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Vol.I ISSUE 299 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable



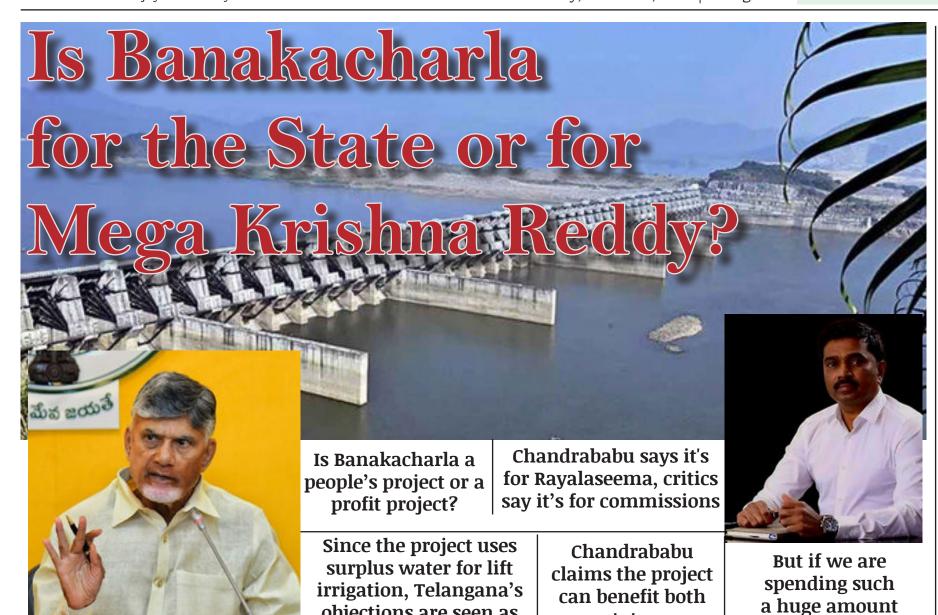
### AP MSMEs Ready to Go Global says Minister Kondapalli **Srinivas**

101 MoUs signed at International Buyer-Seller Meet in Tirupati

PAGE 2

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True, Rayalaseema will get water.

The cost of the project is ₹82,000 crore.

How much of this will go to Mega Krishna Reddy? How much will the leaders pocket?

Even if the project is taken up with accurate costing...

on lift irrigation...

If the project is fair, it's a boon—no doubt...

If not, it's another burden masked as development.

### TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

this project meant for? For the people of Andhra Pradesh? Or for the benefit of contractor Mega Krishna Reddy? That's the burning question that has reignited a debate between the two Telugu states after years of calm.

No matter how much

they gain, the burden

ultimately falls on the people.

Every great project has a motive behind it. The British built railways for their commercial gains, but India reaped the long-term benefit. Indira Gandhi nationalized banks with political intent, yet it transformed India's financial landscape. Likewise, Banakacharla is being portrayed by the Andhra Pradesh government as a project to utilize surplus river water that would otherwise drain into the sea. But Telangana is now

raising objections—politically moline projects. tivated ones, as many believe.

objections are seen as

politically motivated.

Banakacharla—what exactly is Much like the Pattiseema project during the TDP regime, Banakacharla aims to divert Krishna waters for the benefit of Rayalaseema. With Polavaram delayed and canals already constructed, Pattiseema was used to channel water to the Krishna Delta. At the time, YSRCP Chief Jagan Mohan Reddy alleged massive corruption in that project. Ironically, the same contractor—Mega Krishna Reddy—later bagged the Polavaram reverse tender during Jagan's tenure. Allegations flew then too. The same contractor continues to win big contracts in Telangana as well. It's no secret—his rise began during the era of Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy, and many credit KVP for his ascent in national-level pipe- friendly rapport, but failed due to

Today, there's hardly a project in tion. Now, with Chandrababu's ineither Telugu state without his fluential role in the NDA, the proj-

states.

footprint. Chandrababu Naidu, now back in power, says Banakacharla is about diverting surplus water back from the sea to Prakasam Barrage, then channeling it to Rayalaseema. At a staggering cost of ₹82,000 crore, this is no small plan. Leaving aside AP-Telangana disputes, many intellectuals are questioning the project's true intent. Their argument is sharp: it's not about water; it's about the contractor and commissions. According to them, the people will shoulder the burden while the contractor and political class enjoy the spoils.

They claim the idea was first float-

lack of will and Centre's cooperaect has resurfaced. The dynamics of irrigation have changed thanks to lift irrigation. Water can now be pulled from anywhere, but at enormous cost. The Kaleshwaram project stands as an example: water did come, but so did enormous loans, inflated bills, and contractor-political profits.

So, what does Banakacharla offer? It has the potential to benefit the state, no doubt. But it's also a lucrative jackpot for contractors and politicians. And the burden? It's on the people. If built with transparency and actual costing, with no kickbacks or commissions, Banakacharla is undeniably a good projed when Jagan and KCR shared a ect. But in the current atmosphere, the lines blur.

## **Opposition Relatives All Set!**

Health Director post for Dwarampudi's relative sparks controversy Janasena minister's support surprises party circles

Allegations of irregularities during her tenure resurface

### TPN | V.V.S Madhu Babu

Vijayawada: After the coalition government came to power, many hoped justice would be done-not only to the people but also to deserving officials. But now, there is growing chatter that some decisions are favoring relatives of opposition leaders, raising serious concerns within government and medical circles alike. It was widely expected that top posts would go to those who truly deserve them. However, with recent developments mirroring the previous regime's practices, disappointment is brewing across the board. The latest G.O. from the government serves as a striking example.

Dr. Padma Shashidhar, a close relative of former YSRCP MLA Dwarampudi Chandrasekhar Reddy, has been appointed as the Director of the State Medical and Health Department. She previously served as the Regional Director in Rajahmundry during the YSRCP tenure. Her appointment by the coalition government has surprised many, especially with whispers in the medical community that a Janasena minister played a role in pushing her name forward. This comes despite the fact that Dwarampudi had used vulgar language against Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan during his time in power. Now, the same political circle supporting Dwarampudi's relative is raising eyebrows even within the Jana Sena itself. Irregularities in Previous Tenure

Dr. Padma Shashidhar's earlier tenure has been marked by allegations of manipulation and favoritism. Sources claim that she facilitated postings for ineligible individuals based on YSRCP recommendations and was involved in several irregularities during staff transfers.

### 2 PAGE



### Free Bus Travel for Women from August 15... CM Chandrababu Reviews **Implementation Plan**

EV AC buses to be introduced; financial strain won't stop public welfare, says CM



## Waiting for justice for 18 years..!

- · Accused still unidentified in Ayesha case
- · CBI unable to identify the accused
- · Ayesha's parents to approach the court once again



TPN | V.V.S Madhu Babu

Vijayawada: The parents who lost their child have been fighting for justice for 18 years. They have been circling the rulers and officials. However, the fact that the police have not identified anyone who killed their child to date is raising many suspicions. The CBI, which recently investigat-

to the High Court, has now said that the on charges of rape and murder. In Octocopies cannot be given to Ayesha's parents, which has led to another controversy. With this, Ayesha's parents are ready to fight the legal battle once again to find out what was actually revealed in the CBI investigation. A 17-year-old pharmacy student named Ayesha Meera was raped and brutally murdered in a hostel at Ibrahimpatnam near Vijayawada. The incident took place on December 27, 2007. The police found the body of Ayesha Meera with stab wounds in the bathroom of the hostel where she was staying. The incident became a sensation at the time. Many suspicions were raised about her death. A man named Pidatha Satyambabu was arrested in 2008 in this case. In 2010, the Vijayawada Women's ed for eight years and submitted a report Court sentenced him to 10 years in prison

ber 2010, Satyambabu appealed to the High Court challenging the court's verdict. In 2017, the High Court acquitted Satyambabu and expressed anger over the shortcomings in the police investigation. After Ayesha's mother Shamshad Begum and father Iqbal Basha approached the High Court for justice, the High Court reopened the case in 2018 and handed it over to the CBI.

After almost eight years of investigation, the CBI submitted its final report to the High Court in a sealed cover. However, Ayesha's parents approached the High Court to inform them of the contents of the report and provide copies.



# **ANDHRA PRADESH**

### Continued from page 1

#### **Questionable Transfers and** Counseling

During the recent transfer process, there's buzz that officials sympathetic to the TDP were deliberately posted to faraway serious allegations of irregularities in MPHS(M) and MPHS(F) counseling. Insiders say that orders were issued with backdated signatures and altered post-counseling, with suspicions of financial transactions behind these changes.

There's also talk of two senior assistants being shifted to the ma Shashidhar to the top post Regional Director's office in violation of G.O. No. 344, which mandates transfers within the Medical and political circles are same district for officials serving over three years. Instead, they were posted to entirely different districts, bypassing el-

igible candidates. Exemptions under G.O. No. 23 were reportedly denied, and some employees were subjected to unilateral counseling. A few even approached the court against the locations. Meanwhile, there are Regional Director's orders, but backdated orders were allegedly issued to mislead the court.

Shockingly, employees who had served over 33 years in the same post were allowed to remain, under the pretext of being union leaders. Despite having several eligible senior officials available, the elevation of Padhas left the medical fraternity stunned.

now asking: is this the justice the coalition government promised? Or is it just politics as usual, wearing a new face?

### Waiting for justice for 18 years..!

ducted the investigation, ordered the CBI to file a counter-affidavit, they filed a counter-affidavit in the court stating that they did not need to provide the report of their investigation. They are expressing their concern that even though their child died 18 years ago, justice has not been done so far, and now they are concerned over the restrictions imposed on even giving the CBI report. They also want some parts of their child to be given to them according to religious customs. They expressed their concern that they do not understand why the CBI is not giving the final report, and that they have been fighting for 18 years and the CBI is telling them to go to the court and get the report. They said that their daughter's remains were taken away in the name of investigation against traditions, and even though they agreed to it against religious customs, they have not been returned till now.

They expressed concern that the CBI is acting as if they are not accountable, even though the family is suffering financially and mentally, and that there is a suspicion that the CBI has sold out. They want CM Chandrababu to help them get justice, and they want this govern-

When the High Court, which conment to respond and punish the real murderers who killed their child. Advocate Pichuka Srinivas said that Ayesha Meera's parents filed a petition in the High Court to provide the CBI investigation report related to Ayesha Meera's murder, and the CBI filed a counter stating that it did not need to be provided. He said that they suspect the CBI has failed in the investigation, and the High Court has adjourned the hearing to July 4.

> Even though it has been 18 years since Ayesha Meera's murder, the culprits have not been identified. Due to the failures in the police investigation, the case was handed over to the CBI. However, it took eight years for an investigation that should have been completed in five. Now, many legal experts are saying that a copy of the report submitted to the High Court should also be given to Ayesha's parents. With this, they are now expressing many doubts about the CBI report and have filed a petition in the High Court, requesting the court to provide them with the CBI report and the items related to their child. They are once again ready for a legal battle, which has become a topic of discussion.

## **Governor of Michigan** Honours prof. Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad **During U.S. Visit**

TPN | Lansing, Michigan: prof. Hindi Advisory Committee of the Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad, renowned Hindi and Telugu scholar, received a warm official welcome from the Governor of Michigan, Gretchen Whitmer, during his recent visit to the United States. In a formal letter, Governor Whitmer acknowledged Dr. Prasad's exceptional contributions as a scholar, writer, and cultural ambassador, praising his role in building enduring bridges between India and the United States. She highlighted his influence as Chairman of the A.P. Hindi Academy, Professor at Andhra University, President of Vishwa Hindi Parishad, and Member of the Central

Government of India.

"Your academic excellence and leadership have not only advanced scholarship in India but have also inspired countless individuals in the Indian diaspora communities across Michigan and beyond," Governor Whitmer wrote. Commending his efforts to promote Hindi and Telugu literature, she stated that his legacy continues to inspire generations of Indian Americans and enrich the global cultural fabric. The letter concluded with her personal wishes for Dr. Prasad's continued success and lasting impact on education and cultural preservation.



# Free Bus Travel for Women from August 15...

CM Chandrababu Reviews Implementation Plan EV AC buses to be introduced; financial strain won't stop public welfare, says CM

### TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The coalition government is making final preparations to implement yet another key promise under its Super Six schemes. Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu held a review meeting with officials at the Undavalli camp office on Saturday regarding the rollout of the 'Free Bus Travel for Women' scheme in RTC buses, set to begin from August 15 this year.

#### Working on the 'Free Bus for Women' scheme

The Chief Minister instructed officials to assess occupancy trends and take steps to increase the number of buses accordingly. He said new buses should be purchased or hired as necessary to handle the expected increase in ridership. Chandrababu made it clear that all new RTC buses introduced henceforth should be EV AC buses, and he directed the officials to explore the possibility of converting existing buses to EVs. The CM also emphasized the need to install GPS systems on every bus to ensure better monitoring and safety.

#### Promises should be kept despite financial difficulties

Despite the state's challenging financial condition, the Chief Minister reminded officials that promises made to the people must be fulfilled. "Every rupee is valuable," he said, stressing that the RTC should explore avenues to increase revenue and reduce costs. Efficiency should be the focus, he added, instructing that passenger satisfaction must be ensured—from keeping bus station toilets clean to enhancing the overall travel experience.



CM orders to examine various models Chandrababu suggested examining cost-effective models like battery swapping systems to reduce the maintenance cost of RTC buses. "Whether diesel, EV, CNG, or battery swapping—prepare proposals comparing the purchase and maintenance costs of each type," he said. He also asked the officials to evaluate the viability of operating service stations with and without batteries and to consider partnerships with private companies. Additionally, he directed an analysis of how power generation by RTC could reduce EV bus operating costs. "A full-scale study must be carried out," he instructed.

#### Additional 2,045 buses required

Officials estimated that around 2,536 additional buses would be required to implement the scheme efficiently, with the projected cost pegged at ₹996 crore. They also highlighted the need to improve infrastructure at bus stations, including drinking water facilities, toilet maintenance, and installation of proper information boards.

#### Estimated to reach 88.90 crore trips per year

Andhra Pradesh has a population of 5.25 crore, out of which 2.62 crore are women. Currently, women make 43.06 crore trips annually on Palle Velugu, Ultra Palle Velugu, and City buses. Post-implementation of the scheme, this number is expected to rise to 75.51 crore. Officials noted that on average, each woman makes at least one trip per week. Additionally, the number of women's trips in Express and Metro Express buses—currently at 6.85 crore—could increase to 13.39 crore. Overall, women are expected to make around 88.90 crore trips annually under the free bus scheme.

#### Implementation in the state is better than all the states

Free bus travel for women is currently in place in Delhi, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Telangana. However, each state follows different models and policies. The Chief Minister advised officials to ensure that Andhra Pradesh adopts the most effective and satisfactory policy model among them.

### 57 percent are Palle Velugu, **City Bus Services**

Of the total RTC fleet, 57 percent are Palle Velugu, Ultra Palle Velugu, and City buses, which collectively covered 67.76 crore kilometers last year. Express and Metro Express buses make up another 17 percent. Though the state lacks major metropolitan cities, the Centre has allocated 750 EV buses to 11 municipal corporations in Andhra Pradesh after a formal request from Chief Minister Chandrababu. These are being provided under the Urban Transport program.

## AP MSMEs Ready to Go Global: Minister Kondapalli Srinivas

101 MoUs signed at International Buyer-Seller Meet in Tirupati 350+ MSMEs, 30 global buyers from 8 regions participated 40 new exporters, 38 women entrepreneurs signed deals State aims to boost exports with innovation and support



TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

"Andhra Pradesh MSMEs are ready to take on the global stage," declared MSME Minister Kondapalli Srinivas, speaking at the International Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet (RBSM) in Tirupati on Saturday. Addressing hundreds of entrepreneurs and international delegates, he said the state is empowering its micro and small businesses to grow beyond local markets with confidence, backed by innovation, quality and government support. The three-day RBSM, jointly organised by the Andhra Pradesh MSME Development Corporation (APMSME DC) and the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), saw participation from over 350 MSMEs and 30 buyers representing countries such as the USA, UK, Australia, GCC nations, Africa, and Southeast Asia. One of the key outcomes of the event was the signing of 101 MoUs and trade agreements, including deals by 40 firsttime exporters and 38 women-led enterprises. These partnerships are expected to boost exports and global access for MSMEs, FPOs, artisan groups, and weaver societies from across Andhra Pradesh. Minister Kondapalli Srinivas emphasized, "We are building a future where AP's businesses export confidently. With the right support and global exposure, our MSMEs are emerging as international players."

AP MSME Development Corporation

Chairman Tammireddy Sivasankara Rao and CEO Vishwa M. echoed the sentiment, stating that such platforms give MSMEs real-time insight into market demands, quality standards, and buyer expectations.Entrepreneurs from Tirupati, Nellore, Kadapa, and Chittoor showcased their products across diverse sectors—from agro-processing and pharmaceuticals to engineering goods and home décor—gaining crucial experience through buyer feedback.

At the valedictory session, APMSME DC Executive Director Sudarshan Babu and FIEO Joint Director General Unnikrishnan stressed the role of global certifications, sustained innovation, and readiness in unlocking new markets.

The event concluded with a strong message: Andhra Pradesh is fast becoming a national leader in export-oriented MS-MEs, with its proactive government and entrepreneurial ecosystem driving global engagement.

### Visakhapatnam to Host Groundbreaking **Pride Month Celebration 2025**

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

In a historic first for Andhra Pradesh, the Visakhapatnam Public Library Hall will come alive with vibrant arts performances and a special film screening to celebrate Pride Month 2025. This pioneering event, held from 5 PM to 8 PM, aims to foster inclusivity and understanding within the community.

milestone as it proudly collaborates with the KASHISH Pride Film Festival to present a screening of "Evening Shadows." This internationally acclaimed and award-winning film, directed by Sridhar Rangayan and written by Saagar Gupta, has garnered recognition world-

wide. Its screening in Visakhapatnam nity spirit as we celebrate diversity and promises to be a highlight of the evening, and it is the first time an Indian LGBTQ+ feature film is being showcased in Andhra Pradesh as part of such an

The event is a collaborative effort by three dedicated organizations: Nestham Organisation, Astitvam Foundation, and The celebration marks a significant YRG Care, all working together to bring this important celebration to the public. The organizers extend their sincere gratitude to KEN Foundation for generously sponsoring this landmark event. Supported by Ayur Jeeva.

Join us for an evening of powerful storytelling, artistic expression, and commuinclusion in Visakhapatnam. Contact: Boyapati Vishnu Teja Phone: 8008702753

Email: [vishnutejaboyapati@gmail.com] (mailto:vishnutejaboyapati@gmail.







### Telugu Should Regain Second Language Status in India: Mandali Buddha Prasad

- Call to non-state Andhras to register Telugu as mother tongue in Census
- 'Telugu Velugu' textbook launched in Telugu, English & Hindi
- 10th National Conference of Non-State Telugu Association held in Kerala

TPN Correspondent | Ker-

Avanigadda MLA and Honorary President of the World Telugu Writers Association Dr. Mandali Buddha Prasad called on non-state Telugu-speaking citizens to register Telugu as their mother tongue in the up-

coming census, stressing the goal of regaining Telugu's status as the second most spoken language in India. He made these remarks while attending the 10th National Conference of the Non-State Telugu Association, held at the Girinagar Community Hall in Ernakulam, Kerala, on Friday evening.

Addressing the gathering, Mandali Buddha Prasad highlighted that the number of Telugu-speaking people residing outside Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is comparable to the population within the Telugu states. He noted that while many non-state



Andhras speak Telugu at home, a significant number cannot read or write the language, which puts the cultural heritage at risk.

To address this, the Non-State Telugu Federation, established in 2015, has taken up the responsibility to promote Telugu literacy among non-resident Telugu communities. In a major step forward, the Federation released a new textbook titled "Telugu Velugu", printed in Telugu, English, and Hindi scripts to aid easier learning. The book was developed under the guidance of Acharya D. Muniratnam Naidu and a five-member committee of Telugu language

teachers from various states. Mandali emphasized that the book is suitable for both online and classroom teaching and expressed hope that government institutions would soon recognize the Telugu teaching course offered by the Federation. He thanked all the educators involved and stressed that offering certifications would further encourage learning Telugu.

MP Gopinath, who also spoke at the event, warned that Telugu's survival is at stake if it's not given compulsory language status in Telugu states, as is done with Tamil in Tamil Nadu. He called for mass registration of Telugu as a mother tongue in the census.

Acharya Dr. Veludanda Nityananda Rao, Vice President of Suravaram Pratap Reddy Telugu University, and Dr. Turlapati Rajeshwari coordinated the literary session. A ceremonial lamp-lighting and cultural program marked the close of the tenth-anniversary celebrations.

The event began with Cochin Andhra Cultural Association President M. Hari Hara Naidu's welcome address, followed by Non-State Telugu Association President Rallapalli Sundara Rao's presidential remarks and Secretary PVPC Prasad's vote of thanks.

## Chandrababu's lies, extortion push industries into crisis

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

YSRCP Guntur Parliament Constituency observer Pothina Venkata Mahesh, addressing the media at the YSRCP Central Office in Tadepalli, criticised Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's coalition government for plunging Andhra Pradesh's industrial sector into a state of regression. Mahesh lambasted Naidu for failing to attract new investments while driving existing industries out through intimidation and extortion, and for shamelessly taking credit for the industrial achievements of former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, who secured significant investments and created lakhs of jobs.

Mahesh exposed Naidu's history of unfulfilled promises, declaring, "Chandrababu's past, present, and future are built on lies." He cited the 1999 TDP manifesto's promise of 1 crore jobs, the 2014-19 pledge of 25 lakh jobs, Rs. 10 lakh crore investments, and Rs. 2,000 monthly unemployment benefits, and the 2024 promise of 20 lakh jobs with Rs. 3,000 unemployment benefits—all unmet. With 1.5 crore unemployed youth, as reported by Eenadu, Mahesh challenged Naidu to provide data on jobs created. In contrast, Jagan's tenure saw Rs. 1.1 lakh crore from NTPC for a green energy unit in 2023, Rs. 10 lakh crore in green job creation," Mahesh charged.

energy deals with Greenko and Shirdi Sai Electricals, and a steel plant in Anakapalle via ArcelorMittal. Companies like Ashok Leyland, ATC Tyres, Daikin, and Bharat Electronics also began operations, generating lakhs of jobs. Mahesh accused Naidu and Lokesh of returning empty-handed from Davos and falsely claiming Jagan's successes, noting Naidu's June 2025 claim of Rs. 9.03 lakh crore investments and 8.5 lakh jobs as recycled achievements.

The coalition's "Red Book Constitution" has created a climate of fear, with leaders like BJP MLA Adinarayana Reddy and TDP MLA Yarapathineni Srinivasa Rao extorting industries, leading to closures like Bhavya and Chettinad Cements. Incidents include the harassment of Vicat Cement's director in a fabricated liquor case and industrialist Sajjan Jindal's exit to Maharashtra with Rs. 3 lakh crore. Mahesh also criticized land allocations in Visakhapatnam, where land worth Rs. 50 crore per acre is given for 99 paise to dubious firms like Ursa Clusters (Rs. 3,000 crore land for 2,500 jobs, costing Rs. 1.2 crore per job), TCS (Rs. 8.75 lakh per job), Cognizant (Rs. 13.12 lakh per job), and Lulu (Rs. 28.57 lakh per job). "Naidu is gifting public land to cronies under the pretext of

### Raymond to Set Up ₹330 Cr Garment Unit in Raptadu

MLA Paritala Sunitha thanks CM for fulfilling pre-poll promise

TPN Correspondent | Anantapur

Fulfilling a key pre-election promise, Raymond, a major garment manufacturing company, is all set to establish a production unit in Raptadu constituency of Anantapur district. Speaking at a review meeting held at the TDP office in Anantapur, MLA Paritala Sunitha expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for facilitating this develop-

Sunitha announced that the Raymond company will take over the earmarked for the Jockey industry, a project that stalled after a regime change in 2019. She accused former MLA Topudurthi Prakash Reddy and his associates of threatening the Jockey management for commissions, which eventually led to the project being relocated to Hyderabad. Highlighting the swift revival under the current TDP-led government, MLA Sunitha stated, "As promised before the elections, we have brought back a garment company



very location that was originally of the same scale." The government has now allotted 26.87 acres at ₹20 lakh per acre to Raymond, with a total fixed capital investment of ₹330 crore being planned. The industry is expected to generate direct employment for 3,000 people and many more indirectly through associated

She also elaborated on broader development plans for Raptadu, including the recently launched MSME Park at Daduluru and the availability of 4,000 acres in Chennekothapalli for future industrial units. "Our goal is to make Raptadu both agriculturally fertile through the Handri-Neeva project and industrially progressive," she added.

Sunitha stated that she was hopeful CM Chandrababu would soon greenlight the Peruru project to bring water from Handri-Neeva, further boosting the region's development.

TDP leaders and party cadre from across the constituency participated in the meeting and welcomed the announcement.

## **Choose Strong Leaders at** All Levels: Dr. Sivaprasad

TPN | C Shekar

Tirupati: At the Telugu Desam Party's constituency-level organizational meeting held in Sullurpet town on Saturday, party observer Dr. Sivaprasad urged cadre and local leaders to select committed and efficient leaders from the grassroots level to ensure the party's long-term strength and a successful return to power in 2029.

The meeting took place at Sathya Sai Kalyana Mandapam under the chairmanship of local MLA Nelavala Vijayasree. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Sivaprasad said, "Only by giving priority to those who are loyal and hardworking for the party's cause cover the event were not provided can we build a stronger organization that carries the coalition forward."

He emphasized coordinated efforts starting from the village level, highlighting that the role of village, mandal, and town leaders will be crucial in the run-up to the next elections.

The meeting also saw the participation of TDP observers Chaserla Venkateswara Reddy, Rai Satyanarayana, Beeram Rajeswara Rao, Pachchigarla Ratnam, Sheikh Rafi, Nuvula Sivaramakrishna, party official spokesperson Tirumuru Sudhakar Reddy, and TDP town president Aakuthota Ramesh.



However, the event faced criticism due to the poor treatment of media personnel. Reporters who arrived to chairs and were left to sit or stand on the steps. Several journalists expressed dissatisfaction, pointing out that such disregard has become common in recent meetings, despite the media's role in publicizing party activities.

Observers and senior leaders were seen discussing party organization strategies inside, while outside, murmurs grew over the lack of respect for the press. Journalists urged the party to acknowledge and accommodate media professionals properly in future events, warning that continued negligence may affect coverage.

## 50 YCP Activists Join TDP in **Devinenivari Gudem**

Gopalapuram MLA Venkataraju welcomes them into the party

TPN Correspondent | Eluru

In a significant political shift, around 50 YSR Congress Party (YCP) activists, including former Ramannagudem Society President Cherukuri Prasada Rao and youth leader Bhadra Rao, joined the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in Devineni Wari Gudem village of Dwarakathirumala Mandal, Eluru district.

The new members were welcomed by Gopalapuram MLA Maddipati Venkataraju, who personally invited them to the party during a local program. Speaking at the event, the MLA said that development initiatives taken up by the coalition government have been attracting leaders from other parties into the TDP fold.

He announced that funds have been sanctioned for the construction of a bridge across Gurrala Vagu near Devineni Wari Gudem and also shared plans to lay a road from Thimmapuram to Veerashetty Wari



Gudam, further improving local infrastructure.

"The pace of development is now visible in every village. People are recognising the difference under the coalition government. That's why even YCP leaders are embracing the TDP," MLA Venkataraju stated. He added that YCP will soon vanish from the rural landscape, as people are shifting their trust toward developmental governance.

Mandal Party President Lanka Satyanarayana, along with TDP senior leaders Pakalapati Gandhi, Epuri Dalayya, Devarapalli Veeraswamy Chowdhury, Madras Ramu, Polina Srinu, and General Secretary Mattaparthi Rupesh Kumar, were present at the program and congratulated the new members on their decision.

### Release Water to KC Canal, SRBC, Velugodu Immediately

Kadapa: YSRCP leader and former APS-RTC zonal chairman Reddy Venkatasubba Reddy has demanded immediate water release from the Srisailam reservoir to the K.C. Canal, S.R.B.C., and Velugodu, stating that failure to act now would be a betrayal of the farming community in the YSR Kadapa district. Addressing the media at the YSRCP district office in Kadapa on Saturday evening, Reddy pointed out that while Srisailam reservoir has reached 867 feet, which is well above the 841-foot threshold needed for release through the Pothireddypadu head regulator, the coalition government has still not opened the gates, which he slammed as an "anti-farmer policy."

He urged the government to urgently release water to not just KC Canal and SRBC, but also Gorukallu, Auku, Gandikota, Mylavaram, Velugodu, and other key reservoirs in the district. Reddy demanded that the Velugodu and Brahma Sagar reservoirs, as well as SSR-1 and SSR-2, be filled without delay to secure irrigation needs.

Highlighting a major pending project, Reddy recalled that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had promised the construction of the Razolu reservoir with a 2.95 TMC capacity during his visit to Maidukuru constituency on January 18, 2025. "This project is essential to irrigate 92,000 acres of KC command land and boost pear cultivation," he said.

Reddy pointed out that under the previous YSRCP government, G.O. Rt No. 561 was issued on 17-12-2019, approving the Razolu project, with ₹1357.10 crore allocated and the contract awarded on 31-03-2021. He demanded the current coalition government immediately resume and complete the reservoir construction, accusing it of ignoring critical irrigation infrastructure despite existing approvals.

YSRCP SC Wing district president Singamala Venkateswarlu and Duvvur mandal leader Iragam Reddy Padmanabha Reddy also participated in the press meet, expressing solidarity with the farmers' demand for water and infrastructure completion.



## **VIJAYAWADA**

### Suraksha 360 Launched for 100% CCTV Coverage in NTR District



TPN | V.V.S Madhu Babu

Vijayawada: In a major step towards smart policing and public safety, Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha on Saturday launched the Suraksha 360 initiative under the NTR District Police Commissionerate in

Vijayawada. The launch event took place at Sujana Dhi Venue Function Hall, Machavaram. The program, led by Commissioner S.V. Rajasekhara Babu, IPS, aims to bring 100 percent CCTV camera coverage across 321 villages, 64 wards, and 1211

### Home Minister Anitha inaugurates initiative to boost public safety 321 villages, 64 wards, 1211 sq. km under full CCTV surveillance Suraksha Divine kits handed over to 28 police station officers

ban regions in the NTR District. As part of the "Suraksha Divine" effort, CCTV cameras will now be installed in every temple, mosque, and church within each police station's jurisdiction. 28 station officers were formally handed over the Suraksha Divine kits during the event.

Home Minister Anitha lauded the initiative, calling it a new chapter in policing. "Technology is becoming the backbone of law enforcement in Andhra

ment, under the leadership of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, is determined to ensure the safety of every citizen—especially women—through tools like Shakti App and WhatsAppbased alerts," she said.

She also highlighted that crime rates have declined due to CCTV monitoring and warned the public against online scams, urging caution over suspicious messages and links.

City Commissioner Rajasekha-

sq. km—spanning rural to ur- Pradesh. The state govern- model for the entire state, stating that smart policing has led to drastic reductions in crime, improved road safety, and strengthened narcotics control, particularly curbing marijuana trafficking from neighboring states. He credited donors, including MLA Sujana Chowdhury, who contributed ₹30 lakh for CCTV installations, for supporting the police department's vision.

> "From thefts to traffic violations, technology is helping us ra Babu called the project a respond faster and more effec-

tively. In every village today, at least four CCTV cameras are operational," the Commissioner said, thanking the public and government for their continued cooperation.

NTR MP Kesineni Shivanad (Chinni), MLAs Yelamanchili Sujana Chowdhury, Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao, Gadde Rammohan Rao, Sriram Rajagopal, Kotikalapudi Srinivasa Rao, District Collector G. Lakshmisha IAS, DCP K.G.V. Saritha IPS, and other dignitaries attended the event.

### CM Reviews Urban Development, Focus on Water, Sanitation, and Waste-to-Energy

#### TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu conducted a comprehensive review of the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department at his Undavalli residence, joined by Minister Dr. P. Narayana and senior department officials.

Following the review, Minister Narayana informed the media that several key decisions were taken to accelerate urban development, improve sanitation, and revive stalled infrastructure projects.

He said that between 2014 and 2019, the previous TDP-led government had successfully secured major funds from the Centre, including ₹5,800 crore from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and ₹3,000 crore under the Swachh Bharat Mission. However, these funds were halted midway because the previous YS-RCP government failed to provide the required state share, stalling municipal progress.

"With the new government now in place, we have resolved many issues and are once again bringing back the funds for vital works," Narayana stated.Tenders have already been called under the Amrut



water pipelines. Once completed, 85% of households will receive piped water directly from rivers and canals. In addition, tenders worth ₹5,350 crore under the AIIB will be called within a week, as per CM Naidu's directive to allocate necessary state share.

Looking ahead, the government has set a target of building 100% Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) by 2029, ensuring only treated water is released into natural drains. The minister also committed to clearing all legacy waste left by the previous government by October 2 this year.Between 2014 and 2019, 10 waste-to-energy (WTE) plants were proposed, out of which Guntur and Visakhapatnam plants are currently gen-

scheme for laying drinking erating 2,800 tonnes of wastebased electricity. Tenders have been finalized for Nellore and Rajahmundry, while works for Kadapa, Kurnool, Vijayawada, and Tirupati will begin soon. Once operational, these plants will convert 7,500 tonnes of garbage daily into electricity, with the remaining 500 tonnes managed via alternate meth-

To further improve sanitation, the government has allocated ₹225 crore for compactors and sweeping machines across municipalities.

On the housing front, Narayana assured that Tidco houses will be completed at the earliest and handed over to the eligible beneficiaries without further delay.

## Five-Year Wait: ZP Teachers' **Families Demand Justice**



#### TPN Correspondent | Amaravathi

APJAC Amaravati has demanded immediate compassionate appointments in Zilla Parishad (ZP) institutions, particularly for families of teachers who died during the COVID-19 pandemic. Speaking at a joint Guntur district meeting held at the local Revenue Bhavan, AP-JAC Amaravati State Chairman and APRSA State President Bopthe government to implement a one-time settlement scheme, similar to past practices.

last five years, bereaved fam-

left in distress due to the delay in appointments. Ven- modated following sustained kateswarlu stated that Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan had earlier promised to resolve this issue by Sankranti, but action is still pending.

In the meeting presided over by APJAC district president Kanaparthi Sangeetha Rao, Boppiraju recalled how the government had earlier issued He urged Chief Minister N. piraju Venkateswarlu urged GO RT No. 1473 dated 26-07- Chandrababu Naidu and Depu-2023, granting compassionate ty CM Pawan Kalyan to amend appointments under one-time the memo dated 04.12.2013 and settlement for government allow appointments in oth-He emphasized that over the employees who died during er government departments COVID. Of the 2,744 deceased,

ilies of ZP teachers have been 1,488 families received jobs, while 836 others were accomprotests. However, ZP teachers were excluded due to a clause in the GO limiting appointments only to the respective departments. As a result, families of deceased ZP teachers have been waiting for years with no support, forced to visit government offices repeatedly. where vacancies exist.

### A New Era in Cardiology

### Ramesh Hospitals Hosts CME on **CT-FFR Advancements**

### TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Marking its 37th anniversary, Ramesh Hospitals organized a major Continuing Medical Education (CME) program on June 22 at K.L. University Auditorium, Vijayawada. Attended by over 1,300 doctors from across Andhra Pradesh, the event focused on cutting-edge advancements in cardiology, especially the use of CT-FFR in diagnosis and treatment.

Chief Cardiologist Dr. Pothineni Ramesh Babu highlighted the shift from traditional Cath Angiogram to AI-based CT Coronary Angiogram and CT-FFR, now globally recognized as the gold standard. He stated that Ramesh Hospitals has performed over 26,000 such tests, making it the first in India to adopt this scientific, algorithm-driven method that reduces unnecessary stents and surgeries.

The cardiac surgery team, led by Dr. Jayaram Pai and Dr. Shiva Prasad, revealed that the hospital successfully completed 1,003 emergency CABG surgeries with just 3% mortality. Dr. P. Chandrasekhar, Vice-Chancellor of Dr. NTRUHS, inaugurated the event and lauded the hospital's legacy in ethical cardiac

A cardiology quiz for students, supervised by Dr. Ram Manohar, also took place, encouraging academic excellence. Eminent cardiologists from Chennai, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad contributed as speakers and panelists, making the CME a landmark in knowledge sharing.



### **RBI, ARTIDS Hold Workshop** for Bank Depositors

Awareness meet held at Duggirala on banking rights and schemes



### TPN | B. Madhu

**Guntur:** A one-day workshop for bank depositors was held on Saturday at the MPDO office in Duggirala mandal under the joint auspices of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the ARTIDS organization from Kativaram village, Tenali mandal. The session aimed at spreading awareness among account holders, particularly women, about their banking rights, fraud prevention, and various government schemes.

Resource Person Dr. N. Kalahasti emphasized the importance of knowing RBI guidelines, how to avail loans, especially subsidy-based loans for agriculture and small industries, and managing bank accounts wisely.

Retired Bank of India Manager R.S. Shankara Rao, also a resource

person, explained KYC norms, bank frauds, the importance of savings, and insurance schemes like the Atal Pension Yojana, crop loans, and crop insurance under Kisan Yojana. He also shed light on risks related to garment accounts, SHG savings policies, and microfinance practices.

The Depositors Education Awareness Program was further addressed by RTDS State Coordinator Sheikh Hussain and ARTIDS Secretary Erru Sambasiva Rao, who encouraged rural depositors to stay informed and take advantage of financial services offered by the government and banks.

The event drew active participation from locals and was aimed at empowering rural citizens to safeguard their deposits and make informed financial decisions.

### CI Krantikumar's Swift **Action Saves Child's Life**

### 4-year-old girl rescued after brutal assault by her own father

TPN Correspondent | Eluru In a tragic yet moving turn of events, Chintalapudi Circle Inspector T. Krantikumar earned widespread praise for his humanity and quick response after saving the life of a 4-year-old girl who was attacked by her own father in Dharmajigudem village, Lingapalem mandal.

According to locals, a man named Ganta Radhakrishna (36) slit the throat of his daughter, Ganta Premsi, in a shocking incident that left the village stunned. Locals immediately alerted the police, and CI Krantikumar rushed to the scene without

the child in critical condition and, without waiting for an ambulance, transported her in his own vehicle to the Eluru Government Hospital. His swift action is credited with saving the young girl's life. Radhakrishna, who also sustained minor cuts on his own neck, was also taken into custody.Relatives and villagers expressed gratitude to the police, especially to CI Krantikumar, whose timely intervention made all the difference. The motive behind the horrific act is under investigation, and further action will be taken based on medical and forensic reports.



# ₹100 Crore Water Supply Plan for Penukonda

### Every home to get tap water under Amrut 2.0

#### TPN Correspondent | Penukonda

State BC Welfare Minister S. Savita announced that drinking water will be provided to every household in Penukonda town under the Amrut 2.0 scheme at a cost of ₹100 crore. Participating in several development programs on Saturday, the minister said the government was committed to the simultaneous progress of welfare and infrastructure under

the leadership of Chief Minis- lighting works at ₹1.50 lakh. ter Chandrababu Naidu.

Minister Savita, along with MP BK Parthasarathy, laid the foundation for a new Anna Canteen worth ₹62 lakh opposite the RDO office. She stated that the town would witness a transformation with phased development, including ₹5 crore worth of CC roads and pital development, and central plans for a ₹16 crore NTR

She highlighted that CM Naidu's administration is one that "makes activists fly their collars," proudly noting that promises like free sand, 3 free gas cylinders per family, and the Mother's Vandana scheme are already being implemented. Major capital projects such as Polavaram and Amaravati drainage canals, ₹2 crore for are also back on track, she said. Penukonda Government Hos- The minister further revealed

Smart City, construction of the long-awaited Konapuram Road, the use of a previously built electric pole center, a TTD Kalyanamandapam worth ₹6 crore, and a new RTC depot. An ITI for students has already been set up, she added.

Speaking about her personal commitment, Savita shared that she has been running the Anna Canteen from her own funds for three years, serving 400-500 poor people daily, de-



spite opposition from former YSRCP leaders. She accused them of attempting to disrupt the canteen's operation but credited her determination and public support for keeping it going.

Thanking CM Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, and Ministers Nara Lokesh and Narayana, she said the Pe-

nukonda people's trust—shown through a record victory margin of over 33,800 votes—would be honored through committed governance and visible development.

RDO Anand Rao, municipal officials, coalition leaders, party activists, and a large number of local residents participated in the program.

### Vizianagaram Journalists Condemn **Attack on Maha News Office**



### TPN | Narasimham

Vizianagaram: Journalists in Vizianagaram staged a powerful protest on Saturday, condemning the brutal attack on Maha News office by BRS party activists. Holding a candlelight ism of property, destruction rally from the historic fort to of cameras and vehicles, and the Three Lanterns junction, an attempted assault on Maha saults on media freedom and members of the press de- News Chairman and MD Vammanded strict action against the attackers and an apology from BRS leadership, including KCR and KTR.

The rally witnessed the participation of senior journalists, media workers, and press associations, who raised slogans in support of press freedom

and condemned the attempt to silence dissenting voices. Speaking during the rally, se-

nior journalists described the attack on the Maha News office, which included vandalsi Krishna, as a direct attack on democracy. They alleged that BRS workers, frustrated by unfavorable news reports, resorted to violence instead of offering explanations or clarifications.

"It is unfortunate and dangerous that a party which ruled

Telangana for a decade, led by KCR and KTR, is now promoting a culture of violence against the press," a senior journalist said.

They called upon all political parties and the civil society to stand united against such asurged the Telangana Congress government to ensure justice is served swiftly.

The journalists reiterated that intimidation will not stop them from reporting the truth, and warned that such incidents threaten the very fabric of a democratic society.

## **Explain Welfare Schemes to Every** Household: MLA Prashanthi

Development works in Buchi to be taken up in phases, says Kovur MLA

#### TPN | Seshu

Nellore: Kovur MLA Vemireddy Prashanti Reddy has called upon party workers and officials to go door to door and educate people about the welfare schemes introduced by the coalition government. Participating in the public grievance redressal program in the 2nd ward of Buchireddy Palem Nagar Panchayat, the MLA assured that all promises made under the Super Six agenda would be implemented in a phased and transparent manner.As part of the program, MLA Prashanti Reddy distributed tabs to 11 MEPMA Resource Persons (RPs) and personally visited several households to understand public concerns. During the visit, she urged officials to promptly address civic issues such as drinking water supply, drainage blockages, and road repairs. She emphasized that dumping garbage in drainage canals not only clogs the system but also leads to mosquito breeding and health hazards.

Highlighting the lack of development in Buchireddy Palem town over the past five years, the MLA announced that various works including road reful implementation of the free

pairs and drainage upgrades worth ₹3 crore are already underway. "We will develop Buchi town step-by-step and fulfill every promise made," she said, affirming that the coalition government stands on the pillars of both welfare and development.She added that public satisfaction with the coalition rule is evident and that the government has already rolled out initiatives such as the fisheries assurance scheme, mater-August 15 following the success- the program.

bus travel program for women. Calling on party cadres and local leaders, MLA Prashanti urged them to actively take the government's welfare agenda to every doorstep. "It is important that people are informed of what has been done in the past year. Our goal not just promises, but execution," she stated. Municipal Commissioner D. Balakrishna, Chairperson Morla Supraja, local councilor Kalyan, Vice Chairman Yaratapalli Sivnal welfare program, and free akumar Reddy, councilor Talla distribution of three gas cylin- Vaishnavi, TDP leaders Gutta ders per year. She announced Srinivasa Rao, Bezawada Jagathat the Annadata Sukhibhava dish, MV Seshaiah, Ramanaidu, scheme would be launched on Feroze, and others took part in

### Robbers Wreak Havoc in S Annavaram Village

**Tuni:** A fresh wave of thefts has once again shaken S Annavaram village in Tuni mandal, where locals are increasingly alarmed by the rising crime rate. On Friday night, two separate theft incidents were reported, bringing the total number of thefts in the he had saved for a planned pilvillage to over six within the past year.

the grocery shop of Koppisetty Lokesh, located opposite the local panchayat office. Thieves lifted the shutter and made away with cash and goods worth ₹30,000. Lokesh expressed deep anguish, saying the stolen amount was money grimage.

The first incident took place at same night, a Suzuki Access two-wheeler belonging to Keerthy Dorababu was stolen from the street opposite the panchayat office. Shockingly, the victim revealed that a similar Suzuki Access vehicle belonging to his brother Balakrishna was also stolen at the end of last year — showing a repeated pattern of thefts in

### In another incident on the the family. **POCSO Case Accused Sentenced**

to 20 Years in Jail

TPN Correspondent | Eluru

In a landmark judgment, Judge K Vanisree of the Special Court for POCSO Cases in Eluru on Saturday sentenced Sheikh Ibrahim (45) to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for sexually assaulting a minor girl. The court also ordered a compensation of ₹50,000 for the victim and imposed a fine of ₹5,000 on the accused.

The convicted, a medical shop owner from Subbampet Colony in Jangareddygudem, lured the minor girl with food items while she was on her way to

school and tuition and repeatedly assaulted her until February 6 last year, as per the prosecution. The case came to light when the girl's parents grew suspicious of her late returns and questioned her, leading to the filing of a complaint on February 10 at the Jangareddygudem police station. The then SI G. Jyothibas registered the FIR, and the investigation was carried out by DSPs M. Dhanunjayudu and U. Ravichandra, resulting in the arrest of the accused.

Amara Srinivas, along with Eluru Mahila Police Station CI M. Subbarao, Jangareddygudem CI M. V. Subash, SI S. K. Jabir, and court monitoring staff, coordinated the investigation and prosecution effectively.

Eluru SP Pratap Shiva Kishore lauded the police team and legal staff for ensuring justice through a quick and diligent investigation, leading to the firm sentencing of the offender in a sensitive case under the Protection of Children from Special Public Prosecutor V. Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

## **CPM Leads Land Acquisition** Protest in Singanapudi

TPN Correspondent |

Mandavalli

In a powerful show of protest, members of the Singanapudi Field Labor Cooperative Society, supported by the Communist Party of India (Marxist), launched a land acquisition movement in Singanapudi village, Mandavalli mandal, on Saturday. The protest was aimed at reclaiming society lands allegedly being used illegally by private lessees without lease payments.

Beginning from the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar statue in the village, the society members, many of them Dalit agricultural workers, carried red flags in a rally to the contested lands. There,

land by hoisting red flags and installing society name boards, asserting their rightful owner-

CPM District Secretary A. Ravi alleged that Madapati Krishna Prasad of Kaikalur has been illegally cultivating the lands of the society for years without paying any lease and has been exploiting the Dalits under the guise of lease agreements. He questioned the inaction of revenue officials despite repeated complaints and demanded that a case under the SC/ST Atrocities Act be booked against Krishna Prasad. He also insisted that the unpaid lease amount be recovered immediately.

they symbolically reclaimed the He further assured that the CPM would continue to support the Dalit community's struggle for land rights and warned of intensified protests if justice is not served. District Secretary K. Srinivas, District Committee Member S. Mahankali Rao, and MRPS leaders Y. Daniel and P. Prasad also addressed the gathering, demanding swift action from the authorities.

> Society President K. Jagadish, Secretary Uchchula Sudheer Kumar, and several other members, including Pakkiri Davidu, Pakkiri James, Boddu Ananda Rao, and Pamula Susheela, were present and actively participated in the protest.





## Uniting Humanity Through Space: India's Journey from Rakesh Sharma to Shubanshu Shukla"



space in 1984 when Rakesh Sharma flew aboard the Soviet Soyuz T-11 mis-Group Commander Shubanshu Shukla has followed in those footsteps,

India took its first historic step into marking another milestone in India's journey into space. His mission is not just a national achievement but a sion. Decades later, Indian Air Force beacon of hope for global cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space.

space demonstrates how space knowledge can bring humanity closer. Space holds many mysteries, and though early space research was often viewed with skepticism or even disbelief, modern exploration has revealed profound insights, many of which reaffirm a sense of divine creation. In this sense, space knowledge becomes a way of revealing the work of the universe and, metaphorically, the hand of God.

When I had the honor of meeting Rakesh Sharma in 2015 in Chennai, I was deeply moved. He inspired me to understand that while our thoughts must soar to the sky, our feet must remain grounded. This philosophy should guide our daily lives.

Despite divisions among nations, languages, governance, ideologies, and conflicts, space exploration represents cooperation and unity. The International Space Station (ISS) is a living symbol of how countries like the USA, Poland, Hungary, and now India can work together. Even though the astronauts aboard may differ in culture and language, they are united in their mission and humanity.

Such cooperation is crucial on Earth, where the threat of war, especially nuclear conflict, endangers the future of humanity. Instead of division, we must build friendships and unity, values that the ISS embodies.

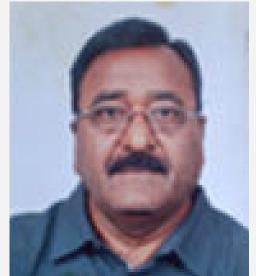
Rakesh Sharma, as part of the 1984

Commander Shukla's entry into Soviet Soyuz T-11 mission, spent seven days aboard the Salyut T-7 space station. Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Malyshev piloted the mission. Similarly, Commander Shubanshu Shukla, during his mission in 2025, expressed heartfelt gratitude to his family, friends, and especially his wife, just as Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space, did decades ago. These gestures of gratitude highlight the emotional depth of space explorers and their awareness of the support they receive from loved ones.

> Shukla's message to the youth is powerful, space research and knowledge must be pursued with enthusiasm, teamwork, and curiosity. Young people must work together and support each other in science, exploration, and discovery.

> We were also fortunate to meet Dangeti Jahnavi, a young Telugu girl from Andhra Pradesh, who trained at NASA and is now eligible for a space mission scheduled in 2029. Her journey is a matter of immense pride for the people of India, especially the Telugu community. When she visited our home recently, we honored her with a shawl and a memento. Her achievements are an inspiration to countless students, especially girls aspiring to careers in space science.

Commander Shubanshu Shukla's journey began in the City Montessori School in Lucknow, where he was an ordinary student. Encouraged by a friend, he applied to the National



G. Santhamurthy, Founder & Secretary, Children Space Club Of India Guntur. 9492464329

Defence Academy (NDA) at the age of 16 and was selected on June 17, 2006. While continuing his training, he pursued aerospace engineering at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.

India has always aspired to be a peaceful nation committed to unity. In 1984, Rakesh Sharma went into space from Russian soil. In 2025, Shubanshu Shukla launched from the United States. And in 2027, India hopes to send its own astronauts from its own soil, fulfilling the dreams of generations. Let us continue to inspire, educate, and support our youth to explore the final frontier, together.



## Headingley Test: A Loss on Paper, But a Step Forward for Team India

Despite the scoreboard reflecting a convincing defeat, India's performance in the Headingley Test against England offered encouraging glimpses of a team in transition with growing self-belief. The match wasn't without its disappointments—most notably in bowling and fielding—but the overall takeaway suggests that this Indian side under new leadership has more reasons to look ahead with optimism than despair.

Shubman Gill, leading the side in his first major assignment as captain, had plenty to prove. Having been dropped in the previous series, his promotion was seen as bold. While his captaincy remains a work in progress—his game reading and field placements under scrutiny—Gill the batsman made a strong statement by embracing the crucial No. 4 position with confidence. His public declaration of aiming to be the highest scorer in the series reflects ambition, not arrogance.

KL Rahul, the batting veteran, brought stability and technical mastery, hinting that he could emerge as the key guiding force in India's top order. His flexible role between No. 3 and 6 was executed with maturity, offering both resilience and intent. Yashasvi Jaiswal, though guilty of dropping crucial catches that cost the team 166 runs, continues to show signs of being a future batting stalwart.

Among the most promising developments was the debut of Sai Sudharsan. Despite a nervous first innings and tough introduction to England's conditions, his composed 30 in the second innings revealed glimpses of class and preparation. With his IPL dominance and disciplined approach off the field, Sudharsan is one to watch.

The return of Karun Nair was another highlight. Though his scores weren't substantial, his mental

strength—especially after six years in the wilderness—was evident. He deserves more time and a stable role, particularly after showing intent in the second innings.

India's real concern was their bowling unit. While Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj showed patches of brilliance, third and fourth seamers like Prasidh Krishna leaked runs heavily, and Shardul Thakur failed in his dual role as a batting all-rounder. The side would benefit from blooding in sharper swing bowlers like Arshdeep Singh and a more attacking spinner like Kuldeep

Yes, the team lost. But with five centuries, promising new faces, and growing leadership under Gill, India seems to be building a new core. The Headingley loss, while painful, might just be a vital stepping stone in shaping a more balanced, aggressive, and future-ready Test side.

## The Hidden Bias in Online **Reviews: Why You Should Think Twice Before Trusting Them**

In today's digital age, online reviews are the true average experience. often treated as gospel. From buying a rely on these ratings to make decisions. But what if the very reviews we trust are deeply flawed? There's a silent bias at play—one few talk about—and it can lead to seriously misleading impres-

Think of online reviews like a tunnel. At the end of that tunnel, there might be treasure—or a trap. One by one, people enter the tunnel, each holding a candle. Some candles are dim, barely revealing anything. Others, by luck or strong opinion, shine brighter and shape the view for everyone who follows. These brighter candles represent the loudest voices in online feedback—typically the extremely satisfied or deeply disappointed customers. The vast majority, who might have had an average or mildly positive experience, often remain silent. This creates a "participation bias" in the review ecosystem. Only a small fraction of customers leave reviews, and they tend to represent either end of the emotional spectrum. That's why you often see products with a mix of glowing five-star ratings and scathing one-star rants, with little in between. The result? A skewed perception that fails to reflect

smartphone to booking a vacation or Moreover, fake reviews—both positive choosing a doctor, consumers heavily and negative—have become increasingly sophisticated. Some businesses pay for glowing testimonials to boost their rankings, while competitors might plant negative reviews to sabotage reputations. Even when reviews are genuine, they are subject to personal biases, unreasonable expectations, or one-off incidents that may not apply to most consumers.

> The real-world implications are significant. A poor rating could unfairly doom a decent product, or an inflated score might lead you to waste money on something subpar. For consumers, this means approaching reviews with a healthy dose of skepticism. Be wary of patterns: if feedback is overly enthusiastic without details or extremely negative without context, dig deeper. Look for verified purchases, balanced reviews, and recent trends rather than isolated praise or complaints.

> In the end, online reviews should be one of many tools in your decision-making toolbox—not the final word. By understanding the hidden biases in online feedback, you can make more informed, rational, and fair choices.







## "India Looks Very Grand, Very Big From Space": Shubhanshu Shukla To PM Modi

### TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, the first Indian astronaut to reach the International Space Station (ISS), spoke with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a heartfelt 18-minute conversation filled with science, emotion, and national pride.

Shukla, the first Indian in space since Rakesh Sharma in 1984, described his mission not just as a personal achievement but as a symbolic step forward for India. "This is not only my journey from Earth to 400 km above — it's our country's journey," he told PM Modi.

said that though he was far from India, he was closest to the hearts of 140 crore Indians. Shukla shared how his



childhood dream turned into reality The astronaut described how India PM Modi congratulated Shukla and under current leadership, and how space offers a united view of Earth with no borders visible.

looked from orbit: "India appears far Shukla also shared lighter moments Ending with "Bharat Mata ki Jai," grander than on a map," he said, recalling Rakesh Sharma's famous 1984 words, "Saare Jahan Se Achha."

carrot halwa and mango juice for international crewmates, which they

loved. He detailed life in microgravity, where even simple tasks like sleeping or drinking water become difficult.

On the scientific front, Shukla revealed that he is conducting seven Indian experiments aboard the ISS, including studies on stem cells and microalgae. He credited meditation for helping maintain focus and calm in space.

PM Modi praised Shukla's efforts and gave him "homework" to document his mission for India's future programs like Gaganyaan and the Indian space station.

bringing Indian delicacies like Shukla dedicated his mission to the nation, urging youth to dream big: "The sky is never the limit."

## **Looking At Strengthening Partnership** With Canada: India

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Canada and his meeting with newly elected Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, India signaled its intent to strengthen bilateral ties with Ottawa across key sectors such as trade, energy, mobility, and educa-

Addressing the media on Thursday, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated, "We are looking forward to strengthening our partnership with Canada in several respects—on the economic side, trade side, energy side, mobility, and student exchange."

The remarks follow a recent high-level interaction between PM Modi and PM Carney on the sidelines of the G7 summit held in Indian involvement in the killing of pro-Kananaskis, Canada. Jaiswal described the meeting as "very productive and positive,"



with both leaders agreeing to take "constructive and balanced" steps to restore normalcy in relations.

Tensions between India and Canada had reached a low point in 2023 after then-Prime Minister Justin Trudeau publicly alleged Khalistan separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. The fallout led to reciprocal expulsions of lations.

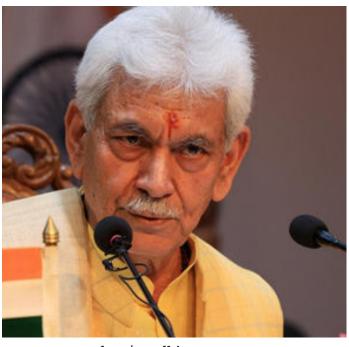
diplomats and a halt in several bilateral en-

Responding to a question on the Nijjar case and whether ties with Canada were improving, Jaiswal emphasized that the matter remains under judicial consideration and refrained from further comment, stating, "It is a legal issue. That particular matter is under judicial process right now."

Despite past strains, both sides appear committed to a reset. The two prime ministers agreed to the early return of ambassadors to each other's capitals and emphasized the importance of resuming senior ministerial and working-level discussions across key sectors to rebuild trust.

Mark Carney's election victory in April, as leader of Canada's Liberal Party, has sparked optimism about renewed diplomatic engagement and more stable India-Canada re-

## L-G Manoj Sinha Reviews **Amarnath Yatra** Preparations, **Secures** Stakeholder Support



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, on Saturday reviewed preparations for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra, meeting with a wide range of stakeholders in Srinagar to ensure smooth conduct of the annual pilgrimage. The meeting, held at the Sheri-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC), included civil society members, religious leaders, District Development Council (DDC) chairpersons, trade association representatives, political leaders, and sitting MLAs.

Among the key attendees was former Chief Minister and National Conference leader Omar Abdullah. Addressing the gathering, L-G Sinha emphasized the government's commitment to providing enhanced facilities and robust security for pilgrims, despite challenging weather and terrain.

"Significant improvements have been made to ensure better comfort and safety for yatris. Local residents, especially those involved in the yatra, have always served with dedication," said Mr. Sinha.

Following the interaction, L-G Sinha told reporters that leaders from all major political parties had assured their cooperation for the peaceful and successful conduct of both the Amarnath Yatra and the upcoming Muharram observances. He noted that this inclusive dialogue with stakeholders has been part of a consistent effort over the last four years to foster community support and coordination.

Mr. Sinha highlighted that all participants agreed the Amarnath Yatra should be seen as a people's pilgrimage rather than just an administrative or shrine board event. He expressed confidence in its smooth execution with the collective support of the public and administrative bodies.

"With the blessings of Baba Amarnath, I am confident the yatra will be peaceful and successful," he concluded.

## Don't Be Surprised If India Repeats Action **Upon Provocation: Shashi Tharoor**

TPN Correspondent Delhi

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor stated on Saturday that India clearly conveyed to foreign governments during post-Operation Sindoor diplomatic outreach that any future provocation would be met with a similar response. Speaking at the Ahmedabad Management Association, Tharoor emphasized that Indian delegations, including the one he led, explained India's restrained and targeted action against terrorist camps in Pakistan.

Tharoor said the global community was largely understanding of India's position. Even countries like Colombia, which initial-Pakistan, later withdrew their statements. "Many leaders respected India's right to self-defence and appreciated the restraint shown. We made it clear that if such attacks happen again, India would not hesitate to respond similarly," he said.



Tharoor underlined that India never intendly expressed condolences for casualties in ed to escalate the situation into a full-scale war. "Our aim was retribution against terrorist bases only. We didn't target civilians or military installations," he explained, adding that India had always been willing to stop once Pakistan ceased hostilities.

He also noted that while India acted inde-

pendently, Pakistan might have needed external persuasion to de-escalate. "If they stopped because of American influence, that's fine by us," he remarked.

Tharoor, who led one of seven Indian delegations to 33 global capitals, said his group's role was to reinforce the government's message on Pakistan's involvement in terrorism.

On the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, he urged all political leaders to recommit to the Constitution and democratic values rather than politicizing the moment. Acknowledging the Emergency as a difficult period, he said even Indira Gandhi accepted the people's verdict when elections were called.

Reflecting on his recent Russia visit, Tharoor called it a valuable opportunity to engage with Russian leaders, including his longtime friend, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

## **India Imposes Land and Sea Port Restrictions** on Jute Imports from Bangladesh

Tn a significant move, India has restricted Lathe entry of jute and related products from Bangladesh through its land and most seaports, effective immediately. The decision, announced by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade on June 27, 2025, allows imports of jute only through the Nhava Sheva seaport in Mumbai.

This latest restriction comes just weeks after India halted apparel imports from Bangladesh via land ports on May 17. The new measure is aimed at curbing the impact of what Indian authorities describe as "dumped and subsidised" jute imports from Bangladesh that have been harming the domestic jute industry for years.

"Jute from Bangladesh has enjoyed duty-free access to India under existing trade arrangements. However, persistent dumping and



heavy government subsidies from Bangladesh have undermined Indian producers," said an official familiar with the matter. The official added that although anti-dumping duties (ADD) were previously imposed on jute imports from Bangladesh, they failed to stem the influx of cheap jute goods due to continued financial support from the Bangladeshi government.

The restrictions apply to a wide range of jute and allied fibre products, including raw jute, yarn, and jute bags—items that form a large part of Bangladesh's export basket to India. Indian jute manufacturers have long voiced concerns about being unable to compete with low-cost, subsidised imports that have flooded the market.

The move is expected to have significant trade implications for Bangladesh, which relies heavily on India as a key market for its jute sector. At the same time, it signals a shift in India's approach to trade with its neighbour, focusing more on safeguarding domestic industries.

The situation may further strain bilateral trade relations, already under pressure from earlier import restrictions. Talks between the two nations may be required to resolve the growing friction over trade policies.



# **GLOBAL**

## Trump Reflects on Assassination Threats Amid Court Victory and **Rising Political Tensions**

January 6, 2021.

TPN Correspondent | Washington

U.S. President Donald Trump, during an impromptu White House press conference on Friday, spoke wake of recent U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear facandidly about threats to his life while celebrating a major Supreme Court victory that bolsters his administration's power. The Court's ruling significantly limits the ability of federal judges to impose nationwide injunctions, a move seen as a green light for Trump's ambitious policy agenda.

When asked about ongoing threats, Trump reflected on the July 13, 2024 incident in Pennsylvania where he was grazed by a bullet during a campaign rally. "I get that throbbing feeling every once in a while," Trump said. "But you know what? That's okay. This is a dangerous business."

The president described the role as riskier than many perilous professions. "Race car drivers, 1/10 of 1% die. Bull riders, same. But when you're president, it's about 5%. If someone had told me that, maybe I wouldn't have run," he remarked.

Trump has faced multiple threats during his presidency. On September 15, 2024, he survived another assassination attempt while golfing in West Palm

Beach, Florida. The suspect in that case is currently facing five federal charges and has pleaded not guilty.

The suspect behind the Pennsylvania rally shooting was killed by Secret Service agents. That incident left one attendee dead and two others injured. Additionally, U.S. officials have accused Iran's Islamic Revo-

lutionary Guard Corps of plotting to assassinate Trump—a charge Tehran denies, especially in the cilities.

Serving his second term, Trump has expanded presidential powers, often clashing with opponents and promising retribution. The U.S. continues to experience heightened political violence, with Reuters documenting over 300 politically motivated violent incidents since the Capitol riot on



### **Tibetan Americans, U.S. Congress Mark Tibet Lobby Day and Dalai Lama's 90th Birthday with Unity** and Advocac

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Washington D.C. witnessed a powerful show of solidarity this week as over 200 Tibetan Americans and supporters from 25 U.S. states and the District of Columbia gathered at the Capitol for Tibet Lobby Day. The event, held in the lead-up to His

Holiness the Dalai Lama's 90th birthday on July 6, 2025, aimed to bring attention to Tibet's struggle for freedom and advocate for stronger U.S. support.

Organized by the International Campaign for Tibet (ICT), the Office of Tibet, and the Capitol Area Tibetan Association, the twoday initiative saw participants visiting more than 100 Congressional offices. It concluded with a celebratory event hosted by Congressmen Michael McCaul and Jim McGovern, and attended by key leaders including Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis, and Congressman Michael Baumgartner. Actor and activist Richard Gere, Chairman of ICT, participated virtually.

ing conversation with the Dalai Lama: "I asked him if he held resentment toward the Chinese. He said, 'I cannot let negative emotions overwhelm my spirit." McCaul

praised the Dalai Lama's resilience and emphasized, "They may take your land, but they cannot erase your spirit."

Congressman McGovern expressed deep admiration for the Dalai Lama, saying, "He inspires millions through his messages of peace, tolerance, and human dignity. Let's celebrate his next birthday together in Lhasa, Tibet."

Tencho Gyatso, President of ICT, thanked supporters, stating, "This success is a result of passionate individuals and lawmakers standing for those facing oppression in Tibet." The efforts paid off, with four new Senate co-sponsors and six in the House signing onto the pro-Tibet resolution during Lobby Day.

Congressman McCaul recounted a touch- As part of ICT's Compassion Rising campaign and the CTA's Year of Compassion, the event underscored the ongoing global advocacy for Tibetan rights and celebrated the enduring legacy of the Dalai Lama.

### Netanyahu Rejects Report Alleging Israeli **Troops Ordered to Shoot** at Gazans Seeking Aid



TPN Correspondent | Moscow Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Despite the Israeli leadership's Minister Israel Katz have strongly denied a report by the istry reported that over 500 Israeli daily Haaretz, which Palestinians have been killed alleged that Israeli soldiers had received orders to shoot at Palestinians approaching aid distribution sites in Gaza. The leaders condemned the report on Friday (June 27, 2025), calling it a collection of "malicious falsehoods designed to defame the Israeli military."

The controversial Haaretz article claimed that specific The rising death toll has raised military units were instructed to fire at Palestinians near humanitarian aid locations, prompting outrage and renewed scrutiny of the Israeli military's conduct amid the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Katz stressed the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) adhere to strict operational protocols and international law. They argued that the report undermines the legitimacy of Israel's security forces and misoperating in a war zone where Hamas and other militant groups allegedly use civilians

as human shields.

denials, the Gaza Health Minand hundreds more injured while trying to obtain food since the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF) began aid distribution roughly a month ago. Many of the victims, according to Gaza officials, were unarmed civilians in desperate need of food and essential supplies.

international concern, with humanitarian agencies calling for safer and more transparent distribution mechanisms and accountability for violence against civilians.

As conditions in Gaza continue to worsen, the allega-In response, Netanyahu and tions—whether substantiated or not—highlight the increasingly fragile state of humanitarian access in the region. With both sides presenting conflicting narratives, pressure is mounting on international observers to investigate represents the complexities of the claims independently and ensure aid reaches those most in need without violence or interference.

### 13 Pakistani Soldiers Killed, 24 Injured in Deadly Suicide Bombing in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

In a devastating attack early Saturday morning, at least 13 Pakistani securiinjured, including 14 civilians, when a suicide bomber targeted a military convoy in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's North Wablast. ziristan district.

bomber drove an explosives-laden vehicle directly into a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle belonging The Hafiz Gul Bahadur to the Bomb Disposal Unit. The incident faction, long active in the occurred in the Khaddi area while a curfew was in place due to ongoing military border, has previously operations in the region.

The explosion resulted in a high number rity forces.

of casualties, including women and children among the injured civilians. Several This latest suicide bombing is being deof them are reportedly in critical condity personnel were killed and 24 others tion, raising fears of a higher death toll. Rescue operations were swiftly launched by security forces following the powerful

The militant group Usud al-Harb, a rous border regions of Pakistan. According to security sources, the suicide sub-faction of the Hafiz Gul Bahadur group, has claimed responsibility for the attack. tribal belt near the Afghan

> been involved in a series of assaults targeting secu-

scribed as one of the deadliest attacks in North Waziristan in recent months, raising alarm over the deteriorating security conditions in the area. The attack also highlights the persistent threat posed by militant outfits operating along the po-

Authorities have increased security in the region, and an investigation is underway to assess how the attacker breached security layers despite ongoing military operations. The government and military are expected to respond with heightened counterterrorism measures in the wake of the tragic incident.



### **Putin accuses West of encouraging separatism** with Russia's 2022 invasion. Since then,

TPN Correspondent | UN

Russian President Vladimir Putin has sharply criticized Western nations, accusing them of encouraging separatist movements and ignoring terrorist activities as long as they are directed against Russia. Speaking in Minsk, the capital of Belarus, on Friday, Putin alleged that the West has adopted a double standard when it comes to issues of security and terrorism, particularly concerning Russia.

"No one has wished to pay attention to the Islamic State, as long as it operates against Russia. Explosions in Moscow, and all that. This is still happening today. No one wants to pay attention to this. Everything is fine, as long as it is against Russia," Putin remarked, expressing frustration at what he sees as the West's selective outrage.

Putin also claimed that the so-called "collective West" had historically supported



separatist tendencies within Russia, weaponizing them as part of a broader strategy to destabilize the country. "The same happened when the collective West encouraged separatism in our country, and such an instrument of the fight against Russia as terrorism," he added.

The Russian leader's remarks come amid ongoing tensions between Moscow and Western powers, primarily stemming from the conflict in Ukraine, which began

Russia has faced a wide range of international sanctions, diplomatic isolation from the West, and intensified NATO cooperation with Ukraine and other neighboring states.

Putin's comments are consistent with Russia's longstanding narrative that Western countries, particularly the United States and its European allies, use global conflicts and regional unrest as tools to weaken Russian influence and power. The accusation regarding Western indifference to terrorist threats inside Russia is also part of a broader strategy to rally domestic support and position Russia as a victim of international hypocrisy.

As global geopolitical alignments continue to shift, Putin's remarks signal a continued hardening of rhetoric and a deepening divide between Russia and the Western world.





### **PORTFOLIO**

## "Genus Power: Dominant Smart Meter Player with Explosive Growth and a ₹30,000 Cr Order Book - A Powerhouse in the Making"



This week we are discussing GENUS POWER an important player in Electricity Metering Solu- EPS (in rup tions Industry. Smart Meters are digital devices that provide accurate and live consumption data Today we are living in a

world where technology touches every aspect of our life. Solar Energy, Smart Meters, Electricity Vehicles etc etc. As a pioneer in Smart Meter Sector, Genus Power established itself as a strong player in Smart Meter Sector with 27% share.

#### **BASIC DATA:**

Market Cap: Rs.11356 Crores. Capital Rs.27.63 Crores Face Value Rs.1 MP on 27-06-2025 - Rs.373.70 52 Week High Rs.485 PE - 33 Sector PE - 81

### **LATEST FINANCIALS:**

31-03-24

Revenue/Sales 1200 31-03-25 (Rupees in Crores) 2442

311 3.61 EPS (in rupees) 11.27 Return on Equity 5.51 16.67

Revenue has more than doubled. Net Profit has jumped more than three times. EPS jumped more than 2 times. Return on Equity at 16.67% is far above the Benchmark of 7%. Benchmark is the in- RISKS: terest on Bank Deposit at 7%.

This is a fantastic growth by any standard.

### **FUTURE OF THE COMPANY:**

- 1. Government has an ambitious target of installing 250 Million smart meters by March, 2026. But upto April, 2025 only 2.50 millions smart meters were installed. There is a huge gap to be **FINAL WORDS**: filled and growth opportunity ia very huge.
- 2. At present major part of business is confined to to Bihar and Assam States. If Central Government is aggressive and sincere in implementation and majority of the States wake up to the benefits of smart meters, a new

world of opportunities will open up for the Smart meter sector.

- 3. It has an order book of Rs.30000 Crores which assures business for coming years.
- 4. GIC a Sovereign Wealth Fund of Singapore took a 15% stake in the Company - which indictes the prospects for Smat Metering Space.

- 1. Operating Cash Flow has been nagative for the company for continuousoy two years indicating the problem in the area of receivables.
- 2. Debt Equity Ratio is high at 0.73 which is a matter of concern.
- 3. There is no clarity on the matter of pledge of

Emkay Global Financial Services has given price target of Rs.450.

> Paleti Hari Prasad Fundamental Analyst +91 8179656259

## JSW Paints to Acquire Akzo Nobel India for ₹12,915 Crore, Becomes 4th Largest Player in Paint Industry

TSW Paints, part of Sajjan Jindal's J JSW Group, announced on Friday its acquisition of Dutch multinational Akzo Nobel's India unit in a landmark ₹12,915 crore deal. This acquisition will propel JSW Paints to the position of the fourth-largest player in the Indian paint industry.

As per the agreement, JSW Paints will acquire a 74.76% stake in Akzo Nobel India Ltd (ANIL) from its Dutch parent Akzo Nobel NV and affiliated entities for ₹8,986 crore. Following this, JSW, along with its group companies JTPM Metal Traders and JSW EduInfra, will make an open offer to acquire the remaining 25.24% stake from public shareholders for up to ₹3,929 crore.

The acquisition is based on an enter-



prise value of around €1.4 billion (approximately ₹12,915 crore), reflecting an EV/EBITDA multiple of 22x. The deal includes Akzo Nobel's liquid paints and coatings business in India, particularly the well-known Dulux brand.

However, the India Powder Coatings division and the International Research Centre currently under ANIL will remain with Akzo Nobel NV. This move marks the Dutch firm's exit from the Indian decorative paints segment, a market that has seen intensified competition with new entrants like the Aditya Birla Group investing over ₹10,000 crore.

According to Akzo Nobel NV, the deal will yield net cash proceeds of approximately €900 million, with €500 million allocated to debt reduction. The company also plans a €400 million share buyback post-deal closure.

The acquisition is subject to regulatory clearances, including approval from the Competition Commission of India (CCI), and the successful completion of the mandatory open offer. Once finalized, this deal positions JSW Paints as a significant force in India's rapidly evolving paint and coatings sector.

**BSE Shares** Slip as SEBI **Imposes ₹25** Lakh Fine for **Regulatory Violations** 



hares of the Bombay Stock Ex-**S**change (BSE) declined over 1% on Thursday after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) imposed a ₹25 lakh penalty for breaching regulatory norms related to data dissemination and trading compliance.

The stock fell 1.47% to ₹2,748 on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) following a weak opening, reacting to the regulatory action stemming from an inspection carried out between February 2021 and September 2022.

In a detailed 45-page order issued on Wednesday, SEBI highlighted serious lapses in BSE's system architecture. It found that certain corporate announcements were made accessible to BSE's paid clients and its internal Listing Compliance Monitoring (LCM) team before the information was published on the public website. This created an unfair advantage, violating the principle of equal access to market information.

The regulator concluded that BSE failed to comply with Regulation 39(3) of the SECC Regulations, 2018, which mandates fair and transparent access to all stakeholders. SEBI also criticized BSE for not having a proper real-time information feed like an RSS (Really Simple Syndication) system, which could have prevented the information disparity.

Additionally, SEBI identified deficiencies in how BSE monitored client code modifications. The stock exchange did not take disciplinary action against brokers frequently altering trade codes and failed to properly oversee 'error accounts' raising concerns over potential misuse and insufficient due diligence, particularly in trades between unrelated institutional clients.

While BSE eventually introduced corrective measures, SEBI noted that these actions came only after the inspection exposed the shortcomings. The regulator's penalty underlines the need for tighter oversight and a more transparent framework to uphold market integrity.

## India's Oil Imports from US Surge Over 270% in Early 2025 **Amid Trade Deal Talks**

Tndia's crude oil imports from the United States ■witnessed a sharp spike of over 270% in the first four months of 2025, highlighting the country's strategic push to diversify energy sources while reinforcing economic ties with Washington. From January to April, India imported 6.31 million tonnes of US crude, compared to just 1.69 million tonnes during the same period in 2024, according to official trade data.

This dramatic rise aligns closely with ongoing negotiations between New Delhi and Washington for an interim trade agreement, which both trade imbalances and facilitate smoother access sides aim to finalize by July 9. The talks, now in their final phase, are expected to address key



to critical commodities, including energy prod-

Energy experts see this development as a du- The deepening energy partnership between the dependency on traditional oil suppliers from the Middle East but also to strengthen its geopolitical alignment with the US amid global uncertainties, including tensions in the Red Sea and fluctuating oil prices.

The surge in US oil imports also reflects a broader trend in India's energy strategy, where price stability, reliability of supply, and long-term partnerships are increasingly prioritized. US crude, particularly light sweet crude, is seen as a cost-effective and environmentally favorable option for Indian refiners.

al-pronged move by India — not only to reduce two nations also complements broader diplomatic efforts, including growing cooperation in technology, defense, and supply chains. The trade deal under negotiation could further incentivize energy transactions, with lower tariffs or simplified regulatory processes for US crude exporters.

> As India continues to expand its energy basket and strengthen bilateral trade partnerships, the steep rise in oil imports from the US signals not only a shift in trade patterns but also India's readiness to recalibrate its foreign economic policy in a rapidly changing global order.



# **OFF BEAT**

### **Would You Try It?** Chinese Café Serves Pork **Intestine Broth Latte**



In the ever-evolving world of experimental food trends, a café in China has taken innovation to a whole new level by serving lattes infused with pork intestine broth. Located flavor profile that some say rein the southwestern province sembles salty cheese. of Sichuan, the café has introduced this unusual combina- Priced at 32 yuan (approxition that has quickly become a mately ₹385), the drink comes local sensation.

The drink, called the "pork intestine latte," features a mix the intestine flavor to be. of regular coffee with a dash of cooked pork intestine liquid Yuchi sources the broth from and chitterlings. Surprisingly, a well-known local eatery and it has seen massive popularity since its launch, with nearly 80% of customers opting to try cacy of intestines while still the bizarre blend.

Zhang Yuchi, the café's owner, said he was inspired by Jiangyou's traditional cuisine, where red-braised pork inwanted to combine our city's iconic flavor with coffee to promote both our local food and red chillies and hot pepper. my café," he explained.

Each cup contains exactly 6 ky brew? grams of pork intestine broth

— a carefully tested amount that adds a noticeable taste without overpowering the coffee. The result is a latte that's salty, slightly sweet, and has a

in three strength levels: entrance, mid, and high — depending on how bold you want

adds it fresh to every cup. "We want people to enjoy the delitasting real coffee," he said, hoping adventurous drinkers will embrace the unique blend.

China is no stranger to unconventional coffee trends. testines are a local favorite. "I Just last year, a café in Jiangxi province made headlines for launching a latte infused with

Would you dare to sip this por-

## 'Reads Mails, Owns A Clock': Pepperfry's Savage Job Ad Aimed at Gen Z Goes Viral

**WANTED** 

We're looking for a Social Media and Video Production intern who does not show up at 11:47 AM clutching a matcha tea, who at least

reads the emails, and ideally refrains from using words like

"SUS" and "NO CAP" in Emails . Someone who remembers to come

back after the lunch break, doesn't expect a gold star for

is a personal favour to the company.

P.S. Has an alarm clock. That actually works.

the company."

 $\mathbf{I}^{\text{n}}$  a sea of formal and predictable job listings, furniture brand Pepperfry has stood out by dropping a hilariously blunt completing basic tasks, and doesn't behave like showing up to work brutally honest job posting — and it's taking the internet by

storm. The Media and Video Production Intern, has quickly gone viral for refreshingly no-nonsense And the punchline? "PS: Has

Gen Z work habits.

Shared on social media, the job While some found the listing what follows is far from conventional. The listing outlines exactly the kind of candidate the comwith biting sarcasm.

Here's a taste of the now-trending ad:

"We are looking for a Social Media and Video Production intern who does not show up at 11:47 AM clutching a matcha tea, who at least reads the emails, and ideally refrains from using words like SUS and NO CAP in emails. Someone who remembers to come back after the lunch break, doesn't expect a gold star for completing basic tasks, and doesn't behave like showing up

listing, aimed at hiring a Social to work is a personal favour to

tone and not-so-subtle jabs at an alarm clock. That actually works."

description begins with a sim- hilarious and brutally relatple and dramatic "Wanted," but able, others debated whether the tone bordered on unprofessional. Regardless, it's captured widespread attention — striking pany doesn't want — and does it a chord with managers tired of workplace slack and candidates who appreciate transparency over corporate sugarcoating.

> The ad has also sparked conversations about generational work ethics, the evolving office culture, and whether companies are adapting or pushing back against modern-day workplace trends.

> One thing's for sure — Pepperfry knows how to get people talking, and this job listing is proof.

## Squid Game 3 Finale Review: Deadlier Games, Emotional Closure & A Meme Fest That United the Internet

The global phenomenon that shook streaming platforms in 2021 has finally come to an end. Squid Game 3, the third and final season of Netflix's dystopian South Korean thriller, dropped on June 27, 2025, and fans across the world are buzzing with reactions, emotions and a flood of memes.

Created by Hwang Dong-hyuk, the series has consistently tackled themes like economic disparity, desperation, human morality, and the price of survival. The finale takes these concepts to their peak, bringing back the series' protagonist Seong Gi-hun—now not just a former winner but a man on a mission to destroy the very game that made him rich and broken at the same time.

Season 3 doesn't hold back. It amps up the stakes with more brutal games, unpredictable players, and a final arc that challenges the very foundation of the deadly contest. Gi-hun's return to the arena is emotionally charged as he attempts to dismantle the corrupt system from within. His character arc—full of internal conflict, guilt, and moral reckoning—adds a powerful layer to the already intense storyline.



While critics are divided on whether the finale offered a satisfying closure or left too many threads hanging, one thing is certain: fans are united in their passion. Social media exploded with memes, fan theories, and reactions ranging from tears to cheers. Some praised the show's bold ending, while others were devastated by the unexpected twists.

From symbolic red-light-green-light

callbacks to emotional sacrifices, Squid Game 3 stayed true to its tone till the very end. And even as the credits rolled, fans weren't just saying goodbye to a show—they were bidding farewell to a cultural milestone.

The verdict? Squid Game 3 ends not just with a bang, but with a global emotional wave—and plenty of meme-worthy moments.

## **Al-Generated Monkey's Kedarnath Viog** Goes Viral, Sparks Buzz on Social Media

Tn a bizarre yet heartwarming twist, **L**an AI-generated video featuring a talking monkey embarking on a spiritual journey to Kedarnath has taken the internet by storm. Curated with remarkable visual effects and storytelling, the video showcases a monkey taking a holy dip in the Ganges at Haridwar, emotionally narrating its desire to seek blessings from Kedarnath Baba. Despite being entirely AI-generated, the video has stirred up both amusement and deep reflection among viewers.

In the viral clip, the animated monmonkey performing traditional Hindu rituals, bathing in the Ganga, and later trekking through mountainous paths, symbolizing the tough yet divine journey to the Kedarnath shrine.

Shared widely on Instagram, YouTube, and Facebook, the video has garnered millions of views, leaving many initially fooled into thinking it was real. Others were deeply moved by the emo-

key says, "I have come to Haridwar to tional tone and spiritual message, are now urged to ensure transparenbathe, and then I will visit Kedarnath While the monkey's expressions and cy and proper labeling of AI-generated Baba." The video continues to show the voiceover have been lauded for their realism and humor, the video has also

> in digital storytelling. Though many are enjoying the light-hearted and creative aspect of this AI-generated vlog, experts warn of the potential for misinformation and manipulation using similar technol-

ogies. Viewers and content platforms

ignited conversations about the ethical

implications and rising influence of AI

content to avoid confusion.

Regardless of the debate, the video stands as a testament to the growing power of AI in entertainment, blending technology, tradition, and emotion in unexpected ways. "Babloo the Monkey," as netizens affectionately call him, has now become an internet sensation and a curious symbol of modern spiritual-

## Labubu Dolls Steal the Show at Tsinghua University's Graduation Ceremony

Tn a delightful and quirky twist to a Iformal occasion, Labubu dolls made a surprising appearance at Tsinghua University's graduation ceremony in China, leaving the internet both amused and amazed. A now-viral video shows two Chinese students carrying their beloved Labubu dolls, fully dressed in miniature graduation caps and gowns, as they walked up to receive their graduation certificates.

The video, shared by Phoenix TV English on Instagram, captures a humorous moment when a faculty member, clearly entertained, even adjusts the doll's tassel before handing over the degree and posing for pictures. The scene, though unconventional, resonated with many viewers who found it to be a blend of fun, sentimentality, and modern youth culture.

Labubu dolls, created by Hong Kongbased artist Kasing Lung, originally appeared in a picture book and have since become a global sensation through Pop Mart's blind box collectibles. The dolls have now taken over social media, wardrobes, and even celebrity cir-



cles—spotted alongside stars like Lisa of BLACKPINK, Rihanna, and Dua Lipa.

This heartwarming display at one of China's most prestigious universities sparked a variety of reactions online. While some viewers found the moment "adorable" and "wholesome," others criticized it as crossing the line of tradition. One comment read, "I love Labubus, but this is a bit too much," while another enthusiastically shared, "I'm graduating this year and I'll bring my Labubu too!"

Despite the divided opinions, the incident clearly struck a cultural chord. The mix of formality and playful personalization showcased how new generations are blending tradition with individuality, even in conservative academic settings. As one user put it best, "The faculty passed the vibe check."

Labubu's charm shows no signs of fading—and now, it has a graduation de-



## Neeraj Chopra Reclaims World No. 1 Rank in Javelin Throw, Nadeem at Fourth

Tndia's star javelin thrower Neeraj LChopra has once again claimed the world number one ranking in men's javelin, according to the latest World Athletics rankings. With 1445 points, Neeraj has overtaken Grenadian athlete Anderson Peters, who is now second with 1431 points.

Neeraj had lost the top spot in September 2024, shortly after the Paris Olympics, where he secured a silver medal, adding to his historic gold from the Tokyo Games. At the time, he had been struggling with a persistent injury. However, 2025 has marked a strong comeback for the reigning world champion, who now appears fully fit and in top form.



Neeraj began his 2025 season with a tle at the Ostrava Golden Spike meet. win at the Potch Invitational in South In all of these competitions, Neeraj Africa in April. He followed this with finished ahead of Peters. a remarkable performance at the Doha Diamond League in May, where he set a new national record of 90.23 meters—finally entering the prestigious 90m club. Although he finished second in that event behind Germany's Julian Weber, who threw 91.06m, Neeraj's consistency has helped him climb back to the top.

Later, at the Janusz Kusocinski Memorial in Poland, Neeraj secured another second-place finish. But he bounced back at the Paris Diamond League in June with a winning throw of 88.16m and then added another ti-

Germany's Julian Weber is ranked third globally, while Pakistan's Olympic champion Arshad Nadeem stands fourth with 1370 points. Czech thrower Jakub Vadlejch rounds out the top

Neeraj's resurgence comes just ahead of the inaugural NC Classic on July 5, a tournament he's spearheading to boost javelin's popularity in India. His much-anticipated clash with Arshad Nadeem could take place at the World Championships in September.

## **Australia Thrash West Indies** by 159 Runs to Take 1-0 Lead in Barbados Test

Australia delivered a commanding performance to crush West Indies by 159 runs in the opening Test at Kensington Oval, Bridgetown, Barbados, taking a 1-0 lead in the series. The match, which concluded on June 27, 2025, saw Australia's bowling unit dominate on a pitch that increasingly favored bowlers as the game progressed.

Chasing a daunting target of 301 runs, the West Indies batting lineup collapsed under pressure, folding for just 141 in their second innings. The star of the show was Josh Ha-

zlewood, whose brilliant five-wicket haul dismantled the West Indies' top and middle order. The Test match, though short-lived, was packed His precision and control turned the tide decisively in Australia's favor, earning him accolades and raising the ball in celebration after claiming his fifth scalp—Jomel Warrican.

Veteran spinner Nathan Lyon mopped up the tail in style, finishing with two wickets in two balls. He brought an end to Shamar Joseph's brief but exbriefly entertained the crowd but couldn't shift the match's outcome. Lyon's quick finish ensured Australia completed the victory within three days, showcasing their dominance and preparedness.



with action and highlighted Australia's potent bowling attack and tactical superiority. The win not only boosts team morale but also sets the tone for the rest of the series.

With this emphatic win, Australia asserted their position as a top Test side, while West Indies are left to regroup and reflect on their fragile batting plosive innings of 44 off just 22 balls, a knock that display. As both teams look ahead to the next match, the spotlight will remain on Hazlewood and Lyon, who reminded the cricketing world of their class and consistency on challenging surfac-

## IND vs ENG Women's 1st **T201: India Eyes Strong Start in England Ahead of World Cup**

India Women begin a crucial five-**⊥**match T20I series against England on Saturday, June 28, at Trent Bridge, Nottingham. With the 2026 ICC Women's World Cup set to be hosted in England, this tour offers the Women in Blue a valuable opportunity to adapt to local conditions and build team synergy ahead of the global event.

Following last year's disappointing group-stage exit in the T20 World Cup, India is looking to reset and rebuild. The return of explosive opener Shafali Verma is a major boost. She is expected to partner vice-captain Smriti Mandhana at the top. With this

being India's first T20 assignment of the year, all eyes will also be on seasoned performers like captain Harmanpreet Kaur, Jemimah Rodrigues, and Richa Ghosh.

India has introduced some fresh faces into the squad, including Kranti Gaud, Shree Charani, and Sayali Satghare, signaling a focus on future talent. The return of all-rounders Sneh Rana and Amanjot Kaur adds further they must lift their game. Strong perfordepth. However, the absence of experienced mances from the top order and contributions pacers Renuka Singh and Pooja Vastrakar from the lower-middle order will be key. For due to injury may test the bowling unit.

England, led by the ever-reliable Nat Sciv-



er-Brunt, will present a formidable challenge. The host squad features a blend of seasoned players like Tammy Beaumont, Danni Wyatt-Hodge, and Sophie Ecclestone alongside promising talents such as Issy Wong, Alice Capsey, and Sophia Dunkley.

After losing both their warm-up matches to the ECB Development Squad, India knows India, this series is not just about wins but setting the tone for a successful World Cup campaign in English conditions.

## **WI vs AUS First Test: West Indies Holds Slim Lead Amid Controversial Decisions**

Travis Head Anchors Australia's Fightback

 $T^{\text{he first Test}}_{\text{between West}}$ Indies and Australia at Kensington Oval is shaping up to be a gripping contest, despite eardisruptions and two disputed TV umpire decisions. After West Indies posted 190 in their first innings, they took a narrow 10-run lead when Australia was bowled



on day two, fighting back from 65-4 to 92-4 by stumps, with Travis Head leading the charge. Head, who scored the only half-century so far in the match, was determined to keep Australia in the game. Battling both the icant. swing-friendly pitch and relentless West Indies pace attack, Head was 13 not out off 37 balls at stumps, supported by Beau Webster on 19 not out. Despite taking a blow to his left glove from Alzarri Joseph, Head's stubbornness is Australia's key to survival.

out for 180. Australia then showed resilience

Day two saw 10 wickets fall on a pitch still offering seam movement. West Indies' bowlers continued to trouble Australia's top order, with Hazlewood claiming the crucial wicket of debutant Brandon King, who had

earlier been dropped. West Indies' Shai Hope and Roston Chase fought back with a 67-run partnership, but Chase was controversially given out lbw after a review showed minor bat spikes, which the umpire ruled insignif-

Hope's gritty 48 was cut short by a contentious caught-behind decision where replays suggested the ball touched the ground, but the catch stood. His dismissal left West Indies at 162-8, just short of Australia's total. Australia's second innings started poorly, losing early wickets, but Head and Webster steadied the innings to reduce pressure. With the match potentially ending within three days, both teams are battling hard for control in this intense Test encounter.

## Praggnanandhaa Clinches UzChess Cup Masters, Becomes Top-Ranked Indian Chess Player randmaster R. Praggnanandhaa has made tender. His composed play under pressure and

prestigious UzChess Cup Masters 2025 held in Tashkent on June 27, 2025. With this emphatic victory, the 18-year-old chess prodigy has soared to the top of the Indian chess rankings in the live rating list and climbed to World No. 4, achieving the highest ranking of his career.

Praggnanandhaa's performance throughout the tournament was marked by maturity, sharp preparation, and clinical execution. His triumph in Tashkent lifted his live Elo rating to an impressive 2778.3, overtaking veteran Indian chess legends like Viswanathan Anand and setting a new benchmark for the next generation of Indian players.

The UzChess Cup Masters is a premier international tournament, attracting elite global talent. Praggnanandhaa's consistency against top-ranked opponents throughout the rounds highlighted his evolution from a rising star to a world-class con-

Uhistory once again, this time by winning the tactical depth earned him several crucial wins that ultimately secured the title.

> This milestone continues an extraordinary trajectory for Praggnanandhaa, who had already turned heads by reaching the FIDE World Cup final in 2023 and leading India in international team

events. With this win, he not only cements his place among the world's elite but also strengthens India's position on the global chess stage.

Indian fans and the chess community have hailed his victory as a watershed moment. Analysts believe Praggnanandhaa is now firmly in contention for the World Championship cycle, and this win marks a major step in that jour-

With youth, talent, and momentum on his side, Praggnanandhaa is not just India's top-ranked player today—he's also its brightest hope for a World Champion tomor-



### **SCREEN**

## **Nani Begins Shooting for 'The** Paradise', Release Date Locked **Amidst High Expectations**

Natural Star Nani has officially stepped into the world of The Paradise, reuniting with director Srikanth Odela after their blockbuster collaboration in Dasara. The buzz surrounding this film is palpable, and the excitement only intensified after Srikanth took to social media platform X with the phrase "Thagad Aagaya," signaling Nani's arrival on the sets.

The regular shoot commenced on June 21, beginning with sequences from the protagonist's childhood. Nani has now joined the production, and pivotal scenes are currently being filmed on an elaborate set in Hyderabad.

Amid speculation that The Paradise might shift its release date to avoid clashing with Ram Charan's Peddi, the filmmakers have put all rumors to rest. They've reconfirmed the original release date — March 27, 2026, coinciding with Ram Charan's birthday, and made it clear there will be no changes.

Excitement for the film is already high, especially with reports that veteran actor Mohan Babu may feature in a key role. This was hinted at when Srikanth Odela shared a Kannappa-themed post featuring Mohan Babu, leading fans to speculate his involvement in The Paradise.

Produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri, who also backed Dasara, the film has music composed by the muchin-demand Anirudh Ravichander. Moreover, the makers are aiming for a pan-global reach by releasing the film in Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Bengali, Spanish, and English.

Meanwhile, Nani is enjoying a career high with the success of Hit 3. In the film's climax, Karthi made



a surprise appearance as ACP Veerappan, revealing himself as the lead of Hit 4. With strong industry friendships, Nani is also expected to make a cameo in Karthi's upcoming film. He's juggling multiple projects, including Sardaar 2, Khaidi 2, and an intriguing pirate-themed film based on real events, where he's playing a special role.

Clearly, Natural Star Nani is striking the perfect balance between lead roles and exciting cameos, much to the delight of his fans.

### Nithiin's 'Tammudu' Gets 'A' **Certificate Ahead of July 4 Release**

Tollywood actor Nithiin's much-awaited action drama Tammudu is gearing up for a grand release on July 4, 2025. Directed by Venu Sriram, known for his work in Vakeel Saab, the film is generating solid buzz among audiences, especially after the release of its intense and impactful trailer.

The film has now successfully completed its censorship formalities, with the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) awarding it an 'A' certificate, indicating content suitable only for adult audiences. The film unit shared this update on social media, and fans are now even more curious about the intense themes and action sequences that warranted such a rating.

Tammudu stars Kannada actress Sapthami Gowda as the female lead opposite Nithiin. The casting of Sapthami, who rose to fame with her impressive performance in Kantara,

adds freshness to the film. Supporting roles are played by Laya, Swasika, Varsha Bollamis expected to bring depth and variation to the storyline.

Produced by Dil Raju under the prestigious Sri Venkateswara Creations banner, Tammudu also boasts a powerful technical team. The film's music is composed by Ajaneesh Loknath, whose background scores have already raised expectations among fans after the trailer's release.



With high-octane action, emotional depth, ma, and Saurabh Sachdeva, each of whom and socially relevant themes hinted at in the promotional content, Tammudu is set to be a gripping cinematic experience. The makers are actively participating in promotional events to build anticipation ahead of

> All eyes are now on July 4, as fans eagerly await to see Nithiin in a bold new avatar in Tammudu, a film that promises drama, action, and intense storytelling.

## Kajol's 'Maa' Review - A Lackluster Horror Tale with a Strong Lead Performance

cinematic experience. Directed by Vishal Furia even more sinister lurks in the shadows. and produced by Ajay Devgn and Jyoti Deshpande, the film stars Kajol, Indraneil Sengupta. What Works: Ronit Roy, and Kherin Sharma in key roles.

### **Story Overview:**

The film is set against the backdrop of Chandrapur, West Bengal, where an ancient and disturbing superstition dictates that female children born into specific families must be sacrificed. Shubankar (Indraneil Sengupta), who escaped this fate, lives with his wife Ambika (Kajol) and daughter Shweta. Upon his father's death, he returns to his native village only to die mysteriously.

Ambika and her daughter travel to Chandrapur What Doesn't Work: to deal with the family's ancestral home, un-

 ${f R}$  eleased on June 27, 2025, Kajol's Maa attempts to blend horror and emotional dra- As events unfold, the film tries to question ma but falls short of delivering an engaging whether the superstition is real or if something

Kajol is the undeniable strength of Maa. Her emotional range, especially as a mother fighting against supernatural odds, adds weight to an otherwise underwhelming story. Her character transformation from a calm mother to a fierce protector is portrayed effectively. The final act, especially the pre-climax and climax, offers some emotional and thrilling moments. The film also incorporates elements of folklore and local myths, which adds a layer of intrigue, though not explored deeply enough.

The biggest drawback of Maa is its predictable

and outdated narrative. The first half is painfully slow, with very few engaging moments. Despite some interesting developments in the latter part, the inconsistent pacing and unnecessary scenes disrupt the overall flow.

Director Vishal Furia seems more focused on atmospheric horror and visual effects than on building a gripping story. Unfortunately, this causes the film to lose direction. The cinematography and editing do little to elevate the experience, though the background score stands out as a rare highlight.

### Final Verdict:

Maa attempts to deliver a haunting and emotional experience but stumbles due to weak storytelling and sluggish execution. While Kajol's powerful performance and the film's ending deserve praise, the lack of originality and tedious pacing make it a disappointing watch for



horror fans. Rating: 2/5

### lleana D'Cruz Welcomes Her Second Son, Keanu Rafe Dolan: "Our Hearts Are So Full"

Popular actress Ileana D'Cruz has put an end to week-long speculation by officially announcing the birth of her second child. Taking to Instagram on the morning of June 28, 2025, the actress shared an adorable first glimpse of her newborn son. Ileana revealed that her baby boy, named Keanu Rafe Dolan, was born on June 19, 2025. Along with the picture, she wrote a heartfelt caption: "Our hearts are so full."

This joyful announcement marks another beautiful chapter in Ileana's life with her husband, Michael Dolan. The couple, who tied the knot in 2023, welcomed their first son, Koa Phoenix Dolan, on August 1, 2023. While Ileana has remained largely private about her personal life, she occasionally treats her followers to sweet glimpses of motherhood.

In October 2024, the Barfi and Pokiri actress announced her second pregnancy, and since then, fans have eagerly awaited the arrival of her baby. The couple's newest bundle of joy has received warm wishes from fans, friends, and celebrities alike. Among the many congratulatory messages was one from Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Ileana's co-star from Barfi, who



joined thousands in welcoming baby Keanu into the world.

On the work front, Ileana was last seen in the critically acclaimed Bollywood romantic comedy Do Aur Do Pyaar, where she starred alongside Vidya Balan and Pratik Gandhi. Though she's been keeping a low profile in recent years, her fans continue to admire her elegance and talent.

As Ileana and Michael embark on their journey as parents of two, warm wishes continue to pour in from across the globe. Congratulations to the happy couple on the arrival of little Keanu!

### "The Family Man Season 3 Teaser Out: Manoj Bajpayee Returns With a New Mission in North East India"

The much-anticipated teaser of The Family Man Season 3 has finally been unveiled, creating a buzz among OTT enthusiasts. This gripping spy thriller, led by powerhouse actors Manoj Bajpayee and Priyamani, has already captivated audiences with its previous two seasons on Amazon Prime Video. Directed by the talented duo Raj & DK, The Family Man has set a new benchmark for Indian web series with its gripping storyline, powerful performances, and high production value. Season 3 promises to raise the stakes even higher. The teaser, recently released by the

makers, offers a sneak peek into the upcoming drama. In a surprising twist, Manoj Bajpayee is seen introducing himself as a "relationship manager," a disguise that adds intrigue to his character's next mission. As always, Bajpayee reprises his iconic role as Srikant Tiwari, the ever-conflicted spy balancing his chaotic personal life with na-

Adding to the excitement is the inclusion of Paatal Lok fame Jaideep Ahlawat, who is set to play the primary antagonist this season. His intense screen presence is expected to add a fresh dynamic to the series. The backdrop of Season 3 shifts to North



East India, hinting at a new set of geopolitical conflicts and regional narratives that promise edgeof-the-seat suspense and action.

The series has already completed its shooting and is currently in the post-production stage. While the official release date hasn't been revealed yet, the creators have confirmed that it will be announced soon. Fans can expect another high-octane season packed with thrills, emotion, and the signature dark humor that The Family Man is known for. Stay tuned as Srikant Tiwari returns for another mission that could change everything.