



No World Leader Asked Us to Stop Op Sindoor: PM

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday firmly asserted in the Lok Sabha that no world leader had asked India to halt Operation Sindoor, countering the Opposition's claims and defending the government's response to the recent Pahalgam terror attack. He clarified that the decision to pause the military action came only after Pakistan pleaded for a ceasefire. Responding to the debate on the operation and the terror strike in Kashmir, PM Modi directly addressed concerns raised by the Opposition, especially Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi, who questioned the government's silence on US President Donald Trump's earlier remarks suggesting his role in brokering peace between India and Pakistan. "For the first time, I am sharing these details. From the beginning, we said our action was non-escalatory. No global leader asked us to stop Operation Sindoor," said the Prime Minister. "On the night of May 9, US Vice President JD Vance tried to contact me for over an hour. I was in a meeting with



our forces. When I returned his call, he informed me that Pakistan was preparing a major assault. I told him clearly — if Pakistan attacks, it will pay a heavy price. Ham goli ka jawab gole se denge (We will answer a bullet with a cannonball)." PM Modi stated, "On May 10, we destroyed Pakistan's military infrastructure. Even Pakistan now realises that India's responses only get bigger and stronger. Operation Sindoor is still

ongoing. Let there be no doubt about that." "On May 9 and 10, Indian missiles reached every corner of Pakistan. This brought them to their knees. After relentless strikes, Pakistan's DGMO called our side pleading: 'Bas karo, bahut maara, zyada maar jhelne ki takat nahin hai. Please hamla rok do' (Stop this. You've hit us hard. We can't bear more. Please stop the attack). We made it clear on May 7 that our targets were terrorists and their handlers. The decision to pause was made in consultation with our armed forces after these objectives were achieved." In a scathing attack on the Opposition, PM Modi mocked, "Terrorists are crying, their bosses and backers are crying, and seeing them cry, some people here are mourning too." He accused the Congress of trying to malign India globally in the past by propagating the narrative of "saffron terror". PM Modi concluded, "Let me reiterate in this temple of democracy — Operation Sindoor is still on. India will respond in full force to any provocation, and the world knows now that we act, and we mean it."

Minister Reviews Progress of Handri-Neeva, Veligonda

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Water Resources, Nimmala Ramanaidu, reviewed the progress of major irrigation projects Handri-Neeva and Veligonda through a video conference with top officials. Participating in the review were Irrigation Special Chief Secretary G. Saiprasad, Advisor Venkateswara Rao, ENC Narasimhamaurthy, Chief Engineers and Superintending Engineers of the respective projects, and representatives of contracting agencies. Minister Ramanaidu stated that the government had completed works in



the Handri-Neeva project enabling the transfer of 3,850 cusecs of water in the very first year of the new administration — a milestone that was not achieved in the past five years.

In Phase-2 as well, the canal widening and lining works have been completed to facilitate the transfer of another 3,850 cusecs. The minister noted that the Handri-Neeva canal is now flowing with Krishna waters, and that the people of Rayalaseema are welcoming the development with traditional gestures like Harathi. He also addressed delays in the Punganur and Kuppam branch canal works and directed the issuance of memos to two executive engineers who failed to respond in a timely manner.

2 PAGE



SIT Intensifies Probe into Dharmasthala Mass-Burial Allegations

TPN | AR Mahesh

A Special Investigation Team (SIT), formed by the Karnataka government on July 19, has intensified its inquiry into disturbing allegations of mass burials and possible murders near the Hindu pilgrimage site in Dharmasthala. The probe was triggered when a former sanitation worker, now a court-protected whistle-blower, came forward in early July claiming he was forced, over nearly two decades (1995–2014), to bury bodies of women and girls who showed signs of assault and strangulation.

He filed a complaint on July 3 and deposited skeletal remains before a magistrate on July 11, stating that he had acted under threats from supervisors that his family would be harmed if he disobeyed. The allegations mentioned victims including schoolgirls and acid attack survivors. The complaint also cited cases of destitute men murdered nearby in gruesome ways.

A week after the FIR was registered on July 4, the SIT leadership initiated the first face-to-face questioning of the whistle-blower, who was examined for two consecutive days under tight security. During this time, he identified 15 specific locations, largely along the banks of the Nethravathi River and nearby forested areas, where bodies were reportedly buried or cremated. Multiple departments including the Anti-Naxal Force (ANF), Forensic Science Labs, and Forest and Revenue authorities are now involved in securing and monitoring these sites under regulated access.

On July 28, SIT investigators began exhumation operations at the first of these marked spots,

accompanied by forensic teams and video documentation. Additional dig sites are planned as evidence emerges. SIT chief DGP Pronab Mohanty, along with senior officers, personally visited Mangaluru, reviewed progress, visited the SIT office in Belthangady, and coordinated field logistics. The whistle-blower's identity remains concealed for safety.

With mounting public pressure and legal scrutiny, organizations like AIDWA have demanded full autonomy for the SIT and broader re-investigation into unresolved disappearance and rape cases, including the 2003 case of Ananya Bhat. The complainant in that case, the mother of a missing medical student, joined calls for justice and suggested her daughter may have been among the victims. A local lawyer also urged authorities to arrest a panchayat vice president who had previously claimed all burials were officially sanctioned, a claim contradicted by the eyewitness-led site identifications. Meanwhile, a civil court issued an ex-parte gag order requiring removal of nearly 9,000 online articles, posts, and videos covering the allegations, citing reputational harm to the temple trust and its managing family. Affected media outlets are challenging the order, and the Supreme Court has declined to intervene directly, deferring to the Karnataka High Court. As the SIT's forensic work proceeds, broader questions remain about past complaints over decades, including unsolved rape and disappearance cases going back to the 1980s, and alleged institutional cover-ups. The probe now spans multiple dimensions, legal integrity, media freedom, and community trust, and has become one of the most high-stakes investigations in recent Indian history.

Centre Grants Equity to 227 FPOs

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has granted equity support to 227 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in Andhra Pradesh as part of the central scheme to promote 10,000 FPOs across India. Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan gave a detailed written reply in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday in response to questions posed by Vijayawada MP Kesineni Siv-anath and MP Kalisetti Appalanaidu during the Question Hour. The minister said the scheme aims to boost farmers' income, expand market opportunities, and strengthen women's participation in agriculture. So far, 10,000 FPOs have been registered nationwide, of which 5,694 have received equity grants. Andhra Pradesh has 714 FPOs under the scheme. The MPs had asked for details on FPOs in Andhra Pradesh including district-wise distribution, year-wise benefits, major crops and commodities, and involvement of women-led FPOs. Responding to this, Minister Chouhan said that as per the government's mapping, major crops and sectors like



rice, pulses, turmeric, tomato, mango, chilli, coconut, cashew, livestock, and fisheries fall under the scheme's scope in AP. Significantly, the minister highlighted the push for gender inclusion. Across India, 1,663 FPOs are fully women-led, and another 949 have over 50% women members. In Andhra Pradesh, 228 FPOs are entirely women-run and 45 others have majority women membership. To enhance the capabilities of FPOs, Cluster-Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) were established. These CBBOs have conducted 3,111 training programs and 809 exposure visits in Andhra Pradesh alone. Nationally, 49,553 training sessions and 14,564 exposure visits have been carried out.

CM Unveils AP's Global Vision in Singapore

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, currently on a visit to Singapore, highlighted the state's favorable environment for setting up data centers and IT industries, especially in Visakhapatnam. Speaking at a roundtable conference with industrialists and company representatives in Singapore, he revealed that a strong ecosystem for data infrastructure has already been developed in the city. CM Naidu shared that tech giants like Google are setting up a data center in Visakhapatnam. He also said that leading IT firms such as TCS and Cognizant are establishing their offices in the region. Andhra Pradesh, he stressed, is positioning Visakhapatnam as a key economic engine for growth in IT, trade, and housing infrastructure. **Quantum Valley in Amaravati** The CM announced that India's first Quantum Valley is being established in Amaravati, with operations ex-

pected to begin by January 2026. He invited Singaporean companies to invest in the upcoming Quantum Valley ecosystem, emphasizing the opportunities for research collaboration and advanced technology development. Naidu also shared that the state has rolled out over 20 industrial and investment-friendly policies to promote economic growth. He presented Andhra Pradesh's industrial roadmap and opportunities to the delegates, including ministers Nara Lokesh, TG Bharat, P. Narayana, and senior AP officials. **Strategic Partnerships with Singapore** In a meeting with Keppel Corporation Executive Director Lim Yeang Yeow, CM Naidu discussed urban development, trade, and infrastructure projects. He invited Keppel to partner in various developmental initiatives in Visakhapatnam and Amaravati. Naidu also met with GIC (Government of Singapore Investment Corporation) Chief Investment Officer Bryan Yeo. Their discussions focused on long-term partnerships and in-



vestments in real estate, healthcare, urban planning, and education. Naidu assured full government support and a conducive environment for GIC to explore opportunities in Andhra Pradesh. In another key meeting, Wilmar International's Group Head Rahul Kale showed interest in collaborating on food processing, edible oils, and agri-infrastructure sectors. CM Naidu emphasized the importance of building value-based markets for farmers. **Singapore Pledges Support** During the visit, Singapore's Minister for Manpower, Science, and Technology Tan See Leng announced Singapore's willingness to collaborate with Andhra Pradesh across various sectors.

2 PAGE



Minister Reviews Progress of Handri-Neeva, Veligonda

Continued from page 1

Regarding the Veligonda project, the minister emphasized that the tunnel lining and benching works must be completed without delay by June 2026. He instructed officials to immediately call tenders for feeder canal, lining, and retaining wall works. Criticizing the previous government for misleading people by dedicating an incomplete Veligonda project to the nation, Ramanaidu said the current government would complete the project and ensure justice for Prakasam district.

CM Unveils AP's Global Vision in Singapore

Continued from page 1

He acknowledged Singapore's earlier involvement in Amaravati's development and expressed renewed interest in partnership. Tan See Leng also posted on X (formerly Twitter) affirming the readiness of Singaporean companies to invest in AP's food processing, renewable energy, digital tech, ports, and skills development. He mentioned that companies like Food Empire and EverVolt are keen on expanding their presence in Andhra Pradesh. CM Naidu thanked Singapore for its renewed commitment, stating that their support is valuable in realizing the Swarna Andhra 2047 vision. He said Andhra Pradesh, backed by a strong public mandate, is focused on sustainable growth and will benefit from Singapore's policy models and partnership.

Satya Kumar Yadav Meets Union Ministers in Delhi

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Andhra Pradesh Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav paid courtesy visits to Union Ministers Giriraj Singh and Dharmendra Pradhan at the Parliament House in New Delhi on Tuesday. During his meeting with Union Minister for Textiles Giriraj Singh, the state minister urged the Centre to expedite the process of establishing a Mega Handloom Cluster in Dharmavaram, a town known for its rich handloom heritage. To mark the occasion, Minister Yadav presented a silk shawl woven by Dharmavaram weavers to Giriraj Singh. He also invited the Union Minister to visit Dharmavaram and witness firsthand the artistry and tradition of the local weaving community. Discussions were also held on the potential for expanding the textile industry across Andhra Pradesh. The two leaders also exchanged views on national and state-level political developments. Later, Satya Kumar Yadav, along with Union Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Steel Bhupathiraju Srinivas Varma and Kakinada MP Uday Srinivas, met Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. The Education Minister was also felicitated with a Dharmavaram silk shawl, and Yadav briefed him on the unique value of the Dharmavaram silk industry. During the meeting, the ministers discussed several key issues related to the development of Andhra Pradesh, with a focus on industrial growth and educational collaboration between the Centre and the state.

Minister Gottipati Promises Better Facilities in Government Schools

TPN Correspondent | Addanki

Energy Minister Gottipati Ravikumar emphasized the state government's commitment to providing high-quality education in government schools on par with private institutions. Speaking at an event in Thimmanapalem Zilla Parishad High School, Korisapadu mandal, the minister distributed free bicycles to 131 students and interacted with students, parents, and teachers.

During his visit, the minister inquired about mid-day meals, uniforms, and textbooks. Responding to students' requests, he assured the construction of a compound wall and a new building to replace the old one. He also promised to ensure a tar road leading to the school to ease student access. Gottipati reviewed other ongoing development activities in the village and urged community members and school committees to regularly monitor

school conditions. He suggested village elders should occasionally visit schools and share mid-day meals with students to ensure quality. The minister highlighted the coalition government's focus on strengthening government schools by providing essential infrastructure and maintaining a conducive environment for learning. He said the distribution of bicycles would help reduce student dropouts, especially from remote areas.

MoU with YouTube, Tezaract Creator Academy to Empower Digital Talent

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

In a major leap for India's growing digital content ecosystem, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with YouTube and Tezaract USA Inc. to establish a state-of-the-art Creator Academy. This agreement, aimed at boosting the state's role in India's creator economy, was signed during the third day of Andhra Pradesh's official delegation visit to Singapore. The MoU was formalized at the Shangri-La Hotel in the presence of Nara Lokesh, Minister for Information Technology, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The academy will function as a Center of Excellence for Creative Content Development, equipping young creators with essential skills to succeed in the digital economy. As per the agreement, Tezaract will serve as the execution partner to set up and manage the academy's infrastructure and operations. YouTube will contribute its global expertise through content strategy, platform best practices, channel support, and mentorship, while Google will provide assistance in curriculum development and digital tools. Speaking at the ceremony, Nara Lokesh said, "This collaboration with YouTube will unlock the creative potential of our youth and position Andhra Pradesh as a leader in the digital content economy. We are building the foundation for a sustainable creator ecosystem that can empower careers and livelihoods."



Gautam Anand, Vice President of Tezaract USA Inc., said, "We're thrilled to partner with the Andhra Pradesh Government. This Creator Academy will not only boost digital skills but also inspire a new wave of creators from India. Andhra Pradesh is taking a bold step to become a creative hub, and we are proud to be part of this journey." The MoU was officially signed by Teja Dharma, President of Tezaract USA Inc., Gautam Anand from YouTube, and Katamneni Bhaskar, Secretary of IT, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

BP Pandey Takes Charge as GRMB Chief

- Appointment comes at a critical time when the
- Polavaram-Banakacherla Link Project proposed by the AP



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

BP Pandey has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. He replaces AK Pradhan, whose tenure concludes on July 31. Pandey's appointment comes at a critical time when the Polavaram-Banakacherla Link Project (PBLP) proposed by the Andhra Pradesh government faces multiple regulatory hurdles and growing opposition. The PBLP, aimed at diverting 200 TMC of floodwaters from the Godavari to the Krishna basin, has run into trouble with the Central Environmental Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects. The committee recently refused to grant clearance, citing legal and environmental objections. Despite this setback, the Andhra Pradesh government continues to lobby for the project's approval. However, Telangana's BRS leadership has firmly opposed the plan, pointing out that it has neither received consent from the GRMB nor obtained mandatory clearance from the Central Water Commission (CWC). The project remains a major flashpoint between the two states, with Telangana accusing Andhra Pradesh of unilaterally moving forward without institutional approvals or addressing environmental concerns. As Pandey steps into his new role, resolving the inter-state water sharing dispute is expected to be among his top challenges.



Jagan Slams Alliance Govt for Broken Promises

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Former Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy lambasted the TDP-led coalition government for its failure to fulfill election promises and resorting to oppressive tactics to silence opposition voices. Speaking at a Political Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting at the YSRCP headquarters, Jagan accused the government of rampant corruption, unchecked exploitation, and a complete lack of governance, leaving the public disillusioned. Jagan highlighted the TDP's "Babu Surety, Cheating Guarantee" campaign, urging party leaders to intensify efforts to expose Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's unfulfilled promises across every village. He criticized the government for failing to deliver on schemes like financial aid for women, crop insurance, and educational support, while amassing a staggering ₹1.75 lakh crore in debt in just 14 months—52% of the state's total borrowing over five years.

The YSRCP chief condemned the government's tactics of filing false cases and arresting opposition leaders, citing examples like the arrests of Midhun Reddy, Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy, and Nandigam Suresh. He announced the upcoming launch of a dedicated app for party workers and citizens to report harassment and injustices, with evidence to be stored in a digital library for future legal action against perpetrators. Jagan directed senior leaders to strengthen the party at the grassroots level by forming village and booth-level committees, alongside wings for youth, women, students, and farmers.



Warn Villages via WhatsApp Groups: Dy CM

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

In response to rising incidents of elephant movements in Chittoor and Tirupati districts, Deputy Chief Minister and Forest Minister Pawan Kalyan has directed forest department officials to intensify surveillance in affected villages and take preventive measures. During a teleconference held on Tuesday morning with senior forest department officials, the Deputy CM reviewed reports of elephant herds damaging crops and properties. He specifically inquired about the recent incident in Chandragiri constituency, where a herd of 11 elephants, including four calves, trampled agricultural fields and orchards near the Satya Sai ST Colony close to Kalyani Dam. Forest officials briefed that drones are being used to monitor elephant movement. The minister instructed the department to adopt a proactive communication strategy using modern tools like WhatsApp groups at the village level to alert locals in advance. "Identify the likely movement paths of elephants using drone footage and issue early warnings to residents through dedicated WhatsApp groups," Pawan Kalyan told officials. He stressed that timely alerts can prevent human-elephant conflict and reduce damage to crops and property. The Deputy CM also ordered round-the-clock surveillance by forest personnel in villages prone to elephant movement. He directed District Forest Officers (DFOs) and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) offices to take full responsibility for monitoring the alerts and ensuring villagers receive timely updates. He emphasized the need for coordinated efforts to prevent elephants from entering farmlands by guiding them safely back into forest zones. "Our approach must be systematic and people-focused. Prevention and alert systems must go hand in hand," he added.

Varikapudisela Project Cleared After 70 Years: Julakanti

TPN Correspondent | Macherla

The long-awaited Varikapudisela irrigation project, which had remained a dream for over seven decades, has finally received a significant push forward with a key clearance. Macherla MLA Julakanti Brahmananda Reddy announced that the government has deposited ₹14.81 crore into the Forest Department's account to facilitate the crucial forest clearance for the project. "This is not just an irrigation scheme but a symbol of the hopes and aspirations of the people of Palnadu and Prakasam districts," said the MLA. The project, once completed, will provide irrigation water to around 1,00,114 acres across Vinukonda and Macherla constituencies in Palnadu and Yerragondapalem constituency in Prakasam district. He emphasized that this project will not only strengthen the livelihood of local farmers but also enhance agricultural productivity and contribute to the region's overall economic growth. The project had been stalled for years due to negligence and administrative delays during the previous regime. However, the present coalition government has shown firm commitment to completing such long-pending and vital infrastructure works. MLA Brahmananda Reddy expressed deep gratitude to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Nara Lokesh for their relentless efforts in realizing the dream of the Varikapudisela project.



Special Focus on Tourism Development: Minister Kandula

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh announced that the Andhra Pradesh government is taking special measures to develop key tourism destinations across the state. During his visit to Tirumala on Tuesday morning, the minister participated in the sacred Archanas Seva at Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple and performed special poojas.

As part of his visit, Minister Durgesh also visited sacred locations along the route to Papavinasanam, including the historic Sri Venugopala Swamy Temple and Japali Theertham. He interacted with pilgrims and officials, emphasizing the importance of preserving and promoting such spiritual sites as tourist attractions.

A women's volunteer group from Nidadavolu, engaged in providing free spiritual services at Tirumala, met the minister and expressed their happiness. Minister Durgesh appreciated their selfless dedication and said their service was a true reflection of devotion. He encouraged more devotees to participate in voluntary service, noting that every act of selfless service brings blessings from Lord Venkateswara. Later in the afternoon, Minister Durgesh reached Tirupati and visited the ancient Sri Parasurameswara Swamy temple at Gudimallam village in Yerpedu mandal. The minister offered special prayers to the unique Shiva Lingam and was warmly welcomed by temple authorities with traditional Vedic chants and musical honors.

The minister also visited Sri Kalyana Venkateswara Swamy temple and Sri Padmavathi Ammavari temple at Srinivasa Mangapuram, performing rituals along with his family. He discussed with officials the potential for tourism development at these heritage sites and stated that necessary steps would be taken soon. Minister Durgesh thanked the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) for their hospitality and reiterated the government's commitment to strengthening cultural, religious, and tourism infrastructure in the state.



BC Welfare Association Felicitates MLA

TPN Correspondent | Palnadu

The BC Welfare Association felicitated Narasaraopet MLA Dr. Chadlavada Aravinda Babu at the TDP office in the town on Tuesday. The event was organized under the leadership of AP BC Welfare Association State Official Representative Badugunnala Srinu. Dr. Aravinda Babu was recently appointed as a member of the newly constituted AP BC Welfare Committee, formed under the joint leadership of AP Speaker Ayyannapatrudu during the state's Legislative Assembly and Council sessions. Speaking on the occasion, Srinu congratulated the MLA and emphasized the importance of his role in the committee, being the only BC MLA from Palnadu district. He briefed Dr. Aravinda Babu on the challenges and living conditions of BC communities in the region and urged the state coalition government to include him in the upcoming Cabinet expansion for better representation of BC interests. The event saw participation from several prominent leaders including Dr. Ram Prasad, Madaka Shivaprasad, Nagarapu Guru Anjaneyulu, Sutarama Visweshwara Rao, and others, who collectively extended their support and appreciation to the MLA.

BJP Chief Vows to Implement Rayalaseema Declaration

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

On the third day of the BJP's 'Saaradhyam Yatra', Andhra Pradesh BJP President PVN Madhav reiterated the party's commitment to implementing the Rayalaseema Declaration. Addressing a party workers' meeting at the Pariyana Function Hall in Maurya Inn, Kurnool on Tuesday, Madhav emphasized the importance of hoisting the BJP flag in every village and empowering the region. He asserted that only the BJP has achieved extraordinary political success by elevating leaders like Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Narendra Modi—both from humble backgrounds—to the post of Prime Minister. He said his own rise to state BJP president from an ordinary background is possible only in the BJP. Highlighting the party's national strength, Madhav said BJP leads governments in 21 states in alliance with regional parties. He noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is



admired across the world and has enabled Indians abroad to live with pride. Madhav stated that under Modi's leadership, India has climbed from the 11th to the 4th largest economy and has become a major exporter through the 'Make in India' initiative. He criticized the previous government for diverting Panchayat funds and credited the current coalition for ensuring direct disbursement to Panchayats. Citing the Sribagh Pact, he demanded the establishment of the High Court in Kurnool and reiterated the BJP's focus on Rayalaseema's growth. Madhav said that only the NDA coalition can develop irrigation projects and industries in Rayalaseema. He pointed out that while water from Tungabhadra LCLC should reach 1.5 lakh acres, only 70,000 acres are currently irrigated. He called on the public to end misrule and bring the BJP-led coalition to power. He also promised to promote temple tourism in the region.

Gunman Carrying MLA's Bag Sparks Fresh Row

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

A fresh controversy has erupted in Kadapa after a video surfaced showing local MLA Madhavi Reddy's gunman carrying her handbag. Although the video is not recent, it has gone viral on social media platforms, especially after the recent suspension of a gunman linked to former minister Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy. The incident that triggered this chain reaction occurred when the gunman of former minister Peddireddy was seen carrying a bag and bedding during a visit to MP Mithun Reddy in Rajahmundry Central Jail. Following this, Chittoor SP suspended the gunman, stating that security personnel are not to be used for personal errands. Home Minister Anitha also supported the move, stating that such misuse of gunmen cannot be tolerated. Now, the focus has shifted to Kadapa MLA Madhavi Reddy, who was caught on camera walking out of the Assembly premises while her gunman carried her handbag. Though the video is old, it has reignited debate and is being widely circulated on social media with captions like "Rule is Rule... Rule for All." YCP cadres, opposition members, and common citizens are sharing the clip extensively, demanding that the same disciplinary action taken against Peddireddy's gunman



be applied here as well. Many social media users have raised the question of whether the Kadapa SP will take similar action and how the Home Minister will respond this time. The viral posts are not only coming from political circles but also from the general public, who are closely watching the developments and calling out double standards in enforcement. With public sentiment gaining traction, all eyes are now on the Kadapa police and the Home Department for a consistent and impartial response.

Massive land scam in Vizag land allotments

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

Speaking to the media at the YSRCP city office in Visakhapatnam, KK Raju stated that a massive land scam involving Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, allotting highly valuable lands to his associates at throwaway prices. He demanded the immediate cancellation of these allotments, claiming companies like Lulu, Satva, Kapil Group, Ursa, and ANSR are involved in shady deals with Naidu. Raju criticized the government for neglecting North Andhra's development and exploiting its valuable public lands, warning of potential unrest. Raju highlighted that lands worth thousands of crores are being handed over to Naidu's allies, with Visakhapatnam's development sidelined to favor Amaravati's real estate growth. Specifically, he pointed out the allocation of 13.83 acres worth Rs. 3,000 crore near RK Beach to Lulu Mall for just Rs. 1.50 per square foot for 99 years, questioning the minimal job creation and a quid pro quo. Similarly, lands in Yendada, valued at Rs. 100 crore per acre, were allotted to real estate firms like BVM Energy at Rs. 1.5 crore per acre, while an IT company was charged Rs. 4.5 crore per acre, indicating favoritism. Raju also questioned excessive subsidies to Satva Developers, a real estate firm, under IT policies, despite no direct job creation. In contrast, he praised the YSRCP's transparent handling of the Inorbit Mall project, which secured Rs. 133 crore in advance lease payments and is nearing completion. The project, involving 17 acres of port land, includes a mall and IT development, adhering to international standards and creating jobs.

BJP Stands with Call Money Victims

TPN Correspondent | Dharmavaram

The BJP has strongly condemned the growing menace of the call money mafia in Dharmavaram, claiming it is pushing poor and middle-class families into severe financial distress. NDA constituency in-charge Harish Babu addressed the media at the NDA office in Dharmavaram on Monday, flanked by several victims of illegal lending operations. Harish Babu directly accused former MLA Kethireddy Venkata Ramireddy of patronizing the mafia and turning Dharmavaram into a hub of illegal activities during his tenure. From land, sand, and liquor smuggling to illegal gambling, cannabis trade, and factionalism—Harish Babu alleged that all these were actively supported by Kethireddy and his associates.



He cited a key individual, Erragunta Raja, allegedly a close associate of Kethireddy, as one of the main enforcers of the call money racket, even resorting to physical assaults and property seizures from borrowers. Harish Babu promised strict action, including invoking the PD Act against anyone involved in such harassment. Highlighting a "dark system" created by Kethireddy, Harish Babu said BJP aims to

bring transparency and justice under the leadership of Minister Satyakumar Yadav. He accused Kethireddy of running a gambling den from his own residence and misusing handloom workers and officials for his gain. He added that illegal liquor from Goa was transported with official protection under Kethireddy's influence, further damaging Dharmavaram's reputation. Calling for a clean break from the past, Harish Babu assured that BJP would stand firmly with victims and restore rule of law in Dharmavaram. He emphasized that under Satyakumar's leadership, the constituency is already witnessing transparent governance and inclusive development. Party leaders Obulesh, Chandra, Nabi Rasool, and others were also present at the press meet.

Power Sector Reforms Must Be Fast-Tracked: CS

TPN Correspondent | Bapatla

Andhra Pradesh Chief Secretary K. Vijayanand directed officials to expedite the completion of electricity feeder segregation and ongoing power sector reforms in Bapatla district. Chairing a review meeting with electricity department officials at the district Collectorate on Tuesday, he emphasized the government's commitment to providing quality electricity to people. Out of 62 approved works in the dis-

trict, surveys have been completed for 59. While 16 projects are already completed and 20 are in progress, the Chief Secretary questioned why 15 projects haven't started yet. He insisted on continuous monitoring of feeder expansion and modernization works and instructed that quality standards must be strictly followed. Regarding overloaded 33 kV substations, Vijayanand noted that 9 of the 12 feeder extension works were done, but asked for an explanation on the

delay in the remaining three. Contractors were questioned for the lag. He also instructed replacement of aged power poles and those damaged in coastal regions. On smart metering, he ordered faster implementation. Of the 71,025 targeted meters, only 50,108 have been installed so far. He stressed the need for prompt resolution of power interruptions and directed officials to monitor feeder-wise complaints. Addressing power issues in areas like

Inkollu, Nizampatnam, and Bapatla, he warned against recurring complaints and stressed accountability. He said low and high voltage issues, tripping, and other problems must be resolved immediately. Highlighting renewable energy, Vijayanand called for public awareness on the benefits of solar power. Under the PM-KUSUM scheme, 8,844 solar pump sets will be provided to farmers in the district. District Collector J. Venkata Murali,



CPDCL CMD P. Pullareddy, and other senior officials attended the meeting.

Govt to Distribute 1.45 Cr Smart Ration Cards



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati
Andhra Pradesh will distribute smart ration cards to over 1.45 crore cardholders across the state from August 25 to 31, announced Civil Supplies and Consumer

Affairs Minister Nadendla Manohar. Addressing media at the Secretariat, the Minister said the distribution will be carried out in every constituency under the supervision of local MLAs, district ministers, and senior leaders including the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister. With 96.05% KYC completion, Andhra Pradesh has become the top state in India for digitizing ration cards. About 11.47 lakh beneficiaries under five and above 80 years are exempted from KYC. Out of 16.08 lakh applications for card modifications, 15.32 lakh were approved, while only 4.72% were rejected. Nearly 9.87 lakh new beneficiaries were added, bringing the total number of beneficiaries to 4.29 crore—2.68 crore under the central scheme and 1.61 crore under the state scheme. The old ration cards have been digitized into smart cards, designed like debit or credit cards with QR codes for security, transparency, and accountability. These cards do not feature political leaders but

carry the photo of the family head and names of members. Transactions using QR codes will be instantly registered at the central server. From now on, ration supplies will be distributed from 1st to 15th of every month at 26,796 ration shops statewide, operating from 8 AM to 12 PM and 4 PM to 8 PM. Special home delivery between 26th and 30th will be provided to senior citizens and differently-abled pensioners. Minister Manohar also mentioned that under the Deepam-2 scheme, the government distributed 97.59 lakh gas cylinders in the first phase and 93.46 lakh in the second phase, depositing Rs.764 crore and Rs.747 crore in beneficiaries' bank accounts respectively. A pilot project for direct benefit transfer using Punjab National Bank's digital wallet is underway in NTR and Krishna districts. Commissioner of Civil Supplies Saurabh Gaur also attended the press meet.

Cruel Conditions at Yerrabalem Goshala Raise Alarm



TPN | B Madhusudanarao
Shocking reports of animal cruelty have emerged from the Sri-krishna Ananda Ashram Goshala in Yerrabalem village, Mangalagiri mandal, prompting urgent action from district officials. The issue surfaced after Tejovanth Anupoju, a concerned citizen, submitted a formal complaint to the Animal Husbandry Department and the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), accompanied by visuals allegedly depicting the animals in distressing conditions. Acting on the complaint, officials from the Animal Husbandry and Revenue Departments, including District Animal Husbandry Joint Director Satyanarayana, Municipal Commissioner Aleem Basha, and Tahsildar Dinesh Raghavendra, conducted a surprise inspection of the goshala. The inspection revealed disturbing conditions — overcrowded shelters, poor sanitation, cattle tied in unhygienic surroundings, and exposure to harsh weather. No health monitoring was in place, and caretaking standards were found lacking. Authorities questioned the caretaker and assured immediate steps to relocate animals to nearby goshalas for treatment. Reacting to the findings, Animal Husbandry Secretary Buditi Rajashekar announced statewide inspections of all goshalas, especially unrecognized ones, to ensure compliance with AWBI norms. He emphasized that negligence would be met with strict action.

Anupoju, in his email, stated that over 95% of goshalas in Andhra Pradesh are unrecognized by AWBI, calling for urgent inspections and registration of such shelters, especially during the monsoon season. The AWBI, under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, mandates compliance with the five internationally accepted animal freedoms. These include freedom from hunger, thirst, discomfort, fear, pain, and the ability to express natural behaviour—freedoms allegedly violated at the Yerrabalem goshala. The Supreme Court, in the AWBI vs. Nagaraja case, has held that these freedoms must be upheld under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. Animal rights activists have welcomed the swift action but emphasized that systemic failures must be addressed to ensure long-term animal welfare across the state.

Drone Surveillance to Aid Canal Clean-Up

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) Commissioner Dhyanchandra HM has directed officials to use drone surveillance to identify and clear garbage accumulated in city canals. During a field visit on Tuesday morning, he inspected several areas, including Satyanarayanapuram, BRTS Road, Nageswara Rao Pantulu Road, Shivarav Street, HB Colony, Priyadarshini Colony, and Crambay Road. Commissioner Dhyanchandra emphasized that drone surveys should be conducted over Bandar, Ryves, Eluru, and Budameru canals to identify waste blockages. He instructed sanitation workers to clear these waste deposits using manual carts to ensure uninterrupted water flow. Highlighting the need for efficient sanitation, he stressed door-to-door garbage collection and timely anti-larvae operations to prevent the spread of mosqui-



to-borne diseases during the monsoon season. During his inspection of the Anna Canteen in HB Colony, the Commissioner reviewed sanitation practices and directed staff to ensure clean operations. He emphasized the need for proper disposal of waste from the canteen, uninterrupted supply of drinking and utility water, and strict maintenance of food quality and punctuality. Nodal officers were asked to supervise operations regularly. Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. K. Arjun Rao and other VMC staff accompanied the Commissioner during the visit.

Survivors Urge Active AHTUs in All Districts

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
On the occasion of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons – 2025, a powerful interaction was held at the Vijayawada Press Club by ATSEC – Andhra Pradesh Chapter, in collaboration with VIMUKTHI, HELP, RHEDS, and GUIDE voluntary organizations. Survivors of human trafficking demanded that Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) across all districts be made fully functional and survivor-focused. Mrs. Apoorva, President of VIMUKTHI, acknowledged state efforts but emphasized that Andhra Pradesh can be truly trafficking-free only if AHTUs are empowered with a clear mandate and survivor-centric operations. “AHTUs should go beyond nameplates—they



must act with full authority,” she asserted. The global theme, “Human Trafficking is Organized Crime — End the Exploitation,” framed the discussion. Speakers warned that traffickers now

exploit digital platforms and social media, making trafficking more organized and harder to detect. NCRB data (2016–2022) reveals alarming trends in AP

- cases were booked
- 2,890 victims were rescued
- Only 109 cases resulted in convictions
- Conviction rate remains just 8%

VIMUKTHI Treasurer Ms. Lakshmi stressed the urgency of action: “Survivors need justice, not delays. Trafficking must be dismantled at its roots.” Only 13 of 26 districts have notified AHTUs; many are non-functional. VIMUKTHI called for immediate establishment of AHTUs across all districts with legal powers, adequate staffing, survivor support mechanisms, and tech-driven monitoring systems. Other speakers included Ram-mohan Nimmaraju and V. Bhaskar Rao from HELP, V. Rama Krishna from RHEDS, and Sujatha from GUIDE.

‘No Bribe, No Business’: Industrialist’s Exit Slams System

TPN Correspondent | NTR District
A major controversy has erupted in Penuganchiprolu mandal of NTR district as serious bribery allegations surface against a local government official. A prominent industrialist, Venigalla Suresh Kumar, Chairman of Paramount Group, has publicly accused the official of demanding a bribe of ₹8 lakh to allow operations of his newly set-up industrial unit. The incident gained traction after Suresh Kumar claimed he was forced to halt industrial activities due to the officer's refusal to process clearances without bribe. Despite Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's efforts in Singapore to attract industries to Andhra Pradesh,

this local-level corruption has sent shockwaves through the business community. In a bold move, Suresh Kumar is expected to hold a press conference soon, announcing the closure of his company's local operations and potential relocation to Hyderabad. He criticized the officer for ignoring even the directives of the local MLA, operating without accountability and in open defiance of government policies aimed at industrial development. The industrialist, known for adopting 27 families under the P4 initiative and providing employment to hundreds, expressed frustration over continued harassment. Despite having all necessary permissions, the alleged demand for bribes



highlights a deeper rot within the local administrative setup. The public outrage is growing as residents question how a government official can openly demand bribes while political and administrative leaders remain silent. With no action taken so far against the accused official,

the integrity of the local governance stands questioned. This incident poses a significant challenge to the state's image as an industry-friendly destination and raises urgent concerns over transparency and ease of doing business in semi-rural Andhra Pradesh.

‘Loyola’ Hosts Blood Donation Camp

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Andhra Loyola College, Vijayawada, commemorated the 469th anniversary of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, by organizing a blood donation camp on Tuesday. The camp was held in collaboration with the National Service Scheme (NSS) and the Red Cross Society. The event was inaugurated by NTR District Red Cross Society Vice Chairman Dr. Velaga Joshi, Secretary E. Chittibabu, College Principal Rev. Fr. Dr. S. Milkior, and Rector Dr. Fr. P. R. John. Dr. Joshi lauded the college for consistently hosting this noble ini-

tiative for the past 18 years and expressed hope for more such socially impactful programs in the future. Speaking on the occasion, Principal Fr. Milkior said, “Anyone can donate food, but donating blood comes from a pure heart. We are proud of our students who have such compassion.” A total of 72 students came forward to donate blood during the camp. NSS Coordinators Dr. S. Dayakar, Dr. K. Prakash, Dr. K. Shekhar, Dr. R. John, Dr. D. Bhaskar, Dr. N. Satyanarayana, and numerous NSS volunteers actively participated in the program.



Tobacco Farmers Protest Over Price Crash

Middlemen exploit situation as companies fail to honour agreements

TPN | S Sudarsan
Tobacco farmers in the un-divided Kurnool district have taken to agitation after facing a massive price shock, as several companies that promised to purchase tobacco at fair rates have now backed out. The situation has pushed farmers into deep distress, with many blaming the unchecked intervention of middlemen for worsening their plight. The problem began when companies lured farmers with promises of good returns, encouraging them to cultivate tobacco extensively. Motivated by these claims, farmers not only used their own land but even leased land to grow the crop. Fortunately, the yield turned out well, and the farmers an-

ticipated decent profits. But their hopes were dashed when companies, except ITC, refused to buy tobacco at the agreed prices. Now, over 6,000 quintals of tobacco remain stored in villages across the district. Middlemen have seized this opportunity, approaching farmers directly and making purchases at rates ranging between ₹800 and ₹5,000 per quintal. These agents are demanding ₹3,200 per quintal from farmers, exploiting the lack of an official procurement mechanism. So far, only ITC has purchased tobacco as per its earlier agreement. However, companies like Alliance, Deccan, and GPI have allegedly failed to fulfil their promises. Farmers are urging



the state government to intervene immediately and begin direct procurement. Tobacco remains the primary livelihood for thousands in this region. However, cultivation this season proved costly, especially after cyclone-related damage. Last year, the price was as high as ₹15,000 per

quintal. This year, prices have plummeted to between ₹5,000 and ₹6,000, with many farmers not even recovering their investments. Farmers in mandals such as Nandikotkur, Orvakallu, Kallur, and Panyam cultivated the crop on a large scale after being assured of favourable

returns. On average, each acre yielded 14 to 15 quintals. The region, suitable for rainfed farming, yielded around 2,150 kg per hectare. But instead of seeing profits, farmers feel cheated. “We cultivated the crop at great expense. We have two lorries full of tobacco. But we are being offered only ₹2,000 per quintal now. We spent at least ₹50,000 per acre. The government must respond,” said Venkatasubbayya from Lakshmi-puram, voicing the frustration shared by many. The Andhra Pradesh Rythu Sangam has also expressed serious concern. Its district general secretary, G Ramakrishna, pointed out, “Tobacco remains unsold in many mandals like Emmiganur, Veldurthi, Orvakallu, Kallur,

and Kurnool. Middlemen are buying at whatever rate suits them and making profits. A government purchase centre should be set up without delay.” District Agriculture Officer Varalakshmi confirmed that the department has sent proposals to the government. “We’ve requested permission to establish a tobacco purchasing centre. Through Markfed, we can collect receipts from the farmers and start procurement as soon as we receive government approval,” she assured. With every passing day, farmers are growing more restless. They demand immediate steps from the government to protect them from further losses and ensure that procurement happens transparently and fairly.

30 King Cobra Hatchlings Freed in Eastern Ghats

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

In a landmark conservation initiative, the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department (Visakhapatnam Circle), in collaboration with the Eastern Ghats Wildlife Society (EGWS) and local communities, successfully released 30 King Cobra hatchlings into their natural habitat in the Eastern Ghats. This is Andhra Pradesh’s first community-based King Cobra nest conservation effort. The nesting site was located on community land in Gangavaram village and protected with the active cooperation of villagers. Forest officials and EGWS teams monitored the nest for over a month before releasing the hatchlings in the forests of the Paderu Division near Valabu village in Alluri Sitarama Raju (ASR) District. Deputy Chief Minister Sri Konidela Pawan Kalyan praised the effort, highlighting the power of inclusive conservation partnerships. “This is a transformative success that shows how local communities and government can work together to protect endangered species,” he said. Principal Chief Conservator of For-



ests Sri A.K. Naik, said the initiative is a model for combining community stewardship with scientific conservation. Chief Wildlife Warden Sri S.S. Sridhar, emphasized the ecological role of King Cobras and congratulated frontline staff and villagers for their commitment. EGWS, which played a crucial role in community mobilization and fieldwork, thanked the Forest Department and the villagers for their enthusiastic support. As a next step, the Forest Department has proposed a 2,400-hectare area in Sankaram Reserve Land of Paderu Division as a dedicated King Cobra Sanctuary—the world’s first. If approved, it will provide long-term protection to the species and promote eco-awareness and research in the Eastern Ghats.

Serial Burglar Arrested: Rs. 27 Lakh Gold Recovered

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

Acting on the orders of Tirupati District SP V. Harshavardhan Raju, the Srikalahasti One Town Police arrested a notorious burglar involved in a series of house break-ins across multiple police station limits. The police recovered 248.7 grams of gold ornaments worth around ₹27 lakh and three motorcycles from his possession. The accused, Meeduri Sunil (29), a resident of Venkateswara Puram, Nellore Town, was apprehended on Monday near Penna River bridge. He has a long history of property offences and has been previously jailed in connection with 28 cases registered at Srikalahasti, Nellore, Kavali, Renigunta, Badvel, Naidupeta and other police stations. A DC sheet has also been opened against him at Nellore Town PS-2. Sunil was addicted to vices and used to target locked houses at night. He would break into homes

and steal gold, silver, cash, and valuables to finance his lavish lifestyle and addictions. In recent weeks, there was a rise in house burglary cases in Srikalahasti, Thottambedu, BN Kandriga, Naidupeta, and Gudur areas. Responding to the situation, the district SP formed special teams across the region. On July 28, based on credible inputs, Srikalahasti One Town Police raided Sunil’s residence and recovered the stolen items. The operation was led by CI D. Gopi, SI Ramajaneyulu, and staff including PCs J. Hemadri, E. Shankarayya, G. Arun Kumar, K. Bharat, T. Babu, K. Bala Krishna, E. Gangadhar, and K. Chatterjee. SP Harshavardhan Raju commended the team’s efforts and announced rewards. Additional SP (Crimes) Nagabhushanam and Srikalahasti SDPO K. Narasimhmoorthy were present during the press meet.

MLA Urges Eco-Tourism and Power Reforms

TPN Correspondent | Bapatla

MLA Narendra Verma has called for a focused development initiative on eco-tourism in Bapatla, urging the state government to explore the potential from Pandurangapuram to the coastal ports. During a review visit by State Chief Secretary K.S. Jawahar Reddy to Bapatla on Tuesday, the MLA submitted a detailed petition highlighting key development concerns in the constituency. A major focus of Verma’s appeal was the establishment of transformers in several areas to ensure uninterrupted power supply to farmers. He specifically cited power disruptions in the Kalalapalem area due to the lack of proper transformer infrastructure, af-



fecting agricultural activities. He emphasized the potential of the Suryalanka Tourism Centre in the region and requested that the forest department take proactive steps in providing electricity to over 800 acres

of irrigated land in nearby coastal villages. Verma noted that this could significantly boost tourism and allied economic activity in the constituency. The MLA also pointed out that the state government had already shown commitment by allocating ₹97 crore towards developmental activities in the area. In response, Chief Secretary Vijayanand assured that the concerns raised would be addressed positively and promised active support for Bapatla’s overall development. Verma’s proposal aligns with broader state goals of sustainable development, blending tourism, agriculture, and infrastructure progress in a single roadmap.

Illegal Moneylenders Face Crackdown: SP



TPN Correspondent | Dharamavaram
In the wake of a violent assault by illegal moneylenders in Sri Sathya Sai district, the police department has vowed strict legal action against those

charging exorbitant interest rates and harassing the public. District Superintendent of Police V. Ratna, IPS, expressed serious concern over the recent incident in Dharamavaram town, where private moneylenders allegedly broke into the home of two individuals—Bharati and Ramana—and physically attacked their family. The SP confirmed that cases have been registered against the accused under various sections at the Dharamavaram Two Town Police Station. He further revealed that rowdy sheets are being opened on the culprits and that a special police team under DSP Hemant Kumar has been deployed to track down the absconding accused.

SP Ratna emphasized that lending operations without proper authorization are illegal and warned of severe legal consequences for those exploiting vulnerable citizens under the guise of private financing. He added that the district police are actively identifying and monitoring such exploitative practices, which have become widespread in the region. The SP urged victims of high-interest moneylenders to come forward and report their grievances without fear. He assured them that the police are committed to protecting citizens from such financial exploitation and that immediate action will be taken upon receiving complaints.

ISRO Chairman Offers Prayers



TPN Correspondent | Sullurupeta
ISRO Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan visited the famous Sri Chengalamma Parameswari temple in Sul-

lurupeta on Tuesday and performed special prayers seeking divine blessings for the success of the prestigious GSLV-F16 launch mission. Upon arrival at the temple, Dr. Narayanan was given a ceremonial welcome by temple authorities. Assistant Commissioner and Executive Officer B. Prasanna-lakshmi formally received him with temple honours. Under the guidance of Vedic scholars, special rituals and

Harati were offered to the deity. The priests also bestowed Vedic blessings upon Dr. Narayanan, praying for the smooth and successful completion of the upcoming GSLV-F16 space launch. The visit highlighted the spiritual traditions followed by ISRO officials ahead of major space missions. Locals and devotees expressed pride and joy in hosting the country’s top space scientist at the historic temple.

Collector Reviews RTC Depot Operations

TPN Correspondent | Dharmavaram

District Collector T.S. Chetan conducted a surprise inspection of the RTC bus stand in Dharmavaram on Tuesday to review the facilities provided to passengers. Speaking on the occasion, he emphasized that the government’s goal is to offer better and more efficient

services to the public. During the inspection, the Collector reviewed the cleanliness of the premises, drinking water facilities, ticket counters, cycle stand, and maintenance of toilets. He issued instructions and necessary directions to the officials to address any shortcomings. He specifically ordered that the

bus stand be kept clean at all times and advised officers to act swiftly on identified issues. The Collector interacted directly with passengers, inquiring whether buses were running on time, if water was available daily, and whether toilets were maintained hygienically. Passengers responded positively, stating that the facilities were

satisfactory. He directed that special amenities be provided for the elderly, women, and differently-abled passengers. The Collector also engaged with a passenger to demonstrate how to give feedback using the government-installed scanner system. The feedback was submitted in real-time and shown to the Col-

lector. Later, he visited the RTC depot and reviewed the mileage of buses and offered suggestions for improved depot management.

The RDVO Mahesh, Tahsildar Suresh Babu, Depot In-charge Sikindar, and Information Department Assistant Director Venu Gopal Reddy were present during the inspection.



Between Promise and Paralysis

Cracks in Andhra Pradesh’s Battle Against Human Trafficking

As the world marks the ‘World Day Against Trafficking in Persons’ on July 30, the grim reality of human trafficking in Andhra Pradesh remains an indictment of our law enforcement and justice system. Despite a strong legal framework and the existence of Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs), the state continues to struggle with fragmented implementation, poor conviction rates, and inadequate survivor support.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), between 2016 and 2022, Andhra Pradesh registered 1,396 cases under IPC provisions, leading to the rescue of 2,119 victims. Under the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act (ITPA), another 594 cases were filed, rescuing 771 individuals. Yet justice rarely follows. Out of the total cases, 887 ended in acquittals, with only 109 convictions, leaving the conviction rate at a dismal 8%.

While India has mandated every state to establish AHTUs, only 13 of Andhra Pradesh’s 26 districts have officially notified these specialized units. Even where they exist, AHTUs function under Women Police Stations without independent authority, dedicated personnel, or proper infrastructure. A field study across four districts paints a disturbing picture — understaffed teams, lack of vehicles, poor internet connectivity, and absence of basic office facilities severely limit their ability to act promptly.

Adding to the crisis is the stark fact that none of the state’s AHTUs have registered a single FIR to date, despite having police station status. Guidelines from the Ministry of Home Affairs clearly state that all trafficking cases within an AHTU’s jurisdiction must be transferred to it for investigation, charge-sheet filing, and court



Ram Mohan Nimmaraju
Secretary
HELP Organisation

Immediate steps must include:

- *Granting AHTUs full authority to register and investigate trafficking cases*
- *Ensuring dedicated staff, vehicles, and digital infrastructure for all units.*
- *Providing specialized, survivor-focused training to officers.*
- *Streamlining victim compensation schemes for timely relief.*
- *Building a statewide digital platform for real-time case tracking and inter-district coordination.*

While the Crime Investigation Department (CID) monitors AHTUs through a Management Information System (MIS) portal and periodic reviews, utilization of central funds (₹1.6 crore allocated in FY 2020–21 and 2021–22) for strengthening these units remains unclear, raising concerns about accountability and political will.

Human trafficking is not a routine crime; it is a gross violation of human rights, targeting the most vulnerable and destroying lives. If Andhra Pradesh is serious about combating this organized crime, half measures won’t suffice.

Every rescued victim deserves more than a hollow promise of justice. Empowering AHTUs is not a procedural necessity, it is a moral imperative. If the state continues to falter, it risks not just failing survivors but eroding the very foundation of justice it claims to uphold.

follow-up. In practice, local police stations retain control, sidelining AHTUs and undermining their very purpose.

The systemic gaps extend further:

Jurisdictional ambiguity: AHTUs are often unaware of trafficking cases in their districts, missing critical rescue operations and follow-up.

Lack of structured training: Officers rarely receive specialized instruction on survivor-centred investigations or trauma-sensitive approaches. Most victims, young women aged 15–25 lured by false promises of jobs or marriage, face inadequate emotional, medical, and legal support.

Neglected victim compensation: Though the state offers up to ₹1 lakh

under its compensation scheme, very few survivors access it due to poor awareness and procedural delays. Interim relief during investigations is almost never provided.

Poor coordination: No centralized database exists to track cases or share intelligence between districts and across state borders, leaving traffickers free to exploit jurisdictional loopholes.

India’s Census Crisis

Identity, a Political Weapon



India, the world’s most populous nation, doesn’t actually know how many people it has. With the last census conducted in 2011 and no nationwide update since, the government lacks accurate data on its population’s size, distribution, and even citizenship. This absence of demographic clarity has become a critical political issue, especially in Bihar—home to 130 million people and plagued by historical underdevelopment and poor record-keeping. In June 2025, the Election Commission of India announced it would revise Bihar’s voter rolls ahead of the state elections. This triggered immediate backlash from opposition parties, who warned that as many as 30 million voters—primarily from marginalized communities—could be disenfranchised. They argue the revision could tilt the electoral balance unfairly in favor of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has maintained strong support in Bihar despite slipping in other key states like Uttar Pradesh. Bihar’s weak administrative infrastructure exacerbates the issue. For decades, birth and death registrations remained minimal. For instance, only 3.7% of births in Bihar were officially recorded around the year 2000. Such gaps have made it

nearly impossible for many citizens—especially migrants and the rural poor—to access valid documents. During the COVID-19 lockdown, the government was caught off-guard by the number of internal migrants, many of whom returned home to Bihar on foot, highlighting the administration’s demographic blindness. Now, stringent documentation requirements—such as needing birth certificates or proving parental Indian birth—pose further hurdles, particularly for those without formal paperwork. The concern is not just about voting rights but about existence itself. Without proof of identity, many Indians risk being excluded from welfare, employment, and recognition. The BJP defends the voter verification as a way to remove “infiltrators.” The opposition fears it’s a targeted attempt to suppress Muslim and underprivileged voters. Comparisons are drawn to U.S. voter ID laws, which critics say disproportionately affect minority groups. India’s leaders must acknowledge the consequences of not conducting a census. Instead of exploiting the void, they must urgently work to fix it—starting by ensuring every citizen’s right to vote is protected.

Draw Feels Like Victory

India’s Grit Shines at Old Trafford



In Test cricket, not all draws are equal—and Team India’s remarkable escape at Old Trafford against England proves just that. Despite technically ending in a draw, the fourth Test felt like a monumental win for India, and a stinging blow to England. With Brendon McCullum’s aggressive ‘Bazball’ era yielding only two draws in 40 Tests—both at Old Trafford—this match was a rare occasion when England failed to push through.

India were staring at a crushing defeat after conceding a 311-run lead in the first innings and slipping to 0/2 early in their second. But what followed was nothing short of a miracle. With England fielding a ferocious attack led by Jofra Archer and Chris Woakes, India’s resistance was led by KL Rahul, Shubman Gill, Ravindra Jadeja, and Washington Sundar. Batting through pressure, pace, and hostile conditions, they forced England to settle for the handshake.

KL Rahul, whose transformation as a Test opener has been one of the series’ biggest sto-

ries, anchored India with poise and adaptability. With over 500 runs in the series so far—including two centuries—Rahul seems to have truly found his groove. Shubman Gill, the young captain, continues to shine with the bat and shows maturity beyond his years in juggling leadership and form.

Ravindra Jadeja, often underappreciated, was brilliant with the bat, scoring his second century of the tour and underlining his value as an all-rounder, even when his bowling returns were modest. Washington Sundar also proved his growing stature, playing with patience and composure to notch up his maiden Test ton.

This gritty fightback showed India’s bench strength and mental resilience in the post-Kohli, Rohit, and Pujara era. With the series finale starting July 31, India now carries priceless momentum. While the scoreboard says “draw,” the psychological win at Old Trafford might just be the turning point of the series. Ask Ben Stokes—it hurt more than a loss.

Sonia Gandhi slams PM Modi for ‘shameful silence’ over Gaza crisis

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Congress parliamentary party chairperson Sonia Gandhi sharply condemned Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government on July 29, 2025, for what she described as a “shameful silence” over the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza. In a detailed article published in the Hindi daily Dainik Jagran, Gandhi accused the Modi government of being a “mute spectator” to what she called an “affront to humanity” and a “cowardly betrayal” of India’s constitutional values.

Gandhi labeled Israel’s military actions in Gaza as a “genocide” and denounced the devastating aerial bombardments that have destroyed most residential buildings, hospitals, and essential infrastructure, leading to immense civilian casualties—including over 55,000 Palestinians killed, among them 17,000 children since October 2023. She also highlighted the Israeli military blockade that has cut off vital supplies of food, fuel, and medicine, calling the resultant starvation a “crime against humanity.”

While Gandhi condemned Hamas’ brutal attacks on Israeli civilians and the ongoing hostage situation, she emphasized that these actions cannot justify Israel’s disproportionate military response, which



she described as criminal and ethnically cleansing the Gaza Strip.

Pointing to international bodies, Gandhi lamented the failure of the United Nations Security Council and the International Court of Justice to enforce resolutions calling for a ceasefire and humanitarian aid. She praised countries like South Africa, Brazil, France, Britain, and Canada for their decisive actions against Israel’s aggression and noted growing protests within Israel itself.

Sonia Gandhi urged PM Modi to break his

silence and uphold India’s proud legacy as a global advocate for justice, peace, and anti-colonialism. She reminded that India historically recognized the Palestine Liberation Organisation in 1974 and the State of Palestine in 1988.

“The Global South is looking to India for leadership on this grave humanitarian issue,” Gandhi asserted, calling on the government to speak “clearly, boldly and forthrightly” and live up to the nation’s constitutional and moral obligations amid one of the worst crises of our time.



Govt Clueless About What Deterrence Means: Rahul Gandhi

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi launched a scathing attack on the central government in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, criticising its handling of Operation Sindoor—India’s military response to the Pahalgam terror attack. He accused the Centre of lacking political will and compromising the armed forces’ operational freedom.

Gandhi said the government had tied the hands of the military by instructing them not to target Pakistani military infrastructure, leading to operational setbacks. He cited Defence Minister Rajnath Singh’s own statement that the government informed Pakistan at 1.35 am on May 7 that only non-military targets had been hit and that India did not want escalation.

“You told Pakistan you had no political will to fight. It’s like saying: ‘We slapped you once, but won’t do it again,’” Gandhi remarked, adding that this undermined India’s deterrence. He claimed India’s own defence attaché in Indonesia confirmed that aircraft losses occurred because pilots were restricted from neutralising Pakistan’s air defences.

Gandhi also took issue with Singh’s comparison of Operation Sindoor to the 1971 war, stressing that the political leadership during Indira Gandhi’s era showed far more resolve. He questioned why PM Modi had not publicly countered US President Donald Trump’s repeated claims of brokering a ceasefire.

Highlighting diplomatic concerns, Gandhi said no country condemned Pakistan after the Pahalgam attack and criticised the government for empowering terrorists by declaring every terror act as an act of war. “This government is clueless about what deterrence means,” he concluded.

PRALAY Missile Tests Successful



TPN Correspondent | Odisha

India’s defence capabilities received a boost as the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted two consecutive flight tests of the indigenously developed ‘Pralay’ missile from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast on July 28 and 29, 2025.

The trials were aimed at validating the missile’s maximum and minimum range. Both tests achieved pinpoint accuracy and met all objectives, with sub-

systems performing as expected. Pralay is a solid-propellant, quasi-ballistic missile equipped with state-of-the-art navigation and capable of carrying multiple warheads against various targets. It was developed by DRDO’s Research Centre Imarat along with other labs and industry partners like Bharat Dynamics Limited and Bharat Electronics Limited. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated the teams, calling it a technological boost for the Armed Forces. DRDO Chairman Dr Samir V Kamat said the tests pave the way for its induction.

Nimisha Priya’s Death Sentence Stands, MEA Denies Reprieve Reports



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on July 29, 2025, officially denied reports claiming that the death sentence of Indian nurse Nimisha Priya in Yemen had been revoked. These reports emerged after the office of the Indian Grand Mufti alleged that her death sentence, which had been temporarily suspended, was completely canceled following a high-level meeting in Sanaa.

Nimisha Priya, a 38-year-old nurse from Palakkad district in Kerala, moved to Yemen in 2008 seeking better opportunities. She entered into a business partnership with a Yemeni citizen, Talal Abdo Mahdi, with whom she jointly ran a clinic in the capital, Sanaa. However, the relationship deteriorated after Mahdi claimed to be her husband and subjected her to repeated abuse, confiscating her passport to prevent her from returning to India.

In a desperate attempt to escape, Nimisha Priya tried to sedate Mahdi in 2017. Unfortunately, Mahdi died of a suspected drug overdose. Nimisha was arrested in 2018 and later sentenced to death by a Yemeni court in 2020.

Her execution, initially scheduled for July 16, 2025, was postponed following intervention by the Indian Grand Mufti, Kanthapuram AP Aboobacker Musliyar. The Grand Mufti sought help from Sufi leader Sheikh Habib Umar bin Hafiz, who negotiated with Mahdi’s family regarding the blood money and a possible pardon.

Despite these efforts, the MEA has clarified that no official reprieve has been granted, and Nimisha Priya’s death sentence remains in place as the legal and diplomatic efforts continue.



US Team to Visit India On August 25 for Trade Talks

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

A high-level delegation from the United States is set to visit India on August 25 for the sixth round of negotiations on the proposed bilateral trade agreement, a senior official confirmed on Tuesday. The visit comes as both sides race against time to secure an interim trade deal before the critical August 1 deadline. Last week, the fifth round of talks concluded in Washington, with deliberations led by India’s chief negotiator and Special Secretary in the Department of Commerce Rajesh Agrawal and Assistant US Trade Representative for South and Central Asia Brendan Lynch. The discussions are viewed as crucial, given that August 1 marks the end of the temporary suspension of tariffs imposed by former US President Donald Trump.

These tariffs — including a 26% levy on several Indian products — were initially suspended for 90 days starting April 2, and later extended until August 1 to allow room for trade negotiations with multiple countries, including India.

The US delegation’s upcoming visit aims to iron out outstanding issues, particularly those related to tariffs and market access. India is pressing for the removal of the 26% additional tariff and wants relaxation of duties on key sectors like steel, aluminium (50%), and automobiles (25%). In return, India is pushing for concessions for its labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, gems and jewellery, leather goods, plastics, chemicals, and agricultural exports like shrimp, oil seeds, grapes, and bananas.

However, contentious issues remain. The US has been demanding duty cuts on certain industrial goods, electric vehicles, wines, petrochemicals, and agricultural products including apples, tree nuts, dairy, and genetically modified crops. India has strongly resisted any duty concessions in the dairy sector, which would be a first if granted, citing domestic sensitivities and opposition from farmer associations.

Meanwhile, trade between the two nations continues to grow. India’s merchandise exports to the US surged 22.8% to USD 25.51 billion in the April–June quarter of the current financial year, while imports from the US rose 11.68% to USD 12.86 billion — underscoring the importance of a stable and mutually beneficial trade pact.

Trump Not Seeking Summit With Xi but May Visit China on Invitation

TPN Correspondent | Washington

U.S. President Donald Trump announced on July 29, 2025, that he is not actively seeking a summit with Chinese President Xi Jinping but is open to visiting China if formally invited by Xi. Speaking on Truth Social, Trump said, "I may go to China, but it would only be at the invitation of President Xi, which has been extended. Otherwise, no interest!"

According to sources previously speaking to Reuters, aides to both leaders have discussed a possible meeting during Trump's planned trip to Asia later this year. Such a visit would mark the first in-person encounter between Trump and Xi since Trump's second term as U.S. president. The meeting would occur amid ongoing trade



and security tensions between the two global powers.

Although no final decision has been made, discussions include the possibility of Trump stopping in China around the time

of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, scheduled to be held in South Korea, or engaging in talks on the sidelines of the summit from October 30 to November 1.

Meanwhile, the third round of U.S.-China trade negotiations taking place this week in Stockholm is viewed by analysts as a potential stepping stone toward a future leaders' summit in the autumn. These talks come at a critical time when both sides are weighing the economic and geopolitical costs of escalating tariffs and export controls.

Experts warn that any renewed trade hostilities could further destabilize the already fragile relationship between the U.S. and China, with wide-ranging implications for global markets and international diplomacy.

While Trump's openness to a visit signals a possible thaw, the details remain uncertain as both administrations continue to navigate complex issues surrounding trade, security, and diplomatic engagement.



Netherlands Bans Israeli Ministers Over Gaza War as EU Considers Sanctions

TPN Correspondent | Netherland

The Netherlands has become the first European country to ban two far-right Israeli ministers from entering its territory, citing their support for the ongoing Gaza conflict. The ban targets National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir and Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, both key members of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition, known for their backing of Jewish settlements and hardline policies towards Gaza.

Dutch Foreign Minister Caspar Veldkamp informed lawmakers of the decision in a letter on Monday, emphasizing the urgency of halting the war in Gaza. This move comes amid rising international concern over the worsening humanitarian crisis in the region.

While the Netherlands leads with an entry ban, other countries have already imposed financial sanctions on Ben-Gvir and Smotrich. The UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and Norway took similar measures last month, targeting the ministers for their controversial roles and statements, including support for the so-called "voluntary emigration" of Palestinians from Gaza.

In response, Israel's Foreign Ministry summoned the Dutch ambassador to protest the ban, labeling it "unacceptable." The diplomatic tension underscores growing friction between Israel and parts of the international community over Gaza.

Meanwhile, the European Union is contemplating additional punitive measures. The European Commission has proposed partially suspending Israel's participation in a €900 million science and technology program, especially limiting access to its €200 million annual investment arm, which supports projects in cybersecurity, drones, and artificial intelligence.

Officials stressed that the suspension would be "targeted and reversible," sparing projects with purely civilian applications. The Commission justified the move by stating Israel's military actions in Gaza breached the terms of a bilateral agreement with the EU.

As international pressure mounts, these developments signal increasing European willingness to hold Israeli officials accountable over the Gaza war.

Russia's Aeroflot cancels over 100 flights after cyberattack cripples IT systems

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Russia's national airline Aeroflot was forced to cancel more than 100 flights and delay several others after a major cyberattack crippled its IT infrastructure on Monday, the country's Prosecutor's Office confirmed. The incident caused chaos at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport, Aeroflot's primary hub, leaving hundreds of passengers stranded. The cyberattack also affected Aeroflot's subsidiaries Rossiya and Pobeda, with disruptions extending to both domestic and limited international flights, including services to Belarus, Armenia, and Uzbekistan.



for large public service companies in Russia.

Ukrainian hacker group Silent Crow and Belarusian activist group Belarus Cyber-Partisans claimed responsibility for the attack. Both groups, known for targeting pro-government infrastructure, alleged they had maintained unauthorized access to Aeroflot's network for over a year.

The hackers claimed to have stolen sensitive internal data, including audio recordings of calls, employee surveillance footage, and intercepted communications. They asserted that the systems had been destroyed beyond quick

recovery and that restoring the damage could cost Aeroflot tens of millions of dollars.

Screenshots purportedly showing Aeroflot's internal systems were shared by the Silent Crow group on Telegram. The group warned that leaked data could be released in the coming days and made a provocative statement: "The personal data of all Russians who have ever flown with Aeroflot have now also gone on a trip – albeit without luggage." This attack comes amid ongoing aviation disruptions in Russia, where airports have also faced drone-related security concerns throughout the summer.

Netanyahu and Putin Discuss Iran Amid Rising Tensions Over Nuclear Talks

TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

Tel Aviv, July 29, 2025 (ANI): Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held a crucial phone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin to discuss Iran, amid escalating regional tensions surrounding Iran's nuclear ambitions and violence in Syria, the Israeli Prime Minister's Office confirmed on Tuesday.

In a post on social media platform X, the Prime Minister's official handle stated, "Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke with Russian President Vladimir Putin. The conversation between the two leaders was on the issue of Iran."



According to The Times of Israel, the call also addressed wider developments in West Asia, with particular focus on Iran's nuclear program and the recent sectarian violence in Syria. The Kremlin later emphasized Putin's call for maintaining Syria's sovereignty and territorial integrity, referencing recent Israeli airstrikes in Sweida and Damascus. These attacks followed deadly unrest in the Druze-majority Sweida province, where clashes erupted between Druze fighters and Sunni Bedouin tribes on July 13.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported over 1,400 people—mostly Druze—were killed in the violence, and more than 250 civilians were summarily executed by Syrian government forces, which had intervened on the side of the Bedouin.

Putin urged political stability through the protection of all ethnic and religious groups and reiterated Russia's ongoing military involvement in Syria, despite its war in Ukraine. Russia continues to back Syria's Assad regime, which collapsed in December 2024, leading to Bashar al-Assad's relocation to Moscow.

The Russian President reportedly offered to mediate stalled talks on Iran's nuclear program. This follows a recent 12-day conflict sparked by Israeli strikes on Iranian military and nuclear sites. While aligned with Tehran, Moscow has maintained neutrality during Israeli and U.S. strikes, possibly to preserve its diplomatic ties with Israel.

Over 1.5 million Afghans returned from Iran, Pakistan in 2025: UN

TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

More than 1.5 million Afghan migrants have returned to Afghanistan since the beginning of 2025, according to a report by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), as reported by Tolo News. The data shows a massive surge in returns from neighboring countries, particularly Iran and Pakistan.

As of July 19, OCHA reported that 1,541,000 Afghans had returned this year — with 1,201,000 coming from Iran and 340,000 from Pakistan. While the number of returnees from Iran remained high, the daily deportation rate appeared to be declining in mid-July, down to around 9,000 per day. OCHA attributed this decrease to ongoing diplomatic talks between Afghan authorities and the Iranian government.

Despite the drop, the scale of returns remains staggering. On July 22 alone, 11,605 individuals returned to Afghanistan, according to the Islamic Emirate's Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation. Of these, 1,811 were successfully relocated to their home provinces. Over the previous two days, 19,002 migrants had arrived from both Iran and Pakistan — through a mix of voluntary returns and forced deportations.

Ali Reza Karimi, a migrants' rights advocate, raised concerns about the humanitarian impact of mass deportations. "Between 10,000 to 20,000 Afghans are being forcibly deported from Iran daily. The Afghan gov-



ernment must establish reception centers, offer emergency aid, and create short-term jobs to support these returnees," he urged.

Many deportees shared stories of hardship. "We have no shelter in Afghanistan," said Abdul Wadood, recently deported from Iran. "We need support from the Islamic Emirate."

A young returnee named Jalal appealed for help with education: "My wish is to go to school. I ask the government to help me study."

In response, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees has called for an end to forced deportations and proposed a trilateral meeting involving Iran, Afghanistan, and UNHCR to address the crisis.

Domestic Markets Rebound Strongly Despite US-India Trade Deal Uncertainty

The series of losses has come to an end. The domestic stock markets were buoyed on Tuesday by positive signals from Asian markets. Benchmark and sectoral indices gained heavily. It is noteworthy that the indices rose despite the ongoing uncertainty over the US-India trade deal. Investors' preference for value investing in already down stocks contributed to this. Overall, the Nifty gained 140 points and the Sensex gained 446 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 80,891 in the previous session, opened at 80,620 on Tuesday. It touched an intraday low of 80,575. It reached an intraday high of 81,429. It finally closed at 81,337 with a gain of 446 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,609, touched a low of 24,598 and a high of 24,847. It closed at 24,821, up 140 points. The Nifty Bank rose 137 points to settle at 56,222.

In the Nifty50, 36 companies gained and 14 lost. Jio Finance, Larsen & Turbo, Reliance Industries, Asian Paints, Eicher Motors were the top gainers. SBI Life Insurance, Axis Bank, TCS, HDFC Life Insurance, Titan, ITC were the biggest losers. Today, realty, pharma, healthcare, infra, energy, oil, metal, manufacturing, auto, media, PSE indices rose. The defense index rose slightly.

Market breadth favored buyers on the NSE today. Out of a total of 3050 stocks traded, 1934 gained and 1025 lost. 50 stocks touched their 52-week highs and 56 touched their 52-week lows. The upper circuit was 77 and the lower circuit was 71.

The rupee weakened by 17 paise to settle at 86.82 against the dollar. Green Ply Industries' Q1 profit fell 14.2% to Rs. 28.5 crore from Rs. 33.2 crore. Heidelberg Cement's net profit rose 20.5% to Rs. 40 crore from Rs. 48.2 crore. CLSA has given an Outperform rating to BEL with a target price of Rs 400. Deepak Fertilizer's net profit increased by 24.4% to Rs 243 crore from Rs 195 crore. J Kumar Infra Projects' net profit increased by 18.74% to Rs 103 crore from Rs 87 crore. Welspun Corp's net profit increased by 41% to Rs 350 crore from Rs 248 crore. NSE's net profit increased



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by 10% and revenue by 7%. Shanti Gold International IPO received a response of 43.39 times by noon on the third day. Citi maintained a Sell rating on IndusInd Bank with a target price of Rs 765. Asian Paints' net profit decreased by 6% to Rs 1100 crore. 80 lakh shares changed hands in a block deal in Canara Bank. Torrent Pharma has been given a buy rating by Citi, raising its target to Rs 4380 crore.

Stock Recommendations

Coromandel: These shares are consolidating at the highest levels. The trend is bullish. Momentum and relative strength are increasing. Investors should take positions above Rs. 2450 in this counter, which closed at Rs. 2495 on Monday.



Jio Financial: These shares, which have been in an uptrend for three months, are currently in the consolidation phase. Relative strength is very good. These shares, which closed at Rs. 321 on Monday, should be bought above Rs. 310. Hold up to Rs. 365.



Aurobindo Pharma: This stock has been in a downtrend for a few months. There is a possibility of reversals now. Investors should take positions at Rs. 1140 with a target price of Rs. 1250/1280 in this counter, which closed at Rs. 1158 on Monday.

Gland Pharma: These shares have been in an uptrend for a few months. They have now reached a key resistance level. Relative strength and momentum are gradually increasing. Investors should buy in this counter, which closed at Rs. 2102 on Monday, in the Rs. 2080/2050 range using the buy on dips method.



Motilal Oswal Finance: These shares have been in an uptrend for a few months. They have now pulled back at a key level. Relative strength and momentum are gradually increasing. Investors should buy in this counter, which closed at Rs. 937 on Monday, in the Rs. 910 range with a target price of Rs. 1150.

New UPI Rules from Aug 1: Balance Check, Auto-Pay Limits



Starting August 1, 2025, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) will enforce new guidelines for all UPI users to enhance security, reduce system load, and streamline digital payments.

One of the key updates is a cap on balance enquiries. UPI users will now be limited to 50 balance checks per day per app, within a rolling 24-hour period. However, this is per application, meaning users can still check balances on other UPI apps separately. These balance checks must be user-initiated—apps can no longer request them automatically. Additionally, banks must display the available balance after every successful UPI transaction.

Auto-pay transactions, which include recurring payments, will also see changes. To avoid congestion during high-traffic hours, NPCI has defined new processing windows: before 10 a.m., between 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and after 9:30 p.m. Auto-pay will not be executed during peak UPI usage hours: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Other restrictions include:

Viewing linked bank accounts: Limited to 25 times per day.

Checking status of pending transactions: Only 3 times, with a 90-second gap between each.

Payment reversal requests: Capped at 10 per month, and only 5 allowed per sender.

To prevent fraud, UPI apps will now display the recipient's bank name before a transaction is completed, allowing users to confirm they are sending money to the correct person or business.

NPCI has warned that banks or apps that fail to comply with these rules may face penalties, suspension of new user onboarding, or even restricted API access for UPI services.

Centre Eyes ₹5.91 Lakh Cr from Cess, Surcharge in FY26, Up 9.4%

The Central Government has projected a significant increase in its cess and surcharge collections for the financial year 2025–26 (FY26), budgeting ₹5.91 lakh crore—marking a 9.43% rise over FY25 figures. This includes ₹4.18 lakh crore from cess and ₹1.72 lakh crore from surcharge, according to data presented in Parliament on July 29, 2025.

In FY25, cess collections stood at ₹3.87 lakh crore, while surcharges brought in ₹1.53 lakh crore. The figures were shared in a written reply by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary in the Rajya Sabha.



Mr. Chaudhary explained that cess and surcharge are levied under Article 271 of the Constitution to fund specific central needs, such as Centrally Sponsored Schemes. While these expenditures benefit states indirectly, the funds raised from these levies are not included in the divisible tax pool shared with the states.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also responded to a separate query, revealing that the Centre collected ₹83,071 crore in FY25 from health and education cess alone, while expenditures from the same fund totaled ₹87,199 crore. In previous years, collections were ₹69,891 crore (FY24) and ₹60,616 crore (FY23), with similar spending

levels.

Currently, the government levies eight different cesses, including those on agriculture infrastructure, crude oil, exports, GST compensation, health and education, national calamity, and infrastructure. Surcharges are imposed on corporate income tax, personal income tax, and via social welfare surcharges under Customs.

Opposition-led states have repeatedly demanded that cess and surcharge collections be included in the divisible pool of taxes, from which the Centre currently devolves 41% to states. However, these levies remain outside the revenue-sharing framework.

SEBI Bans Four for Two Years in TV Stock Tips Case

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has barred four entities from participating in the securities market for two years in connection with an insider trading case involving stock recommendations aired on a popular business television channel. The final order, released on July 28, 2025, reveals that the entities exploited non-public information to earn unlawful gains of ₹7.4 crore.

The barred entities include Partha Sarathi Dhar, SAAR Commodities Private Limited, Manan Sharecom Private Limited, and Kanhya Trading Company.

SEBI's investigation uncovered a coordinated scheme in which guest experts on the TV show shared their stock tips and broadcast timings in advance with the noticees, namely Nirmal Kumar Soni and Partha Sarathi Dhar. These individuals would then take positions in the recommended stocks before the recommendations aired, and square them off immediately after the broadcast to profit from the anticipated price movements.

SEBI noted, "The noticees devised a scheme to take advantage of advance possession of non-public information about the recommendations given by guest experts."

The guest experts involved were identified as



Kiran Jadhav, Ashish Kelkar, Himanshu Gupta, Mudit Goyal, and Simi Bhaumik. While they were not banned, they played a role in the tip-sharing process.

Out of 15 individuals and entities named in the interim order dated February 8, 2024, ten settled with SEBI, leading to the disposal of charges against them. However, the remaining four failed to substantiate their denials and were debarred.

SEBI also imposed a joint penalty of ₹4 crore, with SAAR Commodities Private Limited facing the highest individual fine of ₹2 crore. All debarred parties are required to deposit the unlawful gains in an escrow account as directed.

Meta Smartwatch Project Revived, May Launch with Cameras and AI in September 2025



Meta Platforms appears to be reviving its long-stalled smartwatch initiative, with a potential launch now eyed for September 2025. According to a new report from DigiTimes, the company is working toward unveiling the wearable device during its annual Meta Connect event, scheduled for September 17–18. The upcoming smartwatch may feature built-in cameras and artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities, potentially pairing with Meta’s AI-powered smart glasses to enhance user interaction.

This development marks Meta’s second serious attempt to break into the competitive smartwatch market. The original project, codenamed “Milan,” surfaced in 2021 with ambitious features, including a curved-edge display, a physical button, and a front-facing camera. A subsequent 2022 prototype included two cameras—a 5MP front sensor and a 10MP rear sensor—in a gold-colored frame. However, technical difficulties, particularly interference between the second camera and neural signal processing technology, led to the project’s cancellation in mid-2022.

The latest iteration is reportedly being developed in collaboration with Chinese manufacturer Huaqin Technology. While the company has not confirmed the specs or release date, the timing aligns with Meta’s strategic goal of expanding its hardware ecosystem.

If launched, the Meta smartwatch would signal the company’s formal entry into a market currently dominated by Apple and Samsung. Unique selling points could include camera-based features and deeper AI integration, distinguishing it from existing products that primarily focus on health tracking and notifications.

Still, skepticism remains. The report emphasizes that the smartwatch might not debut publicly at Meta Connect, reflecting lingering uncertainty around its readiness. Nevertheless, its reappearance in development pipelines suggests Meta is determined to stake its claim in the wearables space, combining social connectivity, AI, and augmented reality into one ecosystem.

Kaziranga Ranks Third Globally in Tiger Density with 18.65 Tigers per 100 sq km

Assam’s Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve (KNPTR), globally renowned for its population of one-horned rhinoceroses, has now earned another distinction—it ranks third in the world for highest tiger density. According to a recent survey, Kaziranga has recorded a tiger density of 18.65 tigers per 100 square kilometers, reflecting a thriving and expanding big cat population.

The latest tiger census conducted in 2024 reported 148 individual adult tigers across Kaziranga, including 83 females, 55 males, and 10 of unknown gender. This figure includes 27 tigers from the newly incorporated Biswanath Wildlife Division, counted for the first time in this survey.

Dr. Sonali Ghosh, Director of KNPTR, highlighted that the core Eastern Assam Wildlife Division showed growth, with the number of tigers rising from 104 in 2022 to 115 in 2024. Meanwhile, the Nagaon Wildlife Division maintained a steady count of 6 tigers.

The tiger survey was a comprehensive exercise conducted under Phase IV monitoring protocols of the National Tiger Con-



servation Authority (NTCA). It involved deploying 293 camera traps over a 1,307 sq km area and spanned 103 days. The monitoring generated over 1.3 million images, of which 4,011 captured tigers, aiding in individual identification.

Kaziranga’s remarkable conservation success has been credited to effective anti-poaching strategies, focused habitat restoration, and robust community involvement. “Kaziranga’s growing ti-

ger numbers reaffirm the impact of sustained protection and collaborative conservation. The challenge now is to secure corridors and buffer zones against anthropogenic pressures,” said Dr. Ghosh.

As tiger populations continue to face threats from human encroachment and habitat fragmentation across India, Kaziranga stands as a model for effective wildlife management and cross-sector conservation partnerships.

‘Cannibal’ Robot That Grows and Heals by Consuming Other Bots

Developed by Columbia Scientists

In a breakthrough that blurs the line between science fiction and reality, researchers at Columbia University have unveiled a robot capable of growing, healing, and enhancing itself by consuming other robots. Dubbed the “cannibal” robot, it operates using a process termed “robot metabolism,” marking a major leap toward the development of self-sustaining, adaptive machines.

According to the study published in Science Advances, this innovative system allows robots to physically evolve by scavenging materials from their surroundings — including parts from other robots — to replace damaged components or upgrade their abilities. Rather than being built for a single, fixed purpose, these robots can now reconfigure themselves in response to their environment.

At the heart of this development is the



“Truss Link,” a modular magnetic stick inspired by Geomag toys. These components can self-assemble into two-dimensional shapes and later transform into more complex three-dimensional structures. As robots made from Truss Links encounter inactive or obsolete parts in their vicinity, they can incorporate them, effectively “growing” into more advanced

forms. “True autonomy requires not just independent thinking, but also the physical ability to maintain and evolve,” said lead researcher Philippe Martin Wyder. “These machines mimic life — they absorb, adapt, repair, and improve using resources from their surroundings.” While still in early stages, the technology opens up possibilities for future robots capable of long-term missions in remote or hazardous environments where repair and replacement would be difficult or impossible.

The announcement, however, has sparked concern online. Some social media users expressed unease, drawing comparisons to sci-fi dystopias. One commenter wrote, “Science fiction was a warning, not an instruction manual.” Despite mixed reactions, this milestone in robotic evolution could redefine autonomy and resilience in artificial intelligence.

What Is FAFO? The Viral Parenting Trend Embracing Tough Love and Real Consequences

Around and Find Out, is the latest parenting trend gaining attention online—and it’s all about letting children face the natural consequences of their actions. This approach emphasizes independence, responsibility, and resilience, steering away from the “gentle parenting” style that dominated recent years.

Inspired by comedian Russell Peters’ famous line, “Somebody’s gonna get hurt real bad,” FAFO parenting adopts a firmer tone, where parents set clear boundaries but allow kids to experience the outcomes of their choices. If a child refuses to bring a raincoat, they get wet. If they don’t eat dinner, they go hungry until the next meal. It’s a practical, no-nonsense method that encourages kids to learn from experience rather than being shielded from every discomfort.

This style appeals to many parents frustrated by permissive approaches they feel may have contributed to some challenges faced by Gen Z, including struggles with workplace relationships, anxiety, and depression. By balancing care with discipline, FAFO aims to prepare children better for adult life, fostering accountability without harshness.



The term FAFO has roots in biker slang and African American vernacular, becoming widely popular through memes and social media in the late 2010s. It gained political relevance during the 2024 US presidential election, used by figures like Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner and congressman Bakari Sellers as a warning against risky behavior.

Today, FAFO has become a cultural catchphrase, used not only in parenting but also to set boundaries and express frustration in everyday life. Its rise signals a shift toward accepting that actions have consequences—and sometimes, the best lessons come from “finding out” firsthand.

Japan’s Toll System Crashes for 38 Hours, Yet 24,000 Drivers Still Pay Voluntarily

In a remarkable display of civic responsibility, 24,000 drivers in Japan voluntarily paid their toll fees after the country’s electronic toll collection (ETC) system crashed for approximately 38 hours earlier this year. The malfunction affected busy highways such as the Tomei and Chuo Expressways, forcing toll gates to remain open to keep traffic flowing smoothly.



The incident occurred on April 8 and continued into April 9, disrupting the automated system that normally reads drivers’ ETC cards and raises gates to allow passage without stopping. With 106 toll booths across Tokyo and several prefectures unable to process payments, the expressway operator, Central Nippon Expressway Co (NEXCO Central), decided to open all gates temporarily to avoid traffic jams on some of Japan’s busiest roads.

Despite the free passage, about 24,000 drivers later offered to pay the tolls online, reflecting the high level of trust and integrity typical of Japanese society. While an estimated 920,000 ETC-equipped vehicles were on the roads during the outage, it is unclear how many passed through the affected gates.

In May, NEXCO Central announced it would waive toll fees for all vehicles that traveled through the affected areas during the outage period. For those who had already paid, full refunds were issued through the ETC mileage program or similar means.

The incident and the public’s response have been widely praised on social media, with many highlighting Japan’s culture of respect and honesty. One user remarked, “Japan is a high trust society,” while another said, “I’d pay too if I was getting services like in Japan.” A third commented on the efficiency of the ETC system, noting that “You didn’t even have to stop at the toll gates.”

This episode underscores how strong social norms and collective responsibility can maintain order, even when technology fails.

India vs West Indies Champions Begins – Spotlight on Chris Gayle

The final league match of the World Championship of Legends (WCL) 2025 is underway as India Champions face off against the West Indies Champions in a crucial encounter. The stakes are high for both teams, with a place in the play-offs hanging in the balance.

India Champions' captain Yuvraj Singh won the toss and chose to bowl first, putting the spotlight on the explosive West Indies opening duo, Chris Gayle and Lendl Simmons, who have taken the crease.

The India Champions come into this fixture under pressure, having lost all three of their league matches so far. Their chances of qualifying for the playoffs now depend not only on winning but doing so with a massive margin to improve their net run rate. The team will be hoping for a spirited performance from senior players like Suresh Raina, Irfan Pathan, and Harbhajan Singh, alongside their skipper Yuvraj Singh, to turn things around.

On the other side, Chris Gayle's West Indies Cham-



pions are also in a must-win situation. With two points from their previous matches, a victory today would help them secure a spot in the last four of the tournament. Gayle, known for his power hitting, is expected to be the game-changer at the top of the order.

This clash between two iconic teams of veteran legends is not just about qualification — it's also about pride, redemption, and thrilling cricketing moments.

Fans can expect fireworks on the field as the battle of legends unfolds, with every over potentially deciding the fate of the playoffs race in the inaugural WCL 2025 season.

Satwik-Chirag Cruise Into Second Round of Macau Open 2025

India's top men's doubles pair, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, began their Macau Open Super 300 campaign in dominant fashion, storming into the second round with a straight-game win on Tuesday. The reigning Asian Games champions, who also reclaimed their place in the BWF world top 10 this week, outclassed Malaysia's Low Hang Yee and Ng Eng Cheong 21-13, 21-15 in just 36 minutes.



Chen Yu Fei of China, while Anmol will take on Thailand's second seed Busanan Ongbamrungphan.

The Indian duo started aggressively, racing to a 6-1 lead early in the first game. Although the Malaysians briefly closed the gap to 10-9, Satwik and Chirag shifted gears to take the opener convincingly. The second game saw tighter competition with the Malaysians staying in touch until 13-14, but the Indians held their nerve to finish strong, winning four straight points to seal the match.

In women's singles, young Indian shuttlers Anmol Kharb and Tasnim Mir qualified for the main draw. Anmol defeated Azerbaijan's Keisha Fatimah Azzahra 21-11, 21-13, while Tasnim came through a gritty three-game battle against Thailand's Tidapron Kleebyee-sun, winning 21-14, 13-21, 21-17. Tasnim now faces a tough challenge against top seed

However, in a setback for India, top-seeded women's doubles pair Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand exited in the first round, losing a close match to Chinese Taipei's Lin Xiao Min and Peng Yu Wei 21-16, 20-22, 15-21.

Meanwhile, Indian men's doubles pair Dingku Singh Konthoujam and Amaan Mohammad progressed to the main draw and will face compatriots Pruthvi Roy and Sai Pratheek next. In mixed doubles, Than-drangini Hema and Priya Konjengbam also entered the main draw.

India's Meiraba Luwang Maisnam, however, failed to make it through, losing in the men's singles qualifiers.

Genie Bouchard Extends Tennis Career With Montreal Win; Raducanu, Osaka Also Advance

Genie Bouchard marked an emotional return to the WTA Tour with a hard-fought victory on Monday, defeating Colombia's Emiliana Arango 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 in the opening round of the National Bank Open in Montreal. The match not only marked her first tour-level win since 2023 but also the 300th of her career — and possibly delayed her retirement plans.

The 31-year-old Canadian had earlier announced that this tournament in her hometown would be her farewell to professional tennis. But after the win, Bouchard playfully hinted she may reconsider. "I told my family that if I won, I would come out of retirement," she told the Montreal crowd, adding, "I felt like the old Genie out there."

Bouchard, once ranked No. 5 in the world after a breakout 2014 season that included a Wimbledon final and two other Grand Slam semifinals, has seen her tennis activity dwindle in recent years, even shifting focus to playing pickleball. She had played just one match in 2025 before being granted a wild card into this tournament.

After splitting the first two sets, Bouchard regained control in the third. She broke Arango twice to take a commanding 5-1 lead. Though



Arango broke back, Bouchard quickly regrouped and sealed the win when Arango sent a backhand wide on match point. The crowd erupted as Bouchard waved and blew kisses, savoring what could have been her final home-court appearance.

Elsewhere, Britain's Emma Raducanu continued her strong form, defeating Romania's Elena-Gabriela Ruse 6-2, 6-4. Just two days earlier, Raducanu had reached the semifinals in Washington. Meanwhile, Naomi Osaka made a confident return, dispatching Canada's Ariana Arsenault 6-4, 6-2 in her first match since parting ways with coach Patrick Mouratoglou.

Gautam Gambhir In Heated Spat with Oval Curator

A video of Team India head coach Gautam Gambhir engaging in a fiery argument with The Oval's chief pitch curator Lee Fortis has gone viral ahead of the crucial fifth Test against England. The incident unfolded on Tuesday during India's training session and has sparked strong reactions online. According to reports, the spat began when Fortis objected to the Indian team practising too close to one of the pitches. Eyewitnesses said Fortis instructed the visitors to maintain a distance of 2.5 metres from the playing surface and reportedly asked them to "go outside the rope" to view the wicket — a demand that visibly irked Gambhir.

Gambhir can be seen pointing fingers at Fortis, repeatedly saying, "You don't tell us what to do. You can't tell any of us what to do. You are just a groundstaff." Batting coach Sitanshu Kotak and other members of the Indian support staff, including Morne Morkel and Ryan ten Doeschate, were present during the altercation. Kotak later explained the sequence of events to the media, stating that while the request from the ground staff was unusual, the Indian team would not file any complaint. "One of the ground staff said to stand 2.5 metres from the wicket and view it from outside the rope. I



have never seen anything like that," Kotak said. He added that Indian players were wearing joggers, not spikes, so there was no risk of damage to the pitch.

"We already had an idea that the curator wouldn't be easy to deal with. Being possessive is fine, but not to this extent," Kotak remarked. The situation escalated when Fortis warned he would "report" the matter. Gambhir snapped back: "You go and report whatever you want to report." Kotak then calmly intervened, pulling Fortis aside to assure him, "We won't damage anything." Though the Oval groundstaff is reportedly considering lodging a formal complaint, the Indian camp has indicated it will let the matter rest — for now.

Australia Completes Perfect 8-0 Sweep in Caribbean Cricket Tour

Australia capped off its Caribbean cricket tour with a flawless 8-0 record after defeating West Indies by three wickets in the fifth and final Twenty20 international on July 28, 2025, at Warner Park Sporting Complex in Saint Kitts.

The Australians entered the last match riding a seven-game winning streak, having already swept the Test series 3-0 and won the first four T20 internationals. Winning the toss for the eighth consecutive time, Australia chose to field first, sending West Indies to bat. The hosts managed a modest total of 170 runs, fall-



ing just two balls short of completing their allotted 20 overs.

West Indies' innings was bolstered by Shimron Hetmyer's

aggressive 52 off 31 balls and Sherfane Rutherford's 35 from 17 deliveries. However, the total wasn't enough to exert serious pressure on Australia's

batting lineup. Ben Dwarshuis led the Australian bowling attack with figures of 3-41, supported by Nathan Ellis (2-32) and spinner Adam Zampa,

who celebrated his 100th T20 international with a wicket and economical bowling, finishing 1-20.

Australia's chase began shakily as Jason Holder and Alzarri Joseph made early breakthroughs, dismissing Glenn Maxwell and Josh Inglis quickly. Despite slipping to 29-3, the innings was steadied by a powerful fifth-wicket partnership between Mitchell Owen (37 off 17) and Cameron Green (32 off 18). Their 63-run stand included

a barrage of sixes, with Owen even sending one onto the pavilion roof.

Akeal Hosein's introduction as a left-arm spinner shifted momentum for the Windies, as he claimed three wickets for 17 runs, breaking up the partnership by removing Owen, Green, and Dwarshuis. Nonetheless, Aaron Hardie's unbeaten 28 guided Australia home comfortably with 18 balls to spare.

This dominant display across formats underlines Australia's superiority on this tour, leaving West Indies searching for answers after a comprehensive series defeat.



First Romantic Still from War 2 Featuring Hrithik and Kiara Advani Unveiled

The anticipation surrounding War 2 just reached a new high, as the makers unveiled the first romantic still featuring Hrithik Roshan and Kiara Advani. This marks a refreshing departure from the high-octane action posters released earlier, which focused on Hrithik and Jr NTR in intense, combat-ready avatars. The still captures a softer, more intimate side of the film, giving fans a glimpse of the romantic angle between Hrithik's suave spy and Kiara's character.



Directed by Ayan Mukerji, War 2 is the next chapter in Yash Raj Films' ambitious Spy Universe, which already includes blockbusters like Ek Tha Tiger, War, and Pathaan. The film brings together two of the biggest stars from Indian cinema—Hrithik Roshan and Jr NTR—in what promises to be an explosive clash of ideologies and missions. Kiara Advani joins the spy franchise as the female lead, adding both glamour and depth to the story.

In a double treat for fans, the film's first single, titled "Aavan Jaavan," is set to drop on

July 31, 2025, in celebration of Kiara Advani's birthday. The romantic track has been composed by Pritam, with vocals by Arijit Singh and lyrics penned by Amitabh Bhattacharya. The song is expected to showcase the chemistry between Hrithik and Kiara while offering a musical break from the film's otherwise action-packed narrative.

War 2 is scheduled for a grand Independence Day weekend release on August 14, 2025. The film will hit theatres in Hindi, Telugu, and Tamil, and expectations are sky-high. With Ayan Mukerji at the helm and a star-studded cast, War 2 is poised to be one of the biggest cinematic events of the year.

Sanjay Dutt's Regal First Look from The Raja Saab Unveiled on His Birthday

On the occasion of Sanjay Dutt's birthday, fans were treated to a special surprise as the makers of The Raja Saab unveiled the veteran actor's first look from the film. Dutt, who plays the role of Prabhas's grandfather in this upcoming horror comedy, appears in a majestic avatar—aged, with long flowing hair, a thick moustache, and a commanding presence. The look has already created a stir online, adding to the excitement surrounding the film.

The Raja Saab, starring pan-India superstar Prabhas in the lead role, is directed by Maruthi and promises a unique blend of horror, comedy, and family drama. The film also features a strong female cast, including Nidhhi Agerwal, Malavika Mohanan, and Riddhi Kumar, who will be seen in pivotal roles.

Adding further depth to the film's ensemble, actors like Prabhas Sreenu, Boman Irani, VTV Ganesh, Sapthagiri, and Samuthirakani play supporting roles. Sanjay Dutt's inclusion brings additional star power and a sense of legacy to the narrative, especially given his character's significance as the protagonist's grandfather.

Produced on a lavish scale by People Media Factory, The Raja Saab is shaping up to be a major theatrical release. The film is slated to hit screens on December 5, 2025, and will release in multiple Indian languages to cater to Prabhas's vast and diverse fan base across the country.

The music for the film is being composed by Tha-



man, known for his chart-topping tracks and energetic soundtracks, which are expected to elevate the film's mood, especially given its horror-comedy genre.

With Sanjay Dutt's powerful first look now out, The Raja Saab has officially entered the spotlight as one of the most awaited films of the year.

Ustaad Bhagat Singh Climax Wrapped Up; Powerful New Still Unveiled

Power Star Pawan Kalyan continues to keep fans on the edge of their seats with multiple high-profile projects. While Hari Hara Veera Malu (HHVM) is currently in theatres, the actor has simultaneously been working on his next action-packed venture, Ustaad Bhagat Singh (UBS), directed by Harish Shankar.

As part of recent promotional interviews for HHVM, Pawan Kalyan had revealed that his portions in UBS would be completed by the end of July. Staying true to his word, the makers have now officially confirmed that the film's intense climax shoot has been wrapped up. To mark the occasion, a striking new still featuring Pawan Kalyan has been released, showcasing his commanding screen presence.



The high-voltage climax was shot under the direction of renowned stunt choreographer Naba Kanta, with promises of a mix of raw emotion and adrenaline-fueled action. The sequence is said to be a major highlight of the film and a treat for fans awaiting the return of vintage Pawan Kalyan.

Ustaad Bhagat Singh features Sreeleela as the female lead, and the recently confirmed addition of Raashii Khanna to the cast has only heightened excitement around the project. Backed by the successful banner Mythri Mov-

ie Makers, the film is being mounted on a lavish scale to match the grandeur and mass appeal expected from a Pawan Kalyan film. Adding to the buzz is the soundtrack by Rockstar Devi Sri Prasad, whose collaboration with Pawan Kalyan and Harish Shankar in Gabbar Singh still remains iconic. With the climax wrapped and final touches underway, Ustaad Bhagat Singh is fast heading toward completion and is expected to hit screens later this year.

Fans can look forward to more updates soon, as the makers gear up for an action-packed release.

Sathi Leelavathi Teaser – A fun take on marriage

The teaser for the upcoming Telugu comedy Sathi Leelavathi is finally out, giving audiences a fun and quirky glimpse into married life. Starring Lavanya Tripathi Konidela and Dev Mohan in the lead roles, the film is directed by Tatineni Satya and produced by Naa-ga Mohan under the Durga Devi Pictures banner, with presentation by Anandi Art Creations.



The teaser opens on a sweet note, showing a seemingly perfect married couple, but it quickly takes a hilarious turn. Lavanya's character is soon seen tying up and beating her husband, played by Dev Mohan, setting the tone for a comedy filled with domestic chaos. What follows is a series of lighthearted moments, misunderstandings, and playful arguments, capturing the ups and downs of modern relationships in a humorous way.

Veteran actors like V.K. Naresh, VTV Ganesh, and Sapthagiri join the ensemble, adding layers of comedy and experience to the mix. Their interactions with the lead couple further enhance the film's humorous take on the trials and tribulations of married life.

The film boasts a talented crew, with music composed by Mickey J. Meyer, known for his catchy and soulful tunes, and visuals captured by cinematographer Binendra Menon. Together, they promise a vibrant and entertaining cinematic experience.

With its shoot wrapped up and post-production in full swing, Sathi Leelavathi is gearing up for a theatrical release soon. The teaser has already sparked interest for its refreshing, feel-good vibe, and it looks set to appeal to a wide range of audiences—especially those looking for a comedy rooted in relatable family dynamics and everyday humor.

Stay tuned for more updates on this charming family entertainer.

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

Avatar Fire and Ash Trailer Unleashes a Darker, Fiercer Pandora

The much-awaited trailer for Avatar: Fire and Ash, the third chapter in James Cameron's epic saga, has finally been released online after its exclusive theatrical debut with Fantastic Four: First Steps. Set to hit theatres worldwide on December 19, 2025—including a Telugu version—the trailer offers a visually stunning and emotionally heavy preview of what lies ahead on Pandora.

This time, the conflict shifts inward. Instead of an external human invasion, the Na'vi now face a devastating threat from within their own

world. The trailer introduces the Ash People, a fiery and fearsome Na'vi tribe that rejects the spiritual teachings of Eywa. Led by the intense and mysterious Varang (played by Oona Chaplin), the Ash People represent chaos, destruction, and a stark departure from the peaceful ways of the Omaticaya and Metkayina clans.

Meanwhile, Jake Sully and Neytiri are grappling with the emotional aftermath of losing their son, Neteyam. The grief has taken a toll—Neytiri is shown struggling emotionally, while Jake appears more withdrawn and protective than ever.

Their once-unshakable bond is clearly under strain, adding a deeply human element to the sci-fi spectacle.

Visually, Cameron once again delivers a cinematic marvel. The trailer showcases glowing lava flows, dangerous volcanic landscapes, high-flying aerial battles, and exotic new creatures. Familiar faces like Kiri, Spider, and Colonel Quaritch make their return, and a glimpse of a new Na'vi tribe, the Wind Traders, hints at even more expansive world-building.



With darker themes, richer emotional depth, and an internal Na'vi conflict at its core, Avatar: Fire and Ash is shaping up to be the most intense and personal entry in the franchise. For fans, this trailer reignites the spark and reminds us why Pandora still matters.