

BJP's new strategy for Telugu states...!

- President's reins for loyalists
- No chance for those who came from outside the party...!
- Madhav in AP, Ramachandra Rao in Telangana
- RSS background behind both

TPN | Kishore Katta

Hyderabad: The saffron party has selected presidents for both Telugu states at the same time. However, the Kamalam party, which always bowed to local pressures, this time selected presidents according to a clear plan. It selected Ramachandra Rao, who has always believed in the party and worked faithfully in Telangana. Even in Andhra Pradesh, it leaned towards PVN Madhav, who is a loyal servant of the Kamalam party. Political experts are also of the opinion that the BJP is finally following the correct strategy after many years. Notably, both of the newly appointed leaders have RSS backgrounds, having started their political journeys from the Sangh. There is talk that this has also played a role in their elevation. Leaving that aside... as far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, in the past Kanna Lakshminarayana and the current pres-



ident Purandeswari — both of whom joined the BJP from the Congress — were elected as presidents. Even at that time, there was a kind of stagnation in the AP Kamalam party. Since the reins were given to leaders who had come from other parties instead of those who had always trusted the BJP, an internal war broke out. On the other hand, there is talk in political circles that both Kanna Lakshminarayana and Purandeswari were TDP sympathizers. With this, the Delhi leadership realized that if the BJP wants to grow independently in the future, it's not right to hand over control to such leaders. The Kamalam leadership understood that Vishnuvardhan Reddy, GVL, and Somu Veerajulu were all close to Jagan. That's why they were careful not to let such people come anywhere

near the top post. This time, the selection of the president was done with great secrecy. They shocked everyone by announcing a name that no one had expected. Unlike in the past, the BJP did not make its strategy public and instead played a smart game in the background. The party had paid a price in the past for its wrong choices. But now, having fully understood the political ground in AP, it handed over the reins to a party loyalist, with the clear intent of strengthening itself at any cost. In the presidential race, the names of heavyweights like Kiran Kumar Reddy, Sujana Chowdhury, Vishnuvardhan Reddy, and Adi Narayana Reddy were heard. But the post ultimately went to Madhav. The most notable thing is that there is no discontent in AP BJP over PVN



Madhav's selection. This alone is enough to say that the BJP is now moving in the right direction in Andhra Pradesh. As for Telangana... before the last elections, Bandi Sanjay was removed from the president's post and it was handed over to Kishan Reddy — a move that didn't go down well with party workers. When Sanjay was gaining momentum, the sudden removal created deep discontent among grassroots workers. Recently, with news that MP Etala Rajender was in the race for president, traditional BJP supporters grew even more unhappy. However, to neutralize that unrest, the Kamalam high command selected Ramachandra Rao, a stalwart loyalist to the party, as the new state president. Except for Raja Singh, no one in Telan-

gana BJP has objected to Ramachandra Rao's selection. Here too, names like Etala, Dharmapuri Aravind, Raghunandan Rao, Chintala Ramachandra Reddy, Muralidhar Rao, and DK Aruna were heard. But the BJP leadership followed the same plan implemented in AP. Ignoring leaders who came from other parties, it leaned towards Ramachandra Rao, who has been working with the BJP from the beginning. With ample support from the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, he was elected unanimously. Overall, the saffron party has chosen a new path in the Telugu states, quite different from the past. And now the question is — will this strategy work? Will the Lotus flag finally fly high in the Telugu states...? It remains to be seen.



Pensions Bring Joy to Villages, Not Loot Like Before

- Previous govt looted in the name of welfare: CM
- Godavari Pushkaralu will be grander than ever
- Unemployment allowance, Polavaram by 2027, free travel for girls

TPN Correspondent | Kovvur

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu asserted that villages are once again witnessing a festive atmosphere, thanks to the timely disbursement of pensions on the 1st of every month. Speaking at the Pedala Sevala program held in Malakapalli, Kovvur constituency, he lashed out at the previous YSRCP government for misusing welfare schemes like pensions and Amma Vodi, and promised a new era of transparent, responsible governance.

He personally handed over pensions to beneficiaries including leather worker Sanamandra Posh Babu and widow Geddam Krishnadurga, before addressing the gathering at Praja Vedika. "In our people's government, pensions are not a favour, but a right delivered with dignity," he said. "Pensions Looted, Welfare Twisted Under YSRCP" Naidu accused the previous regime of looting pensions in the name of the differently-abled, and misusing schemes like Amma Vodi. "Under our government, every

mother gets respect, no matter how many children she has," he stressed. "They even created obstacles for the Mega DSC, but we will still fill teacher posts within a month," he assured. He also made a stern warning to drug peddlers and their sympathisers, saying, "We will not tolerate anyone who encourages the ganja gang. For the people's sake, we are forced to fight political criminals." "Pensions Now a Symbol of Dignity"

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Moorthy Naidu's Arrest Triggers Outrage Among Kapu Leaders

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The arrest of Point News Director Moorthy Naidu in Vijayawada has sparked strong political and community reactions across Andhra Pradesh, especially among Kapu leaders, financial industry well-wishers, and sections of the Jana Sena Party. The move, which came amidst growing concerns over media freedom and targeted actions against voices aligned with the Kapu community, has drawn sharp criticism. Moorthy Naidu, a prominent figure in the media and an outspoken representative of the Kapu community, was reportedly taken into custody over alleged news article on Point News regarding Polavaram MLA Balaraju. However, several leaders have questioned the intent and timing of the arrest. Kapu Nadu organizations have described the incident as politically motivated and aimed at silencing influential voices. They expressed solidarity with Naidu and demanded immediate legal support to fight what they termed an "unjustified and targeted action." Leaders from the financial sector, especially those with ties to com-



munity development projects and startups, also conveyed their displeasure over the incident. Several investors and entrepreneurs stated that such actions against individuals working to elevate backward communities could dent the trust of stakeholders in the system. "It is unfortunate and dangerous to see proactive voices from our community being targeted. This raises serious concerns about freedom of expression and equal justice," said one prominent entrepreneur from Vijayawada. Adding fuel to the fire, a section of Janasena leaders reacted strongly to the arrest, term-

ing it an act of vengeance. "Moorthy Naidu's voice was fearless. His arrest is not a legal action, it's a political message," said a senior Janasena leader off the record. Meanwhile, Kapu Nadu representatives also referred to the recent attack on Mahaa News channel in Hyderabad, where alleged party workers vandalized the media office. Linking both incidents, they warned of a dangerous trend targeting media voices who refuse to fall in line. They emphasized that these attacks were part of a broader attempt to stifle independent journalism and restrict caste-based empowerment.

కాపునాడు

ప్రజాస్వామ్య వ్యవస్థలో పత్రికా స్వేచ్ఛను సుంకెళ్లు

"పాయింట్" ఈ పత్రిక లభిస్తే పాదం మూర్తి నాయుడు లెక్క లేదు. లాడు తెలంగాణలో మహానాడు కాల్వాయంపు దాడిని కాపునాడు" ఖండిస్తోంది. ప్రజాస్వామ్య వ్యవస్థలో మీడియా గింజు పొక్కడం చాలా హేయమైన చర్య. ప్రభుత్వం పాదం మూర్తి నాయుడు లెక్క లేదు పట్ల సరైన న్యాయం జరిగేలా చర్యలు తీసుకోవాలి. మీడియా పాపులను కాపాడాలి. తెలుగు తెలుగు న్యాయ ప్రభుత్వాలను కాపునాడు వీమాంటి చేస్తోంది.

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Polavaram-Banakacharla Project Faces Hurdle

CWC Nod Must for Polavaram Link Project
Environmental clearance stalled; Expert Panel sends back TOR

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The proposed Polavaram-Banakacharla river interlinking project has encountered a temporary setback, with the Union Ministry of Forests and Environment's Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) returning the state government's Terms of Reference (TOR) proposal for environmental assessment. The committee clarified that prior approval from the Central Water Commission (CWC) is mandatory before any environmental appraisal can be initiated. Committee's Stand on CWC Clearance

In its meeting held on June 17 under the chairmanship of GJ Chakrapani, the EAC reviewed the state's submission and emphasized that the clearance from the CWC must precede environmental scrutiny. The minutes of this meeting were made public on Monday. State officials from the Water Resources Department presented



their case before the committee, but the panel maintained that the permission of the Central Water Commission is a prerequisite for moving forward.

Inter-State Objections and Legal Context

The committee noted that several complaints have been lodged against the project, particularly highlighting that the proposed interlinking may violate the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal's 1980 award. The Telangana government has strongly opposed the project and submitted formal objections to various central author-

ities. The committee, keeping these concerns in view, suggested a comprehensive scientific study on flood water availability in the Godavari basin in coordination with the CWC. The EAC also pointed out that environmental clearances for the main Polavaram project are still under judicial review due to flooding issues affecting Odisha and Chhattisgarh. The potential impact on neighbouring states must therefore be considered before proceeding.

State Directed to Reapply After CWC Nod

In its directive, the Expert Committee instructed the Andhra Pradesh government to first resolve inter-state concerns and obtain the necessary permissions from the Central Water Commission. Only then should it resubmit the TOR proposal for environmental assessment. The com-

mittee has made it clear that further steps without CWC clearance would not be entertained.

Project Scope and Expected Benefits

The Polavaram-Banakacharla interlinking project is aimed at transferring surplus floodwaters from the Polavaram Dam on the Godavari River to water-scarce areas in the Krishna Basin. With an estimated cost of ₹81,900 crore, the project is projected to provide drinking water to 80 lakh people, bring 3 lakh hectares under new irrigation, and stabilize 9.14 lakh hectares of existing ayacut. In addition, the plan includes provisions for 400 MW of hydroelectric power generation and supply of 20 TMC of water to industries. A preliminary project report has already been submitted to the Central Water Commission, pending further approvals.

Pensions Bring Joy to Villages, Not Loot Like Before

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The CM highlighted that pensions had been increased to ₹4,000 and up to ₹15,000 for bedridden individuals. Dialysis patients receive ₹10,000. "We send an app notification after each pension payment. Widows automatically receive pensions after their husband's demise. There's even an option to withdraw three months' pension at once," he said.

He noted that 1.20 lakh people haven't withdrawn pensions in two months, potentially saving ₹98 crore, but added, "We never think of saving at the expense of the poor. We act with compassion."

"We'll Conduct the Grandest Godavari Pushkaralu"

Naidu assured that the Godavari Pushkaralu will be the grandest ever. "I had the fortune of overseeing them before, but this time, we'll surpass all expectations. My friend Pawan Kalyan and I are determined to rebuild Andhra Pradesh. In one year, we laid the foundation for good governance," he said.

The CM reiterated achievements like 204 canteens, three free gas cylinders under Deepam, and ₹10,000 crore under 'Ondari Vandanam' for mothers. He promised swift benefits for students from Classes 1 to 11 and announced free bus travel for girls from August 15.

CM Naidu detailed the steps taken to support farmers: timely irrigation water, seed supply, fertilizer distribution, direct input subsidies, and sale of paddy at local rice mills. He announced that once the Centre transfers funds under Annadata Sukhibha-

va, the state would top it up. He vowed to complete Polavaram by 2027, claiming, "While they completed just 4% in 5 years, we achieved 6% in one year. No project in India handles 50 lakh cusecs of flood water like Polavaram. We will finish the diaphragm wall by December."

"Criminals Have Entered Politics"

The CM warned that rowdies have entered politics directly. Recalling the Viveka murder, he said, "I was misled. The truth came out only after a post-mortem. They covered up blood, changed bedsheets, and prepared for final rites. They painted me as a villain. Even as CM, I was helpless." He further alleged, "They locked my house, sent me back from Vizag, and welcomed criminals in Tenali. We have proof now that Jagan's convoy ran over Singayya. I have never hit anyone in my life — but for the people, I am now forced to fight these criminal politicians."

Naidu promised rapid development for Kovvur, including a new degree college, 150-bed hospital, and full lift irrigation works. He noted that Papikondalu's tourism potential will be tapped.

"P4 Initiative to Uproot Poverty"

The CM spoke passionately about the P4 poverty eradication initiative, drawing parallels with Ambedkar, Modi, NTR, and Pawan Kalyan, all of whom rose from humble beginnings. He cited examples of philanthropists like Bill Gates and Vedanta Group, urging the top 10% to support the bottom 20%.

Personality Development Expert B.V. Pattabhiram Passes Away



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Renowned personality development expert, psychiatrist, and magician Dr. B.V. Pattabhiram passed away on Tuesday following a heart attack. He was widely respected for his decades-long contribution to psychology, hypnosis, and personal transformation. He is survived by his wife Jaya, also a personality development expert, and son Prashanth. His mortal remains have been kept at his residence in Khairatabad for fans and well-wishers to pay their last respects from 9 am today. The final rites will be conducted at Mahaprasthanam in Jubilee Hills at 3 pm. Born in East Godavari district, Pattabhiram was one of the 15 children of Rao Saheb Bhavaraju Satyanarayana. While pursuing higher education in Kakinada, he was introduced to magic by a magician named Ember Rao. This passion stayed with him even while working for a food company in Hyderabad. By the 1970s, he had emerged as an independent magician, capable of captivating audiences for hours with his unique blend of performance and psychology.

Dr. Pattabhiram's academic background was as rich as his creative pursuits. He completed post-graduation in psychology and philosophy from Osmania University and later earned a PhD in yoga and hypnosis from the same institution. He also worked with the Food Corporation of India before dedicating himself fully to guiding people through psychological counseling, motivational speaking, and personality development training.

Free Bus Travel for Women from August 15: Minister Kondapalli

- 2 lakh spouse pensions to be granted soon
- Rs. 2,712 crore being paid to over 62.82 lakh pensioners



TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram

State Minister for MSME, SERP and NRI Affairs Kondapalli Srinivas announced that the coalition government will soon provide spouse pensions to nearly 2 lakh eligible people who were neglected by the previous YSRCP administration. He made these remarks on Tuesday morning while inaugurating the NTR Bharosa pension distribution program at Ambativalasa in Bondapalli mandal. He stated that many spouses of pensioners who passed away between 2019 and 2024 were

denied pensions by the previous regime. "We are rectifying that injustice. The coalition government will soon sanction pensions for about 2 lakh such individuals," he said.

The Minister added that ₹2,712 crore is currently being distributed to 62.82 lakh pensioners across the state, with ₹114.84 crore being disbursed to 2,70,847 beneficiaries in Vizianagaram district alone. Highlighting another major welfare initiative, Minister Srinivas said that free bus travel for women will be implemented starting August 15, fulfilling a major election promise. "From this Independence Day, women in our state will be able to travel for free in government buses," he announced.

He also reiterated the government's commitment to other welfare measures such as providing three free gas cylinders per year to women and supporting the education of children from poor families. "Our coalition government, under the leadership of CM N. Chandrababu Naidu, is committed to comprehensive development and targeted welfare," he declared. Officials including DRDA PD A. Kalyana Chakravarthy, DPM Ravikumar, MPDO Giribala, Tahsildar Rajeshwar Rao, APM Pentam Naidu, and local coalition leaders like Korada Krishna also participated in the program.

Rain Alert for Telugu States for Next Three Days

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Meteorological Department has forecast continued rainfall across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for the next three days, due to a low-pressure system developing in the northern Bay of Bengal. Combined with the ongoing surface circulation, the weather system is expected to bring moderate to heavy rain and gusty winds to several parts of both states. Telangana districts on alert The Hyderabad Meteorological Centre has issued alerts for 19 districts in Telangana. Moderate to heavy rainfall is likely to occur, accompanied

by thunder and lightning in some areas. Officials have also warned of gusty winds ranging between 30 to 40 kmph. People in affected areas have been advised to remain cautious and avoid unnecessary travel during intense weather conditions. Heavy impact on North Andhra In Andhra Pradesh, the State Disaster Management Authority has predicted that the northern coastal districts will experience significant impact. The low-pressure area forming near the Bangladesh-West Bengal coasts is expected to trigger moderate to heavy rainfall in Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Manyam, Al-

luri Seetharamaraju, and Visakhapatnam districts. Light rain is expected across other regions of the state. Authorities have also issued strong advisories for fishermen along both states' coastlines. With wind speeds expected to reach 40 to 50 kmph, fishermen have been strictly instructed not to venture into the sea. Those already out at sea have been asked to return to the coast immediately and await further guidance from weather and marine authorities. Officials in both states are monitoring the evolving weather system closely and may issue further advisories based on its progression.



Chevireddy in SIT Custody Over Liquor Scam

SIT begins 3-day interrogation after court approval

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

A significant development has occurred in the sensational liquor scam case in Andhra Pradesh, with YSRCP leader and former MLA Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy being taken into SIT custody on Tuesday morning. Along with co-accused Venkatesh Naidu, Chevireddy was moved from the Vijayawada sub-jail after the ACB Court granted permission for a three-day custodial interrogation by the Special Investigation Team (SIT).

Before initiating the questioning, the SIT officials first took both accused

for a mandatory medical examination, after which they were brought to the SIT office. The interrogation, as per court directions, will be held daily from 8 AM to 6 PM for three days, during which the officials aim to extract key information related to the multi-crore liquor scam. While being escorted out of the sub-jail, Chevireddy became emotional and attempted to speak to the media. However, he was quickly stopped by the police. In a brief comment, he said, "I was unjustly sent to jail by filing false cases. God is watching everything. Those responsi-



ble will face divine justice. Time will reveal the truth." The liquor scam case has triggered political tremors in Andhra Pradesh, and with Chevireddy now in SIT custody, the investi-

gation is expected to gain further momentum. Authorities believe that the custodial interrogation could reveal deeper links and key evidence in the alleged scam.

Purandeswari Backs Madhav's Leadership

Recalls her journey, praises cadre, and promises to return as a worker



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Outgoing BJP Andhra Pradesh State President and MP Daggubati Purandeswari offered her heartfelt congratulations to PVN Madhav on his appointment as the new state president, while reflecting on her own tenure and reaffirming her commitment to the party's grassroots. Speaking to the media in Vijayawada, she recalled, "Two years ago, while I was on the Amarnath Yatra, I received a call from JP Nadda informing me that I had been chosen as the BJP State President. It was a moment of responsibility, and I thank the party for placing its trust in me."

She expressed satisfaction at upholding party values and transpar-

ency throughout her tenure and credited the unwavering support of party workers for every achievement. "We have moved forward only because of the cooperation of the workers at the grassroots level. I offer my thanks to each and every one of them — those who supported and even those who criticized," she said. Purandeswari lauded Madhav's father, Chalapathi Rao, for his foundational role in BJP's journey in Andhra Pradesh. "From the Visakha Steel Plant to Polavaram, Chalapathi Rao led the party from the front, even going to jail during the Emergency. That kind of leadership inspired me to work with determination during my term," she said. She expressed confidence that PVN

Madhav will carry forward that legacy, saying, "He will integrate everyone and move forward with the same leadership values that his father stood for. He understands the sentiments of the cadre." Positions may last two or three years, but if there is one role I can never leave, it is that of a worker. Once this role ends, I will return to be among you all — not as a leader, but as one of you."

Union Minister Srinivasa Varma

"Purandeshwari garu has worked immensely for the party during her term as president," Varma acknowledged, noting that he personally grew as a Member of Parliament and Union Minister with her support. He also highlighted Madhav's consistent efforts for the party and said his commitment is well-known among the ranks.

Varma made special mention of Madhav's father, Chalapathi Rao, calling him a true party loyalist. "Today's leaders may not fully know his contributions, but he was the first BJP State President, serving from 1980 to 1986, and he was someone who wasn't afraid to admit his mistakes and connect with workers," he said. "Madhav, coming from such a legacy, has grown on his own merit and now stands ready to lead."

Jagan Calls on Youth Wing to Expose Govt Failures Online

Zone-wise working presidents to be appointed soon

TPN Correspondent | Tadepalli

YSRCP Chief and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has called upon the party's Youth Wing to play a proactive role in confronting the current government and connecting deeply with the people. Addressing youth leaders at the party headquarters in Tadepalli on Tuesday, he urged them to use social media effectively to expose the anti-people policies and misgovernance of the ruling coalition.

"This is the time for youth to emerge as future leaders. Bring influencers into the party, strengthen its foundation, and stay close to the people to reflect their voices," Jagan said. He reminded them that the YSRCP was founded on credibility, values, and fighting spirit, and youth members must now uphold and amplify that legacy.

Recounting the early challenges faced during the party's formation, Jagan said, "When YSRCP was born, only my mother and I were elected representatives. When 18 MLAs joined us, we fought back and won the by-elections with record margins, shaking the political landscape." He also recalled how 23 YSRCP MLAs were poached by TDP after the 2014 elections, yet the party stood firm and continued to be the voice of the people.

Jagan called on the Youth Wing to highlight the failures and atrocities of the current government, particularly



through social media. "Let the people know what is happening. Take the truth to every household. Your dedication today will be the foundation for tomorrow's success," he said.

He emphasized the importance of being accessible to the public, saying, "Be available to people when they need us most. Show them that YSRCP is still with them."

In a move to strengthen the Youth Wing structurally, Jagan announced that zone-wise working presidents will soon be appointed. These positions, he said, will include potential MLA candidates, giving young leaders an opportunity to grow within the party ranks.

Tension in Tadipatri as CI Points Gun at Activists

Followers try to block police vehicle carrying ex-MLA

TPN Correspondent | Anantapur

A tense atmosphere gripped Tadipatri town on Sunday following the sudden arrival of YSRCP leader and former MLA Kethireddy Peddareddy. The situation escalated when local police, attempting to transport him to Anantapur as a precautionary measure, were chased and obstructed by his followers and YSRCP activists. In a dramatic turn of events, Tadipatri CI Sai Prasad drew his service revolver and pointed it at the crowd to disperse them.

The video of the CI holding the gun and warning the activists has gone viral, creating a political stir in the region. As Kethireddy Peddareddy was being escorted from Tadipatri to Anantapur in a police vehicle, YCP cadres gathered in large numbers and followed the convoy. The tension peaked at Kondapuram in Putlur mandal, where the followers attempted to block the police vehicle. Sensing danger and potential disruption, CI Sai Prasad acted swiftly by pulling out his weapon and issuing a stern



warning to the crowd.

CI's explanation

Responding to the controversy after the video surfaced, CI Sai Prasad clarified that he took out his gun only due to safety concerns. He stated that there was a suspicion of a possible attack on Peddareddy, who was under police protection, and the move was purely precautionary. He further added that the intent was not to threaten but to ensure there was no obstruction to the police operation.

Ananta Venkatrami Reddy says 2029 will be the return of YSRCP

TPN Correspondent | Guntakallu

In a strong show of cadre unity, the YSR Congress Party (YCP) held an expanded-level constituency meeting in Guntakallu on Monday, under the leadership of former MLA and YCP constituency coordinator Y. Venkatrami Reddy. As part of the program, key leaders including YCP State General Secretary Satish Reddy, Anantapur District President Ananta Venkatrami Reddy, Parliament Observers Naresh Reddy, and former Minister Sailajanath launched the 'Recalling Chandrababu's Manifesto' campaign by unveiling posters. The meeting aimed to create awareness among party activists and the public about what YCP leaders called the "false promises" made by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu before the elections. Addressing the gathering, Ananta Venkatrami Reddy said, "Whichever party wins Guntakallu, that party will come to power in the state. Let our goal be YCP's victory. We're not in politics for positions, but to serve the people."

He emphasized that 2029 will mark



the return of political power to YSRCP, stating, "This is Jagan's word." He highlighted the fact that despite winning only 11 seats in the recent elections, YCP garnered 40% of the vote share, proving that the party's base remains strong. "We fought for farmers, against electricity hikes, and for fee reimbursement," he added.

Calling out Chandrababu Naidu's Super Six promises, Venkatrami Reddy said that 143 promises were made worth ₹81,000 crore, which the current government has failed to fulfill. "On the anniversary of

the coalition's victory, we observed 'Backstabbing Day' to remind people of Chandrababu's frauds."

Venkatrami Reddy called out the police for alleged political bias. "The police should act under SP and DIG instructions, not MLAs' orders. If injustices continue, we'll file cases on police officials too."

He said that the ruling government has stopped all welfare programs initiated under Jagan's regime, and it is now up to the workers to inform people about the difference between YSRCP's governance and the current coalition's broken promises.

Creating Anarchy with Power will Cost you Dearly

TPN | Nagaraju

Kadapa: Kadapa MP YS Avinash Reddy has issued a stern warning to the ruling coalition leaders over the demolition of YSRCP social media activist Srikanth Reddy's house in Bayanapalle, Badvel mandal, calling the move politically motivated and vindictive. Speaking to media after visiting the demolished site along with MLA Dr. Sudha and other YSRCP leaders, Avinash Reddy said, "If you create anarchy with power, you will have to pay a suitable price in the future."

He alleged that the demolition was carried out solely because Srikanth Reddy was active on social media supporting YSRCP, and accused the coalition government of resorting to intimidation tactics to silence dissent. "This is not just an attack on Srikanth's house, this is an attack on democracy and freedom of expression," he said.

"Srikanth has lived here for eight years. A CC road was laid to the house during the previous TDP regime, and he has been paying house tax and electricity bills ever since. Why didn't they object then? How did they build a road or collect taxes if it was pond land?" He also pointed out the selective en-



forcement, saying, "There are liquor shops near schools and temples which go unchecked, but here, a house is demolished overnight just because the owner supports YCP."

"If you think that demolishing houses and offices will scare us, it is your illusion. The entire village stands with Srikanth Reddy today. Not just party workers, even common people are angry at this injustice. When you have power, you should use it for development, not destruction. But if you create anarchy, you will have to face consequences. The people are watching," he asserted.

Concluding his remarks, Avinash said, "YSRCP workers will not bow down. Instead, we will rise with even more strength. The people will give you a fitting answer. Stop this shameful political vendetta and focus on governance."



Vijayawada | TPN Lens

In a remarkable feat, KBN College students and members of the Inner Wheel Club of Vijayawada Midtown created a wonder record by forming a human logo to raise awareness about cervical cancer prevention. The initiative aimed to highlight the importance of taking the HPV vaccine as a responsible step toward safeguarding women's health. The powerful visual served as a symbol of unity and awareness in the fight against cervical cancer.



Mega PTM 2.0 Scheduled Across Andhra Pradesh on July 10

Samagra Shiksha aims for large-scale parent participation across 61,135 schools

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Government of Andhra Pradesh's School Education Department will conduct 'Mega PTM 2.0' (Mega Parent-Teacher Meeting) across all government, private aided, private unaided schools, and junior colleges on July 10. Initially scheduled for July 5, the event has now been rescheduled and expanded, with Samagra Shiksha State Project Director B. Srinivasa Rao, IAS, issuing detailed guidelines to ensure its smooth execution. Officials including Regional Joint Directors, District Education Officers (DEOs), and Mandal Education Officers (MEOs) have been directed to monitor the program closely, with

support from district collectors. SPD B. Srinivasa Rao and Director of School Education Vijay Rama Raju V, IAS, addressed all education officers via video conference to issue instructions and underscore the importance of this initiative.

According to official projections, Mega PTM 2.0 will involve 2.28 crore people — including 74.96 lakh students, 3.32 lakh teachers, and 1.49 crore parents, donors, and public representatives — across 61,135 educational institutions. This initiative, rooted in the principles of the Right to Education Act, 2009 and National Education Policy, 2020, is aimed at improving student outcomes through increased parental

engagement. During the PTM, teachers will share Holistic Progress Cards and hold open discussions on school performance, infrastructure, and future development plans.

The program will also feature fun activities, positive parenting sessions, and a special "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" (Plant a Tree in Mother's Name) initiative under the Green Passport campaign. Additionally, students can register sapling contributions through the LEAP App. Sessions on mental health, drug awareness, and child welfare are also planned, making the Mega PTM a holistic and inclusive educational outreach initiative.

APTDC Receives 130+ Applications for Adventure Tourism Activities

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC) has received more than 130 applications from interested operators for conducting adventure tourism activities across the state. This surge in interest marks a significant step forward in the state's push to promote adventure-based tourism. APTDC is currently reviewing these applications and is expected to open another submission window soon.

According to a statement by APTDC Managing Director Dr. Amrapali, the department has developed a regulatory framework to ensure safe and sustainable operations under the adventure tourism segment. "We are committed to encouraging adventure tourism in a responsible and struc-

tured manner, with a special focus on tourist safety and employment for local youth," she said.

The government has released comprehensive guidelines for adventure tourism, covering key areas such as licensing, environmental compliance, and safety measures. All operators must be registered and licensed by the APTDC. Regular safety audits, adherence to risk management protocols, and trained guides are mandatory.

Adventure tourism in Andhra Pradesh is now classified into three major categories:

Water-based activities: Speed boating, kayaking, river cruising, scuba diving, and floating restaurants.

Land-based activities: Rock climbing, trekking, and bungee jumping.

Air-based activities: Paragliding, hot air ballooning, skydiving, and air safaris.

To further ensure safety, the guidelines strictly prohibit individuals below 18 years of age from engaging in high-risk activities. Guides must be trained in first aid and emergency response.

Environmental responsibility is a key element, with operators expected to follow sustainable practices and reduce ecological impact. The framework also places emphasis on creating job opportunities for local youth through tourism-linked employment. The new guidelines are part of the state's broader strategy to position Andhra Pradesh as a leading destination for eco-friendly and adventure tourism.

Former MLA Vamsi Gets Bail in Housing Patta Scam



TPN | V.V.S Madhu Babu

Nuzvid: In a relief to former MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi, the Nuzvid court on Monday granted him bail in the fake housing patta case, marking bail in all the cases registered against him so far. Vamsi, who represented the Gannavaram constituency from 2014 to 2024, was recently arrested for his alleged involvement in a scam involving forged house site pattas issued under government welfare schemes. The case pertains to irregularities in issuing fake documents to benefi-

ciaries in Gannavaram constituency during his tenure.

The Anti-Corruption Bureau and CID had booked multiple cases against him, accusing him of misusing official powers in collusion with revenue officials and local leaders. With bail now secured in all pending cases, Vamsi is likely to be released from district jail on Tuesday. Vamsi is expected to be released from the district jail on Tuesday, now that he has secured bail in all pending cases.

Pawan Kalyan Extends Support to Actress Vasuki

Provides ₹2 lakh financial aid amid actress's hardships

TPN Correspondent | Mangalagiri

Deputy Chief Minister Shri Pawan Kalyan extended financial assistance of ₹2 lakh to veteran film actress Smt. Vasuki (Pakeeja), who has been facing severe financial hardship. The gesture came as a quick response after Pakeeja reached out to Shri Pawan Kalyan's office about her difficult circumstances.

The financial aid was formally handed over to the actress by Government Whip in the Legislative Council Shri Pidugu Hariprasad and P. Gannavaram MLA Shri Giddi Satyanarayana at the Jana Sena Central Office in Mangalagiri on Tuesday afternoon. Pakeeja, visibly emotional, expressed

heartfelt thanks to Shri Pawan Kalyan. She said, "Had he been a little boy, I would have kissed his feet in gratitude." She shared that she had contacted Pawan Kalyan's team just the previous day and was overwhelmed by the immediate and compassionate response. She said the timely help had given her new hope and that she would remain indebted to Pawan Kalyan and his family for life.

The gesture from the Deputy CM has been widely appreciated, especially within film circles and among the public, as another example of Pawan Kalyan's consistent support for those in need.



Nara Lokesh Helps Save Infant's Life

Minister responds within a day;

baby receives urgent liver transplant aid

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh has come to the rescue of a six-month-old baby suffering from a serious liver condition by extending financial aid through the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF). The child, Gajjala Deepu Naidu, hailing from Palamaneru in Chittoor district, had been battling liver-related health issues since birth.

Doctors at a private hospital recommended a liver transplant—a life-saving procedure estimated to cost around ₹20 lakh. The baby's father, Jagadish, a poul-

try farm worker, was unable to bear the enormous medical expenses and initially sought help from Madanapalle MLA Shahjahan Basha. With the MLA's intervention, an initial LOC of ₹10 lakh was sanctioned under medical assistance. However, as the cost of treatment exceeded the sanctioned amount, the distressed parents approached Minister Nara Lokesh. Responding swiftly, the Minister ensured that the aid from the CMRF was increased to ₹15 lakh, and the necessary documentation was completed within a day.

The baby's parents expressed heartfelt gratitude to Nara Lokesh for acting quickly in a critical time. They said his intervention gave their child a new lease on life and thanked him for standing by the poor and responding compassionately. Minister Lokesh's gesture has been widely appreciated as yet another example of his commitment to supporting families in medical emergencies, and ensuring that no one is left helpless due to financial constraints.

Repeated Postings, Ignored Norms: Who’s Shielding This Tahsildar?



TPN |Ch Sri East Godavari: Coming in as a relative and spinning the wheel — that seems to be her style. Even as vigilance inquiries are ongoing, securing unauthorized approvals is being seen as a display of her management skills. G L S Devi, who has served four separate terms as the Tahsildar of Rajanagaram between 2015 and 2025, is once again under scrutiny for irregular administrative practices. According to standard administrative rules, a government employee is not permitted to serve in the same location for more than three years. When any officer overstays in one seat — especially in a sensitive role like

that of a Tahsildar — suspicions of corruption are bound to arise. Yet Devi has served in Rajanagaram mandal four times in ten years, beginning in July 2015. Each time she was transferred, her duties were temporarily assigned to a deputy, only for her to return soon after. This recurring pattern raises serious questions. It would be a mistake to assume that her record is clean. Multiple allegations of corruption have emerged during her tenures — some still under investigation. Ordinarily, transfer decisions consider an officer’s track record and earlier postings. However, Devi has consistently returned to the same seat, raising concerns

about the level of influence or lobbying she may have. Her reappointment has sparked public surprise and local outrage. It is highly unusual — and administratively questionable — for the same officer to be posted four times to the same mandal in a single decade. This has become a subject of public debate and has exposed possible loopholes in the system. **Why is the same officer repeatedly posted here?** As per service norms, frequent postings to the same place are against the principle of impartial governance. This pattern suggests the presence of political influence, lobbying, or backdoor recommendations. Assigning the same officer to the same mandal repeatedly, despite the availability of other qualified senior Tahsildars and new recruits, reflects poor planning or deliberate favoritism. Is this just a lapse, or is it a managed manipulation of the system? Such repeated postings help officials build and maintain strong local networks, reducing administrative transparency. Old ties are preserved, irregularities are overlooked, and past wrongdoings may go unnoticed. The result? Dimin-

ished public trust in the revenue department. **Who is responsible?** Is it the District Collector’s office? The RDO-level authorities? Or senior officials at the state revenue department who are violating transfer norms? The situation raises serious questions. If top-level officials fail to follow basic administrative protocols, how can citizens expect transparency and accountability? Devi’s fourth posting to Rajanagaram as Tahsildar is not just a local issue — it’s a symbol of systemic collapse. It urgently calls for an internal review and possibly a departmental inquiry. **What do the rules say?** As per general service norms, a Tahsildar or revenue officer should serve in a single mandal for a maximum of three years. This guideline follows India’s Civil Services Transfer Policy, and Andhra Pradesh’s GAD and Revenue Departments are expected to uphold it. If an officer stays beyond that limit, it’s called a “long stay” — which can lead to contractor lobbying, political interference, and unethical collusion. While rare exceptions can be allowed, they should never become the rule.

Chanti personally distributes pensions in Eluru

“New definition of transparency in governance,” says MLA



TPN | Kishore Eluru: MLA Badeti Chanti took the lead in personally distributing NTR Bharosa social pensions to beneficiaries on Tuesday, setting what he called a “new definition of transpar-

ency” in governance. As part of the program held in Eluru’s 20th division, the pension distribution was carried out in a festive atmosphere. Chanti, accompanied by APS-RTC Vijayawada Zone-2 Chair-

man Reddy Appalanaidu, not only handed over pension money at the venue but also visited the homes of the elderly and disabled beneficiaries, enquiring about their problems and assuring them of necessary help. Speaking at the event, the MLA said, “In the last five years of YSRCP rule, did any public representative go door-to-door to give pensions? This is the kind of responsible governance our coalition government is committed to.” He emphasized that delivering pensions on the 1st of every month is being carried out with a spirit akin to a “yagna”, symbolizing sincerity and

dedication. He added that his monthly visits to different divisions are not just for distribution but also to understand the ground realities and ensure that the concerns of beneficiaries are addressed. He reiterated the government’s commitment to inclusive welfare and accessible administration. The event was attended by EIDA Chairman Peddiboina Sivaprasad, Eluru AMC Chairman Mamillapalli Parthasarathy, Municipal Commissioner A. Bhanupratap, Co-option member SMR Pedababu, along with several coalition leaders, activists, and staff from local secretariats.

SWIMS Employees Stage Hour-Long Strike in Tirupati

TPN | C Shekar Tirupati: The ongoing protest by the employees of SWIMS (Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences) intensified on Tuesday, as workers staged an hour-long strike and took out a protest rally demanding resolution of their long-pending issues. Protesting employees marched from Padmavati Hospital, passing through the Cancer Ward and NTR statue, before returning to the dharna camp near the statue. The demonstration was part of the union’s decision to boycott duties for an hour daily, starting today. Addressing the gathering, CITU Chittoor district general secretary Kandrapu Murali and district president G. Balasubramanyam extended their solidarity to the workers. They



stated that this protest marks the sixth consecutive day of the agitation by SWIMS workers. Union leaders criticized the SWIMS management and urged immediate intervention

by TTD EO Syamala Rao, who returned from the US to Tirupati today. The newly formed SWIMS committee had earlier assured that the matter would be brought to the EO’s notice. Workers warned that if the is-

sue is not resolved soon, they will intensify their protest and go on an indefinite strike. The employees demanded the removal of the “sanitation” tag from their roles, regularization of all workers into the corporation, and uniform pay structure irrespective of their current designations like relievers or sanitation staff. They also sought salary hikes in line with those received by other departments and demanded arrears from previous revisions. Several CITU and SWIMS Union leaders, including T. Subramanyam, K. Venugopal, N. Madhav, P. Bujji, B. Sriramulu, G. Ravi, V. Suri, Gopi, Ratnavelu, Bhaskumari, Jayamma, Mari Muthu, Venkatesh, Munikrishna, and Rajashekar participated in the protest.

Coalition Delivers ₹4,000 Pension in First Month: MLA Amilineni



TPN Correspondent | Anantapur MLA Amilineni Surendra Babu came down heavily on the previous YSRCP government for delaying welfare and irrigation initiatives, stating that the coalition government has demonstrated commitment to promises made during elections. Participating in the NTR Social Security Pension Distribution Program in Shibai village of Kalyanadurgam mandal, the MLA personally visited beneficiaries’ homes to distribute the ₹4,000 pension amount. He criticized the YSRCP for taking five years to increase pension by only ₹1,000, while the current coalition government under CM Nara Chandrababu Naidu delivered ₹4,000 pensions in its first month. “We are fulfilling our promises. The pension amount is being given directly at the doorsteps of the elderly and disabled to avoid inconvenience,” he said. Big push to Handreeniva and BTP Highlighting the government’s irrigation agenda, Amilineni said that ₹3,500 crore will be spent this year on Handreeniva canal works, which are already progressing at a fast pace. He assured that the widening of the canal will ensure more water flows into the region. He also emphasized the importance of the long-pending BTP (Bhyravanithippa) project, stating that the previous government failed to compensate the farmers who gave up their lands. “The coalition government will identify all such farmers and ensure they are compensated fully,” he assured. The MLA announced that the BTP project work will commence soon, and that water from the project will also be directed to the Kundurpi branch canal, thereby addressing the region’s water needs. “This is an urgent project for our area, and our government is committed to seeing it through,” he said. The public program was attended by local leaders, officials, and enthusiastic villagers who appreciated the direct distribution of welfare benefits and renewed focus on irrigation development.

₹4 Crore Chit Fund Fraud in Anakapalle

Woman absconds with savings of 300 families

TPN Correspondent | Anakapalle A massive chit fund scam has rocked Anakapalle district, leaving nearly 300 poor and middle-class families devastated. A woman identified as Pediredla Padmaja alias Challapalli Padma, who had been living in Chauduvada village of K. Kotapadu mandal for the past 15 years, reportedly absconded with an estimated ₹4 crore collected from locals under the guise of a chit fund scheme. The situation turned volatile as angry victims, alleging police inaction, staged a protest in front of the K. Kotapadu police station. In a shocking turn, some of the victims poured kerosene on themselves and attempted suicide, leading to a tense atmosphere. Police intervened and managed to prevent the situation from worsening. According to the victims, Padmaja initially gained the community’s trust by dealing in pappula chits and gold coins chits and by offering generous returns on money deposits. Over the years, she encouraged people to invest amounts ranging from ₹1 lakh to ₹20 lakh, promising high interest through a chit fund-like setup. Residents, convinced by her apparent honesty, began depositing their life savings with her. These savings were meant for crucial needs such as children’s education, marriage expenses, and home construction. About a week ago, Padmaja left the village with her son, citing health issues. Her mobile phone remained active for two days before it was switched off. Alarmed, the victims approached the K. Kotapadu police and filed a complaint, but claimed that no effective action was taken even after several days. With no trace of Padmaja and mounting financial pressure, victims gathered at the police station demanding swift action. They accused the police of negligence and delaying her arrest. Amid the protest, a few victims attempted self-immolation, triggering panic. The police quickly intervened and assured them of action. Victims are now pleading with authorities for justice, saying their entire livelihoods are at stake. They have urged police to intensify efforts to trace Padmaja and recover the lost funds. Meanwhile, police confirmed that a case has been registered and that investigation is underway, but public confidence remains low.

Workplace Harassment Still Rampant Despite Laws, Undermines Women’s Rights and Workforce Participation



Anupama Darla
Lawyer , Social
Activist, Guntur

A decade after India enacted a landmark law to combat sexual harassment in workplaces, enforcement remains a major concern, as cases continue to go unreported and unresolved. Despite the passage of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, commonly known as the POSH Act, thousands of women across corporate offices, educational institutions, hospitals, and informal sectors still face harassment that threatens their dignity, safety, and professional growth.

Workplace sexual harassment is not just a labour law violation, it is a human rights issue. It has a direct impact on productivity, absenteeism, and mental health, and more crit-



ically, on women’s equal participation in the workforce. The nature of harassment has also evolved, particularly after the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent shift to remote working. The so-called “home office” has blurred the lines between professional and private space, leaving women vulnerable to new forms of abuse such as Zoom bombing, inappropriate WhatsApp messages, coercive video call requests, and digital stalking.

The POSH Act, passed in February 2013 and enacted in December the same year, was considered a milestone in protecting women at work. It defined “aggrieved woman” broad-

ly to include not just employees but also visitors, clients, customers, and even patients, any woman present at a workplace in any capacity. For instance, if a woman visiting a hospital as a patient or attendant is harassed, she is protected under this Act.

Despite its progressive approach, implementation of the law has been inconsistent. In a 2023 judgment, the Supreme Court of India expressed serious concern over “lapses in enforcement” and pointed out that even after 10 years of the Act, many organizations failed to implement mandatory provisions like forming Internal Committees (ICs). The International Labour Organisation (ILO)



echoes this, stating that the lack of reported cases does not indicate the absence of incidents. In most cases, women fear retaliation, social stigma, or being disbelieved, especially when the harasser holds a position of power.

Sexual harassment can take many forms: verbal jokes with sexual overtones, unwanted touching, explicit messages or images, pressuring someone into sexual activity, or even offering professional benefits in exchange for sexual favors. Increasingly, digital harassment has added another layer to this already complex issue.

A 2023 McKinsey and LeanIn.org Women in the Workplace report revealed that only about 50% of women feel confident that their employer would handle a harassment complaint effectively, a statistic unchanged since 2018. This lack of faith in redressal systems enables a toxic culture to persist, pushing many women to suffer in silence or leave the workforce altogether.

While laws and regulations exist, experts stress the need for strong internal workplace policies, regular training, and gender sensitization programs. A robust grievance redressal mechanism, with a trusted and impartial Internal Committee, is key to building confidence. Moreover, organizations must ensure that survivors are not re-traumatized by the complaint process and that retaliation is strictly punished.

Women are increasingly learning to protect themselves by documenting incidents, speaking up, and approaching HR or legal channels. However, the responsibility must not fall on survivors alone. Creating a safe, respectful work environment is a collective responsibility, from top leadership to peers.

The conversation around workplace harassment must go beyond compliance. It must focus on changing attitudes, dismantling power imbalances, and building a culture of trust, safety, and equality. Only then can India truly ensure that women can work with dignity, online or offline.

The Cost of 'Boasting': Trump And India's Post-Op Sindoor Dilemmas



Diplomacy thrives on measured words and deliberate pauses. Decisions are usually made behind closed doors, with public statements carefully crafted for impact and interpretation. Yet, former U.S. President Donald Trump broke with this tradition when he publicly claimed that his threats of trade penalties had prevented war between India and Pakistan in May. The declarative tone may have worked for a domestic audience, but it significantly disrupted the delicate regional and strategic dynamics between New Delhi, Islamabad, and Washington. The situation he referred to was deeply serious. On April 22, a terror attack near Pahalgaon in Jammu and Kashmir heightened tensions between India and Pakistan. From May 7 to 10, both nations exchanged air strikes, escalating fears of a broader conflict. A ceasefire was announced on May 10. Trump quickly took credit, saying his offer of U.S. market access pressured both countries to de-escalate. This version of events has been repeated by him often, and it even featured in a U.S. government filing justifying the use of tariffs under national security grounds. Such a narrative, however, has broader implications. It shifts the focus from diplo-

macy to transactional leverage, suggesting that trade threats—rather than diplomatic efforts or military restraint—brought calm. For India, this is particularly damaging. Since independence, India has prided itself on strategic autonomy, choosing partners while retaining independent decision-making authority. Trump’s framing implies that India’s security posture can be swayed by economic coercion, which strikes at the core of its foreign policy principles.

More troubling is the implicit suggestion of third-party intervention in the India-Pakistan conflict. India has consistently rejected outside mediation on Kashmir, asserting that any talks must be bilateral. By treating India and Pakistan as equal stakeholders in a conflict and positioning himself as a mediator, Trump blurred critical distinctions—between a democracy targeted by cross-border terrorism and a state accused of supporting it.

New Delhi has firmly rejected the claim. Indian officials maintain the ceasefire resulted from direct military dialogue with Pakistan, not external influence. Yet, the perception created by Trump’s remarks has been politically costly. Opposition leaders have accused the Modi government of diplomatic weakness, and media voices warn that silence may imply acceptance.

The controversy complicates ambitious trade goals. India and the U.S. have set targets to boost bilateral trade to \$500 billion by 2030, with an initial agreement expected by autumn 2025. But lingering doubts about the reliability of trade as a policy tool, especially if wielded as a geopolitical weapon, cast a shadow over negotiations.

In response, India is diversifying its strategic and economic ties—deepening relations with the EU, strengthening defence ties with France, and cautiously re-engaging with China and Russia. This approach reflects a pragmatic effort to hedge against over-dependence on any one partner.

Ultimately, the India-U.S. relationship is too important to be guided by showmanship. For the partnership to flourish, both nations must recommit to quiet, consistent diplomacy. The strength of this relationship must rest not on applause lines, but on mutual respect and a shared vision of sovereignty and stability.

NHAI Capex Claims Under Scrutiny Amid Financial Tightening and Monetisation Setbacks



In 2024-2025, the Government of India lauded the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for achieving a record capital expenditure (capex) of over ₹2.5 lakh crore for national highway development, surpassing its ₹2.4 lakh crore target. However, this claim is now being questioned due to discrepancies in NHAI’s unaudited financial statements, which report a significantly lower capex of ₹1.45 lakh crore. This gap of over ₹1 lakh crore has raised concerns about possible financial window-dressing and a deepening funding squeeze on the NHAI.

According to NHAI’s unaudited 2024-2025 accounts, while the government claimed a record ₹2.5 lakh crore in infrastructure spending, a closer look reveals that a large portion of these funds was used not for highway construction but for loan repayments. Specifically, the repayment of ₹50,000 crore from the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) and the reduction of public sector bank loans were included in the government’s capex figures, thereby inflating the real developmental spending. Effectively, the net capex spent on actual infrastructure works was only ₹1.45 lakh crore—the amount reflected in NHAI’s accounts.

This discrepancy suggests the government’s ₹2.5 lakh crore claim includes significant debt repayments, thus overstating its investment in new highway infrastructure. The reported repayment of ₹50,000 crore to NSSF, which simply circles money back to the government, further underscores the lack of transparency. Hence, the real support extended to NHAI stands at around ₹2 lakh crore, far below the claimed figure. Additionally, NHAI’s asset monetisation efforts appear to be faltering. The government has celebrated the National Highways Infra Trust (NHIT)

as a success in raising ₹18,380 crore in its fourth fundraising round. However, closer scrutiny of NHIT reveals that it remains largely government-controlled, with project management and investment oversight still under NHAI through wholly owned entities. While monetisation transactions have nominally raised ₹43,648 crore by transferring 2,345 kilometres of roads, genuine private sector participation remains limited, with much of the funding sourced through loans rather than equity investment.

Other monetisation models like the Toll, Operate, and Transfer (ToT) approach have been sidelined. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari himself expressed dissatisfaction with the government’s decision to discontinue the ToT model, previously an effective monetisation tool. Similarly, the government’s special purpose vehicle (SPV) model for financing new expressways has seen little traction, with only one such project—the Delhi-Vadodra expressway—currently underway, despite notable delays.

Adding to the NHAI’s challenges is the indefinite freeze on the Bharatmala Pariyojana, a flagship road development project launched in 2017-2018 with a target of 34,800 kilometres and an estimated cost of ₹6.92 lakh crore. Ongoing issues with cost overruns, land acquisition, and contract execution prompted a government review, which remains incomplete well after the 2024 general elections.

Together, these developments point to a tightening financial situation at NHAI and raise serious concerns about the government’s infrastructure spending narrative. The inflated capex claims, faltering monetisation, and stalled projects paint a more complex picture than the government’s optimistic public messaging suggests.

Rahul Gandhi Slams GST on 8th Anniversary, Calls It Tool of Corporate Cronyism

Demands People-Centric Reforms and End to Bureaucratic Burden

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

On the eighth anniversary of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi strongly criticized the current tax regime, calling it a "brutal tool of economic injustice and corporate cronyism." Taking to social media on Tuesday, July 1, 2025, Gandhi accused the Modi government of betraying the original vision of GST and turning it into a mechanism that disproportionately hurts small businesses, farmers, and common citizens.

"Eight years on, the Modi government's GST is not a tax reform—it is a compliance nightmare," he said, pointing to the over 900 amendments made since its rollout. Promised as a 'Good and Simple Tax', Gandhi said the reality is a five-slab system entangled in bureaucracy where even items like caramel popcorn and cream buns are burdened with complex tax rates.

He alleged the GST structure favours big corporates with access to legal teams and accountants, while MS-MEs—the largest job creators—have been pushed to the brink, with over 18 lakh small enterprises shutting down since 2017.



The Congress leader also highlighted how ordinary Indians are now paying GST on essentials like tea and health insurance, even as corporate entities benefit from over ₹1 lakh crore in annual tax breaks. He criticised the continued exclusion of petrol and diesel from the GST framework, arguing that it unfairly affects farmers and transporters.

Gandhi further accused the Centre of

using GST dues to penalise non-BJP ruled states, calling it evidence of an "anti-federal agenda." He reaffirmed that while GST was a visionary idea by the UPA, the Modi government's implementation has betrayed its intent.

He concluded by calling for a reformed GST that is business-friendly, people-centric, and federal in true spirit.



Indian Navy Rescues 14 Crew Members, Contains Fire on Palau-Flagged Tanker in Arabian Sea

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Demonstrating swift action and maritime readiness, the Indian Navy successfully contained a major fire onboard a Palau-flagged oil tanker, MT Yi Cheng 6, in the North Arabian Sea on June 29, 2025. The vessel, operating approximately 80 nautical miles east of Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates, had reported a severe fire in its engine room and a total power failure.

Following a distress call from the ship, the Indian Navy immediately launched a high-risk firefighting and rescue operation. Warship INS Tabar was swiftly deployed and proceeded at maximum speed to the location. Upon arrival, seven of the 14 Indian crew members were promptly evacuated to the Navy ship using small boats.

"All evacuated crew were safe and medically examined onboard INS Tabar. No injuries were reported," the Navy said in an official statement.

The remaining crew, including the ship's master, stayed onboard to assist with firefighting efforts.

A six-member team from INS Tabar initially joined the ship's crew to battle the blaze, successfully reducing the fire's intensity and confining the smoke to the engine room. The operation was later reinforced with an additional 13 Indian Navy personnel — five officers and eight sailors — to strengthen the containment effort.

After sustained firefighting over several hours, the joint team successfully brought the fire under control. INS Tabar has remained in the vicinity of MT Yi Cheng 6 to provide continued assistance and ensure safety.

The Indian Navy praised the courage and professionalism of its personnel, stating, "The valiant effort of Indian Naval personnel ensured the safety of the vessel and all Indian crew members. This operation underscores the Navy's rapid response capability, operational preparedness, and commitment to maritime safety."

Telangana Pharma Plant Blast: Death Toll Rises to 36, Rescue Efforts Continue



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

The death toll in the tragic explosion at Sigachi Industries' pharmaceutical plant in Pashamylaram, Sangareddy district, has climbed to 36, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy confirmed on Tuesday. The blast, which occurred on Monday, is suspected to have been triggered by a chemical reaction inside the facility.

CM Reddy, who visited the site with cabinet colleagues, announced that the state government would ensure compensation of ₹1 crore is paid to the families of each deceased worker. He also promised strict action against those responsible for the incident and visited hospitals to meet the injured. Authorities revealed that most of the victims were migrant workers

from Odisha, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Telangana. At the time of the blast, 143 people were present in the facility, but only 56 have been accounted for so far. Search and rescue operations are ongoing to locate the remaining individuals.

District Superintendent of Police Paritosh Pankaj reported that 31 bodies were recovered from the debris, while three victims died in hospital during treatment. The final phase of the rescue operation continues as emergency teams clear the remaining rubble.

Hospitals in the region are treating several injured workers. Pranaam Hospitals in Miyapur reported receiving 21 patients with severe burns and head injuries. Two were declared brought dead, and one succumbed the following morning. Dhruva Hospitals in Patancheru received 11 patients, with five currently on ventilators. Seven of the injured have sustained burns ranging from 40 to 80 percent.

A revenue department official said the identity of only nine victims has been confirmed so far, with DNA profiling needed for the rest due to the extent of the injuries.

Sigachi Industries is involved in the production of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), excipients, vitamin blends, and pharmaceutical intermediates.

Pahalgam attack was economic warfare

India won't yield to Pak's nuclear blackmail: Jaishankar

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has called the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir an "act of economic warfare," intended to destroy tourism in the region and incite religious violence. Speaking at a fireside chat with Newsweek CEO Dev Pragad at One World Trade Centre in Manhattan, Jaishankar emphasized that India will not allow nuclear threats to deter its response to terrorism emanating from Pakistan. "This was meant to cripple Kashmir's economy and provoke communal tensions," he said, referencing reports that attackers forced victims to identify their religion before killing them. The attack, claimed by The Resistance Front (TRF), a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) affiliate, left 26 civilians dead and prompted India's launch of Operation Sindoor, targeting terror infrastructure across the border.

Jaishankar stressed that Pakistan-based terror groups operate openly and are headquartered in populated cities. "Everyone knows where the headquarters of these organisations are. Those were the targets destroyed in Operation Sindoor," he said. Responding to U.S. President Donald



Trump's claim that trade pressure helped end the recent India-Pakistan conflict, Jaishankar dismissed the assertion, saying there was no link between trade talks and military decisions. "I was in the room when Vice President JD Vance spoke to Prime Minister Modi on May 9. The PM was unmoved by Pakistan's threats and made clear there would be a response," he stated.

He noted that Pakistan launched an attack that night, to which India responded swiftly. The next morning, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio informed him that Pakistan was ready for talks.

SpaceX's Starlink Nears Launch in India After Clearing Regulatory Hurdles

TPN Correspondent | Delhi



SpaceX's satellite internet service, Starlink, is on the verge of launching in India after clearing most regulatory and licensing requirements, bringing it closer to offering high-speed internet across the country. Dr. Pawan Goenka, Chairman of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe), India's space regulator, told NDTV that while the groundwork is almost complete, some technical and procedural steps remain before Starlink can become fully operational.

"Even after authorisation, it will take a few months for the service to become op-

erational," said Goenka, who recently met with Gwynne Shotwell, SpaceX President and COO, during her visit to India. He added that final approvals are expected soon, with most open issues being resolved. Starlink has been seeking entry into India's telecom market since 2021, a market with nearly 100 crore users, making it one of the largest globally. Earlier this month, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) granted the company a license to operate in India.

According to DoT sources, Starlink plans to offer bandwidth ranging from 600 to 700 Gbps once operational in India. While pricing for Starlink's satellite internet in India has not yet been announced,

former Starlink India Director Sanjay Bhargava suggested in 2022 that the initial cost per connection might be around Rs 1.5 lakh for the first year, dropping to Rs 1.15 lakh in subsequent years. Currently, Starlink serves over 100 countries worldwide with residential and roaming plans. In Asia, it is available in countries like Mongolia, Japan, the Philippines, and Malaysia, with neighboring Bhutan and Bangladesh also offering Starlink services at monthly rates between Rs 3,000 and Rs 4,200 for residential plans. Starlink's entry into India is eagerly anticipated, promising to enhance internet access across the country with its satellite-based technology.

Trump-Backed Bill Proposes 500% Tariff on Nations Trading with Russia, Including India and China

TPN Correspondent | Washington

A controversial new U.S. Senate bill backed by President Donald Trump could impose a 500% tariff on countries that continue to trade with Russia, including major economies like India and China. The legislation, spearheaded by Republican Senator Lindsey Graham and co-sponsored by Democrat Richard Blumenthal, aims to pressure these nations to cut economic ties with Moscow in an effort to weaken Russia's war economy. Graham revealed in an interview on Sunday that the bill has gained significant bipartisan support, with 84 co-sponsors in the Senate. The proposal would authorize the U.S. President to levy steep tariffs on imports from nations still doing business with Russia, especially those buying oil and other critical goods. "India and China



buy 70% of Putin's oil. They keep his war machine going," Graham told ABC News. The bill is expected to be intro-

duced in August and represents a major shift in U.S. foreign policy tactics as the war in Ukraine drags on. President Trump, who

previously hesitated on expanding sanctions against Russia, reportedly endorsed the legislation during a golf outing with Graham. "It's time to move your bill," Trump allegedly told the senator. Though initially delayed over concerns that harsh sanctions might derail Trump's diplomatic overtures to Russian President Vladimir Putin, the administration now appears willing to support the measure. However, there are signs the White House is pushing for changes to soften its impact, such as modifying the language to make the penalties discretionary rather than mandatory. The proposed legislation has triggered alarm in global trade circles, particularly in India, where the U.S. remains a critical export destination. If passed, the bill could significantly disrupt U.S. relations with India and China, potentially sparking economic and diplomatic backlash.



Going to Washington next week to meet with Trump: Netanyahu

TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced on Tuesday that he will travel to Washington next week for high-level meetings with U.S. President Donald Trump and other American officials. The announcement came during a Cabinet meeting, where Netanyahu briefly outlined the agenda, highlighting a trade agreement as a central topic of discussion.

While Netanyahu did not provide further details about the proposed trade deal, the visit is widely seen as an opportunity to address a range of critical issues, especially the ongoing conflict in Gaza and the broader regional tensions involving Iran. The timing of the visit is particularly significant, as it comes amid increasing pressure from the international community, including the United States, for a de-escalation in the fighting between Israel and Hamas.

President Trump has recently indicated that the U.S. is ready to support efforts aimed at bringing the war in Gaza to an end. His administration has called for both sides to begin moving toward a ceasefire, signaling a shift in tone that could shape the diplomatic conversations between the two leaders.

Another key item on the agenda is Iran. Following the recent 12-day war between Israel and Iranian-backed forces, concerns over Tehran's growing influence in the region are likely to dominate much of the dialogue. Netanyahu has long viewed Iran as a strategic threat, and his visit to Washington is expected to reinforce the shared concerns of both nations over Iran's nuclear ambitions and regional activities.

As Netanyahu prepares for his U.S. visit, the stakes are high.

"I Was In The Room": S Jaishankar Refutes Trump's India-Pak Ceasefire Claims

TPN Correspondent | New York

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar strongly refuted U.S. President Donald Trump's claims that trade negotiations influenced India's ceasefire with Pakistan, labeling such assertions as inaccurate. Speaking in an exclusive conversation with Newsweek, Jaishankar described the recent terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, as an "act of economic warfare" aimed at crippling the region's tourism industry and inciting communal unrest. Referring to the deadly April 22 attack carried out by The Resistance Front, a group linked to Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaishankar said, "This was meant to destroy tourism, the mainstay of Kashmir's economy, and provoke



religious violence." In response, India launched Operation Sindoor, a military offensive targeting terror bases in Pakistan. Jaishankar emphasized that India would not tolerate cross-border terrorism and would not be de-

terred by threats, including nuclear intimidation. "I was in the room when Vice President JD Vance spoke to Prime Minister Modi on the night of May 9," he recalled. "There was no linkage between trade and ceasefire from

India's perspective. PM Modi was clear — there would be a response to Pakistan's threats." Jaishankar revealed that Pakistan launched a significant attack that night, but India retaliated swiftly. The next day, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio informed him that Pakistan was ready to talk. A ceasefire was proposed directly by Pakistan's military leadership later that afternoon. Trump, however, repeated in a press conference that his pressure using trade threats had led to de-escalation. "I ended that with a series of phone calls on trade," he claimed. Jaishankar rejected this, asserting, "Diplomacy and trade functioned separately. The idea that trade was used as leverage in a ceasefire is simply not how it happened."

Tibetan Americans, U.S. Congress Mark Tibet Lobby Day and Dalai Lama's 90th Birthday with Unity and Advocac



TPN Correspondent | Washington

Washington D.C. witnessed a powerful show of solidarity this week as over 200 Tibetan Americans and supporters from 25 U.S. states and the District of Columbia gathered at the Capitol for Tibet Lobby Day. The event, held in the lead-up to His Holiness the Dalai Lama's 90th birthday on July 6, 2025, aimed to bring attention to Tibet's struggle for freedom and advocate for stronger U.S. support.

Organized by the International Campaign for Tibet (ICT), the Office of Tibet, and the Capitol Area Tibetan Association, the two-day initiative saw participants visiting more than 100 Congressional offices. It concluded with a celebratory event hosted by Congressmen Michael McCaul and Jim McGovern, and attended by key leaders including Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis, and Congressman Michael Baumgartner. Actor and activist Richard Gere, Chairman of ICT, participated virtually.

Congressman McCaul recounted a touching

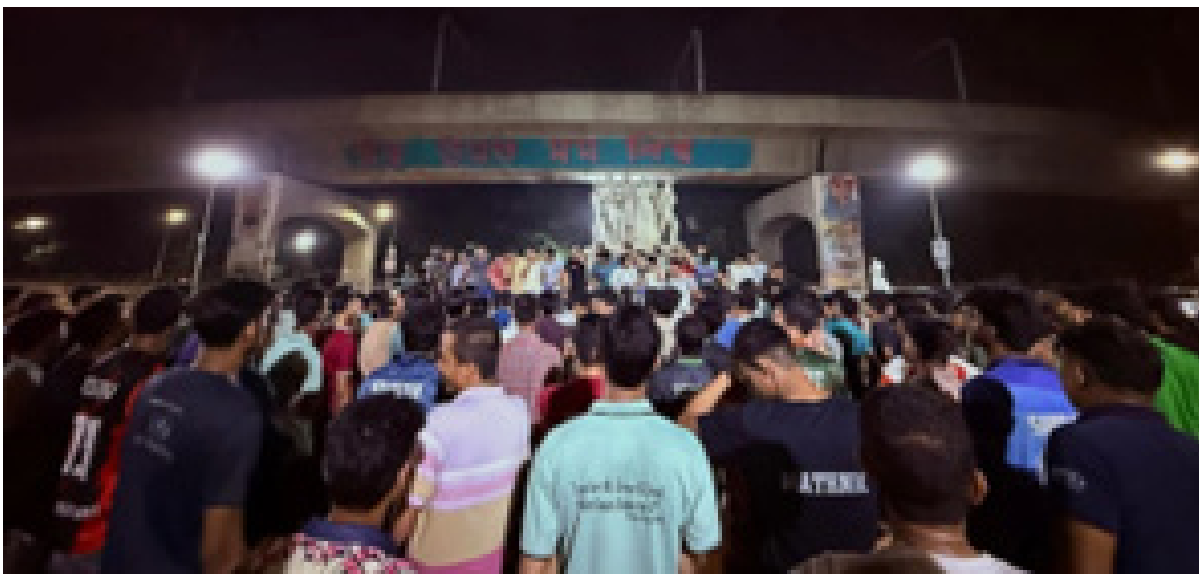
conversation with the Dalai Lama: "I asked him if he held resentment toward the Chinese. He said, 'I cannot let negative emotions overwhelm my spirit.'" McCaul praised the Dalai Lama's resilience and emphasized, "They may take your land, but they cannot erase your spirit."

Congressman McGovern expressed deep admiration for the Dalai Lama, saying, "He inspires millions through his messages of peace, tolerance, and human dignity. Let's celebrate his next birthday together in Lhasa, Tibet."

Tencho Gyatso, President of ICT, thanked supporters, stating, "This success is a result of passionate individuals and lawmakers standing for those facing oppression in Tibet." The efforts paid off, with four new Senate co-sponsors and six in the House signing onto the pro-Tibet resolution during Lobby Day.

As part of ICT's Compassion Rising campaign and the CTA's Year of Compassion, the event underscored the ongoing global advocacy for Tibetan rights and celebrated the enduring legacy of the Dalai Lama.

Thailand PM Paetongtarn Shinawatra Suspended Over Leaked Call with Cambodian Leader

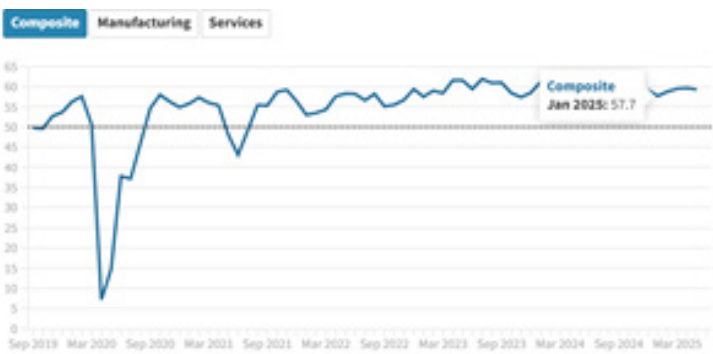


TPN Correspondent | BANGKOK

Thailand's Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra was suspended from office on Tuesday by the Constitutional Court following a leaked phone call that sparked protests and political fallout. The call, made during sensitive diplomatic talks with Cambodian Senate President Hun Sen, triggered an ethics investigation and widespread public backlash. The Constitutional Court unanimously agreed to take up the petition accusing Paetongtarn of breaching ethical standards, and voted 7-2 to suspend her from official duties while the case proceeds. She has been given 15 days to present her defense. The controversy intensified after a deadly border clash on May 28 left one Cambodian soldier dead. In the leaked call, Paetongtarn was heard making conciliatory remarks that critics say undermined Thailand's national interest. The fallout has fueled growing dissatisfaction over her handling of the border dispute and led to large-scale protests in Bangkok by conserva-

tive, nationalist groups. Following the court's decision, Paetongtarn said she respects the judicial process and is determined to defend her actions. "My only intention was to prevent escalation and protect our troops from harm," she stated. "If my words caused misunderstanding, I truly apologize." Deputy Prime Minister Suriya Jungrungruangkit is expected to assume the role of acting prime minister, although an official announcement is still pending. Earlier the same day, King Maha Vajiralongkorn approved a Cabinet reshuffle after a key coalition partner, the Bhumjaithai Party, exited the government over the controversy. The reshuffle removed party leader Anutin Charnvirakul from the deputy prime minister post. Paetongtarn had recently added the role of culture minister to her portfolio, though her future in that post is uncertain. She also faces a separate ethics investigation by the National Anti-Corruption Commission, which could further jeopardize her political career.

Manufacturing PMI Hits 14-Month High in June on Strong Export Demand



India's manufacturing sector saw its strongest performance in over a year, with the HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rising to 58.4 in June 2025, up from 57.6 in May. This marks the highest PMI reading since April 2024 and remains well above the long-term average of 54.1, indicating robust expansion in factory activity. According to the survey, the surge in manufacturing was driven primarily by a sharp increase in export orders, leading to improved production output, job creation, and order volumes. The report highlighted a record upturn in employment, as manufacturers responded to buoyant demand both domestically and internationally. "June marked a strong end to the first fiscal quarter, with noticeable gains in output and new orders," the report stated. "External demand rose at one of the fastest rates recorded in over two decades of the survey's history." The growth in production was largely attributed to intermediate goods manufacturers, while both consumer and capital

goods segments experienced a slowdown. Respondents cited increased operational efficiency and favourable demand conditions as key contributors to higher output levels. Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, noted, "To meet strong international demand, manufacturing firms drew down on inventories, leading to a continued decline in finished goods stock." Interestingly, even as manufacturing accelerated, input price inflation eased to a four-month low, despite persistent cost pressures from materials like iron and steel. However, average selling prices rose sharply as companies passed on increased freight, labour, and material costs to customers. Some firms also raised prices in response to strong demand. The report signals a positive outlook for the manufacturing sector, though it also highlights the uneven nature of growth across segments. With global demand playing a critical role in driving output, Indian manufacturers appear poised to benefit further from favourable export conditions, even as input cost pressures and inventory concerns remain on the radar.

India's Trade Deficit Could Rise to \$300 Billion in FY26 Despite Moderate Oil Prices: ICICI Bank



ICICI Bank has forecast that India's trade deficit will widen to USD 300 billion in the financial year 2025-26, even though oil prices are expected to remain moderate. This would mark an increase from the USD 287 billion deficit recorded in FY25 and USD 245 billion in FY24, representing 7.0% of the country's GDP. According to the bank's report, the main driver of the growing trade deficit is the weak performance of India's non-oil exports, which have struggled to keep pace with rising imports. On the other hand, strong domestic economic growth is expected to sustain high import levels, further widening the gap between imports and exports. Despite the widening trade deficit, ICICI Bank projects that steady inflows from services exports and remittances will help maintain the current account deficit (CAD) at a manageable USD 30

billion, or approximately 0.7% of GDP. The current account deficit includes not only the trade balance but also other international financial flows such as investment income and remittances. A trade deficit occurs when a country imports more goods than it exports, and India's persistent deficit highlights ongoing challenges in boosting export competitiveness outside of the oil sector. Meanwhile, imports remain robust, driven by strong domestic demand and economic expansion. The report underscores the importance of strengthening non-oil exports to reduce India's reliance on imports and improve the overall balance of payments. As the economy continues to grow, addressing these structural trade imbalances will be crucial for sustaining external stability and economic resilience in the coming years.

Indian Stock Market Opens Flat Amid Positive Global Cues

Mumbai: The Indian stock market opened flat on Monday, buoyed by positive global cues and early buying interest in the PSU bank and IT sectors. At 9:27 am IST, the Sensex edged up marginally by 1.35 points to 84,057.55, while the Nifty rose 6.50 points, or 0.03%, to 25,644.30. Nifty Bank showed slight gains, up 15.15 points or 0.03% at 57,459.05 in early trade. Market analysts pointed to easing geopolitical tensions in West Asia and a sharp decline in Brent crude prices to \$67 as key factors supporting the market sentiment. Additionally, reports suggesting positive developments in trade negotiations between the US and China, as well as the US and India, have boosted investor confidence. Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments, noted that recent market rallies have been driven by large-cap stocks like HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Reliance Industries



continues to encourage foreign institutional investor (FII) inflows, alongside ongoing retail optimism supporting domestic fund investments. Experts advise that while staying invested in this bullish market makes sense, caution should be exercised when making fresh investments at current high valuations.

(RIL), and Larsen & Toubro (L&T), which have seen strong institutional buying. The Nifty Midcap 100 index climbed 220.90 points (0.37%) to 59,606.05, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 index rose 153.35 points (0.81%) to 19,130.15. Among the Sensex constituents, M&M, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bharti Airtel, HDFC Bank, NTPC, and UltraTech Cement were the top losers. On the other hand, Trent, SBI, L&T, Axis Bank, and Hindustan Unilever Limited led the gains. Weakness in the US dollar index con-

On June 27, FIIs were net buyers, acquiring equities worth ₹1,397.02 crore, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) were net sellers, offloading shares worth ₹588.93 crore. Asian markets also showed mixed trends, with China, Bangkok, Japan, Seoul, and Jakarta trading in green, while Hong Kong slipped into the red. In the US, the Dow Jones closed Friday at 43,819.27, up 1%, with the S&P 500 and Nasdaq also posting solid gains.

India's Industrial Growth Slows to 9-Month Low of 1.2% in May 2025

India's industrial output growth slipped to a nine-month low of 1.2% in May 2025, reflecting a significant slowdown in key sectors such as electricity and mining. This marks the weakest growth since August 2024 and is a decline from 2.6% in April, according to official data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Monday. The April figure was also revised downward from the earlier estimate of 2.7%.

The latest data from the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) — which tracks changes in the volume of production in factories, mines, and utilities — points to broad-based weakness, with particular stress in energy and resource-linked industries. Electricity output contracted sharply by 5.8%, while mining output saw a marginal decline of 0.1% year-on-year.

In contrast, manufacturing, which constitutes the bulk of the IIP, provided some support with 2.6% growth, driven by increased production in machinery, non-metallic minerals, and basic metals. However, this was still notably below the 5.1% growth recorded in the same month last year, indicating persistent softness in industrial momentum.

Sector-wise, consumer goods remained weak, reflecting subdued demand, while capital goods and infrastructure-related output offered modest positive contributions to overall industrial performance.



The IIP reading for May stood at 156.6, up slightly from 154.7 in May 2024, but the slow pace of expansion raises concerns about the resilience of India's industrial recovery amid global uncertainties and domestic demand challenges.

This deceleration in industrial activity may influence monetary policy discussions, especially as the Reserve Bank of India weighs the implications of softening growth against ongoing inflation risks.

Commercial LPG Cylinder Price Slashed by ₹58.50, Jet Fuel Sees 7.5% Hike



Oil marketing companies revised fuel prices on July 1, 2025, delivering mixed news for consumers. While the cost of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder was reduced by ₹58.50, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices saw a sharp increase of 7.5%, driven by global oil market trends.

Following the price cut, commercial LPG cylinders now cost ₹1,665 in Delhi, ₹1,616.50 in Mumbai, ₹1,769 in Kolkata, and ₹1,823.50 in Chennai. This marks the fourth consecutive reduction in commercial LPG rates, totaling a ₹138 cut per cylinder since April. The earlier cuts were ₹41 in April, ₹14.50 in May, and ₹24 in June. The decline in prices has come as a relief for commercial establishments such as hotels, restaurants, and catering services, especially as LPG demand typically dips during the summer months.

In contrast, the ATF price was raised by ₹6,271.50 per kilolitre in Delhi to ₹89,344.05 per kl, reflecting a surge in international crude oil prices following geopolitical tensions, particularly Israel's at-

tack on Iran last month. The hike reverses some of the price relief offered in previous months: ATF prices had been reduced by 6.15% in April (₹5,870.54/kl), 4.4% in May (₹3,954.38/kl), and 2.82% in June (₹2,414.25/kl).

This latest increase in ATF prices is likely to impact airlines significantly, as fuel accounts for nearly 40% of their operational costs. In other metro cities, ATF prices now stand at ₹83,549.23 per kl in Mumbai, ₹92,526.09 per kl in Chennai, and ₹92,705.74 per kl in Kolkata. These rates vary across cities due to differences in local taxes, including VAT.

While no immediate response came from airlines regarding the price hike, the increase could translate into higher airfares if sustained. Meanwhile, the continued easing of LPG prices provides some cushion to small businesses grappling with inflation and fluctuating energy costs. The diverging trends in ATF and LPG pricing highlight the volatile nature of global energy markets and their domestic implications.

Bengaluru Traffic Jam at 3:30 AM? Resident Warns of ‘Ticking Time Bomb’

In a city infamous for its traffic woes, one Bengaluru resident’s recent experience is raising fresh concerns. Sharing his ordeal on Reddit, the long-time resident revealed he was stuck in gridlock not once, but twice—at 3:30 AM and again at 5:40 AM—warning that the city’s infrastructure is now a “ticking time bomb.”

“I’ve lived in Bengaluru for over a decade, and this is the worst I’ve seen,” he wrote. “A negative compound effect of small failures in various areas is now exploding.” He described how a trip from Indiranagar to Manyata Tech Park via Outer Ring Road (ORR) took him nearly two hours—at 3:30 in the morning.

Later that same day, a beam collapse near Elements Mall at 5:40 AM created chaos again. “There were glass pieces on the road. I think it might’ve hit a car, though I can’t confirm. But it’s going to be pandemonium there today,” he added, urging people to hold BBMP and local leaders accountable.

The post resonated widely, with others echoing frustration. One user said they’ve witnessed the city’s decline firsthand: “Even the metro is overcrowded. Roads are full of garbage, rents are crazy high, and basic infrastructure like footpaths is missing.” Another noted that the ORR stretch is constantly under metro construction



between midnight and 5 AM.

The city’s rapid population growth, spurred by the IT boom, has outpaced infrastructure development. In a re-

cent podcast, Bengaluru’s Traffic Commissioner MN Anucheth explained that the number of vehicles has doubled in a decade. He emphasized that boosting public transport is the only

sustainable solution.

Until then, even 3:30 AM traffic might become the new normal in India’s tech capital.

Pawfect Match: India Launches First-Ever Dating App for Dogs!

In a heartwarming and innovative twist to digital matchmaking, India now has a dating app made exclusively for dogs! Called Doffair, the platform aims to tackle pet loneliness by helping urban dogs find companions—not just for mating, but for friendship, playdates, and emotional bonding. Launched in March 2025, Doffair was founded by Maurya Kampeli, who observed that many pets in urban homes were emotionally isolated. “Whenever I visited friends with dogs, I noticed how lonely they seemed. Even animals in today’s fast-paced lifestyle don’t get time to socialise,” he said. Backed by insights from veterinarians, groomers, and pet parents, the Doffair team found that many dogs experience stress and behavioural issues due to a lack of interaction. Recognising this, they created not just a dating app, but a holistic platform connecting pet owners with local services, vets, and other pet parents. Here’s how it works: Pet par-

ents create a profile for their dog, listing details such as breed, temperament, energy level, and preferences. The app then suggests compatible matches using filters like location and behavior. The goal is not romance, but social comfort and healthy interaction. Safety is a top priority. Every user must verify their mobile number, upload their dog’s photo, and provide a valid vaccination certificate. Suspicious profiles can be reported and are quickly reviewed. The app also promotes ethical breeding practices in collaboration with vets and professionals. From just 100 trial users, Doffair now boasts over 10,000 downloads, especially in cities like Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Bengaluru. One pet parent even shared that after weeks of trying to find a playmate for her dog through WhatsApp groups, Doffair finally brought her relief and joy. In a world where swiping right has become a norm, now it’s time our furry friends find their pawfect match too!



Fed Up With Soaring Real Estate Costs, Man Contemplates Living on a Houseboat

With real estate prices in Indian metro cities reaching record highs, owning a home has become an unattainable dream for many middle-class citizens. Amid this ongoing crisis, one frustrated Reddit user has sparked an unusual but thought-provoking conversation by suggesting an alternative housing solution: living on a houseboat. In a now-viral Reddit post, the user expressed his dismay at the skyrocketing cost of flats in cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Chennai. “I am unable to afford flats in any of the Indian cities—Bangalore, Chennai, and Hyderabad. I am already aged out, so I won’t be of working age for EMIs,” he explained, adding that a houseboat could be a creative and affordable alternative. The post, which quickly gained traction, included a genuine query: “Is it legal to live in a boat in India?” While the idea might seem far-fetched to some, it’s not without precedent. Houseboats are already popular in regions like Kerala and Srinagar, albeit mostly for tourism. The thought of using one as a permanent residence in urban areas, however, is relatively uncommon and



raises several questions about legalities, infrastructure, and accessibility. The user’s perspective resonated with many others who are equally disillusioned by the ever-increasing real estate costs. In a country where housing affordability is becoming a crisis, the concept of floating homes may no longer be just a quirky fantasy, but a potential future reality.

As urban housing challenges grow, creative solutions like these are likely to spark more conversations around alternative living, sustainability, and financial independence. Whether or not it becomes a trend, this post certainly highlights the lengths people are willing to go for a roof over their heads.

Squirting Pink Foot Fountain in NYC Divides Public: Art or Obscene?

A bold new art installation in New York City is sparking debate and turning heads for all the right—and wrong—reasons. Installed along the High Line near 30th Street, Foot Fountain (Pink) is a 10-foot-tall sculpture that looks like a giant pink leg and foot, complete with bright red-lipped mouths and protruding tongues. Created by Argentine-born artist Mika Rottenberg, the piece was unveiled in April 2025. While many passersby see it as a whimsical, surreal take on traditional fountains, others are not amused. What makes the sculpture even more interactive—and controversial—is that it squirts water when someone pedals a nearby bike. A viral video posted by user Colling Ruggs shows exactly how pedestrians can make the foot “squirt,” sparking both curiosity and discomfort. According to the artist’s press release, the

sculpture is an “irreverent take on classical fountains” and is meant to challenge the norms of public art. But the reaction online has been mixed. Many social media users have slammed the installation, calling it “disturbing,” “gross,” and “inappropriate for public space.” One user commented, “This is what happens when you remove beauty and morality from art.” However, not everyone is disgusted. Danny R., a visitor from San Francisco, admitted the sculpture made her uneasy



but found it “really cool” overall. Angie R., a local mother, said her kids love running around it and see it as a fun sprinkler. Tourist Katie Sarena from Italy added, “It’s fun for kids, but adults will see the deeper art.” Despite the polarized opinions, Foot Fountain (Pink) has undeniably become a conversation piece. It’s scheduled to remain on display until May 2026—leaving New Yorkers and tourists alike plenty of time to decide: bizarre brilliance or public eyesore?

Squid Game Finale Sparks Real-Life Parade Frenzy in South Korea

Squid Game mania is back—and this time, it’s spilling onto the streets. To mark the highly anticipated release of the third and final season of Netflix’s global phenomenon Squid Game, fans in South Korea organized a spectacular real-life parade inspired by the show. The event, held Fans Celebrate Final Season with Real-Life Squid Game Parade in South Korea shortly after the season’s premiere on June 27, has taken social media by storm. A viral video capturing the parade, shared by South Korea-based digital content creator Rana Adil Mushtaq,



has already surpassed 1.2 million views. The clip showcases a street full of enthusiastic fans recreating some of the show’s most iconic elements with remarkable detail and energy. Participants marched in the signature pink jumpsuits and black masks worn by the guards in the show, creating an eerie yet thrilling atmosphere. A towering replica of the motion-sensing animatronic doll from the infamous “Red Light, Green Light” game led the procession, drawing loud cheers from onlookers. Adding to the dramatic flair, black coffins—similar to those used to carry eliminated players in the series—were also

part of the parade, emphasizing the dark themes that made the series so gripping. The celebration served as both a tribute and a send-off to a show that redefined the survival thriller genre on a global scale. Fans around the world flooded the comments section with awe and appreciation for the creativity and dedication shown in the parade. With Squid Game Season 3 now streaming, the buzz is stronger than ever. And if this parade is any indication, the fandom’s love for the series is as powerful as the show’s cultural impact itself.

Smriti Mandhana Rises to No. 3 in ICC Women's T20I Rankings



India's vice-captain Smriti Mandhana continues to shine on the global stage, climbing to the third spot in the ICC Women's T20I batting rankings. The update, released on Tuesday, July 1, 2025, sees Mandhana moving up one position, solidifying her status as one of the most consistent performers in women's cricket.

This ranking boost comes on the heels of her brilliant performance against England in the opening match of the five-match T20I series. Mandhana smashed her maiden T20I century, a standout knock that not only led India to a strong start in the series but also

cemented her place among the top batters in the world.

Already holding the No. 1 position in the ICC Women's ODI rankings, Mandhana's upward movement in T20Is underlines her dominance across formats. Her consistency, elegant strokeplay, and ability to anchor and accelerate innings have made her a vital part of India's batting lineup.

The 28-year-old left-hander has been in superb form over the past year, contributing significantly to India's victories with both experience and calm under pressure. Her rise in the rankings is a reflection

of her recent performances and growing influence in the shortest format of the game.

Mandhana's elevation is also a timely boost for the Indian team as they prepare for the Women's T20 World Cup scheduled for later this year. With top players like her in form, India will be looking to make a serious title run.

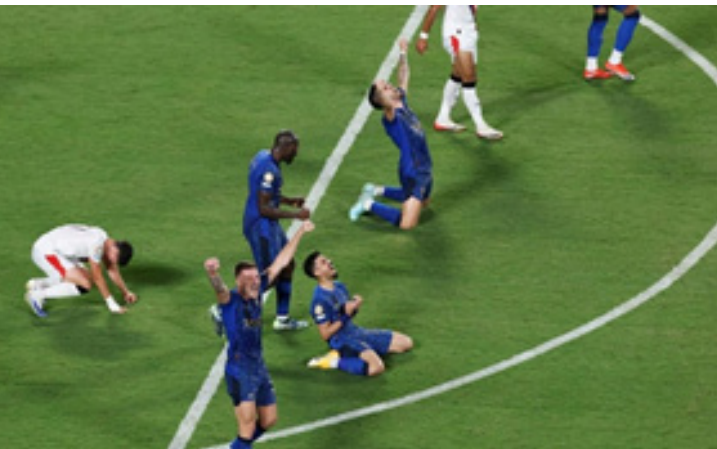
As the series against England progresses, all eyes will be on Mandhana to maintain her purple patch and possibly challenge for the No. 1 spot in T20Is, a feat that would see her reign supreme in both white-ball formats.

Al Hilal Stuns Manchester City 4-3 in Thrilling Club World Cup Upset

In a stunning upset at the Club World Cup, Saudi Arabian side Al Hilal eliminated Premier League giants Manchester City with a dramatic 4-3 victory in extra time on June 30, 2025. The match, held at Camping World Stadium in Orlando, Florida, was a roller-coaster of emotions, with both teams exchanging leads multiple times before Marcos Leonardo's decisive goal in the 112th minute sealed the win for Al Hilal.

The game was marked by intense back-and-forth action. Al Hilal took the lead on three separate occasions, showcasing resilience and skill against the favored English champions. Early in extra time, Kalidou Koulibaly scored to put Al Hilal ahead 3-2 in the 94th minute. However, Manchester City's Phil Foden, who had been brought on as a substitute just minutes earlier, quickly leveled the score again with a goal in the 104th minute, pushing the game deeper into extra time.

The breakthrough finally came when Marcos Leonardo capitalized on a rebound in the 112th minute, slotting home the winning goal to spark jubilant celebrations among the Al Hilal players and



fans. This stunning victory sent shockwaves through the tournament, as Manchester City, a dominant force in European football, were knocked out earlier than expected.

With this victory, Al Hilal advances to the next round of the Club World Cup, where they will face Brazilian club Fluminense. Fluminense secured their place in the quarterfinals by defeating Champions League finalist Inter Milan, setting up an exciting clash between the two teams.

Al Hilal's triumph is not only a testament to their quality but also a reminder of the unpredictable nature of football, where underdogs can rise and giants can fall. This result will surely boost the confidence of Al Hilal as they aim to continue their remarkable run in the tournament.



US Open 2025: Ayush Shetty Clinches Maiden BWF World Tour Title; Tanvi Sharma Finishes Runner-Up

Rising Indian shuttler Ayush Shetty claimed his first-ever BWF World Tour title with a dominant straight-games win over Canada's Brian Yang in the men's singles final at the US Open Super 300 on June 30, 2025. The 20-year-old, who won bronze at the 2023 Junior World Championships, defeated the third seed 21-18, 21-13 in just 47 minutes, ending India's title drought this season.

Shetty's impressive run included a comeback victory against top seed Chou Tien Chen in the semifinals, highlighting his growing confidence on the senior circuit. This win marked his third career victory over Yang, having previously beaten him twice earlier this year at the Malaysia and Taipei Opens.

"It means a lot; it's my first senior circuit title, so I'm really happy," Shetty said after the win. He praised his own game improvements,

explaining how varying his smashes and mixing in drops helped him break down Yang's defence. Shetty now looks forward to continuing his momentum at the upcoming Canada Open.

In the women's singles final, 16-year-old Tanvi Sharma, making her World Tour final debut, finished as runner-up after a tough three-game loss to top-seeded Beiwen Zhang of the USA. Tanvi lost 11-21, 21-16, 10-21 in a 46-minute battle.

Tanvi admitted to nerves affecting her early play but was proud to reach her first Super 300 final. She bounced back strongly in the second game but couldn't maintain the intensity in the decider as Zhang pulled away comfortably.

Both Shetty's breakthrough win and Tanvi's promising performance signal a bright future for Indian badminton on the global stage.

Wimbledon's Hottest Opening Day: Carlos Alcaraz Survives Thrilling Five-Set Battle, Aryna Sabalenka Advances Comfortably

On the hottest opening day in Wimbledon's history, with temperatures soaring above 32°C (89.6°F), world No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz survived a tough five-set clash against 38-year-old Fabio Fognini. The Spaniard eked out a 7-5, 6-7 (5/7), 7-5, 2-6, 6-1 victory in a grueling 4-hour-37-minute match on Centre Court, marking the first time since 2010 that a defending Wimbledon champion was taken to a fifth set in the opening round. Despite an inconsistent performance with 62 unforced errors, Alcaraz showed resilience in the extreme heat, even pausing mid-match to help a collapsed spectator by handing over a bottle of water. The 22-year-old, aiming to become the fifth man in the Open Era to win three consecutive Wimbledon titles, will next face British qualifier Oliver Tarvet. Meanwhile, top-seeded Aryna Sabalenka advanced smoothly, beating Canadian qualifier Carson Branstine 6-1, 7-5 on Court One. The Belarusian, a three-time Grand Slam winner, used ice packs to combat the heat and expressed gratitude for being fit and ready after missing last year's tournament due to injury. Sabalenka faces Czech Marie Bouzkova in the next round.

Other notable events included two-time Wimbledon finalist Ons Jabeur retiring in tears against Viktoriya Tomova due to an unspecified issue, and former US Open champ Daniil Medvedev losing after a heated meltdown. Upsets were rife, with eighth seed Holger Rune, former finalist Matteo Berrettini, and Stefanos Tsitsipas (retired due to injury) exiting early. Wimbledon's heat rule allowed players to take breaks between sets when temperatures exceeded 30.1°C, aiming to protect their health during the intense conditions. The tournament continues with many top players battling both their opponents and the soaring mercury.



Hockey India Announces 20-Member India A Men's Squad for Europe Tour

Hockey India has announced a 20-member India A men's squad for an exposure tour to Europe, scheduled from July 8 to 20, 2025. The tour aims to provide crucial international experience to a balanced mix of emerging talents and seasoned players, helping to strengthen India's talent pipeline for the senior national team.

During the tour, the India A team will play a total of eight high-intensity matches. They will face France, Ireland, and the Netherlands twice each, along with one match each against England and Belgium. These competitive fixtures are designed to test the squad's depth and readiness against strong European sides.

The squad will be captained by Sanjay, with Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh serving as his deputy. The team also includes goalkeeper Ankit Malik, defender Sunil Jojo, and forward Sudeep Chirmako as standby players. The selection reflects Hockey India's focus on grooming future stars while providing them with exposure to varied playing styles and challenging conditions abroad.

In a statement, Hockey India emphasized the importance of this tour in building a robust pipeline for the senior men's team. The exposure gained through these matches will help the players develop their skills, adapt to international standards, and prepare for upcoming major tournaments.

This initiative highlights Hockey India's commitment to nurturing talent at all levels and ensuring a steady flow of capable players ready to step into the senior team. The India A squad's performances in Europe will be closely watched as part of the broader strategy to strengthen the country's hockey prospects on the global stage.





Rana Daggubati Presents “Kothapallilo Okappudu”: A Whimsical Tale Rooted in Rural Life

Renowned actor and Rproducer Rana Daggubati has announced a new film under his Spirit Media banner titled Kothapallilo Okappudu. Known for backing content-rich cinema, Rana continues that tradition with this unique project that promises both heart and humor.

The film marks the directorial debut of Praveena Paruchuri, who earlier gained attention as both actor and producer for critically acclaimed films like C/o Kancharapalem and Uma Maheswara Ugra Roopasya. With Kothapallilo Okappudu, she steps into the director's chair, bringing her signature storytelling style to a fresh narrative set in rural India.

The story revolves around a young man from a quiet, traditional village. His ordinary life takes an unexpected turn after one seemingly minor incident sets off a surprising chain of events. The plot unfolds with a mix of local mischief, deep-rooted customs, and playful twists, all while exploring broader themes such as identity, fate, and the contradictions within tradition.

What sets this film apart is its visual presentation. Shot by an award-winning cinematographer from Los Angeles, the movie blends the vibrancy of Indian rural life



with a sophisticated global visual language. This fusion promises a cinematic experience that is emotionally grounded yet aesthetically modern.

Kothapallilo Okappudu offers a light-hearted yet poignant look at how small moments can shape lives, especially in close-knit communities where every gesture matters. With its mix of comedy, drama, and cultural depth, the film is expected to strike a chord with both urban and rural audiences.

Currently in the final stages of post-production, Kothapallilo Okappudu is gearing up for a theatrical release soon. It stands as another promising addition to Rana Daggubati's growing slate of meaningful and entertaining cinema.

“Ramayana” Title Glimpse to Be Unveiled on July 3 at Grand Bengaluru Event

The anticipation around Nitesh Tiwari's Ramayana continues to build, and fans now have a date to look forward to. Billed as one of Indian cinema's most ambitious mythological epics, the film stars Ranbir Kapoor as Lord Rama and Sai Pallavi as Sita, with a star-studded cast bringing the timeless epic to life.

The makers have officially announced that the film's title logo and a special glimpse will be revealed on July 3, 2025. The unveiling will take place at PVR Forum Mall in Bengaluru, beginning at 11:30 AM. The event is expected to be a grand affair with the presence of the film's core cast and crew.

The announcement video, originally planned as a teaser, has reportedly been extended into a three-minute cinematic glimpse and re-censored for theatrical and digital presentation. This enhanced footage is expected to offer audiences their first real taste of the world Tiwari and his team have created — rich in VFX, scale, and spiritual reverence.

The ensemble cast includes major names such as Sunny Deol, Yash, Kajal Aggarwal, Ravi Dubey, Arun Govil, and Lara Dutta, adding further depth and star power



to the project. Backed by producers Namit Malhotra and Yash, Ramayana is planned as a two-part saga, with releases scheduled for Diwali 2026 and Diwali 2027.

With its mythological gravitas, state-of-the-art visuals, and all-star cast, Ramayana is shaping up to be a milestone in Indian cinema. The upcoming title glimpse launch is expected to ignite even more excitement among fans and set the tone for what's to come in this epic retelling of the ancient tale.

“Thammudu” Release Trailer Strikes a Chord with Emotion and Suspense

Thammudu, the first major Telugu release of July 2025, is already generating strong buzz thanks to its impactful trailer. Starring Nithiin in the lead role, the film also features Laya, Sapthami Gowda, and Varsha Bollamma in prominent roles. Directed by Venu Sriram, Thammudu promises a gripping mix of emotion, drama, and action.

The makers dropped the release trailer earlier today, and it has quickly captured the attention of audiences. The emotionally charged narrative, combined with intense action sequences, sets the tone for a powerful cinematic experience. The trailer doesn't give too much away but hints at deep relationships, emotional conflicts, and a central mystery that ties the characters together.

Director Venu Sriram, known for his sensitive storytelling, appears to have crafted a film that balances commercial appeal with emotional depth. What's particularly intriguing is the emphasis on the female characters. As the director himself hinted, each wom-



an in the story holds emotional weight and narrative significance. This suggests layered storytelling, where characters are not merely ornamental but vital to the film's progress.

The background score enhances the tension and drama, while the visuals reflect a polished production quality. Nithiin seems to deliver a matured and intense performance, while the supporting cast adds richness to the

ensemble. With strong emotional undercurrents and thrilling elements, Thammudu is shaping up to be more than just a conventional drama.

With its theatrical release just around the corner, Thammudu is poised to be a significant July release. The trailer has done its job well—raising expectations and leaving fans eager to discover what emotional rollercoaster the film will offer on the big screen.

Mouni Roy Likely to Join Chiranjeevi in Special Song for Vishwambhara

Excitement continues to build around Megastar Chiranjeevi's upcoming fantasy drama Vishwambhara, and the latest buzz is all about a high-energy special number that's yet to be shot. While the main shoot of the film has been completed, this one remaining song is drawing a lot of attention — and for good reason.

According to recent media reports, Bollywood star Mouni Roy is being considered to feature in this much-anticipated item song alongside Chiranjeevi. Known for her stunning screen presence and sizzling dance moves, Mouni previously impressed audiences in a special number from the Hindi version of KGF, which turned into a



massive chartbuster. If finalized, her inclusion could bring a fresh glamour quotient and pan-Indian appeal to the film.

The song is said to be composed by Bheems Ceciroleo, though official confirma-

tion from the makers is still awaited. With just this track left to shoot, the film is nearing its final post-production stages. The team is reportedly putting in extra effort on the CGI work, and the official release date will be locked once the VFX reaches the de-

sired quality.

Directed by Vassishta of Bimbisara fame, Vishwambhara promises a grand cinematic experience rooted in mythology and fantasy. Trisha Krishnan stars as the female lead opposite Chiranjeevi, while the legendary MM Keeravani is composing the film's score and soundtrack.

Backed by UV Creations, this big-budget entertainer is one of the most anticipated Telugu releases on the horizon. If Mouni Roy's inclusion is confirmed, the film's special song is sure to be a visual and musical highlight that fans across the country will be eagerly looking forward to.

Confessions of a Superstar: Unveiling the Aamir Khan We Never Knew

If the story of Hindi cinema had a protagonist, Aamir Khan would be a compelling choice. Known for his calculated risks, deep emotional range, and dedication to craft, Khan has carved a unique space among Bollywood's trinity of superstars. Unlike his contemporaries Shah Rukh Khan and Salman Khan—who leaned into charisma and familiarity—Aamir has thrived on unpredictability, choosing roles and stories that often challenge mainstream expectations.

From producing a nearly four-hour sports drama (Lagaan), to playing a supporting role to a child in Taare Zameen Par, to transforming his body to play the father of two wrestlers in Dangal, Khan has repeatedly defied the norms of commercial cinema. Yet, despite his larger-than-life presence and critical acclaim, he has remained a deeply private figure—until now.

A Shift in Persona

In 2025, something changed. Aamir Khan, long known for his guardedness, has become strikingly visible and emotionally open. As part of the promotions for his latest film, Sitaare Zameen Par, he has appeared across podcasts, TV shows, and social media platforms. Dressed simply in round-neck t-shirts and thick-rimmed glasses, he has played games, shared personal anecdotes, and even shed tears—offering a raw, unfiltered version of himself rarely seen before.

Interestingly, while the promotional campaign is officially for Sitaare Za-



meen Par—a remake of the Spanish film Champions, featuring a neurodivergent cast—the real subject of these appearances seems to be Khan himself. In one interview, he revealed regrets about being an absent parent. In another, he shared lesser-known personal details, like learning Marathi at 44, or naming one of his dogs 'Sundari.' He's confessed to eloping with his first wife and even considered quitting acting after the failure of Laal Singh Chaddha.

This new phase feels like a rebranding, perhaps in response to past controversies and online backlash, or simply a man at 60 becoming more comfortable in his own skin. His past remarks about growing intolerance in India led to widespread trolling and boycotts, and this new visibility could be seen as an attempt to reclaim his public image. Still, the authenticity in his voice and the vulnerability in his demeanor suggest something more heartfelt.

Marketing or Meaning?

Cynics might view this transformation

as a calculated marketing move, aligning Aamir's personal narrative with Sitaare Zameen Par's core message—"Sabka apna apna normal" (Everyone has their own normal). His public appearances, steeped in emotional honesty, reflect the same individuality and acceptance the film champions. Whether he's eating vada pav at Dadar station, acknowledging his complex relationships, or crying on camera, Aamir is redefining what stardom looks like—one that allows space for flaws, feelings, and fallibility.

This strategy isn't new for Khan. Over the years, he's employed innovative promotional tactics—disguises during 3 Idiots, thematic haircuts for Ghajini, and even appearances on TV serials for Talaash. But this time, the promotional lens has turned inward.

A Second Debut?

There's a strange beauty in watching a veteran actor open up like a debutant—eager, uncertain, yet unafraid. Aamir Khan's new public persona is not just about promoting a film; it feels like a reintroduction. He's no longer just the perfectionist superstar; he's a man willing to be seen, heard, and felt.

Whether this vulnerability is a lasting shift or a temporary phase, it has offered a rare and moving glimpse into the man behind the myth. This is not just a marketing campaign—it's a quiet revolution in how we see our stars. Aamir Khan, it seems, is finally playing his most complex role yet: himself.