



Petrol Smuggling from Yanam to Andhra...

MLA Making Crores From ₹15-₹18 Price Gap

TPN | Ch Raju

Andhra Pradesh: Petrol and diesel smuggling from Yanam, a Union Territory enclave of Puducherry, into Andhra Pradesh is turning into a full-scale racket. With fuel prices in Yanam lower by ₹15 to ₹18 per litre compared to Andhra, this price gap has become fertile ground for an illegal trade network allegedly involving mafia gangs, business dealers, and even public representatives.

Low Tax, High Profit — Mafia Finds A Loophole

Yanam enjoys lower fuel taxes as part of the Union Territory of Puducherry. While petrol in Yanam costs about ₹92 per litre, in Andhra it crosses ₹110. Smugglers are exploiting this gap, transporting fuel in everything from modified tankers to bikes carrying 2-litre bottles. With one full tanker capable of ferrying 10,000 to 12,000 litres, a single trip could yield profits up to ₹1.5 lakh — forming the economic backbone of this illicit network.

Politicians And Officials Under Scanner

Local sources allege that some public representatives and officials are being bribed to allow the passage of fuel tankers and vehicles across borders unchecked. There are even serious claims that one MLA is receiving over ₹1 crore every month from this network. “Petrol is being moved across daily — how can no one notice? The silence seems strategic,” remarked a resident.

Organised Racket, Coordinated Routes

Fuel is being smuggled systematically through various well-planned methods. Small vehicles like bikes and autos are being used to transport petrol in 2-litre bottles through narrow gully routes that bypass main roads and



and increasing road safety hazards. Consumers, lured by cheaper rates, are unknowingly endangering their own lives and vehicles.

Administrative Inaction Fuels Mafia

There is growing frustration over the lack of response from both Andhra Pradesh authorities and the Yanam administration. The police, excise officials, and local enforcement teams have allegedly failed to act despite clear signs of an expanding mafia network. This has led to suspicions that multiple layers of the system are complicit.

Public Demand For Central-State Probe

Locals and civil society groups are now demanding a joint task force to curb this inter-state smuggling operation. With clear implications of corruption, tax evasion, and public endangerment, they are calling for increased surveillance and a thorough investigation into the role of officials and public representatives. Unless swift and coordinated action is taken, what is now a petrol smuggling network may soon become a “petrol gold” mafia, threatening governance, public safety, and economic stability.

Centre Establishes 94 Biotech Incubators; AP Hosts Three

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Union Government has taken significant steps to boost the biotechnology sector and support start-ups across the country. As of July 2025, a total of 94 biotechnology incubators have been established across India under the

Department of Biotechnology (DBT), operating through the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC). This was revealed in a written reply by Union Minister of State for Science and Technology (Independent Charge)

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Trump Imposes 25% Tariff on Indian Imports



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CM Targets Investments in Realty, Green Energy, Eco-Tourism



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

On the concluding day of his four-day Singapore tour, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu held a series of high-level meetings with top industrial and financial leaders, inviting them to explore vast investment opportunities across the state. Highlighting Andhra Pradesh's strategic advantages and rich resource base,

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“AP Ready for Google Data Centre”

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

IT and Education Minister Nara Lokesh has urged tech giant Google to set up a chip design centre in the proposed data centre campus at Visakhapatnam. During a meeting with Google Cloud Director Drew Brains in Singapore, Lokesh highlighted that all basic infrastructure for the data city project in Visakhapatnam has been completed. He stressed the need to expedite the construction of Google's data centre, as per the MoU signed between the AP government and Google on December 11 last year. Lokesh also emphasized the importance of establishing skill development programmes in partnership with Google to promote the use of Artificial Intelligence among Andhra youth.

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Massive Earthquake in Russia...

Tsunami Alert in America, Japan...

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No Plan to Merge Vizag Steel With SAIL: Union Minister

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Union Minister of State for Steel, Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma, clarified that there is no proposal under consideration to merge the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant with the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). His statement comes amid continued demands from the Visakhapatnam Steel Protection Struggle Committee, which has been urging the central government to withdraw the privatisation decision and instead merge the plant with SAIL.

Responding to a question raised by Samajwadi Party MP Aditya Yadav in the Lok Sabha on Monday, the minister said, “There is no proposal to merge Visakhapatnam Steel with SAIL.” He reiterated that the Central government has provided financial assistance of ₹11,440 crore to ensure the plant continues to operate as is. The statement is expected to have a significant impact on the ongoing protests and agitation surrounding the future of the steel plant. The plant, which holds strategic and economic importance to the region, has been at the centre of public and political concern ever since discussions on its privatisation began.



ISRO Launches NISAR Satellite Successfully

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

In a significant milestone for India's space research, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched the NISAR (NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellite into its designated orbit using the GSLV-F16 rocket. The launch was carried out from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SHAR), Sriharikota. The mission marks a remarkable achievement in ISRO's journey, as the GSLV-F16 placed the satellite into orbit just 18 minutes and 40 seconds after lift-off. NISAR, jointly developed by NASA and ISRO, is a powerful earth observation satellite equipped to monitor climate change and natural disasters with high precision. NISAR is designed to provide early warnings and detailed data on natural calamities such as droughts, earthquakes, cyclones, and changes in underground water levels. With its cutting-edge radar technology, the satellite will offer continuous, high-resolution monitoring of Earth's surface dynamics. ISRO announced that before making NISAR's services available to the public, a rigorous testing phase of 35 to 40 days will be conducted to validate all systems and data integrity. Upon successful completion of these tests, the satellite will begin its operational phase,

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ISRO Launches NISAR Satellite Successfully

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offering valuable inputs to scientists, environmental agencies, and disaster management authorities. This was the 18th launch in the GSLV (Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle) series and the 102nd rocket launch from the SHAR centre in Sriharikota. The event stands as a proud moment for India's space sector, highlighting the country's growing expertise in advanced space technology. The NISAR mission also symbolizes the scientific collaboration between India and the United States, bringing together expertise from ISRO and NASA. It is expected to enhance global understanding of Earth's changing systems and contribute to sustainable environmental planning.

“AP Ready for Google Data Centre”

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Highlighting Google's initiative to design its own chips for server use, Lokesh requested the tech company to consider Andhra Pradesh as a location for chip designing operations. He also suggested that AP could serve as a global hub for server maintenance and support services, thanks to its strong air and port connectivity. Minister Lokesh further met with IVP Semi founder Raja Manickam and proposed setting up a semiconductor manufacturing unit in AP. He encouraged utilizing AP's industrial cluster incentives and involving local MSMEs in the supply chain. Manickam assured that the proposals would be discussed with his team. Lokesh also met DTDS CEO Chakravarthi and sought similar cooperation to strengthen MSME participation in hardware manufacturing using DTDS's ecosystem expertise.

CM Targets Investments in Realty...

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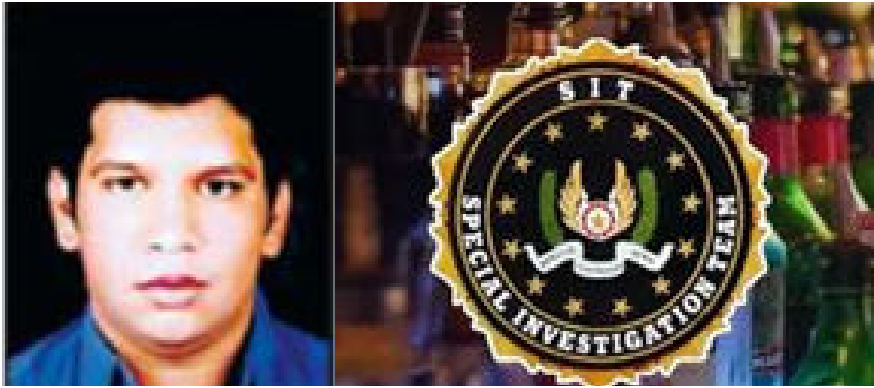
the CM pitched the state as a prime destination for sectors such as real estate, green energy, defence, and eco-tourism. In discussions with CapitaLand Investment (India) officials Sanjeev Das Gupta and Gaurishankar Nagabhushan, the CM explored projects including industrial parks, IT townships, and data centres. He explained the state's push to develop IT parks and plug-and-play workstations in Amaravati, Visakhapatnam, and Tirupati. With Mandai Wildlife Group CEO Mike Barclay, the CM proposed collaborations for wildlife parks and eco-tourism initiatives like 'Dolphin City' in Vizag and a botanical garden in Amaravati. Barclay responded positively, expressing interest in these projects. The CM also met with Rajeev Kannan of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC), discussing green energy, industrial corridors, and infrastructure financing. SMBC showed strong interest in supporting clean energy and strategic corridors like Lepakshi and Orvakallu's Drone City and Aerospace projects. During his meeting with Temasek Holdings' Dinesh Khanna, the CM discussed MSME growth and sought partnerships with APIIC. Temasek expressed willingness to consider MoUs in various sectors, including sustainable infrastructure, food processing, and technology. CM Naidu and his team also met with representatives from firms like Surbana Jurong, Sembcorp, Adani Ports, TVS Motors, Wilmar, and AI Singapore. The visit included tours of iconic Singaporean projects like Bidadari Housing Estate and Jurong Petrochemical Island to study best practices for replication in Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Minister also participated in a vibrant Telugu diaspora event and extended invitations to Singaporean firms for the Visakhapatnam Investment Summit in November. He concluded the tour by thanking local Telugu communities for their warm hospitality.

Liquor Scam Blowout: 11Cr Seized in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

In a major breakthrough in the high-profile liquor scam, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) has seized ₹11 crore in unaccounted cash following early morning raids in Hyderabad. The operation was based on critical information provided by Varun, who has been identified as Accused No. 40 (A-40) in the case.

According to SIT officials, the cash was discovered at a farmhouse in Kacharam village, Shamshabad mandal. The farmhouse, named Sulochana Farms, is registered under the name of Professor Tagala Bal Reddy. The raids were carried out in the early hours of the Wednesday, and the seized cash has since been transported to Vijayawada for further investigation. Varun reportedly admitted that he, along with another accused named Chanakya, had concealed the money in 12 boxes as per instructions from Kesireddy Ra-



jasekhar Reddy, the prime accused (A-1) in the liquor scam. He claimed the money was hidden in June 2024. This confession provided a crucial lead that enabled the SIT to locate and recover the massive stash. Following the seizure, Varun was brought to the SIT office for intensive questioning. Officials believe that the ₹11 crore is part of a larger money laundering and corruption network linked to liquor licensing and distribution irregularities that are under probe. The SIT is now investigating the origin of the money, its intend-

ed usage, and the involvement of other key players. Officials are also examining the ownership documents of the farmhouse and suspect that the location may have been used as a regular hide-out for illegal cash storage. This development marks a significant advance in the liquor scam investigation, which has already implicated several political and business figures. The SIT is expected to continue its search and interrogation in the coming days to uncover the full extent of the financial misappropriation.

Achchenna Slams Jagan on Crop Insurance

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Agriculture Minister Achchennaidu lashed out at former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy for allegedly misleading farmers with false promises about crop insurance during his tenure. Speaking to the media in Amaravati on Wednesday, the minister accused the previous YSRCP government of deceiving farmers by promoting the idea of crop insurance for just one rupee, while in reality, not even a nominal insurance benefit was implemented. He revealed that because the Jagan government failed to pay the state's share of insurance premiums, claims worth ₹3,138 crore remained pending, severely impacting farmers. Achchenna claimed that former CM Jagan misled the Assembly by stating that insurance amounts had been paid, and only after current TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu staged protests did



the previous government hurriedly release ₹590 crore. The minister further alleged that water from Pulivendula Reservoir was diverted to Bharathi Cement—reportedly linked to Jagan's relatives—and to sugarcane fields, ignoring the needs of genuine farmers. He criticized the former administration for neglecting agriculture and protecting ganja (cannabis) cultivation instead. Achchenna also highlighted that under Jagan's rule, the expansion of ganja cultivation went unchecked while real issues of farm-

ers were ignored. In contrast, the current coalition government has revived the neglected crop insurance scheme as part of its commitment to farmers' welfare. He said that 46.5 lakh eligible farmers are now benefitting under revived schemes. As a relief to farmers, Achchenna announced that on August 2, the state government will deposit ₹5,000 under the Annadata Sukhibhava scheme, in addition to the ₹2,000 provided by the Centre under PM Kisan Yojana. Meanwhile, in Lok Sabha on Tuesday, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan also criticised the previous Jagan government. He pointed out that Andhra Pradesh did not release funds under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana for three years, though the Centre had paid its share. He added that if states fail to pay their share, the Centre must transfer funds to farmers with 12% interest.

Centre Establishes 94 Biotech...

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Dr. Jitendra Singh in the Lok Sabha, in response to questions raised by MPs Kesineni Sivanath (Chinni) and Lavu Krishnadevarayalu. Dr. Singh stated that three biotech incubators are currently operational in Andhra Pradesh. These include the Andhra Pradesh MedTech Zone in Visakhapatnam, YSR Cancer Research Park, and the bio-incubator at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam in Tirupati. Between 2012 and 2025, the central government sanctioned ₹489.42 crore for the development, operation, and expansion of these biotech incubators across the country. Of this, Andhra Pradesh received ₹16.23 crore — ₹4.95 crore for the Med-Tech Zone, ₹7 crore for the YSR Cancer Research Park, and ₹4.28 crore for the Tirupati university-based centre. These incubators have collectively supported over 2,500 start-ups, facilitated the market launch of more than 800 products, and contributed to employment for over 10,500 individuals. They have also resulted in the registration of 1,300 intellectual property rights and delivered over 5,000 training programs, benefiting nearly 2.5 lakh individuals. Dr. Singh added that the government plans to set up 10 to 15 new incubators annually, allocating ₹20–30 crore for this initiative each year. He also emphasized that significant progress has been made in health and agricultural biotech sectors. The functioning of these centres is regularly reviewed through expert committees, industry representatives, and academic institutions.

ID Card Enough to Avail Free Ride: RTC Chairman

TPN Correspondent | Guntur:

Andhra Pradesh RTC Chairman Konakalla Narayana announced that women can avail free bus travel across the state from August 15 using any government-issued ID card. He emphasized that the scheme, initiated by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, aims to bring transformative change in the lives of women. Narayana, along with APSRTC Managing Director Dwarka Tirumala Rao, reviewed the preparations at the NTR Bus Station in Guntur. They held a meeting with depot managers to discuss the readiness, challenges, and operational guidelines for the successful implementation of the scheme. RTC MD Dwarka Tirumala Rao stated that women can travel for free in various services including Palle Velugu, Express, Metro Express, and City Ordinary buses within urban areas. He mentioned that final government orders are expected to be issued after the upcoming cabinet meeting. Officials confirmed that women can travel to any destination within the state without paying a fare, as long as they present a valid ID card issued by either the state or central government. The RTC is actively working to ensure smooth implementation and address any hurdles in advance.



Govt Approves Smart Street Vending Markets

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Andhra Pradesh government has given its approval to set up smart street vending markets in seven major urban areas across the state. These markets aim to benefit women from self-help groups (SHGs) and street vendors by providing them with improved income opportunities and economic stability. Following the successful pilot project of a smart vending market at Mypadu Road in Nellore district, which received an encouraging response from the public, the government decided to expand the initiative. It has now officially granted permission to proceed with similar projects in other cities. Under the guidance of MEPMA (Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas), the smart vending markets will be established in Anantapur, Kurnool, Tadepalli-Mangalagiri, Ongole, Srikakulam, Vijayawada, and YSR Kadapa municipal corporations. Each market may include up to 200 shops. Municipalities, in coordination with banks, will facilitate loans to eligible beneficiaries for setting up shops. A majority of the shops are expected to be allotted to SHG women to strengthen their livelihoods. These markets are part of the state's broader strategy to empower urban poor, formalize street vending, and promote inclusive urban development.

Minister Promises Housing for All Eligible Beneficiaries



TPN Correspondent | Anantapur

Minister for Housing and I&PR, Kollu Parthasarathy, assured that the government will sanction houses along with house sites to every eligible individual in Andhra Pradesh. He made these remarks while participating as the chief guest in the "First Step in Good Governance" programme, held as part of the state's flagship initiative. Accompanied by MLA Amilineni Surendra Babu, district party president Venkata Shivudu Yadav, party observer Nageshwar Yadav, and senior TDP leaders, Minister Parthasarathy criticized the previous YSRCP government. He stated that the state was pushed into a debt trap due to reckless decisions and "button-pushing" welfare schemes without a proper economic plan. He lauded Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh for actively attracting global investments and simultaneously implementing election promises. "Despite having a Chief Minister from Rayalaseema for five years, the region was neglected. Basic repairs to irrigation project gates were not undertaken," the Minister alleged. Parthasarathy said the new coalition government has now allocated funds for Rayalaseema irrigation projects. He affirmed that all eligible people would soon receive houses and house sites. He also revealed that due to negligence by the previous government, works on the BTP canal project had stalled, leading MLA Amilineni to fund the remaining works from his personal resources. MLA Amilineni further explained that despite water reaching Chapiri village, the final 1.5 km canal section was left incomplete, cutting off water to Chapiri lake. He assured that with farmers' cooperation, the government will soon complete the project and restore water supply. He also highlighted that ₹50 lakh worth of CC roads have been sanctioned for Chapiri Panchayat and that work has already begun.

Take Modi’s Message to Every Home: PVN

TPN Correspondent | Anantapur

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Andhra Pradesh President PVN Madhav has urged party activists to work relentlessly towards ensuring the party’s victory in the upcoming local elections. Addressing an extensive cadre meeting in Anantapur, Madhav emphasized that ordinary workers must display extraordinary commitment to secure wins at the grassroots level. He instructed the party cadres to reach every household and communicate that “Prime Minister Narendra Modi has come to your doorstep,” symbolically referring to the central government’s various welfare and infrastructure initiatives. “Explain how Modi reached the people through rural roads laid under the Grameen Sadak Yojana, through development of railway stations, and by providing free ration, Kisan Samman Nidhi for farmers, LPG gas connections, and bank accounts,” he said. Highlighting the development initiatives undertaken under BJP’s leadership, PVN Madhav stated that Anantapur has seen significant progress thanks to the central government. He reminded the cadre that the first Kisan Rail in South India was launched from Anantapur, helping farmers transport their produce efficiently.



He further added that with the NDA in power at the Centre, the long-neglected Rayalaseema region has started witnessing meaningful development. Establishment of institutions like the Kendriya Vidyalaya is a testament to the Centre’s commitment, he noted.

Calling upon BJP workers to adopt a door-to-door outreach approach, Madhav emphasized the importance of connecting with the people on the work done by the Modi government. “Let every citizen know that the BJP stands for development, empowerment, and progress,” he concluded.

YSRCP MP Urges Urea Supply



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Rajya Sabha MP Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose has raised serious concerns over the acute urea shortage in Andhra Pradesh during the peak Kharif season, urging Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister JP Nadda to intervene immediately. In a letter on Wednesday, Bose emphasized that although the Centre had allocated 1.30 lakh metric tonnes of urea for July, many districts continued to face severe scarcity. He cited key factors behind the crisis, including limited fortnightly allotments, the shutdown of the NFCL unit in Kakinada, and the Ramagundam plant’s inability to meet AP’s demand. Farmers in districts like Srikakulam, Kurnool, and Rayalaseema were reportedly suffering from long queues, limited purchasing options, and growing anxiety—especially among small and marginal farmers. The MP also referred to reports from local media and civil society groups, which highlighted irregularities in distribution such as delayed dispatches, understaffed retail centers, and last-mile delivery failures. Recent raids uncovered hoarding worth over ₹10 crore, further exacerbating the crisis. Bose urged the Union Minister to expedite July-August fertilizer supplies, reconsider the Kakinada plant’s closure, deploy mobile vans in affected mandals, and enforce real-time stock tracking to ensure equitable distribution. In a separate but significant intervention in Parliament, Bose, the YSR Congress Party’s Rajya Sabha floor leader, applauded the Indian government’s swift and resolute response to the Pahalgam terror attack through Operation Sindoor.

Good Governance Drive a Big Success



TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

TDP district president Tikkaareddy has stated that the ‘First Step in Good Governance’ campaign, launched on July 2 across Kurnool district, has received an overwhelming response from the public. Speaking at a press conference held at the district party office on Wednesday, he said the program’s success was due to the enthusiastic participation of TDP leaders and cadre. He explained that the initiative aimed to assess how effectively the coalition government’s welfare and development schemes were reaching the people. Within just one year, several key promises made by the coalition government have been fulfilled, he added. Tikkaareddy highlighted the “Talli Ki Vandhanam” scheme, under which ₹13,000 was directly deposited into mothers’ bank accounts. He also announced that starting from August 15, women would be able to travel for free on public buses. Additionally, under the “Annadata Sukhibhava” scheme, financial assistance would be extended to farmers. He further noted that ₹3,800 crore has been sanctioned for the expansion of the Handri-Neeva project, crediting the coalition government for prioritizing farmers and irrigation. Tikkaareddy also revealed plans to transform Orvakal into a major industrial hub to promote economic development in the region.

Coalition Betrayed Farmers: Ex-MLA



TPN Correspondent | Palnadu

Former MLA and YSRCP leader Bollaa Brahmanaidu alleged that the farmers of Vinukonda constituency have been gravely betrayed under the current coalition government. Speaking at a meeting held with various wings of the YSRCP at the party office in Vinukonda on Wednesday, he said the government had failed to provide minimum support prices for farmers’ produce. He asserted that the situation in agriculture has turned dire, with many farmers now afraid to cultivate due to unpredictable pricing and financial losses. “There is no assurance for the hard work put in by the farmers,” he said. Brahmanaidu also condemned the alleged demolition of houses belonging to poor families in Vellaturu village, supposedly for voting in favour of the YSRCP. Terming it a shameful act, he stated that the matter was brought to the attention of former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, who responded promptly by extending financial aid to the affected families. He urged party Activists to strive together to ensure a resounding victory for YSRCP candidates in the upcoming local body elections. He also criticized the removal of the Gandhi statue near the Mandal Parishad office overnight, calling it deeply disturbing. Furthermore, he alleged widespread corruption in the municipality, claiming that Rs. 44 lakh of sanctioned funds were misappropriated. The meeting saw the participation of YSRCP mandal convenors and village committee leaders, who expressed their continued support for the party’s local organizational



₹8,700 Cr Disbursed Under Talli Ki Vandanam: MLA

TPN Correspondent | Anantapur

Bukkapatnam, Puttaparthi Constituency – MLA Palle Sindhura Reddy emphasized that the ₹8,700 crore allocated under the Talli ki Vandanam scheme by the coalition government is aimed at securing the future of underprivileged students. As part of the Suparipalana lo Modati Adugu campaign, the MLA, along with former minister Dr. Palle Raghunatha Reddy, visited Krishnapuram village, going door-to-door to interact with residents and address local issues. The visit included attending the swearing-in ceremony of Appa Swamy Naidu as president of the Krishnapuram Primary Cooperative Society, where Palle Sindhura pledged to develop all roads in the constituency to be pothole-free over the next five years. She highlighted that ₹26 crore was already spent constructing 610 CC roads in the region. The MLA lauded Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for his responsive governance, especially the declaration of Bhagawan Sathya Sai Baba’s 100th Jayanti and Vadde Obanna Jayanti as official state festivals. She noted that unlike the previous YSRCP government, which limited the Amma Vodi scheme to one child per family, the current government’s Talli ki Vandanam provides ₹15,000 to mothers for every child studying in school. She also announced upcoming initiatives like ₹7,000 aid to farmers under Annadata Sukhibhava on August 2 and free RTC bus travel for women starting August 15. Plans to develop 193 tanks in the region to transform it into a coastal-like agricultural hub were also shared. Former Minister Raghunatha Reddy reiterated that TDP is the party for the underprivileged, with 205 Anna Canteens offering meals for ₹5 across the state. He said that positions like cooperative society chairmanships are being given to loyal party workers as recognition.

Your Problem is Our Responsibility: MLA MGR



TPN Correspondent | Srikakulam

As part of the “Good Governance – First Step” initiative, Pata Patnam MLA Mamidi Govindar Rao (MGR) took part in the Telugu Desam Party’s (TDP) door-to-door campaign in Goppili village of Meliyaputti Mandal. The program aimed to spread awareness about the public welfare schemes and development works implemented by the NDA coalition government during its one year in office. MGR personally distributed pamphlets to every household and collected written grievances from the villagers. Addressing the gathering, the MLA said, “Solving your problems is our responsibility.” He criticized the previous YSRCP regime for allegedly violating people’s rights and neglecting the poor. “Under Jagan’s rule, Andhra Pradesh saw a decline in development due to financial mismanagement. Now, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is fixing the system while ensuring welfare benefits reach the poor,” he stated. He highlighted that women are now happy under the Deepam Scheme with free gas cylinders and praised the enhanced pensions under NTR Bharosa, which have benefited the elderly, widows, and the differently-abled. MGR also noted the warm reception he received during this outreach and expressed satisfaction that the promises made during the elections are now being fulfilled.

Avinash Reddy Appeals for Cross-party Support

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

The Andhra Pradesh State Election Commission has issued a notification for the Pulivendula Mandal Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency (ZPTC) by-election. With the official release of the notification on Tuesday, the nomination process

is set to begin from Wednesday. The by-election was necessitated following the untimely demise of former ZPTC member Maheshwar Reddy. He tragically lost his life two years ago in a mishap during a village procession related to the Gangamma Jatara festival. His sudden death left a void in local leadership,

as Maheshwar Reddy was widely regarded as a young leader with a bright political future. In light of the by-election, party leaders and cadre gathered and held discussions Wednesday. According to sources, there was unanimous consensus among the leaders and activists that the ZPTC can-

didate should come from Maheshwar Reddy’s family. They emphasized that such a gesture would honor his legacy and provide continuity in local leadership. Kadapa MP Y.S. Avinash Reddy addressed the media, stating that the party has also decided to field a member from Maheshwar Reddy’s family — either his

wife, brother, or son. He appealed to all parties and the public to consider this as a humanitarian issue and extend support beyond party lines. “We humbly request that whoever from Maheshwar’s family contests, they be supported with empathy and solidarity,” said the MP during the press meet.

State Eyes Sustainable Growth with Singapore Expertise

TPN Correspondent |
Andhra Pradesh

Urban Development Minister P. Narayana, who is on a visit to Singapore along with Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, toured the headquarters of Surbana Jurong (SJ) on Wednesday morning. The minister was accompanied by CRDA Commissioner Kanna Babu. The visit focused on exploring green urban planning strategies for the development of Amaravati as a sustainable and environmentally friendly city. Surbana Jurong, a global ur-



ban, infrastructure and managed services consulting firm, is known for its decades of ex-

perience in designing urban infrastructure and master planning. The SJ representatives

held detailed discussions with the Andhra Pradesh delegation on enhancing greenery and urban forestry in Amaravati, aligning with the government's vision of creating a Blue-Green City.

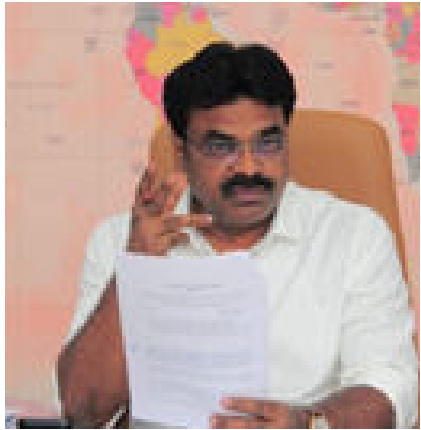
The Singapore-based firm had earlier provided a broad master plan for Amaravati that emphasized environmental preservation and sustainable development. During the meeting, the SJ officials elaborated on micro-level interventions required to expand green cover, including increasing park

spaces and planting trees along roadways in the capital region. Minister Narayana expressed interest in the planning strategies and said that under the leadership of CM Chandrababu Naidu, the state is committed to environmentally responsible development. He noted that the government is taking forward the Blue-Green City concept, aiming to balance rapid urban growth with ecological sustainability.

The delegation also reviewed existing plans and discussed how to accelerate implemen-

tation in Amaravati. SJ officials presented several design concepts that integrate greenery with infrastructure, such as rain gardens, green corridors, and eco-sensitive urban spaces. This visit marks another step in Andhra Pradesh's effort to leverage global expertise in urban development to build Amaravati as a model city for future generations. The government is focused on inclusive growth and ensuring that environmental sustainability is integrated into every aspect of the capital's development.

Collector Warns Black Burley Farmers



TPN Correspondent | Bapatla District Collector Venkata Murali has issued a stern warning that any illegal cultivation or sale of Black Burley tobacco beyond government regulations will face strict action, including the destruction of crops. He made these remarks during an interaction with farmers at the Dis-

trict Collectorate-Markfed premises on Wednesday. The Collector clarified that the government will not initiate action against the companies that sold Black Burley seeds, but focus remains on preventing misuse at procurement centres. He said the tobacco procurement process is progressing well, with around 300 farmers selling produce daily. The government has set a target of procuring 600 tonnes per day, and approximately 1800 tonnes per week.

To facilitate timely purchase, the administration has decided to open markets even on Sundays for those farmers who missed their scheduled slots during the week. Only scheduled farmers will be allowed to sell at the centres, and any deviation from the schedule will not be tolerated.

Strict action will be taken against intermediaries and traders trying to bring tobacco under farmers' names. If such malpractice is detected, criminal cases, including PD (Preventive Detention) Act provisions, will be filed. The Collector assured that all eligible farmers listed in the schedule will be allowed to sell their produce without any hurdles. He also advised farmers to ensure that tobacco moisture levels remain below 20% to avoid rejection or penalties.

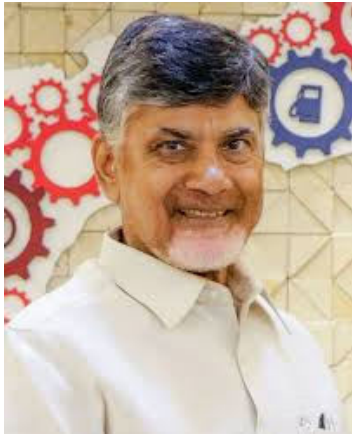
This move comes as part of a broader effort by the district administration to regulate Black Burley tobacco cultivation and streamline fair procurement, ensuring that genuine farmers benefit without exploitation from middlemen or unauthorized players.

Chandrababu Returns After Singapore Tour

TPN Correspondent |
Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has begun his return journey to India after completing a four-day tour of Singapore. The visit, aimed at attracting investments and promoting the brand image of Andhra Pradesh, included a packed schedule of high-level meetings, study tours, and round-table discussions.

Accompanied by ministers Nara Lokesh, P. Narayana, TG Bharat, and senior officials, the Chief Minister took part in 26 different programs during the visit. From day one, the delegation maintained a relentless pace, exploring collaborations and best practices that could be implemented in Andhra Pradesh's development strategy. During the tour, CM Chandrababu met key leaders including Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam, former Prime Minister and Senior Minister Lee



Hsien Loong, Trade and Industry Minister Tan See Leng, and Home Affairs Minister K. Shanmugam. Discussions centered on strategic cooperation between Singapore and Andhra Pradesh, especially in sectors like infrastructure, urban development, and technology.

The Chief Minister extended an invitation to Singapore's leadership to participate in the Global Investors Summit scheduled for November 14-15 in Visakhapatnam. He also made it clear that the state's current administration is working to rectify past mis-

takes and foster long-term trust and growth. Chandrababu also engaged with major global corporations including Surbana Jurong, SembCorp, AI Singapore, GIC, CapitaLand, TVS Motors, and Adani Ports. He showcased the state's investor-friendly environment and explained the massive incentives being offered for companies willing to set up operations in Andhra Pradesh.

The CM also visited notable projects like Bidadari Housing Estate, Tuas Port, Jurong Petrochemical Island, and the Singapore Sports School to understand their best practices in urban planning and development, which he intends to replicate in AP.

A standout moment from the visit was the enthusiastic reception from the Telugu diaspora in Southeast Asia. The community welcomed the CM and his delegation with pride, participating in a special program hosted in their honor.

Flood Alert at Prakasam Barrage

TPN Correspondent |
Vijayawada

A heavy flood alert has been issued at Vijayawada's Prakasam Barrage as the flood level continues to rise with increased inflows from upstream reservoirs. Authorities have released 65,000 cusecs of water downstream from the Pulichintala project into the barrage, prompting strict cautionary measures in the region.

NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Shah has directed all officials to remain on high alert and monitor the situation closely. In an emergency review meeting, the Collector

instructed that NDRF and SDRF personnel be kept ready for deployment. Additionally, he advised arranging sandbags and local rescue equipment to prevent any emergencies. Officials stated that floodwater release is being regulated based on inflow levels to the barrage. Currently, 65,000 cusecs are being discharged, but irrigation officials anticipate the flood intensity to rise significantly. They estimate the flow could reach nearly three lakh cusecs within the next two days.

In light of the increasing threat, flood warn-



ings have been issued to people residing in upstream and downstream areas of the barrage. The Collector emphasized that field-level response must be immediate upon receiving any alerts. He also made it clear that all officers and emergency person-

nel should be available 24/7 until the situation stabilizes.

The Disaster Management Organization has strongly advised the public, particularly those near the Krishna River, to avoid swimming, fishing, or using canoes during this high-flow period.

Rain To Return in Telugu States After 2-Day Break



TPN Correspondent |
Andhra Pradesh

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a fresh alert for both Telugu states, warning of renewed heavy rainfall due to the formation of another weather system over the Arabian Sea. After two days of dry weather following a week-long spell of heavy rain, residents of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are now bracing for another round of showers.

According to the IMD, a new air mass is developing in the Arabian Sea, which is likely to trig-

ger heavy rainfall across both states in the coming days. The department forecasts largely dry weather on Wednesday and Thursday, but warns of intense rainfall starting later this week. Officials have urged the public to stay alert, especially in low-lying and coastal areas.

The previous week saw persistent heavy rains due to a low-pressure system in the Bay of Bengal, leading to flooding and disruption in several districts. The recent sunny skies gave people temporary relief, but the new alert suggests they may

have to prepare for more adverse conditions. In Telangana, the IMD said that light showers may occur in districts like Hyderabad, Warangal, Karimnagar, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Mahabubnagar, Nizamabad, Rangareddy, Adilabad, and Komuram Bheem Asifabad. However, the weather is expected to remain dry during the day for the next 48 hours. Heavy rainfall accompanied by thunder and lightning is likely to resume thereafter.

In Andhra Pradesh, the impact of a low-pressure zone continues, especially in northern coastal regions. Moderate to heavy rains are expected in districts such as Vizianagaram, Srikakulam, Parvathipuram, Alluri Seetharamaraju, Manyam, Anakapalle, Visakhapatnam, and Kakinada. Authorities have issued an orange alert in these areas. Fishermen have been strictly warned against venturing into the sea, and residents in vulnerable coastal areas have been advised to shift to safer locations as a precaution.

Relief For Kodali Nani In High Court

TPN Correspondent |
Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh High Court has granted relief to former minister and YCP leader Kodali Nani along with several other YSR Congress leaders in various legal cases. In a significant development, the High Court has issued a stay on the investigation into the case registered against Kodali Nani by Machilipatnam police.

The case against Kodali Nani pertains to alleged provocative remarks made by him, leading to the registration of an FIR. Seeking to quash the FIR, the former minister had approached the High Court.

After hearing the arguments, the Court granted an interim stay on the investigation, offering temporary reprieve to the leader. Similarly, YSR Congress MLs Talashila Raghuram and Appi Reddy also secured relief from the High Court. Cases were booked against them for allegedly violating the Model Code of Conduct during their visit to the Guntur Mirchi Yard. Both leaders filed quash petitions, following which the Court stayed the proceedings.

In another related development, the High Court has also intervened in the case filed against former MLA Topudurthi Prakash Red-



dy. The Court has directed authorities not to take any hasty action against him in connection with the case.

These interim stays provide immediate legal respite to the YSR Congress leaders, though the final outcomes will depend on the subsequent hearings and decisions of the Court.

PM Mudra Yojana Scam: ₹140 Cr Fraud, 2 Held

TPN Correspondent |
Hyderabad

In a major financial fraud case, Telangana Crime Investigation Department (CID) has arrested Tippaneni Ramadasappa Naidu, 61, chairman of Mudra Agriculture Skill Development Multi-State Co-operative Society Limited, and his son Sai Kiran, 43, for duping nearly 2,000 people of ₹140 crore. The accused allegedly misused the branding of the Centre's Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) to portray their society as a government-backed entity.

Established in 2017, the co-operative society lured thousands of farmers, unemployed youth, and daily wage earners through extensive advertisements in regional newspapers. The victims

were promised high returns on investments and permanent government jobs once the society was converted into a full-fledged bank.

The CID probe revealed that the society released recruitment advertisements for 2,000 "government" marketing supervisor jobs, collected original educational certificates, and demanded money under the pretext of share capital and investment bonds. The victims were led to believe they were investing in a legitimate government initiative.

The society rapidly expanded, opening around 330 branches across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. It hired over 1,600 employees to collect public deposits. Employees faced pressure to meet daily collec-

tion targets, with penalties and salary cuts imposed on those who failed. Those who resigned were reportedly denied refunds and coerced into signing blank documents.

According to CID officials, the scam allowed the father-son duo to collect about ₹140 crore. A large portion of the funds was used to purchase industrial plots in Andhra Pradesh's Anantapur district and properties in Telangana's Keesara region.

The scam was uncovered following multiple complaints filed across Telangana. The CID took over the investigation, tracing financial records and seizing documents. The two accused were produced in court and remanded to judicial custody.

Minors Assault Kids in Ganja High.. Video Goes Viral

TPN Correspondent | Sri Sathya Sai District

In a disturbing incident from Kalisamudram village in Kadiri mandal, Sri Sathya Sai district, a group of minors under the influence of ganja violently assaulted two other children—an act that was captured on video and is now going viral on social media. According to local sources, the incident involved three boys, reportedly under 15 years of age, who brutally attacked two other children while another minor recorded the scene on a mobile phone. The video shows the attackers using abusive language and thrashing the victims with footwear, sparking outrage among residents. The incident has brought to light the growing and unchecked availability of ganja even in rural areas. Concerned villagers say that drug abuse among minors is becoming a serious issue in Kalisamudram, with many children reportedly addicted to ganja. Parents are now deeply worried about their children's future, as the addictive substance is ruining young lives at



an alarming rate. “This is heartbreaking. We never imagined our children would fall into such habits. We feel helpless,” said one parent, expressing anguish over the unfolding crisis. Locals have reportedly informed the police about the rampant ganja usage in the area, urging for immediate action. The incident has triggered a broader conversation about drug abuse among minors and the urgent need for stricter monitoring and rehabilitation initiatives in rural Andhra Pradesh.

Fake Posts to Face Legal Action: SP

TPN Correspondent | Sri Sathya Sai District

Sri Sathya Sai District Superintendent of Police (SP) V. Ratna, IPS, has issued a strong warning against the spread of false information through media and social media platforms. In an official statement, SP Ratna clarified that anyone posting misleading or baseless content on WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram, or news portals will face legal consequences under relevant laws. The SP referred to a recent case from Kalisamudram village in Kadiri mandal, where false reports circulated about a group of youth allegedly fighting under the influence of ganja. “Our investigation revealed that the altercation was due to alcohol consumption, not ganja use,” she said. She condemned the spread of misinformation without verification and urged citizens to act responsibly before posting on social media. Another incident involved reports of a major clash near the Kia Motors factory in Penukonda. The SP dismissed the rumors, confirming that it was a minor argument due to personal reasons, which was

promptly resolved by police intervention. SP Ratna warned that false posts, especially those intended to defame or provoke unrest, will invite stringent legal action. She also urged the public to avoid defamatory content or personal attacks online. She encouraged citizens to report any criminal or anti-social activity directly to the police and assured that informants' identities would be kept confidential. The district police remain committed to maintaining peace and curbing illegal activities such as drug use and misinformation campaigns.



Misleading Posts Invite Legal Action: SP

TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram

Vakul Jindal, Superintendent of Police, Vizianagaram district, issued a stern warning to those posting objectionable and misleading content on social media platforms that incite hatred among communities, castes, and political groups. He emphasized that those spreading such divisive content, as well as those supporting or encouraging them, will face strict legal consequences. Speaking on the growing influence of social media, SP Jindal highlighted how platforms like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Telegram, WhatsApp, and LinkedIn are increasingly being misused to distort facts, defame individuals, and provoke inter-community tension. In response, the district police have set up a dedicated team to monitor social media activity round the clock. Citing a recent incident, he referred to a case in Denkada mandal's T. Kallalu village, where a branch accidentally fell on a statue of Jesus Christ in a local church. Without verifying the facts, Nadiseti Shantharao, president of a cultural organization, shared a provocative post on social media that incited communal sentiments. Police immediately registered a case, launched an investigation, and arrested the individual. SP Jindal urged the public to act responsibly while using social media. He advised users to verify facts before sharing any content and to ensure their posts do not insult or hurt the sentiments of other communities, castes, or individuals. Misrepresentation of facts or spreading misinformation can cause serious emotional harm and social unrest.



CM to Launch Gandikota Tourism Project



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh announced that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will lay the foundation stone for the prestigious Gandikota Tourism Project on August 1 in YSR Kadapa district. The project, being developed with an investment of ₹78 crore under the

Swadesh Darshan Scheme in collaboration with the central government, aims to transform Gandikota into a major tourism hub. Speaking to media in Nidadavolu, Minister Durgesh said the foundation ceremony will be held in the afternoon after the CM participates in the pension distribution program at Jam-

malamadugu. He emphasized that the government is committed to boosting tourism through world-class infrastructure and promotional activities. The Minister further revealed that Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC) will organize an exhibition in Udaipur, Rajasthan on August 2 and 3. This event is aimed at attracting enthusiastic investors and entrepreneurs from across the country to explore tourism opportunities in Andhra Pradesh. Highlighting future investment plans, the Minister confirmed that the state will host a major Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam on November 14 and 15. “This summit is expected to attract substantial investments into Andhra Pradesh

across sectors, especially tourism,” he said. Minister Lokesh has been appointed as chairman of the Cabinet sub-committee for the summit, while Durgesh himself is also a member. Durgesh noted that during Chandrababu Naidu's previous tenure, annual partnership summits were instrumental in drawing numerous industrialists to the state. He criticized the previous YSRCP government for neglecting investor-friendly policies and organizing investment meetings only as formalities. Now, with the renewed leadership of CM Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, the government is determined to revive investment flow and position Andhra Pradesh as an attractive destination for domestic and global investors.

Collector Urges Social Responsibility in Adoption

TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram

Adopting “Bangaru” families is a voluntary initiative and should not be imposed on any government employee, clarified Vizianagaram District Collector Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. He emphasized that this is a social responsibility and urged individuals to come forward with compassion. The Collector made these remarks during a review of the Bangaru family adoption program, which aims to uplift extremely poor families in the district. So far, officials have identified around 67,066 such families across Vizianagaram. Dr. Ambedkar directed that the survey process be completed within three days to accurately assess the needs of these families. He instructed officials to submit the complete list by Saturday and identify suitable mentors to guide and support the Bangaru families based on their specific requirements. “The objective is to empower families who are struggling in poverty and ensure they are supported through voluntary efforts,” he stated.

Dr. Ambedkar reiterated that there is no pressure on any employee to adopt families and dismissed the misinformation circulating on the matter. “We must counter the false propaganda and instead raise aware-



ness about the true spirit of this initiative — which is to uplift the underprivileged through social solidarity,” he added. He called for creating widespread awareness among government staff and the public to adopt families out of a sense of social duty and not obligation. “Let us be mindful that identifying and addressing the needs of the poorest among us is a humanitarian act,” he concluded.

Ensure Clean and Tasty Food: Collector

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

District Collector P. Ranjith Basha conducted a surprise inspection at the Anna Canteen located at the old bus stand in Kurnool on Wednesday. He directed the staff to ensure that food served in the canteen remains clean, hot, and tasty at all times. During the inspection, the Collector interacted with people eating at the canteen. He inquired whether they regularly had meals there and how they rated the quality. The beneficiaries informed him that they ate there daily and appreciated the taste and quality of the food. He asked the staff about the number of people served during breakfast, lunch, and dinner sessions. He instructed that

the food must be provided on time, maintaining hygiene, and that proper seating arrangements like tables be made for those eating outside the canteen. The Collector also interacted with flower vendors near the canteen, asking about their source of flowers and whether they used the canteen. They shared that flowers are brought from Bengaluru and confirmed that they regularly ate meals at the Anna Canteen. Furthermore, the Collector asked the municipal commissioner to ensure that any eligible person not receiving pension should be assisted in applying for it. He also inspected the flower market nearby and reviewed the sanitation practices being followed by the municipal staff.



‘Adi Karmyogi’ Must Reach All Tribals: Collector

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

District Collector P. Ranjith Basha has directed officials to effectively implement the Adi Karmyogi Abhiyaan scheme aimed at the development of tribal communities. Chairing a review meeting on Wednesday at the Collectorate conference hall, he emphasized the need for convergence among departments to ensure the welfare and upliftment of tribal and nomadic communities. The Collector stated that the scheme, launched by the Central Government, should focus on key areas such as education, healthcare, roads, drinking water, housing, forest rights, and women and child welfare. He pointed out that there are around 35,000 tribal individuals in the district and directed officials to ensure all services and benefits reach them satisfactorily. He stressed the need to resolve issues related to Aadhaar cards and caste certificates for service delivery, ensure pension disbursement, facilitate loans, and create livelihood opportunities. Officials were also asked to identify Adi Karmyogis, Yogi, and Sah-Yogis at district, mandal, and village levels and provide them with training through master trainers. The Collector also reviewed the adoption progress of “Bangaru Kutumbalu” (golden families) and instructed MPDOs to complete the process. He encouraged the registration of volunteers who wish to support underprivileged families and reviewed progress mandal-wise.

Woman Found Dead

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

A 32 year old woman identified as Bhanu was found dead in suspicious circumstances near 5th Street of Indiramma Colony, Gandhinagar, within Gudur Rural limits of the erstwhile Nellore district. Residents told police they saw an auto rickshaw stop briefly before the woman's body was allegedly dumped near her house. Locals immediately alerted authorities, suspecting she had been murdered elsewhere and transported to the spot. Gudur Rural police registered a case of suspicious

death and began inquiries. Forensic teams collected evidence from the scene, while officers canvassed nearby CCTV cameras to trace the auto's route and identify its occupants. Preliminary examination revealed external injuries, suggesting foul play, though the exact cause of death will be confirmed after a post mortem at Gudur Government Hospital. Police have appealed to the public for information regarding the vehicle or persons involved and assured that all leads are being pursued swiftly to bring the culprits to justice.

Watchful Eyes and Articulate Voices Face Neglect

Journalists: Underpaid, Unrewarded Intellectual Workers of Our Times

In a world driven by information, journalists play a vital role as society’s watchful eyes and articulate voices. Yet, paradoxically, these torchbearers of truth are often among the most underpaid and unrewarded intellectual workers. Their work demands high cognitive effort, moral courage, and continuous learning — all while facing job insecurity, physical risk, and limited recognition.

Intellectual Labor
Without Respect

Journalism is not just about reporting facts; it involves investigation, contextual analysis, critical thinking, and articulation — all hallmarks of intellectual labor. Yet, unlike academics, scientists, or even popular influencers, journalists are seldom accorded the same intellectual stature. Their mental rigor often gets dismissed as “just writing stories.” Example: A senior reporter working tirelessly to uncover political corruption may be paid less than a PR executive writing promotional material for a brand.

High Risk, Low Reward

Journalists often operate in high-risk environments — from



war zones and disaster sites to politically hostile terrains. While their reporting may save lives or expose truths, the returns are mostly moral or symbolic. Financial incentives, job promotions, or societal support remain minimal. Example: Regional journalists in conflict-prone areas of India often work for as little as ₹5,000–₹10,000 per month with no life insurance or press protection.

The Irony of
the ‘Fourth Pillar’

Democracy hails the press as its fourth pillar, yet treats its practitioners like crumbling bricks. While politicians, bureaucrats,

and business magnates enjoy privileges and power, journalists — who hold them accountable — often live precariously, with freelance writers and stringers surviving on per-story payments.

The Vanishing
Editorial Sanctum

With the rise of corporate media houses and digital content platforms, editorial independence has eroded. Journalists are increasingly becoming content producers, forced to generate clicks rather than pursue truth. This shift turns intellectual inquiry into algorithm-friendly output, stifling investigative depth. Example: A science reporter wanting to write on climate change impacts may be told to cover a celebrity wedding instead due to better traffic potential.

Mental Burnout,
No Healing

The emotional toll of journalism — especially in conflict, crime, or trauma beats — is severe. Unlike professions with built-in support systems, journalists often lack mental health care, paid leave, or legal holidays. They are

expected to “move on” even after covering disturbing events.

Public Criticism,
Institutional Neglect

Journalists face regular abuse on social media, accusations of bias from every political corner, and increasing violence on ground. Meanwhile, media institutions often fail to back them, fearing backlash or legal complications. Thus, the worker is left alone, unrewarded and unprotected.

Who Will Speak
for the Speaker?

In any civil society, the worth of intellectual labor should be matched by dignity and sustenance. Journalists serve not just as recorders of reality but as interpreters of truth. If their work continues to be undervalued, it’s not just a professional crisis — it’s a democratic one. To empower journalism is to protect the people’s right to know. But to do so, we must first honor the journalist — not just with awards, but with fair pay, real safety, and lasting respect. Those in power and high places must take note of the plight of majority journalists and take corrective steps to better their lives.



Young GM Divya Deshmukh Makes Chess History

On July 28, 2025, in Batumi, Georgia, 19-year-old Divya Deshmukh made history by becoming the first Indian woman to win the FIDE Women’s World Cup. In a thrilling final against legendary compatriot Grandmaster Humpy Koneru, Divya’s victory marked not just a personal milestone, but a defining moment in Indian chess.

The 2025 Women’s World Cup featured 107 top players from 46 nations. Divya’s path to the crown was anything but easy. She overcame World No. 6 Zhu Jiner, former World Champion Tan Zhongyi, and veteran Harika Dronavalli. The final clash with Humpy, one of India’s most decorated players, was a dramatic showdown of nerves and skill. After the classical and first rapid game ended in draws, Divya sealed her win in the second rapid tiebreak with composure and precision.

This win catapulted Divya into the global spotlight and granted her the Grandmaster title—the highest in chess—automatically. Uniquely, she achieved it without previously earning a single GM norm, a testament to the magnitude of her triumph. She also secured a coveted place in the 2026 Candidates Tournament, moving one step closer to challenging for the Women’s World Championship title. Divya is now only the third woman to win this title, following Alexandra Kosteniuk and Aleksandra Graciano. Her win is historic not just for its rarity but because it symbolizes India’s rising dominance in women’s chess. For the first time, four Indian women reached the quarterfinals of the event—Divya, Humpy, Harika, and Vaishali—signaling a generational shift in the sport.

India-China Thaw Amid U.S. Strain: Tactical Pivot or Strategic Gamble?



Recent developments suggest a surprising softening in India-China relations, despite ongoing tensions. This thaw appears paradoxical, given China’s continued support for Pakistan during Operation Sindoor, the initiation of the Yarlung Zangbo dam project (seen as a threat by India), and rising economic coercion through export curbs on critical inputs like rare earths, semiconductors, and agri-tech. Yet, diplomatic signals indicate a willingness to engage: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar’s visit to China, India’s openness to revive the Russia-India-China (RIC) mechanism, resumed tourism visas and flights, and discussions over a possible 24% Chinese stake in Indian firms.

This convergence comes amid growing unease in India-U.S. relations, marked by trade friction, defense procurement issues, and disagreements over Russian sanctions. Delhi, once optimistic about a trade pact, now finds Washington’s demands—such as wider market access and the removal of non-tariff barriers—increasingly intrusive. President Trump’s blunt references to leverage-based diplomacy, particularly around the May 10 ceasefire, and U.S. reluctance on timely defense supplies like GE jet engines, have contributed to Indian skepticism.

India’s multi-alignment strategy has long used

tactical shifts in its China posture to extract better terms from the U.S., but this time, the context is more precarious. China is applying multifaceted pressure: militarily, via Pakistan and the LAC; ecologically, through the Zangbo dam; and economically, with coercive trade tactics. India is struggling to respond to these new levers effectively.

China’s economic arm-twisting—restricting exports vital to sectors like automotive and defense—is particularly alarming. Companies like Bajaj Auto have already warned of production halts. If China demands dual-use certification, the ripple effects could reach defense manufacturing. Yet, India may feel compelled to engage economically with China due to declining FDI, global supply chain ambitions, and hopes of ending coercive trade practices.

The danger lies in India’s tactical overtures becoming strategic vulnerabilities. Increased Chinese participation in sensitive sectors could enable Beijing to exert long-term economic leverage. Past experience shows that temporary goodwill may not result in durable cooperation. As geopolitical volatility grows, India must carefully balance short-term flexibility with long-term resilience—lest tactical engagement today turns into strategic dependence tomorrow.

Iran’s Strategic Path: A Clarification on Sovereignty, Sanctions, and Misconceptions



In response to the recent article “Snapback to Reality: On Iran’s 45-Year Slog to Nowhere,” Iran’s Ambassador to India, Dr. Iraj Elahi, offers a pointed rebuttal, emphasizing that such narratives distort Iran’s historical and strategic reality. While the original piece frames Iran as a nation isolated due to its policies, Ambassador Elahi argues that the country’s path is rooted not in defiance, but in dignity and sovereignty.

He begins by reminding readers that the 1979 Islamic Revolution was not born out of blind hostility toward the West. Rather, it was a reaction to decades of foreign interference, coups, and exploitation. Iran’s resistance, he asserts, is not about hatred but about refusing subjugation. Its slogans reflect historical memory and the pursuit of justice—not a desire for endless enmity with nations like the U.S. or Israel.

On the nuclear issue, the ambassador defends Iran’s record under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), saying that Iran upheld its commitments, as verified by the International Atomic Energy Agency. It was the U.S., under the Trump administration, that unilaterally withdrew from the agreement and re-imposed sanctions. Iran’s subsequent actions were lawful and

within the deal’s framework, contrary to the claim that Iran escalated tensions unprovoked.

Addressing the idea that Iran faces a binary choice between “capitulation or collapse,” Ambassador Elahi calls for a more nuanced understanding. He stresses that Iran is open to fair and respectful negotiations—but will not yield to threats disguised as diplomacy. He urges Western powers to recognize their role in fostering mistrust and to end collective punishment through sanctions.

On regional matters, the ambassador defends Iran’s alliances in Lebanon, Palestine, Iraq, and Yemen, framing them as support for resistance movements rather than imperial ambition. He points out that Iran has consistently called for regional dialogue and a nuclear-free Middle East—calls that have been ignored while Israel’s undeclared arsenal remains untouched.

Concluding his remarks, Ambassador Elahi calls for mutual respect, stating that Iran does not seek conflict but refuses to trade its sovereignty for survival. “Iran will remain what it has always been,” he writes—“independent, proud, and unafraid to choose its own path.”

"Don't Control Me": Jaya Bachchan Sparks Controversy Over 'Operation Sindoor' Remarks

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Samajwadi Party MP and veteran actor Jaya Bachchan stirred a heated debate in the Rajya Sabha today during a discussion on Operation Sindoor, questioning both the intelligence failure behind the Pahalgam terror attack and the naming of the operation itself.

Ms Bachchan opened her address by expressing grief over the 26 lives lost in the Baisaran Valley attack in April. She then sharply criticized the symbolic choice of the operation's name. "Why name it Sindoor? The sindoor has been wiped away from the foreheads of so many women whose husbands were murdered. Is this something to glorify?" she said, directing her remarks at the ruling party.

Her comments triggered protests from BJP MPs, and an attempt by Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi to calm her down led to an unexpected outburst. "Priyanka, don't control me," Ms Bachchan snapped, visibly irked. Chaturvedi, seated beside her, laughed off the reaction, but the moment quickly went viral.

Ms Bachchan continued, slamming the



government's intelligence failure in preventing the massacre and accused them of shattering public trust. "The families of the victims will never forgive you," she said.

The BJP hit back strongly, defending the operation's name. Party spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla said, "Sindoor is not just decoration — it is a symbol of strength. Operation Sindoor was about avenging that

loss and sending a message to terrorists."

Operation Sindoor was reportedly named by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to honour the women who witnessed the killings of their husbands. Critics, however, argue the name is insensitive and politicises grief. The debate reflects the growing tensions between the government and opposition over national security and symbolic narratives.

Indus Water Treaty Suspended: Jaishankar Slams Congress Over Historic "Mistakes"



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar announced in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday that the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) with

Pakistan will be held in abeyance until Islamabad irreversibly ends its support for terrorism. The decision follows the deadly terror attack in Pahalgam in April, which claimed the lives of 26 people.

During his address, Jaishankar took a sharp dig at the Congress party, accusing it of being "uncomfortable with history" and unwilling to confront past errors. He cited how the treaty, signed in 1960, granted Pakistan access to major rivers originating in India, calling it a "unique agreement" in global diplomatic history.

"I cannot think of any other agreement where a country allows its major rivers to flow into another without securing its own rights," Jaishankar said, referring to the provisions of the IWT.

He particularly targeted former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, quoting his state-

ment in Parliament from November 30, 1960, where Nehru allegedly prioritized the interests of Pakistani Punjab over Indian states. "There was no mention of the farmers of Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, or Gujarat," Jaishankar said, questioning the intent and foresight of the treaty's original architects.

The minister credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi with reversing historical oversights, citing the abrogation of Article 370 and now the suspension of the Indus Water Treaty as evidence of decisive action. "We were told for 60 years that these mistakes could not be corrected. PM Modi has proven that they can," he stated.

Jaishankar concluded with a firm warning: "Blood and water will not flow together." The suspension of the IWT, he said, is a strong diplomatic signal that peace and cooperation cannot coexist with terrorism.

Priyanka Gandhi Leads Protest Over Nuns' Arrest; Shashi Tharoor's Absence Raises Eyebrows



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra led a high-profile protest in Parliament on Tuesday, condemning the arrest of two Kerala-based Catholic nuns in Chhattisgarh, who were accused of human trafficking and forced religious conversion. However, the absence of senior Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, who participated in a similar protest just a day earlier, raised fresh questions about his growing distance from the party leadership.

Ms Gandhi Vadra, joined by other Kerala Congress MPs, denounced the arrests as a targeted attack on minorities. "These nuns were accused of things they were not in-

volved in. They were manhandled and taken away. We are protesting against such assaults on minority communities," she told reporters.

Tharoor, who had vocally supported the cause on Monday with a placard reading "India for all, proud to be one," was notably missing on Tuesday. His absence is being viewed in the context of recent tensions between him and the Congress high command, especially following his remarks after the Pahalgam terror attack and the government's Operation Sindoor. His refusal to speak in Parliament during the Operation Sindoor debate — allegedly because he would not "contradict himself for party messaging" — only deepened the rift.

The controversy stems from the arrest of two nuns at Durg railway station. Allegations were made by Bajrang Dal members that the nuns were trafficking three minor tribal girls. The police booked them under the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita and the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act.

The incident has triggered nationwide backlash. Rahul Gandhi demanded their immediate release, saying religious freedom is a constitutional right. Interestingly, BJP Kerala leaders also defended the nuns, with party president Rajeesh Chandrasekhar promising to assist in their release. However, Chhattisgarh CM Vishnu Deo Sai stood by the arrests, accusing the opposition of politicising the issue.



"CJI's Office Not a Post Office": Supreme Court Questions Judge in Cash Recovery Case

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a high-profile courtroom exchange, the Supreme Court strongly rebuked Justice Yashwant Varma, who is under scrutiny after large sums of cash were found at his Delhi residence during a fire incident. Justice Varma is challenging the findings of a three-member in-house committee that recommended his removal.

The bench, led by Justices Dipankar Datta and Augustine George Masih, emphasized that the Chief Justice of India's office "is not a post office" but carries a national duty as the judiciary's leader. The remarks came in response to Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal, who argued that the committee overstepped its constitutional role.

Sibal insisted that under Article 124 of the Constitution and the Judges (Inquiry) Act, the committee cannot recommend a judge's removal—only advise the Chief Justice. He added that allowing this process would create an "extra-constitutional mechanism."

Justice Datta countered this, asserting that the CJI has a responsibility to forward misconduct reports to the President and Prime Minister when warranted. He added that the Chief Justice's office must act when credible information is received, not merely pass along complaints.

Sibal further alleged that the findings were politically influenced and that Justice Varma was not given a fair opportunity to respond during the inquiry. The bench, however, maintained that the panel's report is preliminary and does not bind future parliamentary action.

Critically, the bench also questioned Justice Varma's timing in approaching the court, stating, "You were waiting for a favourable outcome, and when it turned against you, you came here. That does not inspire confidence."

The court reserved its judgment but made clear that the issue touches on the integrity of the judiciary and constitutional responsibility at the highest levels.



Some States Failed: Minister Shivraj Singh Announces Changes To Crop Insurance Scheme

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan today announced major reforms to the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), aimed at protecting farmers from losing crop insurance benefits due to state government defaults.

Highlighting issues faced under the previous Jagan Reddy government in Andhra Pradesh, Chouhan revealed that the state failed to pay its share of the insurance premium for three consecutive years, leaving many farmers without compensation. "Some states, like Andhra Pradesh, committed to covering the entire farmer premium but later defaulted, causing massive distress," he said in Parliament, responding to Rajasthan MP Hanuman Beniwal.

In response, the Centre has revised the PMFBY to ensure farmers receive their insurance benefits even if state governments delay or skip their contributions. Going forward, the Union Government will pay its share regardless of the state's participation, ensuring uninterrupted support for farmers.

To enforce accountability, Chouhan also announced a new penalty clause: if a state fails to pay its premium share, it will incur 12% interest, which will be directly deposited into the accounts of affected farmers.

"This change is rooted in our commitment to farmers. Insurance claims will no longer be hostage to politics or state-level inefficiency," the Minister said. Under PM Modi's leadership, he added, the scheme continues to evolve in favour of farmers, settling claims within 21 days and preventing bureaucratic hurdles. The policy shift is seen as a bold move to shield farmers from administrative lapses while pressuring states to honour their financial responsibilities.

Massive Earthquake in Russia

Tsunami Alert in America, Japan...

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

A massive earthquake with a magnitude of 8.7 struck near Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula early this morning, triggering tsunami warnings for the United States, Japan, and several Pacific island nations. Waves rising as high as 13 feet led to evacuations in coastal areas and reports of building damage in the region.

8.7 Magnitude Quake Shakes Kamchatka

According to the US Geological Survey (USGS), the earthquake occurred at a depth of 19.3 kilometers (12 miles), with the epicenter located approximately 125 kilometers (80 miles) east-southeast of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky in Avacha Bay. The magnitude was initially reported as 8.0 before being upgraded to 8.7. Russian officials confirmed that villages were being evacuated, and at least one kindergarten suffered damage.

Tsunami Warnings Across Pacific

Following the earthquake, Russia's Emergency Minister Sergei Lebedev reported tsunami waves of 3 to 4 meters (10 to 13 feet) in parts of Kamchatka. He warned the public to stay away from the coast. The US Tsunami Warning System also issued alerts for "dangerous tsunami waves" potentially affecting the



northwestern Hawaiian Islands and the Russian Far East. Waves of more than 3 meters could reach those areas within hours.

Waves between 0.3 to 1 meter (1 to 3.3 feet) are expected to hit Chuuk, Kosrae, the Marshall Islands, Palau, and the Philippines, while less than 0.3-meter waves are predicted along the coasts of South Korea, North Korea, and Taiwan.

Japan Braces for Impact

The Japan Meteorological Agency issued a tsunami warning forecasting waves up to 1 meter (3.28 feet) for coastal regions. The alert came shortly after a second quake measuring 6.9 struck southeast of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky at 5:39 a.m. IST, at a depth of 10 kilometers (6.2 miles).

Region With Seismic History

The Kamchatka Peninsula is historically known for frequent seismic activity. In July this year, the region experienced five significant earthquakes, including a 7.4-magnitude event offshore. The most powerful quake on record in Kamchatka occurred on November 4, 1952—a 9.0 magnitude earthquake that generated 30-foot waves in Hawaii, though no fatalities were reported. Monitoring agencies continue to assess the threat across the Pacific region, urging caution and preparation as waves continue to build.



UK PM Keir Starmer Threatens to Recognize Palestine if Gaza Crisis Continues

TPN Correspondent | London

United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer has announced that the UK will recognize a Palestinian state at the upcoming United Nations General Assembly in September if Israel does not take "substantive steps" to end the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and commit to a genuine peace process. This statement, made during a special Cabinet meeting and later addressed at Downing Street, marks a major shift in Britain's long-standing position on the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Starmer cited the worsening conditions in Gaza, describing scenes of starving children and a catastrophic failure to deliver aid as the driving force behind the decision. "We see starving babies, children too weak to stand, images that will stay with us for a lifetime," he said. The Prime Minister emphasized that the peace process is "under threat," and that immediate action is needed to prevent further devastation.

However, Israel's government quickly dismissed the move, labeling it as a "reward for Hamas," with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu criticizing it as "appeasement." Starmer maintained that for progress to be made, Hamas must release all remaining hostages, disarm, and accept that it will not govern Gaza.

UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy, speaking at a UN conference in New York, highlighted Britain's "special burden of responsibility" due to its historic role in the region. The announcement was met with applause and hailed as the biggest shift in the UK's approach to the Israel-Palestine issue in a generation. While some British MPs and international allies support the move, there is uncertainty over whether it will satisfy activists demanding stronger action or provoke criticism from figures like US President Donald Trump, who remains skeptical about recognizing Palestine. The coming weeks will be critical as the UK prepares to make its formal stance clear at the UN.

Trump Imposes 25% Tariff on Indian Imports

TPN Correspondent | Washington

United States President Donald Trump on Tuesday issued a strong warning to India regarding potential tariffs on its imports, stating that if a trade agreement is not reached soon, Indian goods could face tariffs as high as 25 percent. Speaking to reporters, Trump emphasized the need for a fair trade deal that provides greater access for American products to the Indian market.

When asked if India would be charged tariffs between 20 and 25 percent, Trump responded, "Yeah, I think so. India has been; they're my friends." Despite the friendly tone, his statement made it clear that the US is prepared to impose significant tariffs to protect its economic interests if negotiations stall.

Trump's administration has been



pushing aggressively for improved trade terms with India, aiming to reduce the trade deficit and open India's market to more American goods and services. The two countries have been engaged in ongoing talks to address tariffs, market access, and regulatory issues.

This latest warning comes amid growing tensions over trade policies and tariffs globally, with the US adopting a tougher stance on several trading

partners. For India, which has a growing economy reliant on exports and imports, the threat of a 25% tariff on its products poses a significant challenge.

Indian officials have expressed willingness to negotiate but have also reiterated the importance of protecting domestic industries and ensuring fair trade terms. The situation remains fluid as both sides work to avoid a full-blown trade conflict that could impact businesses and consumers in both countries.

With time running short, the focus now shifts to upcoming negotiations where both nations will attempt to strike a balance between protecting national interests and fostering a beneficial economic partnership. The outcome will have wide-reaching implications for the future of India-US trade relations.

Bangladesh-US Third Round of Tariff Talks Underway in Washington, DC

TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

The third round of tariff discussions between Bangladesh and the United States officially commenced on Tuesday in Washington, DC. The talks, led by Bangladesh's Commerce Adviser Sheikh Bashiruddin and National Security Adviser Khalilur Rahman, aim to resolve ongoing trade tensions and explore opportunities for deeper cooperation.

The informal session began at 12:30 pm local time and continued until 5:30 pm, with plans to resume the discussions Wednesday morning. The Bangladesh delegation, accompanied by officials from various ministries participating virtually from Dhaka, met with the US team led by Assistant Trade Representative Brendan Lynch and officials from trade and customs departments.

This round comes amid significant developments in bilateral relations. Bangladesh recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to



annually purchase 700,000 tonnes of wheat from the US, a deal signed by Md Abul Hasanat Humayun Kabir, Director General of Bangladesh's Food Department, and Joseph K. Sower, Vice President of the US Wheat Association. Food Adviser Ali Imam Majumder emphasized that the MoU aims to enhance food security, nutritional quality, and supply, while also fostering trust and broader trade cooperation between the two nations.

In addition to trade talks, the US announced continued joint military exercises with Bangladesh. The US Embassy in Dhaka highlighted ongoing partnerships through three joint military exercises this summer, along with delivery of new capabilities to strengthen regional security.

The tariff discussions follow a July 9 letter from US President Donald Trump imposing a 35 percent tariff on Bangladesh, effective August 1.

Indian Markets See Moderate Gains



Domestic stock markets gained moderately on Wednesday. Benchmark indices were volatile throughout. Mixed signals from global markets, US inflation and unemployment data, Fed results and crude oil prices are the reasons for this. Although there is some enthusiasm as companies report better results, investors are acting cautiously. The weakening of the rupee against the dollar also contributed to this. Overall, the Nifty rose 33 points and the Sensex rose 143 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,337 in the previous session, opened at 81,594 on Wednesday. It touched an intraday low of 81,187. It reached an intraday high of 81,618. It finally closed at 81,486 with a gain of 143 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,890, touched a low of 24,771 and a high of 24,902. It closed at 24,855, up 33 points. The Nifty Bank fell 71 points to settle at 56,150.

In the Nifty50, 23 companies gained and 27 lost. Larsen & Turbo, Sun Pharma, NTPC, Maruti, Tata Consumer Products were the top gainers. Hero Moto, Power Grid, Bajaj Auto, Eternal, Coal India were the biggest losers. Today, the Infra, IT, Defense, FMCG, Consumer Dura-

bles, and Commodities indices rose marginally. Realty, media, PSU bank, mobility, auto, tourism, healthcare indices rose.

Market breadth on NSE today was equal for buyers and sellers. Out of a total of 3057 stocks traded, 1508 gained and 1465 lost. 85 shares touched their 52-week high and 35 touched their 52-week low. The upper circuit was 94 and the lower circuit was 26.

The rupee weakened by 60 paise to settle at 87.42 against the dollar. HSBC raised its target on Nippon AMC to Rs. 690 and gave it a hold rating. Nuama has given a buy rating to Varun Beverages with a target price of Rs. 606. JBM Auto Q1 profit rose 11% to Rs 37 crore from Rs 33.4 crore. Welspun Living Q1 profit fell 52% to Rs 89.3 crore from Rs 186 crore. M&B Engineering IPO received a response of 0.50 times on the first day afternoon. It is noteworthy that HSBC has given a buy rating to Ather Energy with a target price of Rs 450. NSDL IPO received a response of 1.45 times till the first day afternoon. New India Assurance shares rose 15% on the rise in Q1 profit. Power Grid net profit grew 7% to Rs 3653 crore from Rs 3412 crore. By the afternoon of the second day, Lakshmi India Finance's IPO received a response of 0.86 times.



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India's FDI Dilemma

Balancing Sovereignty and Global Investment Goals

India finds itself at a crossroads in its pursuit of foreign direct investment (FDI). While the country aspires to become a global economic powerhouse and attract international investors, its retreat from key international frameworks such as Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) paints a conflicting picture. This duality has led to a paradox: a government advocating for FDI while enacting policies that may deter it.

India's economic liberalization began in the early 1990s under Prime Minister Narasimha Rao and Finance Minister Manmohan Singh. At that time, reforms allowed foreign investments through automatic and approved routes, laying the foundation for India's FDI journey. However, three decades later, the trajectory has lost momentum. According to the IMF's 2024 Article IV report, India's share in global FDI fell sharply from 6.5% in 2020 to 2% in 2023. UNCTAD's 2024 report and past World Bank rankings emphasize the need for policy stability and deeper trade integration to regain investor trust.

A key area of concern is India's withdrawal from the Investor-State Dispute

Settlement (ISDS) mechanisms. While the move is intended to preserve national sovereignty and regulatory space, it has raised alarm among investors who seek legal predictability and enforcement. The 2015 Model BIT reflects India's cautious approach, emphasizing domestic legal remedies and echoing principles akin to Latin America's Calvo Doctrine.

India terminated over 60 BITs between 2016 and 2019, coinciding with a 32% drop in greenfield FDI projects. Scholars suggest this may have contributed to a 30% fall in overall investment inflows. Despite reforms in patent laws and business regulations, high-profile arbitration cases like Vodafone and White Industries continue to haunt investor sentiment.

Moving forward, India must strike a delicate balance—preserving its sovereign right to regulate while fostering a policy environment that reassures foreign investors. Rebuilding FDI momentum will require not just legal clarity and policy coherence, but also a transparent, geopolitically neutral approach that aligns domestic priorities with global economic aspirations.



India-China Econ Thaw Begins, Caution Persists: FM

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has acknowledged early signs of improving economic engagement between India and China, but stressed the need for a "sense of caution" as the two Asian powers navigate a complex relationship. Speaking at the launch of A World in Flux: India's Economic Priorities, Sitharaman remarked that both nations are showing interest in increased interaction, including recent relaxations in visa norms.

"This could be a beginning, but we have to wait and see how far it goes," she said, noting that while access and economic collaboration might benefit both countries, the past still warrants a cautious approach.

India had imposed strict investment restrictions on China through Press Note 3 in April 2020. This move was aimed at preventing potential opportunistic takeovers of Indian firms during the economic vulnerabilities of the COVID-19 pandemic. While these curbs remain partially in place, recent developments point to a subtle but notable shift in tone.

Sitharaman emphasized that India's priority remains sustaining strong economic growth while playing a proactive role in reshaping global institutions and asserting leadership in the Global South. She also highlighted the importance of having a business-friendly and appealing FDI policy to attract long-term investments.

Commenting on the broader trend in global



trade, she observed that bilateral and regional trade agreements are increasingly taking precedence over multilateral frameworks. However, she refrained from judging whether this trend was beneficial, saying it's "too early to say."

Her remarks come at a time when India is working to position itself as a resilient and stable investment destination amidst shifting global supply chains and geopolitical uncertainty. As New Delhi cautiously re-engages with Beijing, the government appears to be balancing strategic interests with pragmatic economic considerations.

The evolving Indo-China dynamic, while still fragile, may offer opportunities for both economies—provided it is managed with foresight, caution, and mutual respect.

Gold Rate Hike Grabs Investor Attention

Gold prices in India saw a noticeable hike today, July 30, 2025, drawing the attention of investors, jewellers, and consumers alike. With prices reaching significant levels, the precious metal continues to cement its role as a hedge against inflation and a safe-haven investment during global uncertainties. Today's rates highlight a steady upward trend that has been developing over recent months, influenced by both domestic and international factors.

In major cities across India, gold prices for 24 karat have touched new highs. The price per gram of 24K gold stands at ₹10,048, while 22K gold is retailing at ₹9,210 per gram. Meanwhile, 18K gold, commonly used in lightweight and everyday jewellery, is being sold at ₹7,536 per gram. This marks a marginal but consistent rise from the previous day's prices, with cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, and Kolkata reflecting similar patterns.

Experts believe that the rise in gold prices is tied to several global economic concerns, including geopolitical instability, currency fluctuations, and inflationary pressures in the US and Europe. Locally, demand for gold remains strong, especially with the upcoming festive and wedding seasons likely to further push the demand curve



upward. Additionally, gold's traditional appeal as a secure asset in uncertain times is again drawing investors to add it to their portfolios.

In Delhi, the rate for 18K gold increased from ₹7,499 to ₹7,548 per gram overnight, showing the market's responsive nature to broader trends. In Chennai, 24K gold crossed ₹10,098 per gram, among the highest in the country. Such increases are causing many to reassess their buying decisions, with some rushing to purchase ahead of further hikes, while others prefer to wait for potential price corrections.

As global economic conditions evolve, analysts suggest that the volatility in gold prices may persist, urging buyers to stay informed and cautious.

Baba Vanga’s Prediction Comes True After 25 Days?

Anxiety Hits Amid Japan, Russia Tsunami

A massive 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck off Russia’s Kamchatka Peninsula on Wednesday, triggering tsunami alerts across Japan’s Pacific coast and reviving an eerie prophecy from a decades-old manga. The incident, marked as the region’s strongest since 1952, caused tsunami waves measuring 3–4 metres to hit parts of Russia, while smaller waves were reported in Japan.

What has shocked many is the resurfacing of predictions made in Watashi ga Mita Mirai (The Future I Saw), a manga by Japanese artist Ryo Tatsuki. The manga, first published in 1999, has previously gained attention for foreseeing major events like the death of Princess Diana, the 2011 tsunami, and the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, fans pointed to a warning in the manga suggesting a disaster in July 2025. While July 5 passed uneventfully, this week’s quake has revived the prophecy, with social media now abuzz, dubbing Tatsuki the “New Baba Vanga.”

Comments online reflect growing anxiety. “Not the exact date, but you have to respect Ryo Tatsuki,” one user wrote. Another tweeted, “Mas-

sive 3 Feet Tsunami Alert after a powerful 8.8 Earthquake—Tatsuki did it again!”

The quake hit about 125 km southeast of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky at a shallow depth of 19.3 km, causing panic across Russia’s Far East. In Japan, tsunami sirens rang out, coastal evacuations were ordered, and fishing boats were sent out to sea. The Fukushima nuclear plant took precautionary measures, though no damage or radiation leaks were reported.

While Japan only recorded small tsunami waves with no major destruction, authorities remain on high alert. The unsettling coincidence between fiction and reality has triggered a wave of speculation, with many drawing comparisons between Tatsuki’s manga and the legendary predictions of Baba Vanga—raising questions about fate, foresight, and fear.



Engineers Create Innovative Robotic Arm to Assist People With Mobility Impairments

In a major step forward for assistive technology, engineers at Virginia Tech have developed a robotic system designed to support individuals with mobility impairments in completing everyday tasks. The system features a robotic arm equipped with an adaptive gripper capable of handling objects of various sizes, shapes, and textures with remarkable precision and care. This innovation is particularly effective for handling delicate items like fruits, vegetables, and baked goods.

Traditional robotic grippers typically fall into two categories: soft grippers and rigid end-effectors. Each type has its own limitations—soft grippers struggle to lift irregular, heavy objects, while rigid grippers often fail to grasp small or fragile items effectively. To overcome these challenges, the team introduced a new hybrid approach called RISOs, which merges *Rigid end-effectors with **SO*ft adhesives.

“Our philosophy is that if you are going to provide someone with a robot to help them, it needs to mimic how a person would naturally perform the same task,” explained Dylan Losey, associate professor of mechanical engineering. “This way, the robot acts more like an extension of the user’s own movement, making it

more intuitive and user-friendly.”

The RISOs system can switch between gripping modes—using either rigid fingers to pinch or soft, adhesive materials that attach and release objects gently. This hybrid functionality enhances the robot’s ability to manipulate a broader range of objects, combining strength with sensitivity.

The team also enabled the robot to receive inputs via joystick and developed a soft, bubble-like fingertip that deflates upon contact, creating a temporary adhesive bond for secure gripping.

This breakthrough could significantly improve the quality of life for people with physical limitations, giving them greater independence in performing routine activities.



Bitchat vs WhatsApp

Offline Messaging App Sparks Buzz



In an era where WhatsApp is deeply woven into our daily routines, a surprising new challenger has emerged—Bitchat, a messaging app that doesn’t require Wi-Fi or mobile data. Launched by Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey, Bitchat is gaining attention for its unique ability to function completely offline using only Bluetooth technology.

What sets Bitchat apart is its Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) mesh networking system, which allows users to send messages to nearby devices within a 30-meter range. Instead of routing messages through central servers like WhatsApp or Telegram, Bitchat sends messages by splitting them into small encrypted data packets, which are then broadcast via BLE. These packets are reassembled into the original message on the recipient’s phone if they’re within range. If not, the data can “hop” through other Bitchat-connected devices until it reaches the destination.

Importantly, all messages are end-to-end encrypted and

stored temporarily in device memory. Each message has a Time-To-Live (TTL), after which it disappears, offering enhanced privacy and security—features that modern-day users increasingly demand.

Social media is abuzz with excitement over the app’s potential. Users are imagining practical uses, like communicating during crowded events or in places with poor signal coverage. One user joked, “I built ‘Sitchat’ too—no phone, just two people sitting and chatting,” poking fun at tech’s cyclical nature.

Others compared Bitchat to fictional tech from the series Silicon Valley, calling it the real-world version of “Pied Piper.” With over 9 million views on related posts, Bitchat is clearly striking a chord.

As conversations around digital privacy and decentralization grow, Bitchat could offer a glimpse into the future of communication—a world where we stay connected, even when the internet doesn’t.

All You Wanted to Know About Death

Death remains one of life’s most mysterious and often avoided topics, even though it is the most certain. Across cultures, people grapple with questions about what happens as we die, how to deal with grief, and how to prepare for the end. While traditions may differ, the questions surrounding death are universal.

In ancient Indian mythology, the Mahabharata captures this existential dilemma when Yudhishtira answers the Yaksha’s question: “What is the greatest truth of life?” His answer was simple and profound: “Death.”

Despite its inevitability, most people avoid discussing death—often until it is too late. However, understanding the process of dying can ease fear and prepare loved ones for what lies ahead.

In the final weeks of life, a person’s appetite typically declines, and they tend to



sleep more. Near death, physical signs like irregular breathing, blue-tinted skin, and weak pulse may appear. Some people experience confusion or hallucinations, while others lose consciousness gradually.

A common phenomenon near the end is the “death rattle”—a gurgling sound caused by the buildup of saliva in the throat when a person can no longer swallow. Though distressing for families, it is not painful for the dying individual.

Can dying people still hear? Research shows that some may respond to familiar voices or sounds, even in unconscious states. Studies, including brain scans, support the idea that hearing may be the last sense to fade.

Pain at the end of life depends on the illness and care received. With proper pain relief, most discomfort can be managed. Near-death experiences—such as seeing a bright light or feeling peaceful—have been reported by many people revived after cardiac arrest.

Around the world, “Death Cafés” offer safe spaces to talk about death. In India, such gatherings are growing, helping people face mortality with openness and clarity.

Understanding death better may not remove the fear—but it can certainly bring peace.

‘World Sleeping on Coimbatore’?

A recent social media post has unexpectedly thrust Coimbatore into the national spotlight, sparking praise, pride, and some necessary corrections. The viral tweet came from Sidharth, a self-described policy and geopolitical strategist, who stated, “The world is sleeping on Coimbatore. While everyone’s chasing hype in Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad, Coimbatore is quietly building factories, startups, and talent.”

The statement struck a chord with many. Social media users echoed his thoughts, celebrating Coimbatore as a “self-made city” known for its silent but steady progress. Some even compared its growth trajectory to cities like Denver and Boulder in the US, citing its innovation, entrepreneurial spirit, and industrial legacy. Many



called attention to the city’s solid economy, largely driven by family-run businesses, engineering firms, and homegrown brands. One user remarked, “It’s one of India’s strongest private sector economies, built without noise or glamour.”

Some speculated that Coimbatore might soon emerge as a tech destination, with major IT companies potentially setting up

operations there due to its cost efficiency and infrastructure.

However, not everyone agreed with the idea that Coimbatore is just “rising.” Several locals and industry insiders pushed back, insisting that the city’s contribution to Indian industry has been evident for decades. “No, no one is sleeping on Coimbatore. It’s already there. It’s just that it doesn’t wear the glam of the IT world,” one user clarified. Another added, “Coimbatore, my city—it’s not building, it’s built. It’s an industrial hub and always has been.”

The viral post has reignited conversations around India’s Tier-2 cities, which are often overlooked despite their significant contributions. Whether it’s rising or already risen, Coimbatore is undeniably on everyone’s radar now.

India Drawn into Group C with Japan

Vietnam & Chinese Taipei for AFC Women’s Asian Cup 2026



India has been placed in a challenging Group C for the AFC Women’s Asian Cup 2026, set to take place in Australia from March 1 to 21. The draw, held at Sydney Town Hall on July 29, featured Indian midfielder Sangita Basfore as one of the draw assistants.

The Blue Tigresses will face Vietnam in their tournament opener on March 4 at the Perth Rectangular Stadium. They will then take on Asian giants Japan on March 7, followed by a match against former champions Chinese Taipei on March 10 at the Western Sydney Stadium.

Group C is one of the toughest in the tournament. Japan, ranked 7th globally, are former World Cup winners (2011) and two-time Asian Cup champions (2014, 2018). Vietnam, ranked 37th, are coming off their 2023 Women’s World Cup debut and are hungry for a return to the global stage. Chinese Taipei, ranked 42nd, boast three Asian Cup titles, though their last came in 1980.

India, currently ranked 70th, are the lowest-ranked team in the group. However, head coach Crispin Chettri expressed cautious optimism, stating, “It’s a tricky group, but we can compete with Vietnam and Chinese Taipei. Our preparation now has to be smart and focused.”

Sangita Basfore added, “We’ve played all three teams before. Our dream is to reach the World Cup in Brazil, and now we’re just one step away.”

The top two teams from each group, along with the two best third-placed teams, will qualify for the quarterfinals. The four semifinalists will book direct tickets to the 2027 FIFA Women’s World Cup, while quarterfinal losers will get another shot through playoffs.

India will be looking to overcome the heartbreak of 2022, where a COVID outbreak forced their withdrawal from the tournament.

Ayush Shetty Reaches Macau Open Quarters

India’s Ayush Shetty continued his fine run at the Macau Open BWF Super 300 tournament by storming into the quarterfinals with a dominant win over Chinese Taipei’s Huang Yu Kai on Wednesday.

Seeded seventh, Shetty, ranked 31st in the world, displayed complete control over the proceedings as he dispatched the world No. 66 Huang in straight games, 21-10, 21-11, in just 31 minutes. His aggressive gameplay and consistent shot-making left no room for a comeback from his opponent.

India also tasted success in mixed doubles, where the fifth-seeded pair of Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto, currently ranked 18th in the world, delivered a commanding performance. They defeated Thailand’s Ratchapol Makkasasithorn and Nat-tamon Laisuan 21-10, 21-15 in a quick 26-minute match to advance to the next round.

However, the day was not entirely positive for the Indian contingent.

In men’s singles, Sathish Kumar Karunakaran saw his campaign come to an end after a hard-

fought loss to Malaysia’s Justin Hoh. Despite a close opening game, Sathish could not sustain momentum and went down 19-21, 12-21 in 37 minutes.

India suffered another setback in mixed doubles, with Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde bowing out in the pre-quarterfinals. The 34th-ranked duo lost a close contest to Chinese Taipei’s Wu Guan Xun and Lee Chia Hsin 20-22, 17-21 in a match that also lasted 37 minutes.

With Shetty and the Dhruv-Tanisha duo advancing, India will look to keep its hopes alive in the tournament as the quarterfinals approach. All eyes will now be on the remaining players to carry the Indian challenge forward in Macau.



India to Play CAFA Nations Cup 2025



As part of their preparations for the AFC Asian Cup 2027 Qualifiers final round, the Indian senior men’s football team will take part in the CAFA (Central Asian Football Association) Nations Cup 2025. The tournament is scheduled from August 31 to September 8, and will be jointly hosted by Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.

India has been placed in Group B, which will be played in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The Blue Tigers are set to face hosts Tajikistan on August 29, defending champions Iran on September 1, and Afghanistan on September 4, according to an official release from the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

This participation marks an important phase in India’s road to the Asian Cup, offering crucial international exposure against higher-ranked Central Asian teams. Iran, currently the region’s top footballing side, will be a major challenge, having won the inaugural edition of the tournament in 2023 with a 1-0 victory over Uzbeki-

stan.

The top two teams from each group will advance to the play-off stage, with both matches scheduled for September 8. The third-place match between the group runners-up will be held in Dushanbe, while the two group winners will contest the final in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Group A, hosted in Tashkent, features Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan, and invited side Oman.

The CAFA Nations Cup is a biennial tournament with six regular members: Afghanistan, Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. India and Oman have been invited as guest participants in the second edition of the tournament.

India’s involvement in this competitive regional event is expected to provide valuable match practice, strategic insights, and help fine-tune the squad ahead of crucial AFC qualifiers.

Zverev Returns with Victory at Toronto Masters After Mental Health Break

Alexander Zverev marked his return to tennis with a solid win at the ATP Toronto Masters, defeating Australia’s Adam Walton 7-6(8), 6-3 to book a spot in the third round. This match was Zverev’s first in over a month, following a break to recover from mental burnout after an early exit at Wimbledon.

During his time away, the world No. 3 visited Rafael Nadal’s academy in Mallorca for guidance and consultation. His comeback in Toronto wasn’t without challenge—he trailed 1-4 in the first-set tiebreak but stormed back, eventually clinching the match in just over 90 minutes. A 52-shot rally and a total of 499 career wins underscored his effort. “It was not the prettiest match,” Zverev admitted, “but sometimes it’s just about winning.” Next, Zverev will face Italy’s Matteo Arnaldi, who beat qualifier Tristan Schoolkate 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.



Other seeded players also advanced. Third seed Lorenzo Musetti dismissed James Duckworth 7-5, 6-1 in a clinical display, breaking the Australian with a double fault at 5-1 and sealing the match with an

ace. Musetti, bouncing back from recent losses at Wimbledon and Washington, now faces American Alex Michelsen.

Fifth seed Holger Rune defeated France’s Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard 7-6(9), 6-3, securing his first hard-court win since March. “It was a tricky match,” Rune said. “I served well and stayed focused in key moments.”

Eighth seed Casper Ruud saw off Roman Safiullin 6-3, 6-3, while 11th seed Karen Khachanov cruised past Juan Pablo Ficovich 6-4, 6-2. Defending champion Alexei Popyrin beat Canadian wildcard Nicolas Arseneault, and 10th seed Daniil Medvedev overcame Czech Dalibor Svrčina despite 40 unforced errors. Denis Shapovalov’s home woes continued with a 7-6(4), 7-5 loss to Learner Tien, extending his winless run in Canada since 2019.

Bumrah Likely to Miss Series-Decider at Oval

Akash Deep Likely Replacement

Star Indian pacer Jasprit Bumrah is likely to sit out the crucial fifth Test against England at The Oval, starting Thursday, July 31. Sources indicate the decision is a precautionary one, made in consultation with the BCCI medical team to manage Bumrah’s workload and safeguard his long-term fitness, particularly his back. Bumrah featured in the first, third, and fourth matches of the five-Test series but was rested for the second Test at Edgbaston. Ahead of the series, the BCCI had already clarified that Bumrah would not be fielded in all five matches, citing workload management as a priority. He is expected to be replaced in the playing XI by Akash Deep, who impressed in the domestic circuit and is awaiting his opportunity. According to an ESPNcricinfo report, the BCCI medical team informed Bumrah that skipping the Oval Test is aligned with his long-term well-being,



especially after he bowled 33 overs in England’s massive first innings of 669 at Old

Trafford — the most he has bowled in a single Test innings. He returned figures of 2 for 103, marking the first time in his career he conceded over 100 runs in an innings. Bumrah’s pace has notably dropped over the course of the series. At Headingley, 42.7% of his deliveries exceeded 140kph. This dipped to 22.3% at Lord’s, and just 0.5% at Old Trafford, indicating fatigue and possible strain. Despite the dip in effectiveness, Bumrah remains India’s joint-highest wicket-taker in the series alongside Mohammed Siraj, with 14 wickets each. India, trailing 1-2 in the series, will look to level the contest in the final Test. The team staged a remarkable comeback in the fourth Test, drawing the match after centuries from Shubman Gill, Washington Sundar, and Ravindra Jadeja helped them bat 143 overs in the second innings.



Sitara Entertainments Announces Historical Film with Rishab Shetty

Sitara Entertainments has made a major announcement featuring Kantara star Rishab Shetty in the lead role. Produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi under the Sitara banner, this upcoming film is set in 18th-century India and revolves around a rebel uprising in the Bengal province. Directed by Ashwin Gangaraju, the movie promises to be a grand period drama, adding to the growing list of high-profile projects associated with Rishab Shetty.

Rishab Shetty, who gained pan-India fame with the blockbuster Kantara—a film he both directed and starred in—is currently working on the Kantara prequel. Although the release of Kantara 2 has been delayed, fans are eagerly awaiting more details about this new Sitara Entertainments production. The makers have already completed pre-production work, indicating the project is progressing well. The release date will be announced soon.

This film marks the 36th project from Sitara Entertainments and is expected to be a significant addition to Rishab Shetty's growing career. Besides this historical drama, Rishab has also signed Jai Hanuman in Telugu, showcasing his expanding presence in the Telugu film industry.

The first look of the Sitara project has already generated excitement, hinting at the film's scale and grandeur. Industry insiders are confident that this will be one of the most ambitious and impactful films of Rishab Shetty's



career, further cementing his reputation as a versatile actor and filmmaker.

Fans can expect more casting announcements and updates soon, as Sitara Entertainments prepares to deliver another memorable cinematic experience with Rishab Shetty at the forefront.

Mouni Roy Poses with Chiranjeevi on Vishwambhara Set, Calls It an Honour



Megastar Chiranjeevi is currently busy with two major films, Vishwambhara and another project helmed by director Anil Ravipudi. Among these, Vishwambhara has recently caught the spotlight again, thanks to a special song featuring Chiranjeevi alongside Bollywood actress Mouni Roy.

The song, choreographed by the renowned Ganesh Master, was filmed recently, and Mouni Roy gave fans a peek behind the scenes through her Instagram posts. She also expressed deep gratitude and admiration for the legendary actor.

“Dancing beside you for the last few days has been an honour, Chiranjeevi sir,” she wrote. “You’re not only a legendary actor but also a truly wonderful human being. I felt immense warmth and respect throughout. Thank you for the unforgettable experience, the kindness, and the best biriyani ever. We love you.”

Mouni also extended her thanks to Ganesh Master for his expert choreography and guidance, while appreciating the entire film crew for their support and seamless coordination during the shoot.

With the song shoot now wrapped up, fans are eagerly awaiting the release date, hoping to see this much-anticipated collaboration soon. Directed by Vassishta Mallidi and produced by UV Creations, Vishwambhara boasts a stellar cast including Trisha, Ashika Ranganath, Unal Kapoor, Ramya Pasupaleti, Esha Chawla, and Ashrita Vemuganti Nanduri.

Adding to the excitement is the film's music, composed by Oscar-winning maestro MM Keeravaani, whose work always elevates the cinematic experience. This special song featuring Chiranjeevi and Mouni Roy is expected to be one of the film's highlights, further raising anticipation for Vishwambhara's release.

Puri, Charmee Surprise Prabhas on Raja Saab Sets



Pan India superstar Prabhas is currently busy filming The Raja Saab, a romantic horror comedy directed by Maruthi, which is scheduled for a grand release on December 5, 2025. Although the project faced some delays, the recent release of a well-edited teaser has generated positive buzz and reignited excitement among fans.

Adding to the good vibes on set, renowned director Puri Jagannadh and actress-turned-producer Charmee Kaur made a surprise visit to meet Prabhas during the shoot. The reunion was a joyous occasion, as Prabhas warmly reconnected with his old friends and collaborators. Prabhas and Puri Jagannadh have previously worked together on popular films like Bujjigadu and Ek Niranjan, while Charmee shared screen space with Prabhas in the movie Chakram.

Photos capturing this heartfelt meet-up quickly went viral on social media, delighting fans who enjoyed seeing the camaraderie among the stars and filmmakers. The unexpected visit also gave a boost of energy and motivation to the cast and crew of The Raja Saab



as they continue to work towards the film's release.

Meanwhile, Puri Jagannadh is currently immersed in directing an action-packed entertainer starring Vijay Sethupathi. This film is being produced by both Puri and Charmee Kaur, and it is also aiming for a December release, promising a busy and exciting year ahead for the duo.

With Prabhas's charm, Maruthi's direction, and the support of industry stalwarts like Puri Jagannadh and Charmee Kaur, The Raja Saab is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated films of the year, blending romance, horror, and comedy in a unique way that fans are eager to experience.

Janhvi's Param Sundari Gets New Date First Song Pardesiya Out

Janhvi Kapoor, who is currently busy shooting Peddi alongside Ram Charan, is gearing up for the release of her next Hindi film, Param Sundari. Directed by Tushar Jallota, this romantic comedy was originally scheduled to hit theatres on July 25, 2025. However, the release was postponed to avoid clashing with the buzz surrounding Saiyaara.

The makers have now announced a fresh release date for Param Sundari. The film will premiere in cinemas on August 29, 2025, giving audiences just over a month to look forward to this promising new romance. Alongside the new date, the team also released the film's first song, Pardesiya. This soulful number features the voices of Sonu Nigam and Krishnakali Saha, with music composed by the popular duo Sachin-Jigar.

Janhvi Kapoor stars opposite Sidharth Malhotra, who plays her love interest in the film. Produced by Dinesh Vijan under the Maddock Films banner, Param Sundari promises a refreshing story set against a vibrant cultural backdrop. The plot explores the playful and heartwarming romance between Param, a North Indian man, and Sundari, a South Indian woman, whose contrasting backgrounds create both charming conflicts and moments of connection.

Fans of Janhvi Kapoor and Sidharth Malhotra are excited to see their chemistry on screen, especially in a film that blends humor, culture, and romance. With a fresh release date and the release of the enchanting song Pardesiya, anticipation is building for Param Sundari to be a stand-out film this summer.



90s Film Icons Reunite for Goa Getaway

In a heartwarming celebration of camaraderie and cinematic nostalgia, a group of popular stars from the 1990s and early 2000s reunited in Goa for a special gathering. The reunion, which took inspiration from the annual senior actors' meet that includes Chiranjeevi, Venkatesh, Mohanlal, Balakrishna, Nagarjuna, and others, brought together some of the most beloved faces from Indian cinema's golden era. The attendees included well-known actors like Jagapathi Babu and Srikanth, renowned directors KS Ravi Kumar, Shankar, Prabhudeva, Mohana Raja, and Lingusamy, along with leading ladies of the era—Maheshwari, Simran, Meena, Ooha, Sanghavi, Malavika, Reema Sen, and



Shiva Ranjani. Photos from the gathering are currently trending on social media, giving fans a peek into the stars' joyful reunion. The celebrities were seen enjoying beach strolls, yacht rides, poolside moments, and picturesque sunsets. Their candid pictures and group selfies brought back memories of the films and performances that

defined a generation.

This get-together wasn't just a nostalgic retreat—it also sparked excitement among fans, many of whom expressed a desire to see these iconic stars collaborate again on screen. Social media platforms were flooded with comments praising the bond between the actors and calling for a film featuring this beloved ensemble.

Over the years, reunions like these have become a tradition for many film personalities, fostering a sense of community across generations and industries. With the Goa celebration going viral, this latest gathering serves as a beautiful reminder of the enduring legacy of Indian cinema's 1990s stars—and the timeless connection they continue to share with fans.