



Centre Key Statement on
Polavaram-Banakacharla Project

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PM Applauds
Vijayawada's Water
Management

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Prime Minister Narendra Modi commended Vijayawada's efficient water management during his latest 'Mann Ki Baat' broadcast, calling it an exemplary model for urban water supply. He highlighted that the city's effective distribution system stands as proof of good governance and sustainable planning. Urban Development Minister Dr. Narayana expressed pride over the Prime Minister's acknowledgment, stating that it reflects the development-oriented approach of the coalition government. "The Chief Minister's constant monitoring has ensured that Vijayawada not only meets its residents' needs but has also earned recognition at the national level by securing the Swachh Survekshan Award recently," he said. According to official data, the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) currently supplies safe drinking water to over 1.6 million residents daily without major disruptions. Dr. Narayana emphasized that even hilly regions within the corporation limits are now receiving uninterrupted water supply, a significant improvement since the new government assumed office. He also credited the AMRUT scheme for strengthening the State's water infrastructure. "Under the guidance of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Andhra Pradesh has received substantial central funds through the AMRUT program. Over the next three years, we aim to ensure that every household in all municipalities across the State receives safe drinking water," he added. The Minister extended congratulations to VMC Commissioner Dhyanaachandra, other officials, and staff for their dedicated efforts in achieving this recognition.

Singapore Tour Day Two

Ports, Cities, Sports
Top Naidu's Agenda



TPN Correspondent |
Andhra Pradesh

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu highlighted Andhra Pradesh's ambitious plans in green energy, port development, housing, and sports infrastructure, calling for extensive cooperation from Singapore during his ongoing visit. He emphasized that the state is undertaking large-scale renewable projects and expects significant support from Singapore, particularly in green hydrogen, transmission corridors, data centers, and logistics. Singapore's Trade and Industry Minister Tan See Leng expressed willingness to partner in housing construction and subsea cable projects. He assured that Singapore, along with the World Bank, is already collaborating globally in sectors like green energy and urban housing, and would extend its expertise to Andhra Pradesh. Naidu noted that earlier difficulties faced by Singaporean firms in Andhra Pradesh would not be repeated, stressing his commitment to restoring trust and ensuring smooth cooperation.

Two-Hour Walk in
Bidadari Estate

During the visit, Naidu toured Bidadari Estate, a 250-acre eco-friendly housing project accommodating 10,000 families, designed by Singapore's Housing Development Board (HDB). The project's environmental planning—preserving natural water sources, minimizing tree removal, and converting old cremation grounds into parks—was highlighted as a model for Andhra Pradesh's upcoming urban housing initiatives. Naidu invited Singaporean agencies to participate in Amaravati's housing development and acknowledged their earlier contributions to the capital city's master plan.

Port Development and
Logistics Hub Vision

Later, Naidu inspected Tuas Port, one of Asia's largest container ter-



minals under construction at a cost of ₹1.7 lakh crore. He reviewed its automation systems, AI-based cargo handling, and real-time tracking technologies. Andhra Pradesh plans to develop ports every 50 km along its coastline, aiming to create a logistics hub integrating ports, airports, and industrial corridors. Discussions focused on technology transfer, joint ventures, and international standards for port operations.

Sports Infrastructure
and Global Training

Naidu also visited the Singapore Sports School with badminton coach Pullela Gopichand and ministers. He said Andhra Pradesh's sports policy aims to produce international athletes while positioning sports schools as hubs for tourism and commercial activity. The state has raised sports reservations in government jobs to 3% and enhanced rewards—₹7 crore for Olympic gold medalists, ₹5 crore for silver, and ₹3 crore for bronze.

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Telangana HC Allows
Permanent Residents
in MBBS Seats

TPN Correspondent |Hyderabad

The Telangana High Court has delivered relief to MBBS aspirants by directing Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences (KNRUHS) to provisionally count permanent residents of the state as 'local candidates' for counselling, even if they lack the required four-year residency or study history. The interim order addresses petitions challenging Rule 3(a) of the KNRUHS admission prospectus released on July 15, which reinstated a stringent four-year requirement for Telangana local-ity eligibility. Advocates B. Mayur Reddy and Diwakar Reddy argued in court that the rule unfairly penalized permanent residents and violated fundamental rights under Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Constitution. The High Court agreed that domicile should be accepted as valid proof of local status. With the registration deadline for MBBS counselling closing on July 30, the court ruled that around 100 affected candidates may participate under the Telangana local quota until a final decision is reached. The bench directed KNRUHS and state authorities to follow its earlier rulings from 2023 and 2024 in managing the ongoing admissions process. The interim order offers much-needed respite to hopeful candidates while the court continues its deliberations on the legality of the four-year norm.



Mega PTM Enters
Guinness World
Records

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh has secured a prestigious Guinness World Record for organizing the world's largest Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM), marking a historic achievement in public education. Over 5.34 million parents and teachers participated in the Mega PTM 2.0 event, with a total footfall exceeding 15.2 million, including students, alumni, School Management, School Management Committee (SMC) members, and philanthropists. The event, held just a day before the fifth anniversary of the National Education Policy on Tuesday, reflects the State's commitment to transforming its public education system. Andhra Pradesh aims to establish itself as a "Quantum Valley," a hub for knowledge and innovation, by focusing on global educational standards and empowering its youth. Education and IT Minister Shri Nara Lokesh expressed immense pride upon receiving the confirmation from Guinness World Records. He dedicated this global recognition to teachers who contributed tirelessly to the success of Mega PTM 2.0. "It is heartening to see that Guinness World Records has acknowledged the State's mission to rejuvenate public education and promote inclusive learning for all. We dedicate this award to the teaching community," he said. The Guinness certification followed a thorough audit involving three photographs, one video, verified participant counts, and independent witness statements from each participating school.

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YS Jagan Meets
Governor Abdul Nazeer

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

YSR Congress Party chief and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, along with his wife, met Governor Abdul Nazeer at Raj Bhavan in Vijayawada on Monday evening. The meeting lasted for nearly an hour, after which the couple returned to Tadepalli. Party sources stated that the visit was a courtesy call, during which Jagan reportedly enquired about the Governor's health, as Nazeer had recently been recovering from illness. However, the timing of the meeting has attracted political attention. Just a day earlier, Special Investigation Team (SIT) officials conducted searches at Bharathi Cements' Hyderabad office, raising speculation about the next course of action in the ongoing Andhra Pradesh liquor case. While YSRC leaders maintain that the meeting carried no political significance, some believe discussions could have touched upon the latest political developments.

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Congress vs BJP In Lok
Sabha on Op Sindoor



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Lok Sabha on Monday witnessed heated exchanges between the BJP and Congress during the debate on the Pahalgam terror attack and India's subsequent military response, Operation Sindoor. The Congress party questioned the government's claim of success. Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi questioned the government's narrative by pointing to their own statements. "They said we attacked them inside their homes. But they also admitted that Operation Sindoor is incomplete because Pakistan can still strike in the future. They said it themselves. Then how was the operation a



success?" he asked. Continuing his criticism, Gogoi challenged the Centre's position on Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). "They say our intention was not war. Was it not so? They say it was not to take territory. Why was it not? When will we take back PoK, if not today, then when?" he asked, accusing the government of lacking clarity in its objectives.

Shashi Tharoor Snubs Party Line

Amid the debate, senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor reportedly distanced himself from the party's aggressive stance.

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Ports, Cities, Sports Top...

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Plans include building an international sports city in Amaravati and integrated complexes in Tirupati, Visakhapatnam, and Vijayawada. Singapore Sports School Principal Ong Kim Soon explained their high-performance system, which begins intensive training from age 12 and connects students to national associations and academies. Andhra Pradesh intends to replicate this model, setting up sports schools in Kadapa, Vijayawada, and Vizianagaram.

Mega PTM Enters Guinness World...

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Evidence was compiled through the LEAP App, a digital platform designed to enhance education delivery, track student progress, and provide structured lesson plans to teachers. B. Srinivasa Rao, State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha Andhra Pradesh, noted that over 40 auditors appointed by Guinness World Records meticulously verified data from 61,000 schools. The official Guinness World Record certificate will be presented in Amaravati during a special ceremony in the second week of August.

YS Jagan Meets Governor Abdul...

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The liquor case probe and its possible implications are creating tension across state political circles, and Jagan's sudden visit to the Governor has added to the intrigue surrounding the unfolding situation. Political observers are closely watching the developments.



Centre Key Statement on Polavaram-Banakacharla Project

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Central government has stated that the Andhra Pradesh government has not yet started work on the proposed Polavaram-Banakacharla project. This was clarified in a written reply by the Union Jal Shakti Ministry in the Rajya Sabha, responding to a question raised by Congress MP Anil Kumar Yadav. According to the reply, the AP government informed the Centre that only a free feasibility report has been submitted to the Central Water Commission for technical and financial evaluation. No physical work on the project has been initiated so far. Meanwhile, the Telangana government has raised objections to the project. It has communicated its concerns through a formal letter and stated that it is in ongoing consultation with the concerned authorities and other river basin states. The Centre's disclosure highlights the project's early stage and the inter-state complexities involved. The Polavaram-Banakacharla project has long been discussed as a significant water linkage initiative aimed at improving irrigation and water distribution in Andhra Pradesh. However, the latest update suggests that critical clearances and inter-state agreements are yet to be finalized.



TPN Correspondent | Tamil Nadu

A shocking case has emerged from Tamil Nadu's Salem district, where bat meat was allegedly be-

Achchennaaidu Orders Full Water to Vamsadhara Ayacut

TPN Correspondent | Srikakulam

In view of the prevailing drought-like conditions, Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Achchennaaidu has instructed irrigation authorities to ensure full-scale water supply to the Vamsadhara ayacut. Chairing an emergency review meeting with irrigation officials at his Nimmada camp office on Monday, the Minister emphasized immediate measures to safeguard crop cultivation in the region. He directed that water release from lift irrigation schemes be temporarily halted so that maximum allocation can be diverted to the left canal ayacut. Special focus must be placed on providing water to tail-end areas, particularly in Palasa, Meghavaram, Tekkali, and Nandigam mandals. The Minister instructed officials to increase the current discharge from Gotta Barrage from 1,600 cusecs to 1,800 cusecs to meet growing irrigation needs. Achchennaaidu stressed that water distribution should prioritize lower ayacut areas be-



fore supplying upper regions, ensuring farmers preparing for transplantation have adequate access. He also directed field-level inspections to monitor real-time water flow and identify any bottlenecks. To maintain uninterrupted supply, the Minister ordered the deployment of temporary staff to oversee canal operations and prevent breaches. He asked officials to take precautions to avoid damage to canal structures and to ensure that water reaches all targeted villages without leakage or wastage.

The Minister assured that the coalition government stands firmly with farmers and is committed to resolving their concerns. He also instructed agriculture department officials to make fertilizers readily available to cultivators, enabling them to proceed with agricultural activities without delays. Vamsadhara Project Chairman Aravala Ravindra, irrigation engineers Swarna Kumar, B. Shekhar, and Manmadha Rao, along with other senior officials, participated in the meet-

Lokesh Urges Airbus to Set Up MRO Hub



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Minister for Education, IT, and Electronics, Nara Lokesh, engaged in a strategic discussion with Airbus Asia Pacific President Anand Stanley during his official visit to Singapore, highlighting the state's potential as a regional aviation center. Minister Lokesh proposed Andhra Pradesh as the ideal location for a dedicated Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) hub, citing India's expanding aviation sector and the growing aircraft density in the region. He emphasized that neighboring countries including Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan, along with Southeast Asian markets, represent a strong captive base for such a facility. Currently, over 850 Airbus air-

craft operate in India, and forecasts indicate that approximately 1,750 new aircraft will be required over the next 20 years. Airbus maintains a 65-70% market share in the commercial aviation space, largely through the A320 narrow-body fleet. Lokesh stated that Andhra Pradesh's geographical advantage, combined with its readiness to develop robust infrastructure, positions the state to become South Asia's leading MRO destination. He assured that the proposed hub would meet global standards similar to those maintained by Singapore, aiming to reduce operational costs, minimize ferry times, and improve aircraft turnaround for Indian carriers. "Our objective is to establish an MRO hub that not only caters to domestic requirements but also services regional airlines, strengthening India's aviation ecosystem," Minister Lokesh said. He extended an invitation to Anand Stanley to visit Andhra Pradesh and assess the policy framework and infrastructure support available for the aerospace industry.

Heavy Inflows into Srisaillam Reservoir

TPN Correspondent | Srisaillam

Continuous heavy rains in Karnataka and Maharashtra have led to sustained flood inflows into the Krishna River, resulting in significant water levels at the Srisaillam Reservoir. At present, inflows from Sunkesula and Jurala projects are bringing about 1,27,392 cusecs of water into Srisaillam. The current outflow

from the reservoir has been recorded at 1,40,009 cusecs. Water is being released downstream to manage the rising levels. Through two spillway gates, 53,764 cusecs are being discharged towards Nagarjuna Sagar. Additionally, 20,000 cusecs are being released via the Pothireddypadu head regulator, while the left-bank power station is discharging 35,315 cusecs,

and the right-bank power station is releasing 30,930 cusecs. The reservoir's full reservoir level (FRL) is 885 feet, while the current level stands at 882.40 feet. Its full storage capacity is 215.80 TMC, and the present storage is 201.12 TMC. Authorities are closely monitoring the situation and have taken measures to regulate water levels to prevent downstream flooding.

Bat Meat Sold as Chicken

ing sold as chicken to hotels and fast-food outlets. The incident has raised serious food safety concerns across the region, especially as neighboring states Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are already conducting intensive inspections on unhygienic food practices. Police arrested two individuals from a forested area in Salem for hunting bats using country-made rifles. During interrogation, the suspects admitted to killing bats and selling their meat under the guise of chicken to local eateries.

Their confession prompted immediate alerts to the Food Safety Department, which is now coordinating with law enforcement to prevent the illegal sale of bat meat. Authorities are preparing to conduct surprise raids on restaurants and fast-food centers in Salem city following the leads provided by the arrested individuals. Food safety officials have warned that such acts pose severe health risks, including the potential spread of zoonotic diseases.

Congress vs BJP In Lok...

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Sources indicated that Tharoor declined a request from Rahul Gandhi's office to lead the opposition's charge in the nearly 16-hour discussion on Operation Sindoor and the conflict with Pakistan. Tharoor is said to have made it clear that he would not speak against the government for the sake of political messaging, reportedly telling party leaders that he would not contradict his earlier statements. His refusal comes at a time when his relationship with the Congress appears to be at a crossroads. The debate over Operation Sindoor is expected to continue in both Houses, with opposition parties pressing for clarity on its objectives and long-term impact.

"Opposition Should Ask If Terror Bases Destroyed": Rajnath Singh

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh delivered a fiery response in Parliament on Monday, taking strong exception to the opposition's focus on Indian losses during Operation Sindoor and the Pahalgam terror attack, and asserting that their questions do not align with the country's collective sentiment. "A few members of the opposition have been asking, 'how many of our aircraft were shot down?' I feel their question does not adequately represent our national sentiments," Singh said. "They have not asked how many enemy aircraft we shot down." Singh argued that the real questions should have been: Did India destroy terrorist bases? Was Operation Sindoor a success? Were terrorist leaders killed? "And the answer to all these questions is — yes," he thundered, drawing loud thumps of approval from the treasury benches. Amid opposition queries over alleged damage to Indian military infrastructure — and Pakistan's claim of downing six Indian jets — Singh clarified that none of India's brave soldiers were harmed. "Pakistan could not hit our targets. There was no damage to any of our important assets," he said. Rejecting what he termed "comparatively small issues that divert attention from national security," the Defence Minister praised India's precision strikes, which destroyed nine terror camps across Pakistan and Pak-occupied Kashmir, eliminating over 100 terrorists — all within nine minutes and without civilian casualties. Singh's remarks come days after former US President Donald Trump controversially claimed that five Indian jets were shot down — a claim India has not confirmed. In defending Operation Sindoor, Singh reaffirmed India's military strength and dismissed opposition doubts: "If they truly stand with the nation, they should be asking the right questions."

HRC Seeks Report on Surrogacy Scandal

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Telangana Human Rights Commission (HRC) has expressed strong displeasure over reports of alleged child sales by a fertility center in Secunderabad. Acting on media reports, the HRC has taken up the case suo motu, emphasizing that incidents involving the sale of infants born through surrogacy must be treated with utmost seriousness. The commission directed the state's Medical and Health Department to conduct a thorough investigation and submit a detailed report by August 28. It warned that any negligence in such sensitive cases would attract strict action. The controversy began after police registered a case against Srushti Fertility Center, which allegedly assured childless couples of assistance through IVF and surrogacy but was found to be engaged in illegal child trade, according to initial reports. Several individuals have already been arrested in connection with the case, and further investigations are underway to identify the full network behind the operation. Authorities are examining records of surrogate births facilitated by the center and verifying adoption-related documentation to trace how many infants may have been illegally sold. The HRC's intervention has intensified pressure on law enforcement and health officials to ensure accountability and prevent further exploitation of vulnerable families.



SIT Must Reveal Liquor Scam Details: Chinta Mohan

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

Former Union Minister Chinta Mohan has alleged large-scale corruption in Andhra Pradesh’s liquor sector and demanded immediate release of the SIT report. He stated that he served as the Chairman of the Alcohol Board for one and a half years and fully understands liquor production. “With four kilograms of molasses, one liter of alcohol can be produced. Thousands of crores of rupees are involved in this liquor scam. The government must reveal the facts to the public,” he said.

Mohan also raised concerns over mining activities in his constituency, particularly in Saidapuram, which he claimed holds resources worth lakhs of crores. “Who exploited these mines earlier, and who is doing it now? Similarly, sand resources in Gudur, Satyavedu, and Sullurupeta must be accounted for,” he demanded. He criticized the state for halting the Dugarajupatnam port project, which had been approved during the UPA government. “I persuaded 32 Union Ministers and got Parliament’s approval. If completed, the port could have attracted massive investments and industries. Instead, Chandrababu Naidu stopped it to benefit Adani,” he alleged.

Mohan accused the ruling coalition of abandoning Rayalaseema’s administrative capital, diverting resources to Amaravati, and distributing CRDA lands without transparency. He also slammed the BJP-led central government, citing ₹14.5 lakh crore in bank loan write-offs and alleged corruption.

Highlighting failures in healthcare, education, and employment, he said rural hospitals lack basic facilities, MGNREGA funds are misused, and three lakh students have dropped out of primary schools. He further expressed concern over rising attacks on SCs, STs, and OBCs, stating that Andhra Pradesh’s governance has deteriorated over the last decade.



MLA Reviews Welfare Scheme Reach

TPN Correspondent | Krishna District

MLA Yarlagadda Venkata Rao of Gannavaram constituency actively participated in the ‘Good Governance – First Step’ initiative conducted in Bapulapadu mandal. The program was organized in Kodurupadu and Sobanadripuram villages, where the MLA, along with local leaders, workers, and government officials, visited households to interact directly with residents. During these visits, Yarlagadda Venkata Rao inquired about the implementation of various government schemes and explained their benefits to the people. He encouraged villagers to make full use of the welfare programs designed to improve living standards. Local representatives from coalition parties, village volunteers, and administrative officials joined the initiative. The MLA emphasized that such door-to-door campaigns help bridge the gap between the government and citizens, ensuring that welfare measures reach all eligible beneficiaries.

Minister Gottipati Urges Smart Meter Awareness

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar emphasized the importance of increasing public awareness regarding smart electricity meters. He clarified that no smart meters have been installed for agricultural connections in Andhra Pradesh and that their deployment is limited to industrial and commercial consumers. He directed DISCOMs to actively educate people, explain the smart meter policy, and dispel any misinformation or concerns circulating in the public domain.

During a review meeting held on Monday, attended by APEPDCL CMD I. Prudhvi Tej and senior officials, the Minister assessed the power supply situation in APEPDCL’s jurisdiction. Officials confirmed that supply is meeting demand and reported that nine hours of uninterrupted electricity is being provided to agricultural consumers in nine out of eleven farming districts.

The Minister instructed officers to counter misleading claims on social media by conducting structured outreach programs. He urged direct engagement with consumers to explain where and why smart meters are



being installed, ensuring doubts are resolved before implementation.

Addressing infrastructure challenges, Ravi Kumar highlighted the need to prevent supply disruptions and tackle low voltage problems proactively. He also reviewed the progress of the RDSS (Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme) works and directed that local contractors be utilized to speed up execution. He reminded officials that central funding for Phase II of RDSS will only be released after the successful completion of Phase I.

Reiterating his earlier statement, the Minister said smart meters are not being deployed

in agriculture, and installations are confined to industrial and commercial users. He acknowledged the spread of false information about smart meters and instructed DISCOMs to launch extensive awareness campaigns before any installations.

Officials also updated the Minister on the PM Surya Ghar scheme. Eluru is leading its implementation, followed by Visakhapatnam, West Godavari, and East Godavari districts. The Minister directed that, as per Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu’s instructions, at least 10,000 solar connections be provided per constituency under the scheme.



TDP Leaders Criticized for Targeting YSRCP

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

YSRCP State Joint Secretary Kishore Boosipati has strongly condemned what he described as politically motivated attacks by TDP leaders B.Tech Ravi and MLC Rangopal Reddy against YSRCP State General Secretary Satish Reddy. Addressing the media at the district party office, Kishore alleged that these leaders are criticizing Satish Reddy to gain favor—B.Tech Ravi with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Rangopal Reddy with Minister Nara Lokesh.

He stated that after coming to power, the coalition government ignored many pre-election promises and focused primarily on Amaravati and Polavaram, leaving several welfare schemes unimplemented. Farmers, students, women, and parents, who benefited from numerous schemes during the previous YSRCP government, are now facing hardships, Kishore said.

He added that Satish Reddy has been questioning the government on public issues, not for personal gain. “Instead of answering those questions, TDP leaders are resorting to mudslinging,” he alleged. According to Kishore, attempts to create political tension in Pulivendula, a region known for its calm, by launching personal attacks on Satish Reddy are unacceptable.

Kishore demanded that instead of targeting individuals, TDP leaders should focus on resuming stalled development works in Pulivendula, including medical college projects and infrastructure initiatives. He questioned why the leaders remained silent when 50 medical seats sanctioned for Pulivendula were withdrawn and when local projects came to a halt. He urged TDP leaders to shift their attention from personal criticism to addressing public welfare and ensuring the implementation of promised schemes.

BC Hostels to Celebrate ‘Freshers’ Day’: Minister

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Andhra Pradesh government has announced that all BC (Backward Classes) hostels across the state will hold three-day ‘Freshers’ Day’ celebrations on September 6, 7, and 8 to create a friendly atmosphere among students and help them overcome mental stress.

State BC, EWS Welfare, Handlooms, and Textiles Minister S. Savitha stated that the initiative aims to foster interaction, reduce anxiety, and build confidence in students who are entering new environments. “When students come to a new place with unfamiliar people, they often experience shyness and fear. Freshers’ Day will help ease that transition by encouraging bonding and creating a welcoming environment,” she explained.

The minister said that the admission process for the academic year 2025–26 in BC hostels is in its final phase. “We have instructed BC Welfare Department officials to complete all admissions by September 5. Immediately after admissions conclude, celebrations will be organized in every hostel for three consecutive days,” she added.

The government has directed that parents, members of educational committees, and public representatives be invited to participate. Additionally, district collectors, joint collectors, sub-collectors, RDOs, tahsildars, and mandal development officers will also attend the events, ensuring wide administrative involvement.

Savitha emphasized that the core goal is to bring students together, relieve their psychological pressure, and motivate them to focus on their studies with renewed enthusiasm. The program will include interactive sessions, cultural activities, and opportunities for students to engage with peers, teachers, and officials. She noted that creating such a positive environment will help new students adapt quickly to hostel life, develop friendships, and start their academic journey with confidence. “Freshers’ Day is not just a celebration but a structured effort to promote mental well-being, harmony, and encouragement among hostel students,” Savitha said in the official statement.



Minister Slams Jagan Rule for Fiscal Mess

TPN Correspondent | Krishna District

Andhra Pradesh Finance Minister Pajjavula Keshavulu stated that the state will need additional time to recover from the financial damage caused by the previous government. Speaking at the “Suparipaalana Tholi Adugu” program held in Nandigama, along with local MLA Tangirala Soumya, the Minister criticized the former administration led by Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy for pushing the state into a severe debt trap.

Keshavulu pointed out that the previous Chief Minister himself recently acknowledged the state’s poor financial condition in a social media post. “The financial crisis Andhra Pradesh is experiencing today is a direct result of Jagan Mohan Reddy’s governance. He left the state burdened with debts amounting to nearly ₹10 lakh crore and pending dues of around ₹1.14 lakh crore,” he said. The Minister assured that the current government is making phased efforts to repay these debts.

He further alleged that the earlier government misused employee provident funds, police dues, and diverted resources from welfare schemes such as Srinidhi funds. “All systems were mismanaged, leaving the state in financial chaos. Our government, under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, is committed to restoring fiscal discipline and placing Andhra Pradesh back on the right track,” Keshavulu added.

He also accused the previous regime of halting 95 central government schemes, which affected development and welfare initiatives. “We are now clearing contractors’ pending bills step by step—bills that the Jagan administration left unpaid,” he said, holding the former Chief Minister responsible for the state’s economic setbacks.

Former Minister Slams Coalition Govt

TPN Correspondent | East Godavari



Former Minister and YSRCP East Godavari District President Chelluboyina Srinivasa Venu Gopala Krishna lashed out at the Chandrababu Naidu-led coalition government, accusing it of turning welfare hostels into “living hells” due to mismanagement. Speaking at the Rajamahendravaram Press Club, he criticized Education Minister Nara Lokesh’s incompetence, alleging that students in hostels are being served substandard,

contaminated food, leading to hospitalizations.

Venu Gopala Krishna claimed the coalition government has dismantled reforms introduced by the YSRCP regime under YS Jagan, which ensured quality food and facilities, resulting in a 99% pass rate in gurukul schools. He accused the current administration of neglecting SC and ST welfare hostels, scrapping initiatives like Nadu-Nedu and Gorumudha, which provided nutritious meals. He highlighted dire conditions, includ-

ing students sleeping on floors, lack of blankets, poor-quality rice, inadequate bathrooms, and unhygienic surroundings filled with stagnant water and mosquitoes. Despite Home Minister Anitha’s visit and expressed dissatisfaction with hostel food, no corrective measures have been taken, he noted.

He further accused the government of ignoring marginalized students’ welfare and failing to address basic health and sanitation needs, such as mosquito nets or medical care during monsoons.



Vijayawada Metro Tenders Out for Phase-1

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati
The Andhra Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Limited (APM-RCL) has invited tenders for the construction of the Vijayawada Metro Rail Phase-1 project. The plan includes building metro lines along two major corridors, covering a total distance of 38.4 kilometers. Corridor-1 will connect Pandit Nehru Bus Stand to Gannavaram Bus Stand, while Corridor-2 will extend from the bus station to Penamaluru. Notably, Corridor-1 features a 4.7-kilometer double-decker flyover, adding a significant engineering highlight to the project. The tender also includes the construction of 32 elevated metro stations and one underground metro station. APMRCL has chosen to execute the project under the Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) model to ensure streamlined implementation. For technical designs, supervision, and specialized engineering assistance, TYPSCA Consultancy has been selected to provide expert support throughout the construction process.

MLA Promotes Oil Palm Cultivation for Farmers



TPN Correspondent | Vemuru
Vemuru MLA Nakka Anandababu emphasized the importance of oil palm cultivation as a sustainable income source for farmers in the coastal belt. Speaking at a Mega Oil Palm Plantation program held in Kishkindapalem village, Kollur mandal, the MLA said that farmers in coastal regions possess deep agricultural knowledge, and oil palm farming can significantly contribute to their economic growth. The event was jointly organized by the Bapatla District Horticulture Department and Ajanta Soy Limited. Anandababu inaugurated the plantation by planting saplings on a farmer's field. Addressing the gathering, he explained that oil palm is a long-term commercial crop that begins yielding income within four years. He urged farmers to make use of intercropping methods during the initial years to generate interim earnings. Highlighting government initiatives, Anandababu said that both state and central administrations are encouraging oil palm cultivation to reduce edible oil imports and increase farmer incomes. He assured that technical guidance and subsidies would continue to support farmers adopting this crop. Local Market Yard Chairperson Gottipati Purnakumari, TDP leader Kanagala Madhusudan Prasad, and several other local representatives attended the program. Anandababu also interacted with handloom workers, acknowledging their role in sustaining traditional crafts and promising support for their welfare. Later, at an event organized by Sri Bhadravathi Sambeta Sri Bhavana Rishi Swamy and Padmashaliya Kalyana Mandapam in Ilavaram village, the MLA distributed financial aid totaling Rs. 21 lakh to 35 beneficiaries, underscoring his commitment to rural development.

Guntur Police Bust Ganja Gang

TPN Correspondent | Tenali
Guntur district police dismantled a marijuana smuggling network, arresting 13 individuals and seizing 21 kilograms of marijuana worth approximately ₹3.15 lakh. District SP Satish Kumar stated that strict action is being taken to curb the organized sale and distribution of marijuana, particularly its growing impact on youth. According to SP Satish Kumar, the gang had been smuggling marijuana from Odisha into Andhra Pradesh. They repackaged it into smaller packets and sold it at higher prices across Tenali and nearby areas. The accused allegedly targeted minors, first introducing



them to consumption and later using them as small-scale vendors, turning the illegal trade into a primary source of income. Among the arrested are two individuals

from Vijayawada, one from Guntur, and ten from areas around Tenali. Four of them are minors. Police revealed that several of the main accused are listed rowdy-sheeters in Tenali with multiple criminal cases, including previous drug-related offenses. The operation was conducted by Tenali DSP Janardhana Rao and his team, who focused on high-risk zones such as railway stations, bus stands, and neighborhoods known for criminal activity.

Police Launch Shakti Safety Campaign



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Under the instructions of NTR District Police Commissioner S.V. Rajasekhara Babu, the Shakti Teams have intensified their public outreach campaigns to educate women, girls, and students about safety measures, legal rights, and emergency services. The initiative aims to instill confidence in citizens that law enforcement is accessible and responsive in times of crisis. As part of the program, teams are explaining the use of the “Shakti” mobile application,

which enables women to seek immediate police assistance during emergencies. They are also creating awareness about critical toll-free emergency numbers, including 112 (general emergency), 1930 (cybercrime reporting), 1098 (child helpline), 181 (women's helpline), 1073 (traffic information), and 101 (fire emergencies). The awareness drives, conducted under the supervision of Admin DCP K.G.V. Sarita, and ACP (Women Police Station) T. Daiva Prasad, have been held at various locations across the NTR Commissionerate. During these interactions, the Shakti Teams highlighted that the Shakti App

acts as a powerful deterrent to offenders and represents the government's strong commitment to women's safety. They assisted many women and young girls in downloading the app onto their mobile phones. Additionally, sessions were conducted at Patamata Nidamanuru High School, SRK College, Stella College, and ZP High School in Nandigama. Students were educated about self-defense techniques, safe online behavior, the concept of good touch and bad touch for younger children, the importance of staying away from drugs, the POCSO Act, and the use of Dial 112 during emergencies.

Indrakeeladri Gears Up for Grand Dasara

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Vijayawada's Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam is preparing for the 2025 Dasara celebrations, set to be held from September 22 to October 2 with elaborate arrangements to ensure a grand and orderly event. Temple Executive Officer (EO) V.K. Srinivasa Naik announced that priority will be given to ordinary devotees. Special facilities are planned for infants, mothers with children, elderly devotees, and the differently abled, including drinking water and milk distribution in queue lines. Addressing the media along

with Vedic Committee members, the EO said a coordination meeting under the district collector will be held soon to finalize arrangements. Officials from the Endowments Department, police, and other departments will participate to ensure smooth management. The state government has emphasized that the festivities must be conducted on a large scale, accommodating devotees from across Andhra Pradesh, other states, and abroad. On Mula Nakshatram day, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will offer silk clothes to the goddess on behalf of the state. Celebrations will conclude with



Maha Purnahuti in the morning and a Teppotsavam (float festival) on the Krishna River in the evening.

Daily Alankaram Schedule for Sharannavaratri Celebrations

Date	Goddess
Alankaram (Form of the Day)	
Sept. 22	Sri Bala Tripura Sundari
Sept. 23	Sri Gayatri Devi
Sept. 24	Sri Annapurna Devi
Sept. 25	Sri Katyayani Devi
Sept. 26	Sri Mahalakshmi Devi
Sept. 27	Sri Lalita Tripura Sundari Devi
Sept. 28	Sri Maha Chandi Devi
Sept. 29	Sri Saraswati Devi
Sept. 30	Sri Durga Devi
Oct. 1	Sri Mahishasura Mardini Devi
Oct. 2	Sri Raja Rajeshwari Devi

Collector Helps Adopted Youth Buy Autos

TPN Correspondent | Bapatla
Bapatla District Collector J. Venkata Murali demonstrated a humane approach to governance by providing direct assistance to three young men from Turpupalem village in Cherukupalli mandal, whom he had adopted under the P4 (People, Public, Private Partnership for Progress) initiative. On Monday, the youths—Koneti Narasimharao, Koneti Chintayya, and Uppu Lakshmayya—met the Collector at his office. Murali personally handed them learner's licenses, encouraging them to pursue driving as a means of livelihood. Further strengthening their future prospects, the Collector announced financial assistance of Rs. 65,000 for each youth to fa-

cilitate the purchase of auto-rickshaws. He also coordinated with relevant banking institutions to ensure that the remaining funds would be provided through loans, helping them secure sustainable employment. Officials present appreciated the Collector's commitment to combining administrative responsibilities with social compassion. Local residents also expressed gratitude, noting that such initiatives restore faith in governance and create real opportunities for underprivileged families. This step, they said, would not only help the three individuals become self-reliant but also inspire similar support programs for marginalized communities across the district.



PIN POINT

Fare Cut on Hyd-Vja Route

TSRTC announced a fare reduction for passengers traveling on the Hyderabad-Vijayawada route, offering discounts from 16% to 30%. Garuda Plus buses get a 30% cut, E-Garuda 26%, Super Luxury and Lahari Non-AC 20%, while Rajadhani and Lahari AC buses have 16% off. The offer applies to both online and offline bookings, aiming to boost passenger convenience and travel demand.

Constable Exam Results Today

Home Minister Anitha will announce the results of the constable recruitment examination conducted in October 2022. The release, delayed due to prolonged legal disputes, will finally bring clarity to thousands of candidates awaiting their selection status. With the announcement scheduled for today, the outcome will end months of uncertainty and allow the next stages of the recruitment process to move forward smoothly.

Kondapur Rave Party Kingpin from Mangalagiri

TPN Correspondent | Mangalagiri

The Task Force and Excise Police have identified Appikatla Ashok Kumar from Kaja village under the Mangalagiri-Tadepalli Municipal Corporation limits as the prime accused behind the sensational Kondapur rave party case that has shaken both Telugu states. Authorities revealed that Ashok Kumar allegedly organized illegal parties in Hyderabad, bringing youth—particularly from Andhra Pradesh—on weekends, supplying them with drugs, and forcing them into obscene activities.

During a raid on an SV Service apartment in Kondapur, police arrested nine individuals and seized nine vehicles. From Ashok Kumar's possession, officials recovered drugs, ganja, and condoms. Investigators believe he specifically targeted young women already addicted to narcotics, exploiting their drug-induced state to commit sexual assaults. Preliminary inquiries also point to the involvement of another individual, Nagalla Manikantha Sai, also a native of Kaja village, who is suspected of assisting Ashok Kumar in organizing these events. Notably, the accused was reportedly moving around in a black Fortuner SUV (registration number AP 39 SR0001) displaying a Lok Sabha MP sticker, raising further questions about possible misuse of influence. Local residents expressed shock upon learning that Ashok Kumar, the only son of his parents, who had been raised with affection and care, became deeply involved in criminal activities over the years. Authorities continue to investigate the broader network behind the rave parties, which have sparked serious concerns about drug abuse and organized exploitation in Hyderabad.



Kadapa Civic Body in Garbage Tax Row

TPN | Nagaraju

Kadapa: Despite the state government’s clear orders to abolish garbage tax collection from June 9, 2024, unauthorized levies are still being imposed in Kadapa Municipal Corporation. Certain sanitation officials have ignored directives and are allegedly extracting lakhs of rupees every month from residents and businesses under the guise of “user charges.” Residents, fearing penalties and harassment, are reportedly paying

whatever amount is demanded. Shockingly, receipts issued in the name of the municipal corporation have become a point of contention, raising questions about their authenticity. Earlier, households were charged ₹90 per month, while commercial establishments—tea stalls, hotels, liquor shops, clinics, lodges, theaters, function halls, meat stalls, and grocery stores—were categorized and billed between ₹200 and ₹2,000. Official proce-

dures mandated online payment notices and legitimate receipts, but many officers allegedly created their own receipt books and diverted up to 70% of collected funds, depositing only a fraction into the municipal treasury. After the government’s ban, officials reportedly shifted focus to businesses, openly demanding payments from small tea vendors to large restaurants. Traders claim they are threatened with accusations—littering nearby, using

plastic covers, or blocking public spaces—if they resist. Reports indicate an estimated ₹30 lakh is collected monthly through this illegal practice, suggesting a potential multi-crore scam if fully investigated. Yet, officials appear hesitant, “calculating their moves,” delaying inquiries, and avoiding firm action. Questions remain unanswered: Who is collecting these taxes? Since when? Where is the money going?

TTD Gears Up for Varalakshmi Vratam

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) is making elaborate preparations for the Varalakshmi Vratam scheduled to be held on August 8 at Sri Padmavathi Ammavari Temple in Tiruchanur. JEO V. Veerabrahmam conducted a departmental review meeting at the Asthana Mandapam on Monday, instructing officials to ensure smooth arrangements considering the expected heavy influx of devotees. He announced that the ritual would be performed from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Asthana Mandapam, followed by a golden chariot procession of Goddess Padmavathi at 6 p.m. through the four Mada streets. Each ticket for participation in the Varalakshmi Vratam is priced at Rs. 1,000, allowing two devotees per ticket. Due to this event, TTD has cancelled Abhishekam, post-Abhishekam



darshan, Lakshmi Puja, Kalyanotsavam, Break Darshan, and Unjal Seva on that day. The JEO directed officials to distribute kumkum, bangles, and prasadam to every devotee. LED screens will be arranged for live telecast, along with adequate drinking water and free Annaprasadam. Floral and electrical decorations will be enhanced, while bhajan groups will be deployed to create a devo-

tional atmosphere. He instructed coordination with local panchayats to maintain cleanliness in surrounding areas and with the police department to prevent traffic and security issues. Queue lines, signage boards, temporary sheds, volunteers, sanitation workers, and security personnel will be arranged to manage the large crowd. The event will also be broadcast live on SVBC. According to temple priests, performing the Varalakshmi Vratam brings health, prosperity, family welfare, and marital bliss. Tradition traces the ritual’s origin to divine instructions given by Lord Shiva to Goddess Parvati, as mentioned in Skanda and Bhavishyottara Puranas. Senior temple priests, deputy EOs, engineering officials, and other staff participated in the review meeting.

SP Assures Legal Aid for Complainants

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

Superintendent of Police (SP) Vikrant Patil assured swift investigation and legal resolution for complaints received through the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS). He directed police officials to act promptly on petitions and urged the public to remain cautious about fraudulent job offers, emphasizing that government jobs are strictly merit-based and cannot be purchased. Addressing applicants during a grievance redressal session at the SP camp office in Kurnool, Patil warned against trusting

anyone claiming to secure employment for money. He stated that those offering jobs for cash are committing fraud and must be reported immediately. A total of 104 grievances were received at the session. Complaints included financial scams, land disputes, and fraud cases. Victims reported incidents such as individuals taking large sums of money and gold under the pretext of offering jobs, pastors allegedly luring women into investing in an app named “Market Master” that later defaulted, and a farmer preventing another from accessing his land pathway.



One complainant alleged that electricity department staff removed teak trees from his land without permission, while another claimed that a consultancy agent collected money by promising IT jobs that never materialized. SP Patil assured all complainants that each case would be investigated thoroughly, and legal action would be initiated where necessary. Additional SP Hussain Peer and Circle Inspectors participated in the session.

PGRS Petitions Need Quick Action: Collector

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

Kurnool District Collector P. Ranjith Basha has directed officials to ensure prompt and effective resolution of applicants’ grievances. Speaking at the “Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS)” program held at the Sunayana Auditorium on Monday, he reviewed petitions submitted by citizens and instructed officials to address them without delay. The Collector emphasized that all applications received through the PGRS login must be checked regularly and should not remain unattended. He expressed displeasure over pending applications in several departments, noting that petitions in the Social Welfare Gurukula Colleges login had remained unaddressed for a week, in the DSDO login for 13 days, and in the District AIDS Control Officer and Deputy Inspector of Survey logins for 11 days. Similarly, applications were pending for a week in the Kurnool Urban Tahsildar’s login and at the Adoni Sub-Registrar’s office. Basha also highlighted that multiple Chief Minister’s grievance petitions were still pending: 13 with the Adoni Sub-Collector, six with the Pattikonda RDO, and seven with the Kurnool RDO. Other pending cases were found with officials from the Survey Department, DRDA, Housing, ME-PMA, Irrigation, Wakf Board, and the Kurnool Municipal Commissioner. He ordered all concerned departments to resolve these grievances within the specified timeframe and avoid unnecessary re-openings. On the welfare front, the Collector distributed “DAISY machines,” portable audio libraries designed to assist differently-abled students, to three beneficiaries. He urged students to make full use of the devices for effective learning.



Farmers Hold Semi-Nude Protest

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

Members of the Andhra Pradesh Rythu Sangham staged a semi-nude protest in front of the Kurnool Collectorate on Monday, demanding immediate procurement of unsold tobacco and the establishment of dedicated purchase centers to support distressed farmers. District general secretary J. Ramakrishna accused the government of failing to take farmer-friendly measures, calling the current situation “a clear example of negligence.” He noted that despite four months of continuous protests, authorities have not ensured that private companies procure the leftover tobacco from farmers.

“This is being called a farmer’s government, but it has failed to protect us from financial loss,” Ramakrishna said. He explained that large quantities of tobacco remain unsold in Emmiganur, Veldurthi, Orvakal, Kallur, and Kurnool mandals, leaving cultivators in deep distress. Ramakrishna further said that representations were submitted earlier to the district administration as well as to local MLAs Charita Reddy (Panyam) and Dastagiri (Kodumuru), but no concrete action had followed. “The government must act before farmers suffer irreversible financial losses. Companies should be instructed to purchase the entire remaining stock at a



fair price,” he urged. Later, a delegation of protesting farmers submitted a memorandum to Collector Ranjith Basha. The Collector assured them that agricultural officials would visit villages immediately to verify tobacco stocks with valid agreements, collect required details, and forward them to the state

government for necessary action. Leaders including assistant secretaries A. Krishna, P. Kotakonda Suri, district vice president C. Hanumantu, and farmers from four mandals—Nannur, Madhu, Mahesh, and Mallesu Ulchala—participated in the demonstration.

Collector Orders Quick Action on Grievances

TPN Correspondent | Satya Sai District

District Collector T.S. Chetan instructed all departmental officials to address public grievances promptly and ensure applicants receive satisfactory resolutions. Speaking at the weekly public grievances redressal program held at the Collectorate on Monday, he emphasized that petitions should not only be closed but resolved to the petitioner’s satisfaction within stipulated timelines. The Collector, accompanied by Joint Collector Abhishek Kumar, DRO Parthasarathi, Special Deputy Collector Suryanarayana, DRDA PD Narasayya, and DPVO



Samata, received petitions from various sections of the public. He directed officials to personally visit affected areas, inspect facilities, and ensure that basic amenities are maintained. Particular focus was placed on hostels, with instructions to verify the cleanliness of overhead tanks, kitchens, pipelines, and washrooms to prevent contamination of drinking water.

The Collector warned that any negligence—such as unclean facilities or unsafe water supply—would result in action against responsible officers. He further emphasized the need for strict field inspections to prevent service gaps. “Officials must not neglect petitions. They should review cases thoroughly, conduct transparent inquiries, and ensure there are no unnecessary delays or reopening of cases,” he stated. During the session, grievances related to land disputes, ration card issues, housing site allocations, and pension approvals were presented.

PIN POINT

Extramarital Affair Leads to Killing

A shocking incident occurred in Nellore where a woman allegedly invited her lover home and he was later found murdered. Tarun Tej, married to Pravalika, was reportedly in an extramarital affair with Madhavi. Police said Madhavi called Tarun to her residence, where he was killed. Pravalika alleged that Madhavi, along with others, murdered her husband and tried to stage it as a suicide. Investigation is underway.

Job Fraud Triggers Suicide Attempt

A young man attempted self-immolation at the PGRS meeting organized by Visakhapatnam Commissioner of Police, alleging he was cheated with false job promises. Frustrated after being deceived, he poured petrol on himself demanding action against those responsible. Police present at the venue quickly intervened, stopped him, and pacified him. Authorities assured an investigation into his complaint.

HC Suspends New Kabaddi Committee

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Andhra Pradesh High Court has suspended the newly formed Andhra Kabaddi Association committee, instructing that the body elected in 2023 will continue until further orders. Goluguri Venkata Reddy, also known as Victory Venkata Reddy and serving as the association’s president, stated that secretary Yalamanchili Srikanth organized a meeting on May 17 under

the guise of honoring medal-winning players but instead announced a new executive committee without his consent. Venkata Reddy alleged that this action violated sports regulations and ignored previous court directions. He further accused Srikanth of manipulating player selections, bypassing mandatory inter-district tournaments, and selecting individuals of his choice. “Many athletes lost op-

portunities because nearly 69% of selected players submitted fake birth certificates to qualify for junior-level competitions,” he said. According to Venkata Reddy, Srikanth sidelined independent kabaddi coaching camps, reassigned players to districts of his preference, and intimidated those who questioned his decisions. He also claimed that officials submitted a false affidavit to the court stating

that the previous committee had been dissolved, with 26 people—including government employees—signing it. He criticized Srikanth for organizing unauthorized events under the title “Youth Andhra Pro Kabaddi,” misleading players, and branding state teams as “SKY,” referring to his initials, instead of Andhra Pradesh. Venkata Reddy emphasized the need for a single, transparent state association to protect genuine athletes’ opportunities and align with government initiatives to promote kabaddi.

Creating a Circular Economy: A Path to Sustainable Development and Planetary Health

The traditional industrial economy, dominant for over 150 years, follows a linear “take-make-dispose” model—extracting raw materials, manufacturing goods, using them, and then discarding waste. This approach has led to severe environmental consequences, including resource depletion, pollution, and biodiversity loss. The concept of a circular economy (CE), first introduced in the 1970s by pioneers like German chemist Michael Braungart and American architect William McDonough, offers a promising alternative focused on sustainability, resource efficiency, and waste minimization.

A circular economy promotes designing products for reuse, recycling, repair, remanufacturing, and refurbishment, aiming to keep materials and products in use for as long as possible. This “closing the loop” approach decouples economic growth from resource consumption, helping combat climate change and environmental degradation. Despite over 100 billion tonnes of resources entering the global economy annually, only 8.6% are recycled, signaling a huge opportunity for improvement.

Globally, several countries have embraced circular economy principles. The Netherlands aims for full circularity by 2050, with a 50% target by 2030, balancing socioeconomic growth with environmental sustainability. China enacted its Circular Economy Promotion Law in 2008, while Japan has led waste management innovation since the early 2000s, achieving high recycling rates through collaboration and technology. Chile, following COP-25, set a roadmap for circularity by 2040, targeting the creation of 100,000 green jobs. Germany’s Adidas has innovated with a three-loop strategy—recycle, re-



use, regenerate—producing fully recyclable running shoes with zero waste.

In India, the circular economy is still emerging. The government, through NITI Aayog, has initiated a circular economy cell and introduced policies on plastic and e-waste management. However, waste management remains a challenge; India generates around 62 million tonnes of municipal waste yearly, but only 30% is processed. States like Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are pioneering efforts—Andhra Pradesh is advancing zero-waste initiatives, while Telangana’s Hyderabad hosts one of the world’s largest solid waste processing facilities, featuring waste-to-energy plants and plastic recycling units.

The circular economy closely links with biodiversity conservation by reducing pollution, preventing habitat destruction, minimizing resource extraction, and fostering ecosystem regeneration. It also supports multiple UN Sustainable Development Goals, including clean water and energy, economic growth, sustainable cities, climate action, and life on land and below water.

Adopting circular economy practices in India could save up to 11% of GDP by 2030 and 30% by 2050 while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 44%. Embedding circular principles into global and national development agendas is vital for a sustainable future, where human well-being thrives in harmony with the planet’s health.

From access to agency: India’s next digital imperative



As India aims for a USD 5 trillion economy, digitisation has become fundamental—not just optional. It underpins financial inclusion, healthcare, education, governance, and innovation, making digital infrastructure as crucial as physical roads and power grids. Over the past decade, India’s digital growth has been extraordinary, with over 1.2 billion mobile connections and one of the world’s largest real-time payment systems, UPI. However, a new challenge is emerging—what experts term ‘Digital Deadweight Loss.’

The Comprehensive Modular Survey (CMS): Telecom 2025 report reveals India’s remarkable progress in connectivity, especially among youth aged 15-29. Nearly 97% of this age group own mobile phones, with internet usage above 90% in both rural and urban areas. Yet, owning a smartphone does not necessarily translate to digital empowerment.

A significant 13.7% of households still lack internet access within their homes, not due to infrastructure gaps but human factors. Nearly 40% of respondents reported not knowing how to use the internet, over 20% felt they didn’t need it, and some said digital services did not meet their needs. These barriers—educational, behavioural, and cultural—are restricting the use of digital technology, turning investments into economic deadweight loss.

Among digitally connected youth, critical skills remain limited. While messaging with attachments is common, only about a third can create presentations or report cybercrime—skills essential for active participation in today’s digital economy. Furthermore, stark gender and rural-urban divides persist. Just 63% of young women own mobile phones compared to 83% of young men. Rural women’s ability to perform online

banking has improved significantly but still lags far behind men.

This gap threatens to exclude large sections from India’s digital future. Devices and infrastructure alone are not enough. Without building digital capacity and confidence—especially among rural populations and women—India risks a digital economy that leaves many behind.

To realize its USD 5 trillion goal, India must shift focus from mere access to genuine inclusion. This means launching large-scale digital literacy programs, creating relevant local content, encouraging apps that cater to low-literacy users, and empowering citizens to move from passive users to active digital participants. Only then can India transform connectivity into meaningful development and ensure no one is left on the wrong side of the digital divide.



The Politics of Identity and Social Justice in Odisha: A Complex Reality

Since the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) came to power in Odisha, the political landscape around identity has taken on a sectarian hue. The BJP’s rise was fueled by “Odia asmita” (Odia pride), which has gradually merged with Hindutva nationalism. The traditional regional slogan “Jai Jagannath” is increasingly overshadowed by the Hindutva rallying cry “Jai Shri Ram,” signaling the dominance of religious nationalism in Odisha’s politics. This shift highlights the deep-rooted religiosity influencing the state’s social and political dynamics.

While the BJP projects itself as a champion of marginalized identities, especially Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Adivasis, its record on caste-based social justice in Odisha remains ambiguous. Prominent OBC and tribal leaders like Dharmendra Pradhan and Chief Minister Mohan Majhi have been elevated, and Droupadi Murmu, an Adivasi, was elected President of India. Yet, the BJP has been hesitant to fully implement the Mandal Commission’s recommended 27% reservation for OBCs in Odisha, maintaining only 11.25% reservation in technical and professional education sectors. This modest extension of quotas contrasts with the state’s large OBC population, which various estimates place between 40% and 54%.

Historically, Odisha missed the widespread Mandal movement that shaped caste politics in states like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. The influential former leader Biju Patnaik opposed OBC reservations, and protests demanding such rights were violently suppressed. Moreover, OBC communities in Odisha are fragmented and socially stratified, with many identifying as middle castes or landowners, reducing the pressure for unified social justice demands.

Despite the presence of tribal and Dalit leaders in power, the real political power in Odisha remains concentrated among upper-caste groups like the Karana and Brahmins. Social hierarchies and caste-based inequalities persist largely unchallenged, with minimal critical caste consciousness or sustained anti-caste movements. Dalit activism and literary expression in Odisha are limited compared to other Indian states, and caste atrocities remain common, often perpetrated by other marginalized groups as well.



Deleting Tipu Sultan from Textbooks Distorts History and Harms Education

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has recently removed the entire lesson on Hyder Ali, Tipu Sultan, and the Mysore Wars from the Class VIII Social Science textbook, citing “textbook rationalisation.” This decision is deeply problematic, as it erases an essential chapter of India’s anti-colonial struggle and distorts historical understanding for young learners.

NCERT is entrusted with framing syllabi and creating textbooks that provide comprehensive, unbiased education. History, among all subjects, requires an especially careful and balanced approach because it deals with complex social, cultural, and political narratives. The deletion of the Mysore Wars chapter undermines this responsibility by omitting crucial facts about the valiant resistance led by Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan against British colonial expansion in the late 18th century.

Hyder Ali was the first Indian ruler to seriously challenge British dominance after their victory at Plassey in 1757. His military campaigns pushed British forces back and threatened their strongholds in South India. After his death in 1782, Tipu Sultan carried forward this resistance alone, fighting three more wars against the British despite a lack of support from other Indian rulers who allied with the colonial power. Tipu’s courage and sacrifice are foundational to India’s broader anti-colonial movement, inspiring nationalist sentiments that culminated in the country’s eventual independence.

Omitting this chapter disrupts the continuity of history education. While some content trimming is necessary to suit students’ levels, erasing an entire significant event creates confusion and gaps in the historical narrative. It prevents students from understanding the roots of Indian resistance and nationalism, leaving them with an incomplete and distorted picture of the past.

India agreed to ceasefire only after Pakistan’s request, no US trade link

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Monday clarified in Parliament that India agreed to the recent ceasefire with Pakistan solely after a formal request was received through diplomatic and military channels from the Pakistani side. He firmly rejected claims that the United States played any role in brokering the ceasefire or linked it to trade deals.

Speaking during the Monsoon session debate on the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, Jaishankar outlined key events leading to the ceasefire. He recounted how on May 9, US Vice President JD Vance warned Prime Minister Narendra Modi of an impending Pakistani attack. Modi responded that any such aggression would be met with a strong retaliatory strike. The attack occurred on the night of May 9-10 but was thwarted by India’s armed forces. India retaliated decisively, with satellite images showing damage to Pakistani airfields, widely circulated to underscore India’s response.

Rejecting US President Donald Trump’s multiple claims that he brokered the ceasefire, Jaishankar stated there were no direct calls between Modi and Trump during April 22 to June 17, nor any linkage of the ceasefire to trade negotiations.

Jaishankar emphasized that India acted



only after diplomatic indications suggested Pakistan wanted to stop hostilities but insisted on a formal ceasefire request via the Director General of Military Operations route.

Following his remarks, Opposition MPs protested, prompting Union Home Minister Amit Shah to defend the government, questioning why more faith was placed in a foreign leader than India’s own External Affairs Minister.

Jaishankar also addressed criticism about

India not pushing beyond the ceasefire, recalling the 2009 joint statement where both countries agreed terrorism was their main threat. He accused Opposition leaders of politicizing India-Pakistan relations and highlighted India’s strong retaliatory actions against terror infrastructure, contrasting them with previous government inaction.

This firm stance underlines India’s sovereign decision-making in managing its sensitive relationship with Pakistan, dismissing external interference narratives.

Starlink Limited to 20 Lakh Connections in India Due to High Costs and Capacity: Telecom Minister

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Elon Musk’s satellite internet venture Starlink will be restricted to just 20 lakh (2 million) connections in India, primarily due to capacity limitations and the high cost of service, Union Minister of State for Telecom Pemasani Chandra Sekhar said on Monday.

Speaking at a review meeting with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), the minister emphasized that Starlink’s satellite-based communication services, offering speeds of up to 200 Mbps, are unlikely to pose a significant threat to existing telecom operators, including state-run BSNL.

“Starlink will cater to a niche segment — mainly rural and remote regions — where



BSNL already has a substantial presence. With a high upfront cost and an estimated monthly charge of ₹3,000, satcom services will remain out of reach for most users,” said Sekhar.

He confirmed that the 20 lakh user cap is aligned with Starlink’s current infrastructure and technical capacity in India.

Meanwhile, BSNL’s 4G rollout has been completed across the country. The minister noted that the state-run telecom giant is not planning any tariff hikes at the moment. “Our priority is market expansion first. No increase in rates is on the cards,” he said.

BSNL has reported a revenue increase of 20–30% in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, attributed to its 4G expansion and improved network uptime. Power-related technical issues have largely been resolved, with over 30,000 power stations upgraded at a cost of ₹600–700 crore.

Sekhar also reiterated the government’s commitment to using indigenous technology in BSNL, with a phased removal of legacy 2G and 3G systems, including equipment sourced from Chinese vendors like ZTE.

India Records 7% Above-Normal Monsoon Rainfall, But Regional Imbalance Persists: IMD

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India has received 7% more rainfall than the long-period average since the start of the monsoon on June 1, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). However, the seasonal rainfall has been highly uneven across the country, with some states experiencing severe surpluses and others facing alarming deficits.

Nationally, the country recorded 447.8 mm of rainfall against the normal 418.9 mm for the same period. While this suggests a healthy monsoon on paper, regional disparities are stark.

Regions With Excess and Large Excess Rainfall
States such as Rajasthan, Ladakh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Sikkim have seen “large excess” rainfall. Rajasthan recorded a remarkable 384.7 mm, up 92% from its average of 200.4 mm. Ladakh, which typically sees minimal precipitation, witnessed a 181% surge, receiving 30 mm of rainfall against the norm of 10.7 mm. Sikkim also experienced a 78% increase, while Nagaland and Manipur received near-normal levels.

Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Assam, and the union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu recorded “excess” rainfall, ranging between 20% and 59% above normal. Madhya Pradesh led the category with 645.8 mm of rain — 54% above its seasonal average.



Normal Rainfall Across Most States
Most of the country, including Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala, and West Bengal, received “normal” rainfall — within 19% of their seasonal averages.

Areas Facing Rain Deficits
In contrast, several regions saw worrying shortfalls. Arunachal Pradesh suffered the most, receiving just 521.8 mm — a 45% defi-

cit from the usual 942.2 mm. Bihar also fell short by 43%, and rainfall was deficient in parts of Assam, Delhi, Maharashtra, and Lakshadweep.

The monsoon remains vital for India’s agriculture, which supports 42% of the population and contributes over 18% to the GDP. The rainfall also replenishes reservoirs critical for drinking water and energy production.



SC Quashes FIR Against Badminton Star Lakshya Sen in Birth Certificate Forgery Case

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Supreme Court on Monday quashed the FIR filed against badminton player Lakshya Sen, his family members, and coach in a birth certificate forgery case, calling the continuation of criminal proceedings “unwarranted” and an abuse of the court process.

The case originated from a private complaint lodged by M.G. Nagaraj, who alleged that the birth certificates of Lakshya Sen and his brother Chirag Sen were forged. The complaint also implicated Sen’s parents, Dharendra and Nirmala Sen, his brother, his coach U. Vimal Kumar, and an employee of the Karnataka Badminton Association, accusing them of falsifying birth records to manipulate age details.

Earlier, the Karnataka High Court had allowed the investigation to proceed after observing prima facie evidence that warranted further inquiry. It rejected petitions filed by Lakshya Sen and others seeking to quash the FIR, thus permitting the probe to continue.

However, the Supreme Court bench comprising Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Aravind Kumar reviewed the case and decided that continuing criminal proceedings against Lakshya Sen and his family was unnecessary. The top court held that the allegations did not justify the prosecution and that further legal action would be an abuse of the judicial process.

The Supreme Court had previously issued notices to the Karnataka government and the complainant, inviting responses to the petitions challenging the High Court’s decision. After hearing arguments, the apex court intervened in favor of the badminton star. This ruling brings relief to Lakshya Sen, who has been under scrutiny due to the accusations of age fabrication. The quashing of the FIR effectively clears him and the accused from the ongoing legal challenge in connection with the birth certificate forgery allegations.



Pahalgam Mastermind Suleiman Shah Among 3 Terrorists Killed In Op Mahadev: Sources

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a major counterterrorism breakthrough, security forces on Monday gunned down three Pakistani terrorists, including Pahalgam terror mastermind Suleiman Shah, during a high-stakes encounter in Jammu and Kashmir’s Lidwas region near Srinagar. The operation, code-named Operation Mahadev, was carried out jointly by the Indian Army, CRPF, and Jammu and Kashmir Police.

Suleiman Shah, also known by the alias Hashim Moosa, was a top Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander and served in the Pakistan Army before joining the terror outfit. He was the key orchestrator behind the brutal April 22 attack in Pahalgam’s Baisaran Valley, which claimed the lives of 26 innocent civilians. A ₹20 lakh reward had been placed on his head by Jammu and Kashmir Police.

Two other high-value terrorists were also killed in the operation — Abu Hamza and Yasir — with the latter also suspected of involvement in the Pahalgam massacre. All three were heavily armed and believed to be plotting another major strike in the Valley.

According to security sources, the joint forces launched the operation in the Mulnar area of Harwan early Monday morning, acting on precise intelligence inputs. The terrorists were hiding deep in a forested area. An intense gun battle followed, during which all three militants were neutralized. The encounter site has since been secured, and a large cache of weapons was recovered.

Among the arms seized were AK-47 and carbine rifles, 17 rifle grenades, and other ammunition. Photos of the hideout, accessed by NDTV, show a well-stocked base likely intended for a future assault.

Trump Strikes "Biggest-Ever" Trade Deal With European Union

TPN Correspondent | Washington

The United States and the European Union have struck what former President Donald Trump called the "biggest-ever" trade agreement, narrowly avoiding a looming transatlantic trade war. Announced after a high-stakes meeting between Trump and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen at Trump's golf resort in Scotland, the deal imposes a baseline tariff of 15% on EU exports to the US, significantly lower than the threatened 30%.

The deal came just days ahead of the August 1 deadline, which would have triggered steep across-the-board US tariffs on European goods. Trump confirmed that the 15% tariff will apply to key sectors including automobiles, pharmaceuticals, and semiconductors.

In return, the EU agreed to purchase \$750 billion worth of American energy—liquefied natural gas, oil, and nuclear fuels—over the next three years. Von der Leyen emphasized that these energy purchases are part of the EU's broader effort to diversify away from Russian energy dependence.

Additionally, the EU committed to \$600 billion in US investments and pledged to



increase military equipment purchases, aligning with NATO spending goals. Trump described the deal as "a win for everyone," while von der Leyen called it "a good deal that brings stability and predictability" for businesses on both sides of the Atlantic.

Despite the agreement, some concerns remain. European industrial groups criticized the 15% tariff as excessive, while von der Leyen acknowledged it was "the best

we could get." The EU managed to secure exemptions on select strategic goods such as aircraft, chemicals, agricultural items, and critical raw materials. A quota system for steel imports was also reportedly agreed upon, though Trump insisted existing steel tariffs would remain.

The deal must still be ratified by EU member states, but it marks a significant step in restoring stable transatlantic trade ties.

Iran Urges Indian Media to Avoid 'Fake News'

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in India has issued a strong advisory to Indian media outlets, urging them to avoid publishing "fake and fabricated news" about Iran and its leadership. The statement, posted on the embassy's official X (formerly Twitter) handle @Iran_in_India, emphasized the importance of journalistic responsibility and the deep-rooted historical ties between the two nations.

The Embassy expressed concern over what it termed as "baseless reports" carried by certain Indian media platforms, including prominent outlets, which it said portrayed Iran and its leadership in a disrespectful manner.

"Such irresponsible reporting not only undermines public confidence but also tarnishes the professional credibility of these



media organizations among their audience," the statement said.

While affirming its full respect for freedom of speech and the public's right to information, the Embassy urged Indian media to ensure accuracy by relying on "credible and impartial sources." It cautioned against the dangers of sensationalism, particularly in coverage relating to Iran's domestic or for-

eign affairs. The statement also made reference to Iran's recent military conflict with Israel, describing it as the "twelve-day imposed war." It highlighted the leadership of Iran's Supreme Leader during the confrontation and claimed the operation resulted in a "heavy defeat" for the Zionist regime through decisive acts of self-defence.

Calling for stronger bilateral understanding, the Iranian Embassy reiterated its respect for India and emphasized the need to preserve the longstanding friendship between the two civilizational states. "We expect the Indian media to act with integrity, refrain from participating in external propaganda, and help promote the deep-rooted relationship built on mutual respect and shared heritage," the statement added. The Embassy's remarks come amid heightened regional tensions and underline the sensitivity of international reporting.

Bangladesh Elections Likely in August



TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

National elections in Bangladesh are expected to be announced in the first week of August, coinciding with the one-year anniversary of the student-led revolution that ousted former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Interim Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus is expected to formally announce the election date in a national address.

According to reports, the elections to install a government with a political mandate are likely to take place in February 2026, just before the start of Ramadan. The interim government, led by Nobel Laureate Yunus since the fall of the Hasina administration in Au-

gust 2024, has come under increasing pressure from political parties and civil society to hold timely elections.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), now the dominant political force following the ban on the Awami League, has been actively demanding a concrete election timeline. BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir welcomed the likely announcement, stating, "If the Chief Adviser announces the election date within a couple of days, we will be happy—because that's exactly what we have been demanding." In contrast, Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh, which has backed Yunus and regained political legitimacy after the ban on the party was lifted, appears reluctant to en-

dorse an immediate election timeline. Critics allege Yunus's prolonged tenure has been made possible due to Jamaat's influence.

Despite mounting political pressure, Yunus has remained cautious. During a meeting with leaders of multiple parties on Saturday, he emphasized the importance of unity to ensure a peaceful and credible election. "If all the forces of the uprising cannot come together to conduct a fair election, this great opportunity will slip through our hands," he said. Yunus reaffirmed his commitment to democratic transition, stating that "no conspiracy can obstruct the democratic journey," and that the unity against authoritarianism remains strong.

Thailand and Cambodia agree to 'immediate and unconditional' ceasefire: Malaysian PM



TPN Correspondent | PUTRAJAYA

Thailand and Cambodia have agreed to an "immediate and unconditional" ceasefire to end five days of deadly border clashes, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim announced on Monday. The announcement came following urgent peace talks hosted at his official residence in Putrajaya. The agreement, reached between Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet and Thailand's Acting Prime Minister Phumtham Wechayachai, takes effect from midnight on July 28. Both leaders shook hands at the conclusion of the talks, signaling a shared commitment to halt further violence.

Anwar, who chaired the mediation as ASEAN's rotating chair, emphasized that the agreement marks a return to normalcy and peaceful dialogue. "This ceasefire is a vital step to stop the bloodshed and allow people to return home," he said.

Fighting erupted on July 24 after a landmine blast injured five Thai soldiers near the border, leading to escalating clashes that have killed at least 35 people and displaced over 260,000. Gunfire continued into Monday morning, especially near Samrong in Cambodia's Oddar Meanchey province. The conflict prompted both nations to recall their ambassadors and saw Thailand close its borders to Cambodia, with the exception of migrant workers returning home.

The emergency summit was convened following pressure from international actors, including U.S. President Donald Trump, who warned that continued hostilities could jeopardize trade deals. Representatives from the U.S. and China attended the talks as observers.

ASEAN foreign ministers issued a joint statement supporting peaceful negotiations and condemning the loss of life and destruction. Pope Leo XIV also expressed concern and prayed for those displaced. At evacuation camps in both countries, citizens expressed hope that the ceasefire would allow them to return home. "I just want peace," said Ron Mao, a displaced Cambodian mother. "I miss my home, my pets, my life," echoed Thai farmer Nakorn Jomkamsing.



Gaza Malnutrition Reaches Alarming Levels Amid Aid Blockades: WHO

TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

Malnutrition in Gaza has reached "alarming levels," the World Health Organization (WHO) warned on Sunday, citing a surge in preventable deaths due to severe hunger and lack of humanitarian access. The UN health agency called the crisis "entirely man-made" and urged immediate, sustained aid delivery.

According to WHO, July has seen a deadly spike in malnutrition-related deaths, with 63 of the 74 deaths recorded this year occurring this month alone. Among the victims are 24 children under five, one child over five, and 38 adults. Most died on arrival at health facilities or shortly after, showing clear signs of severe wasting.

"This crisis is entirely preventable," WHO stated. "The deliberate blocking and delay of food, health, and humanitarian aid has cost many lives."

The agency also highlighted that the number of children under five treated for malnutrition reached 6,500 in June — the highest since the conflict began in October 2023. In July alone, over 5,000 children have received outpatient treatment for malnutrition, including 18 percent with severe acute malnutrition (SAM), the most life-threatening condition.

Gaza City remains the worst-hit area, with nearly one in five children under five now acutely malnourished. Due to security constraints and damaged infrastructure, these numbers likely underestimate the real scale of the crisis. Only four specialised malnutrition treatment centres remain operational, now overwhelmed by the growing number of cases. WHO also reported that over 40 percent of pregnant and breastfeeding women are severely malnourished.

Sensex Crashes 572 pts, Nifty Slips Below 24,700

The correction in the Indian stock markets continues. Benchmark and sectoral indices are facing selling pressure. Key moving averages are trading below. The lack of positive news from global markets, disappointing Q1 results, discouraging core industrial data, FII outflows, losses in IT and realty sectors, and selling of heavyweight shares are the reasons for this. With this, the Nifty rose by 156 points and the Sensex by 572 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,463 in the previous session, opened at 81,299 on Monday. It touched an intraday low of 80,776. It reached an intraday high of 81,557. It finally closed at 80,891, losing 572 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,782, touched a low of 24,646 and a high of 24,889. It closed at 24,680, down 156 points. The Nifty Bank fell 444 points to settle at 56,084.

In the Nifty50, 16 companies gained and 34 lost. Shriram Finance, Cipla, Hero Moto, Hindustan Unilever, Asian Paints, SBI Life Insurance were the top gainers. Kotak Bank, Bajaj Finance, Wipro, IndusInd Bank, Bharti Airtel were the biggest losers. Pharma, healthcare, and FMCG indices rose marginally today. Realty, media, defense, private bank, PSU bank, met-



al, infra, PSE, IT, energy indices were mixed.

Market breadth on NSE today is in favor of sellers. Out of a total of 3089 stocks traded, 811 gained. 2211 lost. 57 shares touched their 52-week high and 62 touched their 52-week low. The upper circuit reached 70 and the lower circuit reached 120.

The rupee weakened by 13 paise to settle at 86.65 against the dollar. Real estate stocks fell for the fifth consecutive session. Thangamayil Jewellery's net profit in the first quarter of this financial year fell 19.3% to Rs. 45.7 crore from Rs. 56.6 crore. Jefferies maintains Hold rating on Bank of Baroda with a target price of Rs 255.

Motherson Sumi Wiring's net profit fell to Rs 143 crore from Rs 149 crore. Kotak Institutional maintains Sell rating on Laurus Labs with a target price of Rs 555. Lenskart shareholders have given permission to raise Rs 2150 crore through IPO. Citi has given Outperform rating to Bank of Baroda with a target price of Rs 290. Bharat Electronics' net profit is Rs 969 crore and revenue is Rs 4117 crore. Ajanta Pharma's net profit increased by 4% to Rs 255 crore from Rs 245 crore. Shanti Gold International's IPO received a response of 3.86 times on the second day in the afternoon. Apollo Microsystems' net profit rose from Rs 8.4 crore to Rs 18.5 crore. Adani Green's net profit rose from Rs 629 crore to Rs 824 crore, a growth of 31%.

Stock Recommendations

Varun Beverages: These shares, which have been in a downtrend for a few months, are currently in the accumulation zone. The uncertainty has reduced now. These shares, which closed at Rs. 486 on Monday, should be accumulated in the Rs. 480/450 range. Hold as the trend improves.



Dabur India: These shares have been in a downtrend since September last year. They have now reached the accumulation zone. The trend is changing. Investors should invest in this counter, which closed at Rs. 522 on Monday, in the Rs. 500 range following the buy-on-dips method.



Adani Green Energy: Adani Green's net profit in the latest quarter increased by 31% from Rs. 629 crore to Rs. 824 crore. Moreover, the shares have been in the accumulation zone for a long time. Investors should take po-

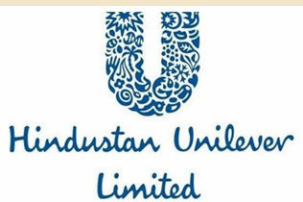
sitions in the Rs. 970/950 range in this counter, which closed at Rs.1003 on Monday.



Hero Motors: These shares have been in a downtrend since September last year. They have now reached the accumulation zone. They have made a bullish reversal. They have been moving sideways for a few days. They closed at Rs.4291 on Monday. Investors should accumulate in the Rs.4250 range.



Hindustan Unilever: These shares are performing well in the current uncertainty. They bounced back at the 20 moving averages even in the market of losses on Monday. Delivery volume is gradually increasing. Investors should take positions in the Rs.2420 range in this counter, which closed at Rs.2441 on Monday.



Adani Green Energy Reports 42% Surge in Q1 Sales



Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) has announced a remarkable 42% year-on-year increase in energy sales for the first quarter of FY26, reaching 10,479 million units. This surge reflects the company's rapid expansion and operational excellence in the renewable energy sector. During the same period, AGEL's operational renewable energy capacity rose by 45% to 15.8 GW, maintaining its status as India's largest renewable energy producer.

Financially, the company posted a 31% increase in revenue to Rs 3,312 crore, with EBITDA also climbing 31% to Rs 3,108 crore. Cash profit showed healthy growth as well, rising 25% to Rs 1,744 crore. These strong financial metrics underscore AGEL's robust business model driven by capacity expansion and efficient plant operations.

Ashish Khanna, CEO of Adani Green Energy, highlighted the company's significant green-field capacity additions, stating, "During Q1 FY26, we added 1.6 GW of new renewable energy capacity, bringing our total increase to 4.9 GW over the past year — an unmatched achievement in India's clean energy transition." He emphasized the strategic investments in resource-rich locations such as Khavda in Gujarat and Rajasthan, which have contributed to superior operational performance and industry-leading EBITDA margins.

AGEL is actively developing a

massive 30 GW renewable energy project at Khavda, Gujarat, covering an area of 538 square kilometers—almost five times the size of Paris. This mega-project reflects the company's ambitious vision and long-term commitment to scaling India's renewable infrastructure.

The company is also focusing on integrating advanced renewable energy technologies, including at least 5 GW of hydro pumped storage and battery storage solutions by 2030. These innovations are part of AGEL's strategy to enhance grid stability, energy security, and support India's broader energy transition goals.

Khanna reaffirmed AGEL's dedication to sustainability and ESG leadership, noting the company's top rankings in the FTSE Russell ESG assessment and recognition at the Reuters Global Energy Transition Awards 2025. He also pointed out that AGEL consistently exceeds electricity generation targets under its power purchase agreements (PPA), achieving 31% of the annual commitment within the first quarter alone.

With its aggressive capacity additions, technological advancements, and strong financial performance, Adani Green Energy is firmly positioned to lead India's shift toward clean, renewable power while supporting national energy security and sustainability ambitions.

India Inc's Q1 Revenue to Grow 4–6%: Crisil

India Inc is projected to report a revenue growth of 4-6% in the first quarter of the financial year, according to Crisil Intelligence. This moderate growth outlook reflects a mixed performance across various sectors amid evolving market conditions.

The auto sector is expected to see a 4% year-on-year rise in revenue, primarily driven by higher retail sales. However, this growth is partially tempered by elevated inventory levels, which could weigh on overall profitability. The sector has also experienced price increases due to a shift in product mix and stronger export realisations, supporting revenue expansion despite ongoing challenges.

Crisil Intelligence's assessment highlights that while demand remains steady, supply-side factors such as in-



ventory buildup and pricing adjustments will influence sectoral performance. The combination of these elements suggests a cautious but positive outlook for the auto industry in the near term.

Overall, the 4-6% revenue growth forecast for India Inc underscores a resilient corporate environment adapting to changing market dynamics. Businesses continue to navigate a complex land-

scape marked by global economic uncertainties, fluctuating input costs, and shifting consumer preferences.

This revenue trajectory signals that companies are managing to sustain growth through strategic pricing, product diversification, and expanding export opportunities. However, ongoing vigilance is necessary as inventory management and demand patterns evolve in response to broader economic factors.

In summary, India Inc is set for steady revenue growth in Q1, with the auto sector contributing notably despite some headwinds. Crisil Intelligence's insights provide a measured outlook on the corporate sector's performance as it balances growth opportunities with operational challenges in a dynamic economic environment.

Coal India to Hit 1B Tonnes by 2026-27

Govt Eyes 1.5B by 2029-30

India's coal production is on a strong growth path, with Coal India Limited (CIL) aiming to surpass the 1 billion tonne (BT) production milestone by the financial year 2026-27, the government informed Parliament on Monday. This announcement comes as India's total coal output crossed the 1 billion tonne mark in 2024-25. Union Coal and Mines Minister G. Kishan Reddy revealed that CIL produced 781.07 million tonnes of coal in 2024-25, and the target has been set to reach 1,004 million tonnes by 2026-27. This underscores the company's crucial role in meeting the nation's coal demands. Currently, India meets most of its coal needs through domestic production. Coal imports are largely limited to essential types such as coking coal and higher-grade non-coking coal, which are in short supply domestically due to limited reserves. To reduce reliance on such imports, the government plans to boost indigenous coal production by



6-7% annually, targeting around 1.5 billion tonnes by 2029-30. India's total coal production stood at 1,047.67 million tonnes in 2024-25, marking a growth of approximately 4.99% compared to the previous year.

To support this ambitious production growth, the government has implemented several key initiatives. These

include streamlining approvals via Single Window Clearance, amending the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to allow captive mines to sell half of their production commercially, encouraging production through Mine Developer and Operator (MDO) modes, and deploying mass production technologies. Additionally, new projects and expansions of existing mines are underway, alongside auctions of coal blocks to private firms and public sector undertakings for commercial mining. The government has also opened up 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in commercial mining, aiming to attract investment and increase production capacity further.

These measures reflect India's strategic push to boost domestic coal production, reduce import dependence, and secure energy needs sustainably.

China’s Unitree Unveils \$5,900 R1 Humanoid for Sports

While many global tech giants are still shaping their vision for a robotic future, China’s Unitree Robotics has taken a major leap forward by introducing the R1, a highly capable humanoid robot priced at just \$5,900. Touted as the most affordable robot in its class, the R1 is already turning heads for its advanced mobility and athletic capabilities—making it more accessible than many electric vehicles, including the MG Comet EV.

Marketed as “born for sport,” the R1 is designed to handle dynamic movement with remarkable fluidity. In a recently released demonstration video on X (formerly Twitter), the R1 is seen performing cartwheels, walking on its hands, throwing punches, lying down and standing up, and even running downhill. These physical feats underscore the robot’s agility and potential for real-world applications across various industries—from sports and fitness to personal assistance and research.

The R1 weighs approximately 25 kilograms, stands about four feet tall, and is packed with impressive technology. It is powered by a Large Multimodal Model (LMM), allowing it to understand and respond to complex tasks by integrating visual and audio inputs. Its sensory system includes an ultra-wide field of view camera and a four-microphone array for bet-



ter voice and image recognition.

Connectivity is also cutting-edge, with the R1 supporting Wi-Fi 6 and Bluetooth 5.2, ensuring seamless integration into smart home systems or industrial environments.

With its low price point and advanced features, Unitree’s R1 could be a game-changer in making humanoid robots more mainstream. Whether used for educational purposes, entertainment, or practical applications, the R1 represents a significant step toward bringing humanoid robotics into everyday life.

Samsung Launches 3rd ‘Walka-thon India’ with Galaxy Watch 8 Prize



Samsung has officially announced the third edition of its popular fitness campaign, ‘Walk-a-thon India’, set to run from August 1 to August 30, 2025. Designed to encourage healthier lifestyles, the initiative is open exclusively to Galaxy device users in India through the Samsung Health app. Participants stand a chance to win the newly launched Samsung Galaxy Watch 8, while all finishers will receive assured reward coupons.

To participate, users need to walk a total of 2 lakh (200,000) steps within the 30-day window. Registration is already open via the ‘Together’ section of the Samsung Health app. Once registered, participants simply need to track their steps using the app and complete the target within the challenge period.

Upon completing the challenge, participants must take a screenshot of their step count and upload it to the Samsung Members app with the

hashtag #WalkathonIndia. Those who do so will automatically qualify for the lucky draw, where three randomly selected winners will each receive the Galaxy Watch 8, priced at ₹32,999 for the 40mm Wi-Fi variant. Even if you’re not among the top three, Samsung promises that every user who completes the challenge will receive discount coupons worth up to ₹15,000 on the Galaxy Watch 8, making it a win-win for all health-conscious Galaxy users.

Reward redemption can be done via the Samsung Members app between September 5 and September 30.

This marks the third Walk-a-thon challenge in 2025 alone, with the previous editions held in January and April, the latter of which offered the Galaxy Watch Ultra as the top prize. With growing participation and increasing rewards, Samsung continues to blend fitness with incentives in an engaging way.

ISKCON Devotees Hold Peaceful Protest Outside KFC Over YouTuber Prank

Following a widely condemned prank video, ISKCON devotees were seen chanting “Hare Krishna, Hare Rama” outside a KFC outlet, reportedly in New York, as a dignified and peaceful response. The protest was sparked by British YouTuber Cenzo, who filmed himself eating chicken inside Govinda’s, a vegan restaurant connected to an ISKCON temple in London.



In the now-viral video, Cenzo entered the religiously affiliated Govinda’s restaurant carrying a KFC meal and deliberately ate it inside as a prank. Despite being cautioned by the restaurant staff, he continued to taunt them during the recording. This act was met with widespread backlash online, with many condemning it as disrespectful to the spiritual and dietary principles upheld by ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness).

In response to the prank, ISKCON devotees took to social media with videos showing them chanting bhajans and spiritual mantras outside a KFC outlet. One social media user captioned the clip: “They come to our restaurants to harass us, & we come to uplift their consciousness. Hare Kṛṣṇa.” The peaceful protest was praised for embodying the core values of non-violence and spiritual dignity.

lence and spiritual dignity.

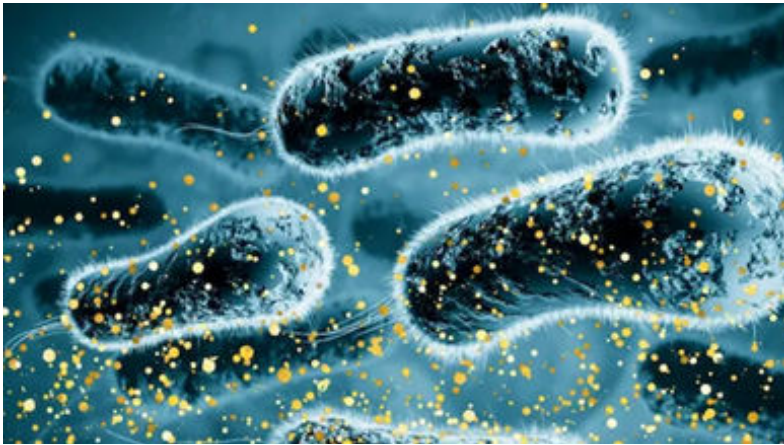
Facing mounting criticism, Cenzo issued a public apology, admitting ignorance of the restaurant’s religious connection. “If I had known that the restaurant was linked to a temple, I would have never filmed that prank and left. My actions were ill-timed and irresponsible,” he stated.

Govinda’s restaurants are known worldwide for their satvic (pure vegetarian) cuisine and are often situated near ISKCON temples. The incident has reignited important discussions about cultural sensitivity, respect for religious spaces, and ethical boundaries in the age of digital content creation.

This Microbe Eats Toxic Metals and Produces Pure 24-Carat Gold

Scientists have discovered an extraordinary microorganism capable of surviving in toxic, metal-contaminated soil by feeding on harmful metals and excreting tiny particles of pure 24-carat gold — essentially nature’s own alchemist at work.

Known as Cupriavidus metallurans, this remarkable microbe was studied by researchers from Australia and Germany. It has evolved a unique defense mechanism to thrive in environments rich in poisonous metals like gold and copper. Instead of succumbing to the toxic conditions, the microbe triggers a chemical reaction that converts deadly metal ions into harmless and valuable gold nanoparticles on its surface.



The secret lies in the microbe’s specialized metabolism and metal-resistant genes, which allow it to survive and detoxify its surroundings. When exposed to gold ions, it produces enzymes such as CopA and CupA that reduce these ions into pure gold nanoparticles. These tiny gold particles are then expelled, helping the

microbe maintain a safe habitat while generating minute amounts of gold. This discovery opens exciting possibilities for revolutionizing gold mining, an industry known for its environmental damage and high energy consumption. By mimicking the microbe’s natural process, scientists hope to develop bio-

reactors or engineered microbes capable of extracting gold from electronic waste, mine tailings, or low-grade ores in a much more sustainable way.

Unlike traditional gold extraction methods, which often rely on toxic chemicals and intensive mining, this microbial approach promises to be environmentally friendly, cost-effective, and efficient. It could transform waste material into valuable resources while minimizing ecological harm.

Researchers are optimistic that this biological breakthrough could reshape the future of gold mining and recycling, offering a greener alternative that benefits both the planet and the economy.

McDonald’s and Swiggy Launch Limited-Edition High-Protein Burgers in 58 Cities

Swiggy has partnered with McDonald’s India (West and South) to launch a limited-edition Protein Plus burger range, available exclusively on the Swiggy app. This health-focused collaboration is available in 58 cities, including Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, and Pune. Developed in partnership with the Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), these burgers come with a specially formulated protein slice made from soya and pea protein, adding 5 grams of protein without significantly increasing the calorie count. Both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options are available in the Protein Plus lineup. Popular McDonald’s offerings such as the Crispy Veggie Burger, McSpicy Premium Veg, McSpicy Premium Chicken, McCrispy Chicken, McSpicy Paneer,



Masala McEgg, McAlloo Tikki, McChicken, and McVeggie are now available in protein-boosted versions. In addition to the protein upgrade, McDonald’s is also rolling out Multi-Millet Buns, developed alongside CFTRI. These buns, made from five types of millets, provide added nutrients, vitamins, and dietary fibre. Burgers like McAlloo Tikki, McChicken, McVeggie, McSpicy Chicken,

and Crispy Veggie Burger will feature these healthier buns. Sidharth Bhakoo, Chief Business Officer at Swiggy Food Marketplace, emphasized the value of offering nutritious alternatives without compromising on taste. “As people become more health-conscious, they still want to enjoy their favourite foods. This initiative is a step towards increasing protein intake while maintaining flavour and satisfaction,” he said.

This launch is part of Swiggy’s broader push for healthy eating. Earlier this month, the platform introduced a ‘High Protein’ category featuring over 5 lakh dishes from 34,000+ restaurants, helping users find protein-rich options with ease. Swiggy and McDonald’s hint that more nutritious offerings could follow in the future.

England Retains Euro Title After Penalty Win

England successfully defended their Women's European Championship title by defeating Spain in a thrilling penalty shootout after a 1-1 draw following extra time at the Women's Euro 2025 final on July 27 in Basel, Switzerland.

The match saw Spain take an early lead in the 25th minute through Mariona Caldentey's finish off Ona Batlle's cross. England fought back in the second half, equalizing in the 57th minute with a powerful header from Alessia Russo, assisted by Chloe Kelly. The score remained locked at 1-1 through extra time, despite Spain's dominance in possession and attacking chances. The title was ultimately decided by



penalties. England goalkeeper Hannah Hampton was the hero, saving shots from Spain's Mariona Caldentey and star player Aitana Bonmati. Meanwhile, Spain's Salma Paralluelo missed her penalty, allowing Chloe Kelly to calmly slot home the winning spot kick, securing a 3-1 shootout victory for England.

Kelly said after the match, "I was cool, I was composed, and I knew I was going to hit the back of the net." Kelly had previously scored the winning goal in extra time at the 2022 Women's Euro final, showcasing her knack for performing on the big stage.

Spain, the reigning World Cup champions, had an impressive tournament

but fell just short of clinching their first European title. Coach Montse Tomé expressed disappointment, saying, "I think this team deserved more."

England coach Sarina Wiegman, who has never been eliminated from a Women's Euros, celebrated her third continental title as a coach, having previously won with the Netherlands in 2017.

The final was attended by royalty from both nations, including Prince William and Princess Charlotte for England, and Princess Leonor and Infanta Sofía for Spain, adding to the historic atmosphere of this unforgettable match.

Divya Deshmukh Triumphs Over Koneru Humpy

Become First Indian FIDE Women's Chess World Cup Champion

In a historic all-Indian final at the FIDE Women's Chess World Cup held in Batumi, Georgia, 19-year-old Divya Deshmukh emerged victorious against 38-year-old Koneru Humpy to become the first Indian champion of the prestigious tournament. After two days of intense classical chess ending in draws, the title was decided in a nail-biting rapid tie-breaker on Monday, July 28, 2025.

The first rapid tie-break game ended in a draw, increasing the tension as the second game saw Divya playing with the black pieces. Displaying remarkable skill and composure, Divya defeated Humpy to clinch the crown, marking a monumental achievement in her budding chess career.

Following the win, an emotional Divya said, "I need time to process it. I think it was fate that I get the GM title this way. Before this tournament, I didn't even have one norm. It definitely means a lot. There's a lot more to achieve. I'm hoping this is just the start." She was seen celebrating the victory tearfully alongside her mother, creating a touching moment for the Indian chess community.

Divya's win not only grants her the coveted Grandmaster (GM) title but also secures her qualification for the Candidates tournament, a vital step towards competing for the World Chess Championship.



This victory signals the rise of a new chess prodigy in India, joining the ranks of established stars like Koneru Humpy, who has been a stalwart of Indian women's chess for years. Divya's breakthrough is being hailed as a landmark moment for Indian chess, showcasing the country's growing prominence on the global stage.

With this win, Divya Deshmukh has firmly established herself as a future force in international chess, inspiring a new generation of players to follow her path.

Macau Open 2025

Satwiksairaj-Chirag Eye First Title of Season

Lakshya Sen and HS Prannoy Aim to Regain Form

Top Indian shuttlers Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are set to continue their impressive run as they chase their first title of the season at the Macau Open Super 300, starting Tuesday. The Asian Games champions, currently ranked world No. 3, have shown consistent form, reaching the semifinals at several tournaments including the recent China Open Super 1000, where they lost to Malaysian second seeds Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik.

This season has seen Satwik and Chirag make deep runs at the India Open, Singapore Open, and Malaysia Open, along with a quarterfinal finish at the Indonesia Open. However, a title win has eluded them so far, and they are determined to change that in Macau. They open against Malaysia's Low Hang Yee and Ng Eng Cheong in the first round.

In men's singles, former Commonwealth Games gold medallist Lakshya Sen looks to regain his best form ahead of next month's World Championships in Paris. Despite flashes of brilliance, the 23-year-old has faced close defeats recently and begins his campaign against South Korea's Jeon Hyeok Jin.

HS Prannoy, the 2023 World Championships bronze medallist, will also look to build momentum after an early exit at the China Open. He faces a qualifier in the opening round.

Young talent Ayush Shetty, seeded seventh, fresh off his first BWF title at the US Open Super 300, opens



against Huang Yu Kai of Chinese Taipei.

In the women's singles, 16-year-old Unnati Hooda will attempt to extend her form following a stunning win over PV Sindhu at the China Open, starting against Denmark's Julie Dawall Jakobsen.

Top-seeded women's doubles pair Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand Pullela kick off their campaign against Lin Xiao Min and Peng Yu Wei of Chinese Taipei, while India's mixed doubles pairs look to make an impact in their opening matches.

The Macau Open presents a crucial opportunity for Indian shuttlers to build confidence ahead of the World Championships in Paris.

Ashwin Slams England's 'Double Standards' Cricket World Backs India'

Drama unfolded on the final day of the fourth Test between India and England when Indian batters Ravindra Jadeja (89*) and Washington Sundar (80*) declined England skipper Ben Stokes' handshake offer to end the match early. The reason? They were on the cusp of personal milestones, and the Indian team believed they had earned the right to complete their centuries.

Veteran spinner R. Ashwin strongly criticized England's reaction, accusing them of "double standards." On his YouTube channel, Ashwin remarked, "They played your bowlers all day and batted you out. Suddenly, when they're nearing hundreds, you want to walk off? Why should they?"

Stokes, visibly frustrated, said his intention was to protect his fatigued bowlers from injury. But his sarcastic jibe — "You're going to get a Test hundred against Harry Brook?" — didn't sit well with many, including Ashwin. "You brought on Brook, not us. These are Test runs — centuries are earned, not gifted," he responded.

India declared the innings only after both Jadeja and Washington notched their centuries — the latter registering his maiden Test hundred. Former India captain Sunil Gavaskar and Ashwin agreed that India should've continued batting the remaining 15 overs as a matter of principle.



Support poured in from the cricketing world. Former Australian wicketkeeper Brad Haddin said India "earned the right to stay as long as they want" and called out England's poor sportsmanship. Former England skipper Alastair Cook and Nasser Hussain also backed India. Cook said the momentum would help India heading into the series-deciding fifth Test at The Oval, while Hussain labelled Stokes' decision to bowl Brook "silly" and added, "We make far too much of these things. All credit to India."

Ultimately, the incident underlined a deeper debate about sportsmanship, personal milestones, and fair play in Test cricket.

Gujarat Giants Aim First Title Under New Coach

The Gujarat Giants are entering Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) Season 12 with renewed hopes of clinching their maiden title, bolstered by a revamped squad and a new coaching team. The season kicks off on August 29, and all eyes will be on the Giants, who finished 11th in Season 11.

In a major overhaul, the franchise appointed Jaivir Sharma as head coach, replacing Ram Mehar Singh. Sharma, a stalwart in the kabaddi circuit with over three decades of experience and multiple international golds under his belt, brings credibility and vision. Assisting him will be Varinder Singh Sandhu, another new addition to the coaching staff.

Gujarat Giants made headlines at the Season 12 player auction by spending nearly ₹5 crore (₹4.967 cr), including ₹2.23 crore for Iranian all-rounder and reigning MVP Mohammadreza Shadloui. The powerful defender, known for his dual role in defence and raids, was instrumental in Haryana Steelers' PKL 11 title win and brings championship pedigree to the Giants.



Strengths
Shadloui is a game-changer, bringing unmatched defensive prowess and versatility. The Giants also boast a solid raiding core, with retained talents like Rakesh Sungroya, Parteek Dahiya, and Himanshu Singh, joined by seasoned raider Ajith V Kumar (₹36.3 lakh), and promising youngsters K Harish and Ankit.

Weaknesses
Beyond Shadloui, the Giants' defensive lineup lacks depth and proven match-winners. Players like Shubham Kumar, Rohit Kumar, and Milad Jabbari must step up to support the Iranian star if Gujarat are to mount a serious title challenge.

Opportunities
For Parteek Dahiya, this season is a shot at redemption after an underwhelming last campaign. Similarly, Rakesh Sungroya and Ajith Kumar carry the experience and stats to make a major impact. The young recruits also have a platform to shine.

Threats
With 13 new players and an entirely new coaching setup, team cohesion will be a challenge. Early results may depend on how quickly the squad gels and whether key players can consistently perform under pressure. PKL Season 12 could be a turning point for the Giants — or another missed opportunity.



Satya Dev-Anandhi's 'Arabian Kadali' Gets Release Date

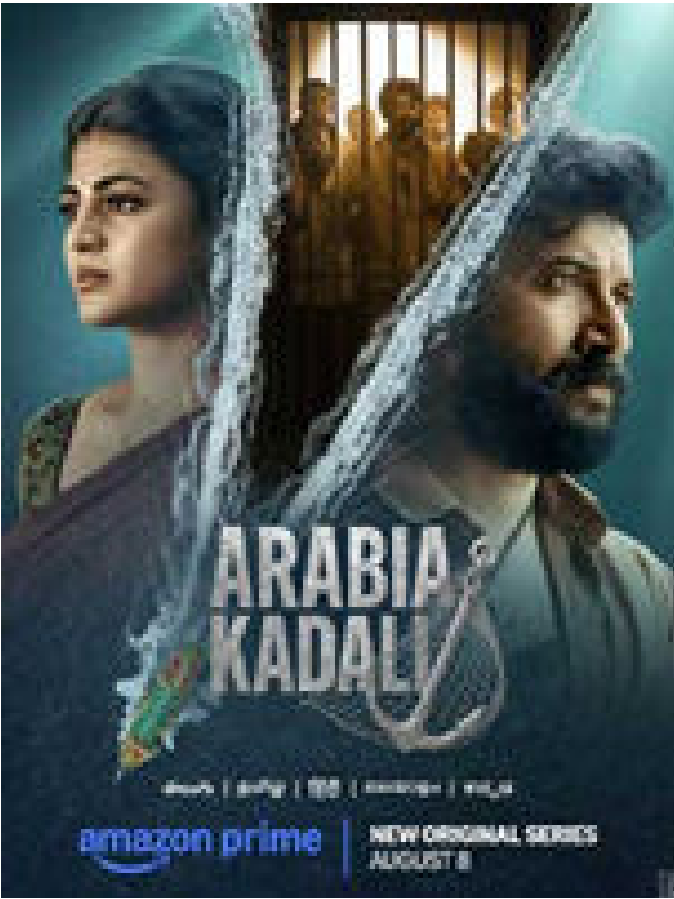
Premieres August 8 on Prime Video

After much anticipation, Amazon Prime Video has finally revealed the release date for its upcoming Telugu web series Arabian Kadali. The series, headlined by Satya Dev and Anandhi, will premiere on August 8, 2025, and will be available for streaming in Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam.

Directed by Surya Kumar, Arabian Kadali tells the gripping tale of fishermen from rival coastal villages who, during a routine fishing trip, unintentionally drift into international waters. This mistake leads to their arrest and imprisonment in a foreign country, setting the stage for a tense and emotional story of survival, cultural conflict, and the strength of the human spirit.

Satya Dev, who is also set to appear in the upcoming series Kingdom, takes on a central role in this emotional drama, alongside Anandhi. The cast and crew promise a raw and powerful portrayal of human resilience, rooted in regional realities.

The writing team includes Surya Kumar himself, along with noted screenwriters Krish Jagarlamudi, Chintakindi Srinivas Rao, and Sunil D. The series is produced by Y. Rajeev Reddy and J. Saibabu under the banner of First Frame Entertainments Pvt Ltd, known for their strong production values in Telugu cinema.



With a compelling storyline, a talented cast, and multilingual accessibility, Arabian Kadali is poised to make a strong impact in the regional OTT space. The official trailer is expected to drop in the coming days, building further excitement for what is shaping up to be a must-watch series this August.

Stay tuned for more updates and get ready to stream Arabian Kadali on Prime Video starting August 8.

Pawan Kalyan and Balakrishna Set for Explosive Box Office Clash on September 25

The Dasara box office is gearing up for one of the biggest cinematic showdowns in recent Telugu film history. Two major releases, They Call Him OG starring Pawan Kalyan and Akhanda 2: Thaandavam featuring Nandamuri Balakrishna, are both slated to release on September 25, 2025—and neither side is backing down.



Directed by Boyapati Sreenu, Akhanda 2 is the much-anticipated sequel to the blockbuster Akhanda. Fans of Balakrishna have been buzzing with excitement, and the director has officially put to rest any rumors of a delay, confirming that the film will arrive as planned. Expectations are sky-high for another intense mass action spectacle.

Meanwhile, They Call Him OG, starring power star Pawan Kalyan, is also locked in for the same date. The film, which has built up massive anticipation over the past year, promises to deliver high-octane action and emotional drama. With Pawan Kalyan's political and cinematic influence, the project has attracted enormous fan attention.

The simultaneous release of two such high-profile films has sparked a frenzy online. Social media is already ablaze with fan wars, hashtags, and countdowns, as both camps rally behind their favorite stars. Industry insiders speculate that one of the films may still shift dates to avoid the clash, but as of now, both teams appear firm on their decision.

Promotional campaigns for both films have yet to go full throttle, but the buzz is unmistakable. Following the much-hyped Coolie vs War 2 face-off, this is being hailed as the next big festival battle at the Telugu box office. As the countdown to September 25 begins, fans are bracing for an unforgettable Dasara.

Dulquer's Kaantha Teaser: A Visually Stunning Tale of Ego, Art, and Betrayal



On the occasion of Dulquer Salmaan's birthday, the teaser for his much-anticipated period drama Kaantha was unveiled, and it's already being hailed as a visual masterpiece. Directed by Selvamani Selvaraj, the film is a collaboration between Wayfarer Films and Rana Daggubati's Spirit Media, bringing together two creative forces for an evocative cinematic experience. Set in 1950s Madras, Kaantha dives deep into themes of ego, friendship, love, and artistic integrity, all wrapped within the complex relationship between two legendary figures in the world of cinema. At the heart of the story is Ayya, a revered filmmaker who once men-

tored and launched his close friend Chandran into stardom. However, their bond has since soured, and when Ayya begins work on a female-centric film titled Shaantha, Chandran—now an influential star—manipulates the project, gradually taking control and reshaping it in his own image. The film is ultimately retitled Kaantha, symbolizing the shift in power and vision. Dulquer Salmaan delivers a commanding performance as Chandran, portraying the inner conflict of an artist torn between ambition and loyalty. Samuthirakani, as the principled yet wounded Ayya, brings gravitas and emotional depth to the narrative. Newcomer Bha-

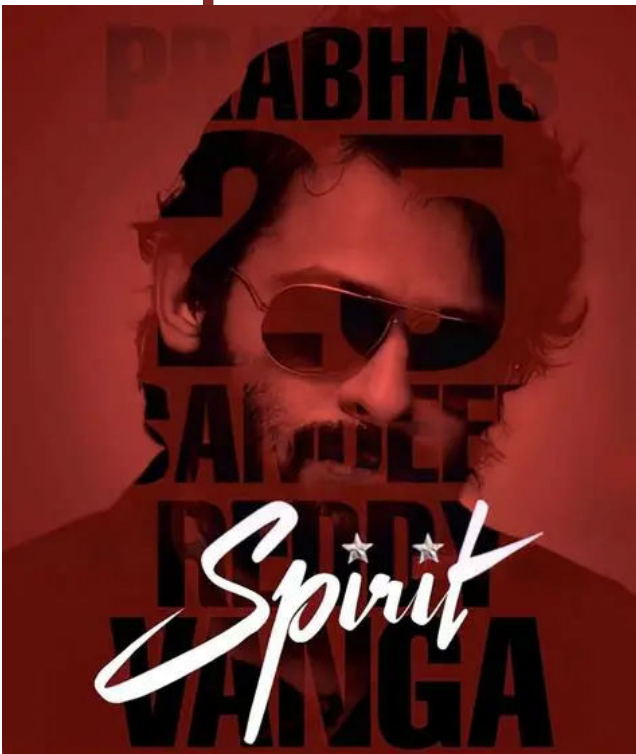
gyashri Borse also leaves a striking impression in her role. Technically, Kaantha is a triumph. Dani Sanchez Lopez's cinematography beautifully captures the retro aesthetic of mid-century Madras, while Tha. Ramalingam's art direction enriches every frame with authenticity. The haunting background score by Jhanu Chanthar heightens the drama and tension that simmers beneath the surface. Slated for a September 12, 2025 release, Kaantha promises an emotionally charged, richly cinematic experience that explores the dark undercurrents of creativity and legacy in the film industry.

Spirit Shoot in Limbo? Prabhas' Packed Schedule Raises Doubts Over September Start

The long-awaited collaboration between Prabhas and Sandeep Reddy Vanga, Spirit, continues to face uncertainty, despite the director recently confirming that the film is set to begin shooting in September 2025. While fans were hopeful after Vanga's announcement, several scheduling issues have cast serious doubt on whether production will actually start on time.

After the massive success of Animal in December 2023, expectations were high that Spirit would go on floors by late 2024. However, as July 2025 draws to a close, not a single frame has been shot. The primary hurdle? Prabhas' jam-packed schedule.

The star is currently juggling two major films. First, he is busy shooting a yet-untitled historical fiction film directed by Hanu Raghavapudi, which is still deep in production and unlikely to wrap by September. Second, he is also working on Maruthi's commercial entertainer The Raja Saab, which has



three songs and a major action sequence pending. That film is aiming for a December 5, 2025 release.

Complicating matters further, Sandeep Reddy Vanga is reportedly insisting that Prabhas commit bulk dates exclusively to Spirit, without working on any other films during the shoot. However, Prabhas is known for handling multiple projects simultaneously, making this demand a potential roadblock.

Unless Prabhas can realign his schedule and wrap up his ongoing projects quickly, the September launch of Spirit appears increasingly unlikely. Fans, who have been eagerly waiting to see this powerful actor-director duo team up for the first time, may have to wait a bit longer.

While the film remains one of the most anticipated Telugu releases, its timeline remains uncertain. All eyes are now on Prabhas' calendar—and whether Spirit can finally take flight this September.

Lokah Teaser Kalyani Turns Superhero For Her Next!

In a major reveal earlier today, Dulquer Salmaan unveiled the teaser for his latest production venture, Lokah – Chapter 1: Chandra, marking a groundbreaking moment in Malayalam cinema. The film, starring Kalyani Priyadarshan in the lead, is touted as the first-ever female superhero movie in the Malayalam industry.

Sharing the teaser on his birthday, Dulquer wrote, "Welcome to the world of Lokah! In theatres this Onam. Teaser out now." The project is being produced under his banner, Wayfarer Films, and promises a visually rich, high-stakes cinematic experience.

From the teaser, Lokah appears to unfold across two distinct timelines, blending mythology and the modern world. Kalyani plays Chandra, a character deeply linked to ancient legends, and for the first time in her career, she is seen performing intense superhero-style stunts, showcasing her in a completely new avatar. The film hints at a mystical lineage and a hidden power that Chandra must awaken.



Joining her in a key role is Naslen, known for his breakout performance in Premalu. While his character details remain under wraps, his presence adds youthful energy to the ensemble.

Directed and written by Dominic Arun, Lokah stands out for its high production values, striking visuals, and a rousing background score that perfectly complements its epic tone. The teaser has already caught the attention of fans and critics alike, and it hints at a film that could redefine genre cinema in the region.

With its release scheduled for Onam 2025, Lokah – Chapter 1: Chandra is shaping up to be a bold and exciting addition to Malayalam cinema, and potentially a career-defining moment for Kalyani Priyadarshan.