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Congress Holds Key Meeting On BC Reservations

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
AICC President Mallikarjuna Kharge and senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi convened a crucial meeting with Telangana Congress leaders in Delhi to discuss the next steps regarding the implementation of 42 percent reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) in local body elections, education, and employment. This meeting follows the Telangana Legislative Assembly's approval of the reservation bill based on the caste census conducted by the state government. The bill, already forwarded by the Governor to the President, was followed by a Cabinet resolution advocating 42 percent reservation for BCs. With this backdrop, Congress leadership deliberated on how to proceed further using the ordinance route to implement the reservations effectively. The meeting was attended by Telan-

gana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy CM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud, AICC in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan, Ministers Ponnamp Prabhakar, Konda Surekha, Vakiti Srihari, expert committee member Prof. Kancha Ilaiah, and several senior party leaders.

Revanth Meets Priyanka Gandhi...

As part of his two-day visit to Delhi, Telangana CM Revanth Reddy met Wayanad MP Priyanka Gandhi. During the meeting, he presented detailed insights into the caste census survey conducted in Telangana and briefed her on the 42 percent reservation initiative. Priyanka Gandhi praised the Telangana government's progressive decision and assured her complete support for legalizing the reservation. Revanth also shared a photograph of the meet-

ing with Priyanka Gandhi on his official 'X' account.

“Modi Is Not A BC By Birth” – Revanth Reddy

Addressing Congress MPs in Delhi, Revanth Reddy strongly criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi, claiming, “Modi is not a BC by birth.” He presented details about the comprehensive social, economic, and political survey done in Telangana and emphasized the importance of caste census as a guiding framework for the entire country. He noted that while some groups initially objected to the survey, they were later convinced to support it. Revanth said, “Only the Congress party is making sacrifices for the upliftment of BCs,” and accused Modi of failing to take any meaningful steps to support BC communities.

Sridhar Babu Invites UAE Firms to Invest in Telangana

Towards a \$3 Trillion Economy...

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Telangana Industries and IT Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu has invited UAE-based industrialists to play a key role in Telangana's ambitious journey towards becoming a \$3 trillion economy by 2047. Speaking at the international investment summit “Investopia Global” held at HICC on Thursday, jointly hosted by the Governments of UAE and Telangana, the Minister laid out the state's development vision and highlighted the enormous investment potential. Sridhar Babu underlined Telangana's rapid economic progress despite its small geographical size, stating, “Telangana has emerged as a development and welfare model for other states. Our GSDP grew by 8.2% in 2024–25, outpacing the national average of 7.6%.” The state now contributes over 5% to the national GDP. The Minister shared that Telangana attracted ₹3.2 lakh crore in fresh investments over the past 18 months alone. In the same period, exports to the UAE surged 2.5 times, driven by strong performances in pharma, aerospace, food processing, and digital services. Global players like Lulu Group, DP World, and NAFFCO have already invested in the state. Sridhar Babu highlighted infrastructure initiatives like net-zero industrial parks, green logistics hubs, dry ports, multimodal corridors, EV zones, and the upcoming Future City — which will serve as a global hub



for FinTech, Climate Tech, and Smart Mobility. He said, “This summit is more than just about investments. It's a platform for long-term partnerships built on time, trust, and transformation.” He also invited UAE firms to explore opportunities in emerging sectors such as AI, life sciences, renewable energy, green hydrogen, trade infrastructure, smart mobility, tourism, wellness, and defence manufacturing. Distinguished participants at the summit included UAE Minister of Economy and Tourism Abdullah Bin Touq Al Marri, Telangana IT and Industries Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, TSIC MD K. Shankar, UAE Ministry of Investment Under Secretary Mohammed Al Wahabi, UAE International Investors Council Secretary General Walid Hareb Al Falahi, and Investopia CEO Dr. Jean Fares. The Minister concluded by reaffirming Telangana's readiness to partner with UAE industrialists to build a progressive, sustainable, and trillion-dollar future.

Warangal police at Mallareddy's son's house...

TPN | V. Krishna Kumar
Hyderabad: Fresh tension erupted at the residence of Bhadra Reddy, son of BRS leader and former minister Mallareddy, following an early morning visit by the Warangal police. The sudden arrival of officials sparked local confusion, with initial speculation suggesting that Income Tax (IT) or Enforcement Directorate (ED) teams had launched another round of raids. However, it was later clarified that the visitors were Warangal police officers investigating an older case involving the alleged sale of convener quota seats. Sources confirm that the Warangal police, who had previously registered a case based on complaints regarding irregularities in seat allotments at Mallareddy Medical



College, have intensified their investigation. As part of this process, they visited Bhadra Reddy's house around 6 a.m. and served notices connected to the case. This isn't the first time the Mal-

lareddy family has come under scrutiny. In November 2022, the IT department had conducted extensive searches on the properties of

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ED Notice to Vijay Deverakonda in Betting App Case

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has intensified its probe into the high-profile betting app case, now involving several film industry celebrities. In the latest development, popular actor Vijay Deverakonda has been served fresh notices to appear for questioning. While he was previously directed to appear on August 6, the ED has now rescheduled his appearance to August 11, reportedly based on a request from the actor himself. The betting app scam has drawn widespread attention, and the ED has already

questioned multiple celebrities linked to the alleged money laundering network.

Actor Prakash Raj was served notices on July 30, while actress Manchu Lakshmi is expected to appear on August 13.

The involvement of well-known figures has added a sensational twist to the investigation, which is focused on the financial transactions and promotional links connected to illegal betting platforms. With Vijay Deverakonda now officially summoned again, all eyes are on how the actor will respond during the inquiry.



Big Relief for Contract Panchayati Raj Staff

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

In a major relief to thousands of contract and outsourced employees working in the Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Department, the state government has officially extended their services for another year. The move comes as a much-needed decision amid rising concerns over job security and salary delays. A Joint Verification Order (JVO) was issued, formally extending the tenure of 12,055 employees working under fixed tenure, contract, and outsourced arrangements. Their services will now continue until March 31, 2026. Due to the lack of formal extension over the past three months, salaries for many of these employees were withheld on technical

grounds. However, with the new JVO in place, the process of clearing pending salaries has been completed. Officials confirmed that funds have been sanctioned by the Finance Department and transferred to the Panchayati Raj Department. The delayed salaries for the last three months are expected to be deposited into the accounts of the respective employees today and tomorrow. This decision has brought significant relief to thousands of families who had been facing financial difficulties due to the salary freeze. Employees and unions have expressed gratitude to the government for taking swift action and ensuring continuity of service.



Trump Warns Tech Giants Against Hiring in India, China



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Former US President Donald Trump has issued a sharp warning to American tech giants, urging them to stop hiring in countries like India and China and instead focus on creating jobs at home. Speaking at a high-profile Artificial Intelligence (AI) Summit in Washington, Trump criticized companies such as Google

and Microsoft for outsourcing jobs and investing overseas. “Many of our largest tech companies have reaped the blessings of American freedom while building their factories in China, hiring workers in India, and stashing profits in Ireland,” Trump said. “Under President Trump, those days are over.”

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Warangal police at Mallareddy's son's house...

Mallareddy and his family for several consecutive days. During that time, Mallareddy dismissed the raids, asserting that he had nothing to hide, and received public support from BRS chief KCR, who praised his resilience and even presented him with a symbolic book titled “Not a Mamulodu”. Amid the fresh commotion, Mallareddy's daughter-in-law and Vice Chairman of Vishwa Vidya Peeth, Preethi Reddy, clarified the situation. She stated that the police visit was part of the ongoing investigation by Warangal police into the 2022 case related

to PG medical admissions under Kaloji Narayana Rao University. Preethi Reddy emphasized that all admissions were conducted transparently and according to regulations. She also reiterated that Mallareddy University takes strict precautions to avoid any irregularities, especially in student-related matters. While the police investigation continues, the incident has once again thrust the Mallareddy family into the spotlight, reigniting debates over past financial scrutiny and ongoing allegations regarding educational seat allocations.

Trump Warns Tech Giants Against Hiring in India, China

Calling for a renewed focus on “patriotism and national loyalty,” he pressed Silicon Valley to “put America first” and prioritize domestic innovation in the AI sector. He urged US technology firms to be fully committed to American interests in the global AI race. During the summit, Trump unveiled three major executive orders aimed at reshaping the country's AI landscape. The central initiative, titled Winning the Race, is designed to fast-track AI infrastructure development, including the expansion of data centers and the removal of regulatory hurdles to promote growth within the US.

Another directive focuses on eliminating ideological bias from AI systems built with federal funding. Trump emphasized that accuracy must come before diversity agendas, declaring, “We are getting rid of woke.” He also questioned the term “artificial intelligence,” stating, “It's not artificial, it's genius,” and hinted at rebranding efforts to reflect AI's real impact. The third executive order encourages full-spectrum development of AI products within the US and promotes their export to reduce dependency on foreign supply chains, aiming to make American-made AI globally competitive.

Heavy Rains in Telangana

CM Revanth Reddy puts district Collectors on high alert

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed district collectors and officials across Telangana to remain vigilant and take immediate precautionary measures in the wake of heavy rains lashing several parts of the state. The Chief Minister, currently in Delhi, held a telephonic review with CMO officials on the rainfall situation. He instructed that all departments should work in close coordination to avoid inconvenience to the public and ensure timely relief in affected areas, especially low-lying regions prone to waterlogging. Revanth Reddy stressed the need to alert people in areas where ponds, lakes, and tanks are overflowing due to incessant



rains, including regions within the GHMC limits. He specifically asked officials to stay prepared in districts where heavy rainfall has been forecasted and to constantly assess the ground situation through departmental reviews. “Collectors should continuously monitor the situation and take every possible precaution to prevent loss of life or property,” the CM said. He emphasized the importance of being present at the district level to respond quickly to emergencies and extend necessary support. The Chief Minister also instructed higher officials and collectors to remain in constant contact and review the developments from time to time to ensure swift action wherever needed.

Madhavilatha Confronts Police Over Temple Demolition

TPN | V. Krishna Kumar

Hyderabad: Tension gripped Banjara Hills on Thursday as officials attempted to demolish an ancient temple of the Goddess, sparking outrage among devotees and political leaders. The incident unfolded amid heavy rain, as scores of devotees stood in protest to protect the temple from demolition. BJP Mahila Morcha leader Madhavilatha reached the site and joined the protesters, fiercely confronting officials. As she tried to enter the temple premises, police personnel stopped her, leading to a heated argument. Speaking emotionally at the scene, Madhavilatha said, “We are not able to save our mother,” in a sharp rebuke to the authorities. Police later alleged that Madhavilatha's personal gunman



misbehaved with a female officer during the altercation. The exact nature of the misbehaviour was not immediately disclosed, but the incident added further controversy to the already charged atmosphere. The demolition drive, which authorities claimed was part of an encroachment clearance operation, has drawn sharp criticism from local residents and devotees, who accuse the officials of targeting religious structures without proper notice or public consultation. The BJP leader demanded an immediate halt to the demolition and called for the protection of temples with historical and cultural significance. She warned that attempts to destroy sacred places would be met with resistance from devotees and the party.

Jaipur officials laud GHMC's TDR and Build Now policies

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) received praise from a delegation of senior officials from the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) for its innovative policies like the Transferable Development Rights (TDR) and the ‘Build Now’ unified permission platform. The visiting officials expressed appreciation for the way these systems are streamlining urban development and governance in Hyderabad. On Thursday, a JDA team led by Commissioner Anandi, Planning Director Preeti Gupta, IT Advisor R.K. Sharma, Assistant Town Planner Rushikesh Kolte, and IT Deputy Director Pankaj Sharma met GHMC officials at their head office in Hyderabad. They were given an in-depth presentation on the functioning and impact of the TDR and Build Now policies.



GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan explained how the TDR policy, first introduced in 2017 and later strengthened, has helped in acquiring land for public infrastructure projects without litigation or delays. He elaborated on how the ‘Build Now’ platform offers a single-window system for building and

layout permissions, enhancing transparency, efficiency, and public trust. Karnan noted that the adoption of these policies has significantly reduced the time taken for permission processes and streamlined the implementation of municipal regulations. The presentation included key highlights and real-time performance indicators of both policies. Impressed with the systems in place, the JDA officials said they were keen to replicate similar models in Jaipur to modernize their own urban development and approval mechanisms. They acknowledged GHMC's efforts in adopting technology to ease the burden on citizens and ensure faster service delivery. The session also saw the participation of GHMC Chief City Planner Srinivas Rao, Additional CCPs Gangadhar and Pradeep Kumar, Study Tour Coordinators Raj Kumar and Wilson, as well as Town Planning Officers.

DGP congratulated winners of World Police & fire games

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Telangana Police sports personnel delivered an impressive performance at the World Police & Fire Games 2025 held in Birmingham, Alabama, USA, from June 27 to July 6. The team brought home a total of 10 medals—3 Gold, 1 Silver, and 6 Bronze. Water Sports Coach P. Krishna Rao (HC 2077, DAR Wanaparthy) clinched two Gold medals in the 50+ age category indoor rowing (2000m and 500m). Athletics Coach Md. Baba (PC 708, PS Peddakodapgal, Kamareddy) won two Bronze medals in Shotput and 110m Hurdles (35+ category). Taekwondo player D. Gopala Krishnaiah (HC

3144, PS Rajendranagar, Cyberabad) earned one Silver in Under 80 Kg Kyorugi (40+ category) and two Bronze medals in Recognized and Freestyle Poomsae events. D. Sanjeev Kumar (ARPC 9025, CAR HQ, Amberpet, Rachakonda) bagged a Gold in Kyorugi (30+ category) and two Bronze in Poomsae categories. DGP Dr. Jitender IPS extended his congratulations to the medal winners. IGP Sports Sri M. Ramesh and Sports Officer DSP Dr. R.V. Rama Rao also took part in the felicitation event. Medal Tally: Gold – 3 | Silver – 1 | Bronze – 6 | Total – 10

We Only Fought for the Poor, Now We're Dragged to Court

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Minister Seethakka strongly condemned the previous BRS government for foisting false cases on those who raised their voice during the peak of the COVID-19 crisis. Speaking to the media in front of the Manoranjan Complex in Hyderabad, she recalled the protest held at Indira Park in April 2021 demanding that COVID-19 treatment be included under the Arogyasri health scheme. Seethakka said, “The poor were forced to sell their properties and spend lakhs in private hospitals to get treated for COVID-19. Unable to watch their suffering, we launched a protest with a genuine concern to bring COVID treatment under Arogyasri. But instead of responding to our appeal, the then KCR-led government registered false cases against us, alleging we were spreading COVID.” She revealed that the cases were not only filed against her but also against Balmur Venkat, then NSUI state president, Abhijit, Hyderabad Industry president, and other NSUI activists. Seethakka stated that the previous government acted vindictively by pushing protestors into legal battles even during a humanitarian crisis.



“The court has now adjourned the case to August 13 after hearing arguments from our lawyers—Krishna Kumar Goud, SS Rao, and Narender. We have full faith in the judiciary. We did nothing wrong. Our only intention was to stand by the poor, going door-to-door to give them courage during their darkest times,” Seethakka added. She reiterated that history would remember their efforts to fight for the helpless during the pandemic, and expressed hope that justice would prevail in court.

Avoid Handshakes, Drink Boiled Water...

TPN | V. Krishna Kumar

Special Desk: With Telangana expected to witness heavy rainfall over the next five days, the Medical and Health Department has issued a set of precautionary guidelines to the public. Among the most prominent is the advisory to avoid shaking hands with outsiders and instead greet with a simple ‘Namaskar’. Officials explained that rain-related viruses, though invisible, can easily spread through handshakes and physical contact. People have been urged to use hand sanitizers regularly, especially after touching public surfaces. The department has assured that all local hospitals are well-stocked with necessary



medicines to handle seasonal ailments. Another key focus is on mosquito control. Authorities advised the public to prevent water from stagnating around homes and install mesh screens on doors and windows. Since mosquitoes often breed in septic tanks and uncovered water storage units, the use of protective nets and

maintaining cleanliness have been strongly recommended. The department also stressed the importance of safe drinking water, urging citizens to consume only boiled or filtered water. People are advised to wash hands thoroughly before and after meals and to avoid eating outside food, particularly from roadside vendors or fast food joints. “During the rainy season, it's better to stay away from fridge-stored foods, hotel water, and fast foods. Fresh home-cooked meals are the safest bet,” the advisory concluded, emphasizing that prevention is the key to staying healthy in the monsoon season.

TS Delegation Briefs Congress High Command on Caste Survey

TPN Correspondent |
New Delhi

Telangana PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud said a key meeting was held at the residence of Congress National President Mallikarjuna Kharge in Delhi, where the state's caste census and pending bills were discussed in detail. He said the Telangana delegation explained the scientific and transparent manner in which

the caste survey was conducted under the state government. "The caste survey was conducted in Telangana in a purely scientific manner. We explained all the procedures to senior party leaders Kharge and Rahul Gandhi. The meeting lasted for over two hours," said Mahesh Kumar Goud. He added that they also briefed the top leadership about the

promises made during the elections and the status of important bills passed by the Telangana Assembly but still pending with the Centre. He criticised the BJP, stating that while the party supported BC reservations in the Telangana Legislative Assembly, it took a U-turn at the Centre. "We requested the national leadership to press for inclusion of the Telangana Reser-

vation Bill in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution and to remove the cap imposed by the Supreme Court on reservations," he said. Mahesh Kumar Goud stressed that the Telangana government had fulfilled its responsibility, and now it is the Centre that is holding up progress. "BJP is clearly against BC reservations. We will put pressure in Parliament and launch a



wider campaign if the Centre doesn't act," he added. He further informed that a PowerPoint presentation on Telangana's caste census will be presented to Congress MPs at Indira Bhavan at 5 PM by the Chief Minister and Depu-

ty Chief Ministers. "Telangana has now become a role model for the country in conducting a caste census," he said. "If the Centre refuses to act, we are ready to launch a movement under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi."

Caste Survey Legally Sound : Uttam

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Capt N Uttam Kumar Reddy asserted that the state's caste-based socio-economic survey, completed earlier this year, is constitutionally and legally robust enough to justify raising reservations for backward communities beyond the Supreme Court-mandated 50% cap. Speaking at Indira Bhawan in New Delhi on Wednesday ahead of the formal presentation of the "Telangana Socio-Economic Survey - Model and Methodology" by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Uttam said the Congress government had implemented the long-pending caste census within three months of coming to power in December 2023. "This exercise is not limited to OBCs alone. It includes all castes and sub-castes with detailed data on economic, educational and political status. It is built



on scientific methodology, with the involvement of nearly one lakh government staff, and is prepared to face any legal challenge," he stated in the presence of Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud and other senior leaders. Uttam highlighted that 94,000 government officials—including

teachers, Anganwadi workers, and agriculture officers—served as enumerators, collecting data over 50 days under a structured, supervised model. "Every enumerator covered 10 households, and their work was monitored by higher-level supervisors," he added. He emphasized that the current 50% cap, based on the 1992 Indira Sawhney judgment, was due to the absence of empirical OBC data at the time.

"Now that Telangana has scientific and thorough data, the ceiling can be challenged with evidence," Uttam said. The survey's findings were reviewed by a state-level expert committee chaired by former Supreme Court judge Justice Sudarshan Reddy. The cabinet accepted the panel's recommendations, and two reservation-related bills—one for political representation and another for education and employment—were passed by the Assembly and cleared by the Governor, but have been awaiting Presidential assent for over four months. Citing local body elections as an example, Uttam said while SC/ST reservations reflected population proportions, OBC reservations were limited to 27%. "We've now proposed raising OBC reservations to 42%, supported by real data. Courts should now allow this," he said.

I Won't Forget Journalists Even for a Minute : Ponguleti

TPN Correspondent |
Khammam

Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy reaffirmed his commitment to addressing the concerns of journalists, stating, "I will not forget journalists even for a minute... I will not ignore them." Speaking at the TUWJ (IJU) 4th District Conference held at Sabari Gardens in Vyara, the minister acknowledged the critical role journalists played in the formation of the Indiramma government and in upholding public accountability over the past 18 months. Ponguleti expressed that although he had held power for a decade, he had been unable to act effectively in the past on journalists' issues and acknowl-

edged the suffering endured by many in the profession. "There are many journalists across the state who faced immense hardships while exposing injustices and irregularities," he said. Regarding the long-standing demand for house plots, the minister clarified that the matter currently lies within the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. "We are consulting legal experts on how to resolve this issue in a way that benefits journalists while complying with the law," he said. He announced that discussions on the new accreditation policy would be held on Monday or Tuesday, adding, "Once there is clarity on this, issuing health cards for journalists will not be a problem." Ponguleti assured that neither he nor Chief Min-



ister Revanth Reddy would shy away from addressing the legitimate concerns of media personnel. "This government may not make hasty guarantees, but we

are committed to implementing what is feasible. We want to ensure that no decision is taken that later invites criticism or complications," he said.

Congress Fearing Defeat in Local Polls: BJP

TPN Correspondent |
Rangareddy

The BJP has intensified its attack on the ruling Congress government, accusing it of deliberately delaying local body elections due to fear of electoral defeat. Speaking at a meeting held in Maheshwaram, Rangareddy district BJP president Patangi Raj Bhupal Goud stated that the party will fight the local elections with full strength, without depending on any alliance. Raj Bhupal Goud said the BJP cadre is strong in Maheshwaram and Kandukuru mandals and the party is fully prepared to contest the elections whenever they are announced. He claimed that the people of Rangareddy are turning away



from BRS and Congress, and now looking toward BJP as the only alternative. Highlighting BJP's prospects, he expressed confidence in securing 15 ZPTC seats, 10 MPPs, and 15 Vice MPP positions in Rangareddy district. He asserted that the saffron party

will intensify its outreach, fight on people's issues, and hoist the BJP flag across the district. Maheshwaram BJP in-charge Andela Sriramulu Yadav criticized the Congress for not conducting elections even after one year of the Sarpanch, MPTC, and

ZPTC terms ending. He alleged that the Congress is afraid of facing the people due to its failure in fulfilling promises. He also questioned the Congress party's allocation of 10 percent reservation to minorities within the 42 percent BC quota, calling it a move aimed at maligning BJP. He said this act is like "throwing mud" on the party and its stance. BJP spokesperson Katta Sudhakar added that the BJP has never been against BCs, highlighting that the party has elevated BC leaders to top posts, including the Prime Minister. In contrast, he pointed out that the Congress has never made a BC the Chief Minister in Telangana during its 11-year rule.

BRS Hiding Phone Tapping Sins with Lies: Cong Whip

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Congress Party Whip Aadi Srinivas launched a sharp attack on the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), accusing them of indulging in a smear campaign against the Congress government despite their own criminal record in the phone tapping scandal. Speaking at a press conference held at Gandhi Bhavan, Aadi Srinivas stated that the same leaders who tapped phones for ten years are now publishing false narratives in their own newspapers, trying to manipulate public opinion. He said, "The approach of BRS is like a thief calling another a thief. They are playing dirty politics after being caught red-handed." He reminded that it was public awareness of their misdeeds that led to their humiliating zero-seat result in the recent Lok Sabha elections. Aadi Srinivas warned that the real masterminds behind the illegal phone tapping racket are yet to be fully exposed. "The law is doing its duty. No matter where they hide, even in Kalgu, the accused will not be spared," he asserted. He also slammed BRS leader K. Kavitha, saying, "Kavitha herself openly admitted that she heard conversations of film stars, judges, and even husbands through phone tapping." He accused the BRS of trying to stain the Congress image by pinning the blame on it, but affirmed that the Congress had no role in such illegal activities. Commenting on Revanth Reddy's recent statement regarding meeting KTR and Lokesh, he said, "What's wrong with Revanth's comment? It has no connection to the phone tapping issue." Highlighting Congress government's pro-poor policies, he cited schemes like the Mahalakshmi free travel scheme, which has already benefited women by ₹200 crore. He contrasted this with the BRS's failures, stating, "They didn't give ten ration cards in ten years or even one double-bedroom house in any constituency." Aadi Srinivas pointed out that Telangana has fallen into debt of ₹7 lakh crore under BRS, despite being a rich state. He reaffirmed the Congress commitment to accountability by citing the SC classification and BC caste census already undertaken by the current government.

Minister Rajanarsimha Inspects Development Works in Andol

TPN Correspondent | Sangareddy

Telangana Medical and Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha conducted a development review tour across Chautakur and Jogipet mandals of the Andol constituency on Thursday. During the visit, the minister interacted with local leaders at a private hotel in Chautakur mandal center. As part of the tour, a surprise inspection was conducted at the hotel. The Minister examined the hygiene and quality of dishes being prepared and instructed the management to strictly adhere to food safety norms. Minister Rajanarsimha also inspected the construction sites of the newly sanctioned Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV), a Primary Health Centre (PHC), and a new police station in the region. Additionally, he reviewed the progress of the perimeter wall construction at JNTU Sultanpur. In a unique moment during the visit, the Minister personally rode one of the 100 bicycles provided to JNTU students through his initiative, expressing joy and encouraging youth mobility. Speaking on the occasion, he said, "We are ensuring world-class infrastructure for our students. A modern auditorium, a 200-feet tower, and advanced science laboratories are being developed at Sultanpur JNTU College." Later in the day, the Minister visited Jogipet and reviewed the construction progress of the new nursing college. He instructed officials to expedite the project and ensure quality standards are maintained. The Minister was accompanied by RDO Pandu, Mandal Revenue Officers, and engineering officials throughout the tour.





Hydra-GHMC team up to tackle rain woes

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a significant move to address monsoon-related issues, Hydra Commissioner AV Ranganath and GHMC Commissioner Karnan jointly chaired a coordination meeting on Thursday, emphasizing mutual cooperation between the two departments to prevent urban flooding and traffic disruptions during rains.

The commissioners discussed a wide range of issues faced at the field level, particularly during the rainy season, and stressed the need for seamless coordination among officials. They directed field-level officers, including GHMC Assistant Engineers (AEs) and Deputy Engineers (DEs), to work closely with Hydra’s Monsoon Emergency Teams (METs) and Disaster Response Force (DRF) teams.

“Hydra and GHMC are not separate entities. Our goal is to ensure a safe and hassle-free life for Hyderabad citizens,” the commissioners stated, urging constant vigilance at all 141 identified waterlogging points across the city. They instructed immediate attention to road underbridges and underpasses to prevent water stagnation.

Key issues discussed included maintenance of dewatering pumps at RUBs, desilting of drains, cleaning of catchpits, and proper disposal of silt. They also discussed arrangements to station MET teams at ward-level offices and ensure availability of manpower and equipment.

Commissioner Ranganath highlighted that Hyderabad’s reputation as a growing IT hub could be hampered if rain-related issues like traffic disruption persist. “Recent water stagnation on the Kothapet flyover and underpass is a reminder. We must ensure this doesn’t repeat,” he said, adding that regular meetings like this will improve coordination and enhance the city’s living standards.

Both departments pledged full support—from GHMC JCs and DCs to DEs and AEs—to tackle monsoon challenges jointly.

Bicycles Gifted to Students on KTR’s Birthday



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

As part of Minister K.T. Rama Rao’s birthday celebrations, former Food Corporation Chairman Rajiv Sagar organized a special program under the Green India Challenge and “Gift a Smile” initiative. The event was held at St. Philomena’s High School in Boiguda on Wednesday at 10:00 AM.

Former Rajya Sabha MP Joginipally Santosh Kumar and former Minister, Sanathnagar MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav participated in the program and handed over 100 benches to students. Additionally, 20 bicycles were presented to students who secured first and second ranks in classes 6 to 10.

Speaking at the event, Talasani Srinivas Yadav said it was a joy to celebrate KTR’s birthday with schoolchildren and lauded KTR for always supporting the underprivileged. Joginipally Santosh Kumar stated that the distribution of benches and bicycles under the “Gift a Smile” initiative was a meaningful tribute to KTR’s public service.

The event also featured special prayers led by Christian pastors, followed by a cake-cutting ceremony. Former chairmen, BC Commission members, Christian community elders, school staff, and local leaders participated in the celebrations.

KTR Seeks Blessings From KCR On Birthday



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) marked his birthday with family and party celebrations, drawing wide attention both online and offline. Accompanied by his wife Shailima and son Himanshu, KTR visited the Erravelli farmhouse to take blessings from his parents, former Chief Minister and BRS chief K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and Shobha.

In a heartfelt gesture, KTR bowed to the feet of his parents, followed by Shailima doing the same. The KCR couple blessed their son, wishing him a long and healthy life. A video capturing this emotional moment quickly went viral on social media platforms, drawing praise from party supporters and neti-

zens.

Earlier in the day, grand birthday celebrations were held at Telangana Bhavan. Party leaders and activists gathered in large numbers to greet KTR and participate in the festivities. He cut a birthday cake surrounded by enthusiastic party members.

As KTR arrived at Telangana Bhavan, a massive crowd of supporters greeted him with chants of “CM... CM,” reflecting the growing sentiment among the cadre to see him take on the role of Chief Minister in the future. The celebrations at both locations — the family home and the party headquarters — highlighted KTR’s stature within the BRS and the public affection he continues to enjoy across the state.

Rajiv Kanakala Receives Police Notice in Land Dispute

TPN |

V. Krishna Kumar

Hyderabad: Film actor Rajiv Kanakala has been issued a notice by the Rachakonda police in connection with a land dispute near the outskirts of Hyderabad. The controversy stems from a plot located in Pasumamula, Amberpet region, which Rajiv had owned several years ago.

According to sources, Rajiv sold the plot to

a person named Vijay Chaudhary, who later sold it again for Rs. 70 lakh. However, the final buyer alleged that the plot did not exist at the said location and filed a complaint with the Hayat Nagar police claiming he was cheated.

Acting on the complaint, police registered a case against Vijay Chaudhary. However, as part of the investigation, the Rachakonda

police also served notices to Rajiv Kanakala to determine whether he had knowingly misrepresented the land when he initially sold it. The development has caught the attention of film industry circles and the public, with many curious to see how the actor will respond to the allegations.

Meanwhile, Rajiv Kanakala continues to win accolades for his

performances. He is currently seen in the lead role in the recently released web series Hometown, streaming on the OTT platform Aha. Actress Jhansi also played a major role in the series, which has received positive reviews. Rajiv’s performance, in particular, has drawn critical acclaim as he carves a strong presence in Telugu cinema and digital platforms.



Hyderabad Doctors Crack Case Unsolved by 8 Nations



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a remarkable feat of modern medicine, doctors at Medicovert Hospitals, Hyderabad, have performed a highly complex and life-saving surgery on 20-year-old Farah Ahmed Elmi from Somalia—after failed surgeries in eight different countries. Farah had been suffering since the age of seven due to hydrocephalus, a condition where fluid accumulates in the brain.

An early attempt to drain the fluid through a shunt operation in Somalia proved unsuccessful. Over the years, he travelled to multiple countries seeking a cure, but all surgeries failed, leaving him in severe pain and a life-threatening condition.

By the time he arrived at Medicovert, he had a damaged brain shunt filled with pus, multiple open wounds on his abdomen, a leaking colostomy bag, and abnormal holes in his stomach (enterocutaneous fistula) through which stool was leaking.

A detailed CT scan revealed that the brain tube had coiled and become se-

verely infected. Segments of the small intestine were stuck to the stomach wall, and several parts were infected with tuberculosis.

Faced with one of the most complex medical cases, a multidisciplinary team led by General Surgeon Dr. Venkata Pawan Kumar, along with Trauma Surgeon Dr. Damodar, Anesthesiologist Dr. Venugopal, and the Medicovert Neurosurgery team, undertook the challenging operation. The medical team successfully removed the damaged, pus-filled brain shunt. The infected sections of the small intestine were also removed and reconnected, the abdominal holes were repaired, an appendectomy was performed, and anti-tuberculosis treatment was started.

Dr. Venkata Pawan Kumar noted, “This was an extremely rare and complicated case involving the brain, intestines, and hidden TB infections. The patient came to us with multiple surgical failures, but with modern infrastructure and a unified team approach, we were able to save his life.”

Ganja Smuggling from Odisha to Hyderabad Busted

TPN Correspondent | Bhadrachalam

In a major bust, the State Task Force (STF) C&D teams intercepted a ganja transport operation from Odisha to Hyderabad and arrested two persons, seizing 8.6 kilograms of ganja, two mobile phones, and a motorcycle used in the crime.

The accused have been identified as Anjani Dubey, a native of Bihar working as a security guard at Daylight Software Company in Hyderabad, and Shankar Das from Malkangiri district in Odisha. According to STF officials, Dubey was habitually supplying ganja to employees of the company where he worked.

The STF revealed that both had been working together for some time, with a well-planned route and method of delivery. Shankar Das would travel from Odisha’s Malkangiri with ganja on a motorbike, pick up Anjani Dubey at a pre-decided location, and drop him off in Hyderabad with the consignment. After handing over the ganja, he would collect his payment and return.

Acting on specific intelligence, STF C&D Team CIs Venkateshwarlu and Nagarajulu, along with local excise department personnel, intercepted the duo near the RTO check post on Koonavaram Road in Bhadrachalam. During the inspection, they found 8.6 kg of ganja concealed on the motorcycle.

Both individuals were immediately taken into custody. The seized contraband, along with the bike and mobile phones, have been handed over to the Bhadrachalam Excise Station for further investigation.



Series of Class 10 Student Suicides Raises oncern

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A deep sense of grief and shock has gripped Miyapur after two tragic incidents involving Class 10 students from St. Martin’s School occurred within a span of just a few days. In what appears to be a disturbing sequence of events, both students took their own lives by jumping from buildings.

On Saturday, Sheikh Rizwan (15), a 10th class student, ended his life by jumping from the school building. The incident left classmates, teachers, and family members stunned. Even before the shock could subside, tragedy



struck again today when Hansika, a fellow Class 10 student from the

same school, died by suicide after jumping from the top of the apart-

ment building where she lived. Both students were reportedly good in academics, and the sudden deaths have devastated their families and raised serious concerns within the school community. The reasons behind the extreme steps are still under investigation. Local police have initiated inquiries into both cases, and psychological support is being considered for classmates affected by the incidents. The twin tragedies have triggered discussions about the mental health of students and the pressure they may be silently enduring.

Eatala meets Railway Minister Ashwani Vaishnav



TPN Correspondent | Delhi
Malkajgiri MP and BJP leader Eatala Rajender met Union Railway Minister Ashwani Vaishnav in Delhi on Thursday and submitted key requests aimed at improving railway infrastructure and services in

Telangana. In the meeting, Eatala urged the Minister to approve compassionate appointments for the families of railway employees who passed away due to medical or other reasons. He stressed that such appoint-

ments would provide critical relief and support to the bereaved families. Eatala also requested the Railway Ministry to explore the feasibility of constructing a dedicated railway line to support the transport of devotees attending the Medaram Sammakka-Sarakka Jatara, the largest tribal festival in Asia. He emphasized the need for improved transportation facilities in the region during the festival, which sees lakhs of pilgrims in attendance. Additionally, the MP appealed for the early commencement of the Road Over Bridge (ROB) construction at Ayodhya X Road. He said this long-pending project is vital for easing traffic congestion and ensuring commuter safety in the Malkajgiri area. Eatala expressed confidence that the Railway Minister would positively consider these requests in the interest of Telangana's infrastructure development and public welfare.

Appeal To Implement Netanna Bharosa Without Conditions

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Leaders of the All India Padmasali Political Wing have appealed to the Telangana government to implement the Netanna Bharosa and ₹1 lakh loan waiver schemes without conditions, ensuring financial support for every geo-tagged handloom worker. Highlighting the historical importance of the Padmashali caste, which traditionally practices the handloom profession, they reminded that this community was once the backbone of the Indian economy. Despite 12% of the rural population still relying on handloom, the sector continues to be neglected, they said. The Telangana government's recent announcement of Netanna Bharosa—offering ₹24,000 per year to handloom workers—and the ₹1 lakh loan waiver scheme were praised as major steps toward economic security. However, the association urged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to implement these schemes unconditionally for all eligible workers. They also demanded that the Telangana State Handloom Co-operative Society (TESCO) procure handloom products directly from weavers to support their livelihood and sustain the industry. To further strengthen the sector, they called for immediate elections in cooperative societies and allocation of special funds to ensure finan-



cial stability. The group proposed the creation of yarn depots at subsidized rates in key handloom centers to reduce input costs and sustain operations. They stressed the importance of sustainable employment generation in rural handloom clusters. National President of the All India Padmasali Political Wing, Sivashankar, urged the Chief Minister to introduce a statutory 8-hour workday and a minimum monthly wage of ₹26,000 for handloom workers. He emphasized that the implementation of these demands would ensure dignity, security, and growth for lakhs of workers across Telangana.

Pensions Must Reach the Right Hands: Seethakka



TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Minister for Rural Development, Women and Child Welfare Seethakka emphasized the need to implement new technology in the pension distribution system to ensure seamless delivery and eliminate irregularities. Speaking during a key review meeting at Praja Bhavan on the status and progress of pension distribution, she directed officials to ensure that pensions reach only the deserving beneficiaries. The meeting was attended by SERP CEO Divya, Director Gopi, District Project Officers, and Assistant Project Officers. Minister Seethakka stressed the importance of using facial recognition to confirm beneficiary identity and prevent misuse. "Providing pensions is a social responsibility. If the ineligible avail them, it is a grave injustice to the truly poor," she stated. She also called on officials to alert higher authorities immediately if any technical glitches delay pension payments. Highlighting the scale of welfare, the Minister mentioned that the Telangana government is distributing over ₹1,000 crore every month through pensions. She credited SERP CEO Divya for her exceptional work and called on all officers to strive for such distinction. Seethakka outlined several other key initiatives led by the government. Interest-free loans are being offered to women's self-help groups to eradicate poverty, and the age to join such groups has been lowered to 15, creating early opportunities for young women. "If a woman grows financially, the entire family improves," she said. The Minister proudly pointed out that while many governments talk about providing free bus travel to women, the Telangana government has gone a step further by empowering women to become bus owners. "If 200 crore women travel by RTC buses, it reflects how useful this scheme is. But we didn't stop at making women passengers. We made them owners too," she said.

Collector Pays Surprise Visit to Maheshwaram Hostels

TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy
Rangareddy District Collector C. Narayana Reddy made a surprise inspection of the Jyothi Rao Phule BC Welfare and SC Girls' Hostels in Maheshwaram on Wednesday night and advised students to focus on their studies, assuring them that the government is committed to providing all necessary facilities in welfare hostels. During the visit, the Collector personally inspected the storage room, dining hall, and the quality of food being served to the students. While tasting the food,

he expressed dissatisfaction with the quality of the buttermilk and instructed the officials to immediately rectify such issues. He emphasized the need for regular cleaning of storage and student rooms, directing the appointment of an additional scavenger to maintain hygiene and ensure clean toilets. Later, he interacted with Class 10 students at the SC Girls' Welfare Hostel. In a motivating address, Collector Narayana Reddy told the students, "Education is a weapon, and with determination, anyone can reach great



heights. You all come from rural backgrounds, and your parents have sacrificed a lot. Don't give up on your education under any circumstances." He urged them to avoid distractions, especially mobile phones, and to value their time. The students took this opportunity to bring several issues to the Collector's notice, including the lack of solar panels, missing

locks on windows, and the absence of a dining and study hall. The Collector responded positively and assured them that these issues would be addressed soon. He was accompanied by Assistant Social Welfare Officer Lavanya, Maheshwaram Tehsildar Saidulu, MPDO Shailaja, Thukkguda Municipal Commissioner Vani, BC Welfare Hostel Principal Subramanyam, and other officials.

USPC demands Restore OPS

TPN Correspondent | Shamirpet
In a continued push for reforms in the education sector, the Shamirpet Mandal Teachers' Union Struggle Committee (USPC) submitted a detailed memorandum to Tahsildar Yadagiri Reddy on Thursday. The initiative was part of a state-wide agitation led by the Teachers' Union Struggle Committee seeking urgent government intervention to address various long-pending issues affecting teachers and schools. Speaking on the occasion, the teachers' representatives emphasized the need to immediately amend GO No. 25 and expedite teacher transfers and promotions that have been stalled for years. They also demanded the complete abolition of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), pointing out

the financial insecurity faced by teachers under the existing system. The memorandum also called for immediate payment of retirement benefits to retired teachers, release of all pending Dearness Allowances (DAs), and swift implementation of the long-awaited Pay Revision Commission (PRC) recommendations. A total of 30 demands were included in the petition submitted to the Chief Minister through the Tahsildar, in-

cluding the reinstatement of local status for teachers who lost it due to G.O. No. 317 and clearance of all pending bills. Among those who led the protest and submission were TS UTF Mandal President Thirumalesh, Mandal General Secretary Kumar, District Secretary Satyanarayana, and Mandal In-charge Gopal Chari. The delegation stated that the agitation would continue until concrete action is taken by the government.



Leopard Sighting at Greyhounds Campus in Manchirevu



TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy
Tension prevailed in Manchirevu of Rangareddy district after a leopard was reportedly sighted inside the Greyhounds campus in the early hours of Thursday. Constables on duty noticed the animal and immediately alerted higher authorities. Following the alert, forest department officials were informed and a search operation was launched within the premises. However, despite extensive efforts, the leopard could not be traced. In a precautionary move, the forest team has installed CCTV cameras at two key locations within the campus to monitor any movement and confirm the leopard's presence. The situation is being closely monitored and further search efforts are expected to continue through the day.



Son Kills His Father for Property

TPN Correspondent | Vikarabad
In a shocking incident that highlights the brutal consequences of alcohol addiction and greed for property, Tandur police arrested a man who murdered his own father with a hammer. The accused, Talari Ravi, was taken into custody within 24 hours of the crime and is being sent to remand, stated Tandur DSP Balakrishna

Reddy during a media briefing. The murder took place in Gotlapalli village under Peddemul mandal in Vikarabad district. The deceased, Talari Hanumanthu, was paralysed and bedridden. He had five sons and had distributed an acre of agricultural land each to four of them. However, he refrained from transferring any land to his third son, Ravi, citing the latter's severe alcohol addic-

tion. Hanumanthu reportedly wanted to pass on the land to his grandson instead. Ravi, a widower for the past five years, had become increasingly erratic and violent. Just two days before the murder, he assaulted his mother Narsamma, breaking her arm. On Wednesday afternoon, in a drunken state, Ravi argued once again with his father over the land issue. In a fit of rage,

he attacked Hanumanthu—who was lying helpless on the bed—with a hammer, striking him fatally on the head. Hanumanthu died on the spot. After the incident, Ravi fled the scene but used a friend's mobile phone to dial 100 and inform the police about the murder. Tandur CI Nagesh and his team quickly began an investigation. Based on the complaint from Narsamma and other ev-

idence, Ravi was tracked down and arrested. During questioning, he admitted to the murder. DSP Balakrishna Reddy confirmed that the accused will be remanded on Thursday. He also commended Peddemul SI and the rural police constables for their swift action, announcing rewards for solving the case within a day. This gruesome incident has sent shockwaves through the region, serving as a grim reminder of the devastating impact of substance abuse and domestic violence.

When the Artificial Overwhelms...

A Reflection on the Digital Age’s Silent Sway Over Nature

“The more we surround ourselves with artificial comforts, the more our inner nature cries for the nature’s touch.” Once upon a time, humanity lived in tune with the rhythms of the sun, the breeze, and the birdsong. Today, we wake up not to the chirping of sparrows but the ping of smartphones. The contrast is stark: artificiality has not just entered our lives—it dominates them. But the haunting question remains: how much naturality still survives in this engineered existence?

The Artificial Age:

A Statistical Snapshot

- 6.9 billion people, or 86% of the global population, use smartphones (GSMA, 2024).
- An average adult spends 7.5 hours a day on screens — more than their sleeping time(Statista, 2023).
- Only 27% of the global workforce is directly or indirectly connected with agriculture or nature-based work today, compared to over 60% just five

- decades ago (World Bank, 2022).
- More than 80% of the food consumed in urban households globally is either processed or packaged (UN FAO report, 2023).
- Urban areas now host over 56% of humanity, projected to rise to 70% by 2050 (UN Habitat, 2022).

Artificial Isn’t All Bad — But It’s Not All Good Either

To be clear, artificiality has brought unimaginable progress:

- Medical miracles through biotechnology,
- Connectivity across continents in seconds,
- Comfort and convenience in everyday life.

Yet it comes at a cost — disconnection from self, soil, and soul.

Mental health issues have skyrocketed: the WHO notes a 25% increase in anxiety and depression globally since the pandemic — much of it attributed to isolation, screen fatigue, and lack



of natural engagement. Children today are more likely to know the iPhone model than the names of common birds. A study by the UK’s Natural Trust (2023) showed that only 1 in 5 children could identify a robin or

an oak tree, while 4 in 5 could name at least five Pokémon characters.

Where Naturality

Still Holds Ground

Despite the dominance of the artificial, naturality hasn’t surrendered. It survives in:

- The rising popularity of organic farming and slow food movements.
- The explosion of nature therapy and eco-tourism.
- Urban community initiatives like green roofs, balcony gardens, and bird-feeding corners.
- A growing surge in mindfulness, yoga, and forest bathing.

Even technology is now trying to imitate nature — AI voices that sound more human, machines that replicate bee pollination, and simulated sunlight for indoor health.

Road Ahead: Integration,

Not Elimination

The future does not lie in rejecting artificiality. That ship has

sailed. Instead, it lies in rebalancing — in letting naturality breathe within the artificial framework.

- Education must include ecological literacy.
- Urban planning must weave in green corridors and silence zones.
- Workspaces must allow for sunlight, fresh air, and organic connection.
- Individuals must reclaim time for real conversations, barefoot walks, and unscripted joy.

Call To Reconnect

Naturality is n’t extinct—it’s just overshadowed. In a world of virtual reality and artificial intelligence, what we miss most is often what we most need: natural touch, natural thought, natural time.

Let us not wait for nature to become a museum exhibit. Let’s bring it back, moment by moment, step by step — not as nostalgia, but as necessity. Because without nature, we are not just less human—we may cease to be human at all.

A Half-Century of Unforgotten Sacrifice



Girayipalli, July 25, 2025: Fifty years ago today, four student activists—Surapaneni Janardhan Rao, Lanka Muralimohan Reddy, Sudhakar, and Anand Rao—were killed in what was later acknowledged as a “fake encounter” by Andhra Pradesh Police at Girayipalli in Medak district. Their deaths remain one of the most controversial and harrowing episodes of the Emergency era .

Janardhan Rao, born August 24, 1950, in Krishna district, had earned a gold medal in engineering at REC and emerged as a charismatic leader in the revolutionary student movement. Alongside him were Lanka Muralimohan Reddy of LB College, and Hanmakonda Junior College students Sudhakar and Anand Rao. In mid-1975, barely a month after Indira Gandhi’s Emergency was imposed, the quartet traveled to Medak district to help expand the People’s War Party—then an underground left-wing organization. Their growing influence and covert activities attracted swift attention from local authorities.

On the night of July 25, Janardhan and his three peers were apprehended by police under the pretense of routine questioning. Instead of following due legal procedures, officers allegedly bound the students to a large banyan tree near Girayipalli and shot them execution-style. The bodies were then staged to resemble an “encounter” that had supposedly occurred during an escape attempt. News of this brutality—particularly the revelation that the youths were tied to a tree—sent shockwaves

Commemoration Details

On July 25, 2025, the 50th anniversary observance will be held 9:30 AM–11 AM* at the Sai Uma Maheshwara Sabha Vedika, Garlavelli (Uyyuru). Family members of Janardhan Rao, Lanka M. Reddy, Sudhakar and Anand Rao, along with former student leaders, Left-wing activists and members of the R.I.C. will gather to pay tribute. The programme includes an exhibition of archival photographs, readings from the Justice Bhargava Commission report and a candlelight vigil in memory of the four martyrs.

through campuses statewide .

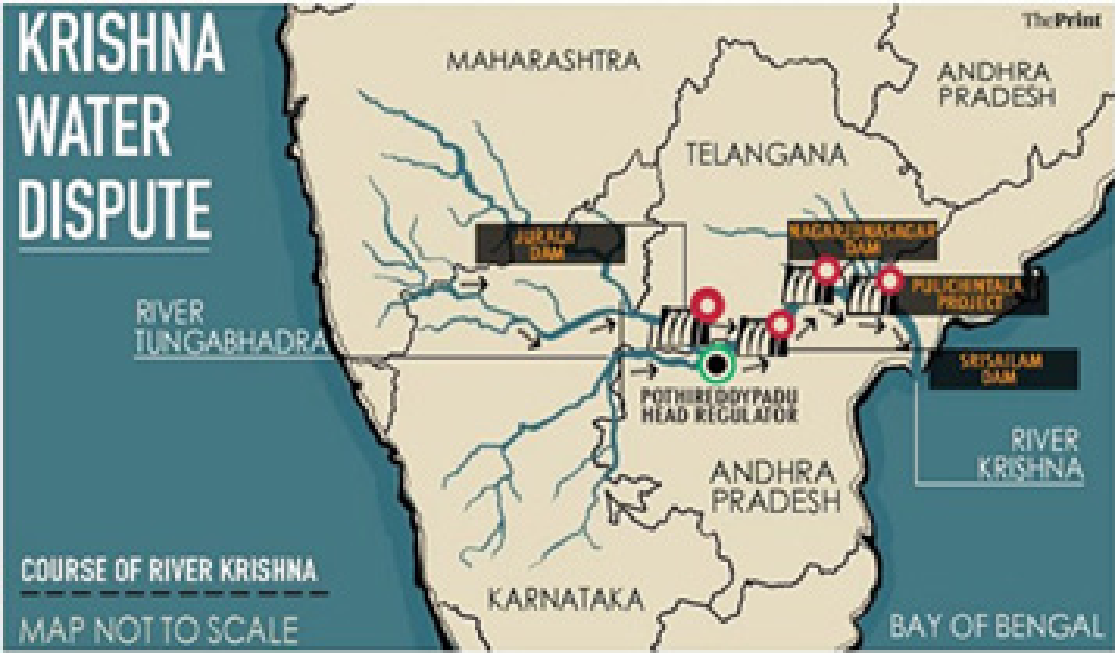
Student unions including AISF, SFI, AIDSO, and PDSU immediately launched protests, organizing strikes and mass demonstrations demanding a judicial probe. The public outcry compelled the state government to appoint a Commission of Inquiry under Justice Bhargava. The commission’s findings, tabled in early 1976, confirmed that the incident was premeditated and that police had willfully contravened the rule of law to eliminate dissenters. Despite these findings, few of-

ficers faced meaningful consequences. While some were suspended, none served prison terms, fueling decades-long calls for accountability. In 2012, the Surapaneni Janardhan Rao Memorial Trust published a comprehensive 158-page dossier—drawing on commission records, eyewitness testimonies, and personal letters—to preserve the students’ legacy and chronicle the miscarriage of justice .

Commemorations at Girayipalli today include an exhibition of original manuscripts, a public reading of the Commission’s report, and candlelight vigils. “Their sacrifice isn’t just a relic of the past,” said S.P. Mohan Rao, editor of the memorial publication. “It’s a clarion call to defend civil liberties whenever they are under threat.”

Local NGOs have petitioned the High Court to reopen compensatory claims for the families and to review current police-encounter policies to prevent recurrence. As contemporary debates over campus freedom and law-and-order excesses gain momentum across India, the Girayipalli killings serve as a stark reminder: unchecked state power can trample rights under the guise of security.

Half a century on, Janardhan Rao, Reddy, Sudhakar, and Anand Rao are remembered not only as martyrs of student activism but as symbols of enduring resistance against authoritarianism. Their story challenges each generation to ask: at what cost do we safeguard democracy?



A Decade Later, Telangana’s Battle for Krishna River Water Continues

More than ten years after Telangana split from Andhra Pradesh, the state’s struggle to secure its rightful share of Krishna river water remains unresolved, exposing deep political and administrative challenges.

The Krishna river, flowing through Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka, is central to this dispute. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh share two major dams on the river: the Srisaillam and Nagarjunasagar projects. The Srisaillam dam regulates about 811 thousand million cubic feet (TMC) of water, with Telangana allocated 299 TMC and Andhra Pradesh receiving the remainder. At Nagarjunasagar, which holds 285 TMC, Telangana’s share is 90 TMC.

Despite clear allocations, Andhra Pradesh has frequently been accused of exceeding its water share, hurting Telangana’s agricultural and developmental prospects. In November 2023, tensions escalated when Andhra Pradesh authorities released over 2,000 cusecs of water from the Nagarjunasagar dam—beyond its entitlement—while Telangana was focused on elections. The incident sparked a police standoff, highlighting the fragile nature of water sharing between the two states.

The Centre established the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) to oversee the equitable distribution of water between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The KRMB, comprising officials from both states and the central government, was expected to settle disputes and ensure compliance with the agreed 66:34 water-sharing ratio. Yet, a decade on, its effectiveness remains limited as disputes persist.

Water issues are deeply intertwined with politics. At Telangana’s formation, the

rivalry between Telangana’s first Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and Andhra Pradesh’s then-leader N Chandrababu Naidu added fuel to the dispute. Naidu’s party had to share Hyderabad, the joint capital, with Telangana for ten years after bifurcation, complicating relations.

The political landscape shifted in 2019 with the rise of YSR Congress Party’s Jagan Mohan Reddy in Andhra Pradesh, briefly raising hopes for improved cooperation. However, the honeymoon ended quickly when Andhra Pradesh unilaterally used 3 TMC of water from the Srisaillam dam without informing Telangana or the KRMB, reigniting mistrust.

Telangana has also sought a revision of the water-sharing formula. The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) government, under KCR, pushed for a 50:50 split instead of the current 66:34, citing the state’s growing water needs, especially for major projects like the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation scheme. This demand is currently under consideration by the Brijesh Kumar tribunal.

Meanwhile, Andhra Pradesh continues to advance its own projects, such as the Polavaram irrigation project on the Godavari river, aimed at irrigating millions of acres and supplying drinking water to Visakhapatnam.

With the Congress now in power in Telangana—a party historically opposed to Andhra Pradesh’s TDP—the political divide remains a significant barrier to resolving the water dispute. For a fair and lasting solution, the KRMB must be empowered and allowed to function effectively, ensuring both states receive their rightful share and protecting the interests of millions dependent on the Krishna river.

Historic day for India-UK relations: PM

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a major milestone for bilateral ties, India and the United Kingdom on Thursday signed a historic Free Trade Agreement (FTA) aimed at significantly enhancing market access, reducing tariffs, and doubling trade between the two nations by 2030.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer witnessed the signing of the comprehensive deal at Chequers, the official country residence of the UK Prime Minister. “Today is a historic day in India-UK relations,” Modi declared, calling the agreement the result of “many years of hard work.”

The pact will remove or lower tariffs

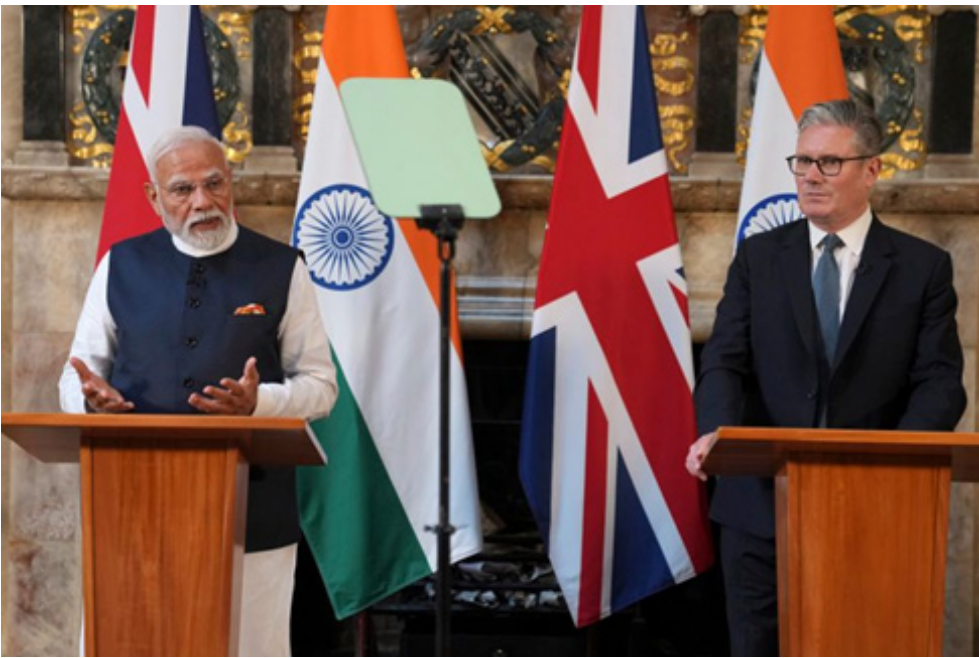
on a wide range of goods and services. Nearly 99% of Indian exports are expected to benefit from tariff reductions, especially in sectors such as textiles, footwear, gems and jewellery, seafood, and engineering goods. Additionally, the deal will open up new opportunities in the British market for Indian agricultural and processed food products—providing a boost to farmers, fishermen, and MSMEs.

British exports will also see gains, with cuts in tariffs on whisky and automobiles, two key products for the UK market. PM Starmer called the agreement “the biggest and most economically significant trade deal the UK has signed since Brexit.”

Beyond trade, both leaders discussed

shared concerns over terrorism, with Modi thanking the UK for its condemnation of the recent terror attack in Pahalgam. They pledged continued cooperation in extraditing economic offenders and enhancing security ties.

The two countries are also developing a “Vision 2035” roadmap to further strengthen their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, with a focus on cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, global stability, and shared democratic values. Modi emphasized the importance of “developmentalism over expansionism” in international relations. The summit concluded with condolences from Modi over the tragic deaths of British citizens in last month’s Air India crash in Ahmedabad.



DGCA Issues Four Show Cause Notices to Air India Over 29 Safety Violations

TPN Correspondent | Mumbai

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has served four show cause notices to Air India citing 29 violations related to flight crew rest norms, under-deployment of cabin crew on ultra long-haul flights, and lapses in training. The aviation watchdog has raised serious concerns about unresolved systemic failures in safety oversight, despite previous warnings and interventions.

The notices highlight 19 violations connected to pilot training, including failure to complete mandated refresher programs on time. These also include lapses in specialized training required for flights to Kathmandu, which has a challenging table-top runway. These breaches were record-



ed over a 12-month period from July 2024 to June 2025.

Three incidents of non-compliance with weekly rest requirements for flight crew—one first officer and two captains—were also flagged. Additionally, the DGCA noted that Air India operated four ultra-long haul

flights between April 27 and May 2, 2025, with fewer cabin crew than the mandatory requirement. On an April 27 flight from Chicago to Delhi, only 12 cabin crew were deployed instead of the required 15. Similar shortfalls were found on flights from Toronto and Mumbai to Delhi and Newark, respectively. Further violations in-

cluded three instances of cabin crew operating flights with expired competency cards, and one crew member assigned duty despite a prior safety infraction involving the accidental deployment of an evacuation slide.

The DGCA criticized Air India’s continued failure to address systemic issues in compliance monitoring and crew training governance. The regulator noted a lack of effective control mechanisms and raised concerns about the airline’s overall safety management.

Air India has 14 days to respond. In a statement, the airline acknowledged receipt of the notices and affirmed its commitment to crew and passenger safety, stating it will respond within the given timeframe.



Speaker Birla Likely to Announce Inquiry Panel

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla is expected to soon announce the formation of a three-member inquiry committee to investigate allegations against Allahabad High Court Judge Yashwant Varma, official sources confirmed.

The move comes after a notice signed by 152 Members of Parliament was submitted to Speaker Birla on July 21, which now stands as a “property of the House.” Consultations have begun for forming the committee as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act. It will consist of either the Chief Justice of India or a Supreme Court judge, a Chief Justice from a high court, and a distinguished jurist.

A similar notice, backed by 63 opposition MPs, was also submitted on the same day to former Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar. This has drawn both Houses of Parliament into the consultation process. As per procedure, the Speaker is expected to write to the Chief Justice of India to nominate the two judges, while the Speaker will independently select the eminent jurist.

The issue has triggered intense political discussions involving key figures including Home Minister Amit Shah, Rajya Sabha Leader JP Nadda, Speaker Om Birla, and Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh, who took charge after Dhankhar’s sudden resignation. Dhankhar stepped down citing health reasons but is believed to have faced government displeasure for accepting the opposition-sponsored notice in the Rajya Sabha.

According to the Judges (Inquiry) Act, when such notices are filed in both Houses on the same day, a joint committee is formed. The panel is tasked with probing the grounds on which the judge’s removal is being sought. An opposition MP involved in the process said they are still awaiting further updates from the Chair.

CBI Investigates Evidence Tampering in RG Kar Medical College Rape-Murder Case



TPN Correspondent | Kolkata

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has expanded its probe into the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at Kolkata’s RG Kar Medical College, examining a possible larger conspiracy to tamper with evidence and suppress the case. The 31-year-old doctor was found raped and murdered in a hospital seminar room on August 9, 2024, sparking nationwide protests and demands for justice.

In its fifth status report filed on July 16 in a sessions court, the CBI revealed it has questioned seven witnesses and is now exploring whether other individuals were involved in efforts to cover up the crime. The report, reviewed by NDTV, indicates ongoing investigation “on the aspect of larger conspiracy in attempt to hush up the matter and tampering of evidence.”

As part of its exhaustive probe, the agency has scanned a massive 32 terabytes of CCTV footage and reviewed over 200 pieces of post-incident media coverage—including videos, images, and news articles—for actionable information.

Sanjay Roy, a civic volunteer with the Kolkata Police, was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for the rape and murder. However, the victim’s parents and protesting junior doctors continue to allege deeper institutional failures and demand full transparency in the investigation.

In April, the victim’s father accused the CBI of submitting contradictory reports to different courts and claimed the agency is withholding key findings. “We had faith in the CBI, but now we are losing all hope,” he said, expressing frustration over the pace and consistency of the probe. Junior doctors, who had staged a 17-day hunger strike last October, plan to hold a torchlight rally on the night of August 8-9 to mark one year since the incident and renew calls for justice and accountability.

India-US NISAR Satellite Set for Launch

Promises Global Impact on Earth Monitoring

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a landmark collaboration between India and the United States, the \$1.3 billion NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite is set to launch on July 30 from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. This groundbreaking Earth observation mission is the largest-ever partnership between NASA and ISRO and aims to transform how we study and respond to changes on our planet.

NISAR, weighing 2,392 kg, is designed to scan the entire globe with unmatched precision every 12 days, regardless of weather or time of day. Using its dual-frequency radar system—NASA’s L-band and ISRO’s S-band—the satellite will track both surface and subsurface changes such as earthquakes, landslides, glacier movements, urban development, and vegetation dynamics.

What sets NISAR apart is its high-resolution imaging through synthetic aperture radar (SAR) and interferometry techniques. These allow it to simulate a massive antenna for detailed imagery and

detect ground displacement over time—essential for understanding tectonic shifts and environmental degradation.

The mission will be crucial for disaster response, infrastructure monitoring, water and food security, and climate science. From detecting groundwater depletion to tracking coastal flooding and forest density, NISAR’s open-access data will serve governments, researchers, and private sectors worldwide.

Built and tested over five years, NISAR is a 50-50 venture reflecting strong India-US space ties. NASA’s Paul Rosen calls it a “high-definition movie of the Earth,” while ISRO’s involvement includes providing the GSLV-F16 launch vehicle and spacecraft components.

As the world faces growing environmental and climate-related challenges, NISAR stands out as a symbol of scientific innovation and international cooperation. Its launch marks a strategic milestone for India’s expanding space ambitions and a new era in global Earth observation.



Trump Tells Tech Giants to Stop Hiring from India

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Washington, D.C. — U.S. President Donald Trump has urged American tech giants to stop building factories abroad and hiring workers from countries like India, calling for a shift away from what he termed “radical globalism.” Addressing the All-In Podcast and the Hill & Valley Forum AI Summit on Wednesday, Trump emphasized that companies like Google, Meta, and Microsoft must prioritize American jobs and infrastructure.

“For too long, much of our tech industry pursued a radical globalism that left millions of Americans feeling distrustful and betrayed,” Trump said. He criticized major corporations for “reaping the blessings of American freedom” while outsourcing labor to India and manufacturing to China, and shifting profits to tax havens like Ireland.

The remarks came as Trump unveiled his administration's new “AI Action Plan,” which includes three key executive orders: streamlining permitting for AI infrastructure, boosting U.S. AI exports, and banning federal use of politically biased AI systems.

Trump announced that American tech firms are projected to invest over \$320 bil-



lion in AI and data center infrastructure this year, with Nvidia committing an additional \$500 billion over four years. He described this as a pivotal moment for domestic industry and job creation.

“We’re going to build up our own nation,” Trump declared. “This investment will create thousands of high-paying, blue-collar jobs.”

He also took a swipe at former President Joe Biden, claiming the previous administration's AI export restrictions pushed allies toward China. Trump said he has reversed those measures, calling it essential to maintain U.S. technological leadership.

“With your help, the golden age of America will be built by American workers, powered by American energy, and driven by American AI,” Trump concluded.



Israel and Ukraine to Launch Talks on Countering Iran’s Threats

TPN Correspondent | Kyiv

Israel and Ukraine have announced a new initiative to begin formal talks focused on addressing the “threat” posed by Iran, signaling closer cooperation between the two nations. Both countries view Iran—a key ally of Russia—as a destabilizing force on the global stage.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiga and Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar made the announcement during a press conference in Kyiv on Wednesday. Saar is the highest-ranking Israeli official to visit Ukraine since 2023.

Sybiga referred to Iran as an “existential threat to global security,” citing Tehran’s ongoing military support to Russia, including Iranian-designed drones used in attacks on Ukraine. “Our countries face common security challenges. Today, we have decided to launch a separate dialogue on the Iranian threat,” Sybiga said.

Saar emphasized that limiting Iran’s access to advanced weapons and technology is vital not only for Israeli security but also for European stability. “Any effort to curb Tehran’s reach contributes to the security of Europe and Ukraine,” he noted.

Ukraine has previously criticized Israel’s neutral stance on the Russia-Ukraine war, but this new step points to growing strategic alignment. Kyiv has been vocal about Iran’s role in supplying arms to Moscow, especially drones that have been used to target Ukrainian infrastructure.

Last month, Israel carried out a surprise bombing campaign targeting Iran’s military and nuclear facilities. Ukraine supported the operation, viewing it as aligned with their mutual concerns about Tehran’s influence.

The upcoming dialogue is expected to focus on intelligence sharing, defense cooperation, and joint diplomatic efforts to counter Iran’s regional and global activities. 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.

India Urges Gaza Ceasefire, Says Pauses ‘Not Enough’

TPN Correspondent | UN

India has called for a full ceasefire in Gaza, emphasizing that “intermittent pauses in hostilities” fall short of addressing the deepening humanitarian crisis in the region. Speaking at a United Nations Security Council open debate on the “Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question,” India’s Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish, expressed deep concern over the ongoing suffering of civilians in Gaza.

“Today’s meeting takes place against the backdrop of a persisting humanitarian crisis in Gaza,” Harish said. “Intermittent pauses are not enough to address the scale of challenges confronting the people, who are facing daily shortages of food, fuel, medical care, and education.”



Harish reaffirmed India’s long-standing support for the Palestinian people and stressed that humanitarian assistance must be allowed to flow in “safely, timely, and sustainably.” He urged the release of all hostages and called for peace through dialogue and diplomacy, asserting that “there are no other fixes or solutions.”

India, one of the first non-Arab countries

to recognize the State of Palestine, maintains a historically strong relationship with the Palestinian people. Harish described the health and education situation in Gaza as “particularly troubling,” citing World Health Organization data that 95% of hospitals in the region are damaged or destroyed. He also noted that over 650,000 children have been out of school for more than 20 months, as reported by the UN human rights office.

Looking ahead, India welcomed the upcoming High-Level International Conference on implementing the two-State solution, scheduled for July 28–30, expressing hope that it will lead to concrete progress toward peace.

Harish concluded by reiterating India’s readiness to support all efforts aimed at restoring peace and stability in the region.

India, UK ink historic Free Trade Agreement

TPN Correspondent | London

The India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA), set to be formalized on Thursday, promises to create significant employment and growth opportunities for Indians, especially the youth. This landmark agreement is expected to enhance India’s service sector, while also providing a boost to labor-intensive industries.

A key highlight of the FTA is the opening up of the UK market for Indian professionals in sectors such as Information Technology (IT), IT-enabled Services (ITeS), Financial Services, Management Consulting, Engineering, Architecture, Education Services, and other professional services. These fields are increasingly sought after by young Indians seeking global exposure and career growth.

The FTA also offers duty-free access to the UK for Indian products in sectors like textiles and clothing, leather and footwear, gems and jewelry, furniture, and sports goods. The UK imports over \$23 billion worth of such products annually, indicating strong potential for job creation and increased exports from India, particularly in small and medium enterprises.

For Indian professionals working in the UK on short-term assignments (up to three years), the FTA includes a major financial relief—an exemption from UK social security contributions,



which currently total nearly 20% of salaries. This move not only increases take-home pay but also boosts competitiveness and attractiveness of global job assignments. Additionally, the FTA includes measures to promote ease of doing business through better regulatory coordination, transparency, and public consultations. This environment will benefit young entrepreneurs and startups looking to expand in international markets.

The Digital Trade Chapter focuses on online consumer protection, cybersecurity, and open internet access—enhancing trust in digital commerce and enabling new tech career paths. Moreover, the FTA includes provisions for skill development, capacity building, and mutual recognition of qualifications, making it easier for Indian graduates to pursue careers in the UK and aligning youth skills with global market needs.

Passenger Plane Crashes in Russia’s Far East, 50 Feared Dead

TPN Correspondent | Moscow

An Antonov An-24 passenger plane carrying around 50 people crashed in Russia’s Far East on Thursday, with initial reports suggesting that everyone on board may have perished. The plane, operated by Siberia-based Angara Airlines, was en route from Blagoveshchensk to the remote town of Tynda in the Amur region near the Chinese border when it disappeared from radar.

Russian emergency services confirmed that the burning fuselage of the nearly 50-year-old Soviet-era aircraft was spotted on the ground by a helicopter. Rescue teams are currently making their way to the crash site, which lies in a densely forested and hilly area about 15 kilometers from Tynda. Unverified helicopter footage shared on social media showed the wreckage amidst thick forest cover.

Preliminary information from regional governor Vasily Orlov indicated there were 43 passengers, including five children, and six crew members aboard the flight. However, the Russian emergencies ministry put the total number of people on

board at around 40. The Antonov An-24, built in 1976, lost contact as it approached its destination. The crash has prompted an official investigation to determine the cause of the accident. Yuliya Petina, a Russian emergency official, shared updates on Telegram, confirming that rescuers had located the burning aircraft fuselage and were heading to the site to carry out recovery and rescue operations. This tragic incident highlights the risks associated with operating older aircraft in remote and challenging environments. Further details are awaited as rescue efforts continue and investigators begin their work to uncover the circumstances leading to the crash.



Markets Volatile Amid Earnings Season; Heavyweights Drag Indices Down

Despite positive signals from international markets and the signing of a trade deal with Britain, domestic stock markets fell sharply on Thursday. Benchmark indices were volatile. This was due to investors selling heavily and valuations still being high compared to company results. Heavyweights including IT, FMCG and realty fell sharply. With this, the Nifty ended 157 points lower and the Sensex ended 542 points lower.



The BSE Sensex, which had closed at 82,726 in the previous session, opened at 82,779 on Thursday. It touched an intraday low of 82,047. It reached an intraday high of 82,784. It finally closed at 82,184, down 542 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 25,243, touched a low of 25,018 and a high of 25,246. It closed at 25,062, down 157 points. The Nifty Bank fell 144 points to settle at 57,066.

In the Nifty50, 14 companies gained while 35 lost. Eternal, Tata Motors, Dr. Reddy's, Grasim, Cipla were the top gainers. Nestle India, Trent, Shriram Finance, Tech Mahindra, and Reliance were the biggest losers. PSU Bank, Healthcare, and Pharma indices gained today. Auto, Metal, and



Consumer Durables ended flat. IT, FMCG, Realty, MNC, Oil, Energy, CPSE, Finance, and Infra sector indices were mixed.

Market breadth favored sellers on NSE today. Out of a total of 3058 stocks traded, 1111 gained and 1863 lost. 72 stocks touched their 52-week highs and 29 touched their 52-week lows. 68 touched their upper circuit and 54 touched their lower circuit.

Rupee ended flat at 86.40 against the dollar. Bajaj Q1 net profit was Rs.4700 crore and net interest income was Rs.10,227 crore. APL Apollo's net profit rose 23% to Rs 237 crore from Rs 193

crore. GNG Electronics IPO received a response of 23.10 times on the second day in the afternoon. SBI Life's net profit rose 14.3% to Rs 520 crore from Rs 594 crore. Bernstein has given an Outperform rating to Persistent Systems with a target price of Rs 6300 crore. It has given an Outperform rating to Nuama at Rs 9700 and 3600One Wealth at Rs 1410. Nomura has maintained a Buy rating for Tata Consumer with a target price of Rs 1300. Adani Energy has registered a net profit of Rs 512 crore from a net loss of Rs 824 crore. CG Power's net profit grew by 10.8% from Rs. 241 crore to Rs. 267 crore.

Stock Recommendations :

Tata Technologies: These shares, which have been in a downtrend for a long time, are currently in the accumulation zone. A good base has been formed. Relative strength and momentum are increasing. A bullish trend has started. Investors should take a position in the Rs. 700/710 range in this counter, which closed at Rs. 718 on Thursday. Hold for a short period.



Coromandel: These shares, which have been in an uptrend for a few months, are currently consolidating. Relative strength and momentum are good. Moreover, seasonality has added. In the counter, which closed at Rs. 2428 on Thursday, you should take a position in the Rs. 2400 range and hold.

Indian Bank: These shares, which have been in an uptrend for



a long time, are currently at a key resistance. Investors' focus has increased as the results date approaches. Investors should take a position in the Rs. 630/640 range in this counter, which closed at Rs. 652 on Thursday. Hold for up to two weeks.

Tata Motors: These shares, which have been in a downtrend 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. 700 on Thursday should be bought in the Rs. 680/650 range through buy-on-dips method. Hold for a long time.



Fortis Healthcare: These shares have good momentum and relative strength. They have been in an uptrend for a few months. Investors should take a position in the Rs. 800 range in this counter, which closed at Rs. 836 on Thursday. Hold until good returns are made.

Rupee Strengthens by 14 Paise to Close at 86.59 Against US Dollar

Amid Equity Rally and Lower Oil Prices



The Indian Rupee appreciated by 14 paise to close at 86.59 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday, June 20, 2025, supported by a decline in global crude oil prices and a weakening greenback, forex traders said. The local currency's gain was further bolstered by robust performance in domestic equity markets and inflows from foreign institutional investors (FIIs).

The Rupee opened at 86.65 at the interbank foreign exchange and traded within a narrow band of 86.55 to 86.67 before settling at 86.59, marking a modest recovery after hitting a two-month low the previous day. On Thursday, the Rupee had dropped 30 paise, closing at 86.73, marking a combined loss of 69 paise over the past three sessions.

Maneesh Sharma, AVP-Commodities & Currencies at Anand Rathi Shares and Stock Brokers, noted that the Rupee's weakness this month largely stemmed from geopolitical tensions, particularly following Israeli strikes on Iranian targets on June 13, which pushed Brent crude oil futures to a five-month high near \$79 per barrel. "The local currency was comforted by a dip in oil prices after the White House indicated that President Don-

ald Trump will decide within two weeks whether the US will intervene in the Israel-Iran conflict," Sharma added.

Market optimism also stems from expectations that the upcoming HDB Financial IPO will attract significant investment inflows, which could provide further support to the Rupee. Analysts predict the Rupee may continue to trade in a range between 86.20 and 86.70 in the early part of next week.

Meanwhile, the US dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six major currencies, eased by 0.30% to 98.60.

Domestic equity markets also showed strong momentum on Friday, with the BSE Sensex surging 1,046.30 points to close at 82,408.17, and the Nifty climbing 319.15 points to 25,112.40. Brent crude oil futures fell by 2.36% to \$76.99 per barrel.

Foreign institutional investors were net buyers of Indian equities, purchasing shares worth ₹934.62 crore on Thursday, according to stock exchange data, signaling sustained foreign interest in Indian markets despite global uncertainties.

Steel Sector Hit Hard by Abrupt Quality Compliance Deadline

The steel industry is bracing for significant challenges following a sudden notification by the Ministry of Steel that extends quality certification requirements to the inputs used in steel production, including imported raw materials. Released on June 13, 2025, the notification mandates compliance with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for all steel inputs, effective immediately for imports with a bill of lading dated June 16 or later—leaving industry players less than one business day to adjust.

This extension of the Quality Control Order (QCO) means not only finished steel products but also the raw materials and semi-finished goods entering India must meet stringent quality standards. For example, steel slabs supplied by a Malaysian firm to a Vietnamese company, which processes



them into sheets and exports to India, must now ensure BIS certification at every stage.

Industry leaders warn this will severely disrupt the supply chain and escalate costs, particularly impacting Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). Pankaj N. Umrania, Executive Director at KND Steel, highlighted the difficulties importers will face, not-

ing the increased compliance burden and potential production delays. "Manufacturers will struggle to import now, production will be hampered, customers affected, and delays inevitable," he said. He added that the absence of government support and the need to navigate complex paperwork will further strain businesses.

Pankaj Chaddha, Chairman of

the Engineering Exports Promotion Council of India, emphasized that MSME importers dealing in semi-finished goods would bear the brunt of this sudden change.

The key concern is the extremely short notice. With the order dated June 13 and effective for shipments from June 16, importers were given no working days to ensure compliance. Ajay Srivastava, former Director General of Foreign Trade, called the timeline "unrealistic," stating that even a month's notice would have been insufficient due to the long lead times typical in the steel industry.

Industry experts urge the government to reconsider the timeline to avoid severe disruption across the steel manufacturing ecosystem.

Amazon to Invest \$233 Million in India to Boost Infrastructure and Technology

Amazon has announced an investment of over 20 billion rupees (approximately \$233 million) in India for the year 2025 to expand and upgrade its operations infrastructure. The move aims to enhance its fulfillment network, develop new technologies, and improve delivery safety across the country.

This fresh investment builds upon Amazon's previous efforts to establish a vast operations network capable of delivering to every serviceable pin code in India. The company plans to launch new facilities and upgrade existing ones within its fulfillment and delivery system to increase speed and processing capacity, ensuring faster and more reliable deliveries for customers.

A key focus of the investment will be integrating technology that monitors delivery associates' speeds to alert them about unsafe driving and ensures an equitable dis-



tribution of delivery routes. This initiative is expected to improve delivery safety and efficiency throughout Amazon's network.

Apart from operational upgrades, Amazon intends to channel part of the funds towards initiatives aimed at enhancing the health and financial well-being of its employees in India, reflecting a commitment to workforce welfare.

This announcement follows Amazon's

2023 statement, when it projected that its total investments in India would reach \$26 billion by 2030. At that time, the company did not provide a detailed breakdown of the investments.

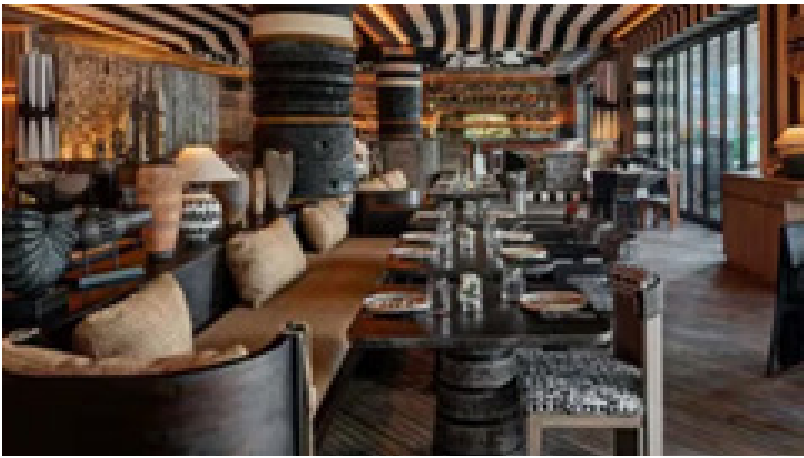
Amazon competes with major players like Walmart-owned Flipkart and Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Retail in India's rapidly growing e-commerce market. The new investment reinforces Amazon's commitment to strengthening its position in the country by improving infrastructure and technological capabilities.

Additionally, Amazon Web Services (AWS), the company's cloud computing arm, is set to invest around \$8.2 billion in Maharashtra in the coming years, as announced by India's information technology ministry earlier this year. This move underlines Amazon's broader strategy to deepen its footprint in India across multiple sectors.

Believe It or Not This French Restaurant Charges ₹1,500 Fine

No-Shows and Surprise Guests

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



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

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

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

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

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

Despite this strict stance, L'îlot enjoys an impressive 4.7-star rating on Google, reflecting the high quality of its dining experience and the respect many customers have for the restaurant.

Why the 'Pizza Index' Is Trending After Israel's Strikes on Iran

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



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

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

While this theory might sound far-fetched, it's not

entirely new. Similar trends were observed before past international military operations, though the data has always been anecdotal and never officially confirmed.

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

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

Meta Sues Developer Behind AI 'Nudify' Apps Amid Surge in Misuse

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

The lawsuit, filed by Meta, is part of the company's broader campaign to combat the abuse of generative AI, particularly tools that violate privacy and promote harmful or exploitative behavior. Meta stated that Joy Timeline's CrushAI app and others like it



were using its platforms—Facebook and Instagram—to advertise such services, which directly violate Meta's community standards and advertis-

ing policies.

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

The rise of nudify apps has sparked growing concern worldwide, with AI-generated deepfake content becoming increasingly realistic and accessible. Lawmakers and tech leaders have voiced alarm about the psy-

chological and reputational damage caused by such tools, especially when used to target women and minors.

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

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

Why Airplanes Have Small, Round Windows

The Science Behind the Design

Have you ever sat on a plane, gazing out the tiny window and wished it were larger for a better view? While it may seem like an aesthetic choice, there are critical safety and engineering reasons why airplane windows are small and round.

1. Structural Integrity:

Airplane windows are built into the fuselage — the main body of the aircraft. Making them larger would weaken the fuselage's structure. Large windows would be more vulnerable to damage and harder to seal against extreme pressure differences experienced during flight. Smaller windows help maintain the overall strength and airtight integrity of the aircraft.

2. Aerodynamic Efficiency:

Larger or oddly shaped windows would disrupt the smooth airflow over the plane's surface, increasing drag and reducing fuel efficiency. Small windows keep the plane streamlined, helping it fly faster and more efficiently.



3. The Lessons of the Past:

In the 1950s, early jet airliners like the De Havilland Comet had square windows. But as airlines started flying at higher altitudes to save fuel, aircraft cabins had to be pressurized. The square windows became weak points due to their sharp corners. Tragically, this led to two catastrophic mid-air disintegrations in 1953 and 1954. Investigations revealed that stress cracks developed around the square edges, causing fatal metal fatigue.

4. Why Round Is Safer:

Engineers learned that round or oval windows distribute pressure more evenly and eliminate weak spots. The smooth curves of circular windows reduce stress concentration, significantly lowering the risk of structural failure. This design has become a standard in aviation safety ever since.

In short, airplane windows may be small and round, but they're crucial for ensuring the structural safety and aerodynamic performance of modern airliners — keeping passengers safe high above the clouds.

Why Desert Nation Saudi Arabia Imports Sand for Construction

It may sound ironic, but Saudi Arabia, a country known for its vast deserts, imports sand from other nations like Australia, China, and Belgium. The reason? The sand found in Saudi deserts is not suitable for construction purposes.

Desert sand, shaped over millennia by wind, has smooth, rounded grains. These grains do not bind well with cement and water, making them unfit for construction. In contrast, construction-grade sand—used to build everything from skyscrapers to highways—must have rough, angular grains, typically found in riverbeds, lakes, and seabeds. These qualities allow the sand to form a strong bond with cement, essential for stable structures.

As part of its Vision 2030, Saudi Arabia has embarked on massive infrastructure projects like NEOM, The Red Sea Project, and Qiddiya, driving up the demand for high-quality sand. In 2023 alone, Saudi Arabia imported \$140,000 worth of sand from Australia, which was the second-largest global exporter of construction-grade sand that year, supplying over \$273 million worth worldwide.

Saudi Arabia isn't alone. Other Gulf nations like the UAE and Qatar also import sand to support their fast-paced urban growth. According to a 2024 UNEP



report, this trend highlights a global sand crisis. Around 50 billion tonnes of sand are consumed annually, but only a small fraction is suitable for construction. Excessive extraction is now linked to environmental degradation, including river erosion, habitat loss, and biodiversity decline.

In response, countries are turning to sustainable alternatives such as manufactured sand (M-sand)—produced by crushing rocks—and recycled construction waste. While these solutions offer hope, widespread implementation remains a work in progress.

Saudi Arabia's sand imports may seem surprising, but they underline a critical global resource challenge hidden beneath the surface of modern development.

Spain reaches final in Women’s Euro 2025

After 1-0 extra time win over Germany

Spain booked their place in the UEFA Women’s Euro 2025 final with a dramatic 1-0 extra-time victory over Germany on Wednesday, July 23, in Zurich. Aitana Bonmati’s stunning 113th-minute strike sealed Spain’s maiden trip to the tournament’s final, where they will face defending champions England on Sunday in Basel.



The semifinal clash was tense and closely contested. Spain dominated early possession and came close to scoring in the first half when captain Irene Paredes saw her powerful header rattle the post. Germany, in response, focused on a compact defensive setup, looking to hit on the counter.

In the second half, Germany grew into the game. Klara Bühl came closest to scoring, forcing Spanish goalkeeper Cata Coll into action with a deflected stoppage-time shot that needed to be acrobatically pushed away. Despite several half-chances for both sides, the game remained goalless after 90 minutes, pushing the match into extra time.

With the clock ticking down and penalties looming, it was Bonmati, the reigning Ballon

d’Or winner, who made the difference. Picking up the ball on the left side of the box, she noticed a narrow gap at the near post and curled a precise, angled shot past German keeper Ann-Katrin Berger, sending the Spanish players and fans into wild celebrations.

Spain’s resilience and tactical discipline were on full display throughout the match, and Bonmati’s moment of brilliance ensured their place in the final of a major women’s tournament for the first time. As they prepare to face a strong English side, the Spaniards will carry both momentum and belief into the title clash.

The final takes place Sunday, July 27, in Basel, promising an epic showdown between two of Europe’s top teams.

China Open 2025

Satwik-Chirag Pair Storms Into Quarterfinals, Prannoy Exits

Prannoy Crashes Out of Singles

India’s star men’s doubles duo Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty advanced to the quarterfinals of the China Open Super 1000 badminton tournament with a hard-fought straight-game win over Indonesia’s eighth-seeded pair, Leo Rolly Carnando and Bagas Maulana, in Changzhou on Thursday.



The former world number one Indian pair showcased exceptional tactical discipline and composure to edge past their opponents with identical scores of 21-19, 21-19 in a tightly contested encounter. Both games saw frequent momentum shifts, but Satwik and Chirag managed to stay focused during the crunch moments to close out the match.

Speaking after the victory, Chirag Shetty said, “It was quite a topsy-turvy match — back and forth all the way. No one had a big lead. Around 16 in the first game, we managed to pull ahead with a small streak and that helped us seal the game. In the second game, we could’ve been a little calmer at the start. Still, credit to the Indonesians — they played some really sharp badminton, especially while receiving serve. Over-

all, we’re happy to move into the quarters.”

While it was celebration for the doubles duo, India’s HS Prannoy suffered a setback in singles. The experienced shuttler crashed out in the second round after a gritty 65-minute battle against sixth seed Chou Tien Chen of Chinese Taipei. Prannoy started strong, winning the first game 21-18, but lost momentum and eventually succumbed 15-21, 8-21 in the next two games.

With Prannoy’s exit, India’s singles hopes take a hit, but the spotlight now shifts to the in-form Satwik-Chirag pair as they continue their quest for glory at the prestigious Super 1000 event.



Fritz, Medvedev Into DC Open Last 16

Top seed Taylor Fritz and Russian eighth seed Daniil Medvedev advanced to the last 16 of the ATP/WTB DC Open on Wednesday, July 23, with contrasting victories.

Fritz, playing his first match since his Wimbledon semifinal loss to Carlos Alcaraz, breezed past Australia’s Aleksandar Vukic in just 59 minutes with a dominant 6-3, 6-2 win. The American delivered a clinical performance, using his strong serve and lethal backhands to notch 28 winners. He broke Vukic early to take a 3-0 lead in the first set and never looked back, sealing a straightforward win to set up a third-round clash with Italy’s Matteo Arnaldi.

“I felt like I played pretty well all around, but the shot that stood out was the backhand down the line,” Fritz told The Tennis Channel. “I don’t usually go for it, but today, everything was clicking.”

Meanwhile, Medvedev had to dig deep in his match against

the big-serving American Reilly Opelka. After dropping the first set 3-6, Medvedev rallied to win the next two sets 7-5, 6-1. “I didn’t return well until late in the second set, but I kept looking for solutions,” Medvedev said, crediting his improved play and Opelka’s fatigue. He will next face China’s Wu Yibing, who upset 10th seed Alexei Popyrin.

In other matches, fifth seed Andrey Rublev crashed out to American Learner Tien, while on the women’s side, second seed Emma Navarro was ousted by Greece’s Maria Sakkari. Third seed Elena Rybakina advanced to the quarters with a 6-3, 7-5 win over Victoria Mboko.

In women’s doubles, Venus Williams, 45, and Hailey Baptiste narrowly lost to second seeds Taylor Townsend/Zhang Shuai in a thrilling 6-4, 3-6, 10-6 contest. Venus will continue her singles campaign against Magdalena Frech on Thursday.

MLS Defeats Liga MX 3-1 in All-Star Game Despite Messi’s Absence

Major League Soccer (MLS) secured a 3-1 victory over Mexico’s Liga MX in the 2025 MLS All-Star Game on Wednesday night at Q2 Stadium, even without star player Lionel Messi taking part. The match saw goals from Sam Surridge, Tai Baribo, and Brian White, as MLS continued their dominance over Liga MX, winning three of the last four All-Star clashes.

Messi, along with Inter Miami teammate Jordi Alba, missed the game and now face possible suspensions for their upcoming league match against Cincinnati due to their absence. MLS coach Nico Estévez praised Messi but emphasized respect for the players who showed up and performed well during the unique event. Similarly, Liga MX’s star James Rodríguez also chose not to participate.

The match started competitively with both sides creating chances, including diving saves by Liga MX’s Luis Malagón and MLS goalkeeper Brad Stuver. MLS broke the deadlock in the 28th minute when Surridge headed home a precise cross from LAFC’s Denis Bouanga after Bouanga’s initial shot was saved.



MLS extended their lead in the 51st minute through Baribo, who finished off a slick assist from Diego Rossi. Liga MX pulled one back in the 64th minute with Gilberto Mora scoring from a pass by Elias Montiel, but MLS sealed the game with a late goal by Brian White in the 80th minute.

Baribo and White continue to chase the

MLS scoring lead, currently held by Messi and Surridge, with 14 and 11 goals respectively.

The MLS-Liga MX rivalry continues with the Leagues Cup starting July 29, featuring 36 clubs competing in a new format, highlighting the growing competitive ties between the two leagues.

Historic Feats for Rishabh Pant as England Dominate Day 2

Rishabh Pant delivered another unforgettable performance in the fourth Test against England at Old Trafford, Manchester, even as India found themselves under pressure by stumps on Day 2. Battling physical discomfort, the resilient wicket-keeper batter brought up multiple personal milestones during his gritty knock.

Pant smashed his 90th six in Test cricket, drawing level with the iconic Virender Sehwag for the most sixes by an Indian in the format. Known for his aggressive and fearless batting, Pant now tops the list alongside Sehwag, while India captain Rohit Sharma follows with 88 sixes. Other notable names include MS Dhoni (78) and Ravindra Jadeja (74), rounding out the top five Indian six-hitters in Tests.

In addition to the six-hitting record, Pant

etched his name in the record books by surpassing Rohit Sharma as India’s leading run-scorer in the World Test Championship (WTC) era. With 2731 runs in just 38 Tests—including six centuries and sixteen half-centuries—Pant continues to be a vital cog in India’s red-ball lineup. Rohit, with 2719 runs, now sits just behind.

Despite Pant’s heroics, India could not build on their total, getting bowled out for 358. In response, England unleashed their trademark Bazball approach. Openers Ben Duckett (94) and Zak Crawley (84) forged a rapid 166-run opening stand, putting the Indian bowlers under pressure. At stumps, England had raced to 225 for two, trailing India by just 133 runs. Ollie Pope (20\) and Joe Root (11\) remained unbeaten at the crease, giving the hosts a firm grip on the game heading into Day 3.





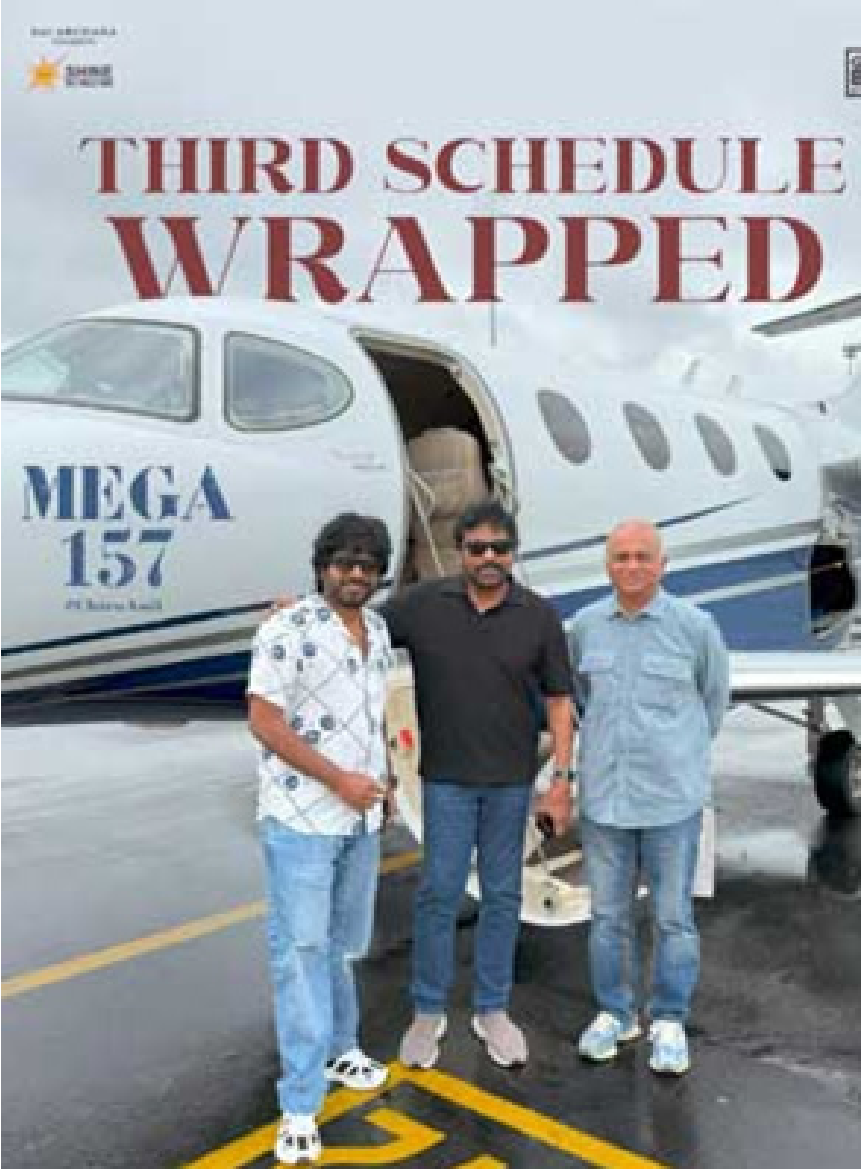
Chiranjeevi–Anil Ravipudi Film Completes Third Schedule in Kerala

The much-awaited collaboration between Megastar Chiranjeevi and director Anil Ravipudi is steadily progressing, with the team recently wrapping up the third shooting schedule. Titled Megha-157 (working title), the film is already making waves among fans and industry circles alike.

This latest schedule took place in Kerala and spanned ten days. A major highlight of this leg of the shoot was the filming of a romantic song featuring Chiranjeevi and leading lady Nayanthara. The picturesque locations of Kerala added visual richness to the sequence, and expectations are high for a visually appealing and musically memorable number.

Chiranjeevi's role in the film is generating significant curiosity. As per inside sources, the iconic star will be seen playing a drill master—an exciting and never-before-seen avatar for him. Known for his versatility, Chiranjeevi is expected to bring both charm and authority to this unique character, offering a refreshing experience for his fans.

Anil Ravipudi, known for his commercial entertainers with a perfect blend of humor and action, is said to be crafting a family-centric narrative with mass appeal. With Nayanthara on board as the female lead, the film gains further star power and elegance. Their on-screen pairing is expected to be one of the film's standout elements.



While official plot details remain under wraps, the buzz surrounding Megha-157 continues to grow with each update. The successful completion of this schedule marks another milestone in what promises to be a grand cinematic entertainer.

Stay tuned for more exclusive updates and behind-the-scenes glimpses as Megha-157 moves into its next schedule. Fans can look forward to a refreshing role from Chiranjeevi and a high-energy, emotionally engaging drama on the big screen.

Balakrishna's Daaku Maharaaj Scores Fair TRP in First TV Telecast

Nandamuri Balakrishna's Daaku Maharaaj continues to maintain its momentum across platforms, registering a fair TRP of 8.23 during its recent world television premiere on Star Maa. Despite an overall dip in small-screen viewership, the film's performance is considered solid, aligning with the consistent TV success of Balakrishna's recent outings.



While the film had only a decent theatrical run—largely overshadowed by Venkatesh's blockbuster Sankranti—Vasthunam—it found a second wind on OTT, becoming a surprise hit on Netflix, especially among non-Telugu audiences.

Featuring Bobby Deol as the primary antagonist, the ensemble cast also includes Pragya Jaiswal, Shraddha Srinath, Urvashi Rautela, and Chandini Chowdhary. Produced by Naga Vamsi under the Sithara Entertainment banner, the film's wide appeal was further amplified by S.S. Thaman's dynamic soundtrack, which played a crucial role in connecting with a pan-Indian audience.

With its cross-platform success and respectable TV reception, Daaku Maharaaj has solidified its position as another feather in Balakrishna's cap, especially in the digital era where audience preferences are rapidly evolving.

Hari Hara Veera Mallu Review: A Visually Grand, Yet Uneven Period Saga

After years of anticipation and delays, Hari Hara Veera Mallu: Part 1 – Sword vs Spirit finally hits the big screen, led by Pawan Kalyan in a powerful and poised performance. Set in the 1650s, the film follows Veera Mallu, a rebellious hero entrusted with recovering the legendary Koh-i-Noor diamond from Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. But beneath this mission lies a deeper personal vendetta and mysterious past, slowly unraveled as the story progresses.



The film's strongest pillar is undoubtedly Pawan Kalyan, whose screen presence, composed demeanor, and intense action scenes carry much of the narrative weight. The action choreography stands out, with sequences like the Machilipatnam port fight and the Kushti battle offering true cinematic spectacle. Nidhi Agerwal performs well in her limited role, and Bobby Deol makes a menacing impression, though his screen time is brief, teasing a bigger role in the sequel.

While the first half is gripping and energetic, the second half struggles with pacing issues. The plot stalls with filler scenes that dilute tension, and the absence of a meaningful confrontation between the hero and villain leaves a void. Characters like Sathyaaraj and Nidhi's Panchami are underdeveloped, losing narra-

tive impact as the story progresses.

Technically, Keeravaani's music adds emotional gravitas, and the cinematography by Gnana Sekhar VS and Manoj Paramahansa enhances the period atmosphere. However, the weak visual effects—particularly during key scenes—are a major letdown, diminishing the overall grandeur.

Despite its flaws, Hari Hara Veera Mallu delivers enough moments of mass appeal and visual flair to make it a worthwhile watch. It sets the stage for a more intense sequel and rewards fans with a taste of epic action, even if the full meal is yet to come.

Rating: 3/5

'Kingdom' Promotions in Full Swing

Vijay Deverakonda, Vanga & Gautham Unite for Kingdom

Tollywood fans are buzzing with excitement as promotions for the upcoming action drama Kingdom, starring Vijay Deverakonda, kick into high gear ahead of its July 31 release. Directed by Gautham Tinnanuri and produced by Naga Vamsi under Sithara Entertainment, Kingdom promises to showcase Deverakonda in a powerful new avatar.



Joining him in the lead is Bhagyashree Bhorse, while talented actor Satyadev plays a key supporting role. With just days to go for its theatrical debut, the film's promotional campaign has picked up momentum. Instead of typical media meet-and-greets, the makers are opting for impactful promotional content such as interviews and social media-driven campaigns.

A major highlight of the ongoing promotions is a special interview featuring Arjun Reddy and Animal director Sandeep Reddy Vanga, who sat down with Vijay Deverakonda and Gautham Tinnanuri for an in-depth conversation. The video from this unique interaction is expected to drop soon and has already generated major curiosity among fans.

A still from the interview — showing Deverakonda, Vanga, and Tinnanuri in the same frame — has gone viral across social media platforms, fueling anticipation for both the conversation and the film itself. Fans are especially excited to see two powerhouse directors and one of Tollywood's biggest stars share insights on cinema, storytelling, and Kingdom.

In addition to this interview, the film team has planned a grand pre-release event and trailer launch in Tirupati, further building momentum as the release nears. With a strong cast, compelling storyline, and innovative promotional strategy, Kingdom is shaping up to be one of the most awaited Telugu films of the year.

Michael Jackson Biopic "Michael" Rescheduled for April 2026 Release

The highly anticipated biopic Michael, based on the life and legacy of pop icon Michael Jackson, is now set to release worldwide on April 24, 2026. The film was originally scheduled to hit theatres in October 2025 but faced delays due to reshoots and an extended initial cut, prompting producers to push back the release date.

Directed by Antoine Fuqua and written by John Logan, the film stars Jaafar Jackson, Michael's nephew, in the lead role. The project is being pro-

duced by Oscar-winner Graham King, known for The Departed. According to the official synopsis, Michael will offer "an intimate look at the life and enduring legacy" of the global superstar, charting his rise from child prodigy to the King of Pop, one of the most influential figures in music history.

Lionsgate will handle the film's domestic distribution, while Universal Pictures will release it internationally, excluding Japan, where Kino Films

holds the rights. Lionsgate CEO Jon Feltheimer had previously hinted at a possible delay to 2026, which is now confirmed.

The biopic also boasts a strong supporting cast: Colman Domingo and Nia Long as Joe and Katherine Jackson, Miles Teller as John Branca, Jackson's lawyer, Larenz Tate as Motown founder Berry Gordy, Laura Harrier as executive Suzanne de



Passe
Kat Graham as Diana Ross

Other cast members include Jessica Sula as La Toya Jackson, Liv Symone as Gladys Knight, and Kendrick Sampson as legendary producer Quincy Jones.

Michael Jackson passed away in 2009 at the age of 50 due to acute propofol intoxication. His personal physician, Conrad Murray, was later convicted of involuntary manslaughter. Michael promises to be a powerful cinematic tribute to a legend who changed the face of global pop music.