 per month to 900 people who test positive for sickle cell disease. As part of the Central Government's Sickle Cell Disease Eradication Mission, Andhra Pradesh aims to conduct screening tests for sickle cell and thalassemia for approximately 6.6 lakh tribals in 2022-23. In Visakhapatnam district, especially in the agency (tribal) areas, sickle cell disease (SCD) patients face many challenges. The severity of this disease, lack of awareness, and limited access to medical facilities significantly affect their quality of life. Major problems faced by sickle cell disease patients in Visakhapatnam district: Limited Access to Healthcare Services: Shortage of specialized centers: There are very few full-fledged hospitals or departments locally that specifically treat sickle cell

disease. Long journeys: Patients from tribal areas, especially for blood transfusions or to consult specialists, have to travel long distances to Visakhapatnam city or other large towns. This is a significant financial and physical burden. Transportation problems: Due to inadequate transportation facilities in agency areas, it is difficult to reach the hospital in emergency situations. Shortage of blood transfusion facilities: Sickle cell disease patients often require blood transfusions. However, in agency areas like Araku, due to the unavailability of blood transfusion centers, patients have to travel to Visakhapatnam, which is a big problem for them. Lack of awareness about the disease: There is no proper awareness about sickle cell disease in tribal communities. Many consider it malnutrition or common anemia, which delays timely diagnosis and treatment. Awareness about the genetic causes of the disease and preventive methods (e.g., avoiding marriages between carriers) is very low. Treatment cost and financial burden: Although the government provides pensions (Rs. 10,000 per month) and free medicines, frequent hospital visits, transportation costs, special food, and other associated expenses impose a significant financial burden on the patients' families. Stigma and Social Discrimination: In some communities, sickle cell disease is considered a curse or an infectious

disease rather than a genetic one, leading to social stigma and discrimination for patients and their families. This also impacts their mental health. Availability of regular medicines: Important medicines like Hydroxyurea may not be available locally at all times, leading to interruptions in treatment. The Government of Andhra Pradesh and health officials are actively taking measures to combat sickle cell disease, especially focusing on screening, treatment, and awareness in tribal and backward areas. The complete cure for sickle cell disease is very limited, but many treatment methods are available to manage symptoms, prevent complications, and improve patients' quality of life. Among them, mainly taking Hydroxyurea medicine: Hydroxyurea is the most commonly used medicine for SCD. It works by increasing the production of fetal hemoglobin (HbF), which reduces the number of sickle cells and reduces the severity and frequency of complications such as pain crises and acute chest syndrome. It can also reduce the need for blood transfusions. Blood Transfusions: Blood transfusions may be necessary to reduce severe anemia, prevent or treat serious complications like stroke. This provides normal red blood cells and reduces the concentration of sickle cells. Pain Management: Pain relievers (from over-the-counter to strong prescription medications) are used to manage pain

crises. Prevention of infections: People with sickle cell disease are at a higher risk of infections. To prevent this: Antibiotics: Prophylactic antibiotics like penicillin are given, especially to young children. Vaccinations: Vaccinations are given to protect against common infections like pneumonia and meningitis. Bone Marrow/Stem Cell Transplant: This is currently the only potential curative treatment for SCD. However, it requires a matched donor and carries a risk of severe side effects, so it is not suitable for everyone. Ayurvedic/Herbal Treatments: In regions like India and Africa, traditional Ayurvedic and herbal treatments are being used as complementary methods to manage SCD symptoms. These are generally used in combination with modern treatments. Supportive Care: Hydration: Adequate fluid intake helps prevent the formation of sickle cells. Nutrition: A balanced and nutritious diet improves overall health and helps combat anemia. Rest: Getting enough rest is important to reduce fatigue and allow the body to recover. Regular Check-ups: Regular visits to a doctor are necessary to identify problems early and adjust the treatment plan. The National Sickle Cell Anemia Elimination Mission was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 1, 2023. The main objective of this mission is to eradicate sickle cell anemia from the country by 2047. Especially since this disease is more prevalent in the tribal population, they are given priority. Key objectives of the mission: Providing affordable and accessible care to all sickle cell anemia patients. Reducing the prevalence of sickle cell anemia. Raising awareness about the disease, strengthening screening and testing facilities. Improving laboratory services for disease diagnosis. Facilitating treatment and management. Research on Sickle Cell Disease: Sickle cell disease is highly prevalent among the tribal people in the Araku region of the erstwhile Visakhapatnam district (present-day Alluri Sitarama Raju district). Dr. Parikippandla Sridevi from the Central Tribal University in Vizianagaram is conducting research on sickle cell disease among the tribals in the Araku region with the cooperation of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). With her past experience of research on sickle cell patients in Anuppur district of Madhya Pradesh, she is working to improve the quality of life of patients, understand the financial burden they bear, and the problems they face due to the disease, and is raising awareness about the disease among patients. She especially emphasizes whether they are taking Hydroxyurea tablets daily, visiting the hospital regularly, and getting blood transfusions with the doctor's advice when necessary. She has brought to the government's attention the need to establish a special sickle cell department and blood transfusion center in this highly prevalent area, especially at the Araku Area Hospital. This is because patients currently have to travel long distances to Visakhapatnam for blood transfusions, and this places a significant financial burden on them. Dr. Parikippandla Sridevi is continuing her research on sickle cell disease to reduce the problems faced by patients.



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"No Trade Deal Talk Or Mediation Offer During Pak Conflict": PM Modi To Trump

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a strong reiteration of India's long-standing position, Prime Minister Narendra Modi told U.S. President Donald Trump that India has never accepted, and will never accept, third-party mediation on the issue of Pakistan's illegal occupation of parts of Jammu and Kashmir. This was the key takeaway from a 35-minute phone call between the two leaders on Tuesday evening, which took place while PM Modi was in Canada attending the G7 Summit. Briefing the media on Wednesday morning, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri stated that President Trump had raised the topic after asking for details about Operation Sindoor, India's recent military response to the Pahalgam terror attack—an assault sponsored by Pakistan's deep state. PM Modi explained that India's military action had been precise and restrained, targeting only terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The Prime Minister then emphasized that India's policy on third-party mediation is firm and rooted in political consensus. "PM Modi stressed India has never accepted mediation, and does not accept and will never accept it. There is complete political unanimity in India on this," Misri said. This conversation follows repeated claims by President Trump of playing a role in the Operation Sindoor ceasefire, as well as his offer to mediate the Kashmir issue—claims India has firmly refuted. The PM made it clear that talks with Pakistan would only occur in the context of terrorism and the return of PoK.



The timing of the conversation is particularly significant given President Trump's confirmed meeting with Pakistan's Army Chief, General Syed Asim Munir, at the White House. Scheduled for lunch in the Cabinet Room, the visit comes amid mounting tensions in West Asia, with Iran and Israel teetering on the brink of war—a development that could pull in Pakistan due to its shared border with Iran. While the visit has been described as a routine bilateral engagement aimed at reinforcing military ties, Indian officials remain wary. General Munir has drawn sharp criticism in India, especially after inflammatory remarks ahead of the Pahalgam attack. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar had

denounced the general's "extreme religious outlook," which he said contributed to the barbarity of the attack. On Trump's claims about halting the conflict, PM Modi clarified that the ceasefire followed a request from Pakistan and was negotiated via direct military communication channels. The Prime Minister also denied any link between the ceasefire and the India-U.S. trade deal, countering speculation that economic pressure had influenced the situation. Despite an invitation from President Trump to visit the U.S. after the G7, PM Modi had to decline due to prior commitments. The phone call, officials said, was held in place of a planned face-to-face meeting on the G7 sidelines.

India's ICE Dominance Shields Auto Sector from China's Rare Earth Export Curbs

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India's automotive sector is expected to remain largely unaffected by China's recent restrictions on rare earth material (REM) exports, thanks to its overwhelming reliance on internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles. According to a report by Nuvama, over 95% of vehicles in India are ICE-powered, which drastically reduces the country's vulnerability compared to nations with higher electric vehicle (EV) adoption.



China's April 2025 decision to restrict the export of seven critical rare earth elements—including samarium, dysprosium, and scandium—was primarily targeted at the defence sector. However, the impact is expected to ripple through the auto, aerospace, and industrial sectors globally, especially in EV manufacturing.

The report highlights that REMs are essential for producing permanent magnets used in EV motors, especially Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motors (PMSMs). These motors depend heavily

on rare earths to function effectively at high temperatures. REM demand varies by vehicle type—electric vehicles use around 0.8 kg per unit, hybrids 0.5 kg, and ICE vehicles just 0.1 kg.

As a result, India's EV and hybrid segments will bear the brunt of the supply restrictions. However, with EV penetration still low—about 7% in two-wheelers and 3% in passenger vehicles—the overall impact on the auto sector is expected to be minimal. EV sales have grown at a compound annual growth

rate (CAGR) of 25% between FY23 and FY25, but this growth comes from a relatively small base.

Automakers relying on rare earth-based components will now be required to secure end-user certifications from the Chinese government, a process estimated to take up to 45 days. Despite these hurdles, India's current vehicle mix and slow EV transition act as a buffer against potential supply chain shocks caused by China's REM policy shift.



Google Launches First Asia-Pacific Safety Engineering Centre in Hyderabad

Global tech leader Google has inaugurated its first Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC) in the Asia-Pacific region, choosing Hyderabad as its strategic base. Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy officially launched the facility on Wednesday, marking a major milestone in India's digital and cybersecurity landscape. The newly opened GSEC is part of Google's largest campus outside the United States and is only the fourth such centre globally, joining similar hubs in Dublin (Ireland), Munich (Germany), and Malaga (Spain). With this launch, Hyderabad strengthens its position as a rising global technology and innovation hub. Speaking at the inauguration, CM Revanth Reddy highlighted the evolving nature of digital threats and the need for proactive safety measures. "The world has changed significantly since Google was launched. With this Safety Engineering Centre, Google is committing itself to developing advanced security and safety solutions that will have a global impact," he stated. The centre is designed to spearhead research and innovation in cybersecurity, focusing particularly on AI-powered safety tools and digital protection frameworks. It will not only support Google's mission of building a safer internet but also serve as a training and upskilling hub for cybersecurity professionals across the region.

According to Google, the Hyderabad GSEC will concentrate on four key areas:

- *Artificial Intelligence-based cybersecurity research*
- *Development of advanced online safety tools*
- *Collaboration with academic and policy institutions*
- *Skill development initiatives aimed at building a local talent pipeline*

The facility is expected to generate thousands of high-tech jobs and facilitate international collaborations, further boosting India's ambitions to become a leader in digital innovation and cyber resilience. With growing concerns over data breaches, misinformation, and online abuse, the centre arrives at a critical time. Google's investment signals a long-term commitment to responsible technology development and a safer internet ecosystem for users in India and around the world.

FASTag-Based Annual Pass Announced By Centre

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a move set to benefit millions of private vehicle owners across the country, the Central Government has announced a FASTag-based annual pass for non-commercial vehicles. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari made the announcement on social media, revealing that the scheme will be implemented from August 15, marking Independence Day. The annual pass will be priced at ₹3,000 and is designed to ease travel for those who frequently commute on national highways. According to Gadkari, the pass will be valid for either 200 trips or one year from the date of activation—whichever comes first. The scheme is applicable only to non-commercial vehicles such as cars, jeeps, and vans, and will be valid on all national highways throughout the country. A dedicated activation link will soon be made available through the 'Rajmarg' mobile app and the official websites of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH). Minister Gadkari noted that the decision comes in response to a long-standing demand from regular highway users. He stated that this initiative would not only reduce toll plaza congestion but also minimize disputes over toll charges. He further emphasized that the pass would simplify toll transactions and enhance the overall travel experience for private vehicle users. The government aims to promote ease of travel, digital payment, and faster movement on highways through this new FASTag annual pass, which is being welcomed as a practical and cost-effective solution for frequent travelers.

Indian students in Iran being taken to Armenia for safe return: JK CM



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah confirmed on Tuesday that students from the Union Territory studying in Iran are being safely evacuated due to rising regional tensions. Speaking to the media, Abdullah said the evacuation plan, coordinated with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), involves transporting students overland to Armenia before flying them home.

"I've been in constant touch with

the MEA and personally spoke to Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar. He assured me that the evacuation will be done in phases, starting with students in high-risk areas such as Tehran and Isfahan," Abdullah stated. He noted that the initial plan was to move the students to Qum, a relatively safer location, but due to airport closures, the government opted to transport them by land to Armenia.

The evacuation comes amid escalating tensions between Iran and

Israel, prompting several countries, including Nepal, to prepare similar rescue missions for their citizens.

Meanwhile, Abdullah raised concerns over the suspension of helicopter services for Amarnath Yatra pilgrims, describing the move as unprecedented and potentially misleading. "This is the first time in many years that helicopter services from Pahalgam and Baltal have been halted. It may send a wrong signal about the situation in Jammu and Kashmir,"

he warned. He clarified that he lacks specific intelligence inputs but emphasized that such restrictions could impact national perceptions of safety in the region.

On a positive note, Abdullah welcomed the reopening of tourist parks that had been closed since the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. "This is a step in the right direction. It was contradictory to promote tourism while keeping half of Kashmir shut. We hope this move encourages tourists to return," he concluded.

Operation Sindoor paused at request of Pakistan, won't accept mediation: Modi tells Trump

TPN Correspondent | Washington

In a significant diplomatic exchange, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with US President Donald Trump on June 17 and firmly clarified that India's decision to pause military strikes on Pakistan during Operation Sindoor was solely due to a request from Islamabad — not because of any US mediation or trade deal.

During the 35-minute phone call, Modi briefed Trump on the objectives and execution of Operation Sindoor, launched in retaliation for the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. Modi underscored that India has never accepted third-party mediation in matters concerning Pakistan and would not do so in the future.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri confirmed that Modi “categorically denied any discussions of trade deals in relation to the military operation” and emphasized that “India acted on its own terms using measured, precise, and non-escalatory strikes against terror targets inside Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Pakistan.”

The call came after Trump had earlier suggested that he played a role in halt-



ing Indo-Pak hostilities — a claim New Delhi has strongly denied. Modi clarified that following Pakistan's retaliatory attack on the night of May 9-10, India responded forcefully, disabling key Pakistani military installations and airbases. This response prompted Islamabad to seek de-escalation. Trump had reportedly invited Modi to the US during the G7 Summit in Canada. However, due to scheduling conflicts, Modi declined and

instead extended an invitation for Trump to attend the upcoming Quad Summit in India, which Trump accepted.

The two leaders also discussed the Israel-Iran conflict, Russia-Ukraine war, and regional stability in the Indo-Pacific. Modi reiterated that India will no longer treat terrorism as proxy warfare but as an act of war — with Operation Sindoor still ongoing as part of that commitment.

"Won't Surrender": Iran Warns US Of 'Irreparable Damage' If It Intervenes

TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

As tensions escalate between Iran and Israel, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has issued a defiant warning to the United States, vowing never to surrender and threatening “irreparable damage” if Washington intervenes. The statement came in direct response to U.S. President Donald Trump's call for Iran to surrender unconditionally amid an intensifying regional conflict.

Speaking from an undisclosed location, Khamenei addressed the Iranian public and sent a clear message to the U.S. and Israel. “Tehran will never surrender,” he declared, reinforcing Iran's resolve in the face of mounting pressure and military threats. His warning came after President Trump publicly stated that the U.S. knows Khamenei's location and could target him, “but not yet,” urging Iran to halt missile attacks on civilians and American personnel.

President Trump, in a series of remarks and a Truth Social post, accused Iran of squandering opportunities for diplomacy. He warned that the U.S. possesses unmatched military capabilities and that



Israel, heavily armed with American technology, “knows how to use it.” Trump further reminded Khamenei that other Iranian hardliners “spoke bravely” before being eliminated, suggesting Iran's leadership could face a similar fate.

The crisis erupted on Friday when Israel launched airstrikes targeting Iran's military and nuclear sites. Iran retaliated by firing hundreds of ballistic missiles into Israeli cities, including Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, many striking civilian zones. In response, Israel warned Tehran of more

strikes, urging civilians to evacuate areas near military infrastructure.

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz emphasized that civilians were not Israel's intended targets but warned that those near regime facilities in Tehran could be at risk. “We will continue to protect our citizens,” he said, underscoring Israel's readiness for prolonged conflict.

The situation remains volatile as both nations prepare for further military action and diplomatic options narrow.

Israeli Forces Kill Over 50 People Near Gaza Aid Site Amid Escalating Crisis

On June 17, 2025, Gaza's civil defense agency reported that Israeli forces killed more than 50 individuals near an aid distribution site in the southern city of Khan Yunis, marking the latest in a series of deadly incidents near humanitarian facilities in the Palestinian territory. The attack is a grim reminder of the worsening situation in Gaza, which has been embroiled in over 20 months of intense conflict between Israel and Hamas. The ongoing war has left the region devastated, with critical shortages of essential resources such as food, fuel, and clean water. As the humanitarian crisis deepens, the United Nations and various global aid organizations have repeatedly raised alarms about the dire conditions faced by Gaza's population. Despite efforts to provide relief, the conflict continues to obstruct aid deliveries and exacerbate the already dire situation on the ground.

In early March, Israel imposed a total blockade on aid entering Gaza, further complicating efforts to alleviate the suffering of the local population. Although the blockade was partially eased in late May, restrictions



on the delivery of essential supplies have remained in place, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis. The Israeli military has repeatedly targeted areas near aid sites, citing security concerns related to Hamas's presence in these regions. The latest attack in Khan Yunis has sparked international condemnation, with human rights groups calling for an immediate ceasefire and

greater protection for civilians. As the violence continues, both sides of the conflict face increasing pressure from the international community to engage in meaningful negotiations and find a path toward peace. However, with no clear resolution in sight, the people of Gaza continue to endure the devastating consequences of this prolonged conflict.



Imran Khan Postpones Nationwide Protest Due to Global Tensions

TPN Correspondent | KYIV

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan has decided to defer his planned nationwide protest by two weeks, citing the ongoing global tensions, particularly the escalating Iran-Israel conflict. The announcement was made by his sister, Noreen Niazi, who stated that Khan, the leader of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), made the decision after carefully considering the current international situation.

Khan had initially planned a large-scale movement across Pakistan, aiming to rally his supporters and address political issues within the country. However, the growing geopolitical tensions, especially the hostilities between Iran and Israel, prompted Khan to delay the protest in order to avoid adding domestic unrest to an already volatile international environment.

The former PM's decision reflects his awareness of the sensitive nature of the current global situation, where any additional political disturbances could potentially worsen Pakistan's diplomatic relations and internal stability. Noreen Niazi further emphasized that the delay was a strategic move to ensure that PTI's political actions would not overlap with international crises, allowing the country to focus on diplomatic and security matters.

This postponement has been viewed by many as a sign of Khan's adaptability in response to shifting global dynamics, as well as his consideration for the larger implications of political unrest during such tense times. It remains to be seen whether the political landscape in Pakistan will stabilize in the coming weeks or if further adjustments will be made to the protest timeline based on future developments. Khan's supporters, however, continue to express their eagerness to support the PTI leader once the protest resumes.



Musk's xAI Faces \$1 Billion Monthly Losses, Struggles to Meet Financial Demands

TPN Correspondent | Iran

Elon Musk's artificial intelligence startup, xAI, is burning through a staggering \$1 billion each month as it faces the escalating costs of developing advanced AI models. Despite its ambitious goals, the company is struggling to match its expenses with revenues, highlighting the immense financial pressures that are typical within the AI industry.

xAI, which powers the Grok AI chatbot, is currently in the process of raising \$9.3 billion in debt and equity to cover the gap between its high spending and slow revenue growth. The startup expects to burn through \$13 billion in 2025 alone, with over half of its current funding earmarked for expenses in just the next three months.

The company's losses are driven by the immense cost of building data centers and purchasing specialized chips needed for training AI models like Grok. Industry estimates predict that AI infrastructure will require over \$1.8 trillion in capital by 2030. While xAI competes in a highly competitive AI landscape, its revenue projections remain significantly lower compared to industry leaders such as OpenAI, which is projected to generate \$12.7 billion in revenue this year. In contrast, xAI's revenue is expected to be just \$500 million this year, rising to over \$2 billion by 2026.

Musk, known for his long-term vision, has previously poured funds into projects like Tesla and SpaceX, even when they were losing money. Similarly, xAI is betting on future profits, with plans to become profitable by 2027. The company's strategic advantages include its access to social media platform X's vast data and direct access to computing chips, which could give it a competitive edge.

As of now, xAI is racing against time to secure the funding needed to keep up with its soaring operational costs while hoping that its technological innovations will eventually turn the tide toward profitability.

Cautious Sentiment Drags Markets; Sensex Falls 138 Points, Nifty Slips Below 24,850

Domestic equity markets ended in the red on Wednesday amid cautious investor sentiment driven by global headwinds and geopolitical concerns. Both the Sensex and Nifty closed with moderate losses after a range-bound trading session, reflecting hesitation among investors ahead of the upcoming U.S. Federal Reserve meeting and rising geopolitical tensions, particularly concerning U.S. involvement in the West Asia conflict. The BSE Sensex opened lower at 81,314, compared to its previous close of 81,583. It swung between an intraday low of 81,237 and a high of 81,858 before settling at 81,444, down 138 points. Meanwhile, the NSE Nifty started the day at 24,788, hitting a low of 24,750 and a high of 24,947 before closing at 24,812, down 41 points. The Nifty's close below the key 24,850 mark signals emerging technical weakness in the index. While the broader market sentiment remained muted, the Nifty Bank index managed to register a modest gain, closing 114 points higher at 55,828. However, overall market breadth on the NSE favored the bears. Out of 2,955 stocks traded, only 1,026 advanced,

while 1,851 declined. As many as 50 stocks touched their 52-week highs, and 24 hit their 52-week lows. Upper circuit limits were hit by 75 stocks, whereas 83 stocks hit their lower circuits. Within the Nifty50 pack, only 14 stocks ended in the green. Top gainers included IndusInd Bank, Trent, Titan, Maruti Suzuki, and Mahindra & Mahindra. On the flip side, major laggards were TCS, Adani Ports, Hindustan Unilever, JSW Steel, and Adani Enterprises. Sectorally, consumer durables, private banking, auto, and broader banking indices saw mild gains, while media, IT, FMCG, energy, and healthcare sectors came under selling pressure. In currency markets, the Indian rupee weakened by 23 paise, settling at 86.47 against the U.S. dollar, reflecting global uncertainty and cautious domestic sentiment. In the corporate world, Nuama retained its neutral stance on Voltas with a target price of ₹1,190, while Morgan Stanley assigned an underweight rating to Avenue Supermart, targeting ₹3,260. Bharat Forge signed an MoU with French firm Turgis Gaillard. Infosys and Adobe also an-



nounced a strategic partnership. Reliance Infrastructure shares hit the 5% upper circuit after the company announced a joint venture with Dassault to manufacture Falcon 2000 jets

in India. Meanwhile, One MobiKwik Systems shares fell 8% as the post-IPO lock-in period ended. Vedanta declared an interim dividend of ₹7 per share for

FY26. Notably, NTPC saw two large block deals involving a total of 30 lakh shares. Overall, investor caution dominated the day, with profit booking prevailing across sectors.

ICRA Projects India's Real GDP Growth to Exceed 6.5% for FY26

ICRA has forecasted a strong economic performance for India in FY26, with real GDP growth expected to exceed 6.5%. The credit rating agency also predicts a robust Gross Value Added (GVA) growth rate of over 6.3% for the same period, signaling a continued upward trajectory for the Indian economy.

The optimism surrounding India's economic outlook stems from several key factors, including strong domestic demand, robust consumption, and improved industrial activity. The country's economic recovery is expected to gain further momentum, driven by infrastructure development, digitalization, and an expanding services sector. Additionally, government initiatives to boost manufacturing and attract foreign investments are expected to continue contributing positively to the overall growth prospects.

While ICRA's projections indicate strong growth for FY26, inflation remains an important factor to monitor. The agency forecasts that Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation will likely remain within the targeted range, though external factors such as oil prices and global supply chain disruptions could impact domestic price pressures. Despite these potential challenges, India's overall economic fundamentals are seen as solid, positioning the country for sustainable growth.

ICRA's projections align with a broader trend of optimism within the Indian economy. India is expected to continue being one of the fastest-growing major economies, buoyed by demographic advantages, a growing middle class, and an increasing focus on technological advancements.

For the Indian government, these projections reinforce the importance of sustaining growth-supportive policies and reforms that target productivity improvements, fiscal discipline, and infrastructure investments. With the global economic environment presenting both opportunities and risks, India's economic growth in FY26 will likely serve as a key indicator of the country's resilience and ability to weather global uncertainties while driving domestic progress.

Overall, ICRA's forecast underscores India's bright economic future, underpinned by a diverse, expanding economy and the continued success of its policy reforms.



India's Export Growth Outpaces Global Rivals: A Look at the 2010-2023 Trajectory

India's export performance between 2010 and 2023 has been marked by a steady and impressive upward trajectory, showcasing the resilience and adaptability of the nation's trade sector, an official said on Tuesday. According to a recent UNCTAD report, India has emerged as one of the fastest-growing major economies in terms of its share in global exports, recording a remarkable growth rate of 6.3%.



This achievement becomes even more significant when compared to other major global economies. During the same period, the European Union, China, and the United States saw comparatively slower growth in their export shares. The EU experienced a growth rate of 3.9%, while China and the US recorded rates of 6.1% and 3.9%, respectively. This highlights India's robust export sector and its growing integration into global trade networks. The consistent upward trend in India's exports re-

flects a number of contributing factors, including a diversification of export products, a growing services sector, and increased demand for Indian goods in emerging markets. Sectors such as information technology, pharmaceuticals, and engineering goods have witnessed substantial demand, boosting the country's trade performance.

India's rise as a global exporter is also attributed to policy measures aimed at improving the ease of doing business, enhancing trade facilitation infrastructure, and expanding its Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with key trading partners. These efforts have helped create a conducive environment for Indian businesses to expand their footprint in international markets.

As India moves forward, its export sector is expected to remain a critical driver of economic growth. The government's focus on "Atmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India) and "Make in India" initiatives further complements the export push, aiming to enhance domestic manufacturing while promoting global trade relationships. With this solid export trajectory, India is well-positioned to continue its upward journey in global trade and strengthen its standing among the world's leading economies.

Airtel Announces Final Dividend for FY25: Record Date Set for July 18, 2025

Bharti Airtel has declared a final dividend for the financial year 2024-25, pending approval from shareholders at its 30th Annual General Meeting (AGM). The telecom giant's Board of Directors has recommended a final dividend of Rs. 16 per fully paid-up equity share and Rs. 4 per partly paid-up equity share.

In its regulatory filing, Airtel confirmed that shareholders who are listed in the company's register of members or in the depository's records as beneficial owners will be eligible to receive the dividend. The record date for determining the eligible shareholders has been set for Friday, July 18, 2025.

Once approved by the shareholders at the AGM, the final dividend will be paid within 30 days, subject to tax deduction at source. The payment will be made to shareholders or beneficial owners whose names appear in the register of members or depository records as of the close of business hours on the record date.

This final dividend announcement is part of Airtel's ongoing efforts to reward its shareholders and maintain investor confidence. The telecom sector has been undergoing significant transformation,



and Airtel's consistent performance over the years reflects its solid market position and business strategy. The final dividend, if approved, will provide a boost to shareholders, especially those who have remained invested in the company over the long term.

For investors, this is an important date to remember, as it will determine eligibility for the dividend. Airtel's commit-

ment to returning value to its shareholders through dividends highlights its strong financial standing, making it an attractive stock for both retail and institutional investors.

With the telecom industry continuing to grow, Airtel's proactive approach towards shareholder value ensures it remains a key player in the Indian market.



Oarfish Sightings Spark Global Curiosity: Are the ‘Doomsday Fish’ Warning Us?

A series of rare oarfish sightings around the globe in 2025 has reignited ancient beliefs and modern scientific questions alike. Dubbed the “doomsday fish” in Japanese folklore, the mysterious deep-sea creatures have appeared in four different locations since late May—India, Australia, and two in New Zealand—prompting speculation about whether nature is sending a warning.

The wave of appearances began off the coast of Tamil Nadu, India, where fishermen caught a massive 30-foot-long oarfish. Just days later, another washed up on the west coast of Tasmania, Australia. Then in early June, New Zealand saw two separate inci-

dents—one near Dunedin and another, notably headless, near Birdlings Flat outside Christchurch. These events have triggered public curiosity and revived age-old fears connecting oarfish to seismic activity. Adding fuel to the mystery are earlier cases in 2024, when an oarfish appeared near San Diego shortly before a 4.4-magnitude earthquake struck Los Angeles. Another massive oarfish was spotted near Australia’s Tiwi Islands a month later, astonishing observers with its serpent-like size and shape.

While folklore has long linked oarfish to earthquakes and tsunamis, scientists are more cautious. Marine experts suggest that

their appearances may result from factors like underwater disturbances, rising sea temperatures, or health issues. However, no direct connection between oarfish and natural disasters has been scientifically proven.

Oarfish are deep-sea dwellers that typically live 200 to 1,000 meters below the surface and can grow over 30 feet in length, making them the longest known bony fish. Despite their fearsome nickname, they are harmless to humans and feed primarily on plankton and small crustaceans.

Whether myth or message, the growing number of oarfish sightings serves as a powerful reminder of the ocean’s enduring mysteries.

Delhi Man Scammed on Dating App, Hit With ₹12,000 Bill at Café Locus

A casual date turned into a financial nightmare for a Delhi man after he was allegedly scammed at a café in the East of Kailash area. The incident came to light after the victim shared his experience on Reddit’s r/LegalAdviceIndia forum, warning others of a possible dating app scam.

According to the Reddit post, the man had matched with a woman named “Bhumi” on a dating app. She invited him to meet at Café Locus. What seemed like a normal outing quickly spiraled out of control when the woman began ordering multiple Jägerbombs, each priced at ₹1,200. The man had only budgeted ₹3,000 for the evening, but was shocked when the final bill amounted to nearly ₹12,000.

Things worsened when the woman revealed she only had ₹100 on her. Attempting to resolve the situation, the man requested the café staff to split the bill and stop the woman from leaving. However, Bhumi left the premises. Soon af-

ter, a woman named Varsha, allegedly the café owner, confronted the man and claimed the matter would be reported to authorities unless he paid an additional ₹10,000 “fine,” bringing the total demand to ₹22,000.

The man, feeling threatened and overwhelmed, called a friend for help. After some negotiation, the issue was reportedly resolved when he paid ₹2,500 to the staff. The incident has raised concerns about scams involving fake dates luring unsuspecting victims to specific venues, where they’re pressured into paying inflated bills. The Reddit post has since gone viral, drawing attention to the tactics used and prompting warnings for others using dating apps.

While the full details remain unverified, the incident highlights the importance of caution when meeting strangers and being aware of potential scams linked to seemingly innocent online interactions.

Building No. 2 Ground Floor, Community Center, Sapna Cinema East of Kailash New Delhi-110065 Mob: +91 9910431049 FSSAI: 13323010000834 GST : 07AAKCD2362B120 TIN No: 07687227466		
Name:		
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Item	Qty.	Price Amount
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20:44		
Cashier: biller	Bill No.: 1985	
Item	Qty.	Price Amount
Onion & Paneer pizza	1	699.00 699.00
Diamond	2	3500.007000.00
Ice bucket	1	1000.001000.00

NASA Astronauts Craft ‘Space Sushi’ Aboard the ISS, Proving Cravings Know No Gravity



Craving sushi in space? NASA astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS) found a creative way to satisfy one crew member’s culinary nostalgia by whipping up their own version of “space sushi.” NASA astronaut Jonny Kim shared a delightful post on X (formerly Twitter), revealing the team’s inventive mealtime celebration and the unique techniques they used to enjoy it in zero gravity.

Although the sushi wasn’t quite Tokyo-style, it brought a comforting taste of home. “Space sushi isn’t quite the same as the fresh stuff on the ground, but it’s not bad!” Kim wrote. The crew collaborated using their personal food rations, combin-

ing rice, Spam, packaged fish, gochujang (Korean chili paste), and wasabi to create a makeshift but meaningful meal. The shared culinary effort came during a special celebration on the ISS, highlighting how even small comforts can bring joy while orbiting Earth.

In microgravity, even dining requires innovation. The crew didn’t have a traditional table—instead, their “dining area” featured tape with the sticky side facing up to anchor their utensils, food packets, and condiments in place. “Otherwise, everything would float away,” Kim explained, showcasing one of the many everyday challenges astronauts creatively over-

come.

The post quickly went viral, drawing praise and amusement from space enthusiasts online. Comments ranged from admiration for the sticky-tape hack to jokes about needing a sushi rolling mat in orbit. One user perfectly summed up the sentiment: “Not the best sushi there, but I bet the view is amazing.”

While far from gourmet, the moment was a heartfelt reminder that food brings connection and comfort—no matter how far from Earth you are. Even in space, it seems, a good meal can lift spirits and bring people together.

Chicken Gun Test: How Real Birds Are Fired at Aircraft to Ensure Safety



In the wake of the tragic Air India crash in Ahmedabad, which resulted in 241 fatalities, aviation safety has once again taken center stage. Among the many rigorous tests planes undergo, one particularly unusual yet vital procedure is the “chicken gun test.” This test involves firing real birds at aircraft parts such as windshields, wings, and engines to evaluate their ability to withstand bird strikes.

Captain and Senior Commander Sam Thomas of the Airline Pilots Association of India explains the reasoning behind this unconventional test. While it may sound strange, bird strikes are a serious risk for airplanes cruising at high speeds, often around 350 km/h. Collisions with large birds can cause severe damage, from cracking the windshield to impairing en-

gine function, posing life-threatening dangers.

During the chicken gun test, frozen chickens are shot from a specially designed cannon at various aircraft components to simulate real bird strikes. The test is typically performed on the first engine a manufacturer develops to ensure it can safely handle such impacts. After the impact,

engineers carefully examine the damage. If it’s minimal and within safety limits, the aircraft part passes the test and is cleared for use following necessary approvals.

This critical safety step helps prevent accidents caused by birds, which are more common than many realize. By pushing engines and windshields to their limits with these realistic tests,

manufacturers can design aircraft that better withstand unexpected collisions during flight.

Though the idea of firing real birds at planes may seem bizarre, the chicken gun test is an essential part of aviation safety, helping to keep millions of passengers safe every year by preparing aircraft to survive the unpredictable hazards of the skies.

Why Cristiano Ronaldo Won't Play in the 2025 Club World Cup Despite Saudi Arabia and FIFA's Efforts



Despite efforts from both Saudi Arabia and FIFA, Cristiano Ronaldo will not participate in the upcoming 2025 Club World Cup. Ronaldo's contract with Saudi club Al-Nassr was set to expire just before the tournament, and FIFA even created a special mini transfer window to allow a short-term move. However, this wasn't enough to secure the Portuguese superstar's appearance.

FIFA president Gianni Infantino publicly hinted at the possibility, urging clubs interested in signing Ronaldo for the event to step forward. Given Ronaldo's deep ties to Saudi Arabia—where he became the face of the kingdom's drive to attract football stars—rumors swirled about a potential move to Al Hilal, Saudi Arabia's most successful club and its representative at the Club World Cup.

But the move never materialized. Al Hilal and Al-Nassr are fierce rivals in Riyadh, and even though both clubs are owned by Saudi Arabia's sover-

eign wealth fund, transferring Ronaldo to a rival team—even for just a few weeks—was considered unthinkable. Al Hilal's CEO Esteve Calzada described the idea as "completely counter-intuitive" and refused to pursue it.

Saudi Arabia has made huge waves in global sports, from owning Premier League's Newcastle to hosting the 2034 World Cup and investing heavily in the Club World Cup itself, which boasts a \$1 billion prize fund. Yet, despite these ambitions, Al Hilal was unable to secure a marquee signing like Ronaldo or other top stars such as Bruno Fernandes or Victor Osimhen before the tournament. Instead, Al Hilal's most significant signing was coach Simone Inzaghi, who joined from Inter Milan. This Club World Cup matchup between Al Hilal and 15-time European champions Real Madrid symbolizes a clash between football's old guard and Saudi Arabia's growing influence in the sport.



FIFA Lifts Transfer Ban on Mohun Bagan Super Giant Ahead of New Season

FIFA has officially lifted the transfer ban on Mohun Bagan Super Giant, allowing the club to sign new players for the upcoming season. The decision was made by FIFA's Disciplinary Committee on Tuesday, clearing the way for the club to strengthen its squad for the 2025-26 season.

The ban had been imposed on May 5 due to Mohun Bagan's failure to pay dues to Australian striker Jason Cummings' former club, Central Coast Mariners. However, the club acted swiftly to resolve the issue, submitting a com-

prehensive 107-page document to FIFA and responding promptly to follow-up queries from the governing body.

A club official confirmed that after submitting the detailed response, the disciplinary committee sent an official communication lifting the ban. This marks a significant achievement for the club, as it managed to have the ban removed in less than a month, a notably faster process compared to Mumbai City FC's similar case, which took nearly three months to resolve. With the transfer window having of-

ficially opened on June 9, Mohun Bagan can now focus on strengthening its squad for the new season without any further hindrances. This comes as a positive development for the club, especially in light of recent leadership changes. Just days prior, Debasish Dutta assumed the role of president, and Srinjoy Bose became the new general secretary, signaling a fresh chapter in the club's management. Mohun Bagan Super Giant will now look to bolster its roster as it prepares for the upcoming challenges in domestic and international competitions.



Alexander Zverev Eases Past Giron to Reach Last 16 in Halle

World number three Alexander Zverev advanced to the last 16 of the 2025 Halle Open with a commanding straight-sets victory over American Marcos Giron on Wednesday. Playing on the grass courts of the renowned Wimbledon warm-up tournament, the German star showcased his class with a 6-2, 6-1 win, needing just over an hour to seal the match. Zverev, who claimed Olympic gold in Tokyo and recently reached the quarter-finals of the French Open, dominated from the outset. He broke Giron four times throughout the match, applying relentless pressure with his powerful baseline game and effective serving. The German, a two-time finalist in Halle, looked in top form as he adjusted smoothly to the grass surface following a deep clay-court run in Paris. However, the match was briefly interrupted due to a safety scare in the stands. An advertising board unexpectedly fell and struck a spectator, momentarily pausing play. Zverev was quick to react, handing an ice pack over the barriers to aid the injured fan. The man was later applauded as he left the stadium, and play resumed shortly afterward. Zverev now prepares to face Italy's Lorenzo Sonego in the next round, as he continues his push for a first title at Halle. Elsewhere in the tournament, world number one Jannik Sinner got off to a strong start on Tuesday, bouncing back from his epic French Open final loss to Carlos Alcaraz with a routine straight-sets win over Yannick Hanfmann. The top-seeded Italian will next face defending champion Alexander Bublik in what promises to be a high-stakes last-16 clash on Thursday. With several top players in the draw, the 2025 Halle Open is shaping up to be an exciting prelude to Wimbledon.



ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026: Full Schedule Unveiled, India-Pakistan Set for Edgbaston Clash

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has officially announced the schedule for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026, set to take place from June 12 to July 5 across seven iconic venues in England. The upcoming edition will be the largest in the tournament's history, featuring 12 teams – up from 10 – and 33 matches over 24 days. Group 1 includes powerhouses Australia, India, South Africa, Pakistan, and two qualifiers. Group 2 features hosts England, defending champions New Zealand, West Indies, Sri Lanka, and two more qualifiers. England will open the tournament on June 12 against Sri Lanka at Edgbaston. Defending champions New Zealand begin their title defense versus the West Indies on June 13 in Southampton. That same day, Australia takes on South Africa in a blockbuster encounter at Manchester. One of the most anticipated fixtures – the India vs Pakistan rivalry – is scheduled for June 14 at Edgbaston. India will also face South Africa on June 21 in Manchester and five-time champions Australia at Lord's on June 28 in what will be the final group-stage clash. Pakistan's group campaign includes key matchups against South Africa on June 17 at Edgbaston and Australia on June 23 in Headingley. In Group 2, England will play across five venues – the most for any team. After the opener, they will face the West Indies at Lord's on June 24 and New Zealand at The Oval on June 27. Other key fixtures include Sri Lanka vs New Zealand on June 16 and Sri Lanka vs West Indies on June 21. The top two teams from each group will progress to the semi-finals, scheduled for June 30 and July 2. The grand finale will be held at Lord's on July 5.



Hockey: Missed Chances Cost India as Gorzelany's Hat-Trick Leads Argentina to 4-1 Victory

India's women's hockey team endured a tough night in London as they fell 1-4 to world No. 2 Argentina in the FIH Pro League, with the scoreline not fully reflecting the competitiveness of the match. Despite a promising start and multiple goal-scoring chances, India failed to capitalize on their moments of dominance — a stark contrast to Argentina's clinical edge, particularly through Agustina Gorzelany, who scored a hat-trick.

The match saw India creating the better opportunities in the first half. Salima Tete's side managed to pressure the Argentine defense repeatedly, and it was clear Coach Harendra Singh's team had prepared to challenge one of the world's best. However, finishing continued to be a weak link for the Indian attack.

After Victoria Falasco gave Argentina the lead in the 29th minute, India responded almost immediately, with Deepika scoring in the 30th minute to level the contest before halftime. The game remained open, and early in the third quarter, India had two golden opportunities to take the lead when three attackers broke through with only one defender to beat — but the chances went begging.

That proved costly, as Gorzelany struck in the 40th minute to restore Argentina's lead. Her subsequent goals in the 54th and 59th minutes sealed the result, giving the South American giants a flattering 4-1 victory.

For India, this marked a third consecutive defeat in the Pro League and placed them in real danger of relegation. While the performance showed flashes of promise, the inability to convert key opportunities remains a recurring issue. Against a team with a clinical finisher like Gorzelany, such wastefulness is unforgiving — and India paid the price.



I Wanted to Leave ‘Ramoji Film City’ and Never Return : Kajol Calls Ramoji Film City ‘Haunted’

Bollywood icon Kajol has sparked a wave of discussion with her recent comments about Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad, calling it one of the most “haunted” places she has ever worked in. During an interview promoting her upcoming film MAA, Kajol revealed that she has always felt uneasy while shooting at the massive film studio complex and at times, felt such discomfort that she wanted to “leave and never return.”

Although she stopped short of detailing any specific supernatural incidents, Kajol’s remarks have stirred debate across social media. Her statement has drawn mixed reactions—some defending her right to share a personal feeling, while others criticized her for potentially damaging the reputation of one of Indian cinema’s most iconic filming locations.

Ramoji Film City, situated in Hyderabad, is one of the world’s largest integrated film studio complexes and has been the backdrop for countless Bollywood and regional language films. Despite Kajol’s discomfort, the studio remains a busy hub for film, television, and commercial shoots. Her husband, actor Ajay Devgn, has continued to work there and was most recently seen in the blockbuster Telugu film RRR, which featured scenes shot at Ramoji.

Kajol herself has not yet acted in a Telugu film, but her long-standing career in Bollywood keeps her in the limelight. While some industry insiders believe her comments may simply reflect a personal experience, others suggest it’s a reminder of how celebrities’ words can influence public perception—especially about culturally and commercially important places. As the story gains traction, it remains to be seen whether Kajol will clarify her remarks or let them stand. For now, her candid statement has brought attention not just to the film city, but to the broader topic of personal belief versus public responsibility in the entertainment world.



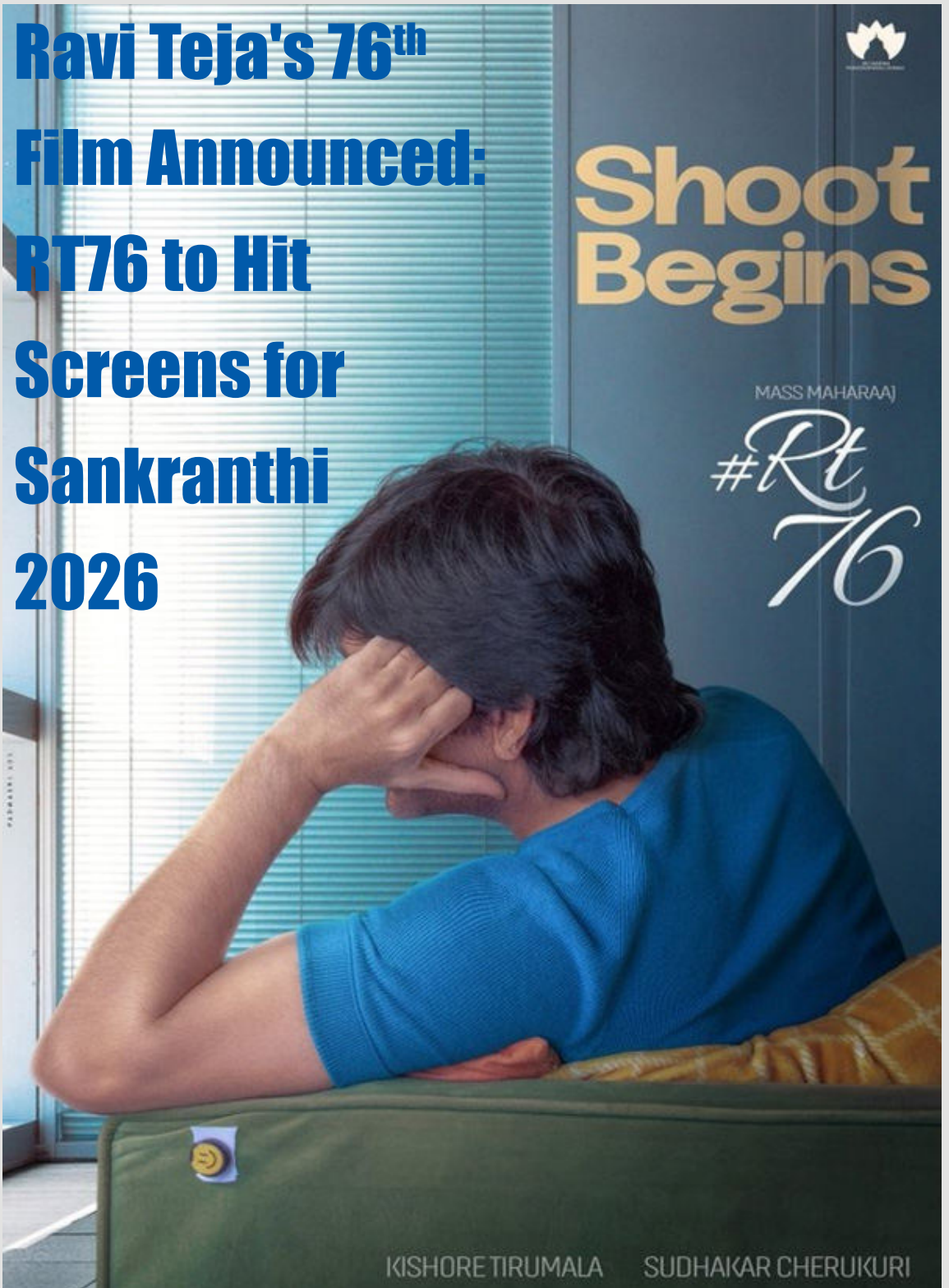
Mass hero Ravi Teja, who is gearing up for the release of his high-energy film Mass Jatara later this year, has already announced his next big project. His 76th film, tentatively titled RT76, is set to be a complete family entertainer, combining his signature mass appeal with comedic timing that fans love.

Directed by Kishore Tirumala and produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri under the banner of SLV Cinemas, RT76 began shooting today with a special set built in Hyderabad. Key scenes are being filmed with Ravi Teja, marking the start of what promises to be a fast-paced, engaging film.

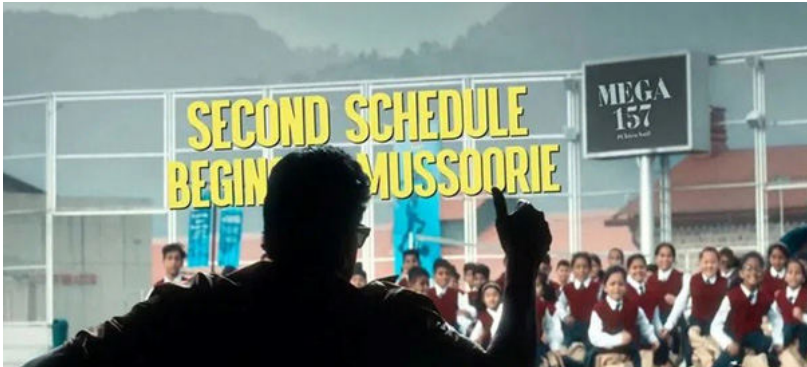
In this movie, Ravi Teja is expected to bring a fresh look to his character, showcasing a new makeover that will intrigue his fans. As always, the actor’s charismatic screen presence and impeccable comic timing are expected to shine through, making RT76 a highly anticipated release. The film boasts a talented technical team, with Bheems Cicerolio composing the music, Prasad Moorella handling cinematography, Sreekar Prasad in charge of editing, and A. S. Prakash working on production design. With such a strong crew behind the scenes, expectations for the film’s quality are high.

Scheduled for a grand release during Sankranti 2026, RT76 is expected to be a major attraction for moviegoers, as it combines family entertainment with the mass hero formula that Ravi Teja is known for. In addition to this film, the actor is set to have a busy year, with Mass Jatara slated for release on August 27, 2025. Fans of Ravi Teja have a lot to look forward to in the coming months!

Ravi Teja's 76th Film Announced: RT76 to Hit Screens for Sankranti 2026



Chiranjeevi’s Mega 157: A Hilarious School Comedy with Anil Ravipudi



Chiranjeevi, after completing the Vishwambhara project, is now gearing up for his 157th film, which is being helmed by director Anil Ravipudi. Known for his track record of delivering hits, Ravipudi has never had a flop in his career, making this collaboration one to watch. Currently shooting at a

rapid pace, the film is aiming for a grand release during the 2026 Sankranti festival.

In this high-expectation project, Chiranjeevi will portray a character named Shiva Shankar Varaprasad, a Drill Master, whose comedic timing is sure to leave audiences in splits. The

film, set in a school backdrop, promises to deliver laugh-out-loud moments, with Chiranjeevi’s hilarious antics taking center stage. Fans can expect Chiru’s signature comedy style to create some unforgettable scenes, ensuring a fun-filled cinematic experience.

Adding to the excitement, Chiranjeevi will be joined by Master Revanth, who played Bulliraju in Ravipudi’s previous hit, Sankranthikai Yaaranam. Revanth’s character is expected to complement Chiranjeevi’s in this comedy-laden venture, making for a dynamic duo that will surely bring the house down with their comedic chemistry.

As for the action, fans can rest assured that the film won’t disappoint. Chiranjeevi is set to deliver high-octane fight sequences, alongside his iconic dance moves, ensuring that Mega 157 will be a complete entertainer.

Currently, the film is being shot in Mussoorie, where school-themed sequences are being filmed. Alongside Chiranjeevi, actress Nayanthara and Catherine Tresa are also part of the ongoing schedule. With Anil Ravipudi’s knack for creating audience-friendly films, Mega 157 is shaping up to be a much-anticipated family entertainer.

Kuberaa Movie Completes Censor: Set for a Grand Release with 3-Hour Runtime

The much-anticipated pan-India film Kuberaa, directed by Tollywood veteran Shekhar Kammula, has successfully completed its censor certification. Starring Tamil star Dhanush, Tollywood icon Nagarjuna, and the ever-popular Rashmika Mandanna in lead roles, Kuberaa has already generated significant buzz across the country. Set to release in multiple languages—Telugu, Tamil, Hindi, Kannada, and Malayalam—Kuberaa has garnered massive expectations due to its star-studded cast and the seasoned direction of Kammula. Produced jointly by Sunil Narang and Pushkur Rammohan Rao under the banners of Sri Venkateswara Cinemas LLP and Amigos Creations Private Limited, the film is set to hit theaters worldwide on June 20, 2025. After going through the cen-

sor process, Kuberaa has been granted a U/A certificate. However, the film’s 3-hour runtime of 181 minutes has raised eyebrows. Despite the lengthy duration, the movie is expected to captivate audiences with its compelling narrative and performances. As part of the censor process, the film has undergone 19 cuts, ensuring it meets the required guidelines while still delivering the intended impact. With a stellar ensemble cast and a gripping storyline, Kuberaa promises to be a visual treat for moviegoers. The movie is also set to engage in extensive promotional activities ahead of its release, further fueling the excitement surrounding its arrival. As the countdown to June 20 begins, fans eagerly await the opportunity to experience this grand cinematic spectacle on the big screen.

Peddi’s Train Fight: A Cinematic Thrill Ride in the Making



Global star Ram Charan’s much-anticipated film Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana, is swiftly making its way through production, and the excitement surrounding the project continues to grow. This high-budget village sports drama features Janhvi Kapoor as the female lead, promising an enthralling cinematic journey that will leave audiences on the edge of their seats. Currently being filmed in Hyderabad, the movie’s production is in full swing, with one particular sequence standing out as a potential highlight. A high-octane train fight scene is being shot on a meticulously designed set, which has been choreographed by Nabakanth and crafted by production designer Avinash Kolla. This action-packed moment is expected to captivate audiences, with the team confident it will be a memorable spectacle when the film hits the

big screen. The shoot for this sequence is expected to continue for several more days, and fans are already buzzing about what’s to come. Peddi is scheduled for a multi-language release on March 27, 2026, and features an impressive ensemble cast, including Shiva Rajkumar, Divyenndu Sharma, and Jagapathi Babu in pivotal roles. The film’s score, composed by the legendary AR Rahman, promises to elevate the narrative, adding to the grandeur of the production. Produced by Vridhhi Cinemas, Peddi is shaping up to be a massive cinematic event, blending powerful action, drama, and an emotional story with a stellar team behind the scenes. With its compelling storyline and intense action sequences, Peddi is undoubtedly one of the most eagerly awaited films of 2026.

