



- ▶ CM Revanth Reddy Attends US Independence Day celebrations
- ▶ CM says Telangana's spirit is similar to America's
- ▶ Vows to strengthen commercial ties with US
- ▶ Aims for \$1 trillion Telangana economy by 2035

Over 200 American Companies Operating in Hyderabad...

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy participated in the American Independence Day celebrations hosted in Hyderabad by the US Consulate General and delivered a strong message of friendship, mutual growth, and strategic cooperation between the United States and Telangana. Extending greetings on the occasion, the Chief Minister noted that the world changed significantly after the United States gained independence. "America introduced several positive aspects to the world—especially in guiding democracy and driving continuous innovation. Its undefeatable spirit continues to inspire," he said.
Drawing parallels, Revanth Reddy said, "The spirit of Telangana is very similar to that of America. We seek friendship and believe in strengthening bonds." He recalled that it was under the Congress-led government of Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy in 2008 that the

US Consulate General office was established in Hyderabad, marking a historic milestone in Indo-US diplomatic relations.



Revanth Reddy praised the current Consul General, Jennifer Larson, for her active role in building bridges between the two nations. "Today, over 200 American companies in IT, pharma, defense, aerospace, and manufacturing sectors are operating in Hyderabad. This speaks volumes of our deepening ties," he noted.

Highlighting people-to-people connections, he said, "Telugu language is growing in the United States. Many students from here are heading to the US to fulfill their dreams, showing how strong the Telugu-American relationship has become."
The Chief Minister expressed his vision for Telangana's economic growth, reiterating the goal of achieving a \$1 trillion economy by 2035 and a \$3 trillion economy by 2047. "For this vision, we seek support and partnership from America," he said.
Revanth emphasized that the partnership between India and the US is rooted in mutual trust and shared values, with cooperation extending to military exercises, space research, and significant investments in the tech sector.
As the event embraced the theme "Unite... Stronger," Revanth Reddy concluded with optimism: "With such strong friendship and unity, I believe Telangana and America can grow together."

Wait For Final Report On Crash: Rammohan Naidu



Civil Aviation Minister responds to AAIB's preliminary findings
Fuel switches turned off moments after takeoff: AAIB
Rammohan urges not to jump to conclusions
Technical aspects still under investigation

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Half-Built Dreams, Full-Blown Betrayal



TPN | V. Krishna Kumar

Special Desk: Double bedroom houses under the BRS regime... Indiramma houses during the Congress era... the names may change, but the promise remains the same: to provide a home for the poor. For many, this dream has become a nightmare. The promise of a roof over their heads has left thousands stranded in debt, despair, and displacement.

Over half of 2BHK houses remain incomplete across Telangana

Victims cheated in the name of 2BHK scheme

Poor forced into debts, evicted from huts, yet denied homes

Leaders collect bribes, vanish without fulfilling promises

In areas like Meerpet under Maheshwaram constituency, many poor families were evicted from their huts built on 40-yard plots opposite the Rythu Bazaar. Authorities, citing the upcoming double bedroom housing project, removed them with the assurance that they would soon have proper homes. The families, holding onto that hope, shifted to rented houses — only to fall into the trap of endless waiting and rising expenses. While some lucky ones received houses, several others were bypassed through a lottery system allegedly manipulated by local

leaders. To add insult to injury, half-built homes were left to rot while leaders promised to finish them "soon" and then conveniently vanished. The change of power brought a fresh wave of hope. When the Congress government took over and revived the concept of Indiramma houses, victims thought their turn had come. But the incomplete homes from the BRS era were left untouched — perhaps because the ruling party didn't want to hand over a completed BRS initiative. The matter never even reached the cabinet's attention, leaving these structures vulnerable to vandalism and decay. Some victims were recently handed documents claiming houses had been sanctioned. But even after months, no progress followed. Worse, local leaders began collecting money from desperate families, telling them to "complete the remaining half of the house on your own."

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Uttam Orders Speedy Land Acquisition for Irrigation Projects

Says delays must end; tunnel experts to join irrigation department

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Irrigation Minister Capt. N Uttam Kumar Reddy has directed officials to fast-track land acquisition and Relief and Rehabilitation (R&R) for all pending and ongoing irrigation projects across Telangana. Chairing a review meeting on Saturday at the Dr B R Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, he urged officials to coordinate closely with District Collectors to resolve legal, administrative, and logistical hurdles without further delay. "Irrigation is not just infrastructure—it's vital for our farm economy and food security," he said, calling for the projects to be treated as top administrative priorities. He flagged prolonged land acquisition delays as a key obstacle, warning that they not only inflate costs but also risk public backlash and legal trouble. He insisted that compensation and rehabilitation be handled transparently and sensitively, and asked officials to remain in constant touch with contractors and implementation agencies to prevent coordination lapses.



Two critical projects—Palamuru-Rangareddy and Sitarama Sagar—were given special focus, with Uttam demanding uninterrupted progress on canal lining and tunnel boring. The minister also announced the induction of senior Army officers to boost tunnel construction capacity. Former Engineer-in-Chief Lt Gen Harpal Singh will serve as an Honorary Advisor, while tunnel expert Col Parikshit Mehra joins full-time. He also ordered a land survey of WALMATARI at Rajendranagar and removal of any encroachments, terming it a vital research and training hub for irrigation. Uttam reaffirmed the Congress government's commitment to timely project completion with full administrative backing.



Drunk O'Clock? Not Anymore!

- City police set to launch 24/7 drunk driving crackdown
- Commissioner C.V. Anand orders round-the-clock breath tests
- No fixed time, no safe hour — if caught, straight to court
- "Drink at home or ride responsibly, or land in jail," warn cops

TPN | V. Krishna Kumar
Special Desk: Drunk drivers, beware — Hyderabad's police force is switching gears, and there's no escape this time. With fresh orders from City Police Commissioner C.V. Anand, the Hyderabad police are launching an aggressive 24/7 drunk driving crackdown, eliminating the usual "safe hours" and making day and night equally risky for intoxicated motorists.

Gone are the days when drunk driving checks were a weekend or nighttime affair. Now, the police can stop, test, and arrest you anytime, anywhere. Whether you're cruising in broad daylight or stumbling home at midnight, if you're behind the wheel after drinking, you're in for more than just a fine — you could be heading straight to court, and possibly, jail.

This bold move follows observations that daytime accidents caused by drunk driving are on the rise. Commissioner C.V. Anand, known for his no-nonsense stance on public safety, noted that alcohol is a leading contributor to both fatal and non-fatal road mishaps. His decision aims to stem that tide, and the message is loud and clear: "Don't drink and drive — not even during the day."

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Wait For Final Report On Crash: Rammohan Naidu

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu has urged the public and media not to draw premature conclusions regarding the tragic Ahmedabad plane crash. Responding to the 15-page preliminary report submitted by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB), the minister emphasized the need to wait for the final and detailed report before making any decisions or assumptions. “We must be careful and patient. Aviation involves several technical layers, and it would be hasty to make any remarks based solely on the preliminary findings,” Rammohan Naidu said. He reassured the nation that India has some of the most skilled pilots and aviation crews in the world, calling them the “backbone of the aviation sector.” His remarks come in the wake of a shocking revelation by the AAIB that the aircraft’s fuel control switches were mysteriously turned off within seconds of takeoff. According to the report, one pilot questioned the other about the

switch-off, only to receive a reply that he had not done it. These words were recorded as the final cockpit communication before the crew issued a Mayday call. The AAIB report noted that although air traffic control responded to the distress signal, there was no further reply from the pilots and the aircraft crashed shortly afterward. Investigators stated that both engines have now been removed for further examination. The preliminary findings also confirmed that the aircraft had no hazardous materials onboard, and that its fuel and weight were within prescribed safety limits. Rammohan Naidu reiterated the government’s commitment to ensuring aviation safety and the welfare of all aviation personnel. He appealed to the public, experts, and political leaders to allow the investigation to conclude fully before attributing fault or causes. “The focus must be on facts, not speculation. The final report will give us a complete understanding,” he said.

Half-Built Dreams, Full-Blown Betrayal

Hundreds fell into this trap, taking loans of ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh just to secure what was promised to them for free. Leaders pocketed the money and disappeared. Left with debt, no home, and no one to turn to, many victims stormed the half-finished double bedroom homes and demanded answers. Their cry: “Either give us the house or return our land rights (patta)” Officials and police rushed to the scene and tried to calm the agitated families. This is not just the story of Meerpet. Across Mahesh-

waram, Ranga Reddy, Medchal, Vikarabad, and Hyderabad city, similar tales echo. Victims continue to pay rent, work in multiple houses for survival, and wait in vain for their promised home. They demand justice, not sympathy. They ask that the government act — punish the leaders who looted them and ensure the incomplete homes are finished and handed over. After losing their huts, after losing years of rent money, and after losing trust, all they ask for is a nest to call their own — once again.

Drunk O’Clock? Not Anymore!



Under this intensified drive:

Barricades and breathalyzer checks will no longer be restricted to nights or weekends.
Every police officer in the city — traffic or law and order — will be equipped with breath analyzers.
If you’re caught, there’s no escape route: You’ll be taken for counseling, fined, and presented in court.
Repeat offenders could be looking at jail time.
Interestingly, this initiative isn’t entirely new. The roots of this aggressive enforcement go back to Anand’s tenure as Additional Commissioner of Traffic, when he first introduced the now-familiar “drink and drive” tests. The concept shook Hyderabad back then and quickly spread statewide. But this time, it’s bigger, bolder, and around the clock.

Social media influencers, film celebrities, software engineers, and businessmen — no one is beyond reach. Hundreds have been caught and booked before, and many more may join the list if they don’t heed this warning. The police are also urging citizens to use safer alternatives — ride-sharing services like Rapido, Ola, or Uber — if they choose to drink. “Drink at home or travel responsibly. If not, your next stop might be the courtroom or jail cell,” warn officials. With the new round-the-clock enforcement in motion, the city may soon see a significant drop in drink-related accidents — or at least that’s what the Commissioner hopes. One thing is certain — from now on, there’s no such thing as a ‘safe time’ to drive drunk in Hyderabad.

Toddy Turns Toxic, Alphazalam Scandal Shakes Excise Dept

- 5 excise officials and multiple toddy vendors arrested
- Alphazalam confirmed in toddy, lab report triggers crackdown
- Victims’ families demand long-term vigilance, not eyewash

TPN | V. Krishna Kumar

Hyderabad: The adulterated toddy tragedy that shook parts of Hyderabad has now triggered an aggressive crackdown by excise authorities. The department, under fire for negligence and lack of oversight, is scrambling to contain the damage — both to its image and to public safety. Balanagar excise SHO has already been suspended, and disciplinary action is being pursued against five more officials. In a rare move, five senior excise department officials were arrested for their alleged role or failure in preventing the adulteration racket. Simultaneously, police arrested toddy shop owners from



key hotspots: Kuna Sai Teja Goud of SP Nagar, Nagesh Goud from Shamshiguda and Indiranagar, and Kuna Ravi Teja Goud, Kuna Satyam Goud, and Srinivas Goud from Haider Nagar. All were remanded to judicial custody. The breakthrough came with the Narayanguda lab report confirming the presence of Alphazalam, a potent sedative, in the toddy being served. Authorities were shocked to find that the dangerous mix wasn’t a one-day incident — Alphazalam-laced toddy was

being sold regularly, heightening addiction and endangering lives. The scandal has dented the credibility of the excise department, with both ruling and opposition parties lashing out at officials for their negligence. In response, the department acted swiftly — first targeting internal lapses by suspending and arresting staff, and then going after the sellers. A hunt is now on for others involved who are reportedly absconding. Still, many believe this is too

little, too late. Families of the deceased have expressed deep dissatisfaction, calling this a temporary face-saving exercise. “The suspended officer will get another posting. The sellers will get bail. But our loved ones won’t return,” they said, urging the government to ensure permanent vigilance, not just a reactive cleanup. Public outrage is also spilling into discussions about the broader scope of the problem. While this case made headlines within city limits, murmurs suggest similar adulteration is happening in rural outskirts — under the radar and under the trees. There’s now an increasing demand for a statewide crackdown, not just on adulterated toddy but also on other intoxicants like ganja and synthetic drugs. For now, the spotlight remains on Hyderabad, but the real test will be whether authorities can clean up the system before another tragedy strikes.

Tummala Steps In, Saves Drying Crops

Minister responds to farmers’ distress over irrigation shortage

TPN | Anvesh Reddy

Khammam: In a timely and decisive move, State Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has come to the rescue of drought-stricken farmers in the joint Khammam district. With crops wilting due to delayed monsoons and the lack of irrigation water, the Minister ordered the immediate release of Godavari water through the Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project, bringing relief to thousands of farmers in the region. On Saturday, water was released from the first pump at Busy Kothur, directed towards the Nagarjuna Sagar ayacut, covering extensive agricultural lands in Vaira, Sattupalli, Aswaraopet, Kothagudem, and Pinapaka constituencies. This urgent release of water has breathed life into crops spread across lakhs of acres that were at risk of drying up. The move follows representations made by farmers and local public representatives, who urged the Minister to intervene due to irregular rainfall and delayed release of Sagar waters. Understanding the gravity of the situation, Minister Tummala immediately consulted Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy



and instructed the district collectors of Khammam and Bhadradri-Kothagudem to act swiftly. Acknowledging the delay in water release from Nagarjunasagar, Tummala proposed using Godavari waters as an interim measure, and the Congress government responded affirmatively, demonstrating its commitment to the farming community. This quick decision-making has left a

strong impression among local farmers. “Minister Tummala is a true supporter of the food growers,” they said, lauding his immediate response and field-level coordination. The release of water not only saved current crops but also revived the hope of a productive season. Minister Tummala’s efforts are part of his broader goal to make the joint Khammam district fertile, ensuring long-term irrigation solutions through projects like Sitarama Lift Irrigation and Seethamma Sagar. He has been at the forefront since the inception of these projects, working relentlessly to secure water supply to drought-prone areas. The water release program was attended by Vaira MLA Ramdas Nayak, Warehouses Corporation Chairman Rayala Nageswara Rao, District Collector Jitesh V Patil, SP Rohit Raju, and several senior district officials, including officers from the agriculture, irrigation, and health departments. In what farmers are calling a “turning point” in the current season, Tummala Nageswara Rao has once again proven himself as a hands-on minister and a committed friend of the farmer.

“Not Just High-Tech, Solve People’s Problems Too”: Eatala Rajender

TPN | Srikanth Gurram

Hyderabad: Malkajgiri MP Eatala Rajender made a powerful public outreach in Nagole on Friday morning, walking alongside residents and morning walkers in Rock Town Park. Through heartfelt interaction and sharp commentary on governance, he reaffirmed his commitment to public service over political rhetoric. Eatala, addressing the gathering, stated that he doesn’t believe in hollow slogans or flexi posters. “Photos on walls fade... but the photo in people’s hearts is permanent. I believe in humanity, not caste or religion. My job is to solve problems — not sit in clubs,” he said. He slammed the government’s narrow-mindedness in implementing G.O. 118, which he claimed had unfairly declared even HMDA-approved colonies as illegal. “Vishwanagaram is not just about being high-tech. If you ignore the poor and slum-dwellers, that’s not development,” he warned. “I am not against Hyderabad’s growth. I am against demolishing the homes of the poor. If you



gave them permission, how is it illegal now?” Eatala recalled his journey from MLA to Finance Minister to MP, stating, “I fought as a minister. Now I fight as an opposition MP. I will even sit in the sun if that’s what it takes.” He assured the residents that he is working beyond party lines and highlighted the ₹7 crore sanctioned for Nagole. “I speak less, act more. That’s why I asked the most questions in Parliament,” he said. Residents expressed gratitude for the MP’s visit. “We didn’t go to him—he

came to us. This reminds us of what we’ve only seen in countries like Singapore,” said colony members. Nalgonda Gaddar praised Etala as a “silent sage,” saying the state needs his kind of leadership. “Leaders come during elections. Eatala came after,” he added. Corporator Aruna Surender Yadav credited Eatala for securing ₹7 crore for Nagole. Former district president Samaranga Reddy hailed Eatala for walking barefoot on the tarmac for hours to stop house demolitions and for securing ₹300 crore for GHMC corporators. Leaders from multiple colonies and party ranks were present at the meeting, including District President Srinivasa Reddy, LB Nagar Assembly Convener Kotha Ravinder Goud, and corporators and colony presidents from across the region. As Eatala concluded, he reaffirmed, “I trust people, not money or alcohol. My work will speak for me—and for all of you.”

Local Polls Kick Off in Telangana with 42% BC Quota Boost

State government begins process after HC order
Ordinance clears way for rural body elections
MPTC, ZPTC elections to be held first, GP polls later
BC reservations increased from 34% to 42% as per ordinance
SEC completes staff training, polling stations selected



TPN | V. Krishna Kumar
Telangana: The stage is being set for local body elections in Telangana, with the state government moving swiftly following directions from the High Court. A key development is the issuance of an ordinance increasing Backward Classes (BC) reservations from 34% to 42% in local body polls. This marks

the official start of the electoral process, beginning with Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituencies (MPTCs) and Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituencies (ZPTCs). The government has clarified that elections will be held in a phased manner — first for MPTCs and ZPTCs, followed by Gram Panchayat (GP) elections. Telangana has 12,777

gram panchayats, 6,982 MPTCs, and 585 ZPTC seats that will go to polls. The State Election Commission (SEC) has already completed key groundwork: training of polling personnel and the identification of polling stations. The redistribution of five MPTC seats per mandal concluded on Thursday, further streamlining the process. The increased BC quota follows the Supreme Court's directive that total reservation should not exceed 60%. The government acted accordingly, initiating a caste census through the State Planning Department and appointing a BC Commission to gather empirical data. Based on the findings, the Legislative Assembly passed the 42% BC reservation bill. As per the new Panchayat Raj Act amendments, the 42% reservation will now apply to Sarpanch and Ward member posts in GPs, as well as MPTC seats in mandals. The Panchayat Raj Department will soon issue detailed orders on the finalized reservation structure for GPs, Mandal Parishads, and Zilla Parishads. The State Cabinet has approved amendments to the Panchayat Raj Act-2018, paving the way for the legal implementation of the increased quota. Units for reservation finalization have also been outlined — mandal-level units for Sarpanch and MPTCs, district-level for MPPs and ZPTCs, and state-level for Zilla Parishad chairpersons. With these developments, the government aims to complete the establishment of rural administrative bodies within the next three months. The High Court has directed that reservation finalization be completed by month-end, and the state appears on track to meet that target. The increased representation for BCs is being seen as a significant political and social milestone in the state's effort toward inclusive governance in rural Telangana.

Kavitha Was In Jail, When Did She Fight...?

TPCC chief slams Kavitha for claiming credit on BC quota hike
TPCC says BRS ignored BC reservations for 10 years

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud lashed out at BRS MLC K. Kavitha, questioning her attempt to claim credit for the recent increase in BC reservations announced by the Congress government. He sharply reminded that Kavitha was in Tihar Jail when the key decisions were being taken and mocked her by asking, "When did she fight for it?" Goud alleged that the BRS, which was in power for a decade, had never prioritized increasing BC reservations and now Kavitha is trying to take credit for a cause she never fought for. "Telangana society is laughing at her statements. She was in jail during the entire process. Let her first tell the people which party she belongs to now," he commented. The TPCC chief said that the Congress-led state government has made a bold move by conducting a caste survey and ensuring 42 percent reservation for



BCs. "This is a revolutionary step, but KCR doesn't even have the decency to appreciate it," he said. He further criticized BRS for siding with the BJP on several central bills in the past, accusing them of being conveniently silent on issues that genuinely benefit BC communities. "They behave like they're hugging each other with venom in their bellies," he said, taking a swipe at the opposition's contradictory stand.

Bill Still Pending, Ordinance A Gimmick

BJP MP Laxman says Revanth govt misleading BCs on reservation issue

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
BJP Rajya Sabha MP Dr. K. Laxman has strongly criticized the Congress-led Telangana government, accusing it of deceiving the Backward Classes once again. Speaking to the media in Delhi, Laxman questioned the legitimacy of the ordinance brought by the Revanth Reddy government to provide 42% reservation to BCs in local body elections, while the related bill is still pending with the President of India. Laxman said the move is nothing but political drama aimed at misleading the BC community. "When the bill passed by the Assembly is still awaiting Presidential assent, what is the pur-

pose of bringing an ordinance? And how can the Governor approve it in this situation?" he asked. He further demanded that the state government release concrete population statistics of various castes. "The government is claiming to increase BC reservations based on a caste survey, but where are the numbers? Why are they not disclosing the data?" he questioned. Referring to the commission headed by Burra Venkatesham, Laxman alleged that it had failed to carry out its responsibilities effectively. He said the government must immediately release official caste-wise statistics to ensure that any legal



scrutiny of the ordinance can be defended in court. He concluded by saying that the Congress government's steps

lack transparency and sincerity, and appear to be aimed more at gaining political mileage than delivering justice to BCs.

CJI Gavai Is the Protector of the Constitution: MP Mallu Ravi

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Senior Congress leader and Member of Parliament Mallu Ravi addressed a press conference at Gandhi Bhavan, where he praised Chief Justice of India BR Gavai as one of the strongest defenders of the Constitution in the country. He urged the people of Telangana to listen carefully to the Chief Justice's message on the Constitution, scheduled to be delivered at Osmania University. "CJI Gavai is not just the head of the judiciary—he is a protector of constitutional values and has repeatedly spoken about the importance of reservations for SCs, STs, and BCs," said Mallu Ravi. He emphasized that BR Gavai's presence in Telangana is of great significance and extended a warm welcome to him on behalf of the people. Drawing attention to the growing debate around the Constitution, the Congress MP stated, "The biggest problem facing the country today is the increasing attacks on the Constitution. These debates are not limited to Parliament—they are happening across the country. Some forces are acting outside the constitutional framework, and this is deeply dangerous."

He underscored the need to safeguard the Constitution, calling it the "Shri Ram Raksha" for the people of India. "It is our duty to protect it at any cost," he added. Mallu Ravi also highlighted CJI Gavai's family legacy. "Gavai Garu's father, RS Gavai, served in various key roles—MLA, MP, and Governor. The Gavai family's contribution to public service and constitutional integrity is immense."

The MP took the opportunity to applaud Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for his revolutionary changes in education. "The government is allocating ₹200 crore per school for integrated residential schools across the state. Mess charges have also been increased at once for over 7 lakh students in social welfare hostels. These are not just promises; they are steps toward equality and empowerment," he said.

He also confirmed that the recent meeting of Warangal MLAs was held in a positive atmosphere and stated that a final decision on the related issues will be made after thoroughly examining reports from all concerned parties.



BRS crushed hopes on water, funds, and jobs: MP Chamala

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Congress MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy launched a sharp attack on BRS leaders, especially Harish Rao and KCR, accusing them of pushing Telangana into debt and running a failed 10-year administration. "Harish Rao wants Assembly sessions not for debate, but for monologues. Let's have a full discussion — on water, funds, and appointments," he challenged. He said the Congress is ready to compare one year of Revanth Reddy's rule with a decade of BRS governance. "They crushed people's aspirations and looted state resources in the name of projects like Kaleshwaram, which became 'Kuleshwaram' due to their brilliance," he said sarcastically. The MP questioned BRS' false narratives around Banaka Charla, warning against provoking Andhra sentiments. "If BRS had

truly worked for Telangana's farmers, we wouldn't still be struggling for 299 TMC of water." He blamed BRS for mishandling Krishna water allocation and neglecting Telangana's 68% catchment area rights. "They spent ₹22 crore on Palamuru-Rangareddy PR before it was even ready," he alleged. Kiran Kumar Reddy also took aim at KCR and Kavitha. "KCR hid when he had power and continues to stay underground. Kavitha wants to prove her political existence through behind-the-scenes drama." He praised CM Revanth Reddy's reforms in social justice and welfare, stating, "The Congress pulled back the curtain on social justice. The people know who's fighting and who's faking." He concluded with a challenge — "Let's screen BRS' failures on 70mm for the people to see."



Will always stand by the people: Kaushik Reddy



TPN Correspondent | Huzurabad
Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy reiterated his commitment to constituency development while distributing CMRF cheques under the 'Door to Door Mana Kaushik Anna' initiative on Saturday. "My goal is the people's welfare. I will always stand by them and address their issues immediately," he said. Cheques were distributed in several villages of Jammikunta and Illantakunta mandals. In Jammikunta town alone, 19 cheques worth ₹6.2 lakh were given, along with 13 cheques each in Jammikunta rural (₹2.77 lakh) and Illantakunta mandal (₹2.31 lakh). The BRS

party also handed over an insurance cheque of ₹2 lakh to the family of party activist Vollala Ravi, who died in an accident. Criticizing the Congress, Kaushik Reddy said, "What happened to the promised Tulam gold? Farmers are suffering due to stalled Kaleshwaram works, and public transport is still inadequate despite free bus claims." He alleged that the Congress is using police cases to suppress protests. Calling the BRS a strong cadre-based party, he said people will teach Congress a lesson in the upcoming local body polls. Party leaders, former councilors, and hundreds of locals attended the program.

Road Divider Built, But Safety Forgotten

Locals demand action as daily accidents haunt Inner Ring Road
No zebra crossings or speed limit signs in accident-prone zone

TPN | V. Krishna Kumar
Rajendranagar: The newly built central road divider on the Inner Ring Road from Durga Nagar to Aranghar was meant to regulate traffic flow — but residents of Markandeya Nagar in Mailardev Pally say it's now a trap for daily accidents. With no zebra crossings, speed limit signboards, or proper pedestrian safety infrastructure, locals are accusing authorities of neglect that's putting lives at risk. A major crossing point near the Sri Yellamma Temple has become a death zone for thousands of pedestrians, especial-

ly workers commuting to and from the Katedan Industrial Estate. Though a narrow opening has been left in the divider for people to cross, the lack of basic safety features has made this stretch a hotspot for collisions. Women workers, who make up a large portion of the pedestrian traffic, say that accidents are happening every day. They recount incidents of co-workers and locals being hit by speeding vehicles coming from Durganagar and Anand. Several have already sustained serious injuries — and some have

even lost their lives. The outrage is growing. Residents point out the irony that traffic police are vigilant when it comes to issuing challans to temple visitors, but have done nothing to ensure pedestrian safety right outside the Yellamma Temple. There are no zebra crossings, no speed limit signs, and no speed breakers, even though the road is often congested and busy with two-way traffic. Just recently, another accident brought the issue to a head. A woman worker was hit and seriously injured while trying to

cross near the temple. Locals rushed to help and alerted the 108-emergency service. She was taken to the hospital, but the incident has only fueled community frustration further. "All this could've been avoided if the authorities had at least placed speed limit boards or deployed personnel during peak hours," said residents Yadagiri and Bhaskar. They're demanding that traffic police post personnel at the Yellamma Temple stretch during morning and evening hours, from 7 am to 10 am and again from 4 pm to 8 pm.



Local association president Veedem Ramesh has gone a step further, calling for the construction of a foot over bridge (FOB). "Crossing this road has become life-threatening. A foot over bridge would be the only real, permanent solution," he said. As requests flood in from res-

idents of Markandeya Nagar, Babul Nagar, and nearby colonies, pressure is mounting on the authorities to act. Locals stress that until permanent measures like speed controls, zebra crossings, and foot over bridges are implemented, every day will remain a risk for workers and pedestrians alike.

CM Revanth Reddy Meets EAC Chairman
Seeks Relief from High-Interest Loan Burden
Calls for Centre-State mutual respect to ensure true federal growth

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, S. Mahendra Dev, met Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at his Jubilee Hills residence on Saturday. During the meeting, the Chief Minister stressed the importance of maintaining mutual respect between the Union and State Governments to strengthen the federal structure of the country. Revanth Reddy explained that the development of India depends on the progress of its states and said Telangana is moving rapidly on the path of development. However, he expressed serious concern over the financial burden left by the previous government due to high-interest loans. "The entire revenue generated by the state is being used to repay loans," the CM pointed out, and urged for relief from high-interest liabilities that are hampering development. He also briefed Mahendra Dev on the government's initiatives for infrastructure development in Hyderabad and other urban areas. The CM highlighted efforts to boost employment through skill development and strengthen both the industrial and service sectors. Revanth Reddy underlined the significance of the proposed Regional Ring Road around Hyderabad and its connecting radial roads, appealing for central support. Principal Secretary (Finance) Sandeep Kumar Sultania was also present at the meeting.

Mahesh Kumar Goud Offers Prayers At Mahankali Temple

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud visited the historic Mahankali temple in Secunderabad along with his family and performed special prayers on Saturday. He sought the blessings of Goddess Mahankali for the peace, prosperity, and well-being of the people of Telangana. Speaking on the occasion, Mahesh Kumar Goud stated that the Congress government, under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, is working tirelessly for the welfare of all sections of society. He praised the efforts of the CM and his ministerial team in driving forward the state's development. He expressed hope that, with the divine blessings of Goddess Mahankali, Telangana would continue to progress in all spheres and reaffirmed that the Congress government will always have the support and protection of the deity in its mission to serve the people.



Drains Breathe Easy as Hydra Launches Citywide Cleanup



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Hyderabad's long-neglected drains and culverts are finally getting a much-needed makeover. Thanks to the intervention of Hydra Monsoon Emergency Teams and Disaster Response Force (DRF) units, the city's clogged drainage system has undergone a significant transformation since July 1. Under the joint mission "Operation Nala and Culverts," large-scale desilting has been underway across flood-prone zones under GHMC limits. With the support of GHMC and the Water Board, plastic waste, thermocol, wild plants, and accumulated garbage have been removed truckloads

at a time, opening the way for smooth water flow. What once were blocked culverts and choked manholes are now cleared and functioning. Residents living near these canals, once plagued by stagnant sewage and floodwater overflow, are now visibly relieved. "Seeing water flow freely now makes us breathe easy," said a local resident.



Hydra's work doesn't stop at cleaning — it's also cracking down on encroachments. Structures blocking the Bulkapur Nala near Sridhar Function Hall in Khairatabad and the IDL Cheruvu Nala in Kukatpally were cleared. Using long-arm JCBs, Hydra removed and transported the debris promptly. With constant supervision by Hydra DRF officials and continuous field monitoring, the city is witnessing a striking "before-after" scenario in its drainage infrastructure. Locals now hail Hydra as a game changer — "Isn't this exactly what Hydra should be?" they ask with newfound optimism.

Leopard Scare at DRDO's RCI Campus in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The sighting of suspected leopards on the premises of the Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO) Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in Balapur, Hyderabad, has triggered panic among employees and nearby residents. A watchman reported seeing large animals two days ago, believed to be leopards. The following day, a dog was found dead under suspicious circumstances, strengthening fears of a



leopard presence. Forest department officials conducted a thorough inspection of the vast, wooded RCI campus but found no conclusive evidence. However, employees have been advised to stay alert

as a precaution. The principal of the Defence Lab School also issued warnings to parents, advising them not to let children go out alone. Balapur police have been placed on alert and are assisting

in ensuring the safety of staff and locals. The incident adds to the growing number of human-wildlife encounters in Hyderabad's suburban areas, driven by deforestation, illegal encroachments, and shrinking habitats. Experts stress the need for better coordination between forest officials and local authorities to monitor and manage wildlife movements, especially near sensitive zones like RCI, to avoid potential conflicts and ensure public safety.



9 Years On, No Flats: Real Estate Scam in Bachupalli

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
A massive real estate scam has come to light in Bachupalli, Medchal district, where flat buyers have been left in the lurch for over nine years. Gujarat-based Nebula Pacifica Real Estate Company, which began construction of 2,670 flats in 2016 with RERA approval, has failed to deliver the promised homes—sparking anger and protests from buyers. Despite collecting payments in installments from numerous buyers since the project's launch, the company has repeatedly delayed construction. Initially blamed on the COVID-19 pandemic, the delays have continued well beyond the extended deadlines. As of today, around 30% of the work is reportedly still pending. Adding to the buyers' woes, the company is now demanding additional

payments, even from those who have already registered or completed their payments. Several buyers have also alleged that agreement papers have not been provided, raising serious concerns about the project's legality and intent. On Saturday, angry flat buyers staged a protest at the construction site, demanding justice and immediate government intervention. They accused the company of harassing customers and failing to uphold basic accountability even after nine years. Real estate scams like this continue to plague Hyderabad's outskirts, with buyers falling victim to deceptive promises like "initial offers" and "ready to occupy" deals. The victims of this particular project are urging authorities to intervene and take strict action to prevent further exploitation.

All Set for Secunderabad Ujjaini Mahankali Bonalu

TPN Correspondent | Secunderabad
All preparations have been completed for the grand celebration of the historic Sri Ujjaini Mahankali Bonalu in Secunderabad, to be held today. Officials from all departments have worked in coordination to ensure the smooth conduct of the festivities, which are expected to draw lakhs of devotees from the twin cities and nearby regions. As per tradition, Bonalu is offered to the Goddess Ujjaini Mahankali on the first Sunday after the beginning of Ashadam. The temple priests say this revered practice dates back nearly 2,000 years. The main event — the



offering of Bonam — will take place today, followed by the vibrant Palaharam Bandi procession, and finally the grand Gajaraj Ambari procession, marking the conclusion of the festival.

To handle the massive turnout, extensive arrangements have been made: queue lines with barricades, LED screens for live darshan, a powerful sound system, mobile toilets in less crowded areas, and art and cultural installations highlighting Telangana's heritage. Officials said 40 new CCTV cameras have been added this year for increased surveillance. Emergency medical centres, control rooms, electricity monitoring stations, and welcome platforms have also been set up. Police personnel have been deployed in full strength to manage crowds and ensure safety.

460 Degrees, 58 Gold Medals Awarded at NALSAR’s 22nd Convocation

Chief Justice Gavai, CM Revanth attend grand event in Shamirpet

TPN Correspondent | Shamirpet

The 22nd Annual Convocation of NALSAR Law University was held on Saturday at its Justice City Campus in Shamirpet with grandeur and academic pride. The event saw the participation of Chief Justice of India Justice Bhushan Ramakrishna Gavai as the chief guest, alongside Telangana Chief Minister

A. Revanth Reddy and Supreme Court Judge Justice P.S. Narasimha as guests of honour. Presided over by Justice Sujoy Pal, Acting Chief Justice of Telangana High Court and Chancellor of NALSAR, the ceremony celebrated the academic achievements of students with the conferment of 460 degrees and 58 gold medals.

In his convocation address,

Chief Justice Gavai praised NALSAR not only for its academic standards but also for its commitment to legal values and social justice. He encouraged graduates to uphold the transformative power of law and cited historical examples of lawyers fighting systemic oppression. He advised students to maintain a balanced life through friendships, hob-

bies, health, books, and imagination, drawing inspiration from Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s lifelong pursuit of knowledge. Vice Chancellor Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao presented the annual report and key achievements of the university. On this occasion, several publications, including an illustrated handbook on children’s rights and the NALSAR Law Review



Journal, were released.

Among the gold medalists, Muskan Karla stood out with two medals in LLM, while B. Harini, Huzaifa Sheikh, and Nandini Shivere won one each.

Muskan Alvi won a gold medal in the MBA stream. University Registrar Prof. N. Vasanthi, faculty, staff, and proud families of graduates attended the prestigious event.

Madhav Defends Cultural Map, Slams BRS Over Criticism

AP BJP chief says Telugu unity is above political lines

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh BJP chief Daggubati Purandeswari Madhav hit back strongly at the BRS leaders after they criticized a cultural map of India he had earlier presented to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. The controversy stemmed from the fact that the map showed a united Andhra Pradesh, without a separate Telangana, prompting BRS leaders, including party working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), to react sharply.

Amid the criticism, Madhav met Telangana BJP president G. Ramchandra Rao and presented him with the same 'Indian Cultural Glory' map — this time clearly depicting Andhra Pradesh and Telangana as separate entities. Responding to the backlash, Madhav accused BRS of politicizing a cultural artifact and spreading regional hatred. “Those who draw lines on photographs for political mileage and incite regional hatred will be remembered by the people,” he said, add-



ing that such actions are proof of narrow political thinking aimed at dividing Telugu society. Calling himself a “nationalist and proud Telugu,” Madhav reiterated his commitment to the Telugu language, culture, and unity. “I have worked actively in the Legislative Council to protect and promote the Telugu identity. Telugu unity cannot be damaged by those who see only political boundaries,” he said. He also hit out at BRS for allegedly praising the Razakars and being soft

on the legacy of the Nizam. “People who bow down to the descendants of the Nizam cannot understand the spirit of Indian nationalism and Telugu pride,” Madhav remarked. He concluded by affirming his respect and love for Telangana, describing it as a brotherly state. “My meeting with Telangana BJP president Ramchandra Rao was respectful and constructive. I proudly presented a cultural picture that represents the shared legacy of India,” he added.

Minister Seethakka Crosses Stream To Inspect Development Works



TPN Correspondent | Mulugu

In a display of hands-on leadership, Telangana Tribal Welfare and Women & Child Welfare Minister Seethakka personally inspected the construction of a bridge over

a stream in Kondai village of Eturu Nagaram mandal. The bridge, taken up at a cost of ₹15 crore, is aimed at improving connectivity in the remote forest region. Accompanied by Mulugu District Collector TS Diwa-

kar, the minister reviewed the pace of the work and advised officials to expedite the construction so that the people in the region can benefit as early as possible. In a symbolic gesture reflecting her commitment to rural development, Seethakka crossed the stream on a tractor to reach the other side of the village, where she inaugurated a newly constructed school building. Minister Seethakka continues to earn praise for her grassroots leadership style, setting aside protocol and braving difficult terrain to monitor development works personally. Her active presence in the region is being seen as a strong push for fast-tracked development in remote and tribal areas of Mulugu district.

Hostel Demand Grows, RTC Expansion Underway: Minister Ponnamm

TPN Correspondent | Nalgonda

BC Welfare and Transport Minister Ponnamm Prabhakar has highlighted key initiatives and urgent needs across Telangana during his review meetings held in Nalgonda district. Speaking on BC Welfare, he said there is an increasing demand for Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Gurukuls. Out of the 327 Gurukuls for BCs, only 26 have permanent buildings, while 301 continue in rented spaces. He urged collectors to immediately acquire land, after which construction of permanent buildings would begin. The minister said mess and cosmetic charges have been hiked in Gurukuls, while textbooks and uniforms are now provided from the first day of school. “We’ve initiated teacher appointments, and over 21,000 students are studying in BC Gurukuls across the combined Nalgonda district,” he added. On RTC, he said the Congress government is adopting



and modernizing the service. Since coming to power, it enabled free bus travel for women — benefitting 195 crore rides with a payment of ₹6,400 crore to RTC. Recruitment for 3,031 RTC posts is underway, and 40 new buses have been launched in Nalgonda. “We’ve also started 500 electric buses, with all Hyderabad RTC buses planned to be electric under the EV policy,” he said. Ponnamm also laid the foundation for an automated vehicle testing center in Nalgonda and noted

steps to curb road accidents, including AI-based vehicle fitness checks and black spot closures. He emphasized plantation drives and the distribution of protective gear for Geeta workers. “Under CM Revanth Reddy’s leadership since December 7, 2023, we’ve waived farm loans, released ₹9,000 crore in farmer aid, and sanctioned 3,500 Indiramma houses per constituency,” Ponnamm added, promising further transport and welfare upgrades across the district.

Maoists Face Major Setback As 45 Surrender In 2 Days



TPN | Anvesh Reddy

Chhattisgarh: In a significant blow to Maoist insurgency in Chhattisgarh, 45 Maoists have surrendered in just two days across Narayanpur and Sukma districts. The wave of surrenders is being seen as a major setback to Maoist operations in the region, long considered their stronghold. On Friday, 22 Maoists from the Abujmahar region of Narayanpur district surrendered in the presence of senior official Robinson. Less than 24 hours later, 23 more Maoists surrendered before Sukma District Superintendent of Po-

lice Kiran Chahna.

Among the 23 who surrendered today in Sukma, nine were identified as key Maoist leaders from the PLGA Battalion No. 1. They were reportedly active members of Hidma and Barse Dewa’s teams — both among the most wanted Maoist factions operating in central India. Sukma SP Kiran Chahna revealed that the group includes a division-level member, six PPCM (People’s Protection Committee Members), and four ACM (Area Committee Members). Additionally, four surrendered Maoists

are couples, suggesting entire family units are now abandoning the armed struggle. One of the most notable among the surrendered was Maoist leader Lokesh, who played a critical role in the 2012 abduction of former Sukma District Collector Alex Paul Menon. Police confirmed that several members of the group were directly involved in numerous violent and destructive incidents over the years. Officials estimate that the surrendered Maoists carried a combined bounty of ₹15 crore. The police attributed the wave of surrenders to increasing pressure from security forces and declining public support for Maoist activities, particularly in regions where government-backed development work has begun to reach remote forest areas. Senior officials say that the narrative is shifting within Maoist ranks, with many now considering surrender as their only viable option. “The people are no longer supporting Maoist violence. Development is reaching even the most remote corners, and this is weakening the Maoists day by day,” said one senior officer.

Congress Leaders Celebrate BC Reservation Move

42% quota reflects party’s commitment: Harivardhan Reddy

TPN Correspondent | Medchal

Congress leaders in Medchal-Malkajgiri district celebrated the state cabinet’s decision to implement 42% reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) in local body elections. District Congress Committee (DCC) President Singireddy Harivardhan Reddy hailed it as a shining example of a government that keeps its promises. Marking the occasion, Medchal-Malkajgiri District OBC Cell President Guvva Ravi Mudiraj led a celebration in Medchal town

on Saturday, where party leaders performed a symbolic palabhishekam (milk anointing) to the portraits of Rahul Gandhi, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, and TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud. The leaders also exchanged sweets in a show of joy and unity. Speaking at the event, Harivardhan Reddy emphasized that the Congress government is one that honors its word. “The 42% reservation for BCs will be implemented from the upcoming local body elections.

This decision shows the party’s dedication to uplift backward classes,” he said. He also assured that many more people-centric programs would follow in the coming days. Among those who participated were Medchal Mandal Congress President Ramana Reddy, Municipal Congress President Srinivas Reddy, former Market Committee Chairman Satyanarayana, ex-councilors, sarpanchs, MPTCs, and other village-level leaders.



A Course on Love – Why Not?

There are courses to become an engineer, doctor, or teacher. But what about becoming a lover? While it might sound strange, it's actually quite necessary. If education equips us for careers, a course on love can prepare us for life. Recognizing this, Delhi University has introduced a course on love for students with a special syllabus. In today's context, where youth often struggle with emotional confusion, such a course is not only relevant but urgent.

Love – A Timeless and Powerful Force

Love is an eternal subject. Every individual experiences it—whether in friendship, family, or romance. It is essential for enduring relationships and marriage. Love transforms people's lives, but when misunderstood, it can cause pain and loss. Sadly, the true essence of love is not well understood. Misconceptions dominate young minds, leading to confusion, emotional turmoil, and misguided choices.

Generation Z and Their Language of Love

Modern love comes with its own dictionary: “situationship,” “ghosting,” “benching,” “breadcrumbing”—terms coined by Generation Z. Each term reflects a kind of emotional detachment. Love today is often reduced to physical or financial exchanges, sidelining emotional and mental connection. The

lack of real understanding leads many young people down paths of distress.

Love as a Driving Energy

True love has the power to motivate and transform. Consider the story of a young village man who aspired to become an IPS officer after being inspired by a police officer's respect. A girl he met during coaching became his emotional anchor. Realizing their economic difference, he worked harder, succeeded, and married her—an inspiring story portrayed in 12th Fail. Another example is a man who carved a road through a mountain in memory of his late wife. These stories reflect how love can be an energy source that drives one to overcome obstacles and reach goals. Harvard research supports this: those with strong, loving relationships live happier, healthier lives. The tragedy today is that youth are misusing this energy for fleeting needs rather than building meaningful lives.

The Pitfalls of Immature Love

College students often fall into superficial relationships that start with flattery, songs, and gifts, but end in betrayal once one's needs are met. This toxic pattern, known as love bombing, leaves victims heartbroken. Another trap is catfishing, where fake social media personas are used to exploit others.



B Krishna
Psychologist
National Working
President, Advanced
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Even people over 40 fall victim due to a lack of understanding of slow-burn relationships. Then there's gaslighting, where one partner controls the other emotionally, isolates them, and constantly belittles them. These psychological patterns often go unrecognized, leading to broken lives and toxic marriages. Awareness of these behaviors is critical.

So, What is Love Really?

Love has puzzled psychologists for years. Why do humans fall in love? What is true love? Theories like the Liking Theory, Color Wheel Theory, Attachment Theory, and Triangle Theory attempt to explain the phenomenon. But the sad truth is that today's generation lacks even a basic understanding of these

foundational ideas, leading to repeated mistakes in relationships.

The Urgent Need for Awareness

With the rise of dating apps and digital communication, relationships have grown more complex. Issues like online stalking, emotional manipulation, and casual breakups plague today's youth. Unfortunately, there is no open space—either at home or in colleges—to discuss these matters. The lack of guidance results in misguided choices and emotional damage. As emphasized in the movie Court, it is not enough to make laws—we must teach them. The same applies to love. Instead of merely warning youth about love, we must teach what love truly is, how to nurture it, how to deal with its failures, and how to identify selfish or toxic intentions.

Teaching Love Like We Teach Life Skills

We teach children how to walk, talk, eat, and interact socially. So why not teach them how to love? Educating the youth about healthy love can prevent emotional disasters and allow them to use love as a source of strength, motivation, and success. A structured course on love could be the first step toward building a more emotionally intelligent and resilient generation.



From 129 Million to 75 Million: Understanding India's Poverty Recount

India continues to hold the unenviable distinction of having the largest number of poor people in the world, even as it competes with nations like Japan and Germany to become the third-largest economy globally. The World Bank's latest poverty update has significantly revised India's poverty numbers, sparking widespread discussion on the accuracy and implications of these figures.

In its 2024 report, the World Bank estimated that India had 129 million people living in extreme poverty, defined as surviving on less than \$2.15 per day (2017 PPP). However, the recent 2025 update drastically lowered this figure to 75.2 million, based on a higher poverty line of \$3 per day (2021 PPP). This sudden drop of nearly 54 million poor people within a year raises questions about the methodology and assumptions behind these statistics. The key reason for this revision is the World Bank's acceptance of India's new consumption survey conducted in 2022-2023, which replaced the previous 2016-2017 survey deemed unreliable. India's updated methodology, known as the Modified Mixed Recall Period (MMRP), significantly reduces reported poverty levels compared to the older Uniform Recall Period (URP) method.

While the government has touted this drop as a major success, the World Bank cautions that the traditional extreme poverty benchmarks of \$2.15 and \$3 per day are not fully applicable to middle-income countries like India. Instead, a more realistic poverty threshold for such nations is \$6.85 per day (2017 PPP), which accounts for modern essentials like electricity, healthcare, and digital access.

At this higher poverty line, India's poor population remains staggering—over 1.17 billion people or 82% of its population in 2022. This means India still has the highest absolute number of poor people globally, surpassing even Sub-Saharan Africa. In summary, while India's extreme poverty figures have been revised downward, broader poverty challenges remain immense, underscoring the complexity of measuring poverty in a rapidly developing nation.

Is Airbus Safer Than Boeing? The Truth Behind the Debate



Last week's crash of a Boeing 787 Dreamliner in Ahmedabad shook the aviation world and reignited fears about Boeing's safety. For Air India, it was a devastating blow to their brand revival. For Boeing, it reopened painful wounds from the 737 MAX disasters, which severely damaged its reputation due to flawed software and safety shortcuts. But does this mean Airbus is safer?

Globally, Boeing and Airbus dominate the aircraft manufacturing industry, shaping air travel for decades. Between 2013 and 2022, Boeing had 60 accidents and Airbus 50, but Boeing operates more planes. When adjusted for flight numbers, their fatality rates are almost identical. Aviation expert Richard Aboulafia sums it up: statistically, flying on either is equally safe. The plane itself is rarely the problem.

Boeing's recent troubles are not just technical—they're moral. The 737 MAX crashes in Indonesia and Ethiopia, caused by faulty software, revealed a corporate culture prioritizing profits over safety. Airbus hasn't been perfect either, with incidents like the 2009 Air France A330 crash and a \$4 billion corruption settlement. As one insider put it, "Airbus sins in boardrooms; Boeing sins in cockpits." Beyond safety, Boeing and Airbus are geopolitical rivals tied to the US and Europe respectively, fueling trade disputes and lobbying battles. Despite Boeing's rough decade, including the 737 MAX crisis and other incidents, its 2023 record was strong, with just 11 non-fatal accidents in over 31 million flights.

Flying remains incredibly safe: in 2023, there was one major accident for every 5.3 million flights. Most accidents stem from pilot error, not plane design. Modern aircraft, including Boeing's Dreamliner and Airbus's A320, are marvels built with multiple redundancies. So while emotions flare after crashes, data shows commercial aviation is safer than ever. The choice between Boeing or Airbus is often less about safety and more about perception. In reality, flying any modern aircraft means trusting an industry that's a technological wonder, despite its flaws.



Is America Still Worth It? Indian Students Begin Looking Elsewhere

For decades, American universities have been the gold standard for Indian students seeking world-class education and global career opportunities. Names like Sundar Pichai, Raghuram Rajan, Indra Nooyi, and Amartya Sen owe a part of their global success to the academic grounding they received in the US. Indian students have not only studied at top American institutions, but also contributed to them through philanthropy and research. However, that long-standing appeal is now under pressure. The Trump administration's crackdown on academic insti-

tutions—citing antisemitism, “anti-white racism,” and political activism—has created a hostile environment for both universities and international students. Elite campuses like Harvard and Columbia are facing political heat, while US embassies have halted student visa interviews, citing enhanced social media scrutiny. Indian applicants must now disclose years of online activity, leaving many uncertain about what could jeopardize their future. For Indian families, where sending a child to the US is often a long-term investment,

this is more than a policy change—it's a dream deferred. The US had over 3.3 lakh Indian students in 2023, making them the largest international student group. They contribute significantly to STEM fields and university funding. But the political message is clear: global talent is no longer welcome without conditions. This has already sparked a shift. A 28% drop in Indian student enrolments is forecast for 2025, with more turning to the UK, Canada, and Australia. These countries may not offer the same prestige, but they aren't undermining their uni-

versities or politicizing student mobility. India, in turn, finds an opportunity in this disruption. With institutions like IITs, IIMs, and emerging private universities like Ashoka, India can become an academic hub—if it invests in research, academic freedom, and global partnerships. The world may see fewer Indian success stories shaped in America in the coming years. But if India seizes this moment, it could become the new destination for intellectual ambition—not just for Indians, but for global talent disillusioned with America's shifting values.

DK Shivakumar’s Chair Comment Sparks Buzz Amid Power Debate

“When you get a chair, sit,” says Karnataka Dy CM

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar made a witty but politically loaded remark on Friday, which is being widely interpreted as a subtle reference to the ongoing power tussle with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah within the Congress-led state government. Speaking at Kempegowda Jayanti celebrations organized by the Bangalore Advocates Association, Shivakumar said, “Getting a chair is not easy. When you get the opportunity, you must sit and not let go of the chance.” While the comment drew laughter from the audience, many saw it as a veiled nod to his aspirations for the Chief Minister’s post. Adding to the moment, he remarked, “It seems many of you are very sacrificial by nature. Such a good building has been made with great chairs, make use of the opportunities when you get them.” This comment comes at a time when speculation is rife about an alleged power-sharing formula



between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, dating back to when the Congress formed the government in May 2023. According to unconfirmed reports, Siddaramaiah was to serve for the first 2.5 years, after which Shivakumar would take over as CM. However, Siddaramaiah recently put such speculation to rest, stating, “The Chief Minister’s post is not vacant. I have the full support of the Congress high command and will serve the full term.” Asked for a reaction, Shivakumar was measured, saying, “The CM

has already spoken. There’s no point in repeating things. I don’t know why people are in such a hurry about me. I’m not in a hurry.” Meanwhile, State Home Minister G Parameshwara noted that the confusion might have been avoided had party general secretaries addressed the matter more clearly earlier. While both leaders maintain a public stance of unity, Shivakumar’s comment has once again brought the Congress’s internal power dynamics into the spotlight.

Operation Shiva Launched to Secure Amarnath Yatra

8,500 troops deployed, drone threat neutralization in place



TPN Correspondent | Jammu

The Indian Army has launched Operation Shiva as part of an extensive security arrangement to ensure the safe and uninterrupted conduct of the Amarnath Yatra, which commenced on July 3. The 38-day pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine is being held via the Nunwan-Pahalgam (48 km) and Baltal (14 km) routes. The yatra will conclude on August 9. A defence spokesperson said the operation, conducted in coordination with civil authorities and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), has been launched in response to potential threats from Pakistan-backed proxies post Operation Sindoor. Over 8,500 troops

have been deployed, supported by a wide array of technological and operational assets. To neutralize aerial threats, the Army has installed a counter-unmanned aerial system (C-UAS) grid, comprising 50+ C-UAS and electronic warfare systems. High-resolution PTZ cameras and drone surveillance provide real-time monitoring of yatra convoys, cave shrine activities, and vulnerable zones. The operation includes a robust disaster management and medical support framework. Over 150 doctors and medical staff, two advanced dressing stations, nine medical aid posts, a 100-bed hospital, and 26 oxygen booths supported by 2 lakh litres of oxygen have

been set up along the routes. Additional support systems include signal companies for communication, EME detachments for technical repairs, bomb disposal squads, QRT teams, and emergency rations for 25,000 pilgrims. Tent cities, water points, bulldozers, and excavators have been arranged to address contingencies. Engineer task forces have been assigned to strengthen infrastructure through track widening, bridge construction, and flood mitigation efforts. Indian Army helicopters remain on standby for any emergency evacuation or relief operations. The Army has implemented live tracking of yatra convoys from Jammu to the shrine. Seamless co-ordination among multiple agencies is ensuring effective response to potential threats and maintaining situational awareness at all times. So far, more than 1.40 lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the cave shrine. Over 4 lakh devotees have registered online for the yatra this year. Last year, the total number of pilgrims stood at 5.10 lakh. The spokesperson added that Operation Shiva reflects the Indian Army’s unwavering commitment to ensuring a safe, smooth, and spiritually fulfilling yatra for all devotees.

Bihar Electoral Roll Revision...

TPN Correspondent | Bihar

With nearly two weeks remaining before the July 25 deadline, the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Saturday announced significant progress in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar. Over 80% of enumeration forms have already been collected, reflecting direct contact with nearly all electors in the state. According to the ECI, more than 6.32 crore enumeration forms — amounting to 80.11% — had been submitted as of 6 p.m. on Saturday. The poll body expects that the majority of forms will be collected well before the July 25 cut-off. To accelerate the process, the commission has deployed an additional 20,603 booth-level officers



(BLOs), taking the total number of BLOs on the ground to 77,895. Alongside them, around 1.5 lakh booth-level agents (BLAs) appointed by political parties are conducting door-to-door visits to ensure every eligible voter is covered. “Special efforts are being made to assist senior citizens, persons with disabilities (PwD), and other vulnerable groups through over four lakh volunteers,” the commission stated. The ECI said printing and near-to-

tal distribution of Enumeration Forms (EFs) to those present at their addresses has been completed. These efforts are part of the SIR process mandated ahead of the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections. Meanwhile, the Supreme Court, in a recent hearing, allowed the ECI to continue with the SIR but asked the poll panel to consider accepting Aadhaar cards, ration cards, and voter ID cards as valid documents for verification. The court said the ECI may decide on the admissibility of these documents and justify any rejections. The bench, comprising Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Joymalya Bagchi, refrained from staying the revision process, thereby allowing the electoral roll update to proceed unhindered.



Maratha Forts Enter UNESCO World Heritage List

Shah calls it a proud moment for the nation

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Union Home Minister Amit Shah hailed the inclusion of the ‘Maratha Military Landscapes of India’ in the UNESCO World Heritage List, calling it a moment of immense pride for the country. With this, India now has 44 properties inscribed on the prestigious list. In a post on X, Shah said, “It is a moment of immense pride for all countrymen that UNESCO has included 12 forts associated with Maharajadhiraj Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in the UNESCO World Heritage list.” He added that these forts served as the pillars of Hindu Swaraj and have continuously inspired generations with their deep cultural and linguistic significance. The announcement was made during the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee held in Paris, France, marking a major milestone in global recognition of India’s architectural and military legacy. The inscribed forts include Maharashtra: Salher, Shivneri, Lohgad, Khanderi, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala, Vijaydurg, and Sindhudurg and Tamil Nadu: Gingee Fort. Among them, Shivneri, Lohgad, Raigad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala, Vijaydurg, Sindhudurg, and Gingee are protected by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), while Salher, Rajgad, Khanderi, and Pratapgad fall under the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Maharashtra. The nomination was made under criteria (iv) and (vi), highlighting the forts’ architectural significance, military engineering, and association with historic events led by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and the Maratha Empire. India, a World Heritage Committee member (2021–25), is committed to preserving and promoting its cultural assets under the Outstanding Universal Values (OUVs) framework adopted by 196 countries. The move ensures global protection and promotion of these iconic Maratha strongholds, further enriching India’s diverse heritage portfolio.



Massive Eviction Drive Underway In Assam's Goalpara Forest Area

TPN Correspondent | Assam

A major eviction drive is underway in Goalpara district of Assam to remove illegal settlements from the Paikan Reserve Forest, with officials targeting over 140 hectares (1,040 bighas) of encroached land. The operation, aimed at curbing human-elephant conflict and restoring ecological balance, began following a High Court directive and a final deadline issued to encroachers on July 10. The eviction is focused on two major zones—Bidyapara and Bethari—falling under the Krishnai range of the forest, where hundreds of families have allegedly been residing unlawfully for years. District Forest Officer Tejash Mariswami confirmed, “We are clearing 149 hectares. About 2,070 concrete structures are to be dismantled. We gave notices twice, the first one in December. This is a legally protected forest land, and the eviction is crucial due to frequent human-animal conflicts in this region.” Goalpara district has reportedly the highest number of human-elephant conflicts in the country, prompting the court’s decision to clear forest encroachments. The eviction operation involves multi-

ple JCBs, heavy police deployment, and joint teams from the Forest Department and Assam Police. Officials have been patrolling the area, using loudspeakers to urge residents to vacate peacefully. However, the drive has sparked political tension, with opposition AIUDF leaders alleging high-handedness. Eight MLAs from the party staged a demonstration near the site, accusing the government of displacing legitimate residents. AIUDF MLA Hafiz Rafikul Islam questioned the eviction, saying, “These villages have existed since before the NRC of 1951. People have voter IDs, there are government schools, roads, electricity, and water supply. How can this be forest land?” In a tragic moment during the eviction, one resident allegedly attempted suicide but was stopped by a family member and rushed to hospital. Despite the opposition, authorities maintain that the eviction is part of a larger conservation effort. The administration is determined to complete the process within a day, reinforcing its commitment to protecting wildlife corridors and reducing encroachment-driven conflict in ecologically sensitive zones.

‘Pragmatism and Vibrancy’

India's Diplomatic Strategy in 2024 Marked by MEA Report

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Friday released its Annual Report for 2024, painting a comprehensive picture of India's active and pragmatic engagement on the global stage. The report emphasizes how India's foreign policy has exhibited vibrancy and pragmatism, positioning the country as a reliable partner and a key global influencer.

In a world increasingly shaped by geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainties, climate emergencies, and social upheaval, India managed to push forward with strategic autonomy while ensuring its role remained proactive in both bilateral and multilateral fora. The MEA report underlines India's key focus areas including reforms in multilateral bodies, promotion of Global South interests, and strengthening national security within a rules-based international order. The report states that India's diplomacy in 2024 yielded significant achievements, particularly in enhancing global goodwill and strategic partnerships. India played a key leadership role in forums such as the UN, G20, G7, SCO, BRICS, and Quad, while maintaining strong bilateral relationships. The year also witnessed India's continued role as part of the G20 Troika (India, Brazil, South Africa), carrying forward the legacy of India's G20 presidency. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's participation in major global summits stood out. His human-centric and development-oriented approach at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro was appreciated by leaders across developed and developing nations. The summit was notable as the African Union participated as a permanent member for the first time, an inclusion India had championed during the New Delhi G20 Summit in 2023.



In August, India hosted the third edition of the Voice of Global South Summit, under the theme "An Empowered Global South for a Sustainable Future", with participation from 173 dignitaries representing 123 countries. PM Modi also proposed a Global Development Compact, focusing on technology, trade, capacity-building, and financial support for sustainable growth in developing countries.

The MEA stressed India's unwavering stand against terrorism, highlighting cooperation with countries like France, Kazakhstan, Australia, and members of the Quad. India's FATF Mutual Evaluation concluded positively, with high compliance on anti-money laundering, terror financing, and counter-proliferation obligations. Another major area where India excelled in 2024 was Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR). India undertook three major HADR operations:

- **Operation Indravati in Haiti, to evacuate Indian nationals amid civil unrest.**
- **A special humanitarian airlift in Kuwait, to repatriate bodies of 45 Indians.**
- **Operation Sadbhav in Myanmar, to aid flood-hit regions after Typhoon Yagi.**

India also extended support to more than 20 countries, including anti-cancer drugs to Syria and 30 tons of humanitarian aid to Palestine through UNRWA. In the G7 Outreach Summit in Italy, PM Modi reiterated India's vision of "AI for All", emphasizing human-centric digital transformation and pressing for Global South interests. Significant diplomatic milestones were celebrated throughout the year, reflecting India's longstanding and growing relationships with various countries. The MEA noted that India's role as a "first responder" in crises, and its constructive leadership in shaping a fairer global order, continue to earn it global respect.

In conclusion, the MEA's annual report for 2024 reflects a confident and responsive India, adapting to global shifts while asserting leadership, promoting equitable growth, and protecting its sovereign interests through pragmatic diplomacy.

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Donald Trump Unleashes Tariff Fury: What Unfolded This Week

TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

In a move that has reignited global trade tensions, US President Donald Trump on Saturday announced sweeping tariffs, including a 10% universal levy on all imports and targeted hikes on products from key trade partners such as China, Brazil, Mexico, and the European Union. The declaration, made under a national economic emergency announced on July 10, allows the president to bypass Congress in implementing the new trade rules. Under the policy, imports from countries with high trade surpluses against the US—like Brazil and China—will face steeper duties. Notably, Trump proposed a 50% tariff on Brazilian goods such as coffee and orange juice. The administration also levied a 30% tariff on products from the EU and Mexico. The White House stated that these steps aim to narrow the trade deficit, revive domestic manufacturing, and fund additional tax cuts. "This is about fairness and reciprocity," Trump said. "If they tax us, we'll tax them more."

However, global markets and US businesses have reacted with concern. The American Action Forum estimates that the new tariffs could increase annual household expenses by \$1,700 to \$2,350. Major retailers, including Walmart and Nike, are already warning of price hikes.

On the diplomatic front, the response has been swift and sharp. The European Union and China have both vowed retaliatory measures, potentially sparking a fresh trade war. EU officials are already drawing up lists of American products to target, while Beijing warned of "consequences" and hinted at new tariffs on US agricultural and tech goods.



Reuters reported that Trump's proposal includes "reciprocal tariffs," allowing the US to match or exceed tariffs imposed by other nations on American exports. Specific materials like copper and automotive components may also face increased duties, raising alarm within construction and manufacturing sectors.

CNBC noted that this strategy adds significant uncertainty to the global economy, especially at a time when supply chains are still recovering from pandemic disruptions and geopolitical conflicts. While the Trump administration insists these steps will restore trade fairness and strengthen the US economy, critics argue the plan could backfire, hurting consumers, weakening alliances, and risking job losses in sectors reliant on global imports. As of now, there is no word on whether Congress will attempt to intervene. With the 2026 midterm elections on the horizon, trade and inflation are set to become major political flashpoints once again.

X Slashes Subscription Fees in India by Up to 48%

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Social media platform X (formerly Twitter) has reduced its subscription prices in India by up to 48%, significantly lowering the cost for users opting for Premium, Premium Plus, and Basic plans. The revised pricing applies to both mobile and web users. As per the updates on X's official portal:

- **The monthly mobile Premium subscription has been cut by 48%, now costing ₹470, down from the previous ₹900.**
- **The Premium web subscription now costs ₹427, a 34% reduction from the earlier ₹650.**
- **Basic plan subscribers will now pay ₹170/month, a 30% drop from ₹243.75.**
- **The annual Basic plan has been re-**

duced by 34%, now priced at ₹1,700, compared to the earlier ₹2,590.48.

The Premium subscription includes a verified checkmark, the ability to post longer content, and editing features. In a major move, the Premium Plus plan, which offers an ad-free experience, article publishing, and access to SuperGrok (powered by Grok 4), has also seen price cuts:

- **The web version is now ₹2,570/month, reduced by 26% from ₹3,470.**
- **The mobile Premium Plus plan now costs ₹3,000, down from ₹5,100.**

X clarified that mobile subscription rates are slightly higher due to app store fees. These aggressive price revisions come as the platform seeks to expand its paid user base in India, one of the fastest-growing digital markets globally.

Iran Open to Resuming Nuclear Talks if Assured of No Further Attacks

TPN Correspondent | Tehran

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Saturday signalled Tehran's willingness to resume nuclear negotiations with the United States — but only if clear assurances are given that no further military attacks will be carried out against the country. His statement follows the recent joint assault by Israel and the US on Iranian nuclear facilities, which Araghchi said has made diplomatic solutions "more difficult and complicated."

Speaking at a diplomatic gathering in Tehran, Araghchi stressed, "Iran has always been ready, and will be ready in the future, for talks about its nuclear programme. But a guarantee must be provided that such talks will not



lead to war." On June 22, the US launched coordi-

nated strikes on three Iranian nuclear facilities, joining an ongoing 12-

day Israeli offensive. While former US President Donald Trump claimed the operation "obliterated" Iran's nuclear infrastructure, Iranian officials have stated that while the sites were "badly damaged," they were not destroyed. In retaliation, Iran launched missiles at a US military base in Qatar. The strikes prompted Iran to suspend cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), resulting in the withdrawal of UN inspectors from the country. Araghchi said any future inspections would now be considered "case by case" and aligned with Iran's national security priorities.

"The risk of radioactive contamination and unexploded munitions at the attacked sites is serious," he said,

defending Iran's decision to restrict access to the damaged locations. The Foreign Minister also reiterated Tehran's longstanding position on uranium enrichment, asserting that enrichment on Iranian soil would continue despite objections from the US. President Trump has repeatedly insisted that Iran must halt all uranium enrichment, while Israel has justified its attacks by claiming Iran was nearing the threshold of building a nuclear weapon. Although the US and IAEA previously concluded that Iran ceased its structured nuclear weapons programme in 2003, Tehran had been enriching uranium up to 60%, just short of the 90% required for weapons-grade material.

Commercial LPG Cylinder Price Slashed by ₹58.50, Jet Fuel Sees 7.5% Hike



Oil marketing companies revised fuel prices on July 1, 2025, delivering mixed news for consumers. While the cost of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder was reduced by ₹58.50, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices saw a sharp increase of 7.5%, driven by global oil market trends.

Following the price cut, commercial LPG cylinders now cost ₹1,665 in Delhi, ₹1,616.50 in Mumbai, ₹1,769 in Kolkata, and ₹1,823.50 in Chennai. This marks the fourth consecutive reduction in commercial LPG rates, totaling a ₹138 cut per cylinder since April. The earlier cuts were ₹41 in April, ₹14.50 in May, and ₹24 in June. The decline in prices has come as a relief for commercial establishments such as hotels, restaurants, and catering services, especially as LPG demand typically dips during the summer months.

In contrast, the ATF price was raised by ₹6,271.50 per kilolitre in Delhi to ₹89,344.05 per kl, reflecting a surge in international crude oil prices following geopolitical tensions, particularly Israel's at-

tack on Iran last month. The hike reverses some of the price relief offered in previous months: ATF prices had been reduced by 6.15% in April (₹5,870.54/kl), 4.4% in May (₹3,954.38/kl), and 2.82% in June (₹2,414.25/kl).

This latest increase in ATF prices is likely to impact airlines significantly, as fuel accounts for nearly 40% of their operational costs. In other metro cities, ATF prices now stand at ₹83,549.23 per kl in Mumbai, ₹92,526.09 per kl in Chennai, and ₹92,705.74 per kl in Kolkata. These rates vary across cities due to differences in local taxes, including VAT.

While no immediate response came from airlines regarding the price hike, the increase could translate into higher airfares if sustained. Meanwhile, the continued easing of LPG prices provides some cushion to small businesses grappling with inflation and fluctuating energy costs. The diverging trends in ATF and LPG pricing highlight the volatile nature of global energy markets and their domestic implications.

India's Trade Deficit Could Rise to \$300 Billion in FY26 Despite Moderate Oil Prices: ICICI Bank



ICICI Bank has forecast that India's trade deficit will widen to USD 300 billion in the financial year 2025-26, even though oil prices are expected to remain moderate. This would mark an increase from the USD 287 billion deficit recorded in FY25 and USD 245 billion in FY24, representing 7.0% of the country's GDP.

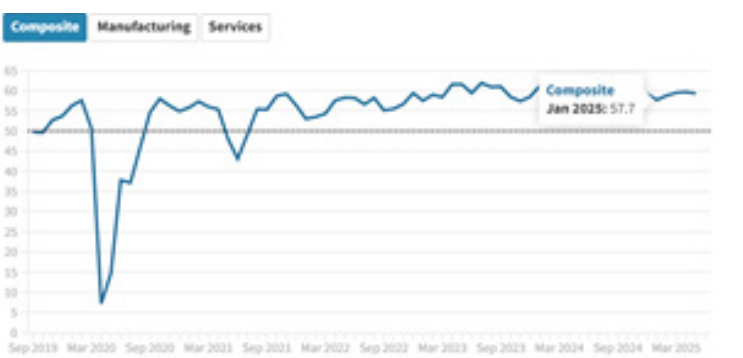
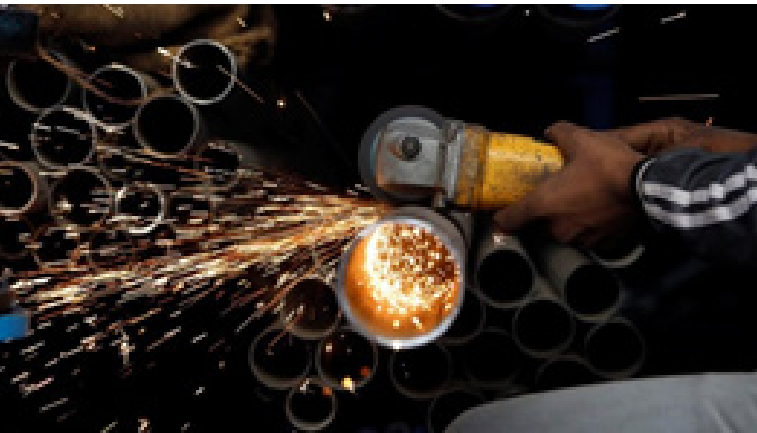
According to the bank's report, the main driver of the growing trade deficit is the weak performance of India's non-oil exports, which have struggled to keep pace with rising imports. On the other hand, strong domestic economic growth is expected to sustain high import levels, further widening the gap between imports and exports.

Despite the widening trade deficit, ICICI Bank projects that steady inflows from services exports and remittances will help maintain the current account deficit (CAD) at a manageable USD 30

billion, or approximately 0.7% of GDP. The current account deficit includes not only the trade balance but also other international financial flows such as investment income and remittances. A trade deficit occurs when a country imports more goods than it exports, and India's persistent deficit highlights ongoing challenges in boosting export competitiveness outside of the oil sector. Meanwhile, imports remain robust, driven by strong domestic demand and economic expansion.

The report underscores the importance of strengthening non-oil exports to reduce India's reliance on imports and improve the overall balance of payments. As the economy continues to grow, addressing these structural trade imbalances will be crucial for sustaining external stability and economic resilience in the coming years.

Manufacturing PMI Hits 14-Month High in June on Strong Export Demand



India's manufacturing sector saw its strongest performance in over a year, with the HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rising to 58.4 in June 2025, up from 57.6 in May. This marks the highest PMI reading since April 2024 and remains well above the long-term average of 54.1, indicating robust expansion in factory activity.

According to the survey, the surge in manufacturing was driven primarily by a sharp increase in export orders, leading to improved production output, job creation, and order volumes. The report highlighted a record upturn in employment, as manufacturers responded to buoyant demand both domestically and internationally.

"June marked a strong end to the first fiscal quarter, with noticeable gains in output and new orders," the report stated. "External demand rose at one of the fastest rates recorded in over two decades of the survey's history."

The growth in production was largely attributed to intermediate goods manufacturers, while both consumer and capital

goods segments experienced a slowdown. Respondents cited increased operational efficiency and favourable demand conditions as key contributors to higher output levels.

Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, noted, "To meet strong international demand, manufacturing firms drew down on inventories, leading to a continued decline in finished goods stock."

Interestingly, even as manufacturing accelerated, input price inflation eased to a four-month low, despite persistent cost pressures from materials like iron and steel. However, average selling prices rose sharply as companies passed on increased freight, labour, and material costs to customers. Some firms also raised prices in response to strong demand.

The report signals a positive outlook for the manufacturing sector, though it also highlights the uneven nature of growth across segments. With global demand playing a critical role in driving output, Indian manufacturers appear poised to benefit further from favourable export conditions, even as input cost pressures and inventory concerns remain on the radar.

India's Industrial Growth Slows to 9-Month Low of 1.2% in May 2025

India's industrial output growth slipped to a nine-month low of 1.2% in May 2025, reflecting a significant slowdown in key sectors such as electricity and mining. This marks the weakest growth since August 2024 and is a decline from 2.6% in April, according to official data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Monday. The April figure was also revised downward from the earlier estimate of 2.7%.



The latest data from the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) — which tracks changes in the volume of production in factories, mines, and utilities — points to broad-based weakness, with particular stress in energy and resource-linked industries. Electricity output contracted sharply by 5.8%, while mining output saw a marginal decline of 0.1% year-on-year.

In contrast, manufacturing, which constitutes the bulk of the IIP, provided some support with 2.6% growth, driven by increased production in machinery, non-metallic minerals, and basic metals. However, this was still notably below the 5.1% growth re-

corded in the same month last year, indicating persistent softness in industrial momentum. Sector-wise, consumer goods remained weak, reflecting subdued demand, while capital goods and infrastructure-related output offered modest positive contributions to overall industrial performance.

The IIP reading for May stood at 156.6, up slightly from 154.7 in May 2024,

but the slow pace of expansion raises concerns about the resilience of India's industrial recovery amid global uncertainties and domestic demand challenges.

This deceleration in industrial activity may influence monetary policy discussions, especially as the Reserve Bank of India weighs the implications of softening growth against ongoing inflation risks.

Indian Stock Market Opens Flat Amid Positive Global Cues

Mumbai: The Indian stock market opened flat on Monday, buoyed by positive global cues and early buying interest in the PSU bank and IT sectors.

At 9:27 am IST, the Sensex edged up marginally by 1.35 points to 84,057.55, while the Nifty rose 6.50 points, or 0.03%, to 25,644.30. Nifty Bank showed slight gains, up 15.15 points or 0.03% at 57,459.05 in early trade.

Market analysts pointed to easing geopolitical tensions in West Asia and a sharp decline in Brent crude prices to \$67 as key factors supporting the market sentiment. Additionally, reports suggesting positive developments in trade negotiations between the US and China, as well as the US and India, have boosted investor confidence.

Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments, noted that recent market rallies have been driven by large-cap stocks like HDFC



Bank, ICICI Bank, Reliance Industries (RIL), and Larsen & Toubro (L&T), which have seen strong institutional buying. The Nifty Midcap 100 index climbed 220.90 points (0.37%) to 59,606.05, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 index rose 153.35 points (0.81%) to 19,130.15.

Among the Sensex constituents, M&M, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bharti Airtel, HDFC Bank, NTPC, and UltraTech Cement were the top losers. On the other hand, Trent, SBI, L&T, Axis Bank, and Hindustan Unilever Limited led the gains.

Weakness in the US dollar index continues to encourage foreign institutional investor (FII) inflows, alongside ongoing retail optimism supporting domestic fund investments. Experts advise that while staying invested in this bullish market makes sense, caution should be exercised when making fresh investments at current high valuations.

On June 27, FIIs were net buyers, acquiring equities worth ₹1,397.02 crore, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) were net sellers, offloading shares worth ₹588.93 crore. Asian markets also showed mixed trends, with China, Bangkok, Japan, Seoul, and Jakarta trading in green, while Hong Kong slipped into the red.

In the US, the Dow Jones closed Friday at 43,819.27, up 1%, with the S&P 500 and Nasdaq also posting solid gains.

What Is the ‘Pizza Index’ Theory, and Why It’s Trending After Israel’s Strikes on Iran

As global attention turns to the escalating conflict between Israel and Iran, an unusual theory known as the “Pizza Index” is once again making waves on social media. The theory proposes a strange yet intriguing connection: a spike in pizza orders near the Pentagon could indicate an impending military action or global crisis.

The theory gained renewed attention after reports emerged that pizza orders from three restaurants near the U.S. Department of Defense in Washington, D.C., saw a sudden surge just before Israel launched airstrikes on Iran. The information was shared by a popular X (formerly Twitter) account called Pentagon Pizza Report, which has been tracking unusual food delivery patterns around the Pentagon.

The idea behind the Pizza Index is simple: when major decisions or operations are underway, staff and analysts working late at defense-related offices tend to order food—often pizza. Therefore, a noticeable uptick in orders could hint at high-level activity or imminent action.

While this theory might sound far-fetched, it’s not entirely new. Similar trends were observed before past international military operations, though the data has always been anecdotal and never officially confirmed.

The recent spike in deliveries before Israel’s reported airstrikes has led to a flurry of speculation and memes online. While some treat it as a humorous conspiracy theory, others view it as a quirky but possibly insightful indicator

of military movement.

In a world increasingly driven by open-source intelligence and unconventional data tracking, the Pizza Index adds an unexpected slice of speculation to the way we interpret geopolitical signals. Whether coincidence or pattern, it’s once again caught the internet’s attention in a big way.



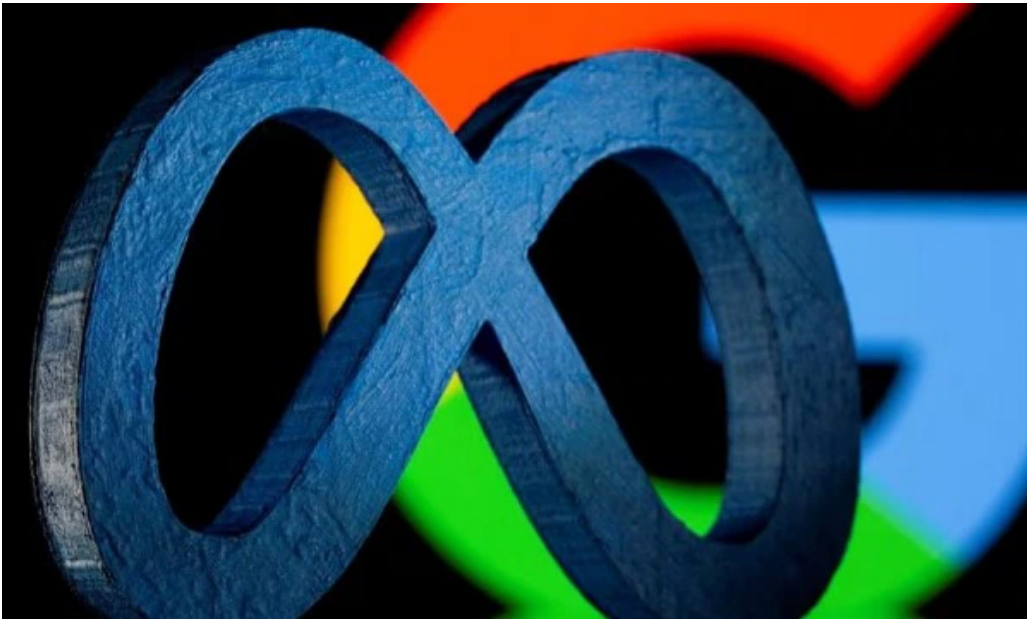
Meta Sues Developer Behind AI ‘Nudify’ Apps Amid Surge in Misuse

Meta has taken legal action against Joy Timeline HK Limited, a Hong Kong-based company behind AI-powered “nudify” apps, in a bid to halt the spread of unethical content generated using artificial intelligence. These apps are designed to create fake, sexually explicit images of individuals—often without their knowledge or consent—by digitally removing clothing from photos.

The lawsuit, filed by Meta, is part of the company’s broader campaign to combat the abuse of generative AI, particularly tools that violate privacy and promote harmful or exploitative behavior. Meta stated that Joy Timeline’s CrushAI app and others like it were using its platforms—Facebook and Instagram—to advertise such services, which directly violate Meta’s community standards and advertising policies.

In its complaint, Meta accuses the company of leveraging deceptive practices and targeting users through misleading advertisements, posing significant risks to individuals’ privacy and dignity. The tech giant emphasized that it is not only removing the offending content and ads but also pursuing legal action to set a precedent for responsible AI usage.

The rise of nudify apps has sparked growing concern worldwide, with AI-generated deepfake content



becoming increasingly realistic and accessible. Lawmakers and tech leaders have voiced alarm about the psychological and reputational damage caused by such tools, especially when used to target women and minors.

Meta’s move reflects an increasing urgency among major platforms to implement stronger safeguards against AI misuse. The company also called for collaboration across the tech industry to combat the harmful use of generative technologies and to hold developers accountable.

This lawsuit may mark a turning point in how companies approach the legal and ethical responsibilities surrounding AI, as the lines between innovation and exploitation continue to blur.

Air India Crash: Netizens Spot Possible RAT Deployment as Investigation Probes What Went Wrong

The tragic crash of Air India Flight AI171, en route from Ahmedabad to London, has left the world in mourning after all 241 passengers on board were confirmed dead. The Boeing 787 Dreamliner went down shortly after takeoff, marking the first fatal accident involving this aircraft model and triggering an urgent investigation into what caused the disaster.



While authorities continue to examine the aircraft’s black box, theories are swirling online as netizens and experts alike analyze video footage of the crash. A prominent theory gaining traction involves the suspected deployment of the RAT (Ram Air Turbine) — a small emergency turbine that activates automatically in case of critical system failures.

A YouTube analysis by Captain Steve Scheibner, a former US Navy pilot and aviation analyst, has fueled the RAT theory. Initially skeptical of an engine failure due to the absence of smoke, fire, or sparks, Scheibner revised his stance after reviewing new visual and audio cues from crash footage.

On the Boeing 787, the RAT deploys in three extreme situations: electrical system failure, hydraulic system failure, or dual engine failure. Scheibner now

strongly leans toward the dual engine failure theory, stating, “The RAT’s presence points to a catastrophic systems breakdown — most likely both engines failed.”

He also previously considered other possibilities, including fuel contamination, bird strike, or incorrect flap settings, but now cites multiple indicators that suggest a more serious emergency took place.

As social media debates intensify, officials urge patience, emphasizing that the final cause will only be determined through black box data and a detailed technical investigation. Meanwhile, Air India and aviation authorities have yet to officially comment on the RAT theory.

The crash has sparked renewed focus on air safety, and the world waits for clarity on what went wrong aboard Flight AI171.

Father’s Day Cake Listed for Rs 5 Lakh Sparks Internet Frenzy: Glitch or Gourmet?

As Father’s Day turned into an online sensation when a food delivery platform seemingly priced a 500-gram Hazelnut Chocolate Cake at an eye-watering Rs 5 lakh. The now-viral screenshot, which made rounds on social media platforms like X (formerly Twitter) and Reddit, left users stunned and amused. While most cakes on the same page were priced normally—such as a Butterscotch Cake at Rs 400 and a Red Velvet Cake at Rs 599—the Hazelnut Chocolate Cake stood out for its absurd cost. Many netizens believe the pricing was either a typo or a technical glitch, but that didn’t stop a flurry of hilarious online reactions. One user joked, “Do not complain. At least they gave you 40% off!” Another quipped, “For Rs 5 lakh, I could buy an entire bakery in my village!” Social media was flooded with comparisons—ranging from buying iPhones to starting a business—instead of



splurging on one small dessert. Some users rationalized it as a clear system error, while others couldn’t help but poke fun at the situation, even pointing out that the delivery charge listed alongside was Rs 8000+. The listing has since become a humorous case study in e-commerce mishaps, reminding users and developers alike how a simple error can take the internet by storm. Whether it was a test item, a backend mistake, or someone having a bit of fun, the Rs 5 lakh cake has certainly earned its moment of viral fame—just not for its flavor. As Father’s Day approaches, this odd pricing saga proves once again that the internet never misses a crumb of absurdity.

Believe It or Not: This French Restaurant Charges ₹1,500 Fine for No-Shows and Surprise Guests

A French restaurant’s strict new policy is stirring debate online after the owner announced fines for customers who don’t show up as expected. L’îlot, a cozy 20-seat restaurant in Amboise, is run by chef and owner Olivier Vincent, who recently introduced a ₹1,500 (15 euros) fine for any guest who arrives with a different number of people than stated in their reservation.

Vincent explained that this policy came about due to repeated frustrations caused by no-shows and unexpected extra guests turning up without prior notice. Such changes disrupt the restaurant’s smooth operation, seating arrangements, and food preparation, which are all carefully planned for each reservation.

In a Facebook post, Olivier Vincent made it clear that any change in party size without warning would result in a fine of €15 per missing or extra person. His caption read simply: “Without warning obviously.....”

Despite this strict stance, L’îlot en-



joys an impressive 4.7-star rating on Google, reflecting the high quality of its dining experience and the respect many customers have for the restaurant.

The fine aims to encourage responsibility and better communication from diners, helping the small restaurant avoid last-minute disruptions and losses. It also reflects a growing trend among popular eateries worldwide that face similar challenges with no-shows and unpredictable guest numbers.

While some patrons have supported the decision as fair and necessary, others have criticized it as too harsh. Still, Vincent remains firm, emphasizing that the policy ensures the restaurant can continue to provide excellent service to all guests without the stress of unexpected changes.

In a world where dining spots are in high demand, especially intimate ones like L’îlot, clear communication and respect for bookings have become essential — and this French chef is making sure his guests understand that.

APL Season-4 Begins August 8...

All 25 matches to be held in Vizag; auction on July 14 at Radisson Blu

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

Andhra Premier League (APL) Season-4 is set to begin on August 8, and this edition promises to be grander and more competitive than ever before, said APL Governing Council Chairman Sujay Krishna Ranga Rao and ACA Secretary, Rajya Sabha MP Sana Satish Babu during a press conference at the ACA-VDCA International Cricket Stadium on Saturday. Calling it a major opportunity for cricket players from rural and remote areas, the Chairman emphasized that the APL is becoming a powerful platform for unearthing grassroots talent, with players even making the leap from APL to national and IPL levels. This year's tournament will see 25 matches—all hosted at Vizag Stadium, with 21 league games and 4 playoffs. The player auction will be conducted on July 14 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, where 520 players, classified into four grades, will go under the hammer 21 in Grade A, 112 in Grade B, 378 in Grade C and 9 players with national and IPL experience are expected to feature in the top tier. The number of participating franchises has increased from 6 to 7, and the franchise fee has risen from ₹75 lakh to ₹2 crore, reflecting the growing stature of the tournament. In comparison to APL-3, which hosted 15 matches and 430 players, APL-4 marks a significant scale-up. "The same professional team that managed IPL matches will organize APL-4," said ACA Secretary



Sana Satish Babu. He added that the tournament will be telecast live on a prominent channel, increasing visibility for upcoming players. He also revealed that new award categories will be introduced to encourage and reward young talent. The ACA is also preparing to host 5 ICC Women's World Cup matches, the India vs South Africa ODI in December, and the India vs New Zealand T20 in January, all at the Vizag Stadium. Given the positive feedback from IPL players who competed in Vizag this March, more IPL matches are likely to be allotted to the city. In another major announcement, ACA will soon launch the Women's T20 League, funded entirely by ACA, to boost opportunities for women cricketers in Andhra Pradesh. The league's schedule will be released shortly. "We are working towards sending 15 players from ACA to IPL next year," said Satish Babu, noting that 7 to 8 ACA players have already featured in this year's IPL. He reiterated that ACA is committed to nurturing talent by providing top-class infrastructure, exposure, and tournaments. The event was also attended by ACA Vice President P. Venkata Rama Prashanth, Treasurer Dandamudi Srinivasa Rao, Councilor Dantu Gouru Vishnu Tej, and other officials.

Neeraj Chopra vs Arshad Nadeem: Javelin Titans Set for High-Stakes Clash in Poland on August 16



An electrifying showdown awaits javelin Afans as Olympic champions Neeraj Chopra and Arshad Nadeem gear up for a much-anticipated face-off at the Diamond League in Silesia, Poland, on August 16. This will mark their first meeting since the Paris Olympics on August 8, 2024, where Nadeem stunned the world with a gold-winning 92.97m throw, surpassing Chopra's silver-winning 89.45m effort. The upcoming clash will be a headline event at the Silesia Diamond League, with fans eagerly anticipating a thrilling contest between the two South Asian giants of javelin. "Neeraj Chopra will face Arshad Nadeem. The Indian-Pakistani battle awaiting the Polish fans will be the first opportunity for revenge after the Paris Olympics," the organisers announced. Chopra, now 27, made headlines earlier this year when he breached the 90m mark for the first time with a throw of 90.23m at the Doha

Diamond League in May. Despite finishing second in that event, his consistency this season has been remarkable, participating in multiple top-tier competitions including Chorzow, Ostrava, and his own NC Classic in Bengaluru. Under the guidance of legendary coach Jan Zelezny, Chopra has secured wins at the Paris Diamond League, Ostrava Golden Spike, and the NC Classic, showing strong form ahead of the World Championships in Tokyo this September. Nadeem, now 28, has competed sparingly in 2025, with a notable gold medal performance at the Asian Championships in Gumi, South Korea, with a throw of 86.40m. Despite declining an invite to the NC Classic, his decision to face Chopra in Poland is seen as a bold move, reigniting one of the most compelling rivalries in athletics. All eyes will be on Silesia as these two titans prepare to battle it out once again.



Dominant Display: Swiatek Skates Through First Set in Wimbledon Final

Iga Swiatek has taken a commanding lead over Amanda Anisimova in the women's singles final at Wimbledon 2025. The match, unfolding on Centre Court, has kicked off with Swiatek asserting overwhelming dominance — she cleanly swept the opening set 6-0. The scoreline tells the story starkly: Anisimova, competing in her first Grand Slam final, found herself completely overwhelmed. The American struggled to find any rhythm on Swiatek's serve, return game, or baseline aggression. With each passing game, Swiatek's control tightened, turning the first set into

a one-sided affair with little resistance from Anisimova. Swiatek, the reigning world No. 1 and a two-time Grand Slam champion, was imperious. Her deep, spinning groundstrokes and precise serve returns kept the pressure on. She broke Anisimova's serve early, then never let up — blending attacking flair with defensive solidity. Amanda tested a few shots but couldn't string together enough consecutive points to build momentum. Anisimova, 22, fresh off a strong run to her debut final, showed flashes of her trademark power. But today's challenge

is at an even higher level — Swiatek's unwavering consistency, tactical acumen, and vast experience on the biggest stages proved too much. With the first set in the books and Swiatek orders of dominance, Anisimova will need a dramatic shift in strategy and confidence to turn things around. The heat is rising on Centre Court as Swiatek seeks her first Wimbledon crown, adding a third Grand Slam title to her resume. Stay tuned for more updates as this high-stakes showdown unfolds — will Anisimova respond with grit, or will Swiatek cement her authority in straight sets?

Pakistan Pulls Out of Hockey Tournaments in India Over Security Concerns

Pakistan will not send its national hockey teams to India for upcoming international tournaments, citing security concerns in the wake of recent regional tensions, government sources confirmed on Saturday. The decision casts serious doubt over Pakistan's participation in key events, including next year's Men's Hockey World Cup. According to sources in Pakistan's Sports Ministry, the team will not participate in the Men's Asia Cup scheduled to be held in India in August-September 2025. "After the recent war, the security and safety of our hockey players will be at risk," said an unnamed official, explaining the government's stance. The withdrawal extends to the Junior Hockey World Cup, which is also set to be hosted by India in November this year. The decision is a significant blow to Pakistan's already struggling hockey program, which has seen a steep decline in recent years. Once a global powerhouse with three Olympic golds and four World Cup titles, Pakistan is now ranked 15th in the world. Missing out on the Asia Cup could mean that Pakistan fails to qualify for the 2026 Men's Hockey World Cup, set to be jointly hosted by the Netherlands and Belgium. A second government source confirmed the



decision to AFP, while Pakistan's Foreign Office has not issued an official statement. This is not the first instance of sport becoming a casualty of political tensions between India and Pakistan. Cricket, the most high-profile sport in both nations, has already been limited to neutral venues, with bilateral series on hold since 2012. Earlier this year, India declined to travel to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy, leading to the final being moved to Dubai. In a reciprocal move, Pakistan's women's cricket team will also not travel to India for the upcoming 2025 ODI World Cup and 2026 T20 World Cup, opting instead to play their matches in Sri Lanka. Pakistan's men's hockey team last visited India for the 2023 Asian Champions Trophy, where they finished fifth out of six teams.

India A Men's Hockey Team Defeats France 3-2, Registers Third Consecutive Win on Europe Tour

The India A Men's Hockey Team continued their winning momentum on their Europe tour by defeating France 3-2 in a closely contested match held at the Hockey Club Oranje-Rood in Eindhoven on Saturday. This victory marks their third consecutive win on the tour. India's performance was once again led by forward Aditya Arjun Lalghe, who scored twice — once from open play and once from a penalty corner. His sharp finishing in the attacking third gave India the early edge. Bobby Singh Dhami added the third goal for the visitors, further strengthening India's grip on the match. Despite a spirited fightback from France, who relied on Clement's double strike, India held firm to secure the narrow win. The match was filled with fast-paced action, with both teams creating several goal-scoring opportunities. However, it was the Indian side that showed more composure under pressure, especially in the final quarter. Coach Shivendra Singh expressed satisfaction with the team's performance. "The India A Men's Hockey Team has been working very hard behind the scenes in preparation for this tour. It is great to see things coming together on the field. We still have a few games left, and I'm confident the team will keep the momentum going," he said in



a press release issued by Hockey India. India A has now won all three of their matches on this European tour. The team will face France once again on Sunday, July 14, at 2:00 PM IST in Eindhoven. With five more matches remaining on the tour, the team will aim to maintain their unbeaten streak and continue building towards future international competitions.



Box Office Report: Oh Bhama Ayyo Rama Turns Out to Be a Disaster

Suhas, known for his unconventional roles and promising performances, returned to the big screen with Oh Bhama Ayyo Rama, following the recent release of his OTT project Uppu Kappurambu, which starred Keerthy Suresh. However, this latest theatrical outing has turned out to be a major disappointment both critically and commercially. Oh Bhama Ayyo Rama released on July 11, 2025, but failed to make an impact with either the critics or the audience. The film opened to overwhelmingly negative reviews, and the initial word of mouth was discouraging. As per trade reports, the movie has suffered from extremely low occupancy across the limited screens it was released in. Industry insiders now predict that the film will not survive beyond the weekend, with theater owners already planning to replace it with other releases. Audience turn-



out has been dismal, and the overall reception suggests a complete rejection from moviegoers. One of the major criticisms has been Suhas's lackluster performance. Viewers noted that the actor appeared disinterested and failed to carry the emotional weight of the film. Despite some initial curiosity around the presence of yesteryear actress Anita, her role could not elevate the film, which was largely criticized for its lack of emotional connection and depth. The film, marketed as a family drama, seems to have missed the mark entirely. With weak storytelling, underwhelming performances, and poor audience engagement, Oh Bhama Ayyo Rama is unfortunately shaping up to be one of the biggest flops in Suhas's career. Unless a dramatic turnaround happens—which seems unlikely—the film is expected to wrap up its theatrical run in just a few days.





Shiva Rajkumar's First Look from Peddi Unveiled: Fierce and Commanding

significantly raises the excitement levels. His role, described as pivotal, appears to be rooted in dominance and gravitas—traits the actor portrays with effortless ease. The first look leaves a strong impression, hinting at a character who is both feared and respected.

Peddi is being produced on a grand scale by Venkata Satish Kilaru and features a powerful musical score by the Oscar-winning composer AR Rahman. The makers have reaffirmed that the film is scheduled for a theatrical release on March 27, 2026, coinciding with Ram Charan's birthday. Ram Charan, who reportedly plays a never-seen-before rustic role, and Shiva Rajkumar sharing screen space is a thrilling combination for fans across languages. With such strong creative forces behind the project, Peddi is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated films in Indian cinema. Stay tuned as more character reveals and updates are expected in the coming weeks.

Kuberaa to Stream on Amazon Prime from July 18 – No Deleted Scenes in OTT Version

After enjoying a successful theatrical run, Sekhar Kammula's critically acclaimed blockbuster Kuberaa is now gearing up for its digital premiere. The much-anticipated film is set to stream on Amazon Prime Video starting July 18, 2025. Starring powerhouse performers Dhanush, Nagarjuna, and Rashmika Mandanna, Kuberaa earned praise for its emotionally charged storytelling, powerful performances, and gripping screenplay. In the lead-up to its OTT release, rumors began circulating that the digital version of Kuberaa might include deleted scenes that were not part of the theatrical cut. However, sources close to the production have now confirmed that no such additions will be made. The version releasing on Amazon Prime will be identical to the one shown in theaters, with no extended or unseen footage included. This confirmation puts to rest speculations that had sparked excitement among fans eager for more content. While some viewers were hoping to explore additional



layers of the narrative through deleted scenes, others appreciate the decision to preserve the film's original structure and pacing, which contributed to its box office success. Kuberaa marks yet another win for director Sekhar Kammula, who is known for his ability to blend strong character development with socially relevant themes. The film's music, composed by Devi Sri Prasad (DSP), also played a significant role in elevating its emotional impact. With its digital release on the horizon, it remains to be seen how Kuberaa performs in the OTT space. Given its strong theatrical reception and star-studded cast, expectations are high that the film will garner equal love from the streaming audience. Fans can revisit the theatrical experience from the comfort of their homes starting July 18.

Rashmika Mandanna to Play a Negative Role in Allu Arjun–Atlee Film?

The buzz in the industry is growing louder — Rashmika Mandanna may be stepping into uncharted territory with a negative role in the upcoming Allu Arjun–Atlee film. While the project is already drawing massive attention due to its stellar lineup and high-profile collaboration, Rashmika's rumored involvement has added a fresh layer of intrigue. This yet-untitled film, directed by Atlee, is shaping up to be a pan-India spectacle. With Deepika Padukone already confirmed as part of the ensemble, the addition of Rashmika Mandanna, especially in a villainous role, could mark a major turning point in her career. Rashmika, widely known for her bubbly and girl-next-door roles in films like Geetha Govindam and Pushpa, has built a strong fan base across languages. If the rumors prove true, this would be her first time portraying a character with grey shades, showing her range and willingness to break typecasting.

While there's been no official confirmation from the team, the mere possibility has fans and cinephiles buzzing with excitement. Social media is already abuzz with speculation about her character and how she might face off against Allu Arjun on screen. Many believe that this bold move could help Rashmika evolve as a versatile performer and open doors to more layered roles in the future. Atlee, known for creating strong, stylized antagonists, might be crafting a powerful negative role that challenges the norms of typical female characters in Indian cinema. If Rashmika is indeed on board, her transformation into an antagonist could be one of the film's biggest highlights. More details about the project are expected soon, and fans eagerly await an official announcement. Until then, the speculation continues to keep the excitement levels high.