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Mithunreddy arrest..

Liquor case charge sheet with 41 41 name empty... Is it Jagan?

TPN | Purna Chandra

In a significant breakthrough in the Andhra Pradesh liquor scam, former Rajampet YSRCP MP P.V. Mithun Reddy was arrested on Saturday by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) following the Supreme Court's rejection of his anticipatory bail plea on Friday. The top court's decision cleared the way for the SIT to move ahead with his arrest, which had been anticipated for weeks. Reddy appeared before SIT officials for questioning at their office on Saturday morning. According to sources, he was interrogated for several hours on his alleged involvement in the formulation of the liquor policy, the channeling of bribes through shell companies, irregular allotment of liquor distillery orders, and the creation of an elaborate money collection network. Officials said they presented previously gathered evidence to him during the questioning, which reportedly led to the extraction of key information. The SIT has already filed a comprehensive 300-page preliminary charge sheet in court, listing Mithun Reddy as Accused No. 4 (A4). The charge sheet includes a vast array of supporting documents: more than 100 forensic lab reports, electronic data from seized devices, and testimony from 268 witnesses. Among these were 11 crucial depositions and detailed remand reports that pointed to Reddy's active role in the scam. Investigators also revealed that ₹62 crore in cash was seized in connection with the case. In addition, the SIT traced several financial transactions linked to the scam across banks, hospitals, gold jewellery establishments, and real estate companies. These transaction records have been appended to the charge sheet, offering a detailed picture of how the scam money was invested and moved. The arrest of Mithun Reddy marks a pivotal moment in the ongoing investigation, which has already implicated several political and business figures. The case continues to send shockwaves through Andhra Pradesh's political corridors, with more high-profile names likely to emerge as the SIT delves deeper into the financial and administrative dimensions of the scam. The SIT's charge sheet reportedly lists 41 accused, but the 41st name has been left blank, fueling speculation that it could be YSRCP chief and former CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.



Swachh Andhra, Swarnandhra: CM Charts Clean Future for AP

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu launched a scathing attack on the growing criminalization of politics, questioning whether Andhra Pradesh needs leaders with criminal backgrounds. Speaking at the Swarnandhra-Swachhandhra event in Tirupati, the CM declared that politics has been polluted and it's time to sweep away criminal elements just like household trash. Before addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister visited stalls set up by the Swarnandhra-Swachhandhra Corporation and expressed satisfaction that Andhra Pradesh has bagged five national Swachh Survekshan awards. He congratulated all contributors and reiterated the government's commitment to monthly thematic programs aimed at state development. Raising an urgent call to protect the environment, Chandrababu urged citizens to banish single-use plastics, warning of their link to cancer and environmental damage. "Let's drive out the plastic demon," he said, stressing the state's plans to phase out polythene covers under 120 microns. He announced that cloth bag vending machines would soon be introduced and emphasized that even waste can be turned into wealth. The CM announced that all accumulated waste in Andhra Pradesh will be cleared by October and that a plastic ban will be fully enforced in the Secretariat by August and in all government offices by December. He further spoke about plans to develop Amaravati into a global hub for Quantum Valley and artificial intelligence, likening its future importance to what IT was in earlier decades. He also touted WhatsApp Governance, which now offers 700 services to the public. Chandrababu reflected emotionally on surviving an assassination attempt by Naxalites, crediting Lord Venkateswara for saving his life. He accused the previous government of ignoring public health and attempting land grabs. "In my life, there has never been a place for murder politics," he declared, slamming opposition leaders for turning political disagreements into smear campaigns. He condemned YSRCP leaders for falsely portraying the murder of Vivekananda Reddy as a heart attack, and accused them of using mango farmers for political theatre. "They throw mangoes on the street while we give farmers ₹12,000 per tonne," he said, accusing Y.S. Jagan of resorting to Pulivendula-style politics. In a firm tone, Chandrababu vowed to bring an end to factionalism, religious discord, and criminal politics: "If anyone tries murder politics again, I won't spare them."



Will This Ever Change?

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy launched a scathing attack on TDP MLA Gali Bhanuprakash for his objectionable remarks against ex-minister and YSRCP leader RK Roja Selvamani. Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Jagan said the comments reflect the "decaying culture" within the Telugu Desam Party (TDP). "Just because she is exposing the government's failures and questioning it openly, is it justified to hurl vulgar abuse at my sister Roja, who served twice as an MLA and as a minister?" Jagan questioned. He accused TDP of systematically targeting women critics and trying to silence their voices through slander and intimidation. Calling it a disgraceful trend, Jagan said Chandrababu Naidu's politics thrive on character assassination.



Ad Turns Into AP Investment Buzz..

TPN | Dev

A recent Telugu advertisement for the Mahindra Furio truck has unexpectedly opened up a conversation about investments in Andhra Pradesh. Industrialist Anand Mahindra shared the ad on his official X (formerly Twitter) handle, posting it with a heartfelt Telugu caption: "Oka nirnayam chaalu... mee vidhi mee chethullo undi. Truck ni sontam chesukondi... jeevitam marchukondi" ("One decision is enough... your destiny is in your hands. Own the truck and change your life"). Impressed by the ad, Andhra Pradesh IT Minister Nara Lokesh responded on X, praising the message for its emotional depth. He added that the people of Andhra Pradesh—one of the largest markets for Mahindra vehicles—would strongly resonate with the campaign. More significantly, Lokesh used the moment to pitch the state as a destination for manufacturing. He urged Anand Mahindra to consider setting up a production facility in Andhra Pradesh, highlighting the state's potential and investor-friendly ecosystem. Anand Mahindra responded with equal enthusiasm. In another Telugu-language tweet, he acknowledged that Andhra Pradesh offers vast opportunities in sectors like solar energy, micro-irrigation, and tourism. He also revealed that Mahindra's internal teams are already in discussions with the Andhra Pradesh government on potential investments. "Mana prayanam ippude prarambham... mundu yemavutundo choodam" ("Our journey has just begun... let's see what lies ahead"), Mahindra wrote, echoing optimism for a future collaboration. The friendly exchange, rooted in a simple ad, has now kindled serious conversations about industry and development in Andhra Pradesh.



ICAI Is India's Accounting Powerhouse: Lokesh

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Education, IT, and Electronics Nara Lokesh described the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) as not only the largest accounting body in India but the most powerful in the world. Speaking as the chief guest at the "Sphoorathi" mega CA students' conference organised by ICAI Guntur Chapter at Bandlamudi Gardens, Lokesh hailed ICAI as the backbone of India's intellectual economy. Despite completing 76 years, ICAI remains youthful, he said, noting its global repute in forensic accounting and strong ethical standards. With over 4.07 lakh members and 10 lakh-plus students, ICAI is a vital contributor to India's economic vision. Lokesh said he may not be a CA, but as a Stanford MBA graduate, he fully understands the commitment and discipline the course demands. He praised CAs not just as auditors but as economic drivers who help in capital mobilisation, job creation, and governance decisions. Calling Guntur the "Factory of Chartered Accountants," Lokesh noted that the city produces more CAs than doctors or engineers, with over 10,000 students pursuing the course. He highlighted the role of Telugu CAs globally, from the Gulf to the US and Australia.



TTD Suspends Four Non-Hindu Employees

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has suspended four employees for allegedly violating institutional conduct rules by following Christianity while serving in a Hindu religious institution. The suspended staff include Deputy Executive Engineer (Quality Control) Elizar, BIRD Hospital Staff Nurse Rosi, Grade-1 Pharmacist M. Premavathi, and Dr. G. Asunta from SV Ayurveda Pharmacy. TTD authorities stated that the action was taken following a detailed report submitted by the vigilance department, which confirmed their religious affiliation through credible evidence. According to TTD, the employees failed to uphold the conduct expected from staff working within the premises of a Hindu religious organization. TTD reiterated that its employees are required to respect and follow the religious customs and traditions associated with the temple, as outlined in its service rules. The institution emphasized that those working in religious and spiritually significant areas must reflect and maintain the sanctity of the institution. The suspension was implemented in accordance with TTD's service regulations after a thorough evaluation of the vigilance report and supporting documentation. The move highlights TTD's continued efforts to preserve its religious identity and enforce institutional discipline within its workforce.



ICAI Is India’s Accounting...

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He stressed the need for new-age CAs equipped with tech skills, AI-driven communication, and global awareness. Speaking on India’s economic vision, he recalled PM Modi’s goal of a \$30 trillion economy by 2047, with AP aiming for a \$2.4 trillion contribution. The state currently contributes 4.85% and targets 6.67%, which requires achieving 15% growth. He announced the launch of South Asia’s first quantum computer in Amaravati this January, part of the larger vision to build Quantum Valley. Competing for investments, AP is progressing through decentralised development—drone cities in Kurnool, steel plants in Kadapa, and major projects in Vizag. Lokesh concluded by saying CAs are key partners in policy-making and called on them to play an active role in shaping AP’s economic future. The event was attended by MLA Galla Madhavi, ICAI Vice President D. Prasanna Kumar, SIRC Vice Chairman Muppalla Subbarao, and local office bearers.

Will This Ever Change?

Continued from page 1

“This culture of launching personal attacks, defaming women leaders, and turning it into a political tradition is not only unacceptable but dangerous,” he wrote. Jagan also expressed anger over the police handling of the issue. He questioned why, when Roja went to lodge a complaint against the MLA, the police appeared to cast doubts on her instead. “This clearly shows how deeply compromised the police system has become under this regime,” he stated. He cited several instances where women leaders and family members of YSRCP leaders, including former minister Vidadala Rajini and Krishna ZP Chairperson Uppala Harika, faced public humiliation. Jagan demanded immediate arrest and legal action against MLA Bhanuprakash for his offensive comments. “Even now, if no action is taken, it will further erode public trust in law and governance,” he warned.

Sricity Chiefs Meet CM, Discuss Growth

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

As part of Andhra Pradesh’s development efforts, top industrial representatives from Sricity actively participated in the P4 (Public-Private-People Partnership) Mentors’ Meeting led by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. Sricity Chairman Srini Raju and Managing Director Dr. Ravindra Sannareddy held a detailed discussion with the Chief Minister on the state’s growth strategy. Prominent industrialists from Sricity, including Taijo Iwami (MD, IMOP) and Yuchi Tomita (Plant Head, Isan Auto Parts), also met the Chief Minister separately and pledged their full support to the government’s administrative and development goals. They particularly appreciated the P4 initiative aimed at uplifting the underprivileged and expressed their industries’ readiness to collaborate closely with the state. Ahead of the meeting, Dr. Sannareddy also met Chief Secretary K. Vijayanand and DGP Harish Kumar Gupta. He briefed them on Sricity’s achievements, its unique ecosystem, and future plans. He also extended an invitation for them to visit Sricity to personally review the industrial progress, which was received positively by



the officials. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sannareddy remarked that the proactive development programs under CM Chandrababu Naidu’s leader-

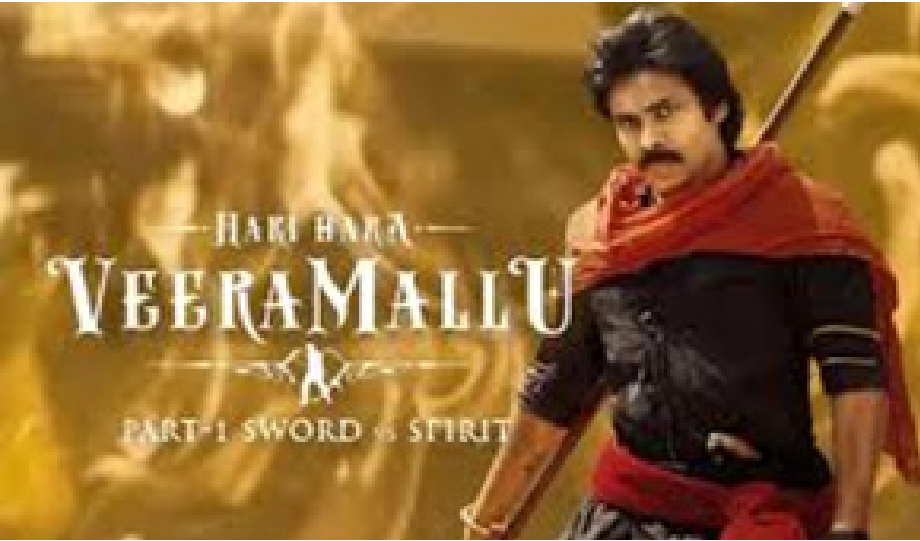
ship are paving the way for industrial growth. He stated that such meetings provide encouragement to industries and enhance their commitment to

the state’s progress. “It is a matter of pride for us to be partners in Andhra Pradesh’s development journey,” he said.

10-Day hike for Hari Hara Veera Mallu

TPN | Devadas

Power Star Pawan Kalyan’s much-awaited period action film Hari Hara Veera Mallu is all set for a grand worldwide release on July 24. Ahead of its release, the Andhra Pradesh government has issued a Government Order (GO) allowing a hike in ticket prices, much to the delight of fans and theatre owners. Responding to a request from the film’s producers, the government approved special pricing for premiere shows to be held on the night before the release. As per the GO, each premiere show ticket has been priced at ₹600, excluding GST. In addition to the premiere rates, the



government has also permitted enhanced ticket pricing for the first 10

days after the release, i.e., from July 24 to August 2. This allows theatres

across the state to collect higher ticket prices during this initial run. As per the revised structure, lower class tickets can be priced up to ₹100, upper class tickets up to ₹150, and multiplex tickets up to ₹200. This means that in Andhra Pradesh, single-screen theatres can charge up to ₹230 while multiplexes can go up to ₹295 per ticket during this period. The excitement surrounding Hari Hara Veera Mallu is already at its peak. With the teaser and songs receiving an overwhelming response from fans, the film is poised for a massive opening. The revised ticket pricing, coupled with fan frenzy, sets the stage for a festive and record-breaking box office run.



CM Turns Sanitation Worker.. Sweeps Temple Grounds

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

In a symbolic act underscoring the importance of sanitation and civic responsibility, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu donned the role of a sanitation worker during his visit to the historic Sri Kapileswara Swamy Temple in Tirupati. The Chief Minister personally swept and cleaned the temple surroundings, surprising many with his hands-on approach. Equipped with a broom and cleaning cloth, Chandrababu meticulously swept the premises, wiped surfaces, and interacted warmly with sanitation workers on-site. He also posed for a group photograph with them, a moment later shared by the

Chief Minister’s Office on social media, capturing public admiration and drawing attention to cleanliness as a civic duty. During the visit, the Chief Minister also offered special prayers at the temple. He was received with traditional honors by temple officials and priests, who welcomed him with a sacred cloth and Vedic blessings. Earlier in the day, CM Chandrababu inspected the Integrated Waste Processing Plant near Thukivakam, close to Renigunta in Tirupati district. Officials explained the waste management techniques being used at the facility, focusing on how it supports sustainable and eco-friendly waste disposal across the region. Chandrababu’s visit to the waste pro-

cessing plant aligns with his administration’s renewed push for clean and green initiatives under the Swarnandhra-Swachhandhra mission. His participation in sanitation activities at a prominent temple further amplifies the message of public involvement in maintaining hygiene and environmental care. The Chief Minister had landed at Renigunta Airport earlier in the afternoon, where he was welcomed by local public representatives and senior officials. His visit not only reinforced his government’s commitment to sanitation and environmental management but also sent a powerful message on leading by example—literally from the ground up.

ITC Warehouse Fire: Major Loss Reported

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

A massive fire broke out shortly after midnight on July 19, 2025 (Saturday), at an ITC godown located in Ramavaram village of Anandapuram mandal, Visakhapatnam district. The blaze triggered panic among local residents as flames rapidly engulfed the storage facility. Locals, alarmed by the intensity of the fire, promptly alerted the police and fire department. Eight fire engines were dispatched to the spot and firefighters battled the blaze for several hours before bringing it under control. Teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) were also mobilised to support the fire-fighting efforts and prevent further damage. Preliminary reports suggest that an electrical short circuit may have caused the fire, though authorities are conducting a detailed

investigation to determine the exact reason. The godown reportedly stored large quantities of essential items such as salt, wheat, chocolates, incense sticks, and cigarettes, which were distributed to Odisha and other neighbouring states. According to sources, the warehouse is operated by a resident of Kolkata in collaboration with a few associates. Initial findings indicate that the fire may have started in the section where cigarettes were stored and quickly spread throughout the entire facility, fuelling the intensity of the flames. The financial loss from the incident is estimated to be in the range of several crores of rupees, although an official assessment is still pending. Visakhapatnam police have registered a case and are probing all possible angles to ascertain the cause of the fire and any lapses in safety measures at the godown.



Public Pays Taxes, Deserves Quality Services: Nadendla

TPN Correspondent | Tenali
Andhra Pradesh Minister for Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Nadendla Manohar emphasized that citizens pay taxes and deserve quality public services in return. He made these remarks during a review meeting held at Ramakrishna Kavi Kalakshetram in Tenali on Saturday. The Minister interacted with municipal sanitation workers and town lightkeepers, stressing their vital role in maintaining urban cleanliness and ensuring public satisfaction. Minister Manohar stated that it is the collective responsibility of all government functionaries to meet citizens' expectations with timely and effective service delivery. "You are the backbone of Tenali's cleanliness and civic upkeep. Your

work ensures that the town remains clean and livable," he said, urging staff to continue their efforts with sincerity. Highlighting Tenali's ambition to become the number one municipality in the state for sanitation, the Minister urged every worker to put special focus on cleanliness. He instructed sanitation staff to segregate wet and dry waste at the source and ensure regular removal of silt from drainage canals to prevent mosquito breeding and health hazards. To support workers, the Minister announced that ₹5 lakh insurance coverage would be provided to all 307 municipal sanitation workers in Tenali. He also noted that the government is committed to improving working conditions by offering better tools, training,



and welfare support. The session also served as a platform for sanitation staff to share their feedback and concerns. The Minister assured them that their voices matter and would be addressed sincerely. Chairperson Tadiboyina Radhika, Municipal Commis-

sioner V. Mahalaxmi Pathi, Municipal Engineer Srikanth, MHO Yesubabu, and other officials participated in the meeting. The event reflected the government's bottom-up approach to improving urban services through collaboration and ground-level engagement.

We Act, Not Just Listen: Says NDA Leaders



TPN Correspondent | Dharmavaram
Following public complaints raised during a recent padayatra by Andhra Pradesh Health Minister Satyakumar Yadav, a major sanitation drive was launched on Saturday at Sid-

dayya Gutta, Dharmavaram. During the Minister's visit, locals voiced concerns about venomous snakes emerging from the neglected premises of the old municipal guest house. Acting promptly, Minister Sa-

tyakumar directed municipal officials to take immediate action. In response, a large-scale clean-up was conducted under the supervision of constituency in-charge Harish Babu, in coordination with Municipal Commissioner Pramod Kumar. NDA alliance leaders, workers, and civic staff worked together to remove garbage mounds, thick shrubs, and other waste from the area. Speaking on the occasion, Harish Babu emphasized that public safety is the government's top priority. "Every complaint received during the padayatra will not only be acknowledged but resolved," he said. Plans are underway to fully redevelop the

area into a clean park with a walking track to eliminate the snake threat permanently. Residents of Dharmavaram expressed appreciation for Minister Satyakumar's proactive style of governance. "Listening to the people and delivering fast results is what sets our leadership apart," Harish Babu added. Those present at the event included DE Veeresh, town president Chandra, district vice president Obulesh, minority leader Nabi Rasool, and several NDA leaders and activists. Women leaders like Jagga Nagaratnamma, Mahalakshmi, and Vijayalakshmi also participated actively in the sanitation effort.

Non-Performing Field Officials to Face Strict Action

TPN | Ch Raju
East Godavari: Local MLA Battula Balaramakrishna has issued a stern warning to field-level staff to improve their performance or face serious consequences. Chairing a review meeting on Saturday at his office, the MLA made it clear that any deviation from duties would not be tolerated. He also directed officials to launch an iron-fisted campaign against belt shops and illicit liquor sales across the Rajanagaram constituency. During the meeting with DRDA-SERP officials and field staff, the MLA emphasized that all government schemes should reach eligible beneficiaries without delay. He instructed that efforts be intensified to strengthen women's self-help groups and ensure effective implementation of rural development programs. "Field staff should stay connected with the people and execute responsibilities sincerely," he asserted. Later, in a separate review meeting with prohibition and excise department officials, Battula demanded a detailed action plan to identify areas with high illicit liquor sales. "People's health is non-negotiable. Areas notorious for belt shops, country-made liquor, and ganja must be brought under strict surveillance," he said. He reiterated that he would not tolerate anti-social activities and would act against anyone supporting or engaging in them—directly or indirectly. The MLA instructed officials to organize awareness campaigns in three selected villages—one per mandal—about the dangers of illicit liquor. "Some individuals view these belt shops as income sources. Such practices must end," he warned. He also clarified that the state is supplying quality liquor through official channels, and public health cannot be compromised. Battula called on the excise department to cooperate fully and help build a healthier Rajanagaram. The meeting was attended by retired DSP Kadali Venkateswara Rao, excise superintendent, CIs, village leaders including Kimidi Sriram, and Jana Sena party local president Vegishetti Raju.



Plastic-Free Villages Is Our Goal : Min

TPN Correspondent | Nidadavolu
Andhra Pradesh Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography Kandula Durgesh has called upon citizens to eliminate plastic use to ensure a healthy and sustainable future. Participating as chief guest at the Swarnandhra-Swachhandhra programme in Kanuru village of Peravali mandal, the minister urged people to protect the environment by rejecting plastic. As part of the state government's monthly theme-based initiative held on the third Saturday, July's theme focused on the dangers of plastic use. Minister Durgesh raised slogans like "Let's drive away the plastic menace" and emphasized switching to cloth bags instead of plastic. He advised citizens to separate non-degradable plastic waste from household garbage and support recycling efforts. Referring to the harmful gases released from the use of plastics, refrigerators, and ACs, he explained how they damage the ozone layer and contribute to global warming. The minister stressed that plastic should be phased out gradually to transform villages into plastic-free zones. He explained the significance of the ozone layer and the greenhouse effect in simple terms and encouraged collective responsibility for environmental cleanliness. The program featured awareness rallies and mass pledges by citizens to devote time daily to cleanliness. Minister Durgesh lauded Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan for driving Swachhandhra and Swachh Bharat campaigns. He said such efforts would eventually turn the state into one of the cleanest in the country. Local officials and leaders, including Kanuru Sarpanch Bhavana Madhu, Divisional Panchayat Officer Y. Ammaji, MPDO K. Uma Rajyalakshmi Padmaja, Tahsildar K. Niranjan, and CDPO M. Asa Rohini participated in the event alongside community leaders and alliance representatives.



YSRCP Leaders Slam TDP's Manifesto

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa
Rayachoti: YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) State General Secretary Gadikota Srikanth Reddy has accused the coalition government led by TDP of deceiving the public by failing to fulfill election promises. Addressing a gathering at the YSRCP office in SN Colony, Rayachoti, Srikanth Reddy said the government has betrayed every section of society, and TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu's manifesto is nothing more than a collection of lies. The meeting, themed "Babu Surety, Scam Guarantee", was attended by former MLA Ramesh Kumar Reddy, former ZP Chairman Sugavasi Bala Subramanyam, former



MPP Polu Subbareddy, district vice president Pallapu Ramesh, former APIIC director Srinivasulu Reddy, and several party leaders, sarpanches, and MPTCs. Srikanth Reddy criticized Chandrababu Naidu's unfulfilled promises, including Aadabidda Nidhi, Unemployment Allowance, Annadatta Sukhibhava, and 20 lakh

job assurances. "Not one of these has been honored. Babu's governance has resulted in losses to every household," he said, urging party cadres to educate the public about the 'Recall Chandrababu Manifesto'. He explained that QR codes shared as part of the campaign lead people to details of the unkept promises, missed benefits, and the fi-

nancial loss to the state. "People must scan and learn the truth," he said. Hindupur Parliament Observer Reddyepagari Ramesh Kumar Reddy echoed the dissatisfaction among the public, stating that the alliance government has already lost credibility within a year. Former ZP Chairman Sugavasi Bala Subramanyam called on party workers to expose Chandrababu's "false promises" and ensure the success of the awareness campaign. Several local YSRCP leaders, former sarpanches, councillors, and activists participated in the program and pledged to take the message to every village in Rayachoti Rural Mandal.

Don't Bow to Delhi, Fight for AP: Sharmila

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) president Y.S. Sharmila Reddy has launched a sharp criticism against Members of Parliament from TDP, YSRCP, and Janasena, accusing them of neglecting the interests of Andhra Pradesh in favour of political survival. In a strongly worded statement, she described them as "puppets" of the BJP, alleging that they have failed to speak out on vital issues affecting the state. Sharmila questioned their silence on key demands, including the long-pending Special Category Status, capital city funding for Amaravati, and the Polavaram irrigation project. She expressed concern over the reduced height of the Polavaram dam to 41.15 meters, calling it a direct threat to the state's lifeline and agricultural future. She also condemned the inaction of MPs on the proposed privatization of the Vi-

sakhapatnam Steel Plant. The Congress leader accused the MPs of lacking the courage to confront Prime Minister Narendra Modi on unfulfilled commitments made under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. "These MPs are more interested in political favours than protecting the interests of the people they claim to represent," she said. Sharmila urged the MPs to use the ongoing Parliament session as an opportunity to raise their voice for Andhra Pradesh. She demanded a clear position on Special Category Status, full funding for the state capital, and an official rejection of the steel plant's privatization. "If you genuinely represent the people of Andhra Pradesh, this is the time to prove it. Stand up and fight, or admit that your loyalties lie elsewhere," she warned, calling for a united stand to protect the state's future.



Let's Build a Plastic-Free Society: Collector Lakshmisha

TPN Correspondent |
NTR District

District Collector Dr. G. Laksh-
misha has made a passion-
ate appeal to citizens to ac-
tively contribute to building a
plastic-free society, stressing
that protecting the environ-
ment is vital for public health
and economic well-being. Ad-
dressing a gathering at Pedda-
varam village in Nandigama
mandal during the monthly
Swarnandhra-Swachhandhra
campaign, the Collector urged
people to eliminate single-use
plastic from their daily rou-

tines.

The campaign, initiated by the
Andhra Pradesh government,
is conducted on the third Sat-
urday of every month with a
specific theme. This month's
focus was on eliminating plas-
tic pollution, a growing men-
ace impacting ecosystems and
human health. Dr. Lakshmi-
sha pointed out that plastic
has deeply infiltrated everyday
life and now poses a serious
hazard. He highlighted that
improperly discarded plastic
chokes drains, leads to water
stagnation, and increases the



risk of vector-borne diseases
such as dengue and malaria.
The Collector also explained
how plastics that degrade in
soil eventually turn into micro-

plastics, which enter the food
chain and threaten long-term
ecological balance. He empha-
sized that the first step toward
change is individual responsi-

bility. Citizens must switch to
eco-friendly alternatives like
cloth bags, jute bags, and paper
packaging, he said.
He issued a stern reminder
that the use of polythene cov-
ers below 120 microns and oth-
er banned plastic materials is a
punishable offense, reinforcing
the government's commitment
to enforcing environmental
laws. As part of the event, Dr.
Lakshmisha visited stalls that
showcased sustainable and
biodegradable alternatives to
plastic. He felicitated 12 in-
dividuals who demonstrated

exceptional commitment to
proper waste management by
presenting them with certifi-
cates, saplings, and jute bags.
Green ambassadors who con-
tributed to the local cleanliness
drive were also honored.
The event concluded with a
pledge by attendees to work
toward a clean, green, and
plastic-free Andhra Pradesh.
Among those present were vil-
lage sarpanch Banavat Chin-
nadevi, RDO K. Balakrishna,
and several local representa-
tives and officials who echoed
the Collector's message.

Annadata Sukhibhava Scheme to Benefit All Eligible Farmers

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh government is in-
tensifying efforts to ensure every eli-
gible farmer benefits from the Annadata
Sukhibhava scheme, as directed by the
Hon'ble Chief Minis-
ter. Dilli Rao, IAS, Di-
rector of Agriculture,
emphasized that no
eligible farmer should
be left behind, with
the scheme's finan-
cial assistance aimed
at supporting farmers
across the state.
To enhance aware-
ness, the Department
of Agriculture has
launched extensive
outreach initiatives,
including toll-free
numbers and digital
platforms. Farmers can verify their eli-
gibility through the "Know Your Status"
feature on the official portal, anna-
dathasukhibhava.ap.gov.in, or by calling
the toll-free number 155251. Lists of eligi-



ble farmers are also displayed on notice
boards at Rythu Seva Kendras (RSKs) for
easy verification.

For added convenience, the Mana Mitra
WhatsApp Governance initiative allows
farmers to check their eligi-
bility by sending their Aad-
haar number to 9552300009.
Farmers marked ineligible
but believing otherwise can
submit grievances through
the Grievance Module at
RSKs, with assistance from
Agricultural Assistants. The
deadline for grievance sub-
missions is July 23, 2025.
The department's field staff
is actively promoting these
services to ensure trans-
parency and accessibility.
"This scheme reflects the
government's commitment
to farmers' welfare," said Ramana Mur-
thy, AD Agriculture. The initiative con-
tinues to prioritize inclusivity, ensuring
financial aid reaches every deserving
farmer.

Liberation Congress Backs OBC Student Protest

TPN Correspondent |
Vijayawada

The Liberation Congress
Party has formally de-
clared its full support to
the OBC Student Welfare
Association's statewide agi-
tation seeking improved
conditions in BC welfare
hostels across Andhra
Pradesh. In a meeting held
at the party's central office
in Prathuru, key student
leaders met with party
president and Daladhipa-
thi Sri Vijay Kumar G. Srkr
to rally political solidarity
for their cause.
Addressing the gathering,
Vijay Kumar stressed that
the welfare of OBC students
is a core responsibility of
the government and can-
not be compromised. He
demanded that the daily
mess charges for BC hostel
students be raised to ₹150,
and cosmetic charges be
increased to ₹500 to meet
basic living standards. He



further urged the state
government to construct
permanent buildings for
all BC hostels and imme-
diately fill all existing staff
vacancies.
"If the government fails to
act, we will join the stu-
dent agitation and fight
until justice is served," Vi-
jay Kumar warned. "These
students are the future of
this country, and we can-
not stand by while their
basic rights are denied.
We will stay with them
through every step of the

struggle."
In a symbolic gesture, Vi-
jay Kumar unveiled a pro-
test poster titled "Aakali
Kekalu" (Cries of Hunger),
highlighting the dire con-
ditions faced by hostel stu-
dents and their demand
for dignity and suste-
nance. Several prominent
figures from the OBC Stu-
dent Welfare Association
attended the event, includ-
ing national president Dr.
Uppara Nageswara Rao,
Rayalaseema president Vi-
jaya Uttaradi, Chittoor dis-

trict president O. Venkat
Yadav, SV Veterinary Uni-
versity unit president Don
Ezra, and student leader
Shivaji Naik.
The Liberation Congress
Party reaffirmed that ful-
filling the fundamental
needs of marginalized
student communities is
crucial to building an eq-
uitable and educated soci-
ety. The party called on the
state government to act
swiftly and responsibly to
address the legitimate de-
mands of OBC students.

Farmers Protest Over Access Road



TPN Correspondent |
NTR District

Tensions erupted in Peddamo-
dugapalli village of NTR district
as a group of farmers staged a
protest demanding proper ac-
cess to a government land par-
cel, known locally as "Polimeru
Donka," located in Survey No.
43. The 3.5-acre stretch, though
surrounded by cultivable fields,

lacks a proper access road,
leaving nearly 80 farmers who
till around 40 acres struggling
to transport their agricultural
produce. Local farmer Vasireddy Satish
explained that although the
land has both east and west
access points, the absence of
a defined road has become a
major hurdle for the farming

community. In response, the
farmers approached the village
panchayat office, requesting
permission to construct a mud
road. Panchayat officials re-
sponded positively and coordi-
nated with the revenue depart-
ment for a boundary survey.
Revenue officials acted prompt-
ly, demarcating the path and
formally handing over the ac-
cess strip to the farmers. En-
couraged by the support, the
farmers collectively spent
nearly ₹2 lakh to level the road
and prepare it for use.
However, their relief was short-
lived. Some individuals report-
edly destroyed the newly laid
road, severely damaging the
farmers' efforts.
Attempts to report the incident
via the police toll-free number
went unanswered, according

to the protesting farmers. They
also alleged that the opposing
group resorted to intimidation
and even attempted physical
assault.
Now, the farmers are appealing
to the state government for im-
mediate intervention, seeking
protection and legal assurance
to retain access to the Polimeru
Donka route.
They argue that the path is crit-
ical for their agricultural logis-
tics and their livelihoods.
Among those leading the pro-
test were Vasireddy Satish,
Kodati Sujanamma, Manika
Manemma, Andasu Vijaya,
Peramalapalli Somayya, Kodati
Pullayya, and other members
of the local field society, who
demanded justice and govern-
ment-backed protection.

Petitions Flood TDP Office

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Several petitioners gathered at the Telugu Desam Party (TDP)
central office on Saturday to present their grievances. Legisla-
tive Council Chief Whip Panchumarthi Anuradha and Andhra
Pradesh Biodiversity Board Chairman Neelayapalem Vijay Ku-
mar received the petitions and immediately initiated steps to
resolve the issues by contacting concerned officials.
From Bapatla district, Ambati Ankamma of Chundurur man-
dal reported illegal encroachment on Tunga Bhadra drainage
bunds near her farmland. She urged authorities to take swift
action against the encroachers.
In a separate case, Badharala Roja from Vijayawada, NTR dis-
trict, filed a grievance about a blocked drain. She alleged that
a neighboring farmer in Viswanathapuram village, Koduru
mandal, had illegally dumped soil on a slope beside her land,
obstructing both stormwater and wastewater flow. She re-
quested official intervention.
Krishnudu from Amadaguntla village in Kodumur mandal,
Kurnool district, sought help for a land survey. Although the
Joint Collector had ordered boundary demarcation, he com-
plained that MRO office staff had not responded to his request.
In addition to these, several other citizens submitted petitions
regarding ration card issues, pension disbursement, and the
allocation of housing plots. Anuradha and Vijay Kumar assured
them of necessary support and promised timely resolution of
their concerns through coordination with district officials.

Chalo Delhi': BC Welfare Association

TPN Correspondent |
Vijayawada

The Andhra Pradesh state presi-
dent of the National BC Welfare
Association, Bonu Durga Na-
resh, has called for a decisive
resolution on BC representa-
tion in the upcoming elections.
He announced a two-day pro-
test in Delhi on July 23 and 24
to demand a nationwide caste
census and reservations for BCs
based on population.
Addressing a press meet at
Gandhi Nagar Press Club in
Vijayawada, Naresh said that
central and state governments
must immediately conduct a
caste-based census and revise
reservations accordingly. He
said BC leaders and MPs from
across the country would at-
tend a key meeting on July 23,
followed by a public protest on
July 24. The agitation is being
organised under the leadership
of Rajya Sabha MP and associa-



tion founder president R. Krish-
naiah.
The demands include job re-
servations for BCs, fair rep-
resentation in political seats, and
concrete government action to
ensure BC welfare. Naresh said
the protest aims to highlight
how past struggles led to the
BC Bill's progress and that more
pressure is needed to achieve
full justice.
He strongly condemned recent

attacks on BCs, claiming that
they are being targeted and im-
plicated in false cases. "Parties
promise support to BCs before
elections, only to ignore them
after gaining power," Naresh
said. He criticised the growing
influence of upper castes in
jobs and governance, adding
that 20% of the population con-
trols 80% of the positions.
Speaking at the same event,
state women's wing president

Bhimavarapu Hema stated that
society cannot progress with-
out BC upliftment. She accused
political parties of using BC
votes during elections and side-
lining them afterward.
A 'Chalo Delhi' protest poster
was unveiled at the event.
Leaders like Rangoo Vikram
(State Youth Convenor), Potina
Varaprakash (NTR District Pres-
ident), and others participated
in the programme.

Jaleel Appointed to LIC Carrom Selection Panel

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

Bringing pride to Guntur, na-
tional-level carrom player
Sheikh Abdul Jaleel has been
appointed as Chief Referee
for the LIC South
Central Zone Car-
rom Selection Tri-
als (2025-26). He
was also named
a member of the
Zonal Carrom Se-
lection Commit-
tee.
Jaleel, an Interna-
tional Carrom Ref-
eree and Nation-
al Panel Coach, is currently
the General Secretary of the
Andhra Pradesh Carrom As-
sociation. He will attend the
technical meeting on July 22,

where draws, umpiring, and
selection matters will be fi-
nalized.
He has represented Guntur at
numerous national tourna-
ments and served as
Team Manager for In-
dia at the 17th SAARC
Carrom Champion-
ship in 2013, where In-
dia won gold. In 2024,
he was Chief Referee
at the Senior Nation-
als in New Delhi.
Top officials includ-
ing Dr. Neeraj Kumar
Sampati, Sri Yagan-
ti Durgarao, and Sri M.K.V.
Prasad congratulated Jaleel,
calling the appointment a
proud achievement for Gun-
tur.



Plastic Use Must Decline: Home Minister



TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram

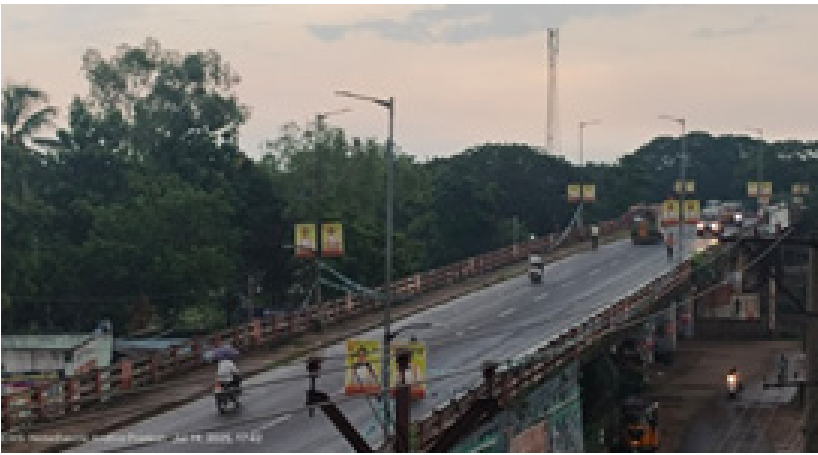
District in-charge minister Vangalapudi Anita stressed the urgent need to reduce plastic usage, warning that plastic has deeply infiltrated daily life and is silently destroying public health. Speaking at a rally held on Saturday as part of the Swarnandhra-Swachhandhra campaign, the minister emphasized the dangers of plastic pollution. The rally, which began at Gantasthambham and concluded at Balaji Junction, saw active participation from local residents and officials. Addressing the public at Balaji Junction, Minister Anita highlighted that this third Saturday of the month was marked statewide with the slogan “Let’s End Plastic Pollution.” She stated that plastic consumption cannot be curbed in a single day and called for sustainable al-

ternatives. The minister proposed the promotion of eco-friendly paper, jute, and cotton bags by setting up small production units through DW CRA and MEPMA groups. She said this would not only offer self-employment opportunities for women but also contribute to controlling plastic use in the district. Minister Anita praised the state’s efforts under Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to turn waste into wealth, noting the formation of the Swachhandhra Corporation to manage waste across Andhra Pradesh. She urged households to adopt waste segregation practices, clearly separating wet and dry waste, and manage garbage disposal responsibly from home itself. She concluded by emphasizing that building a plastic-free society starts with awareness, collective responsibility, and local action, urging everyone to be a part of the solution.

ROB Lights Fail, Public Safety Ignored

TPN | Trinadh Rao Garaga

East Godavari: The Nidadavole Road-cum-Rail Over Bridge (ROB), once hailed as a gateway to the town, has now become a symbol of civic negligence and public hazard. Stretching across the region and connecting vital routes to Rajahmundry and Tadepalligudem, this crucial flyover has been left in the dark—quite literally. Only a few of the originally installed 32 streetlights are currently functioning. Of these, just four lights illuminate the ROB, while one dim light flickers near the Nidadavole end. With the majority of the bridge plunged into darkness, especially during night hours, residents say crossing the ROB has become a life-threatening ordeal. Accidents are frequent, with pedestrians often unseen by motorists and potholes adding to the danger. This ROB lies partially under Nidadavole municipality and the rest under Samisragudem panchayat. However, maintenance responsibilities, including lighting and sanitation, have mostly fallen on municipal officials. Due to a lack of basic materials and equipment like tall ladders, replacing or repairing faulty lights takes an unusually long time. The footpath too is in a poor state—damaged in several sections—making it even more difficult for pedestrians, especially women who walk daily between Nidadavole and nearby areas. With no alternative route, they are forced to brave the darkness. The bridge sees heavy daily traffic to towns like Rajamahendravaram, Tanuku, Bhimavaram, and Narsapuram. Despite being in the constituency of Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh, no corrective action has been taken yet. Locals are now urging authorities to act swiftly and install functional streetlights to ensure public safety on this crucial link.



Surprise Inspection at Tobacco

Procurement Centre

TPN Correspondent | Bapatla

Bapatla District Collector J. Venkata Murali conducted a surprise inspection of the tobacco procurement centers in Parchuru on Saturday, reassuring farmers that the government is fully prepared to purchase the entire produce brought in by them. During the visit, he personally examined the tobacco brought by farmers and interacted with them to understand their concerns. Addressing farmers, the Collector emphasized that they should not panic or rush to sell their tobacco. “There is no need for anxiety. The government is committed to purchasing the entire stock of Black Burley tobacco,” he affirmed. He added that the move was initiated as a safeguard against manipulation by private tobacco companies that previously exploited farmers. So far, tobacco worth ₹25 crore has already been procured from farmers, the Collector stated. He advised farmers to take all necessary precautions to prevent their stock from getting damaged due to rains and added that beginning Monday, the procurement process would gain momentum. “Our target is to purchase 900 tonnes of tobacco daily,” he said. Farmers were also advised to ensure that the moisture content in tobacco bales remains below 20% to meet quality standards. Collector Murali reiterated the government’s dedication to fair pricing and transparent procurement, and assured farmers that all their grievances would be addressed promptly.

Illegal Liquor, Vehicles Seized in Raids



TPN Correspondent | Anantapur
Anantapur district police conducted wide-ranging cordon and search operations in several problem-prone villages and colonies on the instructions of District SP P. Jagadeesh, IPS. These operations

were part of a preventive strategy to curb illegal activities and ensure public safety. The police teams began early morning raids focusing on areas with a history of crime and unlawful activities. As part of the operation, police tar-

geted troublemakers, old offenders, and those involved in past criminal cases. Extensive checks were conducted in homes, shops, cattle sheds, and surrounding areas. Public awareness meetings were also organized, educating citizens on issues like drug abuse, road accidents, crimes against women, and the importance of CCTV surveillance and helplines such as Dial 100 and the Shakti app. SP Jagadeesh emphasized that strong action would be taken against anyone operating illegal belt shops or engaging in the sale of banned substances like ganja, illicit arrack, Karnataka liquor, or gutka. Residents were urged to support the police in maintaining law and order and to report suspicious activities. Several items were seized during the search operations. In Chennampalli (Bukkarayasamudram),

police confiscated 10 liquor bottles and 16 undocumented two-wheelers. In Boppepalli (Yellanur), 30 two-wheelers without proper documents were seized. Shikari Colony (Guntakal One Town) saw the seizure of 6 undocumented two-wheelers. In Mallapuram (Vidapanakallu), 9 liquor bottles were found, while Uravakonda police seized 15 liquor bottles in Mopidi and Mallapuram villages. In Venkatampalli Thanda (Vajrakarur), 10 liters of illicit arrack were seized, and Brahma-samudram police confiscated 25 liquor bottles in the mandal center. Police also met with suspects from previous cases, advising them to change their behavior and warning of strict action if illegal activities continue. The operations are expected to continue as part of ongoing efforts to maintain peace and lawfulness in the district.

Illegal Transport of Rice, Sand Under Watch



TPN Correspondent | Palnadu

Narasaraopet: The Half-Yearly Crime Review Meeting of Palnadu district was held on Saturday at A1 Convention Hall, with 13th ADJ Judge N. Satya Sree, District Collector P. Arun Babu, and SP Kanchi Srinivasa Rao attending as key dignitaries. Addressing the gathering, Judge Satya Sree stressed the need for special surveillance in crime-prone areas. She emphasized fast-tracking case investigations, ensuring timely submission of legal evidence, and protecting witness presence. The judge urged police to increase case resolution rates and ensure successful court outcomes through solid evidence. Collector Arun Babu highlighted the need to take strict measures against crimes targeting women, girls, and the elderly. He stressed awareness programs in schools and colleges about POCSO cases and substance abuse among youth. He also called for legal actions against underage driving and overloading, and proposed coordinated efforts by revenue and police departments to curb illegal rice and sand transportation. SP Srinivasa Rao presented a comprehensive crime analysis of the past six months. He spoke on case investigation progress, public grievance redressal, and the importance of coordination between police, forensic, legal, and administrative departments. He instructed the use of modern technology to improve police responsiveness and urged strengthening the beat system, installing CCTV in high-risk areas, and increasing public trust through outreach. Special focus was laid on continued drives against drugs and belt shops, with specific emphasis on women’s safety through Shakti teams. The event also saw awards being presented to police officers and staff for excellence in investigation, awareness campaigns, and law enforcement duties. Key officials from multiple departments, including health, forensic science, revenue, excise, and fire services, also participated.

Man Kills Wife, Surrenders at Police Station

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

A gruesome murder has sent shockwaves through the Peddacheepadu village of Chapadu mandal in Kadapa district, where a man allegedly killed his wife over suspicions of an extramarital affair and surrendered to the police. According to police reports, Gopal, a private bus driver and resident of Peddacheepadu, had ongoing disputes with his wife Sujatha for several months. He reportedly suspected her of having an illicit relationship with another man. Despite repeated warnings from Gopal, Sujatha allegedly did not heed his objections, which led to growing tensions between the couple. Driven by rage, Gopal is said to have murdered his wife two days ago and transported her body to a forest area near Vanipenta. There, he allegedly stuffed the corpse in a gunny bag and dumped it in a secluded spot. After committing the crime, Gopal walked into the local police station and confessed. Following his confession, Chapadu police launched a search operation in the Vanipenta forest area and recovered Sujatha’s body as described by the accused. The brutal incident has sparked fear and outrage in the local community. Police have taken Gopal into custody and produced him before a magistrate, after which he was remanded to judicial custody. Investigations are ongoing to collect further evidence and ascertain the complete sequence of events.

Workers Play Key Role in Cleanliness Drive

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

District Collector O. Anand expressed his happiness over honouring sanitation workers, calling it a meaningful gesture in recognition of their essential role in the Swachh Andhra initiative. As part of the monthly Swachh Andhra Diwas held every third Saturday, the Collector met with 25 sanitation workers from municipal and panchayat areas at the SR Sankaran Hall in the Collectorate. Addressing the gathering, Collector Anand said, “Sanitation workers begin their duties even before the public wakes up. They are the first line of defense for public health.” He praised their continued efforts over the past six months in clearing waste from drains, which prevents disease outbreaks, and said their services are invaluable. The event was held to understand their challenges and to formally recognise their contribution. He urged citizens to support cleanliness efforts and segregate wet and dry waste at the source. The Collector also promised to facilitate wider access to bank loans for sanitation workers. In a significant step, a toll-free number

1800 425 0017 was launched for rural residents to report drinking water and sanitation issues. Collector Anand assured swift response from officials to any complaints made through this service. During the event, sanitation workers were felicitated with shawls and provided safety kits. NGO representatives Gonnu Chittibabu, Gulam Shafi Ahmad, and Gaddam Sashi, who contributed to the Swachh Andhra campaign, were also honoured. Municipal Commissioner Nandan and DPO Sridhar Reddy were present at the program.



Should display at any conspicuous place in the workplace, Internal Committee details with contact number

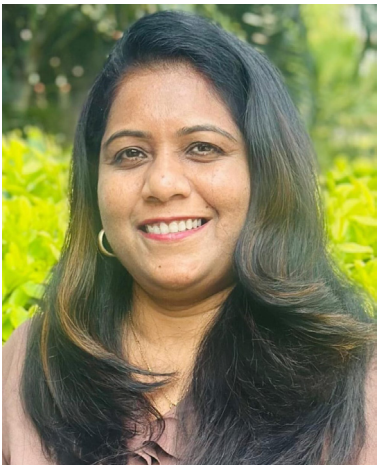
The word economic forum in its gender gap report 2025 ranks INDIA 131 out of 148. Countries with particularly low scores in economic participation and health and survival — the pillars essential for meaningful gender parity. These are not just social indicators. They are signs of a structural failure holding back national progress.

According to the latest McKinsey and LeanIn.org Women in the Workplace report, only about half of women feel confident that their employer would handle harassment claims effectively—a percentage virtually unchanged from 2018. This lack of trust in workplace processes not only discourages women from reporting incidents but also contributes to perpetuation of toxic work environment.

International labour organisation in a press release published -India's POSH Act (2013) is a critical step in addressing workplace sexual harassment, but weak enforcement, employer non-compliance, and lack of independent oversight limit its impact.

A safe workplace for women is a work environment where they feel secure, respected, and free from harassment, discrimination, and physical harm. Employers are responsible for creating a safe and healthy working environment for women, free from the fear of violence or discrimination. This includes:

- **Freedom from Harassment & Discrimination**
- **Physical Safety**
- **Equal Pay & Opportunity**
- **Safe Working Hours**
- **Confidentiality**
- **Access to Support**
- **Employers play a crucial role in fostering a safe and respectful workplace. The Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) Act is a key legal framework that mandates employers to prevent and address sexual harassment at work. Understanding the PoSH Act is essential for employers to**



Anupama Darla
Lawyer, Social
Activist, Guntur

comply with the law, create a safe environment, and protect both employees and the organization. By implementing section 19 of PoSH Act effectively, employers can enhance employee well-being, reduce risks, and ensure smooth operations.

- **Employers must ensure a safe workplace environment. This includes safety from individuals who may come into contact with employees.**
- **Employers must display the penal consequences of sexual harassment. They should also display the order that constitutes the Internal Committee under section 4(1).**
- **Employers must regularly organize workshops and awareness programs. These programs should inform employees about the POSH Act and train Internal Committee members as required.**
- **Employers must provide necessary facilities for the Internal or Local Committees. This helps them deal with complaints and conduct inquiries effectively.**



- **Employers must assist in securing the attendance of the respondent and witnesses. They must also provide necessary information to the Internal or Local Committee as needed.**
- **Employers must assist a woman in filing a complaint related to sexual harassment under the Indian Penal Code or any relevant law. Sexual harassment should be treated as misconduct under the service rules. Employers must take appropriate action for such misconduct.**
- **Employers must ensure timely submission of reports by the Internal Committee.**

Even after a decade after the enactment of POSH Act 2013 there are major drawbacks by the employers in the implementation

1. **Lack of Training. HR teams and**



- **ICC members often lack training. Employees may not know how the reporting process works.**
- 2. **Poor Documentation. Committees may not maintain proper records. Missing data leads to incomplete or non-compliant reports.**
- 3. **Unclear Submission Process. States may not offer clear instructions. Organizations often submit reports late or to the wrong authority.**
- 4. **Last-Minute Compliance. Many companies act only during audits. This leads to rushed, low-quality reports.**
- 5. **Improper ICC Setup. Some fail to follow legal guidelines when forming the ICC. They may appoint unqualified external members.**
- 6. **Generic POSH Policies. Many use copied templates not tailored to their workplace. Poorly documented training sessions weaken compliance.**

7. **Confusion Over “Nil” Reports. A “nil” report is still mandatory if there are no complaints. Many are unaware and skip filing.**
8. **Data Security Issues. Concerns about confidentiality delay online submissions. Some avoid email due to privacy risks.**

In November 2024, the Orissa High Court issued a significant directive concerning Section 19(b) of the PoSH Act. The case, initiated through a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) by social activist Biyat Pragya Tripathy, addressed the non-compliance of both central and state authorities with the provisions of the PoSH Act.

The court emphasized the mandatory requirement for employers to:

1. **Display Penal Consequences: Clearly exhibit the legal repercussions of sexual harassment in a conspicuous location within the workplace.**
2. **Constitute Internal Committee: Ensure the establishment of an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) as mandated under Section 4(1) of the PoSH Act.**

If women continue to exit or be excluded from the workforce, the dependency ratio will rise even faster, placing greater strain on fewer workers and undermining fiscal stability. Reversing this trend demands integrated policies that connect health, labour and social protection.

Strict employer liability, independent investigations, financial penalties, and survivor-centric policies—best practices India must adopt. To ensure safe and inclusive workplaces, India must ratify ILO C190, expand protections to gig and informal workers, strengthen penalties, and mandate employer accountability. A survivor focused, globally aligned approach will transform policies into real workplace safety.

Trumplomacy and India: Navigating the Chaos with Strategy, Not Emotion



Donald Trump's unconventional diplomacy—dubbed Trumplomacy—is shaking up the global order. His approach, driven by blunt statements, social media theatrics, and transactional politics, has unsettled allies and adversaries alike. For India, his recent remarks—lumping Prime Minister Modi and Pakistan's Field Marshal Asim Munir in the same breath—have reignited concerns about the long-rejected “hyphenation” with Pakistan.

But rather than respond with indignation or anxiety, India must step back and assess the situation with realism and strategic calm. Trump isn't reviving old diplomatic frameworks—he's tearing them apart. His praise of Munir isn't a departure from U.S. policy, but a clearer endorsement of what India has long claimed: the Pakistani military, not its elected government, holds real power. In Trump's world, diplomacy bypasses formalities. He deals directly with the power centers, and for him, that means engaging with generals, not figurehead prime ministers.

India has traditionally opposed external mediation in its disputes with Pakistan. But Trump's style isn't classic mediation—it's improvisational facilitation, as seen during “Operation Sindoor.”

Even then, it was India's Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar, not Prime Minister Modi, who was treated as the key counterpart. Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was largely ignored, highlighting where Trump sees real authority.

This brand of diplomacy unsettles many global leaders, as Trump has insulted NATO allies, made outrageous offers to Canada, and undermined Ukraine while praising Putin. His actions are driven by spectacle and an obsession with American dominance, not consistency. Friends and foes alike are adapting—Europeans with flattery, China with leverage, and smaller nations by playing smart. India must do the same. Trump may visit for the Quad Summit, and a stop in Pakistan is not unthinkable. Should that happen, India's response must be pragmatic, not reactionary. Trump's style may be chaotic, but the underlying strategic currents—security cooperation, economic interests, Indo-Pacific balance—remain constant.

In a world reshaped by Trumplomacy, India cannot afford to get caught up in symbolic slights. It needs a cool-headed strategy rooted in national interest. Trump may bring noise, but India must respond with signal.

From Goldman Sachs to OnlyFans: What the Rise of the Creator Economy Really Tells Us

In an era where leaving a high-paying job at Goldman Sachs for a content creation career on OnlyFans barely raises eyebrows, the shift from traditional employment to the creator economy has never been more stark—or more complicated. What was once considered a risky alternative is now an aspirational mainstream.

It's easy to dismiss this shift as a desire for “easy money,” but the truth runs deeper. The mass resignations, the pivot to passion projects, and the rise of influencers over MBAs all reflect a generational disillusionment with the corporate promise: stability, status, and success. For many, the 9-to-5 grind offers none of these—only burnout and a sense of meaninglessness wrapped in PowerPoint slides.

Welcome to the creator economy, where algorithms are gatekeepers, attention is currency, and going viral can be more lucrative than an Ivy League degree. With platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube democratizing fame and monetization, charisma often trumps competence. Even in India, the “Jiofication” of internet access has turned small-town tea vendors into viral sensations and homemakers into beauty influencers.

But this brave new world isn't without con-

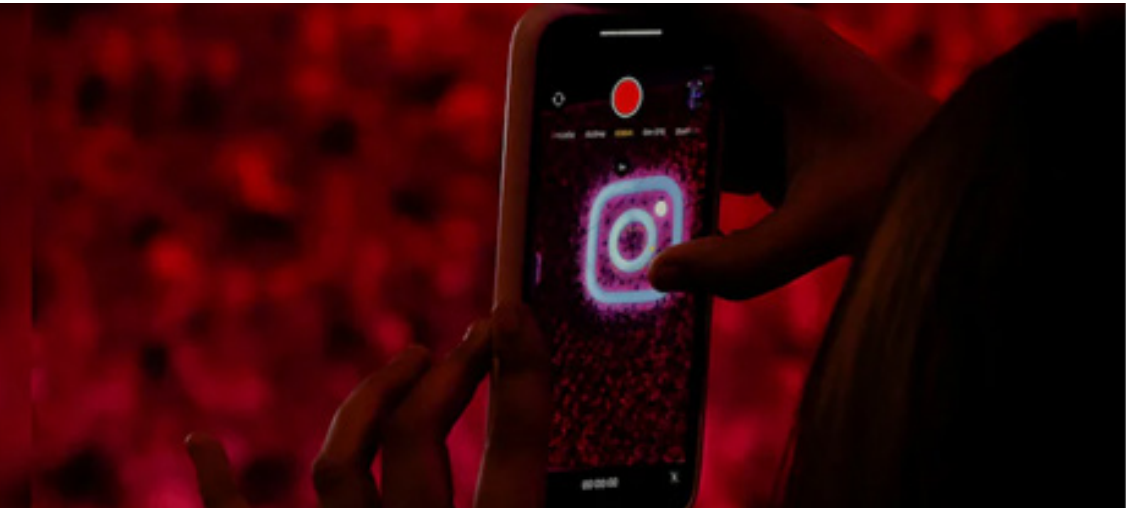
sequences. Traditional high-achievers—those who aced exams, collected degrees, and climbed corporate ladders—are now grappling with imposter syndrome and identity crises. Their disciplined skill sets are often overlooked in a system that rewards virality over value.

Content creation isn't easy either. Behind every 15-second reel lies hours of editing, emotional vulnerability, and endless hustle. Creators act as CEOs of their own one-person startups, juggling branding, content, marketing, legal compliance, and mental health.

The irony? Education hasn't caught up. Students still memorize facts in classrooms while AI writes essays and 13-year-olds rake in sponsorships. We're preparing kids for a world that no longer exists.

The solution isn't to dismiss influencers or idolize them. It's to reform education—teach emotional intelligence, financial literacy, digital ethics, and offline self-worth in an online-first world. Because when the dopamine fades and the next algorithm shift hits, we'll need citizens who can think, feel, and adapt—not just perform.

Not everyone will go viral. But everyone deserves a meaningful life—even when the WiFi goes down.





BJP MP Nishikant Dubey: Age 75 Rule Does Not Apply to PM Modi

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

BJP MP Nishikant Dubey has confidently stated that the Bharatiya Janata Party will struggle to win even 150 seats in the Lok Sabha if Prime Minister Narendra Modi stops leading the party. Currently, the BJP holds 240 seats, and Dubey believes Modi's leadership is crucial for the party's continued success. Speaking to ANI, Dubey emphasized that Modi remains the undisputed leader of the country and the BJP for the next 15 to 20 years. He said that the party's victories are closely tied to Modi's popularity, adding that the BJP's significant gain in the poor voter base began after Modi took charge in 2014. "When PM Modi came, a vote bank which was never with BJP, especially the poor section of society, shifted towards the party and their devotion shifted to Modi ji," Dubey said. Dubey described it as a "majboori" (com-

pulsion) for the BJP to fight the 2029 general elections under Modi's leadership. "If PM Modi is not our leader, then mark my words, the BJP will not be able to win even 150 seats," he stated, stressing that party workers and the public need Modi more than Modi needs them. Addressing concerns about Modi's age, Dubey cited former Prime Minister Morarji Desai, who became PM at 82, to argue that age should not be a barrier for leadership. He urged voters to support Modi until he is well, especially with the vision of a developed India by 2047 in mind. Dubey's remarks come amid ongoing speculation about whether Modi will step down after turning 75 in September, in line with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's (RSS) suggestion that leaders should retire after 75 to allow new leadership. However, Dubey's firm stance reinforces Modi's continued centrality in BJP's future plans.

PM Modi lauds Delhi CM Rekha Gupta for her 'rise through ranks'

TPN Correspondent | Bihar

Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended warm birthday wishes to Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on her 51st birthday, commending her remarkable journey from grassroots activism to the state's top office. "Rising through the ranks, she has always remained active in serving Delhi. As Chief Minister, she has undertaken numerous initiatives for the city's welfare. May she be blessed with a long and healthy life," PM Modi wrote on X (formerly Twitter). In response, Ms. Gupta expressed gratitude for the Prime Minister's wishes, calling his guidance "ever-inspiring" and a key source of strength in her journey of public service. A first-time MLA, Rekha Gupta became the BJP's surprise pick for Chief Minister earlier this year when the party returned to power in Delhi after a gap of 24 years. She is currently the only woman Chief Minister from the BJP and one of just two in the country, alongside West Bengal's Mamata Banerjee. On her birthday, Ms. Gupta chose to celebrate in her ancestral village, Nandgarh, in Haryana's Julana region. Union Ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, and Nitin Gadkari also conveyed their greetings, while Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini personally welcomed her upon arrival.



Her visit to her native village has drawn attention to her deep-rooted connection with the people, symbolizing her rise from the grassroots and her continuing outreach beyond Delhi's borders. Her visit to her native village has drawn attention to her deep-rooted connection with the people, symbolizing her rise from the grassroots and her continuing outreach beyond Delhi's borders.

ED Issues Notices to Google and Meta Over Online Betting App Promotions

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued notices to global tech giants Google and Meta as part of its intensified crackdown on illegal online betting platforms in India. The move comes amid rising concerns over the growing number of suicides, debt traps, and broken families attributed to online gambling addiction. According to ED sources, the agencies have found that both Google and Meta allegedly promoted and provided advertising space for betting apps through their platforms. These promotions, ED claims, not only offered visibility to illegal gambling operations but also made direct website links available to users,

aiding in their access to these platforms. The ED's investigation is part of a broader probe into the operations of illegal betting networks such as the Mahadev Betting App, which has already been linked to multiple scams. The agency has reportedly registered cases against 29 Tollywood actors, YouTubers, and social media influencers for their alleged involvement in promoting the Mahadev platform. Officials have raised concerns that major digital platforms are failing to regulate paid advertisements for gambling apps, thereby contributing to a growing social crisis. The ED believes such negligence has enabled betting companies to exploit loopholes and target young, im-



pressionable users, particularly college students and working professionals. The central agency emphasized the dangers of online betting and urged parents to monitor their children's digital activities. "Greed and peer pressure are leading our youth into a trap that's hard to escape," an official said. "It's not just about financial loss; lives are being ruined." The Enforcement Directorate, while not a police force, is a powerful central agency tasked with investigating economic offenses, including money laundering and financial fraud. Further legal action may follow, depending on the response from Google and Meta.

You'll Be Slapped If You Don't Understand Marathi: Raj Thackeray

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray sparked controversy once again with his fiery remarks targeting non-local residents of Maharashtra. Addressing a rally in Mira-Bhayandar, Thackeray warned that anyone who fails to understand Marathi will be slapped on the spot. "If someone speaks to you in Marathi and you still don't understand it—even when said in your ear—you will be slapped. People will not tolerate this ignorance anymore," Thackeray declared, drawing cheers from MNS supporters. The remarks come in the wake of a recent incident where MNS workers allegedly assaulted a shopkeeper for refusing to speak in Marathi. The incident triggered protests from traders and business owners, many of whom closed their shops in protest. Thackeray defended the actions of his party workers, blaming the shopkeeper's attitude for provoking the confrontation. He criticized those who shut down their businesses in protest, questioning, "How long can you keep your shops closed? What will happen when locals stop buying from you?" He went on to warn non-locals who live and work in Maharashtra, saying they must behave responsibly and not "sneak around." "Those who work here should work with honesty and without hiding anything," he added.

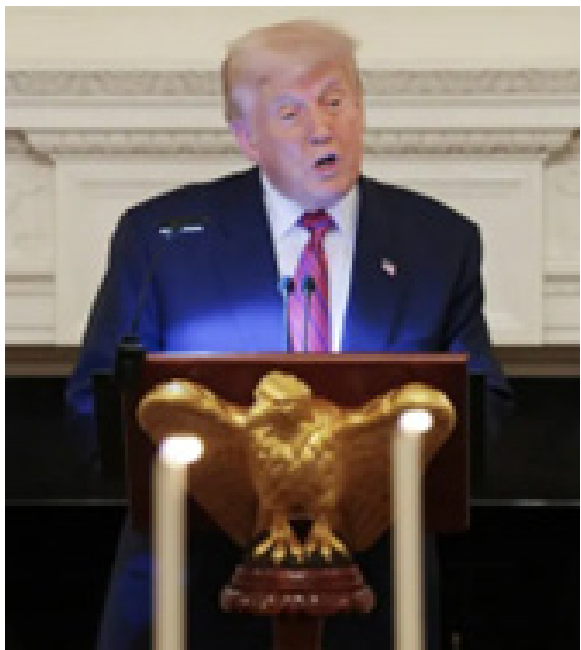


Warning to the State Government

Raj Thackeray also directed sharp criticism at Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, opposing any move to make Hindi mandatory in schools from Classes 1 to 5. "We are not against any language," Thackeray said, "but if Hindi is made compulsory, we will shut down those schools." His remarks have reignited debates around regional identity, linguistic nationalism, and freedom of language choice in one of India's most economically vital states.

"5 Jets Were Shot Down": Trump Makes Another Op Sindoor Claim

US President Donald Trump claimed during a private White House dinner that "five jets were shot down" in the recent India-Pakistan conflict sparked by the Pahalgam terror attack. He did not specify which country's aircraft were lost but highlighted the intensity of the brief military exchange between the two nuclear-armed neighbors. The conflict began after a deadly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam on April 22, which killed 26 people, including tourists. India responded with Operation Sindoor, launching air and missile strikes over several days targeting terrorist camps and military assets across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Pakistan has claimed that its air force shot down multiple Indian jets, including three Rafale fighters, and captured Indian pilots—claims strongly denied by India. Indian officials have acknowledged some aircraft losses but rejected Pakistan's assertions of losing several Rafales. Indian Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan emphasized India's ability to adapt tactics quickly and conduct precision strikes deep inside Pakistani territory. The French manufacturer Dassault Aviation's CEO Eric Trappier also refuted Pakistan's claims, calling them "factually incorrect." India maintains that no Rafale jets were lost and no pilots were captured during the conflict. Trump further claimed that the ceasefire, announced on May 10, was achieved through US



diplomatic intervention, with threats to suspend trade talks if hostilities continued. However, India disputes this version, insisting that the resolution was reached bilaterally without any foreign mediation. Operation Sindoor involved coordinated strikes by India's Air Force, Army, and Navy over several days, which India describes as targeting terrorist infrastructure and military installations. Both India and Pakistan continue to maintain conflicting narratives about the events and losses during the conflict.

Trump sues Wall Street Journal over Epstein report, seeks \$10 billion

TPN Correspondent | Washington

President Donald Trump has filed a libel lawsuit against The Wall Street Journal, its parent company Dow Jones, and two of its reporters, Khadeeja Safdar and Joe Palazzolo, over a story that linked him to a letter and drawing allegedly sent to Jeffrey Epstein in 2003. The article claimed Trump gifted Epstein a note and a sketch of a naked woman for his 50th birthday — an allegation Trump forcefully denies.

Filed in federal court in Miami, the 18-page complaint accuses the Journal of “glaring failures in journalistic ethics.” Trump’s legal team says no authentic letter or drawing exists and contends the story lacked both photographic evidence and verification.



The lawsuit represents a significant escalation in Trump’s legal battles against the press, seeking a massive \$20 billion in damages. Trump, writing on Truth Social, claimed that Rupert Mur-

doch, whose News Corp owns the Journal, was personally warned the letter was fake. “But obviously, did not have the power to stop it,” Trump posted. A spokesperson for Dow Jones

defended the reporting, stating: “We have full confidence in the rigor and accuracy of our reporting and will vigorously defend against any lawsuit.” Trump’s ties to Epstein, who died in jail in 2019 while facing sex trafficking charges, have drawn renewed attention. During the 2024 campaign, Trump promised to release more information on the Epstein case, appealing to right-wing influencers calling for transparency.

This is not Trump’s first lawsuit against the media. He previously sued ABC and CBS in 2024, settling both cases for \$16 million each — funds earmarked for his future presidential library. Legal experts say this case could test the limits of presidential defamation suits. “No sitting president has ever done this,” said First Amendment attorney Ted Butrous.



Japan's PM Shigeru Ishiba Faces Election Test Amid Rising Prices and Political Instability

TPN Correspondent | Tokyo

Japan’s Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba is heading into a critical upper house election on Sunday, July 20, 2025, as his leadership hangs in the balance amid political turbulence, rising prices, and public frustration. A poor performance could deepen instability and cast doubt on his government’s ability to address urgent economic and social issues.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), along with coalition partner Komeito, needs to secure 50 of the 124 contested seats to maintain a majority in the 248-seat upper house. This would still be a significant drop from the coalition’s pre-election total of 141 seats. Analysts warn that failure to secure a majority could spark calls within the LDP to oust Ishiba.

Even if the coalition manages to win, Ishiba’s leadership is expected to remain weak. Since suffering a major defeat in last year’s lower house election, his minority government has struggled to push legislation without opposition support, limiting its ability to curb inflation and boost wages.

A major flashpoint has been the soaring price of rice, which has doubled over the past year due to shortages and poor distribution. Ishiba’s handling of the crisis has been criticized, especially as U.S. President Donald Trump pressures Japan with a 25% tariff on rice and autos.

Meanwhile, populist parties like Sanseito have capitalized on public dissatisfaction by promoting anti-foreigner rhetoric, traditionalist values, and resistance to globalism. Critics warn this trend is fueling xenophobia, even as Japan faces a labor shortage due to its aging population.

The opposition, while gaining ground, remains fragmented, limiting its ability to pose a united challenge to the ruling coalition. However, if the LDP loses its majority, it could trigger a broader political reshuffle and shift in national policy priorities.

Syria Declares Immediate Nationwide Ceasefire Following Deadly Clashes in Druze Region



TPN Correspondent | Damascus

The Syrian presidency has announced a comprehensive and immediate ceasefire across the country, following days of deadly violence in the southern Druze-majority city of Sweida, where hundreds have reportedly been killed.

In a public statement on Satur-

day, the Syrian presidency urged all armed parties and factions to commit fully to halting hostilities and ensuring calm in all regions of the country. The appeal comes amid rising fears of further escalation after brutal clashes between government forces and local Druze militias. Earlier the same day, Syria’s Interior Ministry confirmed

that internal security forces had begun deploying in Sweida to restore order and enforce the ceasefire. The government’s move follows widespread outrage over civilian casualties and the involvement of Bedouin tribal fighters reportedly heading toward the city. The conflict in Sweida drew regional attention and inter-

national pressure, prompting diplomatic intervention. U.S. Special Envoy Tom Barrack, who also serves as Washington’s ambassador to Turkey, announced Friday that Syria and Israel had agreed to a ceasefire, with support from Turkey, Jordan, and other regional actors.

In a rare move, Israel had carried out airstrikes earlier this week targeting Syrian government positions, including a strike on the defense ministry in Damascus, expressing solidarity with the Druze minority. This marked one of the most direct interventions by Israel in Syria’s internal conflict in years.

Analysts suggest the ceasefire reflects growing international pressure to prevent the Syrian conflict from spilling into a broader regional war. Whether the truce holds remains uncertain, but for now, Syria’s leadership is calling for unity and calm.

The situation in Sweida remains fragile, and the world watches closely as Syria’s battered population hopes for lasting peace after more than a decade of war.



SpaceX VP Lauren Dreyer Applauds Bangladesh’s Swift Support for Starlink Launch

TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

SpaceX Vice President Lauren Dreyer praised the Bangladeshi government’s efficient and decisive support in facilitating the launch of Starlink services in the country, calling it among the best globally.

During a meeting with Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus at the State Guest House Jamuna, Dreyer said, “We operate in 150 countries and territories, but the level of coordination and effectiveness here is unmatched. On behalf of everyone at SpaceX, I thank you and look forward to deeper collaboration.”

Professor Yunus welcomed Dreyer and emphasized the importance of dependable connectivity, especially during Bangladesh’s monsoon season. “While the landscape is lush and beautiful, we also face challenges like flooding and waterlogging. These situations highlight the need for robust technology solutions like Starlink,” he said.

He outlined initiatives to improve connectivity in remote and underdeveloped regions, especially in the hill tracts, where schools, doctors, and infrastructure are scarce. “We aim to launch online education programs in 100 remote schools. Reliable internet will ensure children in isolated areas have access to quality learning,” Yunus stated.

He also emphasized the importance of digital healthcare. “We are enabling remote consultations, particularly beneficial for pregnant women and those in rural areas. Medical histories will be digitally stored, improving continuity of care.”

US Tech Company Launches Probe Into CEO, Head HR's Viral Coldplay Video

TPN Correspondent | US

A U.S. tech CEO has been suspended following a viral video that allegedly shows him embracing his head of HR during a Coldplay concert. The incident, caught on the venue’s “kiss cam” at Gillette Stadium in Massachusetts, led to widespread speculation online and has now triggered an internal investigation.

The pair in question are believed to be Andy Byron, CEO of the AI firm Astronomer, and Kristin Cabot, the company’s Chief People Officer. The footage shows the two swaying closely to the music before abruptly ducking when they appear on the big screen. Coldplay frontman Chris Martin quipped from the stage: “Either they’re having an affair or they’re just very shy.”

Soon after, online sleuths identified the duo as Byron and Cabot, sparking controversy due to their high-ranking positions within the same company. Astronomer responded late Friday, confirming Byron had been placed on leave and that Co-founder Pete DeJoy will serve as interim CEO.



The company released a brief statement on X (formerly Twitter), reaffirming its commitment to “the values and culture that have guided us since our founding,” and emphasizing accountability among leadership.

Byron, who became CEO in July 2023, had praised Cabot’s leadership when she joined the com-

pany in November. Neither party has made a public statement since the video emerged. Byron’s wife has reportedly removed his surname from her social media profile and deleted her account amid the fallout.

The video’s rapid spread online led to memes and even a fake statement quoting Coldplay lyrics.

The woman who posted the clip said she had no idea who the couple was but hoped the situation allows those affected to heal.

As the investigation continues, the company has yet to announce further actions or confirm if Cabot remains in her position.

Textile Industry Urges Uniform 5% GST Across Value Chain to Boost Growth



The Indian textile industry has reiterated its demand for a fibre-neutral Goods and Services Tax (GST) rate of 5% across the entire textile and apparel value chain. Industry leaders argue that rationalising the current tax structure will eliminate the inverted duty structure, boost investments, and promote growth in all segments of the sector. Currently, the cotton-based textile sector largely attracts a 5% GST, except for garments priced above ₹1,000, which are taxed at 12%. However, the Man Made Fibre (MMF) sector faces a complex and higher tax structure — raw materials like Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) and Monoethylene Glycol (MEG) are taxed at 18%, MMF filament and spun yarn at 12%, fabrics and garments at 5%, and items priced above ₹1,000 at 12%.

R.K. Vij, Secretary General of the Polyester Textiles Apparel Industry Association, highlighted the impact of this disparity. “A uniform 5% GST is crucial to remove the inverted duty structure and make MMF sector globally competitive,” he said. He added that to achieve the textile sector’s ambitious target of \$100 billion in exports

and \$250 billion in domestic sales by 2030, all segments — cotton, viscose, and synthetic fibres — must grow simultaneously. Currently, there are no major expansions in the viscose or cotton sectors, making MMF sector growth vital. K. Selvaraju, Secretary General of the Southern India Mills Association, suggested that garments and fabrics priced above ₹2,000 be taxed at 12%, while all other products, irrespective of the fibre, should attract a uniform 5% GST. “Micro, small, and medium enterprises are struggling with input tax credit accumulation. MMF-based fabrics and garments are affordable to the masses and must be supported through lower taxation,” he emphasized. He also pointed out that the textile and apparel industry is one of the largest employment generators in the country. Rationalising the GST structure, he argued, would encourage new investments and job creation. Industry bodies believe that implementing a fibre-neutral GST regime will bring parity, reduce compliance complexity, and position India more competitively in the global textile market.



India’s agri-exports surge in Q1 FY26, rice exports lead

India’s agricultural and processed food exports have shown strong momentum in the first quarter of FY26, recording a 7% year-on-year increase to reach \$5.96 billion between April and June. This growth reflects the sector’s robust performance, driven by supportive policies and strong global demand. Rice remains the cornerstone of India’s agri-export success. Combined shipments of basmati and non-basmati rice rose by 3.5%, reaching \$2.9 billion in Q1 FY26. This comes on the heels of a record-breaking FY25, where rice exports hit \$12.47 billion — a 20% jump over the previous year. For over a decade, India has consistently maintained its status as the world’s largest rice exporter, contributing 40% of the global trade. The recent surge in rice exports was supported by the government’s decision in late 2024 to remove various export controls, including minimum export price restrictions, following a record harvest and strong domestic stock levels. Other key drivers of export growth include buffalo meat, dairy, and poultry products, which collectively grew by 17% to \$1.18 billion in Q1.

India is now the world’s second-largest exporter of buffalo meat, with major markets in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Iraq, and Egypt. These exports are managed under the APEDA framework, with integrated, certified meat plants regularly inspected by importing countries to ensure compliance with international standards. Fruits and vegetables also posted impressive growth, with exports climbing 13% to \$0.95 billion in the quarter, reflecting rising global demand for Indian produce. APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority) continues to play a vital role, coordinating exports worth \$25.14 billion in FY25 — a 12% rise from FY24. APEDA products now account for over half of India’s total agricultural exports. Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal credited the sector’s progress to favorable policies, fiscal incentives, low tariffs, and enhanced market access through free trade agreements (FTAs) with countries like Australia, the UAE, the UK, and EFTA nations.

Indian electronic exports hit \$40 billion: Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

India’s electronics exports have surged dramatically, crossing the \$40 billion mark—a growth of eight times over the past 11 years—Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced on July 19, 2025. He also highlighted that domestic electronics production has increased sixfold during the same period, reflecting the country’s rapid advancement in this sector. Speaking at the 14th Convocation of IIT Hyderabad, Vaishnaw underlined the remarkable progress India has made in electronics manufacturing and related technologies. He shared optimistic news about India’s first bullet train project, expected to be operational by August or September 2027, showcasing the country’s broader technological strides. Looking ahead, Vaishnaw revealed that India is set to produce its first commercially made semiconductor chip this year. He expressed confidence that the nation is on a clear trajectory to become one of the world’s top five semiconductor manufacturing hubs, driven by increasing investments in capital equipment and materials essential for semiconductor production. “In just 11 years, we have increased our electronics production six times,” Vaishnaw said, emphasizing the double-digit compound annual growth rate (CAGR) that few corporations can match. “Our exports have grown eightfold, surpassing



\$40 billion—a phenomenal pace of growth rarely seen in countries of our size.” Vaishnaw credited this impressive transformation to the vision and leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He pointed to a key achievement under this vision—the design of a complete 4G telecom stack within about three and a half years. This homegrown technology now powers nearly 90,000 telecom towers across India, outnumbering the networks of many countries worldwide. The minister’s remarks highlight India’s expanding role in the global electronics and semiconductor industries, reflecting a strong push to develop indigenous manufacturing capabilities and reduce dependence on imports. As India strengthens its production and export capacity, it is set to become a critical player in the fast-evolving global electronics market.

Crypto Market Surges Past \$4 Trillion Amid New U.S. Regulatory Framework

The cryptocurrency sector reached a historic milestone on Friday, with its total market value surpassing \$4 trillion, signaling the maturation of digital assets from a speculative fringe to a mainstream component of global finance. According to CoinGecko, this surge comes amid renewed optimism, clearer regulatory policies, and increasing institutional investment. A key catalyst behind this growth was the U.S. House of Representatives passing a bill on Thursday to establish a regulatory framework for U.S.-dollar-pegged stablecoins—cryptocurrencies designed to maintain a 1:1 value with the dollar. The bill has been sent to President Donald Trump, who is expected to sign it into law. This legislative move marks a significant shift in the U.S. government’s stance toward the crypto industry, balancing cautious oversight with support for innovation.



In addition to the stablecoin bill, the House approved two more crypto-related laws, including one outlining broader crypto regulations and another aiming to prohibit the issuance of a U.S. central bank digital currency. These measures now await Senate review. “The Genius Act will go down in history as a foundational step in mainstreaming crypto as an asset class,” said Chris Perkins, president of CoinFund. The rise of stablecoins, which facilitate instant payments and seamless fund transfers between tokens, has been a major driver of market expansion. Meanwhile, corporate adoption of cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin is accelerating, with more public companies adding digital assets to their treasuries as a long-term store of value. Despite Bitcoin’s slight dip of

1.8% to around \$120,000 after hitting an all-time high near \$112,000 earlier this week, forecasts remain bullish. Brokerage Bernstein predicts Bitcoin could reach \$200,000 by the end of 2025. Ethereum, the second-largest cryptocurrency, climbed 4.5%, having more than doubled in value over the past three months. The crypto rally also boosted related equities, with Coinbase and Robinhood stocks hitting record highs on Friday. Coinbase shares rose 1%, while Robinhood, which supports crypto trading, gained 3%, reflecting broad investor enthusiasm across the sector. As the world’s third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases, India’s transition holds immense global significance. The report underlines that timely action and capital inflow will be critical in determining the country’s role in the global climate response.

Nifty Enters Key Demand Zone Between 25,000–24,770, Say Analysts

Indian stock markets ended the week on a weak note, with the Nifty slipping below the 25,000 mark, entering what analysts describe as a crucial demand zone between 25,000 and 24,770. This level is now expected to act as immediate support. On Friday, the Sensex dropped 501.51 points to close at 81,757.73, while the Nifty declined 143.05 points to end the session at 24,968.40. The broader market also witnessed profit booking, with mid- and small-cap indices correcting nearly 1%. Mandar Bhojane, Senior Technical Analyst at Choice Equity Broking, noted that the Nifty has formed three consecutive bearish candles on the weekly chart, signaling a loss of upward momentum. However, the fall in trading volume during the correction indicates a lack of aggressive sell-

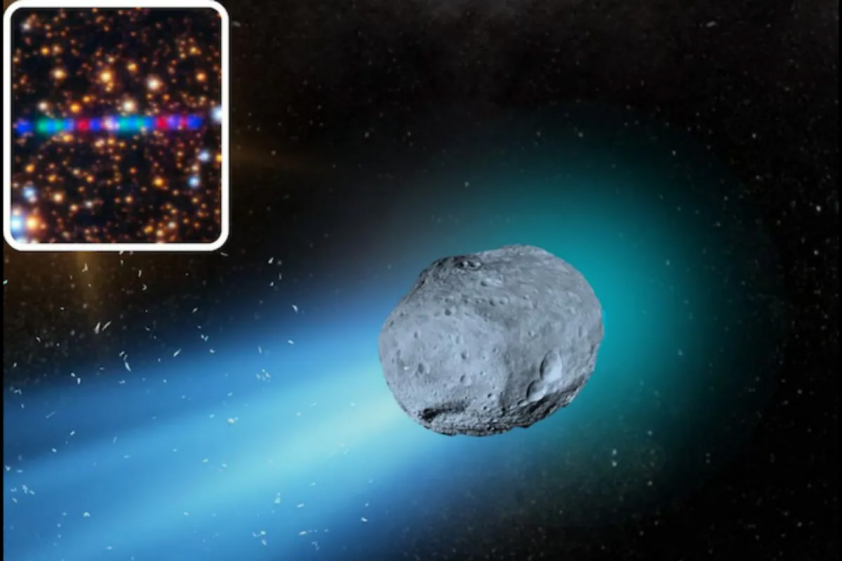


ing, suggesting the overall trend structure remains bullish. “If the index holds the demand zone and reverses, we could see a fresh rally towards 26,000–26,400 in the coming weeks,” Bhojane added. Key support for the Nifty lies between 24,900 and 24,800, while resistance is expected around 25,200–25,500.

Global factors like rising crude oil prices due to supply disruptions in Iraq and uncertain signals from the U.S. Federal Reserve continue to weigh on market sentiment, especially for oil-importing economies like India. Meanwhile, Bank Nifty ended the week at 56,283, down 0.83%, amid pressure from ongoing earnings announcements. Analysts expect consolidation or a sideways-to-bearish phase ahead unless the index breaks above the 57,000 resistance level. Key support for Bank Nifty is seen at 56,000 and 55,500. Traders are advised to stay cautious and wait for confirmation signals before taking directional trades. Upcoming earnings from banking heavyweights like HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank are expected to guide market direction in the coming week.

Are Aliens Watching Us? Massive 20-Km Interstellar Object Sparks Global Buzz

A massive interstellar object named 3I/ATLAS has captured the attention of scientists and the public alike. Spotted by NASA's ATLAS telescope, the object is nearly 20 kilometers long, making it the largest known interstellar visitor to our solar system. Its strange features, including unusual speed, trajectory, and structure, have raised more questions than answers. Harvard astronomer Avi Loeb suggests that 3I/ATLAS may not be a natural object at all. Instead, he believes it could be an alien probe or spacecraft, possibly sent by an advanced extraterrestrial civilisation. The object's surrounding gas and dust cloud, along with its odd behavior, support his theory that this might be intelligent technology rather than a random rock from deep space. Loeb has even linked the object to the "Dark Forest Hypothesis"—a theory that alien civilizations stay hidden to avoid detection and destruction. If 3I/ATLAS is a deliberate signal or device, it could mean that Earth has been noticed, possibly for the first time. However, not all scientists agree. Many believe it's more likely to be a natural object—a chunk



of primordial matter ejected by distant stars. Yet Loeb urges caution, arguing that we shouldn't rule out the alien explanation until all possibilities are explored. 3I/ATLAS is expected to come closest to Earth in December 2025, passing at a distance of about 270 million kilometers. As that date approaches, astronomers around the globe are preparing to study it in greater detail. Whether it turns out to be alien technology or just a strange space rock, one thing is certain: 3I/ATLAS has reignited humanity's curiosity—and concern—about what lies beyond our solar system.

From Danger to Distinction: The Comeback of 'Suicide Doors' in Luxury Cars

Once deemed dangerous and dubbed "suicide doors," rear-hinged doors are making a stylish return, now rebranded as a hallmark of luxury and elegance—thanks largely to brands like Rolls-Royce. These doors, which swing open from the rear rather than the front, were once popular in the 1930s and 1940s, gracing high-end sedans and limousines like the iconic Lincoln Continental. However, early safety concerns led to their fall from favor. Without seatbelts or secure locks, these doors could fly open mid-drive, posing serious risks. The term "suicide doors" reflected the perceived danger, especially when passengers exited into oncoming traffic.



So why are they making a comeback? Advances in automotive engineering have eliminated the safety flaws of the past. Reinforced hinges, electronic locking systems, and modern safety features have made rear-hinged doors both secure and functional. More than just a retro design gimmick, they now symbolize status and sophistication. Rolls-Royce, in particular, has turned these doors into a signature feature, using them on models like the Phantom, Ghost, and Cullinan SUV. Today's suicide doors are more than a nod to

nostalgia—they enhance convenience too. The wide opening makes it easier to enter or exit, especially for chauffeured passengers, the elderly, or parents assisting children. This design is ideal for luxury sedans and extended-wheel-base vehicles, offering a graceful entry experience that standard doors can't match. Beyond Rolls-Royce, other manufacturers are also exploring rear-hinged doors. Lincoln's Continental Coach Door Edition and even sports cars like the Mazda RX-8 have embraced this revived trend. What was once seen as a hazard is now a bold statement—rear-hinged doors have shed their ominous past to become a symbol of modern luxury and innovation.

ChatGPT Flags Blood Cancer Symptoms in Woman Nearly a Year Before Medical Diagnosis

In a striking example of AI's growing role in healthcare, a 27-year-old woman from Paris claims that ChatGPT identified signs of blood cancer nearly a year before doctors confirmed her diagnosis. Marly Garnreiter began experiencing unusual symptoms in early 2024, including persistent night sweats and unexplained itching. Though doctors initially dismissed her concerns, attributing them to stress following the recent death of her father from colon cancer, Marly turned to ChatGPT for insight. To her surprise, the AI tool suggested a far more serious possi-



bility: blood cancer. "I thought it was crazy at first," Marly told the Daily Mail. "My friends told me not to trust a chatbot and to stick with real doctors." Despite the initial skepticism,

her symptoms worsened over the months. When she developed chest pain and extreme fatigue, she sought additional medical help. It was then that she was diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma, a type of blood cancer that starts in white blood cells and affects the lymphatic system. Currently undergoing treatment, Marly shared, "I felt devastated. I didn't want my family to go through another cancer battle. But I'm glad I listened to my body." Hodgkin lymphoma is often treatable when caught early, with therapies such as chemotherapy, radia-

tion, immunotherapy, and targeted drugs offering strong outcomes. Marly's experience has reignited conversations about how AI tools like ChatGPT might assist in early symptom analysis and health awareness. While ChatGPT cannot replace medical professionals, her story shows how it can play a supportive role in personal health management, helping users advocate for themselves and seek timely care. The incident serves as a reminder: AI may not have a medical license—but it might just help save a life.

Skincase: The Phone Cover That Gets Sunburnt to Remind You to Use Sunscreen

In a creative fusion of health awareness and tech innovation, French researcher Marc Teyssier has developed a smartphone case that mimics human skin—and even shows signs of sunburn when exposed to strong UV rays. Named Skincase, this unusual invention was created in collaboration with Virgin Media O2 to highlight the dangers of sun exposure and encourage regular sunscreen use. Made from silicone and UV-reactive materials, Skincase looks and feels like real skin. It features lifelike textures such as pores and wrinkles, crafted using 3D printing and hand-sculpting techniques. Available in three skin tones, the case changes colour under intense sunlight, simulating sunburn. The idea is simple: when users see their phone case turning red, it's a timely reminder to protect their own skin. Teyssier explained, "My work aims to connect our digital habits with real-world health. Skincase is a tool to promote self-care through technology." His inspiration came from studies showing that while people frequently check their phones, they often forget to apply sunscreen, even in high UV conditions.



The Skincase acts as a behavioral nudge—each glance at the discolored phone cover reinforces the need for sun protection. As Chris Hindenach of Virgin Media O2 noted, phone usage spikes during holidays, a time when sunburn risk also rises. Skincase leverages that phone-checking habit to raise awareness. Currently, Skincase remains a prototype and isn't available for commercial use, but it's already sparking conversations about wearable health tech and behavioral design. This isn't Teyssier's first venture into human-like devices—he previously created artificial skin for phones that responded to touch gestures. Skincase proves that even quirky gadgets can carry a serious message—protect your skin, one phone check at a time.



McDonald's Brings Back Fan-Favourite Snack Wrap After 9 Years

After nearly a decade, McDonald's has officially brought back a beloved item that fans have long missed—the Snack Wrap. Discontinued in 2016, the crispy, chicken-filled wrap returns to the US menu starting July 10, 2025, with a fresh twist and new flavours. The Snack Wrap is now available not just during the day but also on the late-night menu, making it easier than ever for fans to grab their favourite bite any time. Priced at \$2.99, the Snack Wrap offers a budget-friendly option packed with flavour. This time around, McDonald's is rolling out two new versions of the wrap: Spicy and Ranch. The spicy variant includes a bold habanero sauce inspired by the Spicy McCrispy Chicken Sandwich, while the ranch version features a creamy garlic-infused sauce paired with crispy chicken—perfect for those who prefer a milder taste. The Snack Wrap can be purchased at all McDon-

ald's outlets in the US, including drive-thrus, and is also available for home delivery through the McDonald's app. The relaunch is part of the fast food giant's push to offer more affordable, crave-worthy menu items amid rising demand for quick, convenient food options. The return of the Snack Wrap was announced in a heartfelt Instagram post on June 3, which featured a 16-slide tribute to the fans who campaigned for its comeback. The emotional message from McDonald's social media team acknowledged the persistence of fans and celebrated their role in bringing the wrap back. With nostalgic flavour and modern updates, the Snack Wrap revival is more than a menu update—it's a celebration of fan loyalty and a delicious nod to the past. McDonald's lovers, it's finally time to snack happy again.

India Storms into Badminton Asia Junior Quarters

India secured a strong 110-83 victory against the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in their Group D match at the Badminton Asia Junior Mixed Team Championships held in Solo, Indonesia. This win, announced by the Badminton Association of India (BAI), ensured India's progression to the quarterfinals of the prestigious tournament. The tournament uses a relay scoring format where teams compete across 10 matches, racing to reach 110 points first. India got off to a great start with Rujula Ramu winning the



girls' singles match 11-5 against Mysha Khan. The momentum continued as the mixed doubles duo of C Lalramsanga and Taa-rini Suri extended India's lead to 22-11. Throughout the contest, India maintained control despite some strong resistance from the UAE team. At the halfway mark, India led 55-41, demonstrating solid performances across different disciplines. US Open finalist Tanvi Sharma was impressive in her singles match, increasing India's lead to 66-46 over Madhumita Sundarapandian. The second mixed doubles match saw

Lalramsanga paired with Reshika U, who defeated Adithya Kiran and Mysha Khan 11-5, taking the score to 77-51 and firmly placing India in command. This victory followed India's strong opening-day win against Sri Lanka, while Hong Kong China also secured two wins from their matches, confirming both teams' progression to the knockout stages. India will face Hong Kong China on Sunday to decide the top spot in Group D. With this commanding performance, India's junior team looks poised to continue their impressive run and aims for a deep finish in the Badminton Asia Junior Mixed Team Championships.



Olivia Smith Becomes Most Expensive Women's Footballer as Arsenal Signs Her for Record £1 Million

London, July 18, 2025 — In a landmark move for women's football, Arsenal has signed Canadian forward Olivia Smith from Liverpool for a world record transfer fee of £1 million (\$1.34 million), making her the most expensive player in women's soccer history. The transfer surpasses the previous record set earlier this year when Chelsea paid £900,000 (\$1.1 million) to sign Naomi Girma from San Diego Wave. Smith, just 20 years old, has signed a four-year deal with Arsenal, as confirmed by sources close to the negotiation. However, full contractual details remain undisclosed. "Olivia is one of the most talented young players in the game and has huge potential for further development here at the club," said Clare Wheatley, Arsenal's director of women's football. This transfer underscores the rapid growth and investment in the women's game. Transfer fees that once hovered below half a million dollars have

now surged, with multiple record-breaking deals occurring in recent years. Just in 2023, Zambia's Racheal Kundananji was transferred to Bay FC for \$788,000. Before that, Pernille Harder's \$355,000 move to Chelsea in 2020 was the benchmark. Smith, Canada's youngest-ever international, debuted at age 15 in 2019. She spent one season at Penn State before moving to Europe, where she impressed at Sporting Lisbon with 16 goals in 28 matches. At Liverpool last season, she scored nine goals in 25 appearances. Arsenal head coach Renee Slegers praised Smith's adaptability and professionalism, noting, "We've been impressed by her mentality and character, excelling in two European leagues at such a young age." Smith joins a club rich in history, with 15 English titles and two UEFA Women's Champions League trophies. She said, "It's my dream to compete for the biggest titles in England and Europe. I'm excited to get started."

Hockey India Announces 40-Member Core Group for Women's Asia Cup 2025 Camp

Bengaluru, July 19, 2025 — Hockey India has officially announced a 40-member core group for the upcoming Senior Women's National Coaching Camp, ahead of the all-important Women's Asia Cup 2025. The camp is set to begin on July 21 and will run until August 29 at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centre in Bengaluru. This extensive training camp will be crucial for team preparations as the Asia Cup, scheduled to begin on September 5 in Hangzhou, China, serves as a direct qualification event for the 2026 FIH Women's World Cup. Only the tournament winner will secure an automatic spot in the World Cup. All members from the previous national camp have been



retained, a move aimed at ensuring continuity and stability within the squad. The goal-keeping department includes veterans like Savita and Bichu Devi Kharibam, alongside promising talent Samiksha Saxena from Assam.

The defensive unit features seasoned players such as Niki Pradhan and Sushila Channu, along with new names like Ishika Chaudhary and Anjuna Dungdung. In the midfield, stalwarts like Neha, Salima Tete, and Sharmila Devi will

combine forces with emerging players like Sujata Kujur and Albela Rani Toppo. India's forward line is packed with firepower and agility, featuring key attackers Navneet Kaur, Mumtaz Khan, Sangita Kumari, and Deepika Soreng. Chief coach Harendra Singh emphasized the importance of the camp, calling it a "critical juncture" for the team following a difficult FIH Pro League campaign. He noted a focus on penalty corner defence and improving decision-making under pressure. With a strong mix of experience and youth, the Indian women's team will aim to bounce back and claim the Asia Cup title — and with it, a ticket to the 2026 World Cup.

Freestyle Chess Grand Slam: Arjun Erigaisi Exits in Semifinals After Loss to Aronian

Las Vegas, July 19, 2025 — Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi's historic run at the Freestyle Chess Grand Slam came to an end in the semifinals after a 0-2 defeat against veteran Grandmaster Levon Aronian. Arjun, who had become the first Indian ever to reach the semifinal stage of this prestigious tournament, showed incredible form in earlier rounds. He defeated five-time world champion Magnus Carlsen in the preliminary playoff and went on to overcome American star Hikaru Nakamura in the quarterfinals, raising hopes of a potential championship win. However, in the semifinal clash against Aronian — the Armenian-born player now representing the United States — Erigaisi was unable to convert key



opportunities. In the first game, he secured a promising position but faltered during the critical moments, allowing Aronian to escape with a drawish position that ultimately tipped in his favor. In the second game, Aronian, needing only a draw to progress to the final,

played strategically from the start. While the opening led to a balanced position, Erigaisi, under pressure to win, chose an aggressive approach and took high risks. These miscalculations proved costly as Aronian calmly capitalized on the errors and sealed the match. Despite the semifinal exit, Erigaisi's performance at the Freestyle Chess Grand Slam has been widely lauded. His wins over elite opponents like Carlsen and Nakamura have further cemented his place among the rising stars of international chess. The Freestyle Chess format, known for its emphasis on creativity and dynamic play, brought out the best in Arjun's tactical abilities. Although his journey ended short of the final, the 21-year-old grandmaster has demonstrated that he is ready to compete at the highest level.



Pogacar Makes History with 21st Tour de France Stage Win in Mountain Time Trial

Slovenian cycling star Tadej Pogacar delivered a sensational performance in Friday's mountain time trial at Peyragudes, becoming the youngest rider ever to claim 21 Tour de France stage victories. With a commanding ride over 10.9 kilometers, Pogacar crushed his rivals, extending his overall lead in the 112th edition of the race. Racing without a radio or time trial bike, the 26-year-old UAE Team Emirates-XRG rider completed the punishing uphill course in 23 minutes flat — a remarkable 36 seconds faster than second-placed Jonas Vingegaard (Visma-Lease a

Bike). Olympic and world time trial champion Remco Evenepoel (Soudal Quick-Step) suffered a major blow, dropping to over seven minutes behind in the general classification after mechanical issues and a complete collapse on the final climb. Pogacar's daring choice to ride with a traditional climbing setup, combined with his unmatched pacing on the Col de Peyresourde and the brutal Peyragudes altiport ramp, underlined his dominance. After being four seconds behind Evenepoel at the 4km mark, he surged ahead on the slopes, building a 23-second lead over Vingegaard

by the second checkpoint. Despite nearly exhausting himself on the steepest gradients near the finish, Pogacar kept pushing, inspired by the sight of the clock and the knowledge that victory was within reach. "I'm super happy. I almost blew up in the end, but seeing the timer at the top gave me that final push," Pogacar said after the stage. "I wanted to go all out from start to finish." This latest triumph further solidifies his position as the race leader and underscores his superiority in what has become an increasingly one-sided Tour.



Anandhi Shines in First Look of ‘Garividi Lakshmi’

Telugu actress Anandhi is all set to portray a powerful and culturally rich role in the upcoming biographical film *Garividi Lakshmi*, which brings to life the story of a legendary Burra Katha artist from Uti-tar Andhra. The film is directed by Gowri Naidu Jammu and produced by TG Vishwa Prasad and TG Krithi Prasad under the People Media Factory banner. It is currently in production and gaining attention for its focus on folk art and a strong female protagonist.

The makers unveiled the film’s first look on July 18, revealing Anandhi in a traditional avatar, holding a harmonium—an iconic instrument associated with the Burra Katha performance tradition. Her appearance exudes authenticity and grace, perfectly capturing the essence of the character and the art form. This first look has already begun creating buzz among audiences for its culturally rooted visuals.

Burra Katha, a narrative performing art native to Andhra Pradesh, involves storytelling through music and dialogue, often addressing social themes. Anandhi’s portrayal promises to revive and celebrate this traditional medium while bringing to light the journey of a real-life folk heroine. Adding to the film’s cultural richness is its music, composed by Charan Arjun. The first single, titled “Nala Jilakara Mogga,” has been released and is receiving a fantastic response for its folk-inspired composition and lyrical beauty.

With its focus on regional heritage, women empowerment, and a respected art form, *Garividi Lakshmi* is shaping up to be a meaningful cinematic experience. As Anandhi steps into the shoes of an unsung folk legend, audiences can look forward to a film that honors tradition while telling an inspiring story.



Vijay Deverakonda’s ‘Kingdom’ Renamed ‘Saamrajya’ for Hindi Release, Set to Hit Screens on July 31

Telugu star Vijay Deverakonda is all set to make waves with his upcoming film ‘Kingdom’, which has now been officially titled ‘Saamrajya’ for its Hindi release. Directed by Gautham Tinnanuri and produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya, the film is being jointly presented under the banners of Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas.

There had been recent speculation suggesting that the film might not release in Hindi, but the makers have now put those rumours to rest. The film is confirmed to release simultaneously in Telugu and Hindi on July 31, 2025. Along with the announcement, the team also unveiled a brand-new poster revealing the Hindi title ‘Saamrajya’, generating buzz across social media platforms.

Bhagyashree Borse stars opposite Vijay Deverakonda as the female lead, while talented actor Satyadev plays a pivotal role. The film promises an intense blend of action and drama, with Vijay seen in a powerful, regal role that matches the grand tone implied by the titles “Kingdom” and “Saamrajya.”

Adding further excitement is the music by renowned composer Anirudh Ravichander, whose soundtrack is expected to enhance the film’s epic narrative and emotional depth.

With high production values, a star-studded cast, and an ambitious dual-language release, *Saamrajya/Kingdom* is one of the



most anticipated films of the season. Vijay Deverakonda’s strong fanbase across both Telugu and Hindi-speaking regions ensures high expectations for the film’s performance at the box office.

Mark your calendars—July 31 is set to bring Vijay Deverakonda back to the big screen in a commanding new avatar that promises grandeur, drama, and entertainment across languages.

‘Hari Hara Veera Mallu’ Ticket Prices Hiked in Andhra Pradesh Ahead of Release



Fans of Power Star Pawan Kalyan are gearing up for the grand release of *Hari Hara Veera Mallu: Part 1 – Sword vs Spirit*, hitting theaters on July 24, 2025, in multiple Indian languages. Directed by Jyothi Krishna and presented by A.M. Rathnam, the film has already created significant buzz, and a major update has now been confirmed—a hike in ticket prices in Andhra Pradesh.

According to Rathnam, the production team has officially received permission for night premiere shows and a temporary ticket price hike across theaters in the state for a 10-day period starting from the release date.

Revised Ticket Prices (AP Region)

- Single Screens:**
 - Lower Class: Up to ₹100
 - Upper Class: Up to ₹150
 - Approx. total (including taxes/charges): ₹297
- Multiplexes:**
 - All Classes: Up to ₹200
 - Approx. total (including

taxes/charges): ₹377

This pricing move aligns with recent trends for big-budget, high-profile releases in Tollywood. However, industry watchers are keen to see whether audiences will turn out in large numbers, given the elevated prices.

The film stars Nidhhi Agerwal as the female lead and features Bobby Deol in a powerful antagonist role. The supporting cast includes Sathyaraj, Sunil, Vennela Kishore, Anasuya Bharadwaj, and Pujita Ponnada. Produced by A. Dayakar Rao under the Mega Surya Production banner, the film features a compelling soundtrack composed by Oscar-winner M.M. Keeravaani.

With night premieres nearly confirmed and fan excitement building, all eyes are now on whether *Hari Hara Veera Mallu* can live up to its high expectations—and justify its premium pricing.

Ajay Devgn’s ‘Son Of Sardaar 2’ to Clash with Vijay’s ‘Kingdom’ at Box Office

Bollywood star Ajay Devgn’s upcoming film, *Son Of Sardaar 2*, directed by Vijay Kumar Arora and starring Mrunal Thakur as the female lead, is set to release on July 31, 2025. This sequel follows the original *Son Of Sardaar*, a Hindi remake of the Telugu hit *Maryada Ramanna*, directed by S.S. Rajamouli.

The first look and trailer of *Son Of Sardaar 2* have already impressed audiences. However, the film’s release date has been postponed by a week from July 25 to July 31 due to unforeseen reasons.

On the same day, Tollywood star Vijay Deverakonda’s much-anticipated film *Kingdom* is also scheduled to hit theaters. This sets up a direct box office clash between

the two films, creating excitement and competition among fans and industry watchers alike.

The simultaneous release of these two major films from different film industries—Bollywood and Tollywood—will make the last week of July a highly competitive period at the box office. Fans of both Ajay Devgn and Vijay Deverakonda are eagerly awaiting the releases, which are expected to draw significant attention.

As *Son Of Sardaar 2* aims to build on the success of its predecessor, *Kingdom* looks to capture the audience with Vijay’s strong fanbase. The box office battle will be closely watched to see which film comes out on top.



Mega 157 On-Set Video Leaked – Makers Warn of Legal Action

A leaked video from the sets of *Mega 157*, the highly anticipated film starring Chiranjeevi and Nayanthara, has caused an online uproar, prompting a stern legal warning from the producers.

The video, reportedly captured without consent during the film’s third shooting schedule in Kerala, shows Chiranjeevi and Nayanthara filming a romantic song in traditional attire. The clip quickly went viral on social media, disappointing the film’s production team.

Producers Shine Screens and Gold Box Entertainments condemned the leak, calling it a “breach of trust” and a violation of the creative rights of the filmmakers. They stressed the hard work invested in every scene and urged the public not to record or circulate any unauthorized footage.



The producers warned that further leaks would face strict legal action under anti-piracy and copyright laws. They emphasized that such breaches of on-set confidentiality would not be tolerated.

Mega 157, directed by Anil Ravipudi, is shaping up to be a mass entertainer filled with action and drama. Following his previous success with *Sankranthi Ki Vastunnam*, Ravipudi has teamed up again with crowd favorites Chiranjeevi and Nayanthara, raising fan expectations to new heights.

In light of the recent incident, security on the film sets has been tightened to prevent any more unauthorized recordings. The makers hope that the focus will shift back to the film itself, steering clear of off-camera controversies as the shoot progresses.