



Seethakka Visits Flood-Hit Mulugu

TPN Correspondent | Mulugu

In response to the ongoing heavy rains lashing the state, Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Women and Child Welfare, Seethakka, conducted a field inspection Wednesday in flood-prone areas of Mulugu district. She visited Jalagalancha and Gundlavagu near the Pasara-Tadwai road, reviewing the flood situation and issuing immediate directives to ensure public safety. Drawing from past experiences, Seethakka took swift action and directed officials to identify houses in dilapidated conditions and relocate residents to safer areas without delay. She emphasized the importance of timely alerts and ordered the Collectors and SPs of Mulugu and Mahabubabad districts to remain on high alert and issue warnings proactively, especially to those living in low-lying areas. The minister also advised farmers to exercise caution around fallen power lines to prevent electric shocks. Fishermen were urged to avoid venturing



into streams and canals, which are currently overflowing due to incessant rains. Seethakka informed the public that a toll-free number has been activated by the Mulugu Collectorate to provide quick and reliable information. She encouraged residents to call the number if they have any safety concerns or need assistance. The inspection was attended by District Library Chairman Banoth Ravichander, Market Committee Chairperson Rega Kalyani, and leaders from the Congress party at various levels, including state, district, mandal, and village functionaries.

Maps To Be Finalized in Five Villages Soon

Pilot Survey Completed; Bhudhar to Be Implemented

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

State Revenue, Housing, Information, and Civil Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy announced that the maps of five villages in Telangana will soon be finalized under the Survey Boundaries Act. This is part of a pilot initiative targeting 413 villages in the state that have remained without official maps since the time of the Nizam. The Minister made this announcement after a review meeting held at the Dr. BR Ambedkar Secretariat, where Chief Minister Revanth Reddy was also present, along with Principal Secretary Seshadri, Revenue Secretary V. Lokesh Kumar, and Survey and Land Settlement Secretary Rajiv Gandhi Hanumanthu. He said pilot surveys were conducted using drone and rover-based technologies in five villages—Salar Nagar (Mahabubnagar), Kommanapalli/Kothadi (Jagtial), Mulugumada (Khammam), Nuguru (Mulugu), and Shahid Nagar (Sangareddy). Notices will be issued



to landowners in these villages as per norms, followed by gram sabhas to address objections and finalize the boundaries. Ponguleti stated that the previous government neglected these 413 villages, but the Indiramma government under CM Revanth Reddy has taken the

initiative to resolve the issue by creating accurate and transparent maps. The finalized maps will also enable the allocation of Bhudhar numbers—unique land identifiers similar to Aadhaar—facilitating smoother transactions and ownership verification. The minister emphasized that the new maps must reflect the emotions and expectations of the villagers and ensure satisfaction for all stakeholders, especially farmers. He also directed officials to assign new survey numbers for lands with more than five holdings and to include revenue, forest, endowment, and wakf lands in the updated records. Sangareddy Collector Praveenya, Joint Director of Survey and Land Settlement Prasanna Lakshmi, RDOs, Tahsildars, Assistant Directors, and representatives from survey agencies attended the meeting. The Minister instructed officials to prepare to scale up the exercise to all 413 villages based on lessons from the pilot phase.

Earth Sciences University to Open in Kothagudem in August

TPN Correspondent | Bhadradri Kothagudem

A high-level review meeting was held at the upcoming Earth Sciences University campus in Kothagudem on Wednesday, led by Telangana Mines and Geology Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao. The meeting was attended by Kothagudem MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao, Vice Chancellor Yogita Rana, Commissioner of Technical Education Devasena, and officials from Kakatiya University, among others. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Tummala described the Earth Sciences University as a historic initiative of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, proudly noting that it is the first of its kind in the



world. “The establishment of this university in Kothagudem — the birthplace of Singareni — reflects the rich mining heritage of Telangana,” he said. The minister emphasized that the university would significantly enhance Telangana’s academic and scientific standing globally. He revealed that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will formally

inaugurate the university in August this year. Minister Tummala added that infrastructure development is being planned with a futuristic approach to meet the evolving demands of Earth sciences and geoscience education. He also highlighted the government’s decision to name the university after former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, acknowl-

edging his crucial role during the formation of Telangana. “It is a matter of pride for all of us,” Tummala remarked. The Vice Chancellor and officials discussed the ongoing works and strategic planning for academic programs, faculty recruitment, and research facilities. Minister Tummala directed that all infrastructure works be expedited to ensure readiness ahead of the scheduled inauguration. The establishment of the Earth Sciences University in Kothagudem is seen as a major step toward educational and scientific advancement, aligning with the state government’s commitment to creating world-class institutions in Telangana.

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Liquor Mafia Exposed...

The Excise Task Force, led by officer Anji Reddy, raided a rice mill in Ramapuram, Mella Cheruvu mandal. What they found was shocking—a large quantity of fake liquor and the arrest of key players: Shivshankar, Mallikarjun, Sharanjit Singh, and Srinivas. The investigation revealed that liquor merchants from both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh had partnered with the gang, looting crores in the process. The operation had been going on for nearly eight years. The gang cleverly stuck to a single brand—MC whiskey—thinking that avoiding premium brands would keep them under the radar. They targeted festivals and high-demand days, flooding the market with fake whiskey. Now, excise officials are tracing the wine shop owners who cooperated with them. Excise Director Shah Nawaz Qasim warned in strong terms: “Those found guilty won’t just face arrest—they will lose their licenses too.”

How Was the Fake Liquor Manufactured?

It was a well-oiled operation. The gang first approached wine shop owners and collected unused MC whiskey bottles from belt shops. They also sourced bottles from bars and even scrap dealers. Once enough bottles were collected, they were transported to the rice mill.

From there, the real business began. The gang sourced spirit from a private company and manufactured fake liquor inside the mill. The liquor was filled into reused MC whiskey bottles, sealed with fabricated lids and labels, and distributed across the state.

Where Is It Circulating Now?

Under interrogation, the accused revealed where their counterfeit liquor was currently in circulation. The excise department identified areas such as Suryapet, Huzurnagar, and the suburbs of Hyderabad. Several bars and wine shops are now under the scanner. This isn’t the first time such operations have come to light. In 2022, Nampally Excise Police busted a fake Royal Stag whiskey racket in Ibrahimpatnam, Bhuvanagiri, and Ramannapet. Another major seizure by the Rangareddy team exposed fake liquor flowing in from Odisha. But this latest case, involving fake MC whiskey, has sounded alarm bells. Excise Director Shah Nawaz Qasim has made it clear—there will be no leniency for those who play with people’s lives for profit. The department is now set to take strict action against bar and wine shop owners who supported the gang. A storm is brewing in Telangana’s liquor underworld—and this time, there’s no escaping it.

New Industries, More Jobs Key to Telangana’s Growth

and emphasized that the government has no intention of overburdening them through excessive regulations. “We will protect and support every industry in the state, particularly the MSME sector which is the backbone of Telangana’s economy,” he said. Highlighting the inclusive approach of the Revanth Reddy-led government, Sridhar Babu stated that the previous administration operated unilaterally, but the current government is open to all constructive advice and feedback. “Industries will be treated as partners in our development journey,” he added. He also countered the opposition’s claims that industries are fleeing the state. “Telangana is a role model for industrial development. In just one and a half years under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s leadership, the state has attracted over ₹3 lakh crore in in-

vestments and created more than one lakh private sector jobs,” Sridhar Babu pointed out. The Minister briefed industrial representatives on the recent investment inflows and outlined the state’s strategies to boost industrial growth further. He listened to their concerns, invited their suggestions, and directed officials to take prompt action to resolve their issues. Key attendees included Telangana Minimum Wages Advisory Board Chairman B. Janak Prasad, Special Chief Secretary Sanjay Kumar (IT & Industries), Labour Principal Secretary Dana Kishore, and Director of Industries Nikhil Chakravarthy. Several industry leaders such as Sameeuddin, Rajeev Venkataramana, Ramachandra Rao, Shekhar Reddy, Jayadev, Sujatha, Ramadevi, Sudheer Reddy, Sunil, Gautam, Arun, and Narender were also present.

Shahabuddin Arrested in Anil Murder Case

Hunt on for Second Accused...

TPN Correspondent | Medak

In a major breakthrough in the murder case of Congress leader Marelli Anil, Medak police on Tuesday arrested the prime accused, MD Shahabuddin (23), who allegedly shot Anil dead on the night of July 14 at Variguntham village in Kulcharam mandal. The second accused, identified as Chinna, remains absconding as police intensify efforts to trace him. According to Medak SP DV Srinivas Rao, Shahabuddin had no formal weapons training but learned to handle a firearm by watching YouTube videos. He reportedly procured a 0.32 pistol from



Nawabgunj in Bihar and practiced only two live rounds before carrying out the murder. All four bullets fired at close range struck the victim, indicating premeditated intent. Shahabuddin was employed at a garage in Medchal, owned by Nagaraju, who is also under investigation. The

second accused, Chinna—a native of Vijayawada—was a co-worker at the same garage and is believed to have assisted in the murder. Police had earlier taken five individuals into custody in connection with the case and cracked key details about the conspiracy behind Anil’s killing. Investigators suspect personal enmity and possible political motives behind the murder. Search operations are underway to locate and apprehend Chinna, who has been on the run since the day of the incident. Authorities have urged the public to come forward with any information that may help in his arrest.

Heavy Rainfall Batters Telangana

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Relentless rainfall across Telangana has thrown normal life into disarray, with several districts including Mulugu, Karimnagar, and Khammam facing widespread flooding, infrastructure damage, and power outages. The downpour, attributed to an active southwest monsoon and a low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal, has prompted flood alerts and emergency measures across the state. Mulugu district recorded the highest rainfall at 227.3 mm, while Bhadradri Kothagudem followed with 119.0 mm as of Wednesday morning. Popular tourist destination Bogatha Waterfall, known as Telangana’s Niagara, witnessed heavy inflows, forcing authorities to restrict tourist access due to safety concerns. Venkatapuram mandal in Mulugu reported 146.0 mm of rainfall, with sur-

rounding areas such as Alubaka and Mother also recording over 110 mm. Officials have urged residents to remain cautious as overflowing streams and water bodies continue to rise. In Mahabubabad district’s Kothaguda mandal, a 30-year-old man named Nareish went missing while fishing in the swollen Ralla Titte stream. Rescue operations by police, local officials, and villagers are ongoing. Karimnagar experienced severe water-logging in low-lying areas, with Padmanagar Chowrastha and Mancherial Chowrasta witnessing traffic disruptions. Residential areas like Kashmirgadda and Vidyanagar were inundated with knee-deep water, causing hardship to residents. In Khammam’s Karepalli mandal, an agricultural officer narrowly escaped after his car was submerged under a rail-

way underpass. Locals rescued him and he was later admitted to a hospital in a state of shock. Historic Bayyaram Pedda Cheruvu reservoir, dating back to the Kakatiya period, is receiving substantial inflows. The water level has touched 11 feet and is expected to rise further with continuing rains. Power supply disruptions have worsened the crisis. A substation failure in Kamalapuram, Mulugu, has plunged multiple villages into darkness, adding to the residents’ woes. The Meteorological Department has issued an orange alert for July 23–24, warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall in Adilabad, Karimnagar, Mulugu, and Warangal districts. District administrations have been instructed to remain on high alert as streams, rivers, and reservoirs continue to swell.

BRS, BJP Are Anti-BC Forces: TPCC Chief



TPN Correspondent | Telangana
TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud came down heavily on the BJP and BRS, calling them parties that stand against the interests of backward classes (BCs). Addressing the media on Tuesday, he accused both parties of deceiving BCs while pretending to support their cause publicly. He criticised the BJP for its stance at the Centre, saying, “The BJP doesn’t like 42 percent reservation for BCs. How is it suddenly impossible to include the BC reservation bill in the 9th Schedule? If they supported it in the Assembly,

why are they backing away now when it has reached Delhi?” Mahesh Kumar Goud also targeted the BRS, saying it has kneeled before the Centre regarding the ordinance. “BRS has a history of weakening BC reservations and even walked out of the Assembly during discussions. Now they are silent when the rights of BCs are under threat,” he said. He accused the BJP State President of toeing the line of the Central leadership and fleeing from the responsibility to protect BC rights. “The BJP State leadership is echoing Delhi’s anti-BC stance instead of standing up for Telangana’s people,” he remarked. Declaring that the Congress will fight relentlessly for the BC reservation bill in Parliament, he stated, “We will stall the proceedings if necessary. Rahul Gandhi will become the voice of the BCs through the upcoming OBC conferences across the country.” Calling upon BC leaders in both BJP and BRS, he urged them to resign from those “anti-BC” parties. “Come out of the BJP and BRS. Resist the dominance of upper caste parties and join hands with the Congress, which has always stood by BCs,” he appealed. Mahesh Kumar Goud reiterated that the Congress is committed to ensuring justice for backward communities and will continue to push for the inclusion of the bill in the 9th Schedule without compromise.

Telangana Delegation to Seek Support for 42% BC Quota Bill

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
In a major push for social justice, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka announced that a ministerial delegation from Telangana, led by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, will visit New Delhi on Thursday to rally cross-party support for a proposed 42 per cent reservation for Backward Classes (BCs). The delegation will meet with Members of Parliament from various political parties to seek backing for the legislation and to advocate for the inclusion of caste-based data in the national census. The move is aimed at laying the groundwork for evidence-based policies that ensure equitable representation and resource distribution among backward communities. “This is not a political issue; it’s about justice and equal opportunity,” said Bhatti Vikramarka, underscoring the state government’s resolve to secure constitutional recognition for the proposed reservation. He



emphasized that without accurate caste data, efforts to uplift marginalised communities remain incomplete. The initiative comes at a time when the demand for a nationwide caste census is gaining momentum, with several states pushing for greater clarity on social demographics to shape welfare schemes more effectively. Telangana’s proactive stance, led by CM Revanth Reddy, seeks to make the state a model in data-driven policy planning for backward sections of society. The delegation will include key cabinet ministers and is expected to meet leaders from both the ruling BJP and opposition parties, aiming to build broad national consensus for the caste census and the 42% BC reservation bill.

Telangana CM Seat... Arvind's Interesting Take

TPN Correspondent | Nizamabad
Nizamabad MP and BJP leader Dharmapuri Arvind made noteworthy remarks on the issue of Chief Ministership in Telangana, asserting that the BJP does not indulge in caste-based politics. Responding to a question from reporters on whether a BC (Backward Class) leader would be made CM if the BJP comes to power, Arvind stated firmly that the party does not consider caste while selecting leadership. He pointed out that BC leader Shivraj Singh Chouhan served as the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh for two decades, and even after his tenure, another BC leader succeeded him. Arvind highlighted that several BJP-ruled states have BC leaders in the Chief Minister’s position, proving that the party values leadership over caste identity. Confident about the BJP’s prospects in Telangana, Arvind predicted a significant shift in political momentum in the next six months. He said the party, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership, is poised to take power in the state. When asked whether he himself would be considered for the Chief Minister’s post, Arvind modestly thanked those who admired him but refrained from making any direct claims.



Harish Rao Slams Ban on Libraries

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
BRS senior leader and former minister T Harish Rao came down heavily on the Congress-led Telangana government for imposing prohibitory orders at public libraries and universities. He termed it a deliberate attempt to silence the growing unrest among unemployed youth and students in the state. Addressing the media on Tuesday, Harish Rao criticised the Revanth Reddy government for what he described as a crack-down on dissent. “Instead of addressing the root cause of frustration — lack of job notifications — the government is busy stifling voices at libraries and campuses,” he said.



The BRS MLA questioned the Congress party’s double stan-

dards, recalling how party leaders including Rahul Gandhi had earlier encouraged youth protests from public libraries during their election campaigns. “Now, after coming to power, you whitewash libraries with prohibitory orders. How can you justify it?” he asked. Harish Rao demanded that the government immediately release a comprehensive job calendar and fulfill its election promise of filling two lakh government posts. “The Congress has made a mockery of its seventh guarantee of democratic rule. What we are witnessing now resembles the Emergency era,” he said. He further pointed out that despite the Congress claiming to have filled 60,000 posts since

coming to power, only 12,000 appointments have actually been made. Accusing the government of misleading the youth, he said, “The so-called job calendar has turned into a jobless calendar.” The BRS leader also condemned the filing of police cases against protesting students and unemployed youth, calling it “a dangerous trend of suppression.” He asked, “Will you impose prohibitory orders on the entire population of Telangana for questioning your failure?” Harish Rao concluded by urging the state government to stop using repression as a political tool and instead focus on delivering the promises made to the people, especially the youth who are still waiting for job opportunities and unemployment assistance.

Sravan Demands Transparency on BC Quota Bill

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
BRS MLC Dasoju Sravan has strongly criticised the Congress-led Telangana government for its alleged secrecy surrounding the BC reservation bills and caste survey data. In an open letter addressed to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Sravan demanded full disclosure of the status of the pending BC reservation bills sent to the President and the ordinance currently with the Governor. He questioned why crucial reports such as the SEEPC Survey, the Busani Commission Report, and the Justice Sudarshan Reddy Committee Report—conducted at a cost of ₹160 crore and with the involvement of over one lakh employees—remain inaccessible even to legislators. “Why are these reports hidden from public view despite such massive expenditure? Where exactly are the bills and ordinance, and what clarifications were sought from the Centre and the Governor?” he asked. Calling for immediate transparency, Sravan urged the state government to publish a White Paper detailing all developments related to BC welfare, reservations, and caste-based data collection. He also pressed for a special Assembly session to table all pending reports and foster public debate. Highlighting the urgency of constitutional backing, the BRS leader demanded that the Congress government take the lead in or-

ganising an all-party delegation to Delhi to advocate for including the 42% BC reservations in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution. Sravan accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of prioritising “political image-building in Delhi” over genuine commitment to the welfare of Backward Classes in Telangana. “Don’t mislead the nation under the garb of a Telangana model while trampling BC rights through inaction and secrecy,” he warned. He cautioned that further delay in bringing clarity and constitutional protection to the BC reservation issue could spark serious public backlash and irreparably damage trust among the backward communities.



Congress's 420 Promises Will Fail in Local Polls

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
BJP District President Gangadi Krishna Reddy launched a scathing attack on the Congress government, accusing it of cheating people with hollow guarantees and now resorting to political stunts to gain an edge in the upcoming local body elections. Speaking at a workers’ meeting held by the BJP Ramadugu Mandal branch on Wednesday, he said the public has seen through the Congress party’s “six guarantees and 420 promises” which brought them to power during the assembly elections. Reddy said the Congress government

led by Revanth Reddy has done nothing substantial for the people in the past two years apart from collecting applications under the name of ‘Praja Palana’. He claimed that while only the free bus travel for women was fully implemented, all other schemes — including the farmer loan waiver, pensions, and unemployment allowance — have either been delayed or implemented partially. He further alleged that Congress is now trying to divert public attention by raising the issue of 42% reservation for BCs. He criticized the party for attempting to include 10% reserva-

tions for Muslims under the BC quota, which he said could lead to a significant injustice to backward communities. He questioned the sincerity behind the Congress’s latest moves and dismissed them as political theatrics. Referring to the MLC elections in Logada, he said the people — especially employees and graduates — had already shown the Congress government a “taste of its own medicine” for its unfulfilled promises. He urged party workers to be alert and active for the upcoming ZPTC and MPTC elections. “The people of Telangana are no lon-

ger in a position to believe the Congress’s lies and dramas. The BJP will show its full strength in the local body elections. The saffron flag will be hoisted across the state,” Reddy asserted confidently. He said that villagers and mandals have seen actual development only because of the Modi-led central government and reiterated that the BJP will continue to work for grassroots-level progress. Several leaders and members were present at the event, including BJP state executive member Mekala Prabhakar Yadav, mandal president Modi Ravinder, district secretary

Uppu Rankishan, state council member Jinnaram Vidyasagar, and others.



Special Health Camps for GHMC Workers

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

District In-charge Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Wednesday inaugurated a special medical camp at Krishnakanth Park in Jubilee Hills constituency for GHMC workers, employees, and members of savings societies. The initiative, organized under the GHMC's supervision, aims to provide comprehensive health check-ups and free medicines to the working class and the urban poor. Ponnam Prabhakar himself underwent a health screening

at the camp to set an example. A large number of GHMC workers turned up and were provided with free health kits. The program saw the participation of Hyderabad Mayor Gadwala Vijaya Lakshmi, GHMC Commissioner RV Karnan, Collector Dasari Harichandana, corporators Azharuddin, Naveen Yadav, and other senior officials and leaders. Speaking on the occasion, the minister said, "These health camps will be set up across Hyderabad so that people don't have to go to hospitals. We will

conduct all necessary tests and arrange hospital treatment wherever needed." He added that Hyderabad, being the state capital, needs a healthy population, and such medical camps will be organized jointly by revenue, municipal, and medical departments. He informed that there are 169 Basti Dawakhanas, 91 primary health centers, and 11 specialty hospitals functioning in Hyderabad. The health camps will be conducted in 30 designated locations citywide. "People should make use of these

facilities. We will provide free medicines and do all essential tests," he stated. Referring to seasonal changes and the Bonalu festival, he warned of an increase in health risks and assured that medical teams will visit different areas to provide services. Highlighting the government's welfare efforts, Ponnam said, "We are giving 200 units of free electricity to support the poor. We are also distributing rice and ration cards, which are being issued after a gap of 10 years." He noted that 53,000



ration cards are ready for distribution in Hyderabad and 2.31 lakh new units are in process. He also recalled that 60,000 government jobs have already been provided, and mess charges have been increased to

ensure quality food in Gurukul institutions. "Women crossed the milestone of 200 crore free RTC tickets. This government is working with the spirit of Praja Palana to support the poor and marginalized," he concluded.

GHMC, Hydraa Officials Inspect Flood Zones in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a coordinated effort to tackle waterlogging and traffic disruption during monsoons, GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan and Hydraa Chief Ranganath jointly conducted an inspection of key flood-prone areas in the city on Wednesday. Accompanied by Traffic Joint Commissioner Shri Gajrao Bhupal, Serilingampalli Zonal Commissioner Shri Bhorkhade Hemant Sahadeva Rao, and other senior officials, the team reviewed critical stretches in the Serilingampalli zone where floodwater accumulation frequently hampers traffic flow. The inspection began at Jubilee Enclave Kaman near Medicover Hospital, followed by the Tammidikunta Lake outlet opposite Shilparamam. Officials also surveyed the recurring water stagnation area near Smile-line Dental on Yashoda Hospital Road, Hi-Tech City. Commissioner Karnan instructed engineering officials to construct a proper storm water drain near Smile-line Dental Hospital to facilitate smooth drainage. He also ordered the immediate removal of debris and silt at the Tammidikunta Lake outlet, stressing that waste dumped by Hydra must be cleared without delay. Hydraa Commissioner Ranganath highlighted the importance of inter-departmental coordination and urged officials to be alert during heavy rainfall. He emphasized that pre-monsoon and post-rain inspections should become a routine mechanism for better flood control. The officials underlined the need for proactive planning, continuous field monitoring, and swift response mechanisms to minimize urban flooding and avoid disruption to daily commuters.



CS Inaugurates Udbhav School's New Campus

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A new chapter in inclusive education began in Hyderabad on Wednesday as the Udbhav School campus in Shastri Nagar, Fatehnagar, was officially inaugurated by Telangana Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, IAS, and Director General of Police Dr. Jitender, IPS. The school has been established by the IIM Ahmedabad Alumni Association - Hyderabad Charitable Trust (IIMAA HCT) to provide quality education to underprivileged children, especially from the slum areas of Rasoolpura and Fatehnagar. The event was also attended by retired IPS officer S.V. Ramana-murthy and trustees of IIMAA HCT—Shanmukh, Harish Kumar, Sitaram, and Sri Harsha—who spearheaded this initiative as part of their commitment to social development. Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, reflecting on his own back-

ground, emphasized the transformative power of education. "Education is the highest form of service to society. I am a product of a similar setup and believe this school will bring out the hidden potential of these children," he said, assuring continued support for such initiatives. DGP Dr. Jitender, IPS, lauded the efforts of the alumni group, stating, "Every child has inherent talent. Like Hanuman, their strength is revealed only when made aware. This school will do just that." He commended the effort to provide a platform for slum children to shine in mainstream society. Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) President R. Ravi Kumar also appreciated the initiative, calling it "a beacon of hope for slum children and a model of inclusive growth." Speaking on behalf of the school, Shivakumar confirmed that the



school will follow the Telangana State Board syllabus and provide education from LKG to Class X. "Our goal is to build a strong foundation in values and academics," he said. T. Muralidharan, Chairman of the Fundraising Committee, shared that the Udbhav Schools network now serves 1,086 students with the support of 55 teachers, 3 principals, and 11

support staff, across campuses. As part of the celebrations, the Chief Secretary and DGP felicitated key contributors to the project. Among those honoured were representatives of Coromandel, EY, Signode, RBL Bank, and Nadam Chemicals, along with individual supporters such as Shanta Vallury Gandhi, Jasmeet Singh, Veereshwar, Ranga Kota, and Tirumala Rao.

Three Held with Drugs and Pistol in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a major crackdown on drug trafficking, the Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing (H-NEW) and Begum Bazar Police conducted a joint operation and arrested three individuals, including two inter-state drug transporters and a local peddler. Authorities seized 100 grams of synthetic drug Meow-Meow (MD), a country-made pistol, six live rounds, one empty shell, and three mobile phones — all worth around ₹10 lakh. The Police have arrested three individuals in connection with mobile thefts: Pawan Bhati alias Raja (24), a juice vendor from Rajasthan; Hemsingh Kachhawa alias Hemu (26), an unemployed man also from Rajasthan; and Jeetendara Panwar alias Jithu (38), a sweet shop worker resid-



ing in Kattedan, Hyderabad, originally hailing from Rajasthan. According to police, Jithu, a former sweet maker facing financial difficulties, teamed up with Pawan and Hemsingh to procure and sell Meow-Meow in Hyder-

abad for quick profits. The trio had been sourcing the drug from Rajasthan and distributing it locally. Investigations revealed that Jithu had also acquired an illegal pistol for ₹70,000 and test-fired a bullet in the Kattedan area.

Hemsingh, previously jailed in a POCSO case, played a key role in transporting the drugs on Jithu's instructions. The arrests were made under Crime No. 125/2025 of Begum Bazar Police Station under various sections of the NDPS Act (1985) and Arms Act. Hyderabad Police Commissioner C.V. Anand, IPS, appealed to the public to remain vigilant and report any drug-related activities. "Drug abuse is a serious social threat. We urge parents to monitor their children's behavior and activities closely," he said. The operation was conducted under the supervision of DCP Y.V.S. Sudheendra, with Inspector G.S. Daniel (H-NEW), SI Venkata Ramulu, SHO Bharath Kumar Goud, SI Srishailam, and other staff members playing key roles.

Excise Office Superintendent Dies of Brain Stroke



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a tragic incident, Dharmareddy Shailaja, who had been serving in the Prohibition and Excise Department for the past 36 years, passed away on Tuesday due to a sudden brain stroke. Shailaja had risen through the ranks from Junior Assistant to Office Superintendent at the Head Office and was

recently transferred to the Excise Academy. According to sources, she had returned home after completing her official duties and later suffered a brain stroke. Despite immediate attention, she could not be saved. Her untimely demise cast a shadow of grief over the Abkari Bhavan headquarters on Wednesday. A condolence gathering

was held where employees paid floral tributes to her portrait and observed two minutes of silence in her memory. Additional Commissioner Syed Yasin Qureshi, along with other officials and staff members, offered heartfelt tributes and remembered her dedicated service to the department. Shailaja is survived by a daughter and a son.

Man Held in Double Bedroom Scam

TPN Correspondent | Qutbullapur

Bodimi Shetty Harihabu, who served as a system operator in Qutbullapur MLA KP Vivek's camp office, was arrested on Wednesday for allegedly cheating the poor by promising them double bedroom houses. The case came to light after a victim named Ramesh lodged a complaint at the Jeedimetla police station. Balanagar ACP Naresh Reddy, addressing a press conference at the Jeedimetla police station, said that Harihabu collected nearly ₹84 lakh from 83 individuals, under the pretense of allotting double bedroom houses through political connections. Acting on the complaint, police registered a case and arrested Harihabu, sending him to judicial remand. The ACP also revealed that another accused, Gaddam Sridhar Mudiraj, has been booked in the same case. Investigation is underway to trace the collected money and identify any further involvement. Jeedimetla Circle Inspector Gaddam Mallesh-am and Sub-Inspector Naidu were present at the press meet. Police have appealed to other potential victims to come forward with evidence.

Cyberabad Police Return 827 Phones Worth ₹2 Crore

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a continued effort to reunite citizens with their lost or stolen mobile phones, the Cyberabad Crime Police have successfully traced and returned 827 smartphones worth around ₹2 crore as part of the eighth phase of their CEIR (Central Equipment Identity Register) initiative. Under the leadership of Cyberabad Crime DCP Mutyam Reddy, the operation was executed through the Cyber Crime Station (CCS) in coordination with police teams from Madhapur, Balanagar, Medchal, Shamshabad, and Shadnagar zones. Victims were invited to receive their phones, many of which had been missing for months or even years. Speaking on the occasion, DCP Mutyam Reddy revealed that since the inception of this initiative, over 11,000 lost

phones have been successfully recovered and returned to their rightful owners using the CEIR portal. "This effort reflects our commitment to public service and our use of technology to solve everyday issues that matter to citizens," he added. The CEIR portal, managed by the Department of Telecommunications, enables police to block and track lost or stolen mobile phones using IMEI numbers, helping curb mobile theft and the resale of stolen devices. The Cyberabad Police have urged the public to report phone thefts promptly and utilize the CEIR portal to increase the chances of recovery. DCP Uttam Reddy, who led the latest operation, emphasized the importance of digital awareness and public participation in combating mobile-related crimes.

Mahalakshmi Celebrations Held in Mulugu



TPN Correspondent | Mulugu
Mahalakshmi celebrations took place at the Mulugu bus stand on Wednesday to mark a major milestone in the Telangana government's free bus travel scheme for women. State Panchayat Raj Minister Seethakka participated in the programme, celebrating the success of 200 crore free rides offered to women passengers across the state so far. Seethakka herself travelled by RTC bus to the Mulugu bus stand as part of the celebration, during which she interacted with fellow women passengers to learn about their experiences with the free travel initiative. During the journey, she received direct feedback from women, many of whom expressed gratitude for the government's support in easing their daily commute. At the Mulugu bus stand, the Minister participated in a special event organised by the RTC. She celebrated the occasion by distributing sweets to women passengers and praised the RTC staff for their tireless efforts in implementing the scheme smoothly. The staff were also felicitated for their contribution. Speaking at the event, Seethakka extended her thanks to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, and Transport Minister Ponnampabhakkar on behalf of the women of Telangana. She said the scheme has brought significant relief to women, especially those from rural and economically weaker backgrounds. The Mahalakshmi scheme, launched as one of the government's flagship welfare initiatives, has already crossed the 200 crore mark in terms of free journeys provided to women, highlighting its widespread usage and positive impact across Telangana.

Women Should Dream Big...



TPN Correspondent | Sangareddy
State Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha said that the Telangana government is committed to empowering women and helping them achieve their dreams. Participating in the Indira Mahila Shakti victory celebrations held in the Andol constituency of Sangareddy district on Tuesday, he said that women involved in Indira Mahila Shakti and self-help groups should move forward with confidence and the government will stand behind them in every way. He said the celebrations were organized to recognize the strength and capabilities of women. Highlighting the achievements under the Congress government, he said that the first petrol pump among all 33 districts of Telangana was inaugurated in Sangareddy district, setting a new precedent for women-led ventures. He emphasized that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's government is working with a clear goal—to turn women into millionaires through support schemes. He also noted the success of the Mahalakshmi free travel scheme, stating that nearly 200 crore women have benefitted from free bus travel across the state, amounting to savings worth ₹6,680 crore.

Drunken Son Kills Bedridden Father

TPN Correspondent | Vikarabad
A shocking and tragic incident occurred in Gotlapalli village of Peddemul mandal in Vikarabad district, where a man allegedly murdered his own father in a drunken state. According to local sources, the victim, Hanumanthu (65), a butcher by profession, had been paralyzed for several months following a stroke. He had five sons, and the third son, Ravi (32), reportedly be-

came addicted to alcohol after losing his wife three years ago. The father and son were said to have frequent quarrels, often involving demands for money. On Tuesday afternoon around 3 PM, an argument broke out between the two, during which Ravi allegedly attacked his bedridden father in a fit of rage. Hanumanthu died on the spot due to the brutal assault. Realizing what he had done, Ravi reportedly fled the scene immediately.

Villagers alerted the police by calling Dial 100. Peddemul police soon arrived at the location, registered a case, and began an investigation. The body of the deceased was shifted to Tandur District Government Hospital for post-mortem. The accused is currently absconding, and police teams have launched a search to apprehend him. The incident has sent shockwaves across the village, with residents expressing deep grief and anger over the gruesome act.



Will Government Education Ever Be a Priority?

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The deteriorating state of government education in Telangana and the rising dominance of private educational institutions have triggered statewide protests led by Left student unions. From fee regulation to basic infrastructure in schools, student leaders raised a host of critical issues on Wednesday, culminating in a successful school and college bandh and a tense Chalo Secretariat protest that saw several student leaders arrested. Leaders from AISF, SFI, PDSU, AIFDS, AISB, AIDSO, AIPSU, and others accused the Congress-led state government of turning a blind eye to the sector for the past 18 months. Despite Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy himself holding the education portfolio, they alleged that not a single review meeting has been conducted nor has a single government educational institution been visited. They pointed out that while the CM often appears at private education events, he has failed to address even basic gaps in government-run schools and colleges. The protestors decried the lack of legislation to regulate fees in private and corporate institutions, accusing the state of allowing rampant exploitation. "From LKG

itself, lakhs of rupees are being collected in the name of fees, donations, books, uniforms, and even Amma mess services. There is absolutely no regulation," they said. The student leaders demanded that the government immediately bring in a special law to control this exploitation. They highlighted that in over 2,253 government schools, there is no provision for drinking water, while 1,500 schools still lack toilet facilities. More than 28,000 schools have no access to computers, and textbooks for English medium and minority language students have not been distributed. Although one pair of uniforms was provided, teacher recruitments remain insufficient. While the DSC was conducted, nearly 11,000 posts still remain vacant. Crucially, the government has not resumed the breakfast scheme nor revised funds for the mid-day meal program despite rising prices. They also brought attention to Gurukuls running in rented buildings—662 in total—and demanded that proper infrastructure be built. The student deaths in these institutions since the Congress came to power now total 93, with no accountability or action taken, they claimed. They



urged the government to revise the time management systems in Gurukuls and make them safer and more humane. Another major concern raised was the delay in scholarship and fee reimbursement payments. The student unions demanded immediate release of pending dues and urgent filling of vacant Principal Lecturer posts in intermediate colleges and MEO/DEO posts in the School Education Department. They also demanded the launch of mid-day meals in government junior colleges and free RTC transport for students. They warned that if the promises made by the Congress in its election manifesto are not fulfilled, the Revanth Reddy government will face stronger resistance in the coming days. Illegal arrests made during the protest across districts like Man-

cherial, Bhuvanagiri, and Kothagudem have sparked further anger among student groups. Several leaders, including women, were forcibly dragged and taken into custody by the police while marching from Lower Tank Bund to the Secretariat. Condemning these arrests, student unions have called for statewide effigy burnings of the government tomorrow. Among those who participated in the protest and addressed the media were SFI leader Lenin Guvera, Putta Lakshman, K. Manikantha Reddy (AISF), T. Nagaraj, Rajinikanth (SFI), Saibola Anil, Podapangi Nagaraju, Gaddam Nagarjuna, Palle Murali (AIFDS), Hakim Naveed (AISB), Nitish (AIDSO), Mane Kumar (AIPSU), Mogili Venkata Reddy (PDSU), and many others from student wings across the state.

Schools Shut in Bhadrachalam Over Education Sector Issues

TPN Correspondent | Bhadrachalam
A complete bandh was observed in Bhadrachalam on Wednesday as part of a protest called by the state committees of PDSU and SFI over the worsening conditions in the education sector. All government and private educational institutions, including schools and colleges, remained shut in response to the call. Private schools, in particular, extended full support to the bandh, highlighting the seriousness of the situation. Tensions escalated at Bhadrachalam Girls High School when a confrontation broke out between student union leaders and the school's Headmistress and Bhadrachalam MEO, Ramadevi. The MEO firmly stated that such bandhs serve no purpose and insisted that students should attend classes without interruption. "If anything happens, the responsibility will fall on me. We cannot cooperate with the bandh," Ramadevi reportedly told the unions. Following her refusal, leaders of the PDSU and SFI allegedly forced their way into the school by pushing open the gates and sent all students out of the premises. This incident left the

school premises empty and similar scenes were witnessed across other educational institutions in the town. Speaking to reporters, the protesting student leaders clarified that the bandh was not for personal or political interests, but to fight for the rights of students across the state. They expressed concern over the acute shortage of staff in many government-run institutions and called on the state government to take immediate action. The student unions demanded that the Telangana government urgently recruit teachers for vacant posts and also fill key administrative roles such as Mandal Education Officers (MEO) and District Education Officers (DEO), which are currently lying vacant in many districts, hampering the functioning of the education system. The impact of the bandh was visible across the town as all major educational institutions remained closed throughout the day. The student unions have warned of further agitations if their demands are not addressed promptly by the state authorities.



Collector Reviews Hospital Conditions in Tandur



TPN Correspondent | Vikarabad
Vikarabad District Collector Prateek Jain conducted a surprise inspection of the Government District Hospital in Tandur and other primary health centers on Wednesday, aiming to address long-standing infrastructure issues and prepare for seasonal health challenges. Accompanied by officials from the medical department, the Collector toured various wards in the Tandur District Government Hospital. He closely examined areas where rainwater leaks were reported, especially those affecting patient care. He also visited the Mother and Child Hospital located on Hyderabad Road and later inspected the Minority Residential Gurukul School to assess its infrastructure needs. Speaking to the media after the inspection, Collector Prateek Jain stated that immediate steps are being taken to resolve the issues identified during the visit. "We have identified leakages and other repair needs in hospital buildings. Instructions have been given for urgent repairs. We are committed to improving infrastructure and ensuring better healthcare delivery across the district," he said. He urged residents to remain alert amid the ongoing heavy rains and advised precautions to prevent the spread of seasonal diseases. The Collector also informed that a toll-free number has been launched at the district headquarters for emergency response and public assistance during the monsoon season. Tandur Sub-Collector Uma Shankar Prasad, District Government Hospital RMO Dr. Anand Gopal Reddy, Tandur MRO Tara Singh, Municipal Commissioner Vikram Simha Reddy, along with medical personnel, police officers, and other officials participated in the inspection program.



Neglect of Plant Scientist J.C. Bose by Agricultural University Raises Concern

Prof. Jagadish Chandra Bose, a world-renowned Indian plant scientist, biologist, physicist, and botanist, has left an indelible mark on the global scientific community. Born on November 30, 1858, he was a pioneer in the study of radio and microwave optics and made groundbreaking contributions to plant physiology. India has honored his legacy by naming esteemed institutions such as the J.C. Bose University of Science and Technology in Faridabad, Haryana after him.

In Andhra Pradesh, one of the most prominent institutions in the field of agricultural sciences is the Agricultural College, Bapatla, which celebrated its Platinum Jubilee just a year ago. Established in 1945 under the Composite Madras State and initially affiliated with Andhra University, the college has played a pivotal role in producing generations of agricultural scientists and professionals.

The college's historic association with Prof. J.C. Bose is symbolized through the "J.C. Bose Life Science Building," a landmark structure inaugurated in the late 1960s. The building was named to honor the scientific legacy of Prof. Bose and housed key departments and classrooms where generations of students attended lectures and wrote their examinations. In 2015, the university undertook a redevelopment project, demolishing the aging structure to make way for a more modern facility. Funded by NABARD under its RIDF-XX scheme, the new building was inaugurated by the then NABARD Chairman Sri C. Govinda Rajulu, himself an alumnus of the college. However, to the surprise and disappointment of alumni and well-wishers, the newly constructed building was christened "College Annex Building," omitting the name of J.C. Bose entirely. This move has sparked widespread dismay among alumni and academic circles. Over 14,000 students have graduated from this historic campus, many of whom hold prestigious positions in government, academia, industry, and civil society. For them, the J.C. Bose Building was more than just a physical structure—it was a place filled with formative memories and deep academic engagement.

In response, concerned alumni have come together to demand the rightful restoration of the building's original dedication. Leading this initiative are



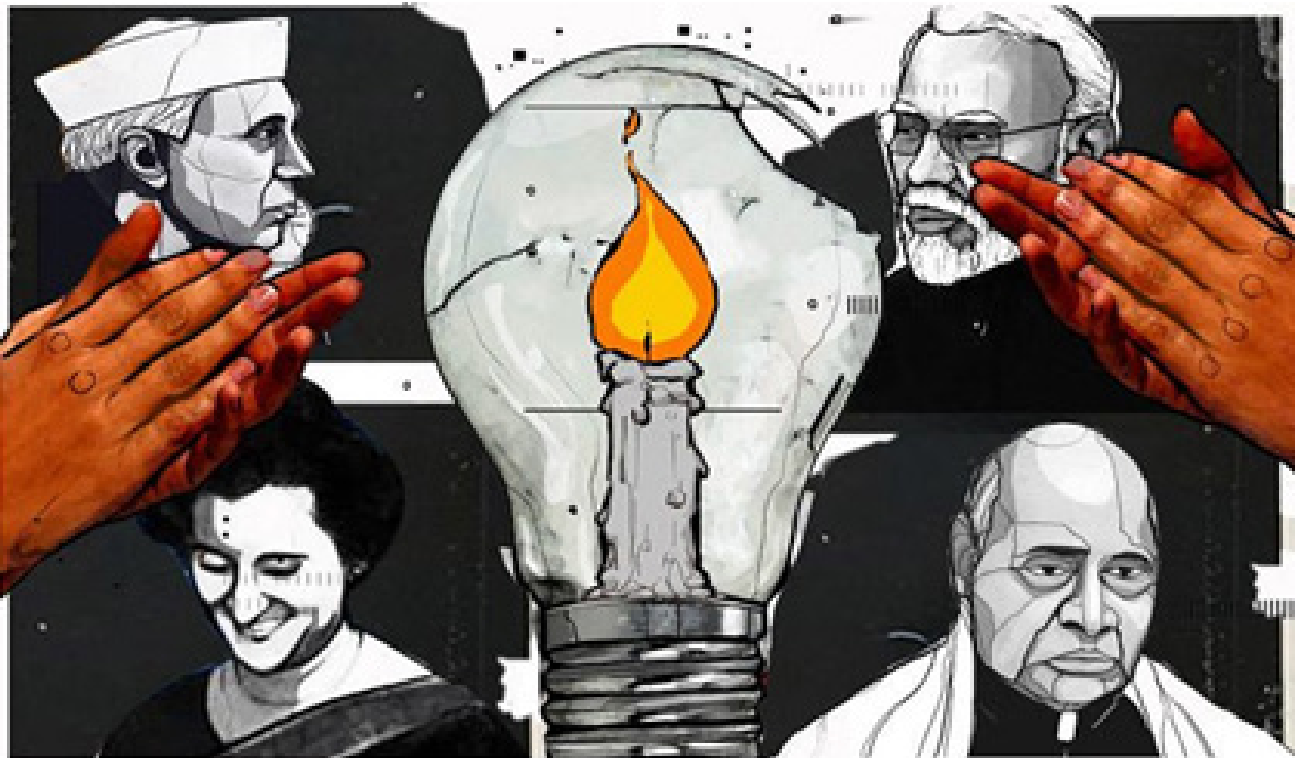
B.V.S. Kumar
Alumnus of Agriculture College, Bapatla

Mr. B.V.S. Kumar, former Chairman of the Child Welfare Committee, Krishna District, and Mr. K.S. Sai Baba, retired IFS officer and former Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Karnataka, the alumni of this college. Through active discussions on alumni social media groups and formal representation to the Vice Chancellor of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU), they have urged the university to reinstate the name "J.C. Bose Life Science Building," but nothing materialized so far.

The appeal is grounded not only in sentiment but also in principle. Honoring legendary Indian scientists like Prof. Bose is crucial to preserving the scientific heritage of our country. It also serves as an inspiration to future generations who walk through the corridors of such esteemed institutions.

The alumni firmly believe that neglecting the name of a scientist of J.C. Bose's stature is not just an oversight but a disservice to India's scientific legacy. They hope the university will act swiftly and affirmatively to restore the original name, ensuring that the legacy of Prof. J.C. Bose continues to live on in the minds of students and scholars alike.

Why India Needs a New Forum of Free Enterprise Moment



This week's National Interest is sparked by three sharply relevant and interconnected developments that point toward an unsettling trend in India's economic and intellectual discourse: the creeping return of old, failed economic instincts.

The first trigger is the viral circulation of a misleading social media post that conflated India's GDP with the wealth of its billionaires, claiming it exposes the country's worsening inequality. While India does have serious inequality issues, the post reflects a broader confusion—GDP is annual national income, whereas wealth is accumulated assets. Many smart and well-meaning people fell for this argument, showing how deeply emotional narratives rooted in old "povertarian" thinking still resonate—even 33 years after the 1991 reforms.

India's stock market capitalization—around \$6 trillion—has little to do with annual GDP figures. The wealth of industrialists like Ambani, Adani, Tata, and others is largely market-based. The ma-

ajority of India's 1.42 billion people contribute to GDP, but not everyone accumulates comparable wealth. This misunderstanding, though romantic, reveals how anti-capitalist sentiment still finds an audience, even among the educated.

The second trigger concerns India's steel industry. Steelmakers are lobbying for more import duties, pushing domestic steel prices to among the highest in the world. The burden falls on everyday Indians—whether building homes or buying scooters, tractors, or even kitchen utensils. Worse, 20% of the steel required by India's automotive sector isn't manufactured locally. Yet, a protectionist government remains unmoved, stalling industry and choking MSMEs.

FDI inflows have halved in recent years—from \$56 billion in 2019-20 to \$26.8 billion in 2023-24—and India's trade is stagnant. Growth is slipping; the RBI just revised GDP forecasts downward to 6.6%.

The third trigger is personal and symbolic. The writer recalls at-

tending an event hosted by the Forum of Free Enterprise (FFE) in the Emergency era, a pivotal moment in shaping his economic worldview. Founded in 1956 by A.D. Shroff as a counter to Nehruvian socialism, the FFE stood firm against government overreach, nationalisation, and the licence-quota raj. Supported by intellectual heavyweights like Nani Palkhivala, Minoo Masani, and H.T. Parekh, the FFE was once a vibrant platform defending free markets and economic liberty.

But since the 1991 reforms, the FFE's momentum has faded. It no longer has the visibility or influence to counter the resurgence of protectionism, government overreach, and economic nationalism. At a time when India needs bold voices for reform and resistance against creeping statism, institutions like the FFE are missing in action.

As Shroff once argued, it is not capitalism but socialist overreach that endangers democracy and freedom. That truth matters more now than ever.

Finding Meaning in the Age of AI: Reclaiming Humanity in a Digital World

As artificial intelligence (AI) continues to redefine how we live, work, and interact, an urgent question arises: How do we preserve meaning and purpose in a world increasingly run by machines? The AI era, while marked by unprecedented innovation, is also triggering deep existential anxieties.

Take, for instance, a doctor deeply committed to healing her patients through human insight and empathy. Suddenly, AI outperforms her in diagnostics and treatment protocols. Her role feels diminished, and so does her sense of purpose. Similarly, a farm labourer proud of his honest toil watches helplessly as AI-powered machinery renders him irrelevant—leaving him disoriented in a life he once found meaningful.

In the gig economy, a food delivery worker navigates pothole-filled roads under harsh weather, only to be evaluated by cold, impersonal AI metrics. He becomes a cog in an algorithmic wheel, his human struggles unacknowledged, his autonomy steadily eroded. A schoolteacher relying entirely on AI-generated content soon loses her pedagogical identity, feeling alienated from the profession she once pursued with passion.

These are not isolated cases. They signal a growing crisis of authenticity, freedom, and identity. While humanity has always



faced existential questions, AI accelerates and intensifies them. From Socrates, who championed critical self-examination, to Kafka, Sartre, and Camus, thinkers have long warned about losing oneself in systems that strip agency and meaning from life.

Camus' Sisyphus—eternally pushing a boulder uphill—epitomises the absurd struggle for purpose. Sartre's insistence on living with freedom and authenticity resonates now more than ever. Kafka's alienated characters mirror the psychological estrangement people feel when governed by algorithmic systems. Harari reminds us that much of modern life runs on fictional narratives—some of which AI is now writing for us.

But there is a way forward. By embracing Socratic questioning,

we can challenge the unchecked flow of AI-generated content and distinguish truth from illusion. Sartre's existentialism teaches us to reclaim responsibility, even in constrained systems. Camus urges us to confront absurdity with defiance, and Kafka reminds us to prioritise genuine human connection over digital substitutes.

AI is not inherently dangerous. But when we blindly accept its dominance or fail to critically engage with its presence, we risk losing the very essence of what makes us human. In an AI-shaped world, preserving meaning demands more than technological adaptation—it calls for self-awareness, critical thinking, and authentic engagement. Only then can we reclaim freedom, agency, and purpose in our lives.

India to Resume Tourist Visas for Chinese Citizens

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant diplomatic development, India will resume issuing tourist visas to Chinese citizens starting July 24, 2025 — marking the first such move in five years. The decision, announced by the Indian Embassy in Beijing on Wednesday, comes after a prolonged suspension that began with the COVID-19 pandemic and was further compounded by the military standoff between the two nations in Eastern Ladakh in 2020.

The embassy stated that Chinese nationals can now apply for a tourist visa to India by completing an online application, booking an appointment, and submitting their passport and necessary documents in person at Indian Visa Application Centres in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou. The statement also noted that any passport withdrawal requests must include an official withdrawal letter. India had halted all tourist visa services in early 2020 as part of pandemic containment efforts. Following that, bilateral relations sharply deteriorated due to the deadly Galwan Valley clashes in June 2020, which led to the worst border tensions between India and China in over six decades.

While China had gradually reopened visa issuance for Indian students and business travellers, tourist visas had remained re-



stricted until now. The latest move signals a cautious thaw in ties, with India extending travel permissions to Chinese tourists for the first time since hostilities began.

In recent months, there have been signs of de-escalation. In October 2024, India and China announced a disengagement agreement at the remaining friction points of

Depsang and Demchok. Shortly afterward, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks in Kazan, Russia, where they agreed to empower their Special Representatives to accelerate resolution of the ongoing boundary dispute. The resumption of tourist visas is being seen as a tentative step towards normalization of bilateral relations.

LS Polls in K'taka Stolen, Exposed EC's Game: RaGa

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Wednesday accused the ruling party of "stealing elections" in India, sparking widespread protests by the INDIA bloc both inside and outside Parliament. The unrest centered around the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, which the Opposition claims is being used to selectively delete voters.

Gandhi, speaking to the press outside Parliament, said the Congress had uncovered the mechanism of "vote theft" by analyzing voter data from a Lok Sabha constituency in Karnataka after the 2024 elections. "It took six months, but we have figured out their entire system — how votes are stolen, who is brought in, how voter lists are manipulated," he claimed. He added that the findings would be presented in detail to the public and the Election Commission (EC).



Gandhi alleged that similar tactics were used in Maharashtra, where he claimed over one crore new voters were added without transparency, and that the EC refused to share the voters' list or videography of the process. "They understood that we exposed them, so they changed the law and started

deleting voters in Bihar," he said.

Protests erupted in both Houses of Parliament. Members of the Opposition, wearing black clothes as a symbol of dissent, disrupted proceedings and later staged a demonstration at the steps of the Parliament building. Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav even draped a black scarf around Rahul Gandhi, who was in his usual white T-shirt, to mark the protest.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla criticized the Opposition, calling their actions "street-like behavior." The Rajya Sabha also saw similar disruptions, with only MDMK leader Vaiko speaking during Zero Hour.

Legislative business continued briefly with the introduction of the National Sports Governance Bill and the Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill, but debates were cut short due to the uproar.



Muslim population in Assam will be almost equal to Hindus by 2041: CM

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday made a striking demographic projection, claiming that if current trends persist, the Muslim population in Assam will nearly equal the Hindu population by 2041.

Speaking at a press conference following a state cabinet meeting, Sarma said that according to the 2011 Census, Muslims constituted approximately 34% of Assam's population. Of that figure, he said, around 31% were Muslims who had migrated to Assam in earlier decades, while only 3% were indigenous Assamese Muslims.

"This is not my opinion, it is based on Census data," the Chief Minister stated. "If you project the same trend into the future — for 2021, 2031, and 2041 — the demographic balance will be close to 50:50. That's what the statistics suggest," he claimed.

Sarma's remarks come amid ongoing political discourse over illegal migration and its impact on Assam's demographic structure, a long-standing issue in the state's politics.

When asked whether indigenous Assamese communities risk becoming a minority, Sarma did not directly answer but emphasized that he was only quoting official data and making a statistical projection. He added that the state's future policies would continue to focus on preserving the cultural and demographic integrity of the indigenous population.

The Chief Minister has previously made headlines for his strong stance on issues of illegal migration, border security, and identity preservation in Assam. His government has also launched several initiatives aimed at population control and community development, particularly in Muslim-majority areas.

While critics may view Sarma's comments as politically charged, he framed them as a factual reading of demographic trends. The statement is likely to reignite debate over Assam's population policy and migration issues ahead of the next census and elections.

Bihar Assembly Uproar Over Voter List Revision

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls sparked heated debates for the third consecutive day in the Bihar Legislative Assembly, with the Opposition cornering the government over the controversial drive's timing and execution.

Speaker Nand Kishor Yadav, after sustained protest by the Opposition, allowed a discussion on the issue despite Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's objection. The move opened the floor for Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Yadav to launch a scathing critique of the Election Commission's process.

Yadav reiterated that the Opposition was not against updating the rolls but questioned the "urgency, transparency, and fairness" of the exercise. "The right to vote is guaranteed by the Constitution to every citizen above 18, regardless of social or economic status. This equality is non-negotiable," he stated.

He raised concerns about the documentation required for inclusion in the revised rolls, noting that many poor and marginalized citizens lacked the 11 documents reportedly being demanded. "Why are Aadhaar cards, ration cards, or MNREGA cards being rejected, even though the Supreme Court has supported their use?" he asked. Yadav also accused the Election Commission of operating in opacity. "A major



democratic exercise is underway, yet no senior official has come forward to clarify the process. Instead, all information is being leaked anonymously," he said.

Highlighting logistical issues, he questioned why the SIR was launched during the monsoon season — a time when Bihar's rural mobility and document access are heavily impacted. "The last major revision in 2003 took nearly two years. What's the rush now, especially so close to the Lok Sabha elections?"

The Opposition continues to press for greater transparency and inclusion in the voter verification process, warning of disenfranchisement among vulnerable communities if reforms are not made.

India Rejects UK Media Report on Air India Crash Victim Misidentification

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Indian government has strongly dismissed claims made in a British media report that the bodies of victims in the June 12 Air India plane crash were misidentified and sent to the wrong families in the UK.

Responding to the allegations published by the Daily Mail, which quoted two unnamed British families alleging serious errors in the repatriation of their loved ones' remains, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) issued a firm rebuttal on Wednesday.

"All mortal remains were handled with utmost professionalism and with due regard for the dignity of the deceased," said MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal. He added that Indian authorities followed all established protocols and technical procedures for identification before repatriating the bodies.

The tragic crash of Air India Flight AI-231 in Ahmedabad claimed the lives of all 241 people on board, including 53 British nationals. In the aftermath, the MEA confirmed that it had been in close coordination with UK authorities to ensure that the victims' remains were identified and returned appropriately.

"We have seen the report and have been working

closely with the UK side from the moment these concerns and issues were brought to our attention," Jaiswal said. He also noted that India continues to engage with British officials to address any specific concerns raised by the families.

The Daily Mail report alleged that grieving relatives were subjected to renewed trauma after receiving the wrong remains, calling the process a "horrific



ic bungle." Indian officials, however, emphasized that identification was carried out using internationally accepted standards, and maintained that no mishandling took place.

The incident has drawn significant media attention in both countries, but India's response reaffirms its commitment to transparency and dignity in handling such sensitive matters.



Dam on upper reaches Brahmaputra will not impact India, Bangladesh: China

TPN Correspondent | Beijing

Beijing on Wednesday defended the construction of a massive hydropower dam on the Brahmaputra River in Tibet, dismissing concerns raised by India and Bangladesh about its potential downstream impact. The project, located in Nyingchi City near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh, was formally announced by Chinese Premier Li Qiang over the weekend.

The dam, situated on the lower reaches of the Yarlung Zangbo River (as the Brahmaputra is known in Tibet), is expected to generate over 300 billion kWh of electricity annually — enough to power 300 million people. However, the scale and location of the project have sparked alarm in India, with concerns over both environmental risks and strategic vulnerabilities.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun insisted that the project would not negatively affect lower riparian countries, emphasizing that China has communicated with India and Bangladesh, and continues to share hydrological data to aid in flood control and disaster management.

“China strictly adheres to the highest ecological and industrial standards,” Guo said. “This is part of our clean energy efforts and supports local livelihoods while addressing climate change.”

India, however, remains wary. Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu recently described the dam as a ticking “water bomb” and a more serious threat than military tensions. He noted that China’s refusal to sign any international water treaty makes the project especially concerning, warning that China’s control over water flow could be used as a strategic tool.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh received assurances from Chinese Ambassador Yao Wen that the dam’s purpose is solely energy generation and will not reduce water flow.

Five jets shot down in Ind-Pakistan conflict which could have turned nuclear

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Washington has once again asserted that the United States, under President Donald Trump’s leadership, played a key role in recent de-escalations between India and Pakistan. However, India has strongly refuted the claim, maintaining that the ceasefire agreement following Operation Sindoor was initiated at Pakistan’s request, without any third-party mediation.

At a UN Security Council debate on ‘Multilateralism and Peaceful Settlement of Disputes,’ chaired by Pakistan’s Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, U.S. Ambassador Dorothy Shea claimed that American diplomacy was instrumental in facilitating peaceful outcomes in several global flashpoints — including between India and Pakistan, Israel and Iran, and the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda.

“The United States continues to work with parties to disputes to find peaceful solutions,” Shea said. She praised recent resolutions and



urged all UN member states to follow the example of nations choosing diplomacy over conflict.

India, however, pushed back strongly. Ambassador Parvathane-

ni Harish, India’s Permanent Representative to the UN, clarified that Operation Sindoor — a focused strike on terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) — was a precise, non-escalatory action. Once India achieved its operational objectives, a ceasefire was concluded directly at Pakistan’s request.

“There is no one-size-fits-all approach to conflict resolution,” Harish stated, emphasizing India’s position that external mediation is neither needed nor accepted in India-Pakistan matters.

India also reaffirmed its commitment to global peace, stating that it remains engaged with the UN and international partners to promote stability and justice worldwide.

Meanwhile, the U.S. also took aim at China’s maritime claims in the South China Sea, condemning its ongoing defiance of the 2016 international tribunal ruling. Washington urged Beijing to respect international law and cease destabilizing actions in the region.

PM Modi’s Visit Will Boost Indian Tourism and Strengthen Ties: Nasheed

TPN Correspondent | Maldives

Male [Maldives], July 23 (ANI): Former Maldives President Mohamed Nasheed expressed optimism that Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s upcoming visit to the Maldives will significantly enhance Indian tourist arrivals and reinforce long-standing bilateral ties between the two nations.

In an exclusive interview with ANI, Nasheed said, “When relations are strong, everyone benefits. I believe the Prime Minister’s visit will further boost Indian tourist arrivals to the Maldives.” PM Modi is set to visit the island nation from July 25 to 26 as the guest of honour for the Maldives’ 60th Independence Day celebrations.

Nasheed highlighted the nearing completion of the Hanimadu Airport project, developed with In-



dian financial assistance. “Hanimadu Airport would be just a little over an hour from most of the southern Indian cities. There is a big opportunity for both countries to benefit,” he noted, emphasizing its potential to enhance regional connectivity and tourism.

Reflecting on broader economic cooperation, Nasheed credited India for helping the Maldives avoid a financial crisis. “If not for India, we would have gone default,” he stated, underlining how Indian assistance played a vital

role in maintaining the Maldives’ economic stability during tough times.

“Indian partnership is deeply valued,” he added. “It reflects mutual trust and regional solidarity, vital for the resilience of our nations.”

Nasheed reiterated the Maldives’ commitment to an ‘India-first’ foreign policy, acknowledging past shifts due to political changes but asserting that democracy has now allowed for more consistent diplomacy. “Today, across the political spectrum, the approach is firmly India-first,” he said.

PM Modi’s visit also aims to reset ties after recent tensions and will include high-level talks with President Mohamed Muizzu to review the India-Maldives Comprehensive Economic and Maritime Security Partnership, marking 60 years of diplomatic relations.

Baloch Families Mark 7th Day of Islamabad Sit-In

TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

Baloch families have entered the seventh consecutive day of a peaceful sit-in protest in Islamabad, demanding the release of Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) leaders and an end to enforced disappearances in Balochistan.

Despite enduring heavy rain, the protestors — including women, children, and elderly members — have remained steadfast in their demonstration. Authorities have not permitted the families to set up a proper camp, and roads leading to the Islamabad Press Club remain sealed. Additionally, more surrounding roads have now been blocked by security forces.

To further isolate the demonstration from public view, authorities have strategically placed buses around the protest site, preventing citizens from seeing or engaging with the protestors. This move, protestors say, is an attempt to silence and erase their peaceful struggle for justice.

“The state’s response has been intimidation and suppression,” read a statement posted by the protest organizers on social media platform X (former-



ly Twitter). “Despite these efforts, the families remain resolute in their non-violent call for justice.”

The Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) is urging human rights defenders, journalists, and concerned citizens to stand in solidarity with the families who have traveled from Balochistan to Islamabad. They stress that the protest is not just about the release of their leaders but also against the larger issue of enforced disappearances that

have long plagued the region.

A heavy police presence has been reported at the site today, adding further pressure on the demonstrators. Still, the protest continues peacefully, with the families determined to remain until their demands are addressed.

The sit-in has become a powerful symbol of resistance and highlights the ongoing human rights concerns in Balochistan.

Obama Calls Trump’s 2016 ‘Treason’ Claim Outrageous and Bizarre

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Former U.S. President Barack Obama has responded to Donald Trump’s recent “treason” accusations, dismissing them as a “weak attempt at distraction” from growing scrutiny over the Trump administration’s handling of the Jeffrey Epstein case.

Trump, speaking during a press event with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, called for Obama’s prosecution, citing a report by U.S. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard. The report alleged that officials from the Obama administration manipulated intelligence regarding Russia’s interference in the 2016 election — claims widely discredited by experts and lawmakers from both parties.

Obama spokesman Patrick Rodenbush issued a rare public response: “Out of respect for the office of the presidency, our office usually does not respond to the constant stream of misinformation. But these claims are outrageous and deserve a response. These bizarre allegations are a ridiculous and weak attempt at distraction.”

The report Gabbard released claimed Obama’s administration manufactured intelligence to support what she called a “years-long coup” against Trump. However, multiple investigations from 2019 to 2023 — including criminal, counterintelligence, and oversight probes — consistently confirmed Russian interference in the 2016 election in support of Trump.

A 2020 bipartisan Senate Intelligence Committee report, led by then-Chairman Marco Rubio (now Secretary of State), concluded that the Trump campaign sought to “maximize the impact” of stolen Democratic documents leaked by Russian operatives. The report called Russia’s interference and the Trump team’s cooperation “one of the most grave counterintelligence threats to American national security in the modern era.”

Despite this, Trump accused Obama of being the “leader of the gang” in a conspiracy, also naming Joe Biden, James Comey, James Clapper, and John Brennan. Critics have dismissed his statements as a continued effort to deflect from legal and political pressure.

Indian Stock Markets Surge Sharply

Nifty Reclaims 25,200, Sensex Up 539 Points

Indian stock markets rallied on Wednesday. Benchmark indices closed with huge gains. The indices initially traded in a range-bound mode due to foreign institutional investors' withdrawal, mixed signals from global markets and lackluster US inflation data. After the afternoon, buying picked up and they reached new highs. Shares from banking, auto and finance sectors contributed to this. Overall, Nifty gained 159 points and Sensex 539 points. Nifty closed above the crucial 25,200 level, which is a positive development.



The BSE Sensex, which closed at 82,186 in the previous session, opened at 82,451 on Wednesday. It touched an intraday low of 82,279. It reached an intraday high of 82,786. It finally closed at 82,726 with a gain of 539 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 25,139, touched a low of 25,085 and a high of 25,233. It closed at 25,219, up 159 points. The Nifty Bank rose 454 points to settle at 57,210.

In the Nifty50, 38 companies gained and 12 lost. Tata Motors, Shriram Finance, Bharti Airtel, Apollo Hospitals and Bajaj Finance were the top gainers. Tata Consumer, Hindustan Uni-



lever, BEL, Ultratech Semi and Grasim were the biggest losers. Auto, finance, healthcare, bank, infra, private bank, oil, consumer durables, pharma, metal and PSU bank indices rose today. Realty, media and FMCG indices rose.

Market breadth on NSE today was equal for buyers and sellers. Out of a total of 3055 stocks traded, 1500 gained and 1462 lost. 71 shares touched their 52-week high and 25 touched their 52-week low. The upper circuit was 79 and the lower circuit was 58.

The rupee weakened slightly against the dollar and settled at 86.41. In-

on Dixon Technologies with a target price of Rs 21,154. Citi maintained its buy rating on Paytm with a target price of Rs 1215.

Stock Recommendations

Tata Motors: These shares, which have been in a down-trend for a few months, are currently in the accumulation zone. A good base has been formed. Higher losses are being formed. The shares that closed at Rs. 690 on Wednesday should be bought in the Rs. 680 range through buy-on-dips. They should be held for a long time.



Adani Green Energy: These shares, which have been in a down-trend for a long time, are currently in the accumulation zone. A good base has been formed. Relative strength and momentum are increasing. The shares that closed at Rs. 1033 on Wednesday should be bought in the Rs. 100 range. They should be held for a long time.



MRPL: A bullish trend has started in these shares. Breakouts are being recorded with large volume. The momentum is good. Investors should take a position in the Rs. 150 range in this counter that closed at Rs. 155 on Wednesday.



Indus Tower: These shares are currently moving sideways. The trend is bullish. They have reversed at the 50-day moving averages. Investors should enter the Rs.400 range in this counter, which closed at Rs.405 on Thursday.

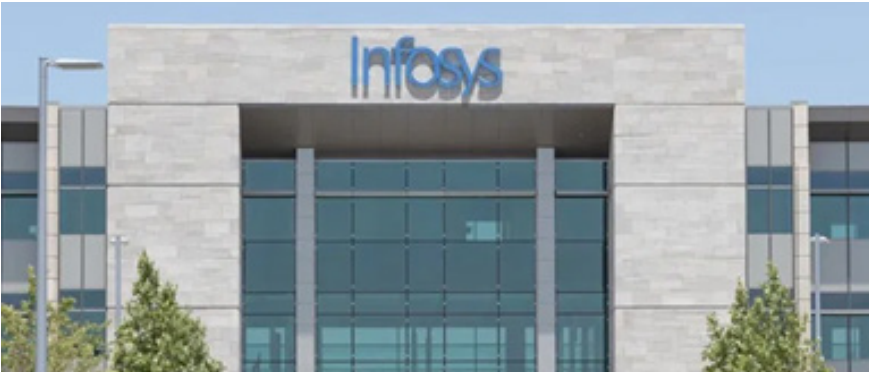


Biocon: These shares have currently reached the crucial Rs.400 level. Relative strength is good. Volatility has decreased. Investors should invest in this counter, which closed at Rs.396 on Wednesday, using the buy-on-dips method.



Infosys Q1 Profit Up 8.7% to ₹6,921 Cr

Plans to Hire 20,00 Freshers



Infosys Ltd reported a consolidated net profit of ₹6,921 crore for the first quarter of FY26, marking an 8.7% year-on-year rise from ₹6,368 crore in Q1 FY25. However, profit declined 1.5% sequentially from the previous quarter. Revenue from operations reached ₹42,279 crore, up 7.53% year-on-year and 3.3% quarter-on-quarter, driven by strong performance in AI offerings and large deal wins.

CEO and MD Salil Parekh said the Q1 performance reflects Infosys' leadership in enterprise AI and strong client relationships. "Our large deal wins of USD 3.8 billion demonstrate our competitive positioning," he stated during the earnings call.

With a strong start to the financial year, Infosys revised its full-year constant currency revenue growth guidance to 1–3%, raising the lower end from its earlier forecast of 0–3%. Margin guidance remains unchanged at 20–22%.

Parekh noted that AI-led demand

and client consolidation were key growth drivers. "We are seeing strong interest in AI agents, which is boosting our enterprise engagements," he said.

Infosys also reported a marginal increase in headcount by 210 employees during the quarter, bringing the total workforce to 3,23,788 — a 2.6% rise year-on-year. The company confirmed it is on track to hire 20,00 freshers during FY26.

Financial services continued to be the top revenue contributor at 27.9%, followed by manufacturing at 16.1% and retail at 13.4%. Geographically, North America contributed 56.5% of revenue, down from 58.9% in Q1 FY25, while Europe's share rose to 31.5% from 28.4%.

CFO Jayesh Sanghrajka attributed Europe's performance to strategic investments made in the region over recent years, while reaffirming the U.S. remains the company's largest market.

Gold Tops ₹1 Lakh, Silver Hits ₹1.15 Lakh/kg Record

Gold and silver prices soared to fresh highs on Wednesday, with both metals setting new benchmarks in the domestic market, supported by stable global cues and strong investor demand.

According to the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA), the price of 24-carat gold surged by ₹1,025 to ₹1,00,533 per 10 grams, breaching the ₹1 lakh mark once again. The previous day, gold had closed at ₹99,508. Similarly, 22-carat gold rose to ₹92,088 per 10 grams from ₹91,149, while 18-carat gold increased to ₹75,400 per 10 grams from ₹74,631.

Silver saw an even sharper jump, hitting an all-time



high of ₹1,15,850 per kg, up ₹1,357 from ₹1,14,493. Since the beginning of 2025, silver has appreciated by over 34%, having been priced at ₹86,055 per kg on January 1.

In the futures market, the bullish momentum continued. On the Multi Commod-

ity Exchange (MCX), the gold contract for August 5 traded 0.17% higher at ₹1,00,500, while the silver contract for September 5 rose 0.58% to ₹1,16,323.

Global trends, however, were mixed. On COMEX, gold slipped marginally by

0.08% to \$3,441.10 per ounce, while silver climbed 0.52% to \$39.76 per ounce.

Jateen Trivedi of LKP Securities noted that gold remained range-bound near record highs, buoyed by stable global prices and a steady rupee. He expects gold to trade between ₹99,000 and ₹1,01,500 on MCX in the short term, pending further cues from upcoming U.S. economic data, particularly the Manufacturing and Services PMI reports.

Silver, by contrast, continues to display strong upward momentum both domestically and internationally, driven by industrial demand and investor interest.

Indian Cities to Create 70% of Jobs by 2030, Face \$5B Flood Risk: World Bank

New Delhi: Indian cities are poised to become the engines of economic growth by 2030, creating nearly 70% of the country's jobs. However, they also face significant risks, including a potential annual loss of \$5 billion due to urban flooding, according to a new World Bank report.

Released in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the report highlights the urgent need for Indian cities to enhance their climate resilience. It estimates that building climate-resilient infrastructure and services will require a massive investment of \$2.4 trillion by 2050.

At the report's launch, World Bank Country Director for India, Auguste Tano Kouame, emphasized the importance of empowering urban local bodies (ULBs). "Cities that have greater autonomy and decision-making power have consistently outperformed others in adapting to climate risks," he said.



Despite the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992, which gave constitutional recognition to ULBs to promote local self-governance, many still face challenges in financing and implementing climate adaptation projects. The report urges decentralization of authority and finances to enable cities to respond more effectively to the growing threats posed by climate change.

Experts at the event stressed that climate-resilient infrastructure is not only essential for safeguarding livelihoods but also for sustaining long-term economic growth. The World Bank recommends creating dedicated funding mechanisms, improving access to green finance, and strengthening data systems for risk assessment and urban planning.

Without timely action, the report warns that urban climate risks could severely undermine India's growth potential in the coming decades.

Urban flooding, heatwaves, water scarcity, and poor waste management are among the key risks identified. With India rapidly urbanizing, the report calls for a comprehensive overhaul of urban planning to integrate climate risk management and sustainability into city development.

Without timely action, the report warns that urban climate risks could severely undermine India's growth potential in the coming decades.

Navi Mumbai Earns ‘Clean City’ Tag

Just days after being named India’s third cleanest city in the Central Government’s annual cleanliness survey, Navi Mumbai is at the center of an online debate over its real on-ground conditions. A viral social media post has cast doubt on the city’s clean image, showing Starbucks-branded plastic cups discarded on a wet roadside pavement.

The images, shared by a user on X (formerly Twitter), featured multiple plastic cups with green straws, left carelessly on the street. Expressing disappointment, the user wrote, “#Disgraceful. How to explain basic civic sense to the children of a spoilt parent?” He further questioned whether parental responsibility ends with providing money and cars. His frustration highlighted the disconnect between official rankings and public behavior.

The post quickly gained traction, prompting reactions from citizens across the country. One user commented, “Till the time fines are not put... Common man won’t learn.” Another sar-



castically noted, “Fancy beverages worth Rs 500, but basic civic sense is worth less than a paise.” Some users called for stricter enforcement, suggesting the use of AI surveillance to issue automatic complaints and hefty fines. Others blamed broader societal patterns, arguing that adults and public figures set poor examples. One remark summed up the sentiment: “If these kids went abroad, they wouldn’t dare do this. They’re only following what they see around here.”

Despite Navi Mumbai’s official recognition, the incident sparked reflection on the gap between policy and practice. It underscores the need for not only cleaner infrastructure but also a deeper cultural shift in civic behavior.

While Indore topped the survey for the eighth year, followed by Surat, Navi Mumbai’s experience reveals that cleanliness must go beyond rankings—it requires personal accountability and social discipline to truly reflect in everyday life.

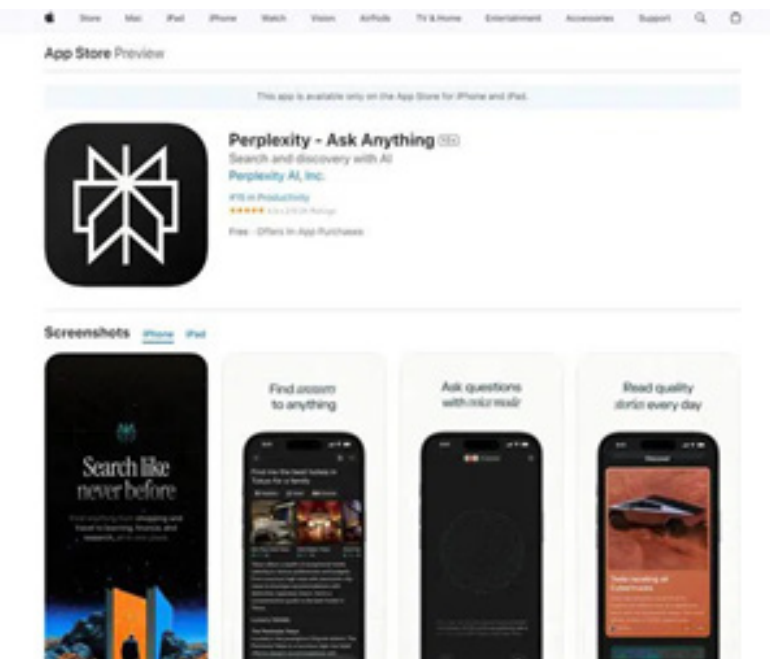
Perplexity AI Tops App Store

In a major shake-up in the global AI landscape, Perplexity AI has overtaken OpenAI’s ChatGPT to become the No.1 free app on Apple’s App Store. This dramatic rise comes on the heels of a game-changing partnership with Indian telecom giant Airtel, which now offers its users free access to Perplexity Pro, a subscription service valued at ₹17,000 annually.

Founded in 2022 by Aravind Srinivas, Perplexity AI has rapidly grown into a strong contender in the generative AI space. The Pro version of the app provides access to leading-edge AI models like GPT-4.1, Claude, Grok 4, and image generation capabilities. It also grants early access to the invite-only Comet browser, adding to its appeal among tech enthusiasts and professionals.

While Perplexity currently leads on iOS, ChatGPT still dominates the Google Play Store, where Perplexity has yet to launch. Google’s Gemini ranks fifth on the App Store’s free apps list, highlighting the intense competition among AI tools across platforms.

OpenAI, led by Sam Altman, is responding with new features such as its ChatGPT agent, which can perform complex user



tasks including reading emails, creating presentations, and browsing the web. The platform’s popularity also surged earlier this year after the rollout of GPT-4-powered image generation. However, the AI space remains volatile. Elon Musk’s Grok saw a spike in interest following its third version and the viral Ghibli-style image trend. Chinese AI firm DeepSeek also made waves by launching models aimed directly at rivaling ChatGPT.

With its fast-growing user base, investor backing, and clever strategic moves, Perplexity’s valuation soared from \$1 billion to \$3 billion in just a year, signaling a bright future for the startup in the evolving AI arms race.

Myntra Under ED Probe for ₹1,600 Cr FDI Violation

Myntra Designs, the leading fashion e-commerce platform, has come under the radar of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) over suspected violations of Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) norms. A notice has reportedly been issued to the company concerning ₹1,654 crore in foreign direct investment (FDI) that allegedly breached existing retail policy regulations.

According to official sources, the complaint accuses Myntra of violating FDI guidelines by engaging in retail sales through group entities, a practice restricted under India’s FDI rules in the multi-brand retail sector. FEMA regulations allow FDI in marketplace models but prohibit inventory-based models for foreign-funded e-commerce firms. The ED is investigating whether Myntra routed sales through related party entities, potentially circumventing these rules.

The alleged contravention involves transactions that occurred over several financial years, during which Myntra reportedly received significant foreign capital infusion while continuing to conduct sales via related business arms, which may qualify as an inventory-led model—a grey area under current law.

The investigation follows similar scrutiny faced by other major e-commerce players in India, including Amazon and Flipkart, who were earlier probed for comparable FEMA-related concerns. Regulatory agencies are tightening their oversight to ensure foreign



investment does not violate India’s retail trade frameworks.

Myntra, a subsidiary of Walmart-owned Flipkart Group, is expected to respond to the notice with detailed records and clarifications regarding its business practices and FDI inflows.

The case is likely to reignite debates around FDI norms in e-commerce, especially concerning the distinction between marketplace and inventory-led models. If violations are proven, penalties could be significant, including financial fines or restrictions on future foreign investment.

This development marks yet another instance of increased scrutiny on big-tech players in India, highlighting the government’s intent to strictly enforce compliance in the digital commerce ecosystem.

Chinese Firm Unveils World’s First Humanoid Robot That Can Change Its Own Battery

A Chinese robotics company, UBTECH Robotics, has introduced the world’s first humanoid robot capable of autonomously changing its own battery, marking a significant breakthrough in robotic technology. Named Walker S2, this robot can operate continuously for 24 hours a day across seven days without any human intervention.

Standing at 5 feet 3 inches tall and weighing approximately 95 pounds (43 kilograms), Walker S2 is equipped with 20 flexible joints that allow for smooth, human-like movement. The robot supports both Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connectivity, enabling seamless interaction and communication in various environments.

Walker S2 runs on a dual 48-volt lithium battery system, which provides it with the ability to walk for two hours or remain standing for four hours before needing a recharge. The robot takes around 90 minutes to fully recharge its batteries. Thanks to its unique self-charging mechanism, the robot can replace its own batteries autonomously, drastically reducing downtime and increasing operational efficiency.

The company demonstrated Walker S2 working in industrial settings, highlighting its potential use in factories, public spaces, and customer service roles where continuous operation and autonomous functionality are essential.

UBTECH Robotics, founded in 2012, is a leading player in humanoid and smart service robots. The firm went



public on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange in December 2023 and has developed a complete suite of humanoid robotic technologies independently.

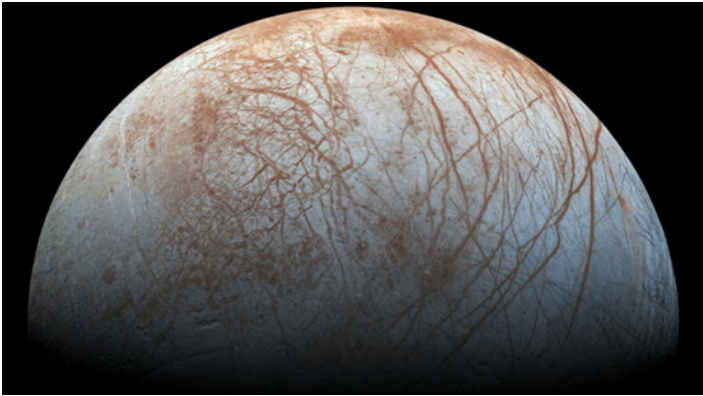
UBTECH’s mission is to “bring intelligent robots into every family and make everyday life more convenient and intelligent.” Their Walker series is China’s first mass-produced, commercialized, life-sized bipedal humanoid robot, designed to revolutionize robotics with practical applications in everyday life and industry.

This innovation positions UBTECH Robotics at the forefront of the global robotics industry, combining cutting-edge technology with autonomous capabilities that could redefine human-robot interaction and automation.

Scientists Detect Signs of a Liquid Water Ocean Beneath Europa’s Ice

Jupiter’s icy moon Europa, long considered a prime candidate for harboring extraterrestrial life, may be hiding a vast ocean of liquid water beneath its frozen surface—an ocean that could contain twice the amount of water found on Earth.

Europa’s surface, once thought to be a quiet, unchanging shell of ice, is now understood to be geologically active. Observations from the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) have revealed new details about this intriguing moon. According to recent studies conducted by the Southwest Research Institute, Europa’s surface ice is crystallizing at varying rates across different regions. This discovery points to dynamic geological processes at work beneath the surface. The interaction between the moon’s icy crust and its hidden ocean below creates what scientists refer to as “chaos terrains”—areas where the surface ice is constantly shifting and renewing. This ongoing activity suggests a subsurface ocean exchanging material with the surface, potentially creating an environment



where life could exist. Europa has captivated scientists since the 1960s, when telescopic observations first detected its icy exterior and raised speculation about the vast saltwater ocean beneath. Now, with advanced technology like JWST, researchers are closer than ever to understanding the moon’s complex geology and its capacity to support life.

These findings reinforce Europa’s position as a key target for future space missions aimed at exploring the habitability of worlds beyond Earth. With its active geology and hidden ocean, Europa offers a tantalizing glimpse into the possibilities of life in our solar system.

China Open 2025

Satwik-Chirag Cruise

Sindhu Battles Through



Changzhou [China], July 23 (ANI): India's top men's doubles pair, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, sailed comfortably into the Round of 16 at the China Open 2025, while star shuttler PV Sindhu survived an intense battle to secure her spot in the next round. The tournament is underway at the Olympic Sports Centre Gymnasium in Changzhou. Satwik and Chirag faced the Japanese duo of Kenya Mitsuhashi and Hiroki Okamura in their Round of 32 match. The Indian pair dominated the contest, winning in straight games 21-13, 21-9 in just 31 minutes. Maintaining their unbeaten record against this Japanese pair, Satwik and Chirag displayed relentless aggression and precision, giving their opponents little chance to respond. On the women's singles front, PV Sindhu was tested by Japan's Tomoka Miyazaki but showed great resilience

to emerge victorious. The match lasted over an hour, with Sindhu winning 21-15, 8-21, 21-17. Sindhu took control early in the first game, but Miyazaki fought back strongly in the second, handing Sindhu a heavy 8-21 defeat. In the closely fought decider, Sindhu raised her game to clinch the win and move forward into the pre-quarterfinals. However, in the women's doubles, Indian sisters Rutaparna and Swetaparna Panda faced a tough challenge from a seasoned Hong Kong China pair. The Pandas were defeated in straight games, 12-21, 13-21, ending their run in the tournament. Earlier, Lakshya Sen's campaign came to a disappointing end, while HS Prannoy managed a narrow escape to advance. The China Open continues to showcase intense competition as players vie for top honours.

Venus Williams, 45, Becomes Oldest to Win Tour-Level Singles Match

Venus Williams scripted a remarkable comeback at age 45, becoming the second-oldest woman ever to win a tour-level singles match in professional tennis. At the DC Open, Williams defeated Peyton Stearns, who is 22 years younger, with a solid 6-3, 6-4 victory. This win marked her first singles match in over a year and her first singles victory in nearly two years. Williams aimed to send a powerful message—to herself and others—about resilience, competing at an elite level despite a long hiatus and her age. “Each week of training, I questioned if I was good enough,” she admitted. “Even the week leading up, I thought, ‘I need to improve so much more.’ It’s all a head game.” The only woman older than Venus to win a tour-level singles match was Martina Navratilova, who achieved the feat at 47 in 2004. Venus had been out of singles competition since March 2024 due to surgery for uterine fibroids and was listed as “inactive” by the WTA until this week.



Supported by a lively crowd in Washington D.C., Venus showed flashes of her legendary power, including fierce serves clocked over 110 mph. “I wanted to play a good match,” she told fans, “and win the match.” Stearns, ranked 35th and an NCAA champion, praised Venus's performance, saying, “Her serves were on fire, and she was moving really well.” The match wasn't without challenges; Venus struggled early but showed determination, converting her sixth match point with a 112 mph serve to seal the win. “It's not easy out here,” she said, “but I'm up for the fight.” Next up for Venus is No. 5 seed Magdalena Frech.

Women's Euro 2025: England Beats Italy 2-1 in Extra Time and Reach Final

In a thrilling Women's Euro 2025 semi-final on July 22, reigning champions England mounted a dramatic comeback to defeat Italy 2-1 after extra time, securing their place in the final. Italy took the lead in the first half thanks to Barbara Bonansea's stunning strike in the 33rd minute, but England fought back valiantly to turn the game around. Italy, boosted by confidence from their last-minute quarter-final win against Norway, defended resolutely and attacked sharply on the counter. Their persistence paid off when Bonansea's fierce shot found the top corner, putting Italy ahead. However, England dominated possession in the second half, creating several chances but struggling to break through the Italian defense. Just when it seemed England's hopes of retaining their title were fading, 19-year-old substitute Michelle Agyemang capitalized on a loose ball in the box to score six minutes into



stoppage time, leveling the match and sending it into extra time. In extra time, Agyemang came close again, outpacing the Italian defense before her delicate lob struck the crossbar. England continued to press forward and earned a penalty after Emma Severini fouled Beth Mead inside the box. Chloe Kelly stepped up to take the penalty, but her initial shot was saved by Italy's goalkeeper Laura Giuliani.

Quick to react, Kelly fired in the rebound in the 119th minute, securing a dramatic winner for England. This victory sets up a final clash against either Spain or Germany on July 27 in Basel. England's resilience and determination shone through, overcoming a tough Italian side to reach the Women's Euro final once again. The champions are now just one step away from defending their crown.

PARET-PEINTRE WINS MONT VENTOUX

France's Valentin Paret-Peintre clinched a dramatic victory on the iconic Mont Ventoux during Stage 16 of the Tour de France, ending the host nation's long wait for a win this year. The 24-year-old Soudal Quick-Step rider powered past Ireland's Ben Healy and Colombia's Santiago Buitrago in the final moments of the grueling 171.5km stage through Provence. Meanwhile, battle for the yellow jersey intensified as Tadej Pogacar (UAE Emirates) successfully defended his lead against multiple attacks from Jonas Vingegaard (Visma-Lease a Bike). Vingegaard launched three fierce assaults on the climb, supported by teammates, but Pogacar responded to every move and used a strong uphill sprint to gain crucial seconds, finishing fifth on the stage. Paret-Peintre, with a timely assist from teammate Ilan van Wilder, surged ahead on the steep final ramp to take his biggest career win, adding to his maiden Giro stage victory last summer. Healy

finished second and climbed back into the top ten overall, while Buitrago claimed third place. The yellow jersey fight unfolded less than a minute behind the stage winner, with Pogacar extending his overall lead to 4 minutes 15 seconds over Vingegaard. Third place remains held by Lipowitz, who kept a solid grip on the white jersey competition. The stage featured intense tactical racing with a large breakaway, several team strategies, and a record-setting climb time on Mont Ventoux. Pogacar's team struggled to maintain the breakaway's advantage, but the Slovenian star's resilience and explosive finish kept him firmly in control. Looking ahead, Stage 17 offers sprinters a chance to shine on a less mountainous route from Bollene to Valence. With the final week underway, fatigue will play a major role as the Tour de France 2025 continues its thrilling battle for glory.

Historic Feat for Pant as India Post 264/4 on Day 1 vs England

On Day 1 of the fourth Test between India and England at Old Trafford in Manchester, Rishabh Pant etched his name in the history books before an unfortunate injury forced him to retire hurt. The dynamic left-hander became the first wicketkeeper-batter in the history of Test cricket to score over 1000 runs in a single away country. With this feat, Pant surpassed his own previous record of 879 runs in Australia, setting a new benchmark for wicketkeeper-batters in overseas conditions.

India, opting for a patient and traditional approach, reached 264 for four at stumps on Wednesday. The innings was marked by calculated shot selection and steady partnerships, reflecting a more measured brand of Test cricket. While Pant's innings was cut short due to injury, his contribution once again highlighted his value in India's middle order, especially in challenging conditions abroad.

Also making headlines was Sai Sud-



harsan, who capitalized on his opportunity in the playing XI by notching up

a well-made half-century on his comeback. His composed knock gave India much-needed solidity in the top order and ensured that the visitors maintained control through much of the day's play.

Pant's world record is particularly significant given the context of the match and the challenges of performing consistently in foreign conditions. Known for his aggressive batting and fearless approach, Pant has time and again shown the ability to take on the best attacks away from home. Despite his injury, his achievement on Day 1 added yet another milestone to his growing legacy in Test cricket.

As the match progresses, India will be hopeful that Pant's injury isn't serious and that he can return to continue contributing. Meanwhile, his world record remains a testament to his consistency and impact as a modern-day wicketkeeper-batter.



Vijay Antony's Badhrakali Locks Release Date

Asian Suresh & Rana Daggubati Join Telugu Release

Vijay Antony, known for picking bold and unconventional scripts, is all set to hit the screens with his landmark 25th film, Badhrakali. Following the unexpected success of Maargan, the actor-musician teams up with director Arun Prabhu for this intense political action thriller. The film is produced by Ramanjaneyulu Javva-jji under the Sarvanth Ram Creations banner, in association with Vijay Antony Film Corporation and Meera Vijay Antony.

The makers have officially confirmed that Badhrakali will be released in theatres on September 5th, 2025. The striking release poster features Vijay Antony in a fierce avatar—seated on the ground, gripping a pistol, his expression radiating rebellion.

The backdrop adds a mythical edge with a blood-red full moon and ancient temple structures silhouetted behind him. In a notable development, Rana Daggubati's Spirit Media has partnered with Asian Suresh Entertainment to distribute the film in Telugu-speaking regions. This collaboration hints at a strong regional push for Badhrakali, which aims to make an impact across South Indian markets. The ensemble cast includes veteran actor Vaagai Chandrasekar, along with Rini Bot,

Riya Jithu, and young talent Master Keshav. Music for the film is composed by Vijay Antony himself, staying true to his multi-talented reputation. Shelley Calist cranks the camera, promising a visually rich narrative to match the film's gritty tone. With a powerful premise, intriguing visuals, and a proven lead, Badhrakali looks poised to leave a mark. Fans of political thrillers and Vijay Antony's intense storytelling have every reason to look forward to this release.



Suriya's Karuppu Teaser Unleashed: A Mass Entertainer in the Making

Marking his birthday with a bang, Suriya has thrilled fans with the electrifying teaser of his upcoming film Karuppu. Following the impressive first-look poster released yesterday, the teaser dropped today as a special birthday treat, setting social media abuzz and raising expectations for the film.

The teaser opens on a vibrant note, showcasing a colorful village carnival steeped in tradition and energy. As drums beat and crowds cheer, a commanding voiceover invokes spiritual power and divine strength—instantly setting the tone for a larger-than-life narrative. Then comes the

moment fans were waiting for: Suriya enters the frame with a commanding presence, wielding a weapon, his look fierce and intense.

Throughout the teaser, Suriya appears in multiple avatars, each one crafted to resonate with his mass audience. His final appearance, dressed entirely in black with charismatic swagger, leaves a lasting impression and is sure to become a fan-favorite. Powerful dialogues, visually rich frames, and whistle-worthy action moments make it clear—Karuppu is designed for the big screen. Directed by RJ Balaji, Karuppu is being produced on a grand scale

by SR Prakash Babu and SR Prabu under Dream Warrior Pictures. The technical team adds immense value—GK Vishnu's cinematography brings a rich visual flair, while Sai Abhyankkar's pulsating background score elevates the teaser to a whole new level of intensity.

Trisha Krishnan stars opposite Suriya, adding further excitement to the film's stellar cast. With its compelling visuals, mass elements, and an iconic lead in top form, Karuppu promises a cinematic celebration. If the teaser is anything to go by, fans can gear up for a high-octane, emotionally charged spectacle.

Teja Sajja & Ritika Nayak Turn Up the Heat in Mirai's First Single Poster

Teja Sajja, riding high on the success of larger-than-life entertainers, is back with yet another ambitious project—Mirai. Directed by Karthik Ghattamaneni and backed by TG Vishwa Prasad and Krithi Prasad under the People Media Factory banner, the film has already caught the attention of fans across the country with its visually grand teaser.

Adding to the excitement, the makers have officially announced the launch of Mirai's musical journey. The first single, titled "Vibe Undi", will drop on July 26th, promising a vibrant and youthful tune to kickstart the film's audio promotions. Music for the film is composed by Gowra Hari, who previously delivered a memorable soundtrack for HanuMan.

The song's poster, released ahead of the single, has instantly grabbed eyeballs. Featuring Teja Sajja and Ritika Nayak in an intimate pose, the image radiates style, chemistry, and pure energy. Teja sports a suave look with a beard, stylish hair, and glasses, while his intense gaze locked on Ritika adds a dramatic edge. Ritika, leaning into the frame with equal intensity, complements the roman-

tic tension perfectly. The chemistry between the two leads suggests that "Vibe Undi" will be more than just a catchy track—it'll be a visual treat as well.

Mirai is shaping up to be a visual spectacle, and what's more, it will be released worldwide in both 2D and 3D formats on September 5th, 2025. With high production values, a star cast, and a promising soundtrack, the film is clearly aiming to be a mass entertainer with global appeal. All eyes are now on the first single to see just how strong the "vibe" really is.



Brad Pitt's F1 Races Past ₹100 Cr in India, Becomes Box Office Sensation

Hollywood's latest sports action drama F1 is creating waves at the Indian box office. Released globally on June 27, the high-octane Formula 1 racing film has taken audiences by storm and recently achieved a major milestone—crossing the ₹100 crore mark in India.

Headlined by Brad Pitt, the film features a powerhouse ensemble including Damon Idris, Kerry Condon, Javier Bardem, Tobias Menzies, Sarah Niles, Kim Bodnia, and Samson Kayo in key roles. With its adrenaline-charged racing sequences and emotionally gripping narrative, F1 has struck a chord with Indian audiences far beyond expectations.

What's adding to the buzz is the film's endorsement by some of Indian cinema's biggest names. Top directors like SS Rajamouli and Prashanth Neel, along with super-



stars Prabhas and Vijay Deverakonda, have publicly praised the film after

watching it, further fueling interest among Indian moviegoers.

Until now, The Lion King was among the very few Hollywood films to breach the ₹100 crore mark in India. Now, F1 joins that elite club, proving that international content with universal appeal and strong storytelling can break cultural boundaries and perform on par with local blockbusters.

The combination of Hollywood star power, thrilling race sequences, and sleek direction has made F1 a must-watch across metro cities and smaller towns alike. As it continues its theatrical run, the film is showing no signs of slowing down—on track to becoming one of the most successful Hollywood imports in Indian cinema history. Whether you're a racing enthusiast or just a fan of powerful sports dramas, F1 is racing full throttle at a theatre near you.

Rajinikanth's 'Powerhouse' Song From Coolie Ignites the Charts

Superstar Rajinikanth is back to set the screens on fire with the third single from his much-anticipated film Coolie. Titled "Power House", the song was officially unveiled at a grand launch event in Hyderabad and has already taken the internet by storm.

Composed and sung by Anirudh Ravichander, along with rapper Arivu, the track delivers high-energy beats infused with intense rap elements, giving fans a full-on mass experience. The powerful lyrical video, packed with vibrant visuals and dynamic animations, has become an instant chartbuster, racking up millions of views on YouTube within just a few



hours of release.

"Power House" follows the previously released singles "Chikitu" and "Monika", both of which have received widespread appreciation for their catchy tunes and stylish presentation. With each track, Coolie is building serious hype, especially

among younger audiences and long-time Rajini fans. Directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, Coolie is shaping up to be a star-studded action drama. Apart from Rajinikanth in the lead, the film boasts an impressive ensemble cast including Nagarjuna, Upendra, Sath-

araj, Shruti Haasan, and Aamir Khan in pivotal roles. Adding more glamour to the film, Pooja Hegde is said to feature in a special item number.

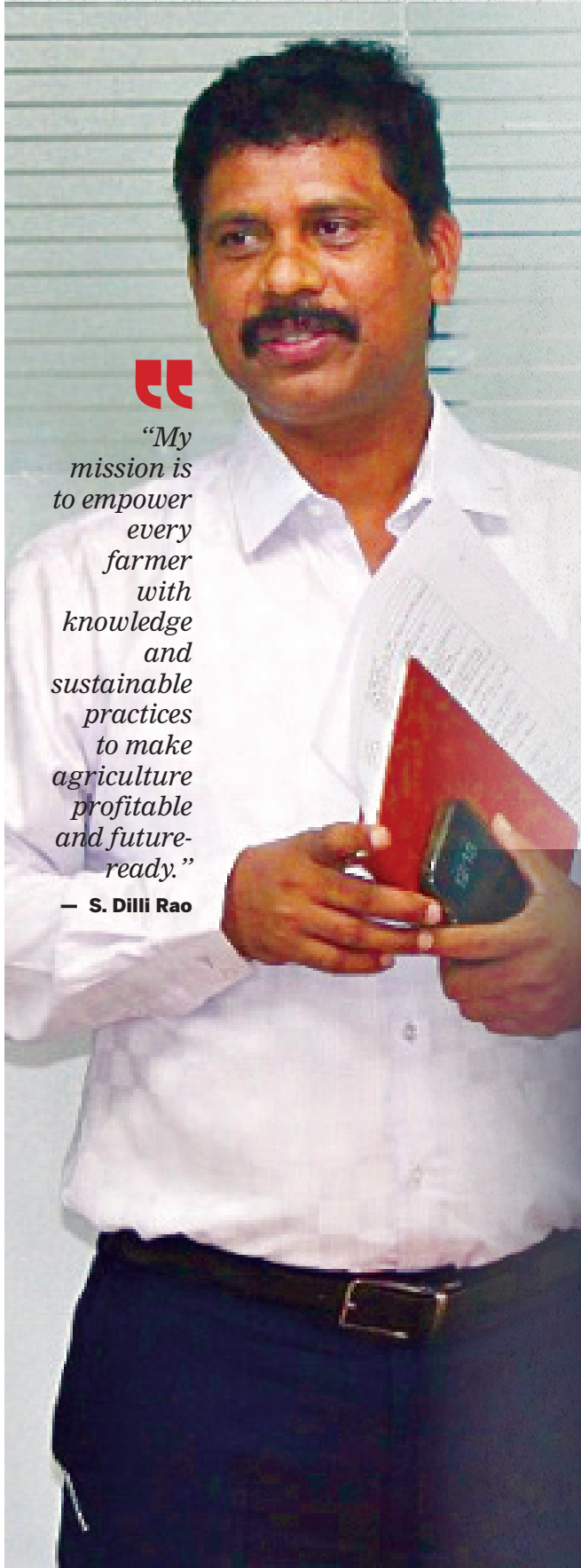
Produced by Kalanidhi Maran under the prestigious Sun Pictures banner, Coolie is one of the most awaited films of the year. With the music album already creating waves and the buzz around the film growing with each update, expectations are sky-high. As "Power House" dominates playlists and trends across platforms, fans are eagerly waiting to witness Rajinikanth's electrifying presence on the big screen once again.



In a world where civil servants are often spotlighted more for their public persona than their purpose, **S DILLI RAO, IAS** (2007 batch), stands out for his rootedness, humility, and resolve to bring lasting change to farming communities. Hailing from a small farming family in Andhra Pradesh, Dilli Rao grew up watching his father till the land, dreaming of a better life for his son, one of dignity, service, and respect. That dream took root in Dilli Rao's heart early on

inner view

WHEN YOUR FATHER'S DREAM BECOMES YOUR LIFE'S CALLING



“My mission is to empower every farmer with knowledge and sustainable practices to make agriculture profitable and future-ready.”
— S. Dilli Rao

Navigating Silent Hierarchies

“In the services, officers are broadly categorised... and these distinctions sometimes create divisions,” he notes. Yet, he chose to rise above internal rifts, staying focused on his duties and letting professionalism be his anchor.

The Battle Against Ganja

Among the most intense moments of his career was the task of eliminating ganja cultivation and trade in his district. “It was immensely stressful,” he says. But the satisfaction was equally intense. “I executed the task effectively and felt deeply satisfied... knowing it made a difference.”

Natural Farming: Not Just a Trend

“Natural farming is gradually gaining traction,” he observes. Through seminars and awareness programs, he’s helping farmers move away from chemical-heavy methods and embrace sustainability.

Tailoring Israeli Tech to Telugu Terrain

While inspired by Israel’s cutting-edge farming methods, he believes adaptation, not adoption, is key. “Some areas depend on rainfall, others face floods... We are working to facilitate knowledge transfer tailored to local conditions.”

Paddy Woes and Practical Solutions

Paddy farmers often suffer due to moisture-related rejections, poor storage, and pricing inconsistencies. “As someone with an agricultural background, I understand these complexities,” he says. He’s working to ensure stable pricing and improved infrastructure.

Being the only educated member of his family, he saw his brother and sister sacrifice their education so that he could chase his. From poring over success stories in magazines to being inspired by IAS officers visiting his school, every step in his journey was paved with quiet determination. After facing an initial setback in the UPSC exam, he went on to work as a scientist in Meghalaya and Nagaland, yet the fire for public service never died. “Why not try again?” he asked himself. That second chance brought him into the IAS.

His first posting as a Village Revenue Officer during probation taught him that no job is too small for public service. From dismantling a drug network in his district to advocating for natural farming across Andhra Pradesh as Director of Agriculture, Dilli Rao has never forgotten where he came from. He knows the pulse of the paddy farmer because he lived it.

A committed reformer, he brings both scientific acumen and grassroots empathy to the table. His mission is simple: make agriculture sustainable, fair, and forward-looking. As he told The True Point’s Correspondent **Sumanth Jangam**, “With patience and persistence, Andhra’s farmers can rise. My job is to walk with them.”



ROOTED IN PURPOSE, DRIVEN BY PASSION
“Agriculture gave me life. Now I want to give back.”

A Dream Sown in His Father’s Heart

For Dilli Rao, becoming an IAS officer wasn’t just a personal ambition; it was his father’s vision. “Becoming an IAS officer was my father’s dream for me,” he says, his voice filled with quiet pride. That seed of expectation sprouted in school, where reading success stories and watching IAS officers up close became his compass.

A Childhood Nurtured by Soil and Sacrifice

Raised in a humble farming family, his world revolved around a small patch of land. His father toiled on it, and the entire family survived from its yield. “My brother and sister had to discontinue their schooling,” he recalls. “But my family always believed in me.”

From Research Labs to Rural Roads

After completing his MSc in Agriculture, Dilli Rao attempted UPSC, but missed clearing the mains. He then joined IARI in Delhi as a Senior Research Fellow and later worked as a scientist in Meghalaya and Nagaland. Yet, the dream never faded. “I decided to give the UPSC exam another try, thinking, ‘Why not?’” he shares.

Learning Begins at the Grassroots

His first posting as a Probationary Deputy Collector in Vizianagaram taught him humility. “I underwent training as a Village Revenue Officer and Mandal Revenue Officer. I embraced the simplicity of the VRO role in training,” he remembers fondly. He approached every assignment with seriousness and respect.

The Only Educated One at Home

Being the sole educated person in his family came with both responsibility and pressure. “Despite our financial constraints, my family supported my education,” he says. That belief became the backbone of his journey.



OFF DUTY DIARIES

Who’s your biggest cheerleader at home, mom, dad, sibling, or spouse?
Spouse Prasanthi
What’s the funniest or most awkward moment during your training days?
Confrontation with one Constable
Do you have any secret talents, like singing, sketching, or mimicry?
Unfortunately No such
What’s the one dish you can cook well (or fail at)?
Andhra Chicken Curry
What’s one thing your colleagues would be surprised to learn about you?
Now a teetotaller, not like so during my college days

What’s one childhood memory that still makes you smile?
The head was stuck up in big firewood logs in the backyard
Which movie or song always lifts your mood, no matter what?
No comments
If not IAS, what would you have become: Chef, Cricketer, Stand-up comic?
Chef. By the way, I am good at cooking too.



RAPID-FIRE

Tea or Coffee to start your day?
No tea and coffee... hot water
One subject you dreaded during your UPSC prep?
Arithmetic & mental ability
What’s your stress-buster after a long day at work?
Motivational videos on YouTube
One funny or unexpected situation you’ve faced as an IAS officer?
During the induction training programme, in LBSNAA treated us, school children

Who was stricter growing up, your parents or your teachers?
Study hours after dinner on school days
What’s your favourite spot in your district/state that you’d recommend to everyone?
Vizag beach
How many hours of sleep do you get?
Less than 5 hours
If not an IAS officer, what would you have become?
Scientist
Your go-to comfort food after a long review meeting?
Samosa