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## **Common Man Crushed, Builders Flourish Under Revanth's Rule**





₹2,000 crore Khajaguda land scam explodes into public view as ruling party MLAs revolt

### Hearing in the **High Court**

The Telangana High Court recently conducted a hearing on the PIL filed by the four ruling party MLAs. Senior Advocate Rikudu Prabhakar, representing the petitioners, made several serious accusations. He stated that 27.18 acres of government land in Survey Nos. 119 and 122 were falsely shown as poramboke lands, allowing illegal construction to proceed. He further informed the court that the GHMC granted construction permission based on the Collector's 2023 NOC, and that eight towers, each 47 storeys high, are already under construction. All this lies within the Khajaguda Cheruvu FTL zone. He added that a readymix plant was illegally placed near a school, polluting the environment and risking the health of students. The advocate requested that the court direct the government to immediately reclaim the encroached land. Taking note, the High Court issued notices to the State Government, Revenue Chief Secretary, Rangareddy Collector, GHMC, HMDA, and Hydra. The next hearing has been postponed for two weeks. As public outrage grows, the government's selective enforcement and silence are under intense scrutiny. The question on everyone's mind remains — in Revanth Reddy's rule, is justice only for the rich and powerful?



**FASTag-Based Annual Pass Announced By Centre** 





## **ACB Ultimatum To KTR** In Formula E Case

- ACB asks KTR to hand over his mobile and laptop
- Former minister takes legal advice
- ACB to interrogate KTR and Arvind Kumar jointly

#### **TPN Correspondent | Telangana**

The investigation into the controversial Formula E race fund diversion case has intensified, with the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) issuing an ultimatum to BRS working president and former minister K.T. Rama Rao. The ACB has demanded that KTR submit his mobile phone and laptop used during the period in question by this evening. These electronic devices are believed to contain crucial evidence related to the transfer of funds from the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) to the Formula E race organizing body, FEO.

However, sources say that KTR has sought legal counsel on the matter and didn't comply with the ACB's order. Based on his lawyers' advice, he reportedly feels that handing over the devices is not legally mandatory.

Simultaneously, the ACB is preparing to interrogate senior IAS officer Arvind Kumar—currently abroad—and KTR together. Arvind Kumar, who has been named as the A2 accused in the case, is scheduled to return to Hyderabad on June 21. The state government has already canceled his personal leave following complaints from ACB officials to the Chief Minister. The Chief Secretary's office has instructed him to resume duties immediately.



#### TPN | V Krishna Kumar

Hyderabad: Under the Congress-led Revanth Reddy government, the common man has been reduced to a victim of a ruthless system. The Hydra — Hyderabad Revenue Development Authority — along with GHMC, Revenue, and Irrigation departments, has become a nightmare for ordinary citizens. For the past year and a half, even a hut built on government land by the poor is swiftly demolished by dawn. Homes built with full permissions aren't spared either families are thrown out onto the streets, citing violations like FTL (Full Tank Level), buffer zones, or pond encroachments. But while the poor are bulldozed, Vamsi Builders — a private construction company — is freely erecting massive towers on prime government land worth ₹2,000 crores in Khajaguda, with no action from the authorities.

What makes this scandal explosive is that it isn't the opposition crying foul — it's the Congress' own MLAs. Jadcherla MLA Anirudh Reddy, during the Assembly sessions on March 13, publicly accused Vamsi Builders of encroaching on government land and illegally constructing skyscrapers in Khajaguda's Survey No. 27. He stated that despite repeated complaints to Hydra, no action was taken. He revealed that 27.18 acres of the land, which lies within the lake and its FTL area, was being converted into luxury towers—while the government demolishes the homes of the poor. Joining him, ruling party MLAs Yennam

Srinivas Reddy, Rajesh Reddy, and Murali Nayak filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the Telangana High Court against the illegal construction. They stated that while hundreds of poor and middle-class structures were razed in the name of encroachments, this ₹2,000 crore land grab was allowed to flourish unchecked in the heart of Hyderabad. They claim that these lands were under government control till December 2023, but have since quietly slipped into private hands after the Congress came to power.

According to the petitioners, Vamsi Builders obtained permissions to construct seven towers over 59 lakh sq. ft. after receiving a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Rangareddy District Collector in 2023. However, they allege that the NOC was based on manipulated records that disguised the land as unassigned land. Shockingly, a ready-mix plant was also set up within 150 meters of a school, causing severe health concerns for students.

What adds fuel to the fire is that the same land was earlier protected under the previous government. When an NOC was issued in 2022, senior officials from the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration (CCLA) intervened and cancelled it, removing illegal sheds and restoring the land to the government. But after the Congress took office, construction resumed, and no effort has been made to reclaim the land despite several floors of the towers already being completed.

These glaring double standards have raised serious questions. While commoners face daily harassment for minor encroachments or technical violations, powerful builders continue constructing mega projects on disputed land — openly, brazenly, and without resistance. CM Revanth Reddy, who once had houses demolished for FTL violations, is now being accused of silence — especially after allegations that his own brother was let off despite similar violations. Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka recently stated that 11 major construction projects worth ₹15,000 crores in Hyderabad were illegal. Then why is the government ignoring the Khajaguda project?

PAGE



### Godavari-Banakacherla Project to Be Evaluated Fairly

#### - C.R. Patil Assures Kishan Reddy

#### TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Union Minister of Coal and Mines Shri G. Kishan Reddy met Union Minister for Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil at his office in Shram Shakti Bhavan, New Delhi, on 18th June 2025 to discuss the Godavari-Banakacherla project, a significant water diversion proposal by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

During the meeting, Minister Kishan Reddy brought attention to the importance of the project and its relevance to water needs in Andhra Pradesh. In response, Minister C.R. Patil assured that the Ministry of Jal Shakti will evaluate the project in accordance with existing norms and guidelines.





cess would be conducted transparently and fairly, with all relevant stakeholders being consulted before any conclusions are reached. Shri Patil emphasized that the Government of India is committed to ensuring justice for all states and that no state will be subjected to any form of injustice in the handling of inter-state water projects.

The meeting underlined the Centre's intention to balance regional development needs with legal and technical due diligence in key water resource initiatives.



### **More Constituencies in** Hyderabad, Rangareddy by 2027

- 11 new constituencies likely in Hyderabad and Rangareddy
- Number of total seats to rise from 29 to 40
- New segments to be created post-2027 census

**CM Revanth Reddy Inaugurates Google Safety Center** 







## **TELANGANA**

### **ACB Ultimatum...**

Continued from page 1

Sources indicate that Arvind Kumar has already given a statement to ACB, claiming he acted on direct orders from KTR regarding the fund transfers. In particular, investigators are focusing on WhatsApp messages allegedly sent by KTR to Arvind Kumar directing the transfer of funds from HMDA to FEO. These details reportedly came out during Arvind Kumar's earlier round of questioning.

Based on this, the ACB has demanded access to KTR's electronic communication devices to verify the authenticity of these orders. A joint interrogation of KTR and Arvind Kumar is likely to be conducted within a week of the latter's return to the city.

The Formula E fund case has become a highstakes political and legal flashpoint in Telangana, with several senior officials and former ministers coming under the scanner.

### More Constituencies...

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Major changes are expected in the political map of Hyderabad and Rangareddy districts, with the number of Assembly constituencies set to rise significantly by the end of 2027. As per the latest updates, a total of 11 new Assembly constituencies will be created in these two districts following the next delimitation exercise based on the upcoming census.

Currently, the undivided Rangareddy district has 14 constituencies and Hyderabad district has 15, making a combined total of 29. After delimitation, Rangareddy is likely to get 9 additional seats and Hyderabad 2, taking the overall count to 40.

According to the officials, the next census is scheduled to be completed by March 2027. Following this, the process of forming new constituencies will be taken up by the Election Commission before the end of that year.

The current allocation of population per constituency stands at around 2,30,064 people based on the 2001 census. However, with population growth, a 10% variation in this number is expected during the upcoming delimitation.

This increase is seen as essential, considering the rapid urban expansion and population density in these areas, particularly in the outskirts and municipalities absorbed into Greater Hyderabad. The political landscape is likely to see major shifts with new segments potentially altering the balance of power across parties. Political observers note that this move could intensify political activity in the region as parties begin strategizing for the restructured constituencies.

**CM Revanth Reddy Inaugurates Google Safety Center** TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

## **Advanced Power Monitoring** Launched for Quality Power Supply

**Deputy CM inaugurates Real-Time Feeder Management** 

#### TPN Correspondent | Madhira

Telangana has taken a major step towards modernizing its power infrastructure with the launch of Real-Time Feeder Management System (RTFMS) and Fault Passage Indicators (FPIs). Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, along with Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, inaugurated these systems at the Janakipuram Substation in Bonakal Mandal of Madhira Constituency

on Wednesday. Speaking at the event, Bhat-

ti Vikramarka emphasized that these advanced technologies will be pivotal in delivering quality, uninterrupted power supply to consumers across the state. He stated that with the integration of RTFMS and FPIs, power disruptions can now be detected immediately, allowing for swift corrective action. (FPI) system, on the other

The systems are being rolled out under both Northern Power Distribution Company (NPDCL) and Southern Power Distribution Company (SPD-CL). "Any power disruption can now be identified and tracked live through computers and dashboards at NPDCL and SPDCL headquarters," said the Deputy CM.

### Toll-Free Number '1916' Launched for Rural **Drinking Water**

Telangana

In a significant step towards improving public grievance redressal in rural areas, the Telangana government has launched a simplified four-digit toll-free number — 1916 — to register complaints related to rural drinking water issues under the Mission Bhagiratha scheme.



#### The RTFMS will enable:

hand, is designed to pin-

point the exact location of

power faults, especially in

long transmission lines.

FPIs will drastically reduce

the time required to detect

Real-time monitoring, control, and protection of feeders at substations

Instant recording of power supply data via computerized logs

Faster response by power staff during outages These innovations are initially being introduced in 100 substations across the state.

FPIs on 33KV and 11KV lines The Fault Passage Indicator exceeding 25 kilometers in length.

> NPDCL CMD Varun Reddy and other senior officials participated in the inauguration ceremony. This upgrade in power utilities marks a significant milestone in the state's energy history and reaffirms the government's commitment to efficient, tech-driven pub-



#### Saritha Felicitated as Telangana's **First Woman RTC Driver TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**

Minister for Women and Child Welfare, Tribal Welfare and Rural Development Smt. Seethakka on Wednesday felicitated Saritha, Telangana's first woman RTC driver, with a shawl in recognition of her inspiring journey. The event marked a significant step towards promoting women's empowerment through skill-based employment. Minister Seethakka praised Saritha for breaking barriers and becoming a symbol of courage and perseverance in a traditionally male-dominated profession. "Saritha will now serve as a role model for women's driving training programs across the state," the Minister announced.

She said that the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) will launch free bus driving training programs for women, inspired by Saritha's achievement. The initiative is aimed at encouraging women to pursue careers in public transportation and boost their confidence in taking up non-traditional roles.

"Following Saritha's example, we want to see women excel not just in driving but in all fields," Minister Seethakka emphasized, adding that this move is a part of the state government's broader mission to promote gender equality and economic self-reliance among women.

The program will be rolled out in phases, and women interested in professional driving will be offered comprehensive training, certification, and placement support.

The Minister expressed hope that Saritha's journey would inspire thousands of women across Telangana to dream bigger and pursue unconventional career paths with determination.

### **GSEC** to strengthen Hyderabad's global **IT presence**



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

and resolve power failures, enhancing the reliability of electricity supply. In the first phase, the government is installing 1,000 lic services.

**TGCSB, NALSAR Sign MoU to Boost Cyber Law Enforcement** 

# **Complaints**

TPN Correspondent |

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy inaugurated the Google Safety Engineering Center (GSEC) in Hyderabad on Wednesday, highlighting the importance of digital information security in today's rapidly evolving digital age. The stateof-the-art facility is located in Hitech City and is spread over 2 acres.

Speaking at the inauguration, the Chief Minister stressed that individuals can truly feel safe only when their digital data is secure. He noted that the primary aim of this center is to strengthen digital security and praised Google for its innovation and commitment to safety. "Google is an innovative company, and our government also believes in working innovatively," he said.

Revanth Reddy also took the opportunity to outline his government's broader vision for Telangana's development. He said a dedicated skill university has been established in the state to support youth in acquiring future-ready skills. "We are creating a robust environment for skill development, investment, and digital transformation," he said. The Chief Minister reiterated Telangana's economic goals, stating that the government is working to make Telangana a \$1 trillion economy by 2035 and a \$3 trillion economy by 2047. These ambitious targets are part of the broader 'Telangana Rising' initiative aimed at propelling the state into the top tier of global economies.

Notably, he also mentioned the nearby Indira Mahila Shakti Center, spread over 3.5 acres, and humorously remarked that Telangana's women are giving stiff competition to tech giants like Google. He stated that the government is executing a massive program to empower one crore women across the state and transform them into millionaires.

This initiative comes following directions from Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Minister for Rural Water Supply Seethakka, aimed at making the complaint registration process more accessible and user-friendly, especially for those living in remote villages. Previously, citizens had to

use an 11-digit toll-free number (1800-599-4007) to lodge complaints. However, the government received feedback that many people in rural areas found it difficult to remember or dial the longer number. In response, the department has now activated the short and easy-torecall helpline 1916, which will function statewide. Officials from the Mission Bhagiratha department said that complaints registered through the 1916 number will be acted upon promptly, just as with the previous

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a key step toward enhancing cybercrime enforcement and legal preparedness in Telangana, the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. The agreement was signed by Shikha Goel, IPS, Director of TGCSB, and Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao, Vice-Chancellor of NALSAR, in the presence of Dr. Jitender, IPS, Director General of Police, Telangana. The collaboration aims to build a multi-disciplinary framework that brings together legal education, forensic analysis, and cyber law enforcement to effectively tackle evolving digital threats.

DGP Dr. Jitender stated that this initiative will strengthen ground-level understanding of cyber policies and improve the synergy between police and academia.

Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao described the MoU as an opportunity to use legal education and research to better serve society and initiate long-term policy reform.

Shikha Goel, IPS called the partnership a "model for the nation," stressing the need for robust legal support, improved digital forensics, and smarter evidence presentation in courts to combat modern cyber threats effectively.

This MoU reinforces Telangana's leadership in creating a cyber-resilient ecosystem and institutionalizing excellence in cyber law enforcement.

In a significant boost to Telangana's tech landscape, the Google Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC) — the first of its kind in Asia - was officially inaugurated in Hyderabad. Shri Duddilla Sridhar Babu, Minister for IT and Industries, hailed this milestone as a transformative step for cybersecurity, innovation, and global leadership in digital safety.

Speaking at the event, Minister Sridhar Babu said, "We must not merely wait for the future — we must build it, with foresight and responsibility for generations to come." He emphasized that this people-centric approach, guided by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, is driving the state's structured vision for inclusive growth.

"Telangana is now a magnet for global capital and a model for inclusive digital governance," the minister noted. Highlighting Hyderabad's expanding global tech footprint, he revealed that in 2024–25 alone, the city recorded IT/ITeS exports worth ₹2.68 lakh crore and created over 40,000 new jobs. "Out of the world's top 10 tech giants, 7 have major operations based in Hyderabad," he added.

"As technology rapidly evolves, it brings challenges. A single careless click can cause immense harm from fraud to personal security breaches," Sridhar Babu warned.

"Our vision is not just a Digital Telangana 2.0 — it is a Safe Digital Telangana 2.0," he declared, announcing that cyber safety awareness programmes will soon begin at the school level. The minister also extended an open invitation to other tech giants to follow Google's lead and partner with the Telangana government in building a safe and inclusive digital future. Thanking Google for its confidence in Hyderabad, Sridhar Babu concluded, "This Centre will not only protect users but also amplify Hyderabad's stature on the world tech stage."

Singareni **Wins National Recognition for Cost Control Measures** 



system.

#### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has added another feather to its cap by earning national acclaim for its exemplary cost control measures. The organization has been selected for the third prize in the National Award for Excellence in Cost Management 2024, awarded annually by the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI) — a statutory body established un-

der an Act of Parliament.

ICMAI President C.M.A. Bibhuti Bhushan Nayak announced that Singareni was adjudged the third-best performer in the mega industries category, praising the meticulous cost control strategies employed by the company. The awards were adjudicated by a panel led by Justice S.J. Mukhopadhyay, retired Supreme Court judge and Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal. The award ceremony

will take place on June 23 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, where the awardees will also participate in the 12th National Students' Convocation earlier in the day. The event will be graced by President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, as the Chief Guest. CMD Shri N. Balaram, who has been leading the company for the last seven years as both Chairman and Director (Finance), expressed satisfaction over the recognition.







#### TPN | Suraj Reddy

Warangal: A growing controversy involving senior BC leader and former legislator Konda Murali has triggered a storm of debate across political circles in Telangana, with party insiders, and social activists accusing the police and ruling Congress leadership of adopting a discriminatory and hypocritical approach. The issue stems from a recent public event in Warangal where a large gathering had assembled to meet Konda Murali. In view of the crowd, local police arranged an escort for his safety and to maintain law and order. However, what should have been seen as a sensible precaution soon turned into a political flashpoint. Instead of ap-

against the officers who facilitated the escort - raising eyebrows and sparking sharp criticism from many quarters.

#### **Unequal Standards and Political Targeting**

For decades. Konda Murali has been a voice of the backward classes and marginalised communities in the region. Known for his fierce opposition to exploitative systems like Patel and Patwari, and for his peace efforts during the police - Naxalite tensions - Murali carries bullet wounds as proof of his struggles. Since 1993, he has been granted personal security, even through court interventions. Yet, now, he finds himself being vilified for the very security that has preciation, the police issued a memo been part of his life for over 30 years.

# **Escalating Row Over Police Memo**

### Targeted Attack on BC Leader Konda Murali Sparks Party-Wide Discontent

The most disturbing aspect of this controversy is the selective treatment. Escort arrangements for other political figures - including the Chief Minister's brothers in Ranga Reddy and Vikarabad, and relatives of leaders like Kadiyam Srihari and Vem Narender Reddy - have not drawn any action or memos. So why is the rulebook applied only when it comes to a BC leader like Konda Murali? This is the question now resonating loudly within political corridors and BC communities.

#### Who Leaked the Memo? Who's **Pulling the Strings?**

The internal police memo was leaked to the media in what many see as a calculated attempt to humiliate Konda Murali publicly. Warangal Police Commissioner Sanpreet Singh has yet to explain how the document became public, or on whose instructions it was acted upon. Behind the scenes, there is strong speculation that a group of former TDP leaders, now in the Congress, are orchestrating this attack to isolate and weaken original Congress loyalists—partic- are, why haven't they stepped in yet? ularly those from BC backgrounds. Several senior Congress leaders have quietly expressed unease over how the situation is being handled. Some are openly calling this an "insider job" backed by vested interests trying to remove powerful BC voices from key roles in the party's local structure.

#### Rahul Gandhi Talks BC Empowerment, State Congress Sends Mixed **Signals**

Adding to the confusion and contradiction is the national picture. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has been campaigning across India, pitching for the empowerment and rights of BC communities. But back in Telangana, leaders from dominant castes within the state Congress government appear to be pushing BC figures like Konda Murali to the sidelines. This blatant contradiction has not gone unnoticed. Some within the party are now asking whether the Delhi leadership is aware of what's happening in Telangana. And if they What This Is Really About

This is no longer just about a police escort or an internal memo-it has become a symbol of how systemic inequalities continue to thrive even within supposedly progressive political spaces. If the government claims to stand for social justice and backward class upliftment, then actions must reflect words. Otherwise, it becomes clear that only lip service is being paid, while real leaders like Konda Murali are being punished for their popularity and integrity. For the people of Warangal and for BC communities across the state, this incident is a wake-up call. The time has come to ask tough questions: Who is writing the rules? Who is breaking them? And why are they afraid of voices like Konda Murali? As public support for Murali grows, so does the demand for accountability—from the police, from the party, and from the government itself. Because in the fight for justice, silence is no longer an option.

## **KTR Blames Congress, Pledges Support** to Deceased BRS Leader's Family

Police harassing civilians under Congress rule, alleges KTR BRS leader Kuntayya committed suicide after land dispute

#### TPN Correspondent Telangana

BRS Working President K. Taraka Rama Rao (KTR) has strongly criticized the Congress government, alleging that police stations under their rule have become centers of anarchy and obstacles to justice. Speaking after visiting the family of



### **Banakacharla Project Poses** Threat to Telangana's Water Share: MP Chamala Kiran **Kumar Reddy**

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar promises of water, funds, and employ-Reddy has raised strong objections to the Banakacharla project being con- even water," Kiran Kumar Reddy said.

ernment, warning that it poses a serious threat to Telangana's rightful share of Godavari waters



"We achieved Telangana state on the ment, but today, we are struggling for structed by the Andhra Pradesh gov- "The central government must inter-

vene and ensure justice for Telangana." He welcomed the move by

Jal Shakti Minister Uttam

late BRS MPTC member Karkaboyina Kuntayya, who allegedly died by suicide following a land dispute with a Congress leader, KTR accused the police of deliberately harassing Kuntayya instead of addressing his complaint.

KTR stated that Kuntayya, a loyal and committed leader of the BRS, was driven to suicide after a Congress leader encroached on his land and the police, instead of taking action against the accused, filed a case against the victim. "Interference in civil matters by police has led to serious law and order issues. This is not how a civil society should function." KTR said. He accused the police of acting on the instructions of Congress leaders, turning law enforcement into a political tool.

Expressing deep sorrow, KTR revealed that Kuntayya had recently visited him in Hyderabad, showing signs of distress. "He came to see me

the other day during the ACB investigation. I was shocked to hear that he took his own life the same night. This shows how deeply he was suffering," said KTR.

The BRS leader vowed to fight for justice. "We will not spare those responsible, including the police officers who abetted this tragedy. We will fight it out legally until justice is done," he asserted.

KTR also promised that the BRS party would stand by Kuntayya's family. "We will take care of the education and marriage of Kuntayya's two children. The party will support the family in every possible way," he assured.

Highlighting the emotional toll of politics, KTR remarked, "Politicians often hide their pain behind a smile while continuing to work for the people and protect their families. Kuntayya was one such soldier of our party."

Calling on the government to take strict steps to prevent such incidents in the future, KTR emphasized that what happened to Kuntayya could happen to anyone if such anarchy goes unchecked. He also urged the authorities to ensure that justice prevails and prayed for strength and peace for Kuntayya's grieving family.

as guaranteed under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act.

Speaking at Gandhi Bhavan, Kiran Kumar Reddy emphasized that despite multiple appeals, the central leadership, particularly Union Minister Kishan Reddy, has not taken any responsibility in addressing Telan-

that although Telangana has eight BJP MPs, none of them have raised their voice on the Banakacharla issue.

He reminded that on January 22, 2025, he had formally written to Jal Shakti Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy regarding the Banakacharla project. Following this, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy met the Jal Shakti Minister in Delhi twice — on June 3 and again on June 13 — stressing the need for action.

Kumar Reddy to convene an all-party MPs meeting to discuss the Banakacharla issue. "This is a positive development. I urge all MPs, including those from the BJP, to attend the meeting and rise above party politics for the sake of Telangana's water rights." He further stated that be-

gana's water concerns. He pointed out fore taking decisions based on outdated agreements like those from 1980, the central government must thoroughly consider the concerns raised by Telangana. He appealed to Union Minister Kishan Reddy to actively intervene and safeguard Telangana's interests in the Godavari waters.

"The responsibility lies with us, as Telangana MPs, to fight for our rightful share in Krishna and Godavari waters," he said. "We will not stay silent when Telangana's future is at stake."

### GO 49 Will Displace Tribals for Tigers: R.S. Praveen Kumar

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader Dr. R.S. Praveen Kumar has launched a scathing attack on the Congress government in Telangana, accusing it of betraying the tribal population of the united Adilabad district through the controversial Government Order (GO) 49. Speaking at a press conference held at Telangana Bhavan, he criticized the government for trying to displace nearly seven lakh tribals and adivasis under the pretext of conserving the Kawal and Tadoba Tiger Reserves.

Dr. Praveen Kumar termed GO

49 a "gross violation of consti-

was issued without conducting proper consultations or respecting the provisions of the PESA Act. "This GO is full of flaws. It was brought in to forcibly evict tribals from their lands, claiming tiger conservation as an excuse," he said. "While KCR protected tribal rights, Revanth Reddy is evicting them." He further criticized the Con-

gress for its historical role in tribal oppression, referencing the tragic Indravelli firing, and said, "The same party has now come back to haunt tribals with GO 49." Dr. Praveen Kumar questioned the justification of

**TPN Correspondent** | Adilabad tutional rights" and claimed it displacing lakhs of tribals for Komuram Bheem. But in rejust seven tigers and demanded proof for the government's claim that referendums were held in 339 affected villages.

Adding to the concerns, BRS MLA Kovalakshmi pointed out that the GO is already causing panic among tribals in Asifabad district. She stated that the lands tribals currently reside on are being handed over to the Kawal Reserve Forest. "No permissions are being given for basic infrastructure like roads in these villages. Yet, the government is quick to snatch away their land," she said. "When elections come, Revanth

ality, they are attacking tribal settlements and refusing them basic rights." She also noted that the Congress MLA from Khanapur himself opposed the Kawal Sanctuary GO.

The leaders demanded that GO 49 be withdrawn immediately. Dr. Praveen Kumar also criticized the poor spending of SC/ST sub-plan funds and urged Congress SC/ST MLAs to pressure the government into proper allocation. He added that BRS will soon join hands with tribal organizations to protect their rights.

He concluded by reminding Reddy remembers that under KCR's leadership,



forest cover was increased and pattas were distributed for 4.5 lakh acres of fallow lands. "We are not against tiger conservation. But we will not tolerate conservation at the cost of human rights," he said. Other leaders who participated Adilabad district.

in the press meet included BRS leaders Tunga Balu, Abhilash Rangineni, and local leaders from Asifabad. They warned that if GO 49 is not withdrawn soon, the agitation will be intensified across the united





## **Dial-112 Swift Action Averts Major** Fires in Hyderabad & Karimnagar

#### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Telangana Emergency Response Support System (Dial-112) played a crucial role in averting two major fire accidents that occurred in the early hours of 18th June 2025, in Hyderabad and Karimnagar, thanks to swift coordination and multi-agency intervention.

The first fire incident was reported at 3:30 AM at Hill-Top Towers, Midhila Nagar, Bachupally, Hyderabad, and the second occurred at 3:51 AM at Mathrusree Homeocare, near Geethabhavan, Karimnagar. In both cases, the fire was caused by electrical short circuits in air conditioners. Distress calls were received by the Dial-112 helpline, operated from the Telangana Integrated Command and Control Centre (TGiCCC) at Banjara Hills.

Once alerted, the TGERSS team immediately coordinated with the respective local police stations-Bachupally PS and Karimnagar II Town PS-along with fire and medical departments. Emergency teams reached the locations within minutes. In Bachupally, one person jumped from the second floor in panic, sustained injuries, and was rushed to hospital, while other residents were safely evacuated. In Karimnagar, all occupants were evacuated without injury.

The Dial-112 system, which integrates emergency services including Police (100), Fire (101), Ambulance (108), Women's Safety (181), Child Protection (1098), and Disaster Management (1077), once again proved vital in saving lives and property.

In light of these incidents, the Director of TGiCCC urged citizens to regularly maintain

ACs, geysers, and other electrical appliances and avoid circuit overloading to prevent similar hazards. He also emphasized that citizens should not hesitate to use Dial-112 in any emergency, as a timely call can make the difference between life and death.

The Telangana Police commended the professionalism and efficiency shown by all teams involved in the response and reiterated their commitment to ensuring public safety through continued readiness and coordination.



## **Fake 2BHK House Pattas** Scam Busted in Bandlaguda

4 accused arrested for duping 30 people, collecting ₹42 lakh Victims were shown real houses and given fake documents Stamps and signatures of revenue officials forged

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad In a shocking case of fraud, the Uttara Mandal Task Force and Bandlaguda Police jointly arrested four individuals who created fake pattas for two-bedroom houses and duped their own relatives and others to the tune of ₹42 lakh. The accused—Mohammed Ahmed, Amjad, Kausar Ali, and Rajasekhar—promised to provide 2BHK houses in Bandlaguda at low prices and collected between ₹1.5 lakh and ₹2 lakh from each victim.

DCP Sudhendra, addressing the media, stated that the gang targeted their own family members and close acquaintances, exploiting their trust. Using the Picsort app, they forged house pattas, complete with fake revenue stamps and signatures, and handed them over to 11 individuals. A total of 30 people fell victim to the scam.

To lend credibility to their claims, the accused even took the victims to actual two-bedroom houses constructed under the previous government's



scheme in Bandlaguda, falsely asserting that these would soon be allotted to them. Believing the promise, many paid substantial sums and accepted the counterfeit pattas.

However, when victims went to the site expecting possession or confirmation, they realized that no such allotment had been made. Multiple complaints were filed at Manghalhat and Bandlaguda police stations, prompting a joint investigation.

During the arrests, police seized ₹5.5 lakh in cash, 4 mobile phones, 6 fake stamps and 11 dra.

forged pattas.

Police confirmed that the accused used the Picsort app to fabricate the documents and imitate official seals and signatures. All four have been sent to judicial remand, and the investigation is ongoing to determine if more people were involved or affected.

"They misused the trust of their own families and created forged documents to collect huge sums. We acted swiftly and arrested them before they could cheat more people," said DCP Sudhen-

## **HCSC Launches Exclusive Helpline for Members to Strengthen Community Policing**

#### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Hyderabad City Police Commissioner Sri C.V. Anand, IPS, who also serves as the Chairman of the Hyderabad City Security Council (HCSC), launched a dedicated helpline number (+91 8712661555) exclusively for HCSC members during a special meeting organized for jewellers in the city.

stated. He invited jewellers and other members of the business community to actively engage with HCSC in its mission.

Sri C. Shekar Reddy, Secretary General of HCSC, urged jewellers to become co-owners of HCSC's safety vision by actively participating in its programs. Sri Vikram Singh Mann, IPS, Additional Commissioner of Police (Law & Or-Speaking at the event, Com- der), gave a detailed presenmissioner Anand emphasized tation on the HCSC's ongoing the importance of collective efforts and its multifaceted responsibility in building a role in enhancing city secu- Council (HCSC) is a not-for- Through strategic partner-"This helpline will act as a Sri Prasanth Kumar, Joint ship with the Hyderabad City Secretary of the CSR Forum, Police, industry leaders, civil for HCSC members to report and Smt. P. Pushpa, SP (Technon-emergency safety con- nical) from TGICCC and incharge DCP SMIT, were also present at the meeting.



The Hyderabad City Security protection, and cybersecurity

## **Charted Accountant Dies** by Suicide in Kondapur

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad In a tragic incident, a 28-year-old Chartered Accountant, identified as Suresh Reddy Nimmala, died by suicide in Kondapur, Hyderabad. The incident took place on June 16 at SV Serenity Service Apartment in Rajarajeshwari Colony, under the jurisdiction of Gachibowli Police Station.

According to police reports, Suresh Reddy ended his life by placing a plastic cover over his head and inhaling helium gas. A suicide note recovered from the scene cited work pressure as the primary reason behind the extreme step. Suresh Reddy was employed at JWC Company in Manikonda as a Chartered Accountant. Originally from Padi village in Palvancha Mandal, Kamareddy district, he had reportedly informed his family that he was going to visit his sister after leaving his brother's

place, but instead checked into the service apartment where he was later found dead. Police have registered a case and an investigation is currently underway to further understand the circumstances that led to his death. Mental health professionals urge individuals struggling with pressure or emotional distress to seek help through support systems and counseling services.



safe and secure Hyderabad. rity. direct communication bridge cerns, seek advice, and collaborate with us on community policing initiatives," he About HCSC:

profit body formed in partnersociety, and other stakeholders. Its focus spans key areas such as women's safety, anti-narcotics campaigns, traf- Director – Hyderabad City Sefic awareness, infrastructure curity Council (HCSC)

ships, HCSC aims to empower communities, build awareness, and implement policies that foster public safety and well-being. Akhilesh Mahurkar

## **Key Accused in Illegal Drug Racket Arrested in UP**

#### TPN Correspondent | Telangana

In a major breakthrough, the Prohibition and Excise Department arrested Ajay Tripathi, the prime accused in an illegal drug racket, from Kidwai Nagar, Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh). Acting on the directions of Excise Director Shanwaz Qasim (IPS), excise and enforcement teams carried out the arrest to dismantle the gang operating across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Earlier this month, on June 4, a joint raid by Excise and Drug Inspectors led to the seizure of 1,79,400 Alprazolam tablets—weighing 26.91 kg—from a transport vehicle in Autonagar, under Hayatnagar Excise Station limits. The estimated value of the seized drugs is ₹27 lakh.

The gang, which was allegedly illegally manufacturing the banned psychotropic drug Alprazolam in Uttar Pradesh, had been transporting the consignment to Andhra Pradesh, where it was further distributed. Two persons from Andhra Pradesh—Lakshmanna and Muni Shekhar—were arrested during the initial bust and remanded to judicial custody.

Following their arrest, the department launched a manhunt for Ajay Tripathi, believed to be the key orchestrator behind the operation. A special excise team was dispatched to Uttar Pradesh,

and Tripathi was successfully apprehended and brought back to face legal proceedings.

The racket reportedly involved the unauthorized import of narcotic and psychotropic substances under the NDPS Act, with the drugs sourced from Madhya Pradesh and funneled into AP and Telangana without any medical approvals.

Excise Director Shanwaz Qasim lauded the team's efforts and reiterated the department's commitment to cracking down on illegal drug networks operating in the state.

## **Flooding Must Be Prevented in Low-Lying Areas Immediately**

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner R.V. Karnan has directed officials to take immediate temporary measures to 💺 prevent water stagnation and flooding in low-lying areas following recent heavy rains. The Commissioner conducted an inspection of the flood-affected localities in Charminar Zone's Santosh Nagar Circle on Wednesday, accompanied by Yakutpura MLA Zafar Hussain Meraj.

During the visit, Commissioner Karnan instructed the Maintenance Chief Engineer to expedite water pumping operations in flooded zones



and minimize inconvenience to residents. He also emphasized the need to formulate a permanent engineering solution to manage and redirect flood water in such vulnerable areas. "The focus should be both on immediate relief and a comprehensive,

long-term plan to prevent such incidents from recurring," said the Commissioner, calling for structural flood mitigation strategies.

Several senior GHMC officials were present during the inspection, including Zonal Commissioner Venkanna, Zonal SE Maheshwar Reddy, Deputy Commissioner Mangatayaru, CE Sahadev Ratnakar, Project EE Srinivas, and Corporator Vasiuddin. The GHMC has assured that swift measures are being initiated and a technical blueprint will be prepared for lasting solutions in flood-prone urban zones.

### Young Man Brutally Murdered in Chandanagar Area

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad A 28-year-old man was brutally murdered in the Chandanagar police station area of Hyderabad on Tuesday night. The incident occurred in the Giddangi Kallu compound, sparking tension in the locality. The deceased has been identified as Amresh, a resident of Indira Nagar in Tellapur. Originally from Sirigipet village in Tandoor mandal of Vikarabad district, Amresh was working at a petrol pump in Shamirpet at the time of his

death.Preliminary reports suggest that the murder may have stemmed from a personal dispute, possibly linked to a woman. Locals reported hearing arguments shortly before Amresh was found dead under suspicious circumstances.

Upon receiving information, Chandanagar police reached the scene and began preliminary investigation. A case has been registered, and officials have started gathering CCTV footage from the vicinity while also

questioning those close to the victim to ascertain the motive and identify the culprits. The police have yet to confirm the exact motive but sources indicate that the dispute may have involved a relationship issue. The body has been shifted for postmortem, and further investigation is underway. Police urged the public to refrain from spreading rumors and assured that the culprits will be identified and brought to justice at the earliest.



## REGIONAL

### **Indiramma Houses** Sanctioned for All Eligible in Vasalamarri

205 families in KCR's adopted village to benefit

#### **TPN Correspondent | Bhongir**

Minister for Revenue, Housing, Information and Civil Relations, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, has announced that 205 eligible families in Vasalamarri village, which was once "adopted" by former CM K. Chandrashekar Rao, will be given Indiramma housing sanction papers on Thursday. He stated that the Congress government under CM Revanth Reddy is fulfilling a promise left abandoned by the previous regime.

Addressing the media on Wednesday, Minister Ponguleti lambasted former CM KCR for his unfulfilled declaration made on November 1, 2020, when he announced he would develop Vasalamarri village in Bhongir district as a "model golden village." During a Gram Sabha on June 22, 2021, KCR promised double-bedroom houses for every family but, according to Ponguleti, "not a single new house came, while the existing ones were lost."

He alleged that in pursuit of expanding roads leading to his farmhouse, KCR's government demolished homes lining those roads and failed to provide alternatives, leaving residents in makeshift tents and huts. "The golden Vasalamarri remained a political slogan. The people were betrayed. But now, the Congress government has conducted a fresh survey and identified the truly eligible," he said. "We have sanctioned Indiramma houses to 205 families. I will personally hand over their sanction documents tomorrow. This is a message to KCR and a relief to the people he left behind," the Minister declared, adding that Vasalamarri stands today as a symbol of broken political promises.

#### **Field Visit Today**

Minister Ponguleti will tour two districts on Thursday to review Indiramma housing construction. He will inspect Banda Somaram in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district and Vibhalapur in Mothe mandal of Suryapet district, ensuring implementation of the flagship housing program. He reiterated that the Congress government will not rest until every deserving family is granted a home, turning Indiramma's vision into reality.

### **Telangana Farmers Commission Team Meets High Power Committee in Panchkula**

#### TPN Correspondent | Panchkula

A team from the Telangana Farmers Commission and Seed Act Committee reached the PWD Rest House in Panchkula Nagar, Haryana, to participate in a high-level meeting with the High Power Committee to discuss key agricultural issues concerning Telangana and the country.

## **Electric Ambulances Launched in Khammam**

Initiative to address power issues swiftly in emergencies

TPN Correspondent | Khammam Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Batti Vikramarka and Civil Supplies and Electricity Minister Ponnam Prabhakar inaugurated specially designed electric ambulances in Khammam district to respond to power emergencies. The event was held at the SNBJR College Grounds under the aegis of the Telangana State Northern Electricity Corporation.

The electric ambulances are aimed at addressing electricity-related issues swiftly, especially in emergency situations such as outages, fire accidents, or equipment failures. These vehicles are equipped to reach problem spots quickly and enable faster restoration of power, ensuring minimal disruption to public life.

Speaking at the event, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar praised the initiative, calling it a "revolutionary step in public power management." He added, "This decision will significantly strengthen our emergency response systems and help prevent tragedies like the recent fire accident in Hyder-



abad that claimed 17 lives."

The Minister also acknowledged the active leadership of Deputy CM Batti Vikramarka in ensuring quality power supply across the state. "Under Vikramarka garu's guidance, review meetings are being conducted regularly to address power issues in a timely manner," he said.

Officials present at the launch included Corporation Chairman

Naidu Satyanarayana, Rayala Nageswara Rao, former MLC Balasani Lakshmi Narayana, CMD Varun Reddy, and other senior electricity department personnel. Minister Ponnam further emphasized that the state government is committed to providing uninterrupted power to farmers and free electricity to educational institutions. He also highlighted the government's initiative to ty, and public service.

offer ₹1 crore accident insurance to RTC employees and proposed its extension to electricity department workers. "Such welfare schemes reflect the compassionate governance under the public administration government," he added. As Telangana continues to lead with innovation in the power sector, this initiative is seen as a major boost for safety, reliabili-

### **BRS Demands Rythu Bharosa for Maheswaram**



#### **TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy**

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leaders, along with farmers and local journalists, organized a meeting in Maheswaram Mandal of Rangareddy district demanding the immediate inclusion of Maheswaram in the state's

despite being a key farming region, has been excluded from the Farmer Assurance list under the Maheswaram constituency. They alleged that over 13,000 eligible farmers, cultivating 19,000 acres, have been unjustly left out of the scheme.

farmers in several other districts, and Maheswaram farmers deserve the same benefits.

The leaders accused the Congress government of political bias, alleging that Kandukur Mandal — which has been merged into Future City — received benefits while Maheswaram was excluded only because it is a BRS stronghold. They criticized Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, saying his administration has betrayed the farming community in Maheswaram.

They also highlighted discrepancies in the assistance amount, claiming that while Congress promised ₹15,000 per year under the Farmer Assurance scheme, only ₹12,000 per acre is being disbursed. They said this was a clear act of deception and asserted that Telangana's farmers will not forgive this betrayal.

BRS leaders Vanguri Mallaiah, PACS Vice Chairman Venkateswar Reddy, Maheswaram Mandal President Raju Nayak, and senior

The Telangana delegation, led by Farmers Commission Chairman Kodanda Reddy and Telangana State Seed Development Corporation Chairman Anvesh Reddy, is expected to present an overview of the challenges faced by farmers, the major crops cultivated in the state, the marketing and procurement policies, and the various welfare schemes introduced by the Telangana government to support the agricultural sector.

A significant part of the discussion will center around the proposed Comprehensive Seed Act, which is expected to play a crucial role in curbing the menace of fake seeds, an issue that has severely impacted farmers in Telangana and other states. The team will provide detailed insights into how Telangana is tackling the issue of fake seeds, its regulatory mechanisms, and enforcement strategies. The High Power Committee is also likely to seek explanations on state-wise agricultural policies, condition of farmers, and implementation of marketing reforms. Telangana officials are expected to share inputs and best practices being adopted in the state to safeguard the interests of farmers.



Farmer Assurance (Rythu Bharosa) programme. The delegation later submitted a fill its promise by immediately extending petition to Tahsildar Saidulu, urging the government to address the issue without delay. Speaking on the occasion, BRS leaders ex-

They demanded that the government fulthe Farmer Assurance scheme, which was previously known as Rythu Bandhu, to Maheswaram farmers. BRS leaders emphasized pressed outrage that Maheswaram Mandal, that similar support has been extended to

leader Chandraiah addressed the gathering. They declared that the BRS party will not rest until the farmers of Maheswaram receive justice and the promised assistance and loan waivers are fully implemented.

## Son Kills Father Over Land Dispute in Rangareddy



**TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy** A shocking incident took place in Pulimamidi village under Kandukuru police station limits in Rangareddy district, where a man brutally murdered his father over a property dispute. The accused, identified as Shekhar, has been taken into police custody. According to preliminary information, Shekhar had been pressuring his father, Jangaiah, to sell a one-acre plot of land owned by the family. When Jangaiah refused to comply with his son's demands, Shekhar resorted to a gruesome act. In the dead of night, while his father was asleep, Shekhar allegedly struck him on the head with a stone, leading to Jangaiah's instant death.

Local residents informed the police, and Kandukuru police immediately reached the scene. The body was shifted to Osmania Hospital for postmortem examination. A case has been registered, and a detailed investigation is currently underway.

The incident has sent shockwaves through the village, as locals expressed their horror at the brutality of the crime committed over a land dispute. Authorities are now interrogating the accused and verifying whether there were any previous altercations or complaints between the father and son.

Further details are awaited as the investigation continues.

## **Cleanliness Drive at Godavari Embankment ITDA Officer Rahul Issues Strict Instructions**

TPN Correspondent | Bhadrachalam ITDA Project Officer B. Rahul has directed the Gram Panchayat staff to maintain utmost cleanliness at the Godavari embankments in Bhadrachalam, a sacred spot where thousands of devotees from various states come to bathe and seek darshan at the Sri Seetha Ramachandra Swamy Temple.

On Wednesday, Rahul inspected the area near the embankment where a fire broke out due to indiscriminate dumping of garbage by locals. Expressing con-

cern over the potential health hazards, he instructed the Gram Panchayat Executive Officer (EO) to ensure that no wet or dry waste is thrown on or near the embankments and that waste collected in the town and its wards must be moved to the newly established dumping yard. He emphasized that dumping garbage along the embankment leads to mosquito infestation, increasing the risk of diseases for the people of Bhadrachalam. He appealed to the public to segregate their waste and hand it over to the designated

Gram Panchayat tractors, instead of discarding it randomly.

"The Gram Panchayat staff must ensure door-to-door garbage collection in every ward and work closely with residents to keep the town clean," Rahul added. Following his inspection, the burning garbage near the embankment was successfully extinguished with the help of a fire engine.

Gram Panchayat EO Srinivas, staff, and local officials participated in the inspection and clean-up initiative.





## **OPINION**

# 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-



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.

#### Dr. Parikippandla Sridevi, (conducting research on sickle cell disease in ASR Distrctict) Associate Professor and Head Department Biotechnology Department Central Tribal University Vizianagaram

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



Dr Ravi Birudu Project Scientist -II, Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh





## "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-toface 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





### **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

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 vulnerability country's 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 As a result, India's EV and hybrid seg-EV manufacturing.

The report highlights that REMs are essential for producing permanent magnets used in EV motors, especially Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motors expected to be minimal. EV sales have (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.

ments 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 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 earthbased 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.



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 benia. fore flying them home.

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 Arme-

The evacuation comes amid esca-"I've been in constant touch with lating tensions between Iran and

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,"

Israel, prompting several coun- he warned. He clarified that he tries, including Nepal, to prepare 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 Israel, heavily armed with American strikes, urging civilians to evacuate areas 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.





### **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.



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



technology, "knows how to use it." Trump further reminded Khamenei that other 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 The situation remains volatile as both Tel Aviv, many striking civilian zones. In nations prepare for further military acresponse, Israel warned Tehran of more

near military infrastructure.

Iranian hardliners "spoke bravely" before 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.

tion 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.

### 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.

### **ECONOMY** 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 🕒 🚯 🗶 🞯 **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.

Thursday

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 interim dividend of ₹7 per share for

in India. Meanwhile, One MobiKwik Systems shares fell 8% as the post-IPO lock-in period ended. Vedanta declared an

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,

## **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-



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.

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.



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.

## **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

dents—one near Dunedin and another, notably headless, near Birdlings Flat outside Christchurch. These events have triggered public curiosity and revived ageold 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

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

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 saw two separate inci- Marine experts suggest that ocean's enduring mysteries.

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

mare 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-

Building No. 2 Ground Floor, Community Center, Sapna Cinema East of Kailash New Delhi-110065 Mob: +91 9910431049 FSSAI: 13323010000834

A casual date turned into a financial night- 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.

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

shape.



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.

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 ment: "Not the best sushi there, 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-

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 senti-

come.

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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, combinbut 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.



## PLAZONE

### 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 shortterm 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 sovereign 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-

FIFA has officially lifted the transfer<br/>ban on Mohun Bagan Super Giant, al-<br/>lowing the club to sign new playersprehensive 107-page document to FIFA<br/>and responding promptly to follow-up<br/>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.





## **SCREEN**

### 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 reactionssome 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, commercial shoots. and



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 fastpaced, 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 Sankranthi 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!



## **Chiranjeevi's Mega 157: A Hilarious School Comedy with Anil Ravipudi**



film, set in a school backdrop, promises to deliver laugh-out- As for the action, fans can rest loud moments, with Chiranjeevi's hilarious antics taking disappoint. Chiranjeevi is set center stage. Fans can expect to deliver high-octane fight Chiru's signature comedy style sequences, alongside his iconto create some unforgettable ic dance moves, ensuring that scenes, ensuring a fun-filled cinematic experience.

assured that the film won't Mega 157 will be a complete entertainer.

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

The much-anticipated pan-India sor process, Kuberaa has been film Kuberaa, directed by Tollywood veteran Shekhar Kammula, has successfully completed

granted a U/A certificate. However, the film's 3-hour runtime of 181 minutes has raised eyeits censor certification. Starring brows. Despite the lengthy du-Tamil star Dhanush, Tollywood ration, the movie is expected icon Nagarjuna, and the ev- to captivate audiences with its er-popular Rashmika Mandan- 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.

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 to leave audiences in splits. The

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

In this high-expectation project, Chiranjeevi will portray a character named Shiva Shankar Varaprasad, a Drill Master, whose comedic timing is sure

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.

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.

na 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-

## **Peddi's Train Fight:** A Cinematic Thrill Ride in the Making



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

Global star Ram Charan's 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.



20TH JUNE