



ED Searches Conclude at Former HMDA Official Shiva Balakrishna's House

- Raids also held at relatives' houses
- ACB FIR forms basis for ED action
- Accused of money laundering and corruption



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4-member expert panel to submit report in a month
Search for 11 missing persons continues
Victims' families protest over delay in identification

Govt Orders Probe Into Pashamilaram Blast

TPN Correspondent | Sangareddy

The Telangana government has taken a serious note of the deadly explosion at the Sigachi Industries chemical plant in Pashamilaram, Sangareddy district, and issued orders on Wednesday to form a high-level inquiry committee. The move comes in response to rising public concern and pressure from victims' families over the cause of the explosion and the slow pace of rescue and identification efforts.

Expert Committee to Investigate Accident

A four-member expert committee has been con-

stituted to investigate the causes of the blast and assess safety lapses at the chemical unit. The panel will be headed by eminent scientist Dr. B. Venkateswara Rao of CSIR, with Chief Scientist T. Pratap Kumar, retired scientist Suryanarayana, and Pune-based safety officer Santosh Ghuge as members. The committee has been given one month to submit its report.

The Directorate of Factories has been directed to provide full assistance to the panel. The team is expected to identify lapses in safety protocols, check if Sigachi Industries followed necessary guidelines, and make recommendations to prevent such incidents in the future.

Telangana Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha



visited the blast site, met with company representatives, and reviewed the rescue and clean-up operations. Debris clearance at the site has officially begun, with officials supervising the process closely.

Victims' Families Protest at Factory Gate

Amid official efforts, grief-stricken families of the deceased and missing gathered in protest at the gates of Sigachi Industries. They demanded clarity on the fate of the 11 individuals still unaccounted for, accusing authorities of delays and inefficiency in rescue and identification.

Relatives expressed frustration that even days

after the blast, the whereabouts of their loved ones remain unknown. They urged the government to speed up DNA testing and increase transparency in the ongoing investigation.

Due to the severe burns on the bodies, identification has proven difficult. Officials confirmed that DNA testing is underway, with samples taken from relatives of the missing. Only after genetic matches are confirmed are bodies being handed over to families.

So far, 11 bodies have been identified and returned, while 18 remain in the Patancheru hospital morgue. Officials stated that the identification process is complex and time-consuming, which is causing the delay.

Search for Missing Continues

Search operations are ongoing to locate the 11 individuals still missing after the blast. Rescue teams are sifting through the debris, while efforts are being coordinated with forensic and disaster response teams.



The government's swift decision to set up an expert inquiry is being seen as a response to growing public outrage. The focus now shifts to the committee's findings and its recommendations for long-term safety reforms in Telangana's industrial sector.

Sigachi Confirms 40 Deaths...

Announces ₹1 crore compensation to families of deceased
Sigachi Industries has officially confirmed that 40 employees lost their lives in the recent chemical plant explosion at Pashamilaram in Sangareddy district.

The company, in its first formal communication since the accident, also stated that 33 workers were injured and are currently undergoing treatment in various hospitals.

Sigachi Company Secretary Vivek Kumar issued a statement this morning and sent a formal communication to the National Stock Exchange (NSE). In the statement, the company expressed deep regret over the tragic incident and assured that all possible support will be extended to the affected families.

As part of its compensation package, the company announced that the families of the deceased will receive ₹1 crore each. The statement mentioned that Sigachi is also making arrangements to ensure better medical care for the



injured workers.

In a notable clarification, the company denied initial reports that a reactor explosion was the cause of the blast. "We are awaiting the official report from the government-appointed committee to ascertain the exact cause of the incident," the statement read.

Further, the company has decided to suspend operations at the Pashamilaram plant for the next 90 days as a precautionary and safety measure. The shutdown comes as the government's four-member expert panel begins its probe into the explosion and potential lapses in safety norms.

The official announcement comes amid mounting pressure from the victims' families, protests at the factory gate, and a broader inquiry into the industrial safety practices followed at chemical units across the state. The government's response and the upcoming report from the expert committee are now eagerly awaited.

Congress In-Charge Meenakshi Draws Flak for Reviewing Govt Affairs



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Congress party Telangana in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan has triggered a political controversy by conducting a review with ministers and officials at the Pashamilaram incident site. Her visit, which included an on-ground assessment and discussion with state ministers and department officials, has sparked criticism for overstepping party boundaries. Political opponents and critics are questioning how a party

in-charge, who holds no constitutional or administrative position, can conduct government-style reviews. They argue that such involvement blurs the line between the party and the government, especially in matters of governance.

This is not the first time Meenakshi Natarajan has been seen taking on a role resembling that of a government functionary.

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ACB Summons Arvind Kumar Again in Formula E Case

- IAS officer asked to appear on Thursday at 11:30 am
- ACB issues fresh notice to Arvind Kumar based on KTR's statement
- Officer summoned after return from foreign trip
- Inquiry focuses on Formula E race finances and permissions

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A major development has emerged in the Formula E-race case in Hyderabad. The Anti-Corruption Bureau

(ACB) has once again served notices to senior IAS officer Arvind Kumar, directing him to appear for questioning on Thursday at 11:30 am. The summons come shortly after his return from a month-long foreign tour. According to sources, the ACB issued the latest notice based on the statement given earlier by former minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR). The investigation is focused on financial transactions and permissions related to the

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Ara Mastan's Calls with Revanth Tapped...?

Key strategist's phone under surveillance since 2020, confirms probe team

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Sensational revelations have come to light in the ongoing phone tapping investigation involving political strategist Ara Mastan, as top officials confirm that his mobile phone had been under surveillance since 2020. Shocking details show that Mastan's conversations with several high-profile political figures, including then TPCC president and current CM Revanth Reddy, were tapped and recorded by the alleged illegal surveillance team led by former SIB chief Prabhakar Rao.

According to investigation sources, Ara Mastan's phone was actively tapped starting from September 2023, but earlier data indicates that he had been



monitored for over three years. Investigators found that Mastan held phone conversations in November 2023 with Revanth Reddy, Kondal Reddy, and Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, which were secretly recorded by the team operating under Prabhakar Rao.

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ED Searches Conclude at Former HMDA Official Shiva Balakrishna’s House

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has concluded its searches at the residence and offices of former HMDA Planning Department Director Shiva Balakrishna in connection with a money laundering case. The searches, which began earlier based on an FIR registered by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), were conducted at multiple locations, including the homes of Balakrishna’s relatives.

Shiva Balakrishna, who held a key position in the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA), is accused of misusing his official position to amass illicit wealth worth crores of rupees. Acting on credible inputs from the ACB’s earlier investigation, the ED registered an ECIR (Enforcement Case Information Report) and initiated a separate probe into suspected money laundering. The ACB had earlier carried

out extensive raids at over 20 locations, including Balakrishna’s properties, on January 24. These searches unearthed substantial evidence indicating corruption, prompting the ED to intervene and investigate the alleged conversion of illegal assets into legitimate holdings.

ED officials reportedly examined documents, digital records, and real estate investments linked to Balakrishna and his family. They suspect that the former official laundered money through benami transactions and real estate ventures, using his position in the HMDA to manipulate planning permissions and approvals.

The probe is likely to expand further as financial trails are analyzed and transactions are scrutinized. More summons and questioning of associates and beneficiaries involved in the alleged laundering network are expected in the coming days.

Congress In-Charge Meenakshi Draws Flak for Reviewing Govt Affairs

Earlier, she had conducted a review meeting at the Telangana Secretariat, which also drew widespread criticism at the time.

Observers say this growing trend of party leaders participating directly in administrative reviews raises concerns about protocol and accountability. Though she holds a key position within the Congress structure, Meenakshi’s repeated presence in official

reviews is being labeled by some as interference in government functioning. Meanwhile, Congress sources defended her actions, stating that she is actively ensuring that party-led governance remains responsive and accountable, especially in sensitive situations. However, the opposition continues to question the appropriateness and legality of such reviews by a party leader.

Ara Mastan’s Calls with Revanth Tapped...?

The investigation team interrogated Ara Mastan for nearly two hours and reportedly presented him with audio clips and metadata related to the tapped calls. Sources say Mastan was visibly shocked upon hearing the recordings and learning the extent of surveillance conducted on him.

The probe also revealed that hundreds of incoming and outgoing calls made by Mastan with various AP and Telangana political leaders and followers were tapped. Pra-neeth Rao, who was part of

the surveillance network, is suspected of recording all calls between Mastan and Congress leaders during the Telangana by-elections. With Mastan’s detailed statement now on record, the investigation has taken a serious turn, highlighting a potentially systematic political surveillance effort during the previous government’s tenure. Authorities are expected to summon more individuals connected to the case in the coming days.

ACB Summons Arvind Kumar Again in Formula E Case

international Formula E car race held in Hyderabad.

Arvind Kumar, a key administrative figure during the time of the event, is alleged to have played a role in the decision-making process and event coordination. Officials are expected to question him about procedural approvals, financial flows, and other aspects tied to the organization of the race.

Arvind Kumar returned to Hyderabad on June 30, and the ACB wasted no time in sending the summons. It is noteworthy that this isn’t

the first time the ACB has moved against high-ranking officials in this case. KTR was also questioned earlier, and his testimony reportedly brought new clarity to the investigative team. Officials suggest that this round of questioning could be crucial in establishing accountability behind alleged irregularities during the race’s planning and execution. The case continues to unfold, with more summons and disclosures likely in the coming days.

CM to Launch Ration Card Distribution on July 14

- Uttam Kumar Reddy reviews preparations in Nalgonda
- Verification of applications to be completed by July 13
- Free rice scheme benefits 3.10 crore people in Telangana
- SLBC works to resume with Army engineers’ support

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Capt. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy announced that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will launch the statewide distribution of new ration cards on July 14 at Tirumalagiri in the Tungaturthi constituency. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka will also attend the inaugural event. During a review meeting held at the Nalgonda District Collectorate, Uttam Kumar Reddy directed officials to finish the verification process of all eligible ration card applications by July 13. He stressed that the selection process must be transparent



and free from corruption. Highlighting the significance of the initiative, the Minister said Telangana’s free fine rice scheme is one of the largest in the country, serving 6 kg of rice per person to over 3.10 crore people monthly. The program costs the state over ₹13,000 crore annually. He noted that to ensure uninterrupted supply, three months’ worth of rations were distributed in June, July, and August. Taking a dig at the previous BRS govern-

ment, Uttam pointed out that while Telangana had 89.73 lakh white ration cards at the time of its formation, only 49,000 were added in ten years. “The Congress government is correcting this by processing lakhs of pending applications,” he stated.

On irrigation, the Minister said pending projects in erstwhile Nalgonda district will be fast-tracked. He revealed that the stalled Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) works will be resumed with the help of Army engineers conducting LIDAR surveys for technical clearanc-

es. R&B Minister Komatireddy Venkatarreddy and Welfare Minister A. Laxman Kumar joined the meeting and assured support for infrastructure and social welfare initiatives. Legislators raised concerns regarding canal repairs, land acquisition, and pending resettlement funds.

Uttam Kumar Reddy concluded by reaffirming the Congress government’s commitment to delivering welfare and development with transparency and urgency.

Tummala Writes to Centre Over Urea Shortage

Urges immediate supply of pending 1.94 lakh tonnes

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has once again written to central leaders, urging immediate action to resolve the shortfall in urea supply to the state. In a fresh appeal addressed to Union Health Minister JP Nadda, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, and MP Bandi Sanjay, the minister requested the Centre to release the pending allocation of urea without further delay.

Minister Tummala stated that the total urea allocated to Telangana for April, May, and June was 5 lakh metric tonnes, but so far, only 3.06 lakh tonnes



have been supplied. This leaves a defi-

cit of 1.94 lakh metric tonnes, which is creating concern among farmers during the critical agricultural season. He emphasized the urgency of the situation, stating that farmers are preparing for cultivation, and timely availability of urea is essential to ensure healthy sowing and crop yield. Tummala urged the Union ministers to treat this as a priority issue and ensure the full monthly allocation is delivered to the state without further delays. The minister’s repeated letters reflect the growing concern from the state government about central apathy towards Telangana’s agricultural needs.

Telangana Revamps Disaster Management Authority to Set National Example

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Telangana Revenue, Housing, and Information & Civil Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy announced that the Telangana State Disaster Management Authority (TGSDMA) has been reorganized and strengthened to serve as a model for disaster preparedness and response in the country. He emphasized the government’s proactive approach to minimizing damage to life and property during natural disasters.

In a high-level meeting chaired by Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao and Special Principal Secretary for Disaster Management Arvind Kumar, district collectors and senior officials from Godavari and Krishna river basin districts gathered to review flood preparedness. The meeting focused on strategies for flood forecasting, inter-departmental coordination, and relocation of vulnerable populations. “We may not be able to prevent natural disasters, but with a robust and well-coordinated system, we can certainly reduce their impact,” said Minister Ponguleti.

As part of this reform, the Chief Minister



will head the newly constituted TGSDMA, with key ministers from Revenue, Home, Finance, Health, Irrigation, Roads & Buildings, Panchayati Raj, and Rural Development as members. The Chief Secretary will act as Member Convener, and the Special Chief Secretary of Revenue will serve as a special invitee.

The Minister proposed that instead of moving flood victims to temporary shelters during every calamity, they should be provided with permanent housing. “We

will construct Indiramma Houses under an additional quota for identified families in flood-prone catchment areas,” he assured.

Highlighting last year’s tragic incident in Paleru, where victims could not be rescued due to the absence of a proper airlift system, he stressed the urgency of developing aerial rescue capabilities and studying effective airlift mechanisms. He directed officials to develop a scientific alert system in coordination with the IMD, to share timely information from top to bottom.

Special nodal officers will also be appointed at the state level for departments directly involved in flood and rain response—such as irrigation, electricity, police, transport, health, and agriculture. Other senior attendees at the meeting included Fire Department DG Nagi Reddy, Panchayati Raj Commissioner Srujan, Civil Supplies Director Muzammul Khan, Hyd Commissioner Ranganath, CP DCL Director Mushraf Ali, and IMD Officer Nagaratnam, among others.

DGP Jitender Reviews Policing with ASPs

Focus on law and order, drug control, and village-level policing

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Director General of Police Dr. Jitender IPS held a comprehensive review meeting with Assistant Superintendents of Police (ASPs) from across the state at the DGP office on Wednesday. The meeting aimed to assess the law and order situation in various sub-divisions and guide the young officers on effective policing strategies.

Drawing from his 32 years of policing experience, DGP Jitender emphasized the importance of regular police station inspections, particularly to evaluate victim handling and case investigation quality. He advised ASPs to uphold integrity, discipline, and demonstrate zero tolerance towards insubordination. “Your actions today will define your next 30 years in service,” he told the officers.

With local body elections approaching in



Telangana, he directed the ASPs to implement the village police officer system and intensify surprise inspections at police stations. He also stressed fair supervision in suspicious or unnatural death cases under 194 BNSS (174 CrPC) and urged strict monitoring of such investigations.

Addressing the menace of drug abuse, the DGP called for targeted action against key offenders involved in drugs and ganja cases. He also advised officers to form an-

ti-ragging committees in light of the re-opening of colleges and encouraged the appointment of village-level officers for better grassroots coordination.

Additional DGP (Law & Order) Mahesh M. Bhagwat IPS, speaking on the occasion, guided ASPs to lead inspections responsibly and act firmly against organized gangs involved in robberies and thefts. He reminded them of the public’s high expectations from young IPS recruits and urged professional policing standards.

Senior officials including IGPs S. Chandrasekhar Reddy, Tafseer Iqbal, AIG Ramana Kumar, and ASPs Shivam Upadhyaya, Avinash Kumar, S. Seshadrini Reddy, K. Chetan Nithin, Vikrant Kumar Singh, Shubham Prakash, and Rajesh Meena were present at the review meeting.

Ensure Success of Kharge’s July 4 Meet, Says Dy CM Bhatti



First direct AICC interaction with village-level leaders in Telangana
LB Stadium to host “Jai Babu, Jai Bhim, Jai Samvidhan” campaign event

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu has appealed to all Congress leaders—from ministers and MPs to mandal and village-level presidents—to ensure the success of AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge’s public meeting on July 4 at LB Stadium in Hyderabad. The upcoming “Grassroots Cadre Conclave” is the first of its kind in the country, marking a historic moment where the AICC President will directly interact with village-level Congress leaders. Tel-

angana has been given the first opportunity to host this landmark initiative, which is expected to be replicated in other states soon. Speaking alongside Telangana Congress in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan, PCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, Ministers Ponnamm Prabhakar, Sridhar Babu, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, and DCC President Rohin Reddy, the Deputy CM emphasized the importance of mass mobilization. “All leaders must attend by 3 PM without fail. This is a golden opportunity

to engage directly with the national leadership,” he said. As part of the ongoing “Jai Babu, Jai Bhim, Jai Samvidhan” campaign, senior leaders reviewed event preparations at LB Stadium. Minister Sridhar Babu also offered critical directions to streamline arrangements and ensure a grand success. Bhatti Vikramarka thanked the AICC for selecting Telangana as the starting point for this campaign and urged Congress cadres at every level to show their strength and unity on July 4.

Revanth acting as Chandrababu’s ‘bag man’, alleges Harish



TPN Correspondent | Telangana
BRS MLA and former minister Harish Rao has launched a scathing attack on Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing him of acting as a ‘bag man’ for Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and betraying the interests of Telangana. He alleged that Revanth has become a tool in the hands of the Andhra Pradesh government, prioritizing political deals over the welfare of Telangana. Reacting to the recent PowerPoint presentation made by the Congress government on irrigation at Pragathi Bhavan, Harish Rao said it looked like a document prepared in Amaravati, not Hyderabad. “It doesn’t highlight how Chandrababu is pushing the Banakacharla project or the statements he made. For Revanth, Chandrababu looks like a god, while BRS, which is fighting to stop Banakacharla, looks like a dead snake,” he said.

Harish countered the Congress’s criticism by questioning, “If BRS is a dead snake, why are Congress leaders still losing sleep over us?” He also drew parallels with the Congress party at the national level, asking whether a party out of power for over a decade should be called a ‘dead snake’ too. Harish Rao strongly alleged that a covert agreement exists between Revanth Reddy and Chandrababu regarding the Banakacharla project. He claimed that Revanth and Uttam Kumar Reddy had given the green signal to the Godavari-Banakacharla linkage—Revanth from Telangana and Uttam from Andhra—in 2024. He pointed out that AP CM Chandrababu later wrote to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in November and December requesting funds for the same project, but Revanth remained silent, raising suspicions of a secret pact. Further, he revealed that it was only after BRS exposed this backdoor agreement in a January 24 press meet that Telangana Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy rushed to write a backdated letter to the Centre. Harish said the temporary halt of the Terms of Reference (TOR) process for the Banakacharla project was a direct outcome of BRS’s relentless efforts. He clarified that the Banakacharla issue was not even raised in the Apex Committee meeting, where the only resolution was to initiate talks between the two states about the 3,000 TMC of water that is flowing unused into the sea. Harish concluded by warning that Revanth lacks even a basic understanding of river basin dynamics and said, “If he continues to speak arrogantly, the state will end up in disaster.”

Mock Parliament by BJP Mahila Morcha Reflects Democratic Values

Event at KMIT Law College recalls Emergency horrors and hails student leadership



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
A Mock Parliament session organized by the BJP Mahila Morcha Telangana State Branch at KMIT College, Hyderabad, drew praise from BJP Telangana State President Shri N. Ramchandra Rao, who addressed the students and faculty during the event. The session, held to mark 50 years since the Emergency, aimed to remind students of the dangers that period posed to democratic institutions. Ramchandra Rao recalled his own childhood experiences during the Emergency. “When I was in school, my father used to explain how newspapers were censored, truth was suppressed, and fear prevailed across the nation. It was a dark chapter in Indian democracy,” he said. The BJP leader appreciated the

conduct and performance of students in the session, saying, “The way the students conducted themselves in the mock parliament is far better than the way elected legislators behave today. This is a lesson in democratic discipline.” He pointed out the unfortunate current political scenario where “parents ask children not to watch live Assembly proceedings” due to the abusive language used on the floor of the House. He expressed hope that platforms like this mock parliament would help groom future lawmakers with integrity and values. “This event is not about politics. It is about nurturing leadership and encouraging democratic participation among youth,” he emphasized. He also highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s initiative to ensure 33 percent reservation for women

in legislative bodies, predicting that many participants from this mock parliament would eventually represent people in legislative assemblies or Parliament, regardless of party affiliation. Ramchandra Rao also dismissed the notion that political space is reserved only for dynasties. “Today, women from both the ruling and opposition parties have become MPs. Politics is open to all with passion and capability,” he said. The BJP Mahila Morcha was congratulated for successfully conducting the event. Ramchandra Rao, who is also part of the law college’s management, mentioned that he had played a role in introducing the law course at the institution. He applauded the realistic representation of the Speaker, ruling party, and opposition, calling it “an inspiring exercise in democratic training.”

Revanth’s Job Is to Protect Chandrababu and Blame KCR: Gangula

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Senior BRS leader and MLA Gangula Kamalakhar has lashed out at Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing him of prioritizing the defense of Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu while targeting former CM K. Chandrashekar Rao. Speaking at a press conference held at Telangana Bhavan on Tuesday, Gangula ridiculed the PowerPoint Presentation (PPP) given by CM Revanth Reddy and Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy to legislators, calling it a waste of public money and lacking any new insight. Gangula alleged that Revanth Reddy’s political agenda is simple: “Protect Chandrababu and scold KCR.” He criticized the Congress government for not taking the Banakacharla project seriously and for failing to confront the Centre effectively. He pointed out that it was only after BRS leader Harish Rao exposed the facts that the government was forced to react. Gangula questioned the lack of seriousness in Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy’s earlier letter to the Centre and mocked their lack of technical knowledge, stating, “They spoke more about Roja shrimp soup than river issues.” The BRS leader also challenged the Congress government’s interpretation of KCR’s earlier comments on using Godavari water as a blanket approval for the Banakacharla project. He



demanding that the Assembly be convened immediately to discuss the issue. MLA Padi Kausshik Reddy suggested holding the meeting next Monday and offered that Harish Rao would present BRS’s version of facts, while challenging Revanth Reddy or a government representative to respond with their own presentation. BRS leaders further asserted that the Environment Department’s denial of clearance for the Banakacharla project is a direct result of their consistent efforts and political pressure. “This is a BRS victory,” said Gangula, vowing that their fight will continue until the project is permanently halted. MP Vaddiraju Ravichandra also targeted Revanth Reddy, stating that his main goal appears to be blaming KCR rather than defending Telangana’s water rights. He alleged that Chandrababu designed the Banakacharla project as a way to secure more water allocation for Andhra Pradesh through the Godavari Tribunal. Ravichandra questioned why the Congress government has not taken an all-party delegation to Delhi if they are serious about defending the state’s interests. Former Minister Koppula Eshwar, MLA Dr. K. Sanjay, MLC L. Ramana, and other leaders also attended the press meet and echoed similar concerns.

Congress Is Solving People's Issues: Minister Srihari

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Minister Thatikonda Srihari addressed a press conference on Wednesday, stating that the Congress party remains committed to addressing public issues—whether in power or not. Emphasizing the party’s approach to poor and marginalized communities, Srihari reiterated that “Congress means feeding the hungry and meeting the needs of the weaker sections.” As per the instructions of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud, a face-to-face public grievance program with ministers is being organized every Wednesday. Minister Srihari revealed that around 90 public complaints were received in this week’s session alone, many from individuals affected during the past government’s strike period. He said direct efforts were being made to solve these complaints in coordination with concerned departments. “This is the Congress govern-



nance model — where a poor man can meet the minister directly and share his problem,” he said. Touching upon the Banakacharla project controversy, Srihari stated that former Minister Harish Rao’s stand on the issue was misleading, and added, “1000 people claimed they would transform Rayalaseema into a gem border by consuming fish soup, but ended up wasting TMCs of water.” He declared his readiness to debate the matter anywhere and also announced a PowerPoint presentation on Krishna river water issues next week. On the BJP’s treatment of BCs, the Minister criticized the party’s attitude, referring to past

decisions like removing Bandi Sanjay as Telangana BJP president and replacing him with Kishan Reddy, sidelining the BC leadership. Even after the caste census survey, he said, the BJP continued its biased attitude towards Backward Classes. Referring to BRS leader K. Kavitha, Srihari advised her to consider giving the working president or party president post to a BC leader before planning agitations like the rail roko protest. “That would be a real commitment to BC empowerment,” he remarked. The Minister concluded by underlining Congress’s transparent caste survey efforts, conducted on the lines of Rahul Gandhi’s vision.

Ganja Seized in Four Separate Cases Across Telangana

Seven-member gang arrested in Borampet with 3.7 kg ganja
Multiple arrests in Ghatkesar, Balanagar, and Dhoolpet areas
Illegal trade traced to Khammam and Orissa links

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
In a major crackdown on ganja smuggling, Telangana enforcement authorities have registered four separate cases across the state, seizing substantial quantities of narcotics and arresting several individuals involved in illegal drug trade. In the most significant case, a gang operating out of a rented house in Borampet was busted by Rangareddy Enforcement AES Jeevan Kiran and the NPA Enforcement Team. A total of 3.7 kilograms of ganja was seized. Seven accused were arrested, including Srigiri Suresh, Sheikh Soyai, Podila Jaswanth, Podila Yashwanth, Mallamparthi Sai Praveen, Ande Srinath, and Andesan Sen. Authorities revealed

that five of the accused are from Khammam, while two are from Hyderabad. The gang had been bringing ganja from Orissa and selling it locally, sharing profits among themselves. In another incident, 1.4 kg of ganja was seized in Ghatkesar. A 20-year-old photographer named B. Nikhil from Janagam district was caught selling ganja in Yennampet. He was arrested by CI Balaraju and SI Ravi of the NPT enforcement team, under the supervision of AES Jeevan Kiran. Meanwhile, in the Balanagar area, 1.250 kg of ganja was seized based on intelligence inputs. Enforcement CI Subash and SI Venkat apprehended Mammamad Jamil while selling ganja. A case has also been registered against a woman



named Kavitha, who is believed to be involved. In a fourth operation, the STFA team led by Anji Reddy arrested Manoj Singh at a house in Dhoolpet Devinagar, where 1.568 kg of ganja was recovered. Two suspects, Arunabai and Sumabai, are currently absconding. Authorities have intensified surveillance and vowed continued action against narcotics trade in the region. Further investigations are underway in all four cases.

Three Arrested in Rowdy Sheeter Syed Shahid's Murder Case

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
In a shocking revelation, the Kukatpally police have arrested three accused in the brutal murder of Syed Shahid (26), a known rowdy sheeter from Borabanda. As per Balanagar Zone DCP Suresh Kumar, the arrested individuals — MD. Sajid (24), MD. Sameer Khan (25), and Y. Hanak alias Munna (25) — were Shahid's close friends who had allegedly been plotting to eliminate him to gain dominance in the local rowdy network. On June 29, after attending

a birthday party of a friend named Pawan, the group lured Shahid to a secluded spot in Prakashnagar. There, under the influence of alcohol, they attacked him — first stabbing him with a broken beer bottle and then smashing his head with a rock, resulting in his death on the spot. The trio fled the scene soon after. Following a swift investigation, the Kukatpally police registered a case and arrested the three accused. The DCP lauded the investigating officers for their prompt and professional handling of the case.



Temple Theft Gang Busted in Rachakonda

*Two arrested for stealing Panchaloha idols; buyer from Uppal also held
Temples without CCTV being targeted, say police*



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
A gang of thieves targeting temples in the outskirts of the city has been busted by Rachakonda police. The gang was involved in a series of thefts in temples located under the limits of Yacharam, Ibrahimpatnam, and Abdullapurmet police stations. The two key accused, Sivananda and Sharif, hail from Andhra Pradesh and were reportedly operating under the influence of alcohol, targeting temples without CCTV surveillance. Police revealed that the gang used a stolen bike from Uppal to commit the thefts. The gang primarily focused on

stealing Panchaloha (five-metal) idols from temples and selling them to a receiver named Kranthi Kumar from Uppal, who has also been arrested in the case. Rachakonda police have seized 61 kilograms of stolen property worth around ₹5 lakh, including the stolen idols. Authorities have urged temple committees, especially in the suburbs, to install CCTV cameras to prevent such crimes in the future. Investigations are ongoing to trace any additional networks involved in the sale and transport of stolen temple artifacts.

SCR Records Highest-Ever Quarterly Revenue of ₹5219 Crore

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
South Central Railway (SCR) has achieved a historic milestone by recording its highest-ever gross revenue of ₹5219 crore in the first quarter (April–June 2025) of the current financial year. This figure surpasses the previous record of ₹5156 crore set in the same period last year. According to an official release

(PR No. 215), this revenue growth has been powered by outstanding performance in both freight and passenger segments. Freight revenue stood at ₹3457.33 crore, with the zone transporting 37.41 million tonnes of goods, marking a 4% increase over the previous year's 35.89 million tonnes. Passenger revenue touched ₹1485.21 crore, an increase of 2% compared to ₹1455.15 crore in

the previous financial year. The improvement in freight movement is attributed to intensified efforts in enhancing freight connectivity, including new routes and destinations. Commodities like coal, iron ore, and cement showed notable volume growth. On the passenger front, SCR ran 865 special trains, transporting over 11.18 lakh passengers in the

quarter. The zone also managed to reduce waiting lists by adding extra coaches where demand was high. General Manager Shri Sandeep Mathur congratulated the team for this exceptional performance and urged all divisions to maintain the momentum for record-breaking results by the end of the fiscal year.



Fire Destroys Sweet Shop in Old Safil Guda

TPN Correspondent | Neredmet
A major fire broke out at Ganesh Mithai Bhandar located in Old Safil Guda, Neredmet, in the early hours of Tuesday, completely gutting the shop and resulting in an estimated property loss of ₹15 lakh. The fire, suspected to have been caused by an electrical short circuit, spread rapidly through the shop. Fortunately, as the establishment was closed at the time of the incident, no casualties were reported. On receiving information, Neredmet police and fire department personnel rushed to the spot and managed to bring the fire under control, successfully preventing it from spreading to adjacent commercial establishments. The Neredmet police have registered a case and launched an investigation. Preliminary findings suggest that the fire was triggered by a fault in the electrical system, though further inquiry is underway to confirm the exact cause.



Floating Trash Collectors Launched at Banjara Lake

Mayor Gadwal Vijayalakshmi flags off hyacinth and garbage removal drive

TPN | Srikanth Gurram
Hyderabad: In a significant step toward environmental protection and public health, Mayor Gadwal Vijayalakshmi on Wednesday launched Floating Trash Collector (FTC) machines and carting operations at Banjara Lake, located in the Khairatabad zone of Banjara Hills. The initiative aims to clear water hyacinth and garbage from the lake to curb mosquito breeding and improve lake health. The event was attended by GHMC Zonal Commissioner Anurag, Deputy Commissioner Samaiah, Executive Engineers, and other municipal officials. As part of the drive, FTC machines will be deployed across the lake to systematically remove the widespread water hyacinth and floating debris. Heavy machinery like Hitachi and JCBs will assist in areas where lake embankments are not properly formed, ensuring smooth extraction and carting processes. "From tomorrow, the collected hyacinth and garbage will be transported to the Jawahar Nagar dump yard and disposed of systematically," GHMC officials stated. The program is a focused effort to control the spread of vector-borne diseases like malaria, dengue, and chikungunya by eliminating mosquito breeding grounds. Drone-based spraying is also being conducted as part of an integrated mosquito control strategy. GHMC emphasized that such actions reflect its proactive commitment to public health, cleanliness, and environmental sustainability.

Talasani Reviews Mahankali Jatara Preparations



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav emphasized that all arrangements must be made in advance for the smooth conduct of the famous Sri Ujjayini Mahankali Jatara, scheduled to be held on July 13. On Tuesday, he inaugurated the weaving of Pochampally silk sarees at looms set up within the temple premises. These silken garments will be offered to the Goddess during the Jatara, a tradition that draws lakhs of devotees from across Telangana and beyond. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Talasani said, "Just like we successfully organized the Balkampet Yellamma Kalyanam with the system we worked hard to build over 10 years, the Mahankali Jatara should also be conducted in a grand and orderly manner." He called upon officials from all concerned departments to work in coordination and ensure uninterrupted facilities, crowd management, sanitation, power, water supply, and security arrangements throughout the festival. Members of the Padmasali Sangam, who have been supplying garments for Balkampet Yellamma Kalyanam, Mahankali Jatara, and the Bhadrachalam Sri Rama Kalyanam, were also present and appreciated for continuing the tradition of weaving divine offerings. The Bonalu season, marked by spiritual fervor and traditional offerings, is one of the most significant festivals in Telangana, and the Secunderabad Mahankali Jatara is among the most iconic celebrations.

Medaram Jatara Dates Announced...

Asia's largest tribal fair to be held from Jan 28 to 31
Sammakka arrives on Jan 29, Vanapravesh on Jan 31
Priests finalize muhurat, devotees gear up for festival

TPN Correspondent | Mulugu
The muhurat for the revered Sammakka-Saralamma Medaram Mahajataras has been officially declared by the priests' association, confirming that Asia's largest tribal fair will take place from January 28 to 31, 2026 in Medaram village, Tadwai mandal of Mulugu district.
As per the traditional schedule, Saralamma, Pagiddidda Raju, and Govinda Raju will ascend the holy platform (gadde) on January 28, marking the ceremonial commencement of the festival. On January 29, Sammakka Thalli, the central deity of the Jatara, will arrive from Chilakalagutta, a significant ritual that draws lakhs of devotees from across Telangana and beyond. January 30 will be devoted entirely to fulfilling vows, where devotees offer jaggery, turmeric, saffron, and sarees as symbols of gratitude and devotion. The four-day event will conclude on January 31 with the Vanapravesham, the symbolic return of Sammakka and Saralamma to the forest.
This tribal festival, which draws millions of pilgrims, especially from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh,



Odisha, and Maharashtra, is a celebration of valor, sacrifice, and devotion rooted in tribal traditions. With the official dates now announced, the Telangana government is expected to begin large-scale preparations to accommodate the massive influx of pilgrims and ensure smooth conduct of the event.



Seetakka Visits Jailed Tribal Leader Kawasi Lakhma in Raipur

TPN Correspondent | Raipur
Telangana Minister Seetakka visited former Chhattisgarh Excise Minister and senior tribal leader Kawasi Lakhma at the Central Jail in Raipur on Tuesday, expressing strong solidarity with him and his supporters. She was accompanied by Tribal Cooperative Chairman and Adivasi Congress National Vice President Bellaiah Naik, along with other Congress leaders.
Speaking to the media outside the prison, Minister Seetakka lashed out at the BJP-led Chhattisgarh government, accusing it of illegally detaining Kawasi Lakhma and filing baseless cases as part of political vendetta.
“Lakhma garu is a six-time MLA, a former minister, and the strongest tribal voice in Bastar. He has been jailed for six months without any

valid evidence. This is nothing but political harassment,” said Seetakka.
She claimed the BJP government is using Operation Kagar as a tool to forcibly evict tribals and suppress dissent. Seetakka strongly condemned what she called a “conspiracy to silence Lakhma,” and declared that the Congress party will stand firmly with his family and community.
“The arrest is a part of the BJP's systematic attack on tribal rights and voices. Congress will not remain silent. We will continue our fight until justice is delivered,” she asserted.
Minister Seetakka's visit has intensified the political discourse around tribal rights and the alleged misuse of power by the BJP government in Chhattisgarh.

BJP Seeks ₹100 Cr Grant for Karimnagar Development

Sunil Rao leads delegation, slams Congress for neglecting civic issues



TPN Correspondent | Karimnagar
A delegation of BJP leaders, led by former Karimnagar Mayor Yadagiri Sunil Rao, submitted a representation to District Collector and Special Officer Pamela Satpati, urging immediate intervention to resolve pending civic issues and stalled development works in Karimnagar city. The leaders demanded that the state government release ₹100 crore as a grant to the municipal corporation to address the pressing needs of the citizens.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Sunil Rao criticized the Congress government, alleging that no development work has been initiated in the city since it came to power. He pointed out that not a single rupee had been released to the municipal corporation under the current regime and that the entire development over the past six years was made possible only due to funds sanctioned by the central government. He credited Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar with bringing ₹800 crore to

the city under central schemes, including ₹279 crore under AMRUT 1 and 2 for drinking water projects and another ₹100 crore under the 15th Finance Commission. He said the merged divisions of the corporation are still being covered under these central schemes.
Rao said the city's civic body is now struggling due to the lack of financial assistance from the state and is unable to fund development works with its own resources. The taxes collected are barely sufficient to manage routine affairs, and 70 roads dug up by contractors since 2023 remain abandoned, creating major inconvenience during the rainy season.
“The Congress government is ignoring Karimnagar. No representative from the ruling party seems to care about the city. While leaders are busy with their constituencies and politics, Karimnagar's issues are being neglected,” Rao remarked.
The BJP leaders appealed to the Special Officer to escalate their concerns to the state government. They demanded the completion of all abandoned road works, filling of potholes, and repairs to ensure public safety during the monsoon. Rao warned that if the government fails to act, the BJP will launch a massive agitation to pressurize the state into action.

Sandalwood Smuggling Racket Busted in Chevella

1000 kg white sandalwood worth ₹35 lakh seized

TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy
In a cinematic-style sandalwood smuggling operation, police teams from Madhapur SOT and Chevella police busted an illegal sandalwood transportation racket near Bastepur village on the outskirts of Chevella mandal. Acting on credible intelligence, authorities intercepted a DCM vehicle (MH25AJ3689) carrying 1000 kg of white sandalwood worth approximately ₹30 to ₹35 lakhs.
According to Chevella ACP Kishan, the sandalwood, sourced from Hantwadi village, Sangli district, Maharashtra, was en route to an Andhra Perfume Factory located in Nagarguda village of Shabad mandal in Rangareddy district. The smuggled consignment was being illegally processed for use in perfumery.
Police arrested three persons involved in the transportation — driver Abdul Aziz, supervisor Soheb, and farmer Vijay Hanumant Mane. However, the factory owner Abdul Kurvi and manager Siddique are absconding. Efforts are underway to trace and apprehend them.
The operation was carried out by Madhapur SOT CI Sanjay, SIS Satish and Ajay, forest officer Ravi Kumar, and Chevella police personnel.
All three accused have been remanded to judicial custody, and further investigation is ongoing to trace the entire network involved in the high-value sandalwood smuggling operation.



Car Crashes into Katta Maisamma Pond

TPN Correspondent | Medchal
A high-speed car crash caused panic in the Suraram police station limits of Medchal district early Tuesday morning. An Innova vehicle (TS08JS6336) lost control and plunged into the Katta Maisamma pond, damaging the iron fence constructed around the Bathukamma Pond corner.
The accident reportedly occurred during the early hours when the car rammed through the protective fencing and came to a halt



partially submerged in the pond. Fortunately, no one was injured in the incident.
Suraram police rushed to the spot, registered a case, and have launched an investigation into the circumstances of the crash. The cause of the high-speed collision is yet to be determined, and police are examining whether it involved drunk driving, negligence, or any mechanical failure.

Raghuram Reddy Distributes CMRF Cheques

50 beneficiaries receive ₹11.24 lakh for medical aid



TPN Correspondent | Khammam
Khammam MP Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy on Wednesday distributed Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques to 50 beneficiaries from Khammam, Paleuru, Madhira, Vaira, and Sathupalli constituencies. The distribution event was held at the camp office in Gattaiah Center, with a total assistance amount of ₹11.24 lakh disbursed.
State Warehouses Corporation Chairman Rayala Nageswara Rao participated in the program, which was aimed at providing financial support for emergency medical treatments in private and corporate hospitals. The beneficiaries

received cheques sanctioned based on the MP's recommendation.
Speaking on the occasion, MP Raghuram Reddy said the government is giving priority to the health of the poor and is ensuring speedy clearance of medical aid applications. “So far, I have helped secure CMRF cheques and LOC documents for around 1,100 poor patients,” he said.
He emphasized that the Congress government is committed to delivering welfare benefits to all eligible citizens. The event saw participation from Congress district leader Koppula Chandrasekhar, various public representatives, party leaders, and activists in large numbers.

‘Bye Bye Silicon Valley, Hello Quantum Valley’

Imagine a special area, like a high-tech park, like the one Chief Minister Chandra Babu Naidu built in Hyderabad way back in the late 90s with a slogan ‘Bye Bye Bangalore, Hello Hyderabad’. Now, the visionary CM Naidu is on a big leap from high-tech cities, and focusing on regular computers, he has become the proponent of “quantum” technology – a super advanced type of computing that uses the strange rules of tiny particles to solve problems way faster than anything we have today.

This “Quantum Valley” in Andhra Pradesh is designed to bring together brilliant minds, cutting-edge labs, and big companies to create new quantum computers, develop super-secure communication methods, and even invent materials with incredible properties. It’s like building the future of technology in one place, which will create lots of high-paying jobs, attract businesses, and make India a leader in this revolutionary field. He and his government is now writing a new slogan ‘Bye Bye Silicon Valley, Hello Quantum Valley’.

Andhra Pradesh’s proposed Quantum Valley is poised to become a powerful force in transforming the state and propelling India onto the global stage in quantum technology. This ambitious initiative, planned for launch in January 2026 in Amaravati, is designed as India’s first full-stack integrated quantum technology ecosystem, spanning 50 acres and integrating quantum computing, artificial intelligence, semiconductor research, and defense innovation. Its multifaceted approach promises profound changes for both Andhra Pradesh and the nation, simultaneously creating a new

landscape for future job opportunities. For the State, the Quantum Valley is set to establish itself as a leading center for quantum and deep-tech advancement in Asia. It will attract top-tier researchers, engineers, and scientists, housing significant infrastructure like IBM’s 156-qubit Quantum System Two, which will be India’s most powerful quantum computer. A key immediate impact will be substantial job creation, with estimates ranging from 90,000 to 100,000 high-end positions once fully operational. This growth will be bolstered by a vibrant startup ecosystem, supported by initiatives like the Ratan Tata Innovation Hub and a proposed ₹1,000 crore Quantum Fund.

To ensure a steady supply of skilled talent for these roles, the Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education has directed universities to introduce quantum computing curricula, with Andhra University already offering degree programs from the 2025-26 academic year, and the Amaravati Quantum Academy launching India’s first Integrated Quantum Skill-ing Ecosystem. Beyond technology and employment, the Quantum Valley aligns with Amaravati’s vision for sustainable development, incorporating renewable energy sources and green infrastructure. Furthermore, it aims to establish India’s first quantum governance framework, leveraging quantum technologies to enhance public administration’s transparency, cyber resilience, and efficiency.

On a national scale, the Quantum Valley is crucial for positioning India at the forefront of the global quantum revolution. By fostering indigenous hardware development, talent growth, and secure infrastructure,



it will contribute significantly to India’s ambition of global leadership in quantum technology. While initially research-focused, the project is projected to yield long-term economic dividends by accelerating translational research, prototyping, and intellectual property creation across various sectors.

A critical national benefit is its contribution to national security and defense, supporting advancements in post-quantum cryptography, high-performance computing, photonics, and quantum-aligned aerospace and defense technologies, thus building India’s strategic deep-tech capacity. Collaborations with industry giants like IBM, TCS, and L&T will drive the development of quantum-integrated applications in sectors such as life sciences, materials science, supply chain resilience, energy optimization, and cryptography.

The Quantum Valley directly supports

national initiatives like “Atmanir-bhar Bharat” and “Digital India” by addressing critical gaps in indigenous hardware and talent development, enhancing India’s self-reliance in cutting-edge technologies. The ecosystem also envisions fostering international research partnerships and academic exchanges with institutions like Purdue University (USA) and the University of Tokyo (Japan), aspiring to become a global platform for quantum-based solutions, akin to Silicon Valley for IT.

The establishment of the Quantum Valley will directly translate into a diverse range of future job roles that are essential for building and maintaining this advanced ecosystem. Drawing on the foundational needs of quantum computing, the roles within the Quantum Valley will likely include Quantum Hardware Engineers who are the specialists involved in building quantum processors, controlling qubits, and working with cryogenics, microwave engineering, and materials science.

Job specialties like Quantum Algorithm Developers, Quantum Software Developers, who create higher-level software using quantum frameworks (like Qiskit or Cirq) to run on quantum processors. Another high-paid job will be for Quantum Error Correction Specialists who are trained and focused on improving the stability and reliability of fragile qubits.

Besides the above key positions in various companies blossoming in the Valley will be 1000s of jobs in Post-Quantum Cryptography Expertise, Application Scientists or Domain Specialists who can apply quantum techniques to specific fields such as chemistry, finance, logistics, life sciences, materials science, and ener-

gy optimization, requiring combined knowledge in a specific field and quantum concepts.

Artificial Intelligence and Semiconductor Research Engineers are also in need of thousands. Given the integrated nature of the Valley, there will also be strong demand for experts in artificial intelligence and semiconductor research. Data and AI is going to be buzzwords in the Valley.

These roles reflect the broader trend towards hybrid classical-quantum systems and the increased demand for post-quantum security measures. Students aspiring to enter these fields will need a strong foundation in mathematics (linear algebra, probability, complex numbers), quantum mechanics basics, programming (especially Python and quantum frameworks), and classical computer science fundamentals. The Quantum Valley’s emphasis on education and skill development directly aims to prepare the workforce for these specialized and high-demand future jobs, making it a critical hub for India’s technological and economic advancement.

Our present school curriculum badly needs to be modified, and the capacity of the teachers in the area of computer science and AI needs to be built to provide a robust foundation for the present-day school students in Andhra Pradesh to ensure the Valley is filled first with natives.

About the author: Ram Kamal was a working journalist who spent over 20 years in leading international dailies and news agencies abroad. He now dedicates his life to social engineering to make education inclusive for all. He is currently advising the State School Education on Inclusive education and digitally accessible pedagogy.

NHAI Capex Claims Under Scrutiny Amid Financial Tightening and Monetisation Setbacks

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

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

This discrepancy suggests the government’s ₹2.5 lakh crore claim includes significant debt repayments, thus overstating its investment in new highway infrastructure. The reported repayment of ₹50,000 crore to NSSF, which simply circles money back to the government, further underscores the lack of transparency. Hence, the



real support extended to NHAI stands at around ₹2 lakh crore, far below the claimed figure.

Additionally, NHAI’s asset monetisation efforts appear to be faltering. The

government has celebrated the National Highways Infra Trust (NHIT) as a success in raising ₹18,380 crore in its fourth fundraising round. However, closer scrutiny of NHIT reveals that

it remains largely government-controlled, with project management and investment oversight still under NHAI through wholly owned entities. While monetisation transactions

have nominally raised ₹43,648 crore by transferring 2,345 kilometres of roads, genuine private sector participation remains limited, with much of the funding sourced through loans rather than equity investment.

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

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

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

Hearing in Rahul Gandhi Defamation Case Adjourned to July 14 in Sultanpur Court

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The MP-MLA Court in Sultanpur on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, adjourned the hearing of a defamation case against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi until July 14. The case pertains to alleged objectionable remarks made by Mr. Gandhi against Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The defamation complaint was originally filed in 2018 by BJP leader Vijay Mishra. Advocate Santosh Kumar Pandey, representing Mr. Mishra, informed the court that a witness was scheduled to be examined on Wednesday. However, the hearing was deferred as the witness failed to appear. This case has been ongoing for several years. In December 2023, the MP-MLA Court had issued a warrant against Rahul Gandhi. Subsequently, in February 2024, Mr. Gandhi surrendered before the court and was granted bail after furnishing two sureties of ₹25,000 each. On July 26, 2024, Rahul Gandhi recorded his statement in the court, denying the allegations and asserting that the case was part of a political conspiracy aimed at tarnishing his reputation. The defamation suit stems from comments Mr. Gandhi allegedly made against Amit Shah during the Karnataka Assem-



bly poll campaign. Vijay Mishra had accused him of making objectionable remarks that amounted to defamation. The case has attracted significant political attention, given the stature of the individuals involved and its potential impact on public discourse. The upcoming hearing on July 14 is expected to move forward with the examination of witnesses and further arguments from both parties. As the legal proceedings continue, supporters and critics alike are closely following the developments in this high-profile defamation case, which reflects the intense political rivalry between the Congress and BJP parties in India.



China objects to Dalai Lama’s plan, says ‘seal of approval’ must

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

A new diplomatic and ideological confrontation has erupted between Tibetans and China after the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, affirmed the continuation of the Dalai Lama institution and asserted that only the Gaden Phodrang Trust holds the legitimate authority to recognize his reincarnation. Reacting sharply, China dismissed the announcement on Wednesday, with Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning declaring that any future successor to the Dalai Lama must be approved by Beijing. She insisted that the process must adhere to Chinese domestic laws, the “Golden Urn” system, and official state approval — a requirement Beijing claims aligns with religious tradition and legal procedure. The “Golden Urn,” introduced by Qing dynasty officials in the 18th century, involves drawing lots to select religious leaders. Mao noted that its use was formally codified into Chinese regulations in 2007, banning foreign involvement in Tibetan reincarnation processes. The response drew swift and pointed criticism from the Tibetan side. Dhundup Gyalpo, Secretary of the Bureau of the Dalai Lama in New Delhi, dismissed Mao’s statement on X (formerly Twitter), calling it “Lies, damned lies and Chinese propaganda.” Gyalpo clarified that the traditional Tibetan method of identifying reincarnated lamas relies on signs, visions, or divinations such as the dough-ball method — not the Golden Urn, which he said was only used once symbolically in the selection of the 11th Dalai Lama. He asserted that the 14th Dalai Lama was identified without any Chinese involvement, and China’s delegates attended his 1940 enthronement on British-issued visas as guests — not participants. Gyalpo further pointed out that China’s state-sponsored “Han Buddhism” lacks any reincarnation system, underscoring that the lineage-based system of Tibetan Buddhism remains culturally and spiritually distinct. Notably, Mao Ning’s remarks about the Dalai Lama’s succession were omitted from the official Chinese Foreign Ministry transcript, according to Press Trust of India. The latest exchange reflects the deep-rooted tensions between Tibetan religious independence and China’s attempt to assert political control over spiritual matters in Tibet, especially as the issue of the next Dalai Lama grows more urgent with the current leader now 89.

PM Modi Embarks on Longest Diplomatic Visit in a Decade Strengthens Ties with Global South

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, began a landmark five-nation diplomatic tour — his longest in the past 10 years — with a focus on deepening India’s engagement with the Global South. His itinerary includes visits to Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Brazil, and Namibia from July 2 to 9. Modi’s visit to Brazil is especially significant, marking the first by an Indian Prime Minister in nearly six decades. He will attend the BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro on July 6–7, followed by a bilateral visit to Brasília. “India is committed to BRICS as a vital platform for cooperation among emerging economies. Together, we strive for a more peaceful, equitable, democratic, and balanced multipolar world order,” Modi stated before departure. Kicking off his tour in Accra, Ghana, PM



Modi will engage with President John Dramani Mahama to explore cooperation in investment, health, energy, and development. He is also scheduled to address Ghana’s Parliament, calling it a special honour shared between two democracies.

From West Africa, the Prime Minister will travel to Trinidad and Tobago on July 3–4. This year marks 180 years since the first Indians arrived in the Caribbean nation. He will meet President Christine Carla Kangaloo and Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, emphasizing historical and cultural ties. In Buenos Aires, Modi will hold talks with Argentine President Javier Milei. This is the first bilateral visit by an Indian PM to Argentina in 57 years. The discussions are expected to focus on trade, technology, agriculture, and critical minerals. Concluding his tour in Namibia, Modi will meet President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and address the Namibian Parliament, highlighting shared anti-colonial histories and development goals. The visit reflects India’s growing commitment to Global South solidarity and multilateral cooperation through platforms like BRICS, the African Union, ECOWAS, and CARICOM.

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

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Demonstrating swift action and maritime readiness, the Indian Navy successfully contained a major fire onboard a Palau-flagged oil tanker, MT Yi Cheng 6, in the North Arabian Sea on June 29, 2025. The vessel, operating approximately 80 nautical miles east of Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates, had reported a severe fire in its engine room and a total power failure. Following a distress call from the ship, the Indian Navy immediately launched a high-risk firefighting and rescue operation. Warship INS Tabar was swiftly deployed and proceeded at maximum speed to the location. Upon arrival, seven of the 14 Indian crew members were promptly evacuated to the Navy ship using small boats. “All evacuated crew were safe and medically examined onboard INS Tabar. No injuries were reported,” the Navy said in an official statement. The remaining crew, including the ship’s master, stayed onboard to assist with firefighting efforts. A six-member team from INS Tabar initially joined the ship’s crew to battle the blaze, suc-



cessfully reducing the fire’s intensity and confining the smoke to the engine room. The operation was later reinforced with an additional 13 Indian Navy personnel — five officers and eight sailors — to strengthen the containment effort. After sustained firefighting over several hours, the joint team successfully brought the fire under control. INS Tabar has remained in the vicinity of MT Yi Cheng 6 to provide continued assistance and ensure safety. The Indian Navy praised the courage and professionalism of its personnel, stating, “The valiant effort of Indian Naval personnel ensured the safety of the vessel and all Indian crew members. This operation underscores the Navy’s rapid response capability, operational preparedness, and commitment to maritime safety.”

Gunfight Breaks Out Between Security Forces and Terrorists in J&K's Kishtwar Forests

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

An intense encounter erupted on Wednesday evening between security forces and terrorists in a dense forested region of Kishtwar district, Jammu and Kashmir, officials confirmed. The gun battle began during a joint cordon and search operation launched by the Jammu and Kashmir Police, the Indian Army, and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in the Kuchal area of Chatroo, a remote and heavily forested region known for difficult terrain and limited visibility. Security forces initiated the operation based on credible intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists hiding in the area. As the search teams advanced into the forest, terrorists opened fire, triggering a fierce exchange of gunfire. The operation was ongoing at the time of the latest reports, with heavy firing being reported from both sides. Security forces have moved in reinforcements to the area to tighten the cordon and prevent any escape of the terrorists. “The terrorists opened fire upon noticing the search parties. The forces immediately retaliated, leading to an ongoing encounter,” an official stated. The area has been completely sealed off, and all routes in and out of the forested zone are



under surveillance to block any movement. Additional troops have been deployed to support the frontline personnel engaged in the firefight. Kishtwar, once relatively peaceful compared to other districts in the Kashmir Valley, has witnessed an uptick in terrorist activity in recent months. Security forces have increased patrolling and intelligence-gathering efforts in response to renewed threats. Officials said the objective is to neutralize the terrorists and prevent any potential threat to civilian life in the surrounding areas. The operation is being closely monitored by senior police and army officials, and further updates are awaited as the situation develops.

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



TPN Correspondent | Washington

A controversial new U.S. Senate bill backed by President Donald Trump could impose a 500% tariff on countries that continue to trade with Russia, including major economies like India and China. The legislation, spearheaded by Republican Senator Lindsey Graham and co-sponsored by Democrat Richard Blumenthal, aims to pressure these nations to cut economic ties with Moscow in an effort to weaken Russia's war economy. Graham revealed in an interview on Sunday that the bill has gained significant bipartisan support, with 84 co-sponsors in

the Senate. The proposal would authorize the U.S. President to levy steep tariffs on imports from nations still doing business with Russia, especially those buying oil and other critical goods. "India and China buy 70% of Putin's oil. They keep his war machine going," Graham told ABC News. The bill is expected to be introduced in August and represents a major shift in U.S. foreign policy tactics as the war in Ukraine drags on. President Trump, who previously hesitated on expanding sanctions against Russia, reportedly endorsed the legislation during a golf outing with Graham. "It's time to move your bill," Trump allegedly told the senator. Though initially delayed

over concerns that harsh sanctions might derail Trump's diplomatic overtures to Russian President Vladimir Putin, the administration now appears willing to support the measure. However, there are signs the White House is pushing for changes to soften its impact, such as modifying the language to make the penalties discretionary rather than mandatory. The proposed legislation has triggered alarm in global trade circles, particularly in India, where the U.S. remains a critical export destination. If passed, the bill could significantly disrupt U.S. relations with India and China, potentially sparking economic and diplomatic backlash.

Going to Washington next week to meet with Trump: Netanyahu



TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced on Tuesday that he will travel to Washington next week for high-level meetings with U.S. President Donald Trump and other American officials. The announcement came during a Cabinet meeting, where Netanyahu briefly outlined the agenda, highlighting a trade agreement as a central topic of discussion. While Netanyahu did not provide further details about the proposed trade deal, the visit is widely seen as an opportunity to address a range of critical issues, especially the ongoing conflict in Gaza and the broader regional tensions involving Iran. The timing of the visit is particularly significant, as it comes amid increasing pressure from the international community, including the United States, for a de-escalation in the fighting between Israel and Hamas. President Trump has recently indicated that the U.S. is ready to support efforts aimed at bringing the war in Gaza to an end. His administration has called for both sides to begin moving toward a ceasefire, signaling a shift in tone that could shape the diplomatic conversations between the two leaders. Another key item on the agenda is Iran. Following the recent 12-day war between Israel and Iranian-backed forces, concerns over Tehran's growing influence in the region are likely to dominate much of the dialogue. Netanyahu has long viewed Iran as a strategic threat, and his visit to Washington is expected to reinforce the shared concerns of both nations over Iran's nuclear ambitions and regional activities. As Netanyahu prepares for his U.S. visit, the stakes are high. The outcome of these discussions could play a significant role in shaping the trajectory of Middle East policy in the coming months, particularly regarding peace in Gaza and security challenges posed by Iran.

Pakistan Confirms Another Polio Case, Raising 2025 Tally to 14



TPN Correspondent | New York

Pakistan has reported another case of poliovirus, bringing the total number of infections in the country to 14 so far in 2025. The latest case involves a 19-month-old boy from North Waziristan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, according to officials at the Regional Reference Laboratory for Polio Eradication at the National Institute of Health (NIH) in Islamabad. With this new case, the number of reported polio cases in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has increased to eight. Sindh has reported four cases, while Punjab and Gilgit-Baltistan have recorded one each. Pakistan remains one of only two countries

in the world—alongside Afghanistan—where polio remains endemic. Despite consistent nationwide immunization campaigns, eradication efforts continue to face major obstacles, including security threats, vaccine hesitancy, and widespread misinformation. This is the second polio case reported from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa within a week. On June 27, health officials confirmed that an 18-month-old child from the Union Council Amakhel in the Tank district had also contracted the virus. In an effort to eliminate polio, Pakistan has conducted three nationwide vaccination drives in 2025—in February, April, and May. The most recent campaign aimed to immu-

nize around 45 million children under the age of five. Polio is a highly infectious and incurable disease caused by the poliovirus, which primarily affects children under five. It can lead to permanent paralysis or even death. The only reliable protection is through multiple doses of the oral polio vaccine administered during routine and mass immunization drives. Despite setbacks, the Pakistani government has reaffirmed its commitment to eradicating the disease by the end of this year. However, recurring attacks on health workers and law enforcement personnel guarding vaccination teams remain a serious challenge to the goal of a polio-free Pakistan.

Thailand PM Paetongtarn Shinawatra Suspended Over Leaked Call with Cambodian Leader



TPN Correspondent | BANGKOK

Thailand's Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra was suspended from office on Tuesday by the Constitutional Court following a leaked phone call that sparked protests and political fallout. The call, made during sensitive diplomatic talks with Cambodian Senate President Hun Sen, triggered an ethics investigation and widespread public backlash. The Constitutional Court unanimously agreed to take up the petition accusing Paetongtarn of breaching ethical standards, and voted 7-2 to suspend her from official duties while the case proceeds. She has been given 15 days to present her defense. The controversy intensified after a deadly border clash on May 28 left one Cambodian soldier dead. In the leaked call, Paetongtarn was heard making conciliatory remarks that critics say undermined Thailand's national interest. The fallout has fueled growing dissatisfaction over her handling of the border dispute and led to large-scale protests in Bangkok by conservative, nationalist groups. Following the court's decision, Paetongtarn said she respects the judicial process and is determined to defend her actions. "My only intention was to prevent escalation and protect our troops from harm," she stated. "If my words caused misunderstanding, I truly apologize." Deputy Prime Minister Suriya Jungrungruangkit is expected to assume the role of acting prime minister, although an official announcement is still pending. Earlier the same day, King Maha Vajiralongkorn approved a Cabinet reshuffle after a key coalition partner, the Bhumjaithai Party, exited the government over the controversy. The reshuffle removed party leader Anutin Charnvirakul from the deputy prime minister post. Paetongtarn had recently added the role of culture minister to her portfolio, though her future in that post is uncertain. She also faces a separate ethics investigation by the National Anti-Corruption Commission, which could further jeopardize her political career.

Rupee Falls 9 Paise to Close at 85.68 Against U.S. Dollar Amid Market Caution and Rising Oil Prices

The Indian rupee weakened by 9 paise to settle at 85.68 (provisional) against the U.S. dollar on Wednesday, July 2, 2025. The decline was attributed to weakness in domestic equity markets, rising crude oil prices, and a marginal recovery in the U.S. dollar. Forex traders pointed to market participants' cautious stance ahead of the anticipated conclusion of the India-U.S. trade deal, which is reportedly in its final stages. While optimism around the trade agreement supported early gains in equities, the uncertainty over tariff terms and market access continued to weigh on the rupee.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 85.59 against the dollar and fluctuated



within a range of 85.57 to 85.75 during the trading session, before closing at 85.68—down from its previous close of 85.59 on Tuesday, when it had appre-

ciated by 17 paise. The dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six major currencies, edged up by 0.14% to 96.95, further pressuring the rupee. Meanwhile, Brent crude futures rose by 0.92% to \$67.73 per barrel, adding to India's import bill and impacting currency sentiment.

Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Mirae Asset Sharekhan, noted, "We expect the rupee to decline further on trade tariff uncertainty as the July 9 deadline approaches. Remarks from U.S. President Donald Trump on tariff policies are also keeping markets cautious."

Talks between Indian and U.S. officials continued for a sixth day in Washington, with India pushing for better

market access for its labor-intensive goods. The Indian negotiating team, led by Commerce Department Special Secretary Rajesh Agrawal, is aiming to finalize an interim trade agreement before the July 9 deadline.

Despite pressure, improved global risk sentiment, including a ceasefire between Israel and Iran, may provide some support to the rupee. Choudhary expects the USD-INR spot rate to remain in the range of 85.45 to 86.05 in the near term.

In domestic markets, the BSE Sensex fell by 287.60 points to 83,409.69, while the Nifty dropped 88.40 points to 25,453.40. On a positive note, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) were net buyers, purchasing ₹890.93 crore worth of equities on the day.

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



ICICI Bank has forecast that India's trade deficit will widen to USD 300 billion in the financial year 2025-26, even though oil prices are expected to remain moderate. This would mark an increase from the USD 287 billion deficit recorded in FY25 and USD 245 billion in FY24, representing 7.0% of the country's GDP.

According to the bank's report, the main driver of the growing trade deficit is the weak performance of India's non-oil exports, which have struggled to keep pace with rising imports. On the other hand, strong domestic economic growth is expected to sustain high import levels, further widening the gap between imports and exports.

Despite the widening trade deficit, ICICI Bank projects that steady inflows from services exports and remittances will help maintain the current account deficit (CAD) at a manageable USD 30 billion,

or approximately 0.7% of GDP. The current account deficit includes not only the trade balance but also other international financial flows such as investment income and remittances.

A trade deficit occurs when a country imports more goods than it exports, and India's persistent deficit highlights ongoing challenges in boosting export competitiveness outside of the oil sector. Meanwhile, imports remain robust, driven by strong domestic demand and economic expansion.

The report underscores the importance of strengthening non-oil exports to reduce India's reliance on imports and improve the overall balance of payments. As the economy continues to grow, addressing these structural trade imbalances will be crucial for sustaining external stability and economic resilience in the coming years.



Mumbai: The Indian stock market opened flat on Monday, buoyed by positive global cues and early buying interest in the PSU bank and IT sectors.

At 9:27 am IST, the Sensex edged up marginally by 1.35 points to 84,057.55, while the Nifty rose 6.50 points, or 0.03%, to 25,644.30. Nifty Bank showed slight gains, up 15.15 points or 0.03% at 57,459.05 in early trade.

Market analysts pointed to easing geopolitical tensions in West Asia and a sharp decline in

ing the market sentiment. Additionally, reports suggesting positive developments in trade negotiations between the US and China, as well as the US and India, have boosted investor confidence.

Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments, noted that recent market rallies have been driven by large-cap stocks like HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Reliance Industries (RIL), and Larsen & Toubro (L&T), which have seen strong institutional buying.

The Nifty Midcap 100 index climbed 220.90 points

Markets End Lower as HDFC Bank, Foreign Outflows Drag Indices Amid Tariff Concerns

Indian equity markets closed in the red on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, as the BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty reversed early gains due to sustained selling pressure in key stocks like HDFC Bank, Larsen & Toubro, and Reliance Industries. Investor sentiment remained cautious amid concerns over the approaching U.S. tariff deadline, foreign fund outflows, and mixed global cues.

After opening on a positive note, the 30-share BSE Sensex lost steam and closed 287.60 points or 0.34% lower at 83,409.69. It had dropped as much as 546.52 points during intraday trading to hit a low of 83,150.77. The broader NSE Nifty also declined by 88.40 points or 0.35% to settle at 25,453.40.

Major laggards in the Sensex pack included Bajaj Finserv, Larsen & Toubro, Bajaj Finance, HDFC Bank, Bharat Electronics, and Kotak Mahindra Bank. On the other hand, Tata Steel, Asian Paints, UltraTech Cement, and Trent emerged as the top gainers, offering some resistance to the market slide.

According to market experts, the ongoing withdrawal of foreign institutional investments and the uncertain global trade outlook are key factors behind the current volatility. "Mixed global cues, particularly ahead of the im-



pending tariff deadline, are driving investor caution. Attention is now shifting to upcoming Q1 earnings, which are carrying high expectations," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Despite the market dip, some domestic economic indicators remained strong. India's manufacturing sector showed solid momentum, with the HSBC India Manufacturing PMI rising to a 14-month high of 58.4 in June, up from 57.6 in May. Employment levels also

reached record highs, indicating positive sentiment in the industrial sector. However, gross GST collection slipped to ₹1.84 lakh crore in June, down from over ₹2 lakh crore in each of the previous two months, though still up 6.2% year-on-year.

Asian markets ended on a mixed note, with South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225, and China's Shanghai Composite finishing lower, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng ended higher.

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

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

The latest data from the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) — which tracks changes in the volume of production in factories, mines, and utilities — points to broad-based weakness, with particular stress in energy and



resource-linked industries. Electricity output contracted sharply by 5.8%, while mining output saw a marginal decline of 0.1% year-on-year.

In contrast, manufacturing, which constitutes the bulk of the IIP, provided some support with 2.6% growth, driven by increased

production in machinery, non-metallic minerals, and basic metals. However, this was still notably below the 5.1% growth recorded in the same month last year, indicating persistent softness in industrial momentum.

Sector-wise, consumer goods remained weak, re-

flecting subdued demand, while capital goods and infrastructure-related output offered modest positive contributions to overall industrial performance.

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

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

Indian Stock Market Opens Flat Amid Positive Global Cues

Brent crude prices to \$67 as key factors support-

(0.37%) to 59,606.05, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 index rose 153.35 points (0.81%) to 19,130.15. Among the Sensex constituents, M&M, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bharti Airtel, HDFC Bank, NTPC, and UltraTech Cement were the top losers. On the other hand, Trent, SBI, L&T, Axis Bank, and Hindustan Unilever Limited led the gains.

Weakness in the US dollar index continues to encourage foreign institutional investor (FII) inflows, alongside ongoing retail optimism supporting domestic fund investments. Experts advise that while staying invested in this bullish market makes sense, caution should be exer-

cised when making fresh investments at current high valuations.

On June 27, FIIs were net buyers, acquiring equities worth ₹1,397.02 crore, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) were net sellers, offloading shares worth ₹588.93 crore.

Asian markets also showed mixed trends, with China, Bangkok, Japan, Seoul, and Jakarta trading in green, while Hong Kong slipped into the red.

In the US, the Dow Jones closed Friday at 43,819.27, up 1%, with the S&P 500 and Nasdaq also posting solid gains.

‘I Can’t Stay Silent Anymore’: Former Zepto Employee Exposes Food Safety Violations

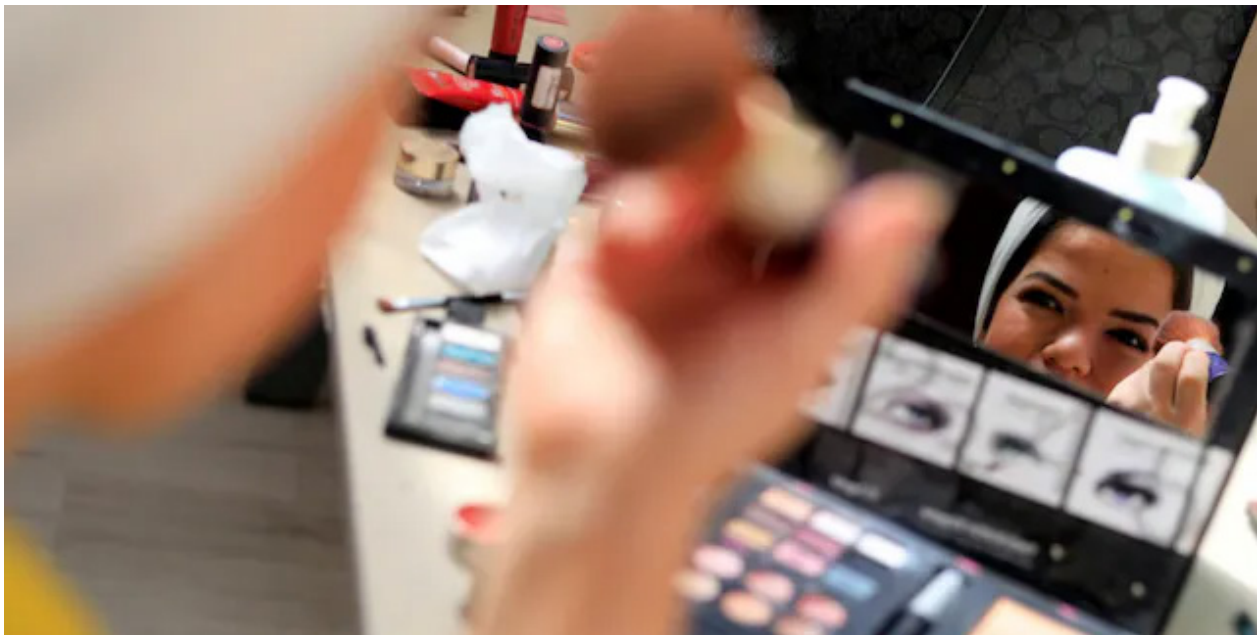
Quick-commerce start-up Zepto is under fire after a former employee exposed alarming food safety violations and poor working conditions, prompting public outrage and regulatory action. The revelations come as the Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has already suspended Zepto’s food business license in Mumbai’s Dharavi for breaching hygiene and safety standards. The whistleblower, who claims to have worked at Zepto for three years, detailed disturbing practices in a now-viral Reddit post. “I can’t stay silent anymore,” the post begins. One specific instance describes expired Greek yogurt being knowingly delivered to a customer after management allegedly said, “Give it anyway.”

The employee paints a grim picture of daily operations, including packing groceries in monsoon-flooded warehouses in Pune, often filled with gutter water. “We worked more than 9 hours in that dirty water without shoes. Many of us fell sick, but no medical compensation was given,” the post reads. Damaged fruits, rotting vegetables, and expired products, the employee claims, were routinely packed and sent to customers. Public reaction has been swift. Several social media users shared their own experiences with delayed deliveries, spoiled groceries, and



lack of customer support. “These apps were supposed to make life easier—now they’re just unreliable,” one user commented. Others pointed to competitors like Blinkit and BigBasket as better alternatives. Earlier this month, a raid by the Maharashtra FDA on a Zepto facility found fungal contamination on food, poor cold storage, and generally unsanitary conditions—leading to the license suspension. The incident raises serious concerns about food safety in India’s booming quick-commerce sector. While Zepto has yet to issue a detailed public response, calls for greater regulation and consumer transparency are growing louder in light of the controversy.

Woman Wears Makeup Daily for 22 Years, Suffers Severe Skin Damage



A Chinese woman’s shocking skincare journey has gone viral after she revealed the devastating effects of wearing makeup every single day for 22 years—without ever properly removing it. Known online as Niuyoumian, the 37-year-old from China’s Jilin province shared her painful story, drawing attention to the long-term risks of poor skincare and heavy cosmetic use. In a video widely circulated on social media, Niuyoumian appears with visibly inflamed, red, and swollen skin—symptoms of what she refers to as “hormone face,” a chronic skin condition caused by prolonged exposure to cosmetic chemicals and inadequate cleansing routines. According to South China Morning Post, her skin problems began as early as age 14 after using an unsuitable acne cream. By 15, she was wearing makeup daily and continued the habit for over two decades. Working in the beauty and hair industry, she was also regularly exposed to strong salon chemicals. Using inexpensive, low-quality foundations only worsened her condition.

Despite suffering early signs like redness and itching, she ignored them. “I thought it could be fixed with some ointment,” she admitted. “But after 25, everything changed.” Niuyoumian eventually turned to facial injections in 2011, hoping to improve her skin. However, these treatments backfired, further damaging her complexion. She has since been diagnosed with rosacea and Demodex mite infestations. “At its worst, it felt like ants crawling on my face,” she said. Reflecting on her journey, she acknowledged that her impatience and constant switching of skincare products only made things worse. Now, with nearly 30,000 followers, she urges others: “Don’t blindly trust beauty products just because someone else says they work.” Her experience has sparked widespread discussion online about responsible makeup use, the importance of proper skincare, and the hidden costs of beauty standards.

Ramen Lovers Stunned as Cancer Warning Found on Instant Noodle Packet



A viral video has sparked a widespread concern among ramen lovers after revealing a shocking warning label printed on an instant noodle packet. The label read: “Warning: Cancer and Reproductive Harm,” leaving many stunned and questioning the safety of their favorite go-to snack. The video, posted on Instagram by a concerned user, shows him flipping over the back of the ramen packet and pointing to the printed warning. “I eat this all the time,” he said, clearly in disbelief. The clip quickly gained traction online, with viewers flooding the comments section with reactions ranging from confusion to alarm. Ramen noodles have long been a staple for students, busy professionals, and anyone looking for a quick, affordable meal. But this video is making people take a hard look at the ingredients and manufacturing standards behind these convenient packets. Nutrition expert Cara Harbstreet weighed in on the matter, explaining that most packaged instant noodles rely heavily

on sodium, preservatives, and artificial flavor enhancers for taste. “Many instant noodle products contain chemicals that, in large quantities or over time, may pose health risks. Labels like these are mandated under specific regional laws to inform consumers,” she said. In the United States, such warnings often appear due to California’s Proposition 65, which requires products containing certain chemicals to carry notices about potential cancer or reproductive risks. This doesn’t necessarily mean the product is unsafe in standard consumption levels, but it does highlight the presence of certain flagged substances. While the warning may be routine in some regions due to regulatory policies, the video has ignited debates over food transparency, health risks, and the need for clearer consumer education on packaged foods. As the discussion continues, health experts urge consumers to enjoy instant noodles occasionally and balance them with a nutritious, whole-food-based diet.

In Lucknow, King-Size ‘Lauki’ on Cooker Grabs Eyeballs: Is Binod Watching?

Lucknow residents got quite the surprise when an enormous bottle gourd (lauki) appeared at the busy 1090 Chauraha, instantly grabbing the attention of passersby. The unusual sight of this giant vegetable, perched atop a cooker, left many curious and amused, prompting several to stop and take photos. A video capturing the massive lauki quickly went viral on social media. The person filming encouraged viewers to guess why such an enormous vegetable was placed in such a public spot, sparking intrigue and fun speculation among online audiences. As it turns out, this giant lauki was a creative promotional stunt for the upcoming release of Panchayat Season 4, set to premiere on Prime Video on June 24.



While it remains unclear if the show’s cast or crew will make an appearance at the location, this quirky marketing move has successfully caught public attention, sparking conversations and excitement ahead of the series launch. The use of the lauki, a common vegetable in Indian households, adds a play-

ful, relatable touch to the campaign, making it stand out among typical advertisements. The stunt also taps into the growing trend of unusual and eye-catching promotions designed to engage audiences in real-world spaces. Whether or not this giant vegetable has anything to do with the character Binod, who has become a viral meme figure, viewers are left entertained and curious. The fun and unusual spectacle reflects the vibrant spirit of Lucknow and its knack for blending tradition with modern creativity. With Panchayat Season 4 just around the corner, this giant lauki is sure to remain a talking point for many, proving once again that sometimes, the simplest ideas make the biggest impact.

Brain’s Built-In Signal Threshold Helps Distinguish Imagination from Reality

New research reveals that the brain uses a built-in “signal threshold” to differentiate between real visual experiences and imagined ones. This discovery sheds light on how our minds distinguish reality from imagination and has important implications for understanding mental health conditions like schizophrenia, where this distinction often blurs. Scientists at University College London conducted a study using functional MRI scans on 26 volunteers. Participants were shown diagonal lines on a noisy screen—sometimes real, sometimes imagined. When participants imagined lines that matched the expected visual input, they were more likely to report seeing something even if nothing was actually shown. This suggested that strong internal signals from imagination can trick the brain into perceiving something as real.



Both real and imagined visuals activated the fusiform gyrus, a key brain region involved in visual processing. However, the brain only recognized the input as “real” when the activity in this region passed a certain intensity threshold. Alongside the fusiform gyrus, the anterior insula—a region linked to decision-making—also became active, possibly acting as a “reader” that evaluates the strength of the visual signal.

Lead researcher Nadine Dijkstra explained that although imagination stimulates the same brain area as real visuals, the signal generated by imagination is usually too weak to convince the brain that it is perceiving actual external input. Understanding this threshold system offers new insights into hallucinations and other mental health disorders that affect perception. Experts say these findings represent a significant step forward in understanding how the brain monitors reality versus imagination. Future research will explore more complex visual stimuli and real-world perceptions, including faces and animals. There is also interest in whether brain stimulation techniques could enhance imagined perception or help address perception-related disorders. This study provides a crucial foundation for unraveling the neural mechanisms behind how we experience and interpret reality.

Jyothi Yarraji Suffers Knee Injury, Puts Season on Hold Ahead of World Championships



India's top sprint hurdler Jyothi Yarraji has suffered a significant setback in her athletic career. The 25-year-old national record holder in the women's 100m hurdles announced on July 2, 2025, that she has sustained a knee injury during training, forcing her to pause her current season. The injury comes just months before the World Athletics Championships, scheduled to be held in Tokyo from September 13 to 21. Yarraji took to social media to share the news with her fans and supporters. "Due to an unfortunate injury to my knee during training a few days back, I've had to put a pause on my season," she wrote. "I'm working with my medical team to assess my options and take a decision on the way forward. Injuries are part of an athlete's journey and I'm viewing this as just another hurdle I'm going to overcome soon. With all your support and blessings, I'll be back stronger."

Her coach, James Hillier, confirmed the severity of the injury to PTI, calling it a "freak" incident. "Unfortunately, she picked up a freak injury to her knee in training. It's pretty bad, so we are assessing our options at the moment," Hillier said, indicating that her participation in the World Championships may now be in doubt. Yarraji, who recently clocked sub-13 seconds—a first for an Indian woman—has been a standout performer in Indian athletics. Her performances over the past two years have elevated her to one of the country's top track stars, with consistent results in international meets. A recent Instagram reel posted by her—titled "Athlete's life"—foreshadowed the incident, showing clips of her stumbles both in training and during competition. Fans and fellow athletes have poured in support as she begins her road to recovery.

Real Madrid Edge Juventus 1-0 in Club World Cup as Mbappe Makes Return

Real Madrid secured a narrow 1-0 victory over Juventus in the FIFA Club World Cup Round of 16 clash held in Florida on July 1, 2025. The win also marked the return of Kylian Mbappe, who came on as a second-half substitute after recovering from a bout of gastroenteritis that kept him out of the group stage. Real Madrid coach Xabi Alonso expressed optimism about Mbappe's fitness improving ahead of their upcoming quarter-final on Saturday against either Borussia Dortmund or Monterrey. "Day by day he will get better, and by the time of the quarters he should be in much better shape," Alonso said in the post-match press conference, adding that the medical staff would continue to monitor him closely. In Mbappe's absence, young forward Gonzalo Garcia has stepped up remarkably. He scored the only goal of the match against Juventus—his third in the tournament—proving his value as a reliable attacking option. Federico Valverde was another standout performer, orchestrating Madrid's midfield with energy and precision. Alonso lauded the Uruguayan's leadership and versatility, calling him a "complete player" whose presence lifts the entire squad. Vinicius Jr also drew attention with his attacking play, especially after Alonso made tactical adjustments in the second half to shift him back to his pre-



ferred position on the left flank. "We saw that giving him width allowed him to attack better from outside in," Alonso explained. Defensively, Real Madrid displayed strong discipline, effectively shutting down Juventus's attacking threats. The team has now conceded just two goals across four matches in the tournament, highlighting a marked improvement in their defensive structure. With momentum on their side and Mbappe nearing full fitness, Real Madrid look poised for a strong run in the Club World Cup.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

India Women Defeat England by 24 Runs, Take 2-0 Lead in T20I Series

India Women secured a crucial 24-run win over England Women in the second T20I at County Ground, Bristol on Tuesday, taking a 2-0 lead in the five-match series. The victory was powered by stellar half-centuries from Amanjot Kaur and Jemimah Rodrigues, along with a decisive bowling spell from Shree Charani. Batting first after winning the toss, India had a shaky start, losing three wickets early. Shafali Verma was dismissed for just 3 in the second over, caught by the wicketkeeper off a bouncer from Lauren Filer. Smriti Mandhana, the hero of the first match, followed soon after with a run-a-ball 13, and captain Harmanpreet Kaur, returning from a head injury, was dismissed for just 1. At 31/3, India were in deep trouble before Jemimah Rodrigues (63) and Amanjot Kaur (63*) rescued the innings with a crucial 93-run partnership. Amanjot remained unbeaten, registering her maiden T20I half-century in just her ninth appearance. Richa Ghosh's quickfire 32 off 20 balls helped India post a competitive 181/4. England's reply faltered early with a run-



out in the first over and Deepti Sharma removing Danni Wyatt-Hodge the very next ball. Captain Nat Sciver-Brunt attempted a counterattack but was dismissed by Amanjot, thanks to a sharp catch by Harmanpreet. Tammy Beaumont (54) and Amy Jones (32) stitched a 70-run stand, but India struck back when Beaumont was run out. Shree Charani's twin strikes in the 15th over removed Jones and Alice Capsey, crushing England's chase. With this win, India are one victory away from clinching their first-ever T20I series win in England. The third match will be held at The Oval on Friday—a venue rich in history for Indian cricket.

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



On the hottest opening day in Wimbledon's history, with temperatures soaring above 32°C (89.6°F), world No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz survived a tough five-set clash against 38-year-old Fabio Fognini. The Spaniard eked out a 7-5, 6-7 (5/7), 7-5, 2-6, 6-1 victory in a grueling 4-hour-37-minute match on Centre Court, marking the first time since 2010 that a defending Wimbledon champion was taken to a fifth set in the opening round. Despite an inconsistent perfor-

mance with 62 unforced errors, Alcaraz showed resilience in the extreme heat, even pausing mid-match to help a collapsed spectator by handing over a bottle of water. The 22-year-old, aiming to become the fifth man in the Open Era to win three consecutive Wimbledon titles, will next face British qualifier Oliver Tarvet.

Meanwhile, top-seeded Aryna Sabalenka advanced smoothly, beating Canadian qualifier Carson

Branstine 6-1, 7-5 on Court One. The Belarusian, a three-time Grand Slam winner, used ice packs to combat the heat and expressed gratitude for being fit and ready after missing last year's tournament due to injury. Sabalenka faces Czech Marie Bouzkova in the next round. Other notable events included two-time Wimbledon finalist Ons Jabeur retiring in tears against Viktoriya Tomova due to an unspecified issue, and former US Open champ Daniil Medvedev losing after a heated

meltdown. Upsets were rife, with eighth seed Holger Rune, former finalist Matteo Berrettini, and Stefanos Tsitsipas (retired due to injury) exiting early.

Wimbledon's heat rule allowed players to take breaks between sets when temperatures exceeded 30.1°C, aiming to protect their health during the intense conditions. The tournament continues with many top players battling both their opponents and the soaring mercury.

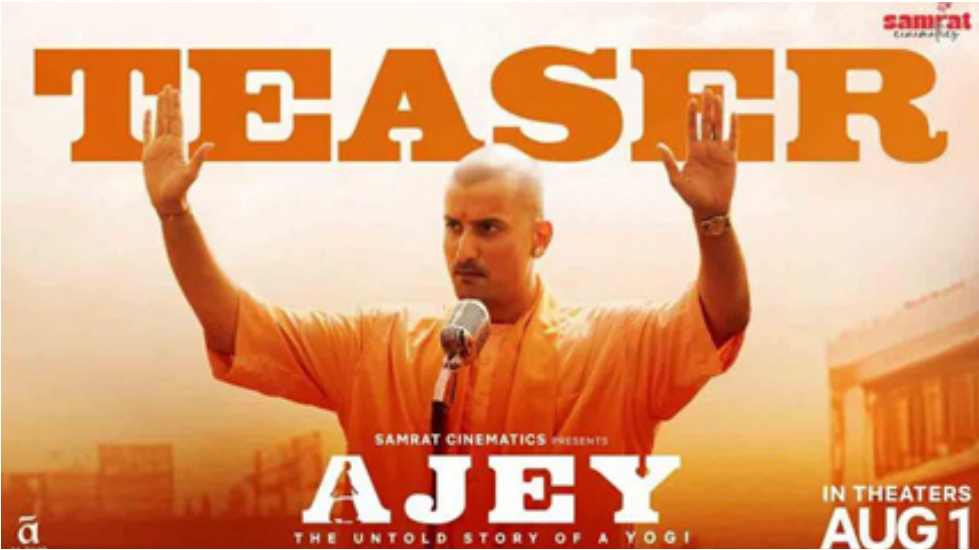


Ajey Teaser Out: Biopic on UP CM Yogi Adityanath Promises a Powerful Portrayal

The much-awaited teaser of *Ajey: The Untold Story of a Yogi*, a biographical film based on the life of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, has finally been released. Directed by acclaimed filmmaker Ravindra Gautam, the film stars Bollywood actor Anant Joshi in the lead role, portraying the journey of Yogi Adityanath from a humble background to becoming one of India's most prominent political figures. Veteran actor Paresh Rawal is also play-

ing a pivotal role in the film, which is based on the bestselling book *The Monk Who Became Chief Minister* by author Shantanu Gupta. The film is slated for a theatrical release on August 1, 2025. The teaser offers a glimpse into the early life of Yogi Adityanath, born in a small village in Uttarakhand to a middle-class family. It hints at the hardships he faced, his spiritual path through the Gorakhnath Math, and his eventual entry into politics where he

rose to become the Chief Minister of India's most populous state. With powerful visuals and a stirring background score, the teaser sets the tone for what appears to be an inspiring story of determination, discipline, and leadership. The film is expected to delve into the personal and political evolution of Yogi Adityanath, shedding light on both his spiritual roots and political journey. As anticipation builds, *Ajey* is poised to



be a compelling narrative for audiences interested in politics, leadership, and biographical storytelling. The film's release just ahead of Independence Day is

likely to spark national conversations, drawing both supporters and critics alike to theaters.



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

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

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

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

What sets this film apart is its visual presentation. Shot by an award-winning cinematographer from Los Angeles, the movie blends the vibrancy of Indian rural life with a sophisticated global visual language. This fusion promises a cinematic experience that is emotionally grounded yet aesthetically modern.

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

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

Nag Ashwin Launches Niharika Konidela’s Second Production – PEP 2 Promises Fantasy and Fun

Following the success of her debut production *Committee Kurrollu*, actress and producer Niharika Konidela is back with her second venture under the Pink Elephant Pictures banner. The new film, tentatively titled *PEP 2*, was officially launched on July 2, 2025, with a grand pooja ceremony held at the Glass House in Annapurna Studios, Hyderabad. The launch event was graced by some of Tollywood's notable filmmakers, including Nag Ashwin, Mallidi Vassishta, and Kalyan Shankar. The ceremonial first shot saw Nag Ashwin giving the first clap, Vassishta rolling the camera, and Kalyan Shankar directing the inaugural scene—adding star power and blessings to the project right from its start. *PEP 2* marks the directorial debut of Mana-



sa Sharma and stars Sangeeth Shobhan and Nayan Sarika in the lead roles. The film is described as a fantasy-comedy, aiming to blend whimsical elements with humor and

charm—promising an entertaining experience for audiences of all ages. Shooting is scheduled to commence on July 15 in and around Hyderabad. The film also boasts an impressive supporting cast, including popular comic and character actors such as Vennela Kishore, Brahmaji, Tanikella Bharani, Ashish Vidyarthi, and Getup Srinu, among others. Music for the film is being composed by Anudeep Dev, who is expected to bring a lively and engaging soundtrack to complement the film's fantastical tone. With a fresh genre, promising cast, and energetic production team, *PEP 2* is shaping up to be an exciting addition to the Telugu film industry. Fans of light-hearted cinema and fantasy storytelling have much to look forward to in this upcoming project from Pink Elephant Pictures.

Harshali Malhotra to Make Her Telugu Debut in Akhanda 2 Opposite Balakrishna

Harshali Malhotra, who captured hearts across the nation with her memorable role as Munni in *Baajranghi Bhaijaan*, is all set to make her grand debut in Telugu cinema. She joins the cast of the much-awaited action sequel *Akhanda 2*, starring Nandamuri Balakrishna in the lead role and directed by Boyapati Sreenu. The makers revealed Harshali's first look from the film today, introducing her character as Janani. Dressed in a traditional outfit, Harshali's serene and composed expression suggests that her role will carry emotional weight and possibly a spiritual connection to the story's central theme. Her character appears to be deeply rooted in the narrative, hinting at a powerful subplot that goes beyond just a cameo or supporting role. *Akhanda*, released in 2021, was a massive blockbuster and marked a turning point in Balakrishna's career with its intense action sequences,

spiritual overtones, and mass appeal. The announcement of *Akhanda 2* has generated tremendous excitement among fans, and Harshali's casting has only heightened the buzz. This marks a significant transition for Harshali as she steps into a new industry after a long gap from her Bollywood debut. Her inclusion brings a youthful and fresh dynamic to the film, and audiences are eager to see how she adapts to a powerful narrative alongside a seasoned star like Balakrishna. Directed once again by Boyapati Sreenu, known for his high-octane action dramas, *Akhanda 2* is expected to deliver another intense and emotionally charged cinematic experience. With a strong blend of action, sentiment, and spirituality, and now the added charm of Harshali Malhotra, the film is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated Telugu releases.



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

If the story of Hindi cinema had a protagonist, Aamir Khan would be a compelling choice. Known for his calculated risks, deep emotional range, and dedication to craft, Khan has carved a unique space among Bollywood's trinity of superstars. Unlike his contemporaries Shah Rukh Khan and Salman Khan—who leaned into charisma and familiarity—Aamir has thrived on unpredictability, choosing roles and stories that often challenge mainstream expectations. From producing a nearly four-hour sports drama (*Lagaan*), to playing a supporting role to a child in *Taare Zameen Par*, to transforming his body to play the father of two wrestlers in *Dangal*, Khan has repeatedly defied the norms of commercial cinema. Yet, despite his larger-than-life presence and critical acclaim, he has remained a deeply private figure—until now. **A Shift in Persona** In 2025, something changed. Aamir Khan, long known for his guardedness, has become strikingly visible and emotionally open. As part of the promotions for his latest film, *Sitaare Zameen Par*, he has appeared across podcasts, TV shows, and social media platforms. Dressed simply in round-neck t-shirts and



thick-rimmed glasses, he has played games, shared personal anecdotes, and even shed tears—offering a raw, unfiltered version of himself rarely seen before. Interestingly, while the promotional campaign is officially for *Sitaare Zameen Par*—a remake of the Spanish film *Champions*, featuring a neurodivergent cast—the real subject of these appearances seems to be Khan himself. In one interview, he revealed regrets about being an absent parent. In another, he shared lesser-known personal details, like learning Marathi at 44, or naming one of his dogs 'Sundari.' He's confessed to eloping with his first wife and even considered quitting acting after the failure of *Laal Singh Chaddha*. This new phase feels like a rebranding, perhaps in response to past controversies and on-line backlash, or simply a man at 60 becoming

more comfortable in his own skin. His past remarks about growing intolerance in India led to widespread trolling and boycotts, and this new visibility could be seen as an attempt to reclaim his public image. Still, the authenticity in his voice and the vulnerability in his demeanor suggest something more heartfelt. **Marketing or Meaning?** Cynics might view this transformation as a calculated marketing move, aligning Aamir's personal narrative with *Sitaare Zameen Par*'s core message—"Sabka apna apna normal" (Everyone has their own normal). His public appearances, steeped in emotional honesty, reflect the same individuality and acceptance the film champions. Whether he's eating vada pav at Dadar station, acknowledging his complex relationships, or crying on camera, Aamir is redefining what stardom looks like—one that allows space for flaws, feelings, and fallibility. This strategy isn't new for Khan. Over the years, he's employed innovative promotional tactics—disguises during *3 Idiots*, thematic haircuts for *Ghajini*, and even appearances on TV serials for *Talaash*. But this time, the promotional lens has turned inward.