



Congress Gears Up for Delhi Showdown Over 42% BC Quota

TPN | Correspondent
Hyderabad: The Telangana Cabinet has intensified its campaign for the implementation of 42% reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) across local body elections, education, and employment sectors. At a press conference held at the Secretariat, Ministers Konda Surekha, Vakati Srihari, and Ponnam Prabhakar reiterated the government's unwavering commitment to social justice and called for nationwide support. The Cabinet has resolved to seek appointments with the Hon'ble President, Leaders of the Opposition in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, and other key national leaders between August 5 and 7 to push for approval of the BC Reservation Bills currently pending with the President. These include Bill Nos. 3 and 4, which were passed unanimously by the Telangana Legislative Assembly on March 17, 2025, following a detailed family-wise survey and cabinet sub-committee recommendations.

Mass Mobilisation for Delhi

Protest

To press their demand, the Congress-led government is organizing a massive dharna at Jantar Mantar, Delhi, on August 6. Over 100 MPs, MLAs, MLCs, and leaders from all parties in Telangana are expected to participate, along with BC intellectuals, caste association heads, and civil society members. The Cabinet has urged every BC household in Telangana to send a representative to Delhi to strengthen the voice for 42% reservation.

Attack on BJP's Silence

The Cabinet criticized the BJP's Telangana leadership for not supporting the reservation demand despite having five BC MPs, including Arvind, Bandi Sanjay, Etala Rajender, R Krishnaiah, and K Laxman. Minister Ponnam Prabhakar called on BJP state president Ramachandra Rao and BC leaders to back the bills and stop opposing the cause of social justice.

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Pushpa Reloaded... Fruit Truck Turns Ganja Express...



TPN | V. Krishna Kumar
Special Desk: In a scene straight out of Pushpa, the Eagle team (Narcotics Control Bureau) cracked down on a massive ganja racket operating through the city's outskirts. The operation led to the seizure of nearly 935.611 kg of ganja worth approximately ₹5 crore, all cleverly disguised under fruit crates. The gang was trafficking from Maharashtra to Rajahmundry to Hyderabad in a seemingly innocent fruit-laden DCM vehicle. After previously busting a rave party involving software and IT professionals in Kondapur and Madhapur, the Eagle team this time laid a decoy trap in Hayathnagar's Batasingaram area. Over three days, they tracked and intercepted this cleverly camouflaged con-

traband in a dramatic, film-style chase. At the center of the smuggling chain is Pawar Kumar Badu from Satara, Maharashtra — the alleged mastermind. Alongside him were Samadhan Kantilal Bheesh (driver), and Vinayak Babasaheb Pawar, who managed logistics and acted as a mobile escort, trailing the DCM in a separate car to monitor the route. The modus operandi was cinematic. The gang would load ganja in Rajahmundry, cover it with fresh fruits, and head toward Hyderabad posing as suppliers to the Kothapet fruit market. They routinely cleared checkpoints without raising suspicion — until now.

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Natarajan to Lead AICC's Telangana March

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
With Telangana preparing for its crucial local body elections, the Congress party has launched an intensive ground-level campaign to strengthen its organizational base. All India Congress Committee (AICC) in-charge for Telangana, Meenakshi Natarajan, is set to undertake a week-long padayatra across six strategically important assembly constituencies starting July 31. As part of the first phase of her outreach, Natarajan will tour Armur in Nizamabad district, Andole in Sangareddy, Khanapur in Adilabad, Choppadandi in Karimnagar, and Wardhannapet in Warangal district. These regions have significant Backward Class (BC) populations, making them politically crucial in the run-up to the local body polls. Natarajan, who will be accompanied by Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud, will hold meetings with local Congress leaders, mandal-level committees, and grassroots cadres. The aim is to assess organizational readiness and mobilize support ahead of the elections. She will also engage with the public to understand key local issues, gather feedback on governance, and share the Congress government's initiatives at the state level. In a symbolic gesture of community involvement, Natarajan will stay overnight in each constituency she visits and participate in early morning 'Shram Daan' activities, including cleaning public areas and planting saplings. This initiative is intended to promote a message of public service and environmental



consciousness, aligning with the party's 'Clean and Green' campaign. The padayatra comes at a time when the Congress-led state government has proposed increasing reservation for Backward Classes in local bodies to 42% through the Telangana Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance. The move, which awaits approval from Governor Jishnu Dev Varma, is seen as a key step in addressing long-standing demands from BC communities, who comprise nearly 46% of Telangana's population. Political analysts believe that both the Congress and the BJP are actively court-

ing BC voters ahead of the local elections. While the previous BRS government under KCR also pledged to raise BC reservations to 50%, it failed to fulfill that promise during its tenure. The Congress is now attempting to position itself as the party that will deliver on this critical demand. With the local body elections expected to set the tone for future electoral battles in Telangana, the Congress party is using this padayatra to consolidate its support, energize its cadre, and project a pro-BC, grassroots-oriented governance model.



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.

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. 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

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The government also reminded leaders like R Krishnaiah of their historic role in championing BC rights and urged them to actively participate and lead the Delhi protest. “This is a moment like the Telangana movement. All BCs, SCs, STs, and minorities must unite,” said a minister.

Legal and Policy Background

The Governor had earlier sent the two bills to the President for approval on March 30, following legal advice. An ordinance to lift the 50% reservation cap under the

Panchayat Raj Act was also sent to the Governor on July 14. Ministers stated that empirical data gathered through a scientific survey justifies the 42% reservation and complies with the Supreme Court’s Indra Sawhney judgment. Minister Ponnampallani warned that the deadline for the President’s response is nearing while court-mandated local body elections are pending. “This is not a fight against anyone. It’s a fight for justice,” he said, urging all parties and citizens to join hands for an inclusive future.

Pushpa Reloaded... Fruit Truck Turns Ganja Express...

Officials revealed that this operation had been running undetected for years. But this time, acting on a tip-off, the Eagle team blocked the route near Batasingaram, conducted surprise checks, and caught the accused red-handed as they tried to flee. Vehicles, mobile phones, and the entire drug consignment were seized. DCPM officials confirmed the arrests and stated that a detailed interrogation of the interstate gang is underway. The arrested are believed to have links to a larger smuggling network. Despite ongoing surveillance by excise, law and order, and narcotics teams, smugglers con-

tinued to use ingenious methods — with many inspired by the Pushpa playbook. Eagle officials attribute the growing marijuana demand to Hyderabad’s rising weekend party culture. They also pointed out a serious lapse in vigilance at border checkpoints in neighbouring states. Talks are underway with Andhra Pradesh Police to strengthen joint enforcement and surveillance mechanisms. As for now, the Eagle team is probing whether more such “fruit trucks” are silently making their way through the state — with plans to dig deeper into this well-rooted network.

Congress vs BJP In Lok Sabha on Op Sindoor

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.”

Motherhood on Rent...

The Sinister Face of Srishti Center

TPN Correspondent |

V krishna kumarIn a scandal that’s shaking the foundations of the surrogacy industry, the Universal Srishti Test Tube Baby Center has been exposed for running what investigators are calling a nationwide human trafficking operation in the name of motherhood. Far from being a place of hope for childless couples, the center has turned out to be a hub of exploitation — preying on young men and women desperate for jobs and luring them into a murky business of reproductive trade.

The investigation has revealed disturbing patterns. Teams deployed by the Srishti Center reportedly scouted railway stations and bus stands, especially in cities like Hyderabad and Ahmedabad, targeting job-seekers from Bihar, Orissa, Kerala, and other states. Disguised as employment agents, they offered promises of easy money and jobs — only to later trap these vulnerable youth into giving away their eggs, semen, or even their wombs, under the guise of surrogacy. It began as a so-called mission to help childless couples, but over the past four years, Srishti has quietly built an interstate network, establishing branches in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and beyond. The mastermind, Namrata, is said to have started this operation in 2021 and allegedly engineered a cold and calculated system to exploit the poor while profiting from



the hopes of the desperate. Once trapped, women were either offered ₹1 lakh to donate eggs or carry babies through surrogacy. Meanwhile, men were confined in hospital rooms, shown pornographic material, and made to give semen samples — which were later

falsely used in IVF procedures without the couple’s knowledge. Shockingly, investigators found that sperm samples were stored in Ahmedabad and mismatched samples were used in fertility treatments, tricking couples into believing the child was biologically theirs. The racket came to light after a recent DNA mismatch exposed a case where a baby given to a couple wasn’t biologically related to either parent. The police immediately began raids across various states and seized records, semen stocks, and lab equipment. Four investigation teams are now tracing the young men and women exploited in

this scheme.

Even more disturbingly, police revealed that Srishti often negotiated deals of ₹40 lakh with childless couples, while giving only a fraction of that to the women actually bearing the child. In some cases, when pregnancies failed, they even handed over another baby — a chilling act that bordered on black-market child trade. With many previous “parents” now returning for clarification, DNA tests are being arranged en masse to identify the biological truth behind several births linked to the center. The full scale of the operation is still unfolding, but early estimates suggest crores of rupees may have been siphoned off in this exploitative business. This isn’t just a case of medical malpractice — it’s a humanitarian crime that violated the dignity of motherhood and fatherhood alike. As investigations deepen, the nation watches in shock at how a center built on the promise of life has been reduced to a factory of manipulation.

HCA CBI Probe Plea Adjourned...

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Telangana High Court adjourned by three weeks the hearing on a petition filed by the Safilguda Cricket Club seeking a CBI probe into the financial irregularities in the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA). The petitioner urged the court to hand over the responsibilities of the HCA to the Board of Control for Cricket in India



(BCCI) and also sought a declaration

that the annual general meeting held on the 19th of this month is invalid. During the previous hearing, the High Court had issued interim orders appointing retired judge Justice Naveen Rao to oversee the affairs of the HCA. These interim orders have now been extended for another three weeks. The court will resume hearing on the matter after three weeks.

Ministers Slam Diversion of Tribal Funds

TPN Correspondent |Hyderabad

The 7th meeting of the Tribal Welfare Advisory Council was held at Damodar Sanjeevaiah Welfare Bhavan in Masab Tank, with a renewed focus on strengthening tribal development and addressing past policy lapses. The meeting was chaired by Tribal Welfare Minister Adluru Laxman Kumar, alongside Panchayati Raj, Rural Development, Women and Child Welfare Minister Seethakka. Deputy Speaker Ramachandra Nayak, tribal MLAs and MLCs, TRICOR Chairman Bellaiah Nayak, Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, Tribal Welfare Secretary Sarath, and other senior officials participated in the discussions. Minister Adluru Laxman Kumar said this was the first council meeting in five years, noting that the previous government had completely sidelined the Tribal Advisory Council. He alleged that funds allocated under the ST Sub-



Plan had been diverted, leaving tribal areas without critical infrastructure. “There are still agency areas where pregnant women walk miles to reach healthcare because there are no roads. These are the consequences of misused funds,” he said. He stressed that ST Sub-Plan allocations must remain within the same constituency and district and must not be transferred to plain areas or other purposes. He also assured that development bills in tribal areas will be cleared promptly and pledged that past delays in payments would not be repeated.

Minister Seethakka focused on the urgent housing needs among ST communities. She said the government is considering an increase in budget allocations for house construction. Many tribal families are currently ineligible for schemes due to land ownership requirements. “There is a strong demand to relax the minimum land criteria under the Indiramma housing scheme. We will raise this with the Chief Minister to ensure a fair resolution,” she stated. The ministers urged officials to prioritize road and bridge construction in remote tribal areas and to strengthen systems for accountability and monitoring. The council reaffirmed its commitment to transparent and effective use of tribal welfare funds. The meeting concluded with a collective call to accelerate inclusive development and to ensure that the voices and rights of Scheduled Tribes are not ignored in future policymaking.

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 locality eligibility. Advocates B. Mayur Reddy and Diwakar Reddy argued in court that the rule unfairly penalized permanent residents and violated funda-

mental 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.

TSRTC Cuts Fares on Hyderabad–Vijayawada Route

TPN Correspondent |Hyderabad

In a major relief to interstate commuters, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) has announced a significant reduction in bus ticket fares on the Hyderabad–Vijayawada route. The revised rates were officially implemented and are expected to benefit thousands of daily travelers between the two cities.

According to TSRTC officials, fares have been slashed by 30 percent in Garuda services, 26 percent in E-Garuda, 20 percent in Super Luxury and Lahari Non-AC services, and 16 percent in Rajdhani and Lahari AC buses. The move is part of TSRTC’s strategy to offer affordable travel options and attract more



passengers amid growing competition from private operators. The corporation stated that the decision was made after reviewing passenger traffic and fare competitiveness on the busy corridor. With the reduction, TSRTC hopes to see a rise in ridership while easing the financial burden on regular commuters, including office-goers, students, and business travel-

ers. Officials added that similar fare reviews may be considered on other high-traffic routes based on passenger response. The fare cut is being widely welcomed by the public as a timely and people-friendly measure.

**TPN Correspondent | Sangareddy**

Former Minister and BRS leader T. Harish Rao strongly criticised the state government for its apparent indifference toward victims of last month's Sigachi Industries disaster. Despite the official death toll reaching 54, Rao alleges that not a single victim's family has received the promised ex-gratia, nor have they received the bodies of their loved ones a delay he described as inhumane.

Rao, who led a protest rally to the Sangareddy Collectorate alongside the bereaved families, expressed outrage at the government's failure to honour the Chief Minister's pledge of ₹1 crore ex-gratia compensation for each deceased. A month later, no payments, death certificates, or official communications have been issued. "The Chief Minister announced ₹1 crore for each life lost. Yet not a single family received relief. Even basic rituals

A Month On, No Justice for Sigachi Victims: Harish Rao

were denied for many; ashes were dumped in the Godavari River in jerry cans when bodies were not released," he said. Highlighting the trauma faced by migrant workers from states such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand, Rao emphasised the financial burden families are bearing. "They travelled to Telangana in pain many spent ₹20,000 to ₹30,000 to be here, only to find no support," he said. Despite assurances that ₹10 lakh would be granted to the seriously injured, several survivors have reportedly received only ₹50,000 or nothing at all. Rao further alleged that eight victims are declared as 'miss-

ing' without having returned the bodies, denying families closure. He demanded immediate issuance of death certificates, FIR copies, and panchamas to all families. Citing the case of Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalle tunnel collapse, where compensation was delivered within three days, Rao questioned the delay. "Previously, allocations were released within days—not weeks. Why is there deliberate delay here?" he demanded, calling for the same model of ₹1 crore / ₹50 lakh / ₹25 lakh compensation structure to be applied promptly. He also accused Sigachi's management of criminal

negligence, citing worker complaints about outdated machinery leading up to the incident. "No action has been taken against company officials despite warnings and an FIR. Are you protecting them?" Rao questioned, attributing the company's impunity to political collusion. Addressing Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Rao said, "During COVID, KCR respected migrant workers as partners in development. Now their bodies are negligently discarded in oil drums. The insult to their memory is unforgivable." Rao vowed that if the government ignored the demands, BRS would escalate its protests.

He condemned the state's inaction in industrial safety and disaster responses, referencing prior unaddressed failures such as the SLBC tunnel accident. "Bodies remain unrecovered. Lives lost. Families unanswered. This pattern of inaction must end," he said, urging a full, transparent investigation. Harish Rao implored officials to urgently ensure medical care for remaining survivors—14 still hospitalised, five in critical condition—and demanded full compensation within days. He warned, "If your own family were in this struggle, would you delay relief? Do not deny them justice."

Govt Gave Compensation to Sigachi Victims: M.A. Fahim

TPN Correspondent | Medak

Food Corporation Chairman M.A. Fahim clarified on Monday that the Congress government has extended financial support to the families affected by the recent fire accident at the Sigachi industry.

He informed that 46 families have already been provided compensation of ₹1 lakh each, while 15 families have received ₹10 lakh. "We gave ₹11 lakh each to 10 victims and ₹15 lakh each to the families of those whose bodies were not recovered. Compensation for others is also under process," he stated.

Fahim countered the allegations made by BRS leaders Harish Rao and K.T. Rama Rao, accusing them of spreading falsehoods. "Harish Rao claimed that compensation was not given to Justin's family. But the Collector has confirmed that Justin's father received compensation from the government," he said.

Further elaborating, Fahim said ₹1 lakh each was provided to Sanju Devi and Siddharth. "All the compensation figures were gathered from district authorities. We are taking every step to ensure support for the affected families," he emphasized.

He accused opposition leaders of politicizing a tragic incident for their gain. "You are defaming the government with baseless accusations. It is you who started corpse politics during the Telangana movement. Srikanth Chari's death was the result of Harish Rao's politics," Fahim alleged.

He also pointed out that while Chief Minister Revanth Reddy monitored the Sigachi tragedy for hours, leaders like KCR didn't even visit sites like Masaipet or Kondagattu during similar tragedies under BRS rule.

Fahim asserted that whether in or out of power, BRS leaders have continued to exploit victims' deaths for political mileage. "People are being misled deliberately. The Congress government is fully committed to helping the victims and their families with integrity and urgency," he concluded.

Police Reject KTR's Allegation

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Hyderabad City Police refuted claims made by BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) regarding an alleged attempt-to-murder case filed against the wife of BRS activist Gellu Srinivas Yadav. The Jubilee Hills police clarified that no such case was booked and termed the former minister's remarks "misleading" and "politically motivated." KTR, addressing a BRSV (Bharat Rashtra Samithi Vidyarthi) gathering on July 26, alleged that Srinivas Yadav was booked for attempt to murder following vandalism at the Mahaa News channel office. He further claimed that Yadav's wife was also booked under the same charge for refusing to hand over her mobile phone to police during a raid. In a statement released, the Jubilee Hills police confirmed that an FIR was registered on June 28 based on a complaint from Mahaa News Executive Editor Dr. K. Ajitha, following a violent mob attack by BRSV activists at the media office. The mob reportedly damaged property, assaulted staff, issued threats, and used abusive language.

Gellu Srinivas Yadav was named as the prime accused. During attempts to arrest him at a flat in the MLA Quarters, his wife Swetha allegedly obstructed the police, concealed evidence, and refused to hand over his mobile phone. The police later learned that the phone was passed to his driver, and Swetha was instructed to delete crucial data. The phone was considered vital to the investigation.

Police stated that Swetha's actions amounted to obstruction of investigation and concealment of evidence. Accordingly, she was booked under Section 238 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which deals with giving false information and destroying evidence. However, police firmly denied any attempt-to-murder charges filed against her. Rebutting KTR's allegations, the police urged political leaders to avoid making baseless claims that could tarnish the image of the police force. "We are committed to a fair and transparent investigation. Spreading misinformation only undermines public trust and affects the morale of our personnel," the statement said. The Hyderabad Police also appealed to the public and media to rely on verified facts and allow the investigation to proceed without political interference.

Phone Tapping Controversy: Praveen Kumar's U-Turn

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

RS Praveen Kumar, who had earlier lodged a serious complaint alleging illegal phone tapping by the BRS government, has now taken a surprising U-turn in the ongoing phone tapping investigation. Initially, Praveen Kumar had accused the ruling BRS and Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) of orchestrating unauthorized surveillance, including tapping KCR's own phone.

The complaint was registered as an FIR at Punjagutta police station and investigated by a Special Investigation Team (SIT). Praveen Kumar had filed the complaint after receiving a suspicious alert message on his Apple mobile device, raising concerns of covert phone mon-

itoring.

During the initial stages of the probe, Praveen Kumar had made serious allegations against the BRS government, claiming the surveillance was politically motivated and aimed at suppressing dissent. However, in a recent statement given to the SIT, he retracted his previous accusations, asserting that the BRS government did not engage in phone tapping for political purposes.

Furthermore, Praveen Kumar shifted blame onto the opposition, specifically alleging that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's ministers and associates were involved in tapping his phone. He stated that these individuals had allegedly used sophisticated dark web tools to make clandestine phone calls to private



individuals as part of a covert operation.

The SIT is currently investigating these claims, including complaints about misuse of technology for unauthorized communication and surveillance. This unexpected reversal by Praveen Kumar has added fuel to the already heated political environment. Opposition leaders have accused the government of manipulating the

SIT to protect itself and deflect attention from its own alleged wrongdoings. Critics argue that the SIT is being used as a tool to target political rivals while shielding the ruling party from scrutiny.

As the investigation continues, the political fallout from this case is expected to intensify, with both ruling and opposition parties leveraging the issue ahead of upcoming elections.

BJP Fully Committed to BC Welfare: N. Ramchandra Rao

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Addressing the OBC Morcha meeting at the BJP State Office, Telangana BJP State President Shri N. Ramchandra Rao strongly emphasized the party's unwavering commitment to the welfare and development of backward classes (BCs), while exposing what he called the Congress party's conspiracies to divide BCs and mislead them.

He highlighted the presence of elders from various BC associations who brought up several concerns and suggestions, and credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for truly working for the welfare of BCs. "It is under Modi's leadership that the BC Commission was formed and 27% BCs have been given Cabinet positions. The Prime Minister himself comes from a BC background," he stated.

Rao came down heavily on Rahul Gandhi, condemning his remark referring to "converted BCs" as an insult to the entire BC community. He explained that the BC list is not uniform across India — giving the example of Lambadas being listed as STs in Telangana but BCs in Maharashtra.

Commenting on the caste census undertaken by the Congress government, Rao said it was

done unconstitutionally, merely as a statistical exercise, and not via constitutional institutions. "Teachers say the caste census wasn't even done properly at the mandal level. There is no intention to disclose the data transparently," he alleged.

Clarifying BJP's stance, he said, "We are not against the caste census, but it should be done scientifically and through constitutional institutions like the Registrar General of India, which will conduct the upcoming official census including caste data — a historic move led by PM Modi." He also strongly opposed religion-based reservations and criticized the 4% reservation for Muslims, claiming it is not in line with Articles 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution. He said the government is manipulating the EBC tag to favor religious institutions, violating constitutional boundaries.

Rao promised greater representation for BCs in the upcoming local body elections, adding that though 50 GHMC divisions were earlier earmarked for BCs, 35 of them ended up being won by Muslim candidates, leaving BC communities like Gouds, Yadavas, and Gangaputras at a disadvantage.



Sanjay Presses Centre on Delayed Karimnagar-Jagtial Expansion

**TPN Correspondent | New Delhi**

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs and Karimnagar MP, Bandi Sanjay Kumar, has urged Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari to expedite the long-pending Karimnagar-Jagtial four-lane road expansion project and release Central Road Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) allocations for Telangana.

During a meeting in New Delhi, Bandi Sanjay reminded Gadkari that the Centre had previously proposed a ₹2,151.35 crore plan for the expansion of the Karimnagar-Jagtial road. However, despite prior assurances, the tender process for the project had not commenced. Gadkari immediately summoned officials from the concerned department and reviewed the reasons for the delay.

Gadkari reportedly informed Bandi Sanjay that the project had faced public objections and legal challenges, but those issues had now been resolved. A committee report on the matter is awaited, after which the tender process will be initiated. He assured that road construction would begin as soon as the committee gives its green signal.

In addition, Bandi Sanjay submitted CRIF proposals worth ₹113 crore for various road infrastructure works in Telangana, particularly in the Karimnagar constituency. These include the construction of a high-level bridge over the Maneru river on the Bavupeta-Khazipur road in Kothapalli mandal, widening of the Gundlapalli-Pothur road in Ganneruvaram mandal, and new bridges at Chandurthi to Motkuraopet and from Arkandla to Kannapur in Shankarapatnam mandal.

Bandi Sanjay stressed the urgency of releasing funds for these projects, highlighting their importance for rural connectivity and regional development. Responding positively, Minister Gadkari assured that a decision on CRIF fund release to Telangana would be taken soon.

New WhatsApp Helpline for Grievance System

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In an effort to enhance citizen engagement and streamline grievance redressal, Hyderabad Collector Harichandana Dasari has launched a dedicated WhatsApp-based complaint system. This new service allows residents to lodge grievances easily by sending a message to 74166 87878, eliminating the need to visit government offices

in person. Upon receiving a complaint, the system generates a unique tracking ID, enabling citizens to monitor the status of their grievances in real time. Complaints are promptly forwarded to the concerned departments for swift resolution. To ensure transparency and accountability, complainants receive regular Action Taken Reports (ATRs) through WhatsApp, keeping them informed

about the progress and closure of their cases. This initiative is particularly beneficial for senior citizens and differently-abled individuals who often face challenges accessing government offices due to mobility issues. It also serves working professionals who may find it difficult to attend in-person grievance sessions during regular office hours. By leveraging the widespread use

of WhatsApp, the Collector's office aims to make grievance submission more accessible and convenient for all sections of society. Collector Harichandana Dasari emphasized that this digital platform reflects the administration's commitment to using technology to improve governance and public service delivery. "Our objective is to create a citizen-friendly mechanism that ensures

timely redressal and greater accountability," she said. This WhatsApp grievance redressal system marks a significant step toward digital empowerment of citizens, bridging the communication gap between the government and the public. Residents are encouraged to utilize this service to raise their concerns effortlessly and help build a more responsive government.



Case Against NIMS Deputy Superintendent



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Banjara Hills police have registered a case against NIMS Deputy Superintendent Lakshmi Bhaskar for allegedly cheating a fellow doctor from Rajahmundry in a land dispute involving ₹50 lakh. The case was filed following a directive from the court, after the victim complained that no action had been taken despite lodging a complaint with the police back in April. According to the complaint, Lakshmi Bhaskar had taken ₹50 lakh from the victim under the pretext of facilitating a land transaction but failed to fulfill the deal. When the victim demanded a refund, Lakshmi Bhaskar allegedly used threats and claimed she had strong political connections with leaders from the previous government. In addition to Bhaskar, Banjara Hills police have also registered a case against a few others who allegedly aided her in the fraudulent activity. Sources say that this is not the first time such allegations have surfaced against Lakshmi Bhaskar, as similar complaints have reportedly been made in the past.

Rs 3 Crore Fake Apple Goods Seized

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a major crackdown on counterfeit electronics, Hyderabad police have arrested three individuals involved in the illegal procurement and sale of duplicate Apple-branded products. The police seized counterfeit Apple accessories worth Rs 3 crore during a raid conducted on credible information. The accused have been identified as Mohammed Shahid Ali (48), a resident of Miralam Mandi and native of Uttar Pradesh; Irfan Ali (49), from LB Nagar and also a native of Uttar Pradesh; and Santosh Rajpurohit (39), a resident of Afzalgunj and proprietor of PM Mobiles in Koti. The Commissioner's Task Force, Central Zone Team, working in



coordination with authorized copyright representatives of Apple Inc., conducted raids near Hari Masjid, Miralam Mandi, under Mirchowk police station limits. During the operation, the team

seized a large quantity of counterfeit Apple products including 28 Apple Watches, 1,145 AirPods, 52 USB cables, 14 USB adaptors, 4 power banks, and several packaging materials such as outer box covers, MRP stickers, SKU stickers, and security seals — all designed to closely mimic original Apple branding. According to the police, Shahid Ali procured these counterfeit items from marketing agents based in Mumbai and stored them at his residence. Irfan Ali purchased these goods from Shahid and sold them further, while Santosh Rajpurohit retailed the fake products at his store in Koti. The accused were found selling fake accessories packaged with replicated Apple logos, MRP

stickers, security seals, and outer covers, deceiving customers by passing off counterfeit goods as genuine Apple products. This illegal operation caused significant financial losses and brand damage to Apple Inc. The seized counterfeit products have an estimated market value of Rs 3 crore. The accused, along with the seized materials, have been handed over to the SHO of Mirchowk Police Station for further investigation and legal action. The raid was carried out under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner of Police Y.V.S. Sudheendra, Inspector of Police, Central Zone Task Force, along with Sub-Inspector and staff of the Task Force Central Zone team.

HDAC Organizes Special Training for Software Employees' Re-entry



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Hyderabad Data & AI Community (HDAC), in collaboration with the Microsoft Fabric User Group India, organized a two-day training program at the Microsoft Campus in Hyderabad, led by Kanerika. This initiative aimed to help individuals re-entering the software industry after a career break regain their skills and confidence. Over 400 tech profes-

sionals attended the event daily over the two days. Sessions included topics like LinkedIn cold messaging and resume building. The training was imparted by various experts, including HDAC representatives Adityaram and Bharat, Microsoft Product Managers, MVPs Amit Chandak, Rajendra, Santosh Potnak, Suryateja, and Resham Trained to Em-

Man Dies After Harassment by Ex-MLA's Brother

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A tragic incident in Kukatpally's Venkatrao Nagar has sparked widespread outrage after 30-year-old Kumar Yadav reportedly died by suicide, allegedly due to relentless harassment by Srinivas Goud, the younger brother of former Congress MLA Koona Srisailam Goud. Kumar had been working for nearly nine years at Sammakka Sarakka Concrete Works, a firm operated by Srinivas Goud, who previously served as MPP from Quthbullapur representing the Congress party. According to family members, Kumar was recently accused of embezzling ₹1 crore from the company. Despite his repeated pleas of innocence, he was allegedly subjected to intense mental and physical harassment. Reports suggest that he was forcibly confined at the office, beaten, and had his Tata Tiago car and mobile phone seized by Goud's associates. The pressure reportedly escalated over the past week, leaving Kumar deeply distressed. Kumar had married Mounika a year and a half ago, and the couple had recently welcomed a baby girl, just 28 days old. Family members revealed that Kumar had returned from a pilgrimage to Tirumala shortly before the incident, hoping to fulfill a vow following the birth of his daughter. However, the harassment continued unabated. On Sun-



day morning, Kumar was found hanging in his residence, leaving behind a grieving family and a community in shock. Locals and friends of the deceased have staged protests, demanding justice and accountability. Allegations of abuse of political influence have reignited debates over the conduct of individuals connected to public office. Kukatpally police responded swiftly, registering a case and launching an investigation. The body was sent for postmortem, and statements from family members and witnesses are being recorded. The tragic death of Kumar Yadav has left the community shaken, prompting calls for swift and transparent action. The incident continues to unfold, with mounting pressure on authorities to ensure justice is served.

Journalist Ramana Awarded Doctorate by OU

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Noted journalist and early Telangana movement activist Vengaldas Venkataramana has been awarded a doctorate in political science by Osmania University. Ramana completed his PhD research on the topic "Political Economy of Gulf Migration: A Study of Karimnagar District" under the guidance of Professor Brahmanandam. Hailing from Raghavapatnam village in Jagtial district, Ra-

mana's research delved into the political and economic aspects of Gulf migration and its long-term effects on the erstwhile Karimnagar district. His thesis offered a detailed analysis of the challenges faced by Gulf migrants and their families, highlighting the gaps in support mechanisms and proposing practical policy solutions. Ramana, who has also played a prominent role in the early Telangana movement, thanked Osmania Universi-



ty faculty and friends who supported his academic journey. He expressed happiness over receiving the doctorate, stating that such recognition would motivate more research on pressing societal

issues. His work is being seen as a valuable contribution to both academic and policy-making circles, especially in addressing the plight of Gulf migrant workers from Telangana.

Player Collapses During Badminton match

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A 35-year-old man died of a suspected heart attack while playing badminton at an indoor stadium in Uppal on Sunday, sending shockwaves across the local sports community. The deceased, identified as Gundla Rakesh, was a native of Tallada in Khammam district and the son of former deputy sarpanch Gundla Venkateswarlu. Rakesh had been working for a private company in Hyderabad and was reportedly passionate about badminton, regularly participating in matches with friends and colleagues. According to eyewitnesses, Rakesh collapsed suddenly while playing at one of the

indoor courts in the Uppal Stadium. Those present at the venue rushed him to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead. The cause of death is believed to be a massive cardiac arrest, though further confirmation is awaited from medical reports. Family members, friends, and local residents expressed deep grief over the sudden loss. Rakesh was described as active, friendly, and health-conscious, making his untimely death all the more shocking. Police have registered a case under routine procedure, and further investigations are underway. The body has been shifted for postmortem.

Wife's Murder Plot Foiled, Husband Survives Attack

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A shocking incident has come to light in Quthbullapur where a man narrowly escaped a murder attempt allegedly planned by his own wife. The victim, Ramdas, filed a complaint at Bachupalli Police Station stating that his wife Jyoti, along with three unidentified youths, conspired to kill him. According to Ramdas, the incident occurred in Bowrampet where Jyoti first convinced him to consume alcohol as part of a premeditated plan. Once intoxicated, he was reportedly attacked with beer bottles by Jyoti and the three youths. Believing him to be dead, the attackers fled the scene. However, Ramdas, though severely injured and bleed-

ing, managed to regain consciousness and reached his younger brother's residence at midnight. He narrated the incident and was later taken to file a complaint. The couple reside in Rajiv Gruha Kalpa, near Bachupalli Pius. The Bachupalli Police registered a zero FIR and transferred the case to the Dundigal Police Station, stating jurisdictional reasons as the alleged attack took place in their limits. Police have launched an investigation into the case and are working to identify and locate the three accomplices.



Siva Temple Established by Lord Rama Ready for Sravana Festivities



TPN Correspondent | Vikarabad
In the serene village of Anantagiri, just 5 kilometers from Vikarabad and 95 kilometers from Hyderabad, lies the Sri Bugga Ramalingeswara Swamy Temple, a sacred shrine that holds centuries of spiritual and historical significance. According to local belief and temple lore, this ancient temple was consecrated by Lord Rama himself during the Treta Yuga. The legend goes back to the period after the defeat of Ravana, the king of Lanka. Upon returning to Rameshwaram with Sita Devi, Lord Rama was advised by Sage Agastya and other rishis to perform penance for killing Ravana, who despite being a demon king, was a Brahmin by birth. The sages told Rama that establishing a Jyotirlinga

would relieve him of the sin of Brahmahatya. While the Jyotirlinga was installed in Rameshwaram, Rama is said to have ventured into the dense forests of Anantagiri, where he installed another Shivalinga in this now-sacred spot, today revered as the Bugga Ramalingeswara Swamy Temple. As per the lore, to perform the abhishekam (ritualistic bath) of the Shivalinga, Lord Rama shot an arrow into the earth, from which water bubbled up miraculously. This spring became known as Shivaganga Pushkarini, a sacred tank whose waters continue to flow to this day. The natural spring, which originates be-

side the temple, feeds the temple tank and eventually gives rise to the Musi River, cascading down the Anantagiri hills. The waters of this tank are believed to possess medicinal properties, and devotees consider a bath here not just spiritually cleansing but physically healing as well.

Pilgrims visiting the temple are encouraged to bathe in the Pushkarini, purify themselves

of sins, seek divine blessings, and then offer prayers to Lord Shiva. Many devotees have reported experiencing miraculous cures and spiritual solace after visiting this shrine. Speaking about upcoming initiatives, Temple Trust Chairman Atma Lingam shared that daily food distribution will be organized throughout the holy month of Shravan, allowing pilgrims and visitors to partake in the blessings of both darshan and service. The Sri Bugga Ramalingeswara Swamy Temple stands not just as a symbol of ancient architecture and mythological significance, but as a living testament to Lord Rama's devotion, compassion, and reverence for dharma. For devotees, it remains a place of penance, healing, and divine connection.



High Alert in Agency Areas....

TPN Correspondent |Bhadradi Kothagudem
Security agencies have sounded a high alert as the Maoist party prepares to hold its annual martyrs' memorial meetings from Monday through August 3. These week-long events, hosted at Dandakaranya, honor party leaders and cadres who lost their lives in the line of duty, including prominent figures such as General Secretary Nambala Kesava Rao. Each year, the Maoists organize these commemorations to remember the sacrifices made by their members. This year, the party is expected to pay tribute to over 357 cadres who have died recently, highlighting the intense toll from ongoing conflicts and counter-insurgency operations. The memorial week will also include strategic meetings aimed at addressing past challenges and charting the party's future



course. In response, police and security forces have intensified their operations across Bhadradi Kothagudem, conducting thorough checks and combing operations in forests and villages known as Maoist strongholds. Critical routes leading to Chhatigarh via Cherla and Dumugudem mandals have been heavily monitored, with bomb disposal squads and sniffer dogs deployed to inspect culverts and newly constructed roads. Senior officers, including CI Raju Varma, SS Narsi Reddy, and Keshava, are personally overseeing security ef-

ports, questioning suspects, and gathering intelligence to prevent any attempts at disruption. Similar security sweeps are underway in Venkatapuram and Vajedu mandals. Authorities have also issued warnings to individuals believed to be targeted by Maoists, urging them to remain vigilant. The Maoist party's strength has been severely diminished due to intense security crackdowns. Since the launch of Operation Kagar in 2024, over 357 cadres have been killed, more than 400 have surrendered, and upwards of 70 arrested. This has led to concerns over the

party's leadership and operational capacity. Despite these setbacks, the Maoists continue to mobilize their remaining cadres through official letters calling for participation in the memorial events. Last year, the party held grand memorial services attended by over 1,000 cadres, but recent losses have left the organization fragmented. The heavy toll—close to 700 cadres killed over two years—reflects the sustained pressure from counter-insurgency efforts in the region. As the memorial week unfolds, both security forces and local communities remain on edge, with police pledging to maintain strict vigilance and prevent any violent incidents. The coming days are expected to be crucial in determining the balance between the Maoist movement's resilience and the state's efforts to ensure peace and security.

BJP Gears Up for Local Body Polls in Karimnagar



TPN Correspondent | Karimnagar
With local body elections approaching, BJP Karimnagar District President Gangadi Krishna Reddy has called upon party cadre to intensify preparations and ensure victory for BJP candidates. Addressing a key meeting organized by the Kothapalli Rural Mandal unit on Monday, Krishna Reddy urged leaders and activists to work in unity and remain alert as elections could be announced at any time. He stressed the importance of strengthening booth-level committees and increasing public outreach. Krishna Reddy highlighted the need

to inform people about the failures of the state government, particularly in areas like infrastructure and governance, while also showcasing the development and welfare programs of the Modi-led central government. He offered suggestions to enhance organizational readiness, including door-to-door campaigning, involving youth and women in party activities, and ensuring accurate voter list management. The meeting witnessed participation from Mandal President Kunta Tirupati and several Shakti Kendra incharges, including Kadarla Ratan Kumar, Vemula Anil Kumar, Komatireddy Anjan Kumar, Somineni Karnakar, Gudisela Ranjith Kumar, Porthi Anil Kumar, Bonala Naresh, Kadari Srinivas, Boini Mahender, and Katla Srinivas. The session concluded with a renewed commitment from party workers to focus on disciplined grassroots work and issue-based campaigning to ensure BJP's success in the upcoming elections.

Kamareddy Set for Panchayat Elections

TPN Correspondent |Kamareddy
The Telangana Panchayat Raj Department has proposed to the State Election Commission that the upcoming local body elections be conducted in two phases. In preparation for this, instructions have already been issued to District Panchayat Officers (DPOs) and Zilla Parishad Chief Executive Officers (ZP CEOs) to begin necessary arrangements across the district. As part of the electoral preparations, a new voter list is being compiled at the panchayat level, with each village serving as a unit. The voter lists have been prepared ward-wise, but the data is yet to be uploaded to the T-Poll portal. Officials have stated that the registration process on the mobile app will be completed within a couple of days. Panchayat elections will be conducted using the traditional ballot system. Separate ballot papers will be issued for the posts of Sarpanch and ward members, and two ballot boxes will be placed at each polling booth. Authorities had started preparations six months ago and have kept 5,221 ballot boxes ready to meet the district's requirements.



Additionally, around 100 extra boxes will be arranged as backup. Although the Election Commission has not yet issued formal orders regarding polling personnel, officials are proactively collecting updated information on available staff. Some of the previously registered personnel have either retired or been transferred, prompting a fresh data collection drive to ensure adequate staffing for the elections. In Kamareddy district, a polling station is typically established for each ward. Since voters cast two separate votes—one for the Sarpanch and another for the ward member—authorities have planned for 4,667 polling stations. In wards with more than 650 voters, additional polling centers will be created to accommodate the higher voter turnout. These decisions were taken in advance to ensure smooth conduct of the elections. With ballot materials ready and preparatory works underway, the Kamareddy administration is making steady progress toward conducting the panchayat elections in an orderly and efficient manner.

‘My Gold Work’ App Launched

TPN Correspondent |Hyderabad
Telangana Minister for Transport and BC Welfare, Ponnamp Prabakar, officially inaugurated the innovative 'My Gold Work' mobile application at T-Hub, Hyderabad's leading innovation and startup ecosystem. The app is designed to revolutionize the gold industry by introducing digital tools that provide artisans and consumers with transparent pricing, real-time tracking of gold products, and secure transaction processes. This initiative is expected to bring much-needed transparency and efficiency to a traditionally opaque sector. At the launch event, Minister Prabakar underscored the government's strong commitment to leveraging modern technology to transform traditional industries. He emphasized that integrating digital solutions like the 'My Gold Work' app into the gold sector aligns perfectly with Telangana's broader vision of fostering innovation, empowering local artisans, and boosting economic growth through digital inclusion. He also highlighted that such technological advancements would help bridge the gap between craftsmen and consumers, ensuring fair practices and enhancing trust in the market. The event saw participation from prominent industry leaders, in-



cluding SHOT Chairman Shivsena Reddy and TGMDC Chairman Eeravatri Anil. Both leaders praised the app as a game-changer that will modernize the gold industry in Telangana. They pointed out how the app empowers artisans by providing them direct access to market data and secure payment mecha-

nisms, which could significantly improve their livelihoods. Furthermore, they remarked on how the app bridges traditional craftsmanship with contemporary market demands, thus ensuring the sector's sustainability and growth. The launch of the 'My Gold Work' app represents a major milestone in Telangana's efforts to promote digital empowerment and support the development of traditional industries. By embracing technology, the state aims to create a more transparent, efficient, and inclusive gold market that benefits artisans, traders, and consumers alike. This initiative is expected to set an example for other sectors to follow in adopting digital innovation for economic and social upliftment.

Farmers Protest Forced Land Grab in



TPN Correspondent | Narayanpet
Anger is mounting in Narayanpet as farmers continue their protests against the alleged forcible acquisition of agricultural land for the Narayanpet-Kodangal Lift Irrigation Scheme. After a week-long relay hunger strike at Narayanpet Municipal Park went unanswered by authorities, farmers on Monday took to the streets in large numbers, staging a massive rally through the main roads of the town.

The protesting farmers allege that land is being taken without their consent for the irrigation project, with no meaningful dialogue from the government. Tensions have escalated further with the revelation that contracts for the project have been awarded to firms owned by Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and businessman Mega Krishna Reddy.

Farmers are accusing these contract firms, in collusion with government officials, of using pressure tactics to forcibly acquire their lands. They also expressed frustration that no MLA, MP, or minister has responded to their pleas, intensifying their resentment toward the Revanth Reddy-led government.

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-

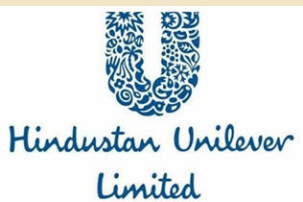
sitions in the Rs. 970/950 range in this counter, which closed at Rs.1003 on Monday.



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.

ence and spiritual dignity.

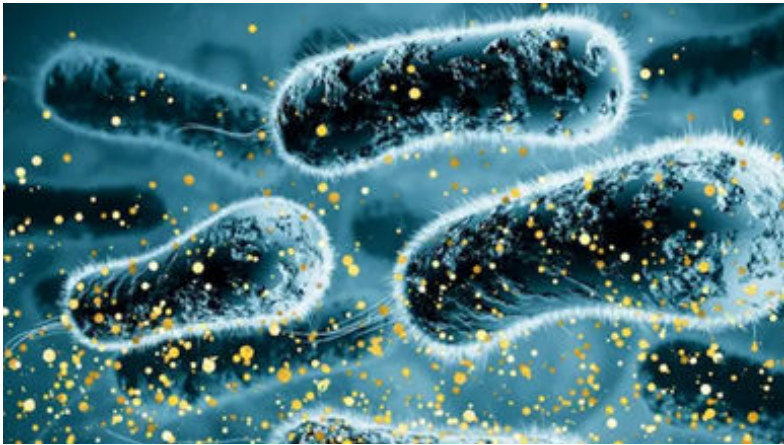
Facing mounting criticism, Cenzo issued a public apology, admitting ignorance of the restaurant’s religious connection. “If I had known that the restaurant was linked to a temple, I would have never filmed that prank and left. My actions were ill-timed and irresponsible,” he stated.

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 Alesia 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

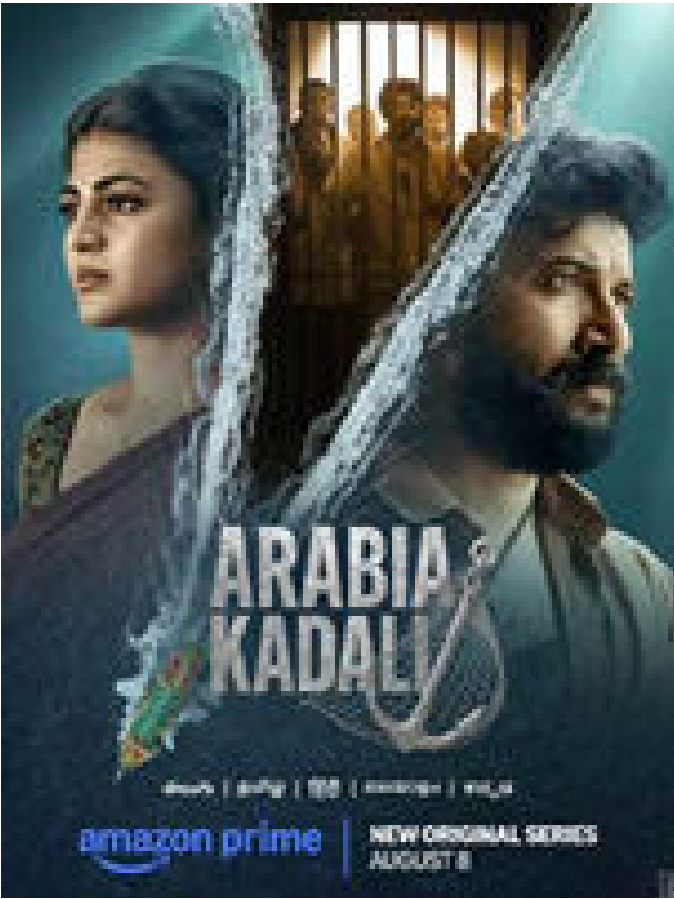
Premieres August 8 on Prime Video

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-

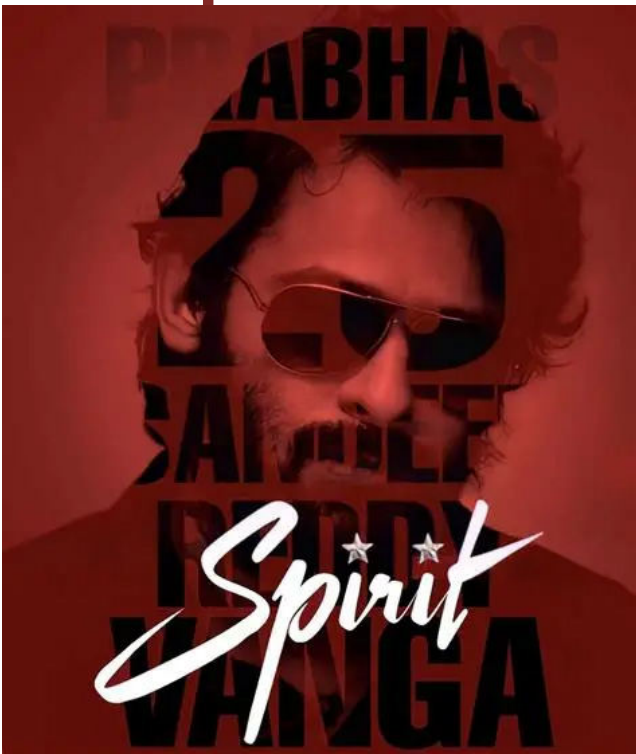
gyashri Borse also leaves a striking impression in her role. Technically, Kaantha is a triumph. Dani Sanchez Lopez's cinematography beautifully captures the retro aesthetic of mid-century Madras, while Tha. Rama-lingam's art direction enriches every frame with authenticity. The haunting background score 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.