



Revanth,
Uttam
lack basic
knowledge
of water
basins:
Harish Rao

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What is wrong with the construction of Banakacharla...?

Water dispute between the two states again

- Telangana objects to the construction of Banakacharla
- Letters to the Centre not to give permissions
- AP says it is building on floodwater
- Budget allocation of Rs. 80 thousand crores

TPN | Kishore Katta
Amaravati: The Banakacharla project is causing a rift between the two Telugu states. The Telangana government is responding strongly to this matter. An all-party meeting has already been organized on this issue under the leadership of State Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy. The minister said that several letters have already been sent to the Centre against this project. The Telangana government is making it clear that it will not give permission to the Banakacharla Link project proposed by AP under any circumstances.
The budget of Rs. 80 thousand crores on the Banakacharla project...!

The AP plan is to build the Banakacharla project at a cost of Rs. 80,000 crores. It has already applied for permission from the Centre for this link project, which is an annex to the Polavaram project. AP mentioned that former Telangana CM KCR had supported this project in the past and said, "If you are going to make Rayalaseema Ratnalaseema, why would

I say that..?" Moreover, Jagan also mentioned the comments made by KCR at that time on his generosity, Minister Nimmala mentioned in his presentation. With this, he himself questioned why BRS is not speaking out against this project now.
Opposition response in Telangana...!
The BRS party in Telangana is expressing strong objections to this. It is being branded as a project like Pothreddypadu in the waters of Godavari in Banakacharla, and is trying to usurp the rights of the state. Former Irrigation Minister Harish Rao is speaking out and warning that this could cause serious damage to Telangana. Union Minister Kishan Reddy, however, has made it clear that the Chief Ministers of both states should hold direct talks and that the Centre will not act unilaterally.
Are permissions required...? What do experts say...?
Experts have different opinions on this issue. Despite Telangana having four pending DPRs on Godavari, AP irrigation experts say that central approvals are



not required for the Banakacharla project. They point out that this is part of the river linking plan formulated in 1980 and that Modi also supported river linking. They say that this project is not against the 1980 tribunal judgments and the 2014 Reorganization Act because this project is entirely based on floodwater use. Over a crore people were inundated by the massive floods in 1986. This, they argue, is to prevent such floods.

What is the end of this dispute? The key question now is where this dispute will go. Clarity and transparency are needed in water sharing. A direct meeting between the Chief Ministers of the two states, the intervention of the Union Ministry of Water Resources, and ways to lead to a permanent solution are needed. Otherwise, there is a risk that this divisive dispute will end up in the courts.

AP's claim that the goal is to use floodwater...!
According to the official presentation from Andhra Pradesh, the Banakacharla officials are arguing that they have no connection with Telangana. "Are we going to be the ones to protect your projects?" AP is clearly questioning. If a project is built in the lower state, what is the objection from Telangana located upstream? It has said that its goal is to divert the 3,000 TMC floodwater that flows into the sea in the Godavari River every year to Rayalaseema, Nellore, and Prakasam districts for drinking and irrigation purposes. AP Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu has clarified that providing water to low rainfall areas like Anantapur should be considered a mandatory measure and that it is not wrong.

BJP Will Stand by the People; We Fought Injustice, Will Continue to Do So...

Eatala highlights BJP's 11-year journey and development under PM Modi

Accuses Revanth Reddy of injustice in Hydra and Musi projects

Backs CBI probe on Kaleshwaram

"Corruption and projects must be seen separately"



TPN | Srikanth Gurram
Hyderabad: BJP MP Eatala Rajender addressed a press meet today at Imperial Garden in Secunderabad, highlighting the achievements of 11 years of BJP rule under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while launching a sharp attack on the Congress-led Telangana government. Eatala began by stating that Malkajgiri, the largest parliamentary constituency in the country with 38.4 lakh votes, gave him a thumping majority of 4 lakh votes, and that 65% of LB Nagar voters stood by the BJP. He said the public trusted him because

of his experience as Assembly Floor Leader during the Telangana movement, as first Finance Minister, and as Health Minister during the COVID-19 crisis. "People accepted me like a tongue in their mouth," Eatala said, adding that he tried to solve their problems as one of their own. Eatala announced that the BJP is organizing exhibitions nationwide to mark Modi's 11-year rule and that they would showcase his work among people through an exhibition in Malkajgiri.

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SIT intensifies probe in phone tapping case...

Prabhakar Rao questioned again by SIT

Praneeth Rao grilled for 8 hours

Role of DGP Jitender and ex-Intelligence Chief Anil under scrutiny

TPN | V Krishna Kumar
Hyderabad: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) has intensified its investigation into the sensational phone tapping case that has rocked Telangana's administrative and intelligence circles. On Thursday, the SIT once again questioned Prabhakar Rao, who previously served as a senior officer and later as Officer on Special Duty (OSD), in connection with his role in approving phone interceptions. According to official sources, the SIT questioned Praneeth Rao for nearly 8 hours yesterday, and based on information gathered during that session, they summoned Prabhakar Rao for a second

round of questioning. The interrogation is reportedly focused on the list of phone numbers sent for surveillance to telecom service providers and the procedural irregularities involved. Significantly, Prabhakar Rao was the designated authority for legal interception of phone numbers, especially those flagged under the pretext of Maoist links or national security concerns. However, SIT officials

are probing whether this authority was misused to tap political leaders, journalists, and others during the previous regime.

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Dial 112... Just Remember This Number

Officials rush to your aid within moments of any emergency

- 112 integrates police, fire, ambulance, women and child safety
- Command Control Center operates from Banjara Hills, Hyderabad
- Telangana saved lives in 3 major accidents in just 2 days

TPN | V. Krishna Kumar
Hyderabad: In moments of panic during an accident or emergency, we often find ourselves confused—should we dial 100 for police, 101 for fire, or 108 for ambulance? Time is lost in the uncertainty, and often the

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SIT intensifies probe in phone tapping case...

The SIT is also examining the role of the Review Committee, which includes former Home Secretary, current DGP Jitender, and former Intelligence Chief Anil. Their statements and records are being analyzed for procedural compliance and accountability. The SIT has reportedly learned that certain numbers were allowed to be monitored for over 7 days, which is beyond the limit sanctioned for preliminary surveillance. Prabhakar Rao's team allegedly justified this by tagging some of the numbers as linked to Maoist sympathizers. However, SIT officials are now verifying whether those claims had any

factual basis or were used as a pretext for illegal surveillance. The investigation has entered a crucial phase, and statements from Prabhakar Rao and Praneeth Rao are expected to play a pivotal role in establishing the chain of command and authorization behind the controversial tapping orders. The SIT is also cross-referencing statements from multiple witnesses and accused officials to build a clear picture of who authorized what, and for what purpose. Further revelations are expected as the SIT continues its probe, with more high-level officers possibly being summoned in the coming days.

Dial 112... Just Remember This Number

damage is already done before help can arrive. To put an end to this confusion and respond faster, the Telangana Police have transformed the emergency response system with a unified helpline: Dial 112. Launched across the state, 112 is now the single emergency number for all situations—be it a fire, accident, medical need, crime, or disaster. Once a person dials 112, the nearest concerned department's personnel are immediately alerted and dispatched to the caller's exact location using mobile signal triangulation. This initiative is run through the Integrated Command and Control Center at Banjara Hills under the leadership of DGP Jitender. The center is equipped with cutting-edge technology and is led by retired IPS officer Kamalasan Reddy, who was appointed as the Director of this special department. What makes this system efficient is the integration of multiple emergency numbers—Police (100), Fire (101), Ambulance (108), Women Safety (181), Child Protection (1098), and Disaster Response (1077)—into one platform. With this integration, citizens don't need to worry about which num-

ber to call. Just dial 112, and the system takes care of the rest. The Telangana Police have also ensured a quick response from highway patrol teams via roadside call boxes. While these facilities exist, they are often overlooked. The state's emergency command setup aims to change that through real-time coordination and awareness. This improved mechanism has already proven its worth. Within just two days, emergency teams were able to prevent three major fire-related disasters in Hyderabad and Karimnagar, saving lives and property. Kamalasan Reddy stressed that the horrifying fire in the Old City, which killed 17 people from one family, highlighted the urgent need for such a centralized response system. “We have built 112 to ensure such tragedies don't repeat. The system is for the public's protection. People must remember this number—it could save their life,” said Director Kamalasan Reddy. This initiative is not just an advancement in public safety—it's a lifeline. The Telangana Police urge every citizen to remember 112, and use it in any emergency. Help is just a call away.

BJP Will Stand by the People; We Fought Injustice, Will Continue to Do So...

Turning his focus on the Revanth Reddy government, Eatala made severe allegations, saying that the CM has shown nothing but injustice and vengeance against those who voted for him. Citing the Hydra project, Eatala said that houses of the poor were threatened with demolition under the pretext of upliftment. “The government is meant to wipe tears, but this one is shedding them,” he remarked, accusing the government of snatching lands instead of giving them. He also criticized the Musi Prakashalana project, stating that it was a guise for real estate expansion and alleged that BJP leaders had stood by residents of Uppal, LB Nagar, and Ramanthapur whose colonies were threatened. Referring to the tragic suicide of Buchamma, Etala said that people were in pain under the Congress regime, but the BJP earned people's love by offering PK services, even in times of personal distress. On the Cantonment, Eatala clarified that the area is under central jurisdiction, and that Rs. 300 crore compensation has been sanctioned for road development. He added that the lifting of the 5% rule in compassionate appointments and job allocation was also

a BJP achievement. Response to CM's Comments on Kaleshwaram Project When questioned by reporters about Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's remarks on the Kaleshwaram project, Eatala hit back, stating “Will such a big project be constructed without cabinet approval? Every decision is ratified. I'll send you all the documents.” He said the project and corruption must be viewed separately, and that BJP is not against building infrastructure but is against turning projects into ATMs through corrupt practices. Etala demanded a CBI inquiry, saying “Repair the sagging pillars and deliver water. Don't spare those who looted public money.” Eatala also defended himself from allegations over the Pothireddypadu issue, saying “I fought for Telangana's water, shed blood in the movement. People won't believe any smear campaigns against me now.” The meeting was attended by BJP MLAs, MPs, and key leaders. Eatala concluded by urging constituents to attend the public meeting and support the BJP's vision, declaring that the party would continue to stand by the people and fight anti-public policies.

Metro Phase-2: CM Revanth Reddy Seeks Centre's Nod

- Revised DPR for 76.4 km metro route submitted
- CM urges expedited permissions from all departments
- Telangana ready to share ₹24,269 crore project cost

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has urged the Central Government to swiftly grant all necessary permissions for the second phase of the Hyderabad Metro Rail project. As part of his visit to the national capital, Revanth Reddy met Union Urban Development Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and discussed the proposal in detail. The second phase of the Metro, covering 76.4 kilometers across key areas of Hyderabad, is being proposed at a total cost of ₹24,269 crore. CM Revanth



informed the Union Minister that the Telangana government is fully committed to executing this ambitious project jointly with the Centre. During the meeting, Revanth Reddy explained that the revised Detailed Project Report (DPR) had already been submitted to the Urban Development

Department, incorporating necessary technical updates and route enhancements as per previous guidelines. He emphasized the urgent need for approvals from all relevant departments, highlighting that the second phase of the Metro is crucial to meeting the transportation demands of Hyderabad's growing population. Revanth also noted that the project will significantly reduce traffic congestion in the city, promote faster commute options, and contribute to Hyderabad's sustainable urban development. According to official sources, the discussion also included the strategic importance of the Metro expansion for economic growth and environmental well-being. The state government expects a prompt response from the Centre, as it aims to begin work on Metro Phase-2 without delay.

CR Patil Responds Positively to Telangana's Concerns: Uttam

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy have formally raised strong objections to the Banakacherla project being undertaken by the Andhra Pradesh government, alleging that it violates the provisions of the State Reorganization Act. The duo submitted a detailed memorandum to Union Jal Shakti Minister CR Patil in New Delhi on Thursday. Speaking to the media after the meeting, Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that Union Minister CR Patil responded positively to the con-



cerns raised by Telangana. “The Union Minister assured us that the matter will be reviewed thoroughly and promised to organize a meeting involving the Chief Ministers of both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh at the earliest,” said Uttam Kumar Reddy.

He further emphasized that Telangana views the Godavari-Banakacherla project as an illegal and unilateral move by Andhra Pradesh, which could potentially affect Telangana's water rights. The Telangana delegation highlighted their stand that such inter-state projects must be approved only after proper consultation and clearances, particularly when water allocations are involved.

The Telangana government is expected to maintain pressure at the Centre to ensure that its interests are safeguarded in any future decisions regarding river water sharing and project implementations.

Rahul Gandhi's Birthday Celebrated at Praja Bhavan



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The birthday of Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, was celebrated with grandeur and warmth at Mahatma Jyoti Rao Phule Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad on Wednesday. In a unique gesture, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka marked the occasion by celebrating it alongside sanitation workers of GHMC's Khairatabad zone. Joined by Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnampalabharathi Goud, TPCC senior leader Dr. P. Vinay Kumar, and other Congress leaders, the Deputy CM cut a specially prepared birthday cake along with the workers. In a symbolic and heartfelt moment, sanitation workers Manjula and Kalavati fed the first slices of cake to each other and later to the Deputy CM, who in turn shared the cake with the workers. Following the cake cutting, the leaders and sanitation staff shared a community meal at the venue, further underlining the Congress government's efforts to recognize and value the role of frontline workers in society. After the meal, the sanitation workers collectively extended their birthday wishes to Rahul Gandhi, expressing their hope that he would one day serve the nation as Prime Minister, just like his grandmother Indira Gandhi and father Rajiv Gandhi. The celebration was marked by a spirit of inclusiveness and appreciation for grassroots workers, reflecting the Congress party's continued outreach efforts.

Young Woman's Body Found in Durgam Cheruvu

- Victim identified as 27-year-old Sushma from Addagutta
- Sushma worked in a private firm in Hi-Tech City
- Family filed missing complaint after she didn't return home

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A tragic incident came to light this morning as the body of a 27-year-old woman, Sushma, was found floating in Durgam Cheruvu lake in Madhapur. Sushma, a resident of Addagutta, Secunderabad, was working in a private company in Hi-Tech City. According to police reports, Sushma had left home on Wednesday morning stating she was headed to her office. However, she did not return home, prompting her worried family members to file a missing person complaint at the Madhapur police station. Upon inquiry, the company manager informed police that Sushma had left the office around 8:30 PM the previous night. Her body was found in the lake early this morning and later identified by family members. Police suspect suicide, but say the exact reasons behind her death are still unknown. The body has been shifted to Osmania Hospital for post-mortem, and a case has been registered under relevant sections. Officials at the Madhapur police station are investigating all angles, including any personal or work-related distress that could have led to this incident. Further details are awaited pending the autopsy report and examination of Sushma's call records and personal belongings.



Indiramma Scheme Launched in KCR’s Adopted Village

Minister Ponguleti inaugurates in Vasalamarri with local leaders
Vasalamarri gains attention as ex-CM KCR’s adopted village

TPN Correspondent | Yadadri Bhuvanagiri
The Congress government’s flagship Indiramma House Scheme was formally launched today in Vasalamarri village of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district — a location that holds political significance as it was adopted by former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao during his tenure. The launch

of the scheme in this village has drawn wide attention, symbolizing a political and developmental message from the ruling Congress party. State Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy inaugurated the scheme, accompanied by Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Tungaturthi MLA Beerla Ilayya, and Aleru MLA Anil Ku-

mar Reddy. The leaders toured the village and interacted with residents before commencing the official proceedings. During the launch event, Minister Ponguleti handed over the first house site patta and a cheque for ₹1 lakh to Agava, a local woman selected as the scheme’s first beneficiary. The minister said that the Indiramma scheme is a criti-

cal initiative by the Congress government to realize the aspirations of the poor by enabling them to build their own homes. Speaking on the occasion, Ponguleti emphasized the government’s commitment to social welfare and inclusive development. “The Congress government is dedicated to fulfilling the dream of every



poor family to have a roof over their head. This is a major step towards that promise,” he stated. Officials explained that under the Indiramma Housing Scheme, deserving poor families will be provided with financial support and house site pattas to construct their homes. The launch event, particularly in a village that once symbolized BRS pride, was met with enthusiasm by locals, who expressed hope for better infrastructure and support under the new government.

Sonia Gandhi discharged from hospital

Family relieved as Sonia returns home on Rahul Gandhi’s 55th birthday



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi was discharged from Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in Delhi on Thursday after recovering from a stomach-related infection. The 78-year-old leader was admitted on June 15 and has been under the care of senior gastroenterologist Dr. Amitabh Yadav and his team. Hospital Chairman Dr. Ajay Swarup confirmed that Sonia Gandhi’s condition has stabilized and she will now continue her recovery through outpatient care. “She was suffering from an abdominal infection and responded well to routine treatment. Her condition has improved

steadily,” the medical team stated. This marks the second time this month that Sonia Gandhi has been hospitalized. Her latest discharge coincided with a special occasion — the 55th birthday of her son and Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi. Family members expressed joy over her recovery, calling it the best birthday gift for Rahul. Leaders from across the political spectrum extended warm wishes to Rahul Gandhi throughout the day, while Congress workers celebrated his birthday with small gatherings in several states. The news of Sonia Gandhi’s recovery added to the cheer within the Congress ranks.

Kishan Reddy Is Betraying Telangana: Revanth

CM slams BJP leader, says Harish Rao’s jealousy has no cure

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Chief Minister Revanth Reddy launched a sharp attack on Union Minister and BJP state president Kishan Reddy, accusing him of betraying Telangana’s interests. Speaking on the state’s ongoing water dispute and Centre’s inaction, Revanth questioned Kishan Reddy’s integrity, stating that his credibility has become a “big question mark.” Revanth criticised Kishan Reddy for skipping the recent all-party meeting convened on river water allocations, alleging that he met Union Water Resources Minister C.R. Patil in secret instead. “If you had genuine concern, why meet Patil behind closed doors? Why avoid attending with us? Would your crown fall if you joined hands with the state?” he questioned, accusing him of using the water sentiment to shield the BRS party. Revanth alleged that Kishan Reddy is intentionally obstructing progress on water projects by sowing confusion and misleading the Centre. He claimed that while GRMB and KRMB were set up to oversee inter-state water matters, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) were not submitted during the BRS regime and necessary permissions were bypassed. The Chief Minister, however, appreciated BJP MPs DK Aruna and Raghunandan Rao for participating in the meeting and aligning with the



government’s position. “Their sincerity was evident. They assured full cooperation and agreed to support the state in its efforts,” he said. Taking a direct jibe at former minister Harish Rao, Revanth said, “There is no cure for Harish Rao’s jealousy. His constant complaints over the past five months have only led to delays in central permissions.” Revanth Reddy further demanded a public explanation from Kishan Reddy and the BRS leadership, asking, “How many project approvals did BRS get during its ten-year rule? What is their contribution other than obstruction?” The CM concluded by stressing that according to international water laws, the needs of river basin states must be met before diverting water elsewhere — a principle Telangana continues to fight for.

Don’t Play with Students’ Future: MLC Anji Reddy



TPN | Srikanth Gurram
Telangana: MLC Anji Reddy has strongly criticized the Telangana government over its delay in releasing fee reimbursement funds, expressing serious concern that the future of lakhs of students is in jeopardy. Addressing the media on Thursday, Anji Reddy stated that the government owes nearly ₹7,500 crore in fee reimbursement to private and government colleges across the state. Due to this delay, thousands of students are unable to obtain their certificates, which is preventing them from pursuing higher education or job opportunities. He pointed out that although funds were allocated in the budget, they are not being released to the institutions. “This irresponsible approach is placing an unbearable financial burden on students and their families,” he said. Anji Reddy also highlighted the severe inequality in the fee structure of engineering colleges. “In the top 10 engineering institutions, the annual fee per student ranges from ₹1.35 lakh to ₹1.60 lakh, but the government is reimbursing only ₹75,000. How can students bridge this massive gap?” he questioned, demanding that the reimbursement amount be revised in line with actual fee structures.

Questioning the functioning of the Fees Control Committee, Anji Reddy demanded that decisions not be made in secrecy every four years, but instead, full transparency be maintained by making college fee structures and educational quality ratings public. “Only then will students and parents be able to make informed decisions,” he added. He also cautioned the government about irregularities in the allocation of B-category seats, stating that any deviation from the rules could result in legal and public backlash. MLC Anji Reddy concluded his address by warning the government to release the pending reimbursement immediately to avoid derailing the education of thousands of deserving students across Telangana.

Revanth, Uttam lack basic knowledge of water basins: Harish Rao

Telangana’s rightful share being surrendered to AP
CM turning critical irrigation issues into political drama

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) senior leader and former minister Harish Rao launched a scathing attack on Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing him of speaking “without basic knowledge” regarding key irrigation projects and water basins. In a press meet held at Telangana Bhavan on Wednesday, Harish Rao said Revanth’s remarks on Banakacharla and Devadula projects showed a complete lack of understanding and responsibility. “Revanth Reddy does not even know which basin the Devadula project is in. He doesn’t know where Banakacharla is being built,” Harish said, adding that both CM Revanth and Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy embarrassed themselves with

their PPT presentations. “It seems they know more about bags than basins,” he quipped. Harish alleged that while Andhra Pradesh has been lobbying for Banakacharla with the Centre for six months, Telangana’s CM remained clueless. “You didn’t try to stop the illegal project. Instead, you gave a green signal. You even said, ‘take 1000 TMC from Godavari and 500 from Krishna,’” he said, calling such statements a betrayal of Telangana’s water rights. He also targeted Revanth Reddy’s advisor Aditya Das, saying even he made factual errors about Banakacharla’s location, claiming it to be in Prakasam instead of Nandyal. “This is not a joke. Your ignorance could cost Telangana dearly,” Harish warned.

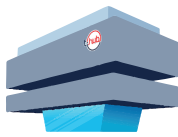
Harish further defended the BRS’s stand, saying former CM KCR fought tooth and nail for Telangana’s water share. “Of the 968 TMC allocated to Telangana in Godavari during the united Andhra era, we got hydrology clearance for 946 TMC under KCR’s leadership,” he said. He reminded that Telangana’s rightful claims under the Krishna River were undermined historically due to Congress’ inaction. “KCR and we argued before the Brijesh Kumar Tribunal for 750 TMC,” Harish said, blaming the Congress for the current water crisis. Harish concluded by stating that issues related to rivers, irrigation, and Telangana’s share cannot be taken lightly and warned that people will not tolerate “ignorance and surrender of their rights” under Revanth Reddy’s leadership.

Congress govt betraying Telangana’s irrigation interests Where would Revanth be if not for KCR? – Niranjan Reddy

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Former Minister and senior BRS leader Singireddy Niranjan Reddy lashed out at Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing him of distorting KCR’s statements on water allocation and compromising Telangana’s irrigation interests. Referring to the ongoing row over the Banakacherla project, he said that KCR had always maintained that justice should be done to Rayalaseema only after meeting the needs of Telangana, but Revanth Reddy is spreading “false propaganda” for political gains. “Revanth is speaking irrationally, saying Chandrababu was lifting water and that KCR should have gone and stopped him. If it wasn’t for KCR, where would Revanth be

today?” Niranjan Reddy questioned angrily. The BRS intensified its attack on the Congress government, alleging that it is cooperating with Andhra Pradesh in diverting Krishna waters, violating the spirit of the State Reorganisation Act. The party claimed Telangana took up the issue of Banakacherla only after T. Harish Rao publicly raised concerns. “Even in the all-party meeting, our MP Vaddiraju Ravichandra was insulted and walked out after being targeted,” leaders said. They accused Revanth Reddy of lacking basic understanding of irrigation needs and failing to make a firm statement opposing the illegal diversion of water. “The Congress government has not pushed the Centre to approve the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irri-

gation Scheme, despite having spent ₹32,500 crores. Just 172 acres are pending for acquisition, yet there’s no urgency from this government,” they added. The BRS pointed out that while Andhra Pradesh is constructing reservoirs with 300 TMC capacity, Telangana still struggles for water from the Krishna River. “Why hasn’t Revanth written to the Centre or to Chandrababu Naidu demanding a stop to water diversion? Doesn’t this government have a clear policy?” they asked. Calling Revanth’s leadership weak and misdirected, the BRS alleged that all-party meetings are being misused to score political points instead of protecting the state’s interests. “This is not leadership. This is betrayal,” they concluded.



Resolve Durgam Cheruvu Drainage Issue Immediately

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan has directed officials to immediately resolve the drainage issues plaguing Durgam Cheruvu. Conducting a detailed site review on Thursday morning, Karnan met with officials from the GHMC, Jalmandali (Water Board), SNDP, and the Lakes Division to assess ongoing works and issue fresh instructions.

Emphasizing the urgency of the matter, Karnan stated that the sewage pipelines must be maintained regularly, and the diversion works should be completed without delay. He warned that poor maintenance of these pipelines was inconveniencing walkers and residents in the vicinity, and said Jalmandali must take complete responsibility for ensuring a functional and obstruction-free sewer system.

During his visit, the Commissioner also inspected the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at the site. He instructed officials to ensure that water purified by third-party contractors and the Neeri organization is thoroughly tested before being released into the lake. Karnan also suggested that CSR participants collecting materials in the park should contribute to enhancing the tank's aesthetics, aligning with ongoing efforts to beautify Durgam Cheruvu and its surroundings.

Regarding the stormwater drain works being executed under the SNDP project, the Commissioner instructed that they must be completed by September, with weekly progress reviews by the Zonal Commissioner. He also advised officials to identify and eliminate any operational obstacles to ensure timely completion. Accompanying the Commissioner during the inspection were Serilingampally Zonal Commissioner Sahadev Keshav Patil, SNDP CE Koteswara Rao, Water Board officials, Lakes EE Narayana, Deputy Commissioners, and other engineering staff.



TGCSB Cracks Down on Child Pornography, Arrests 15 in Major Operation

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a significant crackdown on child sexual abuse material (CSAM), the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB), in collaboration with the Child Protection Unit (CPU), conducted a statewide operation on June 18, resulting in the arrest of 15 individuals across Karimnagar, Jagtial, Warangal, and Hyderabad. The operation targeted offenders involved in uploading and circulating explicit content involving minors, a serious crime under Indian law. TGCSB Director General Shikha Goel revealed that the arrested individuals, aged between 19 and 50, were linked to 34 cases of CSAM, with 17 cases registered directly by the TGCSB's Cyber Crime Police Stations (CCPS). Shockingly, the accused include professionals such as software engineers and students from prestigious institutions like IIT and other BTech programs, highlighting the disturbing reach of such crimes across diverse demographics. The operation was initiated based on data received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) through the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). By tracking IP addresses, the TGCSB identified and apprehended the suspects, who were found to be uploading illicit content on foreign-origin websites. The victims, primarily girls aged 6 to 14, are reported to be from abroad, with nearly 90% of the recovered content involving female minors.

DG Shikha Goel emphasized that viewing, storing, or sharing CSAM is a punishable offense under the Information Technology (IT) Act and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. "The Supreme Court has made it clear that even watching child pornography is a crime. Our systems are equipped to detect such activities through cyber tiplines, and we will ensure strict legal action," she warned. The TGCSB has blocked 220 websites hosting CSAM as part of this operation.

The bureau's efforts have led to the registration of 294 First Information Reports (FIRs) and the arrest of 110 individuals in connection with CSAM-related offenses so far. Goel stated that the TGCSB is maintaining vigilant monitoring of social media platforms and websites to curb the spread of such content. "We are committed to a zero-tolerance policy. Those involved in these heinous acts will face severe consequences, potentially spending years behind bars," she added.



Hyderabad Police Hold Meeting on Student Safety

CP Anand: School bus safety and CCTV surveillance non-negotiable

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a proactive move to enhance student safety as schools reopen, the Hyderabad Traffic Police organized a high-level meeting with school managements and stakeholders at Ravindra Bharathi. The meeting, titled "School Management and Stakeholders Meeting on Student Safety", aimed to strengthen awareness and compliance with traffic safety norms in and around school zones.

The event was attended by key officials including City Police Commissioner C.V. Anand, Hyderabad Collector Harichandan, DEO Rohini, TSRTC ED Rajasekhar, Traffic Joint Commissioner Joel Davis, and senior officials from the Transport Department and GHMC.

Commissioner C.V. Anand emphasized that such safety awareness initiatives have become a yearly tradition, particularly important when schools reopen. He pointed out that in the past three years, eight student deaths had occurred due to the lack of safety precautions, a deeply concerning trend. Highlighting school buses as the primary mode of transport for students, Anand said, "The responsibility lies squarely with school managements. If anything happens to a student, it reflects directly on the school." He called for immediate compliance with safety measures. He further warned, "Even one student's death can leave a permanent scar on a school's reputation. Schools must not ignore these responsibilities."



Addressing the challenges faced by enforcement agencies, Anand noted that Hyderabad currently has only 3,000 traffic personnel to monitor over 650 traffic junctions, and due to staff limitations, only 325 junctions are actively managed. He called for greater cooperation from school authorities and parents in sharing the responsibility for children's safety.

The meeting witnessed active participation from school management representatives and parents, who were urged to stay vigilant and prioritize student safety above all. Authorities reiterated that all departments—education, transport, and civic bodies—will work together to enforce safety standards and reduce preventable accidents.

Student Assaulted by College Director in Miyapur

TPN Correspondent | Miyapur

Tensions escalated at Adhya Junior College in Miyapur after the college management allegedly assaulted a student and misbehaved with his family members. According to reports, Kanishku (17), a second-year intermediate student, was physically assaulted by the college director, Balakrishna, following an undisclosed dispute. The situation worsened when Kanishku's mother, Rekha, and sister visited the college to question the management about the incident. College Director Balakrishna and Principal Manasa allegedly attempted to attack them as well. Eyewitnesses claim that Principal Manasa used abusive and threatening language during the altercation.

Members of the All India Students Federation (AISF), who arrived at the college upon hearing of the assault, were also reportedly treated with hostility by the college staff. The AISF leaders condemned the attack and accused the management of intimidating students by name-dropping senior police officers to suppress dissent.

Miyapur police arrived at the scene shortly after the incident to bring the situation under control. An inquiry is expected to be launched into the conduct of the college management. Parents and students have called for strict action against those responsible and demanded a safe environment in educational institutions. Further developments are awaited as the police continue their investigation.



Defense Liquor Seized in Raids Across Hyderabad



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a major crackdown on the illegal sale of Defense liquor, Excise officials carried out a series of raids across multiple areas in Hyderabad, including Malkajgiri, Ghatkesar, Uppal, and Medchal. The operation comes amid allegations of unauthorized circulation of Defense canteen liquor in civilian areas, especially those surrounding Secunderabad and Malkajgiri.

Acting on the instructions of higher authorities, Malkajgiri Excise Superintendent K. Naveen launched special surveillance operations. The enforcement efforts were intensified under the state-wide special drive against Non-Duty Paid Liquor (NDPL) led by Prohibition and Excise Enforcement Director Shah Nawaz Qasim.

As part of this drive, a total of 1188 liquor bottles were seized, including 58 bottles of Defense liquor from Malkajgiri and Ghatkesar areas alone.

In specific actions:

Malkajgiri AES Mukunda Reddy conducted raids at two locations, seizing 37 Defense liquor bottles.

In Yaprall Alwal, Malkajgiri CI Chandrashekhar, SI Kumaraswamy and Sandhya, along with their teams, recovered 30 bottles from the flat of a man named Dunna.

In Ghatkesar, CI J. Ravi and SI Nandini seized 28 bottles of Goa and Defense liquor from a car. One person, Nikhil, was arrested, and the vehicle used to transport the liquor was confiscated.

In Medchal, 24 bottles of NDPL liquor were recovered. In Shamshabad, DTF CI Praveen Kumar seized 115 bottles of Defense liquor worth approximately ₹2.3 lakh. Excise officials stated that these raids are part of an ongoing campaign to curb the illegal diversion and sale of subsidized Defense canteen liquor. The department is tracking hotspots and increasing vigilance, especially in civilian zones close to cantonment areas.

GHMC Staff Boycott Work Protesting Attack by Congress Corporator

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Tensions flared at the GHMC Yusufguda Circle Office as officers and staff staged a protest on Thursday, alleging that Congress Corporator from Rahmatnagar, C. N. Reddy, used obscene language and attempted to physically assault Assistant Municipal Commissioner A. Balaraj. The incident reportedly took place inside the circle office premises, where C. N. Reddy, accompanied by his followers, confronted AMC Balaraj over official matters. The confrontation quickly escalated, with Reddy allegedly abusing the officer and attempting to assault him, sparking outrage

among the GHMC staff. In response, all officers and employees of the Yusufguda Circle boycotted their duties and staged a protest in front of the circle office. Holding placards and raising slogans, they condemned what they described as 'Dadagiri' by the corporator and his followers, calling the incident a serious threat to the safety and dignity of municipal staff. "We are here to serve the public, not to be threatened or assaulted by elected representatives," said one of the protesting officers. Employees have demanded the immediate arrest of Corporator C. N. Reddy and stern legal ac-



tion against him and his associates. They warned that fail-

ure to act would result in an escalation of the agitation.

Good Times Ahead for Villages with SUDA Funds

MLA inaugurates ₹35 lakh street lights at Gundlapalli Cross Road
Development works speeding up under SUDA in Manakondur constituency

TPN | Srikanth Gurram
Karimnagar: Street lights installed at a cost of ₹35 lakh under SUDA (Satavahana Urban Development Authority) funds were inaugurated at Gundlapalli Cross Road in Ganneruvaram Mandal on Wednesday evening. Manakondur MLA Dr. Kavampalli Satyanarayana and SUDA Chairman Komatireddy Narender Reddy jointly launched the project. Speaking at the event, MLA Dr. Satyanarayana stated that the villages under SUDA jurisdiction are witnessing

a new era of development, or “Mahardhasa,” with multiple infrastructure projects being implemented. He appreciated SUDA Chairman Narender Reddy for responding promptly to local needs and sanctioning funds for various development initiatives across the constituency. SUDA Chairman Komatireddy Narender Reddy reaffirmed his commitment to the development of villages under SUDA’s scope. He said, “Funds have already been allocated for several key works, and more will follow to ensure compre-

hensive development.” He assured that rural infrastructure, including roads, drainage systems, and lighting, would receive continued attention. Local Congress leaders including Ganneruvaram Mandal Congress President Musku Upender Reddy, Alluri Srinath Reddy, Kommera Ravinder Reddy, Bethi Rajender Reddy, Vangala Sathireddy, Mulkala Malleshham, Tummanapalli Srinivasa Rao, and Morapalli Ramana Reddy also participated in the program, expressing support for the ongoing development works.



Leaders Urge Collector to Release Rythu Bharosa Funds for Medchal Farmers

₹27.4 crore pending for over 49,000 farmers across 7 mandals

TPN Correspondent | Medchal
Expressing concern over the delay in Rythu Bharosa payments, several local leaders and representatives of agricultural societies submitted a formal request to Medchal Collector Mikkilineni Manu Chowdhury seeking urgent action to ensure the funds are deposited in farmers’ accounts. The delegation was led by DCMS Vice Chairman Madhukar Reddy, who pointed out that nearly 49,727 farmers cultivating 45,067 acres across Medchal, Shamirpet, Keesara, Ghatkesar, Dundigal, Qutbullapur, and Alwal mandals have not received Rythu Bharosa assistance for this season. In a protest held at the Collectorate office in Antaypalli, which falls under

the Thumkunta Municipality, participants raised slogans demanding justice for farmers and held the government accountable for the delay. Speaking to the media after the protest, Madhukar Reddy noted that ₹27.4 crore worth of assistance is pending for the district’s farmers. He also reminded that many of the same farmers were excluded from payments during the previous season, causing ongoing distress. He mentioned that only a few farmers in Mulchintalapalli mandal had received their Rythu Bharosa amount, and urged the Congress-led government to intervene and ensure inclusive disbursement to all eligible farmers in the district.



Those present during the protest included Dabilpur PACS Chairman Suresh Reddy, Borampet PSA Chairman Bal Reddy, Medchal PACS Chairman

Randeep Reddy, Keesara PACS Chairman Prabhakar, Pudur PACS Chairman Sudhakar Reddy, society directors, and scores of affected farmers.

Colony Residents Allege Misuse of Funds for Private Venture

TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy
Residents of several colonies under the Badangpet Municipal Corporation in Maheshwaram constituency have raised serious concerns over alleged misuse of public funds and continued neglect of key infrastructure needs. Locals from the 29th Division Gandhinagar area say repeated requests to widen the Katta Road have gone unheard, despite the road’s critical role in connecting seven major colonies. The Gandhinagar Road, currently only 13 feet wide, has become increasingly dangerous for vehicular traffic. Locals say frequent accidents are occurring because two vehicles cannot pass each other simultaneously. Residents argue that widening the road would benefit multiple colonies, including Sathya Sai Nagar, Libra Colony, Suma Paradise Colony, Venkateswara Colony, Roma Enclave 3 and 4, Tirumala Hills, and Metro City Colony.



Badangpet BJP President Rallagudem Ramakrishna Reddy criticized the authorities, alleging that the Municipal Commissioner has been acting more like a Congress party worker rather than a public servant. He accused the Commissioner of ignoring the genuine demands of the residents and instead diverting government funds for a private development. “It is highly objectionable that a CC double road costing ₹50 lakh was constructed from Edify School to a private venture owned by the former mayor in the 18th Division, while roads in residential colonies continue to suffer from lack of development,” Ramakrishna Reddy said. He claimed the project has no public benefit and reflects biased priorities by the current administration. He warned that the people will not remain silent if such discrimination continues. “Officials should wake up and provide equal development to all colonies without bias. If the Municipal Commissioner does not resolve the Gandhinagar Road issue soon, we will take our complaint to higher authorities through Prajavani. If necessary, we will launch an agitation at the Municipal Office itself,” he added.

Rahul Gandhi’s Birthday Celebrated with Students in Badangpet

TPCC General Secretary Parijata distributes notebooks

TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy
On the occasion of Rahul Gandhi’s birthday, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) General Secretary Parijata organized a special celebration at a government school in Badangpet, Ranga Reddy district. As part of the event, she distributed notebooks to the students and cut a cake along with them to mark the Congress leader’s birthday. Addressing the gathering, Parijata praised Rahul Gandhi’s Bharat Jodo Yatra, highlighting how his journey from Kashmir to Kanyakumari brought him

closer to the real struggles of the common people. She stated that the Yatra reflected Rahul Gandhi’s deep commitment to the people and his vision for a united and progressive India. Parijata called on Congress leaders, former corporators, activists, and supporters to unite and work towards the goal of bringing Congress to power at the Centre and making Rahul Gandhi the next Prime Minister. The event was attended by several local Congress leaders and enthusiastic party activists, who echoed the call for national unity and stronger grassroots mobilization.



Trainee IAS Officers Interact with Nagarkurnool Officials on Chenchu Welfare and District Development

TPN | N Naveen
Nagarkurnool: A team of trainee IAS officers visited Nagarkurnool district on Thursday as part of the Telangana Darshan program and held discussions with District Collector Badawat Santosh and SP Gaikwad Vaibhav Raghunath. The officers — Saloni Chhabra, Harsh Chaudhary, Carolin Ching Thinnavi, and Koyada Pranay Kumar — reviewed development initiatives and focused on the government’s welfare schemes, particularly those aimed at improving the lives of the Chenchu tribal community residing in forest areas. During their interaction, the trainee officers shared their

observations from field visits to primary health centers, schools, anganwadi centers, farmer platforms, and water projects. In response, the District Collector provided a comprehensive overview of the developmental progress in the district, highlighting the state government’s commitment to integrated growth and welfare. Collector Santosh detailed the implementation of schemes such as the farmer loan waiver program, special tribal farmer policies, and the construction of Indiramma houses. He emphasized that access to irrigation has improved agriculture, and the loan waiver has reduced financial stress on farm-

ers, encouraging greater productivity. In particular, the Indira Sauri Giri Jal Vikasa Scheme, aimed at the restoration of ponds and minor water bodies, is playing a key role in boosting the livelihoods of tribal farmers. The Collector stated that beneficiary selection under housing schemes is conducted transparently, ensuring rightful access. In the education sector, the Collector noted that ashram schools, gurukuls, hostels, and free amenities are helping students from tribal and remote regions advance. He said local programs are being organized to foster educational interest among Chenchu children.

On healthcare, he highlighted the presence of mobile medical units, frequent health camps, and upgraded PHCs. Nutritional and medical support through Anganwadis is being prioritized, especially for tribal communities. Employment generation was another major focus. The Collector shared that honey collection, forest product processing, and the promotion of tribal handicrafts are being supported to offer sustainable income. Additionally, MGNREGA is providing wage-based employment in rural areas to enhance economic security. The Collector emphasized that the district administration is



ensuring that the Chenchu people retain their cultural identity while gaining access to modern amenities. Comprehensive efforts through tribal development bodies are focused on education, health, and livelihoods. The officers were also informed

about dairy farming initiatives and the cultivation of millets to enhance the income of tribal households. Basic infrastructure such as housing, potable water supply, and electrification is helping improve the quality of life for Chenchu families.

Is the US Planning to Attack Iran?



Tensions between the United States and Iran have reached a boiling point, especially following recent statements by US President Donald Trump. On Tuesday, Trump took to social media, calling for Iran's "UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER" and even threatened Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, stating that the US knew where he was hiding but "didn't want him killed for now." These alarming threats came shortly after Trump cut short his participation at the G-7 summit in Canada, focusing instead on America's strategy in Israel's ongoing conflict with Iran.

The United States has already ramped up its military presence in the Middle East, with the deployment of a US Navy Carrier Strike Group, led by the USS Nimitz, and

B-2 Spirit bombers stationed at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. These bombers are capable of carrying massive bunker-buster bombs, specifically the GBU-57 MOP, which can be used to target Iran's underground nuclear facilities.

This escalation comes amid growing fears of a broader conflict. Trump's rhetoric has sparked speculation that the US might launch airstrikes on Tehran or other key locations in Iran. Trump's call for the evacuation of Tehran has led to massive congestion on the city's roads as citizens scramble to flee. Many countries, including India, have issued advisories urging their citizens to leave Iran.

A key factor fueling these tensions is the

ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recently launched military operations against Iran, which many analysts believe could have been carried out with Trump's tacit approval. While Trump has distanced himself from Israel's actions, some believe that Netanyahu has long sought a military solution to Iran's nuclear ambitions.

Despite the hardline rhetoric, there is speculation that Trump's actions may be part of a pressure tactic to force Iran into concessions, especially regarding its nuclear program. With both Israel and the US intensifying military pressure, the situation in the region remains precarious, and the world anxiously awaits if diplomacy can still defuse this growing crisis.



PM Modi's Canada Visit: A Diplomatic Reset Under Carney's Leadership

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Canada has marked a significant diplomatic shift between New Delhi and Ottawa, with India's firm stance and patient diplomacy finally yielding results. Following a period of strained relations under Justin Trudeau, Canada's new Prime Minister, Mark Carney, has made crucial moves to recalibrate ties, signaling a thaw in what was once a frosty relationship.

The turning point came with Carney's recognition of India's concerns regarding terrorism, particularly the activities of Khalistani extremists within Canada. Unlike Trudeau, whose rhetoric often fueled tensions, Carney adopted a more pragmatic approach. During Modi's visit, Carney acknowledged issues of "transnational repression" while also addressing the sensitive Nijjar case with caution. This careful tone was a stark contrast to Trudeau's earlier political theatrics, which had caused a significant rift.

One of the major outcomes of the summit was an agreement between the two countries to resume regular diplomatic services, including the designation of new high commissioners. This deal also included a pact for intelligence sharing on terrorism and organized crime, directly addressing India's longstanding concerns about Khalistani militants and other extremists operating in Canada.

Modi's diplomatic approach, focusing on clear red lines without responding to provocations, has proven successful. His steady, non-confrontational stance ensured that India's core concerns—security, terrorism, and criminal activities—were front and center in discussions. By not engaging in unnecessary theatrics, Modi allowed the facts to speak for themselves, compelling Canada to acknowledge the reality of the situation.

Why It's Best To Expect the Unexpected From Israeli Warfare



One of the most crucial lessons in understanding conflicts in the Middle East is that conventional wisdom often fails when it comes to Israel. Time and time again, Israel has defied expectations with its audacious and unorthodox military strategies, demonstrating a unique approach that reflects its existential need for survival.

The 1967 Six-Day War is perhaps the most glaring example of Israel's ability to turn the tide in its favor against seemingly overwhelming odds. At the time, most Indian and international publications, particularly those sympathetic to the Arab cause, were confident that Israel would soon be crushed by the combined might of Egypt, Syria, and Jordan. Yet, within six days, Israel had transformed the Middle East's map, capturing Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, and the Sinai Peninsula. The decisive factor was Israel's preemptive strike, which wiped out the Egyptian air force, ensuring the conflict was all but won in the first hours of the war.

Since then, Israel's military actions have been marked by a consistent pattern of doing the unexpected, whether through the swift retaliation against Palestinian terrorists responsible for the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre or the surgical

strikes against Hezbollah's leadership in recent years. These operations are not just about military might but reflect a deeper survival instinct—Israel operates under the constant threat of annihilation, and its unorthodox tactics reflect this existential struggle.

The current conflict with Iran underscores Israel's strategic unpredictability. Despite not sharing a common border with Iran, Israel views the regime in Tehran as a grave threat to its existence. Iran's ambitions, particularly its nuclear program, are seen as a direct challenge to Israel's security. Israel's goal, however, extends beyond merely dismantling Iran's nuclear capabilities. It seeks the overthrow of Iran's theocratic regime, a shift towards democracy, and the end of Iran's hegemonic ambitions in the Middle East.

What's particularly alarming is that Israel's air force enjoys almost complete dominance over Iranian skies, and with its reputation for boldness, one must expect the unexpected in the coming phases of this conflict. The outcome remains uncertain, but Israel's drive to survive will likely ensure that its strategies remain unorthodox and surprising.



Is India Addressing Inequality Amid Economic Growth?

India has achieved remarkable economic milestones, surpassing Japan with a GDP of \$4.19 trillion in 2025, making it the world's fourth-largest economy. While this is a significant achievement, there is a pressing question: Is India's growth truly inclusive, or is inequality widening?

The Gini coefficient, a key indicator of inequality, suggests mixed trends. According to the Economic Survey of 2024-25, inequality has been declining in both rural and urban areas, with the Gini coefficient for rural areas dropping from 0.266 in 2022-23 to 0.237 in 2023-24, and urban areas seeing a similar reduction. However, some experts argue that the Gini coefficient, based on consumption, fails to capture long-term wealth inequality, as high-income households tend to save more than they spend.

Reports such as Bhalla Surjeet's "Pandemic, Poverty, and Inequality" (2022) indicate that inequality has actually decreased in recent years, but concerns remain about the concentration of wealth among the top 1%. According to the World Inequality Lab, the top

1% in India holds 40.1% of wealth, while the bottom 50% holds only 6.4%. This disparity is consistent with global patterns, where the richest 10% in India earn a larger share of the national income compared to countries like the USA and China.

While inequality is often seen as a byproduct of free-market economies, it is essential to understand that some degree of inequality is inevitable. However, India must focus on reducing socio-economic vulnerabilities—such as poor health, education, and skill levels—especially among marginalized communities. Policies like the 'Ayushman Bharat' health initiative and 'Poshan' food schemes have significantly reduced the vulnerability of low-income groups, providing a better safety net and enhancing upward mobility.

The government's focus on empowering the poorest, improving education, healthcare, and skill development can help ensure that growth is more inclusive. India's future lies in creating opportunities for all, ensuring that even the most marginalized can contribute to and benefit from the nation's economic rise.

PM Modi to Launch ₹9.5 Crore Projects, Address Rally in Poll-Bound Bihar’s Siwan

TPN Correspondent | Delhi
Patna, June 19, 2025 — In a significant move ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections in Bihar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to visit Siwan on June 20, where he will inaugurate developmental projects worth ₹9.5 crore and address a public rally. He will also flag off a new Vande Bharat Express train connecting Patliputra Junction in Patna to Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh.

This marks PM Modi’s fourth visit to Bihar in 2025, underscoring the political weight the State carries in the upcoming electoral battle. His previous visits were on January

24, April 24, and May 29-30, which included a high-profile roadshow in Patna and a rally in Bikramganj, Rohtas district.

Siwan, a traditional stronghold of the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), holds strategic importance due to its sizeable Muslim, Yadav (OBC), and Scheduled Caste population. The district also shares borders with Saran and Gopalganj, where BJP leaders have been actively mobilizing support ahead of the PM’s visit. Siwan also holds historical significance as the birthplace of India’s first President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, a legacy PM Modi is likely to reference during his speech.

Apart from infrastructure and transportation, Modi’s visit is being seen as an attempt to counter the RJD’s strong base and consolidate BJP’s reach in the region. Opposition leader Tejashwi Yadav, however, accused the PM of using the visit to “cheat Bihar,” alleging that Modi would avoid core issues like unemployment and migration while attacking political opponents. Meanwhile, tensions rose in Patna after Yadav reported a firing incident near his official residence, raising security concerns. As Bihar heads into a heated election season, Modi’s outreach in Siwan could set the tone for BJP’s campaign in the months ahead.



Justice Yashwant Varma Faces Impeachment Call Over Cash Scandal

SC Panel Finds Misconduct Proven

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
New Delhi, June 19, 2025 — A Supreme Court-appointed panel has found serious misconduct against Justice Yashwant Varma, currently serving in the Allahabad High Court, and recommended his removal over the discovery of a large amount of half-burnt cash at his official residence. The inquiry, led by Chief Justice Sheel Nagu of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, concluded that Justice Varma and his family had “covert or active control” over the store room where the money was stored.



The three-judge panel—comprising Justices G.S. Sandhawalia and Anu Sivaraman alongside Justice Nagu—conducted a 10-day investigation, recorded statements from 55 witnesses, and reviewed surveillance and physical evidence. The blaze that uncovered the scandal broke out on March 14 at 11:35 p.m. at Varma’s residence at 30 Tughlak Crescent, New Delhi.

In its 64-page report, the panel cited “strong inferential evidence” proving that the charred currency was removed from the store room in the early hours of March 15. It stated the misconduct was grave enough to warrant impeachment.

Acting on this, former Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna wrote to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi recommending Justice Varma’s impeachment.

The report emphasized that judicial integrity is held to a far higher standard than civil service,

stating, “Probity is the most important and indispensable attribute of a person holding judicial office.”

Firefighters and police officials testified to witnessing charred stacks of ₹500 notes. The panel also criticized the testimony of Justice Varma’s daughter, calling her statements implausible.

Rejecting Varma’s claim that security and CCTV footage ruled out tampering, the panel concluded that the breach of public trust was significant and called for stringent action to uphold judicial credibility.

‘Razor Blade Throat’ Covid Variant Nimbus (NB.1.8.1) Spreads In Indian

TPN Correspondent | Delhi
New Delhi, June 19, 2025 — A new COVID-19 subvariant, NB.1.8.1 — nicknamed Nimbus or the “razor blade throat” variant — is rapidly gaining attention globally and in India. This emerging strain is known for its particularly painful sore throat symptom, which some patients have described as feeling like “swallowing razor blades.”

Although the World Health Organization (WHO) has designated Nimbus as a “variant under monitoring,” current data suggests it may not be more severe than previous strains. However, it is spreading swiftly across multiple regions and contributing to a noticeable uptick in COVID-19 cases.

Where Has Nimbus Spread?
Originally detected in parts of China and Hong Kong, Nimbus has since spread to several U.S. states including California, Washington, Virginia, and New York. Australia and the United Kingdom have also reported cases. In the UK alone, 13 cases were confirmed in early June, accompanied by a 10% increase in COVID-related hospitalisations, as per The Independent. In India, doctors have also identified cases with similar symp-



toms, prompting increased surveillance.

By mid-May 2025, the Nimbus variant accounted for approximately 11% of all sequenced COVID-19 samples worldwide — a clear indication of its rising prevalence. Key Symptoms of NB.1.8.1 (Nimbus)
Intense sore throat, often described as “razor blade” pain
Fever
Fatigue
Headache
Nasal congestion or runny nose
Occasional cough and muscle aches

Indian health professionals have noted that while most cases remain mild, the sore throat symptom stands out as particularly distressing.

As India reports over 7,000 active infections and 70 recent deaths, public health experts urge continued vigilance, mask use in crowded places, and updated vaccinations for those eligible.

Health authorities continue to monitor Nimbus’s spread and mutation pattern, with emphasis on controlling outbreaks through early detection and timely medical intervention.

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

TPN Correspondent | Delhi
India’s automotive sector is expected to remain largely unaffected by China’s recent restrictions on rare earth material (REM) exports, thanks to its overwhelming reliance on internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles. According to a report by Nuvama, over 95% of vehicles in India are ICE-powered, which drastically reduces the country’s vulnerability compared to nations with higher electric vehicle (EV) adoption. China’s April 2025 decision to restrict the export of seven critical rare earth elements—including samarium, dysprosium, and scandium—was primarily targeted at the defence sector. However, the impact is expected to ripple through the auto, aerospace, and industrial sectors globally, especially in EV manufacturing.

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



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

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

a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 25% between FY23 and FY25, but this growth comes from a relatively small base. Automakers relying on rare earth-based components will now be required to secure end-user certifications from the Chinese government, a process estimated to take up to 45 days. Despite these hurdles, India’s current vehicle mix and slow EV transition act as a buffer against potential supply chain shocks caused by China’s REM policy shift.

‘Forgotten Osama Already?’ Shashi Tharoor On Donald Trump-Asim Munir Lunch

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor issued a sharp rebuke to the United States following President Donald Trump’s controversial lunch meeting with Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir, warning Americans not to forget Pakistan’s past duplicity—particularly in harboring Osama bin Laden. “Remember Osama bin Laden—the Al-Qaeda leader behind the 9/11 World Trade Center attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people—was found hiding near a Pakistan Army camp,” Tharoor reminded, underscoring the country’s historical ties to terrorism.

Speaking amid widespread Indian outrage over the Trump-Munir meeting, Tharoor said, “Some US lawmakers may have welcomed the Pakistani delegation, but surely the American people have not forgotten how Pakistan shielded bin Laden.” His message was clear: Pakistan cannot be trusted, given its track record of supporting cross-border terrorism, including attacks in India.

The Thiruvananthapuram MP added that he hoped Trump used the meeting to firmly warn Munir against supporting terrorist operations targeting India. “I hope

while the General was being wined and dined, he got all these messages... because that would also be in America’s interest,” Tharoor said.

The timing of the meeting has raised concerns in India, especially after General Munir’s incendiary remarks calling Kashmir Pakistan’s “jugular” and boasting about a “superior culture” just days before the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar condemned Munir’s extremist rhetoric, attributing the deadly Pahalgam assault to the Pakistani Army chief’s radical influence. The Indian government claims to possess clear evidence that the attack was orchestrated by Pakistan’s deep state.

Further reports suggest Pakistani-backed terrorists were also behind recent attacks in London and Moscow. India has reiterated its stance that Kashmir is a bilateral issue and rejected third-party mediation, with Prime Minister Modi firmly conveying this to President Trump during a recent phone call. Despite this, Trump continued to claim credit for a ceasefire in the region—drawing criticism for undermining India’s position.

Trump Acknowledges India-Pakistan Ceasefire Was Their Decision, Not His

TPN Correspondent | Washington

In a rare shift from previous statements, U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday acknowledged that the decision to halt the recent military conflict between India and Pakistan was made by the two nations' leaders themselves—Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir.

Speaking after hosting General Munir for lunch at the White House, Trump said, "I want to thank him for not going into the war, for ending the war. And I want to thank Prime Minister Modi as well. Two very smart people decided not to keep going with that war. That could have been a nuclear war."

This marks the first time Trump has publicly refrained from tak-



ing credit for the May 10 ceasefire between the nuclear-armed neighbors. Previously, he had repeatedly claimed to have brokered peace and suggested the U.S. role was central to defusing tensions. On several occasions, he linked the de-escalation to potential trade deals with both India and

Pakistan.

Trump added that the U.S. is "working on a trade deal" with both countries, underscoring Washington's broader diplomatic and economic interests in South Asia. The statement came just days after Indian Foreign Secre-

tary Vikram Misri released a video clarifying India's stance. Misri said that during a 35-minute phone conversation between Modi and Trump—held while Trump was attending the G7 Summit in Canada—Modi made it clear that India had not discussed any U.S. mediation in the conflict, nor was a trade deal linked to military de-escalation.

"India will never accept third-party mediation on issues with Pakistan. This position has full political consensus in India," Misri emphasized.

Tensions between India and Pakistan had flared during Operation Sindoor earlier this year, raising fears of a wider regional conflict. The May 10 ceasefire appears to have brought a tentative calm to the region, now acknowledged as a diplomatic effort led independently by the two nations.



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

TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

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

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

President Trump, in a series of remarks and a Truth Social post, accused Iran of squandering opportunities for diplomacy. He warned that the U.S. possesses unmatched military capabilities and that Israel, heavily armed with American technology, "knows how to use it." Trump further reminded Khamenei that other Iranian hardliners "spoke bravely" before being eliminated, suggesting Iran's leadership could face a similar fate.

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

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz emphasized that civilians were not Israel's intended targets but warned that those near regime facilities in Tehran could be at risk. "We will continue to protect our citizens," he said, underscoring Israel's readiness for prolonged conflict. The situation remains volatile as both nations prepare for further military action and diplomatic options narrow.

Israel Strikes Iran's Nuclear Reactor After Missile Attack Hits Hospital

Netanyahu Vows Retaliation

TPN Correspondent | Iran

Tensions between Israel and Iran escalated sharply on Thursday after a barrage of Iranian missiles struck residential areas near Tel Aviv and severely damaged Soroka Medical Centre in Beersheba. In response, Israel launched airstrikes targeting Iran's Arak heavy water reactor—an integral part of its nuclear infrastructure.

According to Israel's Health Ministry, over 240 people were injured in the Iranian missile attack, including more than 70 patients from the hospital, although no serious casualties occurred at the medical facility. Soroka Hospital, which



serves nearly one million people, was forced to limit services to life-threatening cases after an old surgical wing sustained damage.

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz blamed Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei directly, stating, "The military knows that this

man absolutely should not continue to exist." Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also condemned the strike and promised, "We will exact the full price from the tyrants in Tehran."

Israel's retaliation focused on the Arak reactor's core components to prevent plutonium production, an alternative route to nuclear weapons. Though Iran claimed there was no radiation leak or civilian casualties, the symbolic and strategic nature of the strike sends a strong warning.

The attack comes amid a wider military campaign initiated by Israel on June 13, which has already targeted

Iran's Natanz enrichment facility, nuclear scientists, and high-ranking military officers. In retaliation, Iran has launched more than 400 missiles and drones into Israeli territory, resulting in at least 24 deaths and hundreds injured.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had recently inspected Arak, but admitted it lost "continuity of knowledge" due to Iranian restrictions. Iran maintains its nuclear program is peaceful, though it enriches uranium up to 60%, nearing weapons-grade.

Diplomatic talks involving European nations are now expected in Geneva as the crisis deepens.

SpaceX Starship Explodes During Test in Texas, No Injuries Reported



TPN Correspondent | KYIV

A SpaceX Starship rocket exploded late Wednesday night during a routine ground test at the company's Starbase facility in Boca Chica, Texas, sending a massive fireball into the night sky. Fortunately, no injuries were reported, and an investigation into the incident is currently underway.

The incident occurred around 11:00 p.m. on June 18 as the spacecraft was undergoing pre-flight checks ahead of its planned tenth test launch. According to a statement from SpaceX, the vehicle "experienced a major anomaly" while on the test stand.

"A safety clear area around the site was maintained throughout the operation and all personnel are safe and accounted for," SpaceX confirmed on its official X (formerly Twitter) account. The company emphasized that there is no danger to nearby communities and urged the public to avoid approaching the test site.

The dramatic explosion lit up the skies above the Texas coastline and was visible for miles, sparking concern among local residents and space enthusiasts. Law enforcement and emergency services were on-site quickly, but no evacuations or road closures were necessary.

This marks a setback for SpaceX's ambitious Starship program, which aims to revolutionize space travel with a fully reusable launch system capable of carrying both crew and cargo to the Moon, Mars, and beyond. The Starship vehicle involved was preparing for what would have been its tenth flight test—part of ongoing efforts to refine the rocket's design and performance.

Despite the explosion, SpaceX remains committed to the Starship program. The company stated that it is working closely with local authorities and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to determine the cause of the failure and to prevent future incidents.

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.

Markets End Lower Amid Crude Spike and War Tensions; Nifty, Sensex See Mild Losses

Domestic stock markets were in a red zone on Thursday. Except for the benchmark indices, all sectoral indices were down. Negative signals from global markets, the intensification of the war in West Asia, and a sudden increase in crude oil prices are the reasons for this. On the other hand, US Fed Chair Jerome Powell's prediction that inflation will increase further due to Trump's tariffs added fuel to the fire. All sectoral indices except auto fell as investors sold shares. The Sensex and Nifty rose 82 points and 18 points respectively as they fluctuated in the range.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,444 in the previous session, opened at 81,403 on Thursday. It touched an intraday low of 81,191. It reached an intraday high of 81,583. It ended at 81,361, down 82 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,803, touched a low of 24,733 and a high of 24,863. It closed at 24,793, down 18 points. The Nifty Bank fell 251 points to settle at 55,577.

In the Nifty50, 22 companies gained while 28 lost. Tata Consumer, Eicher Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, Wipro, Dr. Reddy's were the top gainers. Adani Ports, Bajaj Finance, Shriram Finance, Tech Mahindra, and Adani Enterprises were the biggest losers. All sectoral indices, except auto, rose today. PSU Bank, Media, Realty, Finance, Defense, Metal, Energy, and Consumer Discretionary indices were volatile.

Market breadth on NSE today completely shifted in favor of bears. Out of a total of 2954 stocks traded, only 516 gained. 2363 lost. 35 stocks touched their 52-week highs and 43 stocks touched their 52-week lows. 46 reached the upper circuit and 107 reached the lower circuit.

Nestle India will decide on the issue of bonus shares on June 26. It is learned that HDFC Finance subsidiary HDB Finance will come up with an IPO on June 25. The rupee fell 0.3% to settle at 86.72 against the dollar. M&M increased its stake in Mahindra Life Space to 52.43 percent. The IPO of Ares Infra Solutions was subscribed by 88% by the afternoon of the second day. HCL Tech has partnered with Just Energy for AI-related changes. Ashoka Buildcon has won an order worth \$ 67.2 million from the Guyana government. Crude oil prices have further deteriorated due to increased Israeli attacks on Iranian nuclear plants. It is known that Rs. 58000 crore of cash is stagnant in some mutual fund companies. It is noteworthy that this value is 30 percent of the entire industry.

Wipro
Wipro reported a strong Q4 FY25 with a 26%



year-on-year (YoY) jump in net profit to ₹3,588 crore, its highest in eight quarters. Revenue, however, remained modest. For the full FY25, Wipro is considered a fundamentally strong, low-risk IT stock offering value at a reasonable valuation. While revenue growth has been muted, operational recovery and enhanced profitability are positive signs. The company recently extended its partnership with Metro AG and Wipro Infra is set to acquire a majority stake in French aerospace major Lauak Group, signaling strategic moves. Analysts have a consensus "Hold" rating, with target prices varying, reflecting a cautious yet attractive opportunity in the IT sector.

Eicher Motors
Eicher Motors saw a strong Q4 FY25, with consolidated net profit jumping 27.3% YoY to ₹1,362 crore, beating analyst estimates. This was primarily driven by higher volumes, particularly in its Royal Enfield motorcycle segment. Eicher Motors remains a market leader in the mid-weight motorcycle segment through its Royal Enfield brand, and analysts are positive due to its strong positioning and new launches like the Hunter 350. The company is outpacing peers in the two-wheeler space and is leveraging its brand value in international markets.

Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M)
M&M delivered solid results in Q4 FY25 and for the full FY25 across its multiple businesses. Standalone revenue grew 24% in Q4 FY25, and consolidated revenue for FY25 was up 14%. M&M is poised for continued growth, driven by strong demand for its automotive and farm equipment, and the scaling up of its "Growth Gems" (e.g., financial services, Tech Mahindra). The company remains pos-

itive about the farm sector's potential, fueled by above-average monsoon forecasts and increased agricultural spending. Analysts generally have a "Strong Buy" rating with an average 12-month price target indicating significant upside.

Grasim Industries
Grasim Industries reported robust Q4 and full FY25 results. Consolidated revenue for FY25 hit a record ₹1.48 lakh crore, up 13% YoY. While adjusted net profit for the year was ₹3,902 crore (down 37% YoY due to strategic investments in new businesses), Q4 FY25 saw a 17% YoY revenue growth. Grasim is strategically investing in new growth avenues like paints (Birla Opus) and B2B E-Commerce (Birla Pivot), which are showing promising early results. While increased capital expenditure has led to higher debt-to-EBITDA, the company's diversified portfolio and strong market positions across various segments are expected to drive future growth. Analysts have a consensus "Buy" rating, with an average target price suggesting upside.

Titan Company
Titan Company reported a strong Q4 FY25, with standalone net profit rising 11% YoY to ₹870 crore and revenue from operations increasing 25% YoY to ₹12,581 crore. Titan's growth is driven by a recovery in consumer demand, strong festive season sales, and its premium positioning in the jewellery and lifestyle segments. The company plans to continue its expansion strategy by opening new retail outlets for its Fastrack and CaratLane banners. While the P/E ratio is high, it reflects the market's long-term confidence in Titan's consistent growth and strong brand value under the Tata Group's legacy. Analysts generally have a "Buy" rating with an average price target indicating potential upside.

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Gold Prices May Fall 10% in Two Months and Up to 30% in a Year, Say Experts

Gold prices, after soaring nearly 30% this year to above \$3,350 per ounce, are showing signs of losing steam. According to financial experts and market analysts, the yellow metal may be heading toward a significant correction, with predictions of a short-term dip of 8-10% and a possible long-term decline of up to 30% over the next year.

Despite rising geopolitical tensions—particularly conflicts in the Middle East and the Black Sea—gold has remained relatively flat in recent weeks. Experts believe this indicates that the metal has already factored in major global risks, including central bank buying, ETF demand, and the trend of de-dollarisation. Ajay Kedia of Kedia Advisory noted that while gold briefly surged following the outbreak of the Israel-Iran conflict, it failed to maintain momentum despite worsening conditions. He emphasized that gold would need to cross \$3,500 per ounce to regain bullish momentum but warned that a near-term correction to around \$2,700–\$2,800 is highly likely. In a scenario where global tensions ease, gold could even drop to \$2,400—more than 30% below current levels. Adding to the cautious outlook, Citibank



has revised its gold forecasts downward, trimming its 3-month target from \$3,500 to \$3,300 and its 6–12-month outlook to \$2,800. Retailers are already seeing a shift in consumer behavior. Shreyansh Kapoor of Kashi Jewellers said high prices are driving more people to sell old jewelry, with return rates jumping from 5–7% to 25%. He added that wedding budgets are also being squeezed due to elevated prices. Quant Mutual Fund echoed these sentiments in its June factsheet, projecting a 12–15% decline in gold prices in the short term. Still, the firm maintains a positive long-term view, advising investors to maintain some allocation to precious metals. Currently, spot gold trades around \$3,371 per ounce, reflecting heightened investor demand driven by global uncertainty.

India's Inflation Falls to 2.8% in May, But Rising Core Inflation Raises Concerns: CRISIL

India's retail inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), dropped to 2.8% in May 2025, signaling a positive development for the economy. This marks one of the lowest inflation readings in recent months, driven largely by a slowdown in food and fuel prices. However, according to CRISIL, the moderation in headline inflation may be masking a more complex picture — a rise in core inflation that could pose fresh macroeconomic challenges.

While the decline in headline CPI offers relief to policymakers and consumers alike, core inflation — which excludes volatile food and energy prices — is showing signs of upward movement. CRISIL has cautioned that this could complicate the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approach to interest rates and monetary policy.

The drop in overall inflation reflects easing prices in key sectors such as vegetables, cereals, and edible oils, as supply-side



conditions improved and global commodity prices softened. Fuel inflation also moderated due to relatively stable international crude oil rates. These factors contributed to the broader decline in consumer prices, offering some respite to households struggling with the cost of living.

However, the concern lies beneath the surface. Core inflation, typically seen as a more stable indicator of long-term inflation trends, is edging higher, suggesting underlying price pressures are building up in non-food, non-energy segments such as health, education, housing, and

personal care.

According to CRISIL, this divergence between headline and core inflation could lead to policy dilemmas for the RBI. A soft headline number might call for a more accommodative monetary stance to support growth, but rising core inflation may prevent any aggressive rate cuts.

Economists also note that sticky core inflation could erode purchasing power in the long term and limit the effectiveness of short-term fiscal measures aimed at boosting consumption.

Going forward, CRISIL advises close monitoring of inflation trends, especially in the services sector, and suggests that any monetary easing should be approached cautiously to avoid fueling underlying inflationary pressures. While the current figures are encouraging on the surface, persistent core inflation may indicate that the inflationary battle is far from over.

Nutella Unveils First New Flavour in 60 Years – Can You Guess What It Is?

For the first time in six decades, Nutella has introduced a brand-new flavour — and it’s a game-changer. Since its launch in 1964, Nutella’s creamy blend of hazelnuts and cocoa has remained unchanged and loved by millions. But now, Ferrero, the company behind the iconic spread, has announced the release of a new variant: Nutella with Peanut.



This new flavour blends Nutella’s signature chocolate-hazelnut spread with the rich, roasted taste of peanuts — combining two of the most beloved spreads in the world. The addition of peanuts is expected to appeal to fans of both chocolate and peanut butter, offering a familiar yet exciting new twist.

In a statement, Ferrero described the new spread as “a combination of the distinctive creaminess of Nutella with the delicious taste of roasted peanuts.” While the spread retains Nutella’s classic dark brown color, the packaging will look different — featuring a yellow lid and label in place of the usual white, symbolizing the peanut element.

However, there’s a catch. This new flavour will only be available in North America, and not until Spring 2026. Details about the price and exact

launch date have yet to be revealed.

Nutella fans may remember Francesco Rivella, the man credited with developing the beloved spread. Rivella, who passed away earlier this year at the age of 97, initially created a hazelnut chocolate stick called Giandujot before refining the formula into the creamy version we now know as Nutella.

While the new peanut flavour marks a major shift in Nutella’s product line, it remains to be seen how fans across the world will react — and whether it might eventually roll out globally. For now, it’s a North American exclusive that promises to shake up breakfast tables and dessert recipes alike.

iPhone 17 Pro Geekbench Scores Leak: A19 Pro Chip Outpaces Snapdragon 8 Elite SoC

Apple’s upcoming iPhone 17 Pro series is generating major buzz ahead of its expected September launch. The latest leak, coming from tipster Digital Chat Station on Weibo, reveals alleged Geekbench scores for the iPhone 17 Pro and iPhone 17 Pro Max—and they appear to outperform both Apple’s current A18 Pro and Qualcomm’s flagship Snapdragon 8 Elite chipsets.



According to the leak, the A19 Pro SoC—expected to power the iPhone 17 Pro series—will retain the 3nm fabrication process seen in its predecessor but deliver significantly better performance. The benchmark scores suggest a single-core score exceeding 4,000 and a multi-core score surpassing 10,000, representing a notable leap over the iPhone 16 Pro Max’s Geekbench scores of 3,203 (single-core) and 7,846 (multi-core).

In comparison, the Samsung Galaxy S25 Ultra, equipped with the latest Snapdragon 8 Elite SoC, scored 3,054 (single-core) and 9,832 (multi-core). While Qualcomm’s chip remains highly competitive, Apple’s A19 Pro appears to take a slight lead in raw processing power, according to these early results.

Beyond performance, design leaks suggest the iPhone 17 Pro models may feature a thicker chassis—possibly to accommodate

a larger battery or a VC (vapor chamber) cooling system, which would be a first for Apple. Rumors also hint at a redesigned camera module and enhancements to display technology across the lineup, including the new iPhone 17 Air, a lightweight model poised to rival Samsung’s Galaxy S25 Edge.

These upgrades are expected to complement Apple’s recently announced Liquid Glass UI, a visually immersive interface that increases processing demands with transparency effects and transitions.

If the leaks hold true, Apple’s iPhone 17 Pro series is shaping up to deliver both style and substance in its next-generation flagship smartphones.

Underwater Yoga in Visakhapatnam Makes Waves Ahead of International Yoga Day

In a breathtaking display of harmony and innovation, an underwater yoga session was conducted today off the coast of Visakhapatnam in the Bay of Bengal. The event, led by renowned diving instructor Balaram Naidu, brought together 10 professional divers, including members of the Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP), the tourism department, and wellness group Yogandra, to perform yoga beneath the sea surface.

This one-of-a-kind initiative was organized as a prelude to International Yoga Day on June 21, and aimed to spread awareness and mobilize mass participation across the nation. The session also served as a symbolic welcome ahead of the anticipated visit of both the Prime Minister and Chief Minister

to the region.

The underwater yoga sequence, performed in unison, highlighted not only the mental focus and breath control yoga demands but also showcased Visakhapatnam’s unique coastal culture and adventure tourism potential.

B.R. Setty, CEO of Dive Adda, along with SAAP Water Sports Coach K. Girish, and dive masters Hemanth, Satish, and Naresh, joined the initiative to show strong support from the local diving and fitness community.

“Holding steady beneath the waves is much like mastering calm in life—it’s about focus, breath, and balance,” said Balaram Naidu. “We hope this deep dive into the spirit of yoga inspires nation-

wide enthusiasm on International Yoga Day.”

The session also feeds into India’s ambitious plan to set a Guinness World Record with over 500,000 people participating in yoga on June 21.

Event Snapshot:

What: Underwater Yoga Session
Where: Bay of Bengal, Visakhapatnam
Who: Yogandra, SAAP, Dive Adda, 10 certified divers
When: June 19, 2025
Why: Promote International Yoga Day and highlight wellness tourism in Andhra Pradesh

For details, contact Balaram Naidu, founder of Livein Adventures.



Swiggy’s ‘Dilli Se Hu BLCK’ Ad Sparks Backlash Over Slang Reference

Swiggy’s latest ad campaign to promote its premium membership service, One BLCK, in Delhi has stirred controversy rather than celebration. The food delivery platform recently ran a full-page newspaper ad featuring the bold tagline “Dilli Se Hu BLCK” — a play on a well-known Hindi slang phrase. While intended to grab attention, the phrase drew sharp criticism online for its perceived insensitivity and suggestive language.



The phrase appeared on the front page of a prominent newspaper, prompting outrage among many Delhi residents and social media users who found the ad inappropriate and offensive. Journalist Sanket Upadhyay voiced his disapproval on X (formerly Twitter), describing the advertisement as “notorious” and accusing it of normalizing abusive language in mainstream media. He questioned how such messaging was deemed acceptable in a reputable publication.

His post quickly gained traction, with many agreeing that Swiggy had crossed a line. One commenter stressed the need for clear advertising guidelines to prevent such messaging, while another argued that the primary responsibility lies with advertisers, not just publishers. “Normalising bad is the new good,” one user remarked, referencing a growing trend of

provocative marketing.

However, not everyone saw the issue the same way. A few users defended the campaign, suggesting the outrage was exaggerated. “This is the most non-issue issue,” one user commented, criticizing the backlash as misplaced.

Swiggy’s One BLCK is positioned as an elite, invite-only service that builds on the existing Swiggy One membership. It offers premium benefits such as faster deliveries, complimentary add-ons during dine-outs, and dedicated customer support.

Despite the marketing misstep, the service aims to appeal to high-end customers seeking enhanced convenience. However, this incident has reignited the debate over the limits of creativity in advertising and cultural sensitivity.

Friday the 13th: Where the ‘Curse’ Comes From and Whether You Can Avoid It

Friday the 13th has long been regarded as a day of misfortune in many Western cultures. The superstition surrounding this particular date combines fears tied to both the number 13 and Fridays — a duo many believe brings bad luck. While some brush off the notion as mere myth, others actively avoid travel, important decisions, or even stepping outside on this day.



The number 13 itself has been viewed as unlucky for centuries. It breaks the completeness of the number 12, which is often seen as a symbol of order — 12 months, 12 zodiac signs, 12 apostles. According to Christian tradition, Judas Iscariot, the betrayer of Jesus, was the 13th guest at the Last Supper. Jesus was said to be crucified on a Friday, further fueling the superstition, although historical accuracy remains debated.

Some biblical stories also tie Fridays to misfortune — including the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Eden, Cain’s murder of Abel, and the onset of the Great Flood. Roman legends contributed as well, with beliefs that witches gathered in groups of 12, with the 13th being the devil

himself.

Modern pop culture has only amplified these fears. The Friday the 13th horror movie franchise and novels like Dan Brown’s The Da Vinci Code have embedded the superstition deeper into public consciousness. The day is also remembered for real-life tragedies — plane crashes, accidents, and other eerie events — further stoking fear.

Despite a lack of scientific proof, many still take precautions on Friday the 13th. Whether avoiding black cats or postponing major life decisions, believers continue to treat it as a date best approached with caution — just in case the curse holds some truth.

Aryna Sabalenka Frustrated After Berlin Open Match Halted Due to Poor Light and Dew



World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka expressed her frustration after her second-round match at the Berlin Open against Switzerland's Rebeka Masarova was suspended on Wednesday due to poor light and dew. Sabalenka had dominated the first set 6-2 and appeared to be in control before the umpire decided to halt the match, citing slippery conditions on one side of the court.

Clearly unhappy with the decision, Sabalenka questioned the call, saying, "You are stopping the match because she says that side is slippery? I just played two games on that side." The match will resume on Thursday.

The lengthy previous match

between Liudmila Samsonova and third seed Jessica Pegula likely contributed to the late scheduling. That encounter lasted three hours and 21 minutes, with Samsonova eventually defeating Pegula 6-7 (8/10), 7-5, 7-6 (7/5) in a tightly contested thriller that included two tie-breaks.

Sabalenka's irritation comes shortly after her emotionally charged French Open final loss to Coco Gauff. Following that match, she sparked controversy by saying, "I don't think she won the match because she played incredibly well, but because I made all those mistakes." She later retracted those comments in an interview with Eurosport, calling them "completely unprofessional" and

admitting she let her emotions take over.

Despite her world No. 1 ranking, Sabalenka is still chasing her first WTA title on grass and has never reached the final at Wimbledon.

Elsewhere at the Berlin Open, former finalist Ons Jabeur cruised past Jasmine Paolini 6-1, 6-3 to reach the quarterfinals — her first win over a top-five player since Wimbledon 2023. Eighth seed Paula Badosa also advanced with a 7-6 (7/2), 6-3 win over Emma Navarro.

The Berlin Open, one of the oldest women's tennis tournaments, switched to grass courts in 2021 and now serves as a key Wimbledon warm-up event.

SKPVV Student B. Kumar to Represent Andhra Pradesh at U-15 National Wrestling Championship

Rajahmundry – B. Kumar, a talented young wrestler and student of SK P V V Hindu High School, has earned the honor of representing Andhra Pradesh at the Under-15 National Wrestling Championship, scheduled to take place in Nagpur from June 20 to 23.

Kumar secured his spot on the state team after clinching the gold medal in the 41 kg weight category at the recently concluded state-level wrestling championship in Rajahmundry. His performance stood out among fierce competition, showcasing not only technical skill but also determination and discipline.

The school's Principal, K. Srinivasa Rao, officially announced Kumar's selection and praised his commitment to the sport. "This is a proud moment for our school. Kumar's achievement reflects his hard work and the guidance he has received from his mentors," he said.

The school management also extended their heartfelt congratulations. Committee President T. Seshaiah, Correspondent Gopisetty Mallaiah, Treasurer G. Baba Vijay Kumar, Secretary K.L.V. Mohan Rao, and Physical Education Teacher M.V. Satya Prasad all joined in celebrating Kumar's success and wished him the very best for the upcoming national tournament.

Kumar's selection is being hailed as a significant milestone not only for SKPVV Hindu High School but also for the wider Andhra Pradesh wrestling community. His



performance at the nationals is being eagerly anticipated, with hopes that he will bring further accolades to the state.

This achievement underscores the importance of nurturing young sporting talent at the grassroots level and highlights the growing strength of wrestling in Andhra Pradesh. With his eyes set on the national stage, Kumar is poised to make a strong impression and continue his upward journey in Indian wrestling.

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.

Basketball Team LA Lakers To Be Sold For Rs 86,000 Crore

In a historic move that has stunned the sports world, the Los Angeles Lakers are being sold in a record-breaking \$10 billion (₹86,000 crore) deal, making them the most valuable sports franchise in U.S. history. According to ESPN, the Buss family, who have owned the Lakers for 46 years, will hand over their controlling stake to billionaire Mark Walter, the CEO of TWG Global.

Despite the sale, Jeanie Buss will remain as the Lakers' governor, preserving some continuity. However, this transaction marks the end of an iconic era that saw the Buss family transform the Lakers into a global sports powerhouse.

Mark Walter, already a minority owner of the Lakers since 2021, is known for his strong track record in sports management. His company, TWG Global, holds ownership stakes in several major franchises including the Los Angeles Dodgers (MLB), Los Angeles Sparks (WNBA), and English Premier League club Chelsea FC. TWG also

owns the Billie Jean King Cup and the Cadillac Formula One team.



Lakers legend Magic Johnson, a business partner of Walter, praised the deal on social media, calling Walter "driven by winning and excellence." Johnson pointed to Walter's success with the Dodgers, who have won multiple World Series titles under his leadership and signed major talents like Shohei Ohtani in a massive \$700 million deal.

The Lakers were purchased in 1979 by Jerry Buss, who built the team into an 11-time NBA champion dynasty. From the "Showtime" era led by Magic Johnson to the early 2000s dominance under Kobe Bryant, and more recently the 2020 title win with LeBron James, the Buss era defined generations of basketball excellence.

This \$10 billion deal eclipses previous U.S. sports team sales, surpassing the \$6.1 billion paid for the Boston Celtics earlier this year and the \$6.05 billion Washington Commanders sale in 2023.

Gennaro Gattuso Confident Italy Will Qualify for 2026 FIFA World Cup

Rome — Gennaro Gattuso expressed strong confidence on Thursday that Italy can qualify for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, as he officially begins his tenure as head coach of the Azzurri following the dismissal of Luciano Spalletti.

Italy's World Cup hopes have been hanging by a thread after a poor start to their qualifying campaign. They currently trail Group 1 leaders Norway by nine points, with only the group winner guaranteed automatic qualification. Despite playing two fewer matches, Italy's 3-0 defeat to Norway earlier in June and a goal difference 12 goals worse than the group leaders leave the four-time world champions with a tough road ahead.

Still, Gattuso remains optimistic. "It's not just



hope — it's conviction," he stated at his introductory press conference. "We have a solid team with four or five players who are among the best in the world in their positions. My belief is in the collective, not individuals. We have the quality to reach our goal."

The 47-year-old World Cup winner emphasized the importance of reigniting passion and unity in the national squad. "The objective is to rebuild a winning mentality, create a sense of family at Coverciano, and bring back enthusiasm," Gattuso said.

With automatic qualification unlikely, Italy may again be forced to rely on the play-offs, which saw them miss the last two World Cups. Nevertheless, national team legend Gianluigi Buffon, now head of delegation, endorsed Gattuso, praising his tactical identity and work ethic.

Although Claudio Ranieri declined to return from retirement, the Italian Football Federation turned to Gattuso, whose managerial career includes stints at AC Milan and Napoli, where he won the Coppa Italia.

Gattuso will lead Italy for the first time in September, when they face Estonia in Bergamo and then travel to play Israel in Hungary.



‘Kuberaa’ Set for Grand Release on June 20; Ticket Prices Hiked in Andhra Pradesh

Director Shekhar Kammula’s much awaited pan-India film Kuberaa is all set to hit the big screens on June 20, 2025. Featuring a powerful star cast that includes Tamil superstar Dhanush, Tollywood veteran Nagarjuna, and popular actress Rashmika Mandanna, the film has already created significant buzz across regional and national circuits.

With just a day left for the release, the Andhra Pradesh government has approved a temporary hike in ticket prices for the film. The revised ticket rates will be in effect for the first 10 days following the release. Under this special permis-

sion, ticket prices in multiplexes can go up to ₹270, while single-screen theaters can charge up to ₹240. The base price including GST has also been increased to ₹75 for both formats.

This move comes in the backdrop of high expectations surrounding Kuberaa, which is being promoted as a grand-scale production with strong performances and high production values. The film has a runtime of approximately three hours and is being released in multiple languages including Tamil and Telugu, appealing to a wide audience base.

The story, visuals, and ensemble cast

have already sparked anticipation among moviegoers, and the advance bookings indicate a promising opening at the box office. Industry analysts expect the film to perform well, especially over the opening weekend, thanks to the elevated ticket prices and the star power behind it.

With Shekhar Kammula’s track record of delivering critically acclaimed and commercially successful films, Kuberaa is being seen as a potential blockbuster. The strategic pricing move in Andhra Pradesh is likely to boost early revenue collections and reflect the strong market confidence in the film’s success.

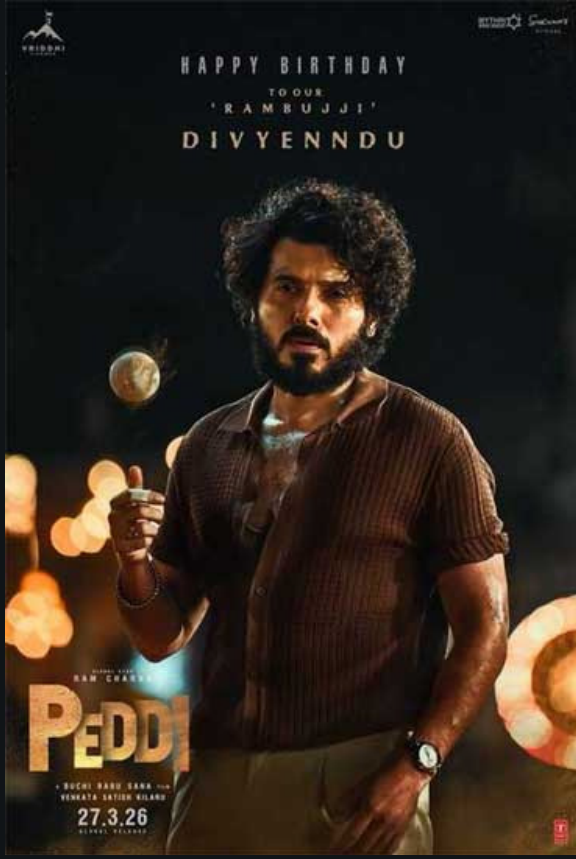
Divyenndu Sharma’s First Look from Peddi Unveiled on His Birthday

On the occasion of his birthday, actor Divyenndu Sharma has been introduced in a powerful new avatar from the upcoming sports drama Peddi. The makers released a striking first-look poster of the Mirzapur star, showcasing him as a fierce and intense character named Ram Bujji.

Directed by Buchi Babu Sana and headlined by Global Star Ram Charan, Peddi is a rural sports-based film being mounted on a grand scale. In the unveiled poster, Divyenndu is seen spinning a cricket ball with a steely, focused gaze — hinting at a character filled with grit and determination. The reveal has created a buzz among fans and has raised curiosity about how Buchi Babu will shape Divyenndu’s powerful role in the narrative.

Peddi is scheduled for a theatrical release on March 27, 2026, and is being made as a multilingual project to cater to audiences across India. Apart from Ram Charan and Divyenndu, the film also stars veteran actors Shiva Rajkumar and Jagapathi Babu in prominent roles.

The film is being produced by Vriddhi Cinemas and features



music by the iconic A.R. Rahman, further adding to the film’s massive appeal. With a combination of intense storytelling, a star-studded cast, and world-class music, Peddi is being positioned as one of the most anticipated films of 2026.

Divyenndu’s transformation and the tone set by his character reveal have already sparked excitement across social media. As anticipation builds, fans are eager to see how this rural sports saga unfolds on the big screen, blending raw emotion, action, and drama under Buchi Babu Sana’s direction.

‘Son of Sardaar 2’ Announced: First Look of Sequel to Maryada Ramanna Remake Unveiled

Bollywood is bringing back the laughter and action with the announcement of Son of Sardaar 2, the sequel to the 2012 hit film Son of Sardaar, which itself was a Hindi remake of the Telugu blockbuster Maryada Ramanna. The first look of the upcoming film has just been released, sparking excitement among fans.

The original Maryada Ramanna, directed by ace filmmaker S.S. Rajamouli, starred Sunil and Saloni in lead roles and was produced by Shobu Yarlagadda and Devineni Prasad under the Arka Media banner. Set against the backdrop of Rayalaseema factionalism, the film was both a commercial and critical success when it hit theaters in 2010.

Ajay Devgn later adapted the story for the Hindi audience as Son of Sardaar, infusing it with a Punjabi cultural backdrop and delivering a high-octane mix of comedy and action. The film was well-received and developed a loyal fan following, making the sequel a much-anticipated project.

Now, over a decade later, the sequel Son of Sardaar 2 is officially underway. The film promises to retain the



comedic flavor of the first part while bringing a fresh storyline and new characters. Directed by Vijay Kumar Arora, the sequel is expected to blend humor, family drama, and action in a similar entertaining format.

Adding to the excitement is the casting of Mrunal Thakur as the female lead. Known for her strong performances, Mrunal is set to bring a new dynamic to the franchise.

With its vibrant first look and promise of nostalgic fun, Son of Sardaar 2 is gearing up to win hearts all over again. More details about the release date and supporting cast are expected to be revealed soon.

Mega157: Chiranjeevi-Anil Ravipudi Film Wraps Up Second Schedule in Mussoorie

Mussoorie, Uttarakhand – The much-anticipated Telugu film tentatively titled Mega157, starring Mega-star Chiranjeevi and directed by Anil Ravipudi, is progressing at an impressive pace. The team recently concluded its second shooting schedule in the scenic hill station of Mussoorie.

Director Anil Ravipudi, known for his commercial entertainers, successfully wrapped up the latest leg of filming in just about a week. Key scenes featuring Chiranjeevi and leading lady Nayanthara were shot during this schedule. To update fans, the makers shared a blurred be-



hind-the-scenes image of the iconic duo, adding to the mounting excitement surrounding the project. Mega157 is slated for a grand release during Sankranthi 2026, positioning it as one of the most eagerly awaited releases of the festive season. The film is expected to be a wholesome family enter-

tainer, combining Ravipudi’s trademark humor and emotional depth with Chiranjeevi’s unmatched screen presence. The film is being produced by Sahu Garapati under Shine Screens and Sushmita Konidela under Gold Box Entertainment, ensuring a high production value and strong creative

backing. Music is being composed by Bheems Ceciroleo, promising a lively and engaging soundtrack.

Adding to the star power, Catherine Tresa has been cast as the second female lead, bringing additional glamour and talent to the ensemble. With its promising cast, experienced crew, and swift progress, Mega157 is shaping up to be a major box-office contender. Fans are eagerly awaiting more updates as the team prepares for the next schedule, and expectations are high for Chiranjeevi’s performance in what could be yet another blockbuster addition to his illustrious career.

Abhishek Bachchan’s ‘Kaalidhar Laapata’ Skips Theatres, Premieres on Zee5 This July

Bollywood actor Abhishek Bachchan is back in the spotlight with his upcoming film Kaalidhar Laapata, which is all set to premiere directly on the OTT platform Zee5. Skipping a theatrical release, the emotional drama will be available for streaming starting July 4, 2025, as officially announced by the actor on his social media handles. Directed by Madhumita and produced under the banner of Zee Studios, Kaalidhar Laapata features Abhishek Bachchan in the lead role, supported by talented actors Daivik Bhagela and Zeeshan Ayyub in pivotal characters. The film’s production has been recently wrapped up, and the makers have chosen to reach audiences digitally, targeting a wide viewership across urban and rural demographics.

Set in a rustic, rural backdrop, the film weaves a heartwarming narrative around an elderly man who discovers his family wants to abandon him. Disturbed and hurt, he attempts to run away from home. During his journey, he crosses paths with an eight-year-old orphan named Ballu, leading to an unexpected companionship. The story unfolds through their bond, struggles, and the profound impact they have on each other’s lives. ‘Kaalidhar Laapata’ promises to be an emotional rollercoaster highlighting themes of abandonment, unlikely



friendships, and re-discovered purpose. Known for choosing content-driven roles in recent years, Abhishek Bachchan’s performance is expected to resonate deeply with viewers. This direct-to-OTT release continues the growing trend in Bollywood of bypassing traditional cinemas for streaming platforms, offering audiences access to fresh content from the comfort of their homes. With its poignant storyline and strong performances, Kaalidhar Laapata could be a standout drama in the digital entertainment space this year.