



# AP Bureaucracy Turns Guarded...



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh's administrative set-up is no longer what it used to be. Once a preferred state for IAS and IPS officers, the bifurcated AP has turned into a pressure cooker — with political instability every five years forcing bureaucrats to pay the price for loyalty. Officers who follow government orders today fear being labeled corrupt or partisan by the next government tomorrow. This fear has made rule-book, not the boss's word, their guiding force. It's no secret that successive governments in AP have been harsh on officials associated with previous regimes. From secretariat staff to high-ranking officers, dismissals, re-assignments, or transfers to loop-line posts have become routine. Some have been pushed out without a second thought, their past services and track records ignored entirely. Even IAS and IPS officers aren't spared — their decades-long careers reduced to political chess moves.

Is there fear among top police officers? Senior IPS officers like PSR Anjaneyulu, Vishal Gunni, and Kanti Rana Tata are reportedly being targeted. IPS officer Siddharth Kaushal's resignation has sparked widespread speculation — was it really voluntary, or a result of political pressure? Many believe it's the latter. Either way, it's added to growing anxiety within the police force and civil administration. Inside the AP Secretariat, caution is the new default. Officers are afraid to act even on ministerial orders, fearing backlash once power changes hands again. The threat of inquiry, bad publicity, or loss of post looms large. The much-talked-about “Red Book” and loud political vows to “catch all culprits” only make matters worse for bureaucrats, turning governance into a tightrope walk.

**Are bureaucrats changing their strategy?**  
Absolutely. Many are now taking no chances. They're being extra vigilant, documenting everything, and strictly

- Frequent political changes pushing IAS, IPS to choose rules over obedience
- Bureaucrats reluctant to blindly follow political orders
- Senior officers facing sidelining, threats, or resignations
- Rulebook becomes new mantra in AP Secretariat

adhering to service rules. Political loyalty has taken a back seat — survival and self-protection are now the priorities. For every five years of service, there's a new risk of being accused, sidelined, or humiliated. It's not that AP lacks good officers — it's just that no one wants to risk being the next scapegoat. The real challenge now is not filling posts, but encouraging officers to work with courage and clarity amid political landmines. The silent rebellion among bureaucrats is not against the government — it's against uncertainty. With officials walking on eggshells and choosing self-preservation over initiative, effective governance is likely to suffer. But for now, bureaucrats have decided: better safe than sorry. The rulebook is their only shield — and they're holding onto it tightly.

## CM Targets Zero Crime with Tech Tools

- CCTV, Blockchain, Sirens in Focus at RTGS Review
- Hotspots to be monitored 24x7 via CCTV
- Blockchain to protect govt data, revenue records
- Lightning-prone areas to get early siren alerts



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to transform the state into a zero-crime-rate model through technology-driven governance. Speaking at a high-level review meeting on Real-Time Governance at the Secretariat on Monday, the CM emphasized the need for continuous monitoring of crime hotspots using CCTV cameras, including private ones, and suggested a legal framework for utilizing footage from private premises like shopping malls, theatres, and hotels during investigations. He warned that those committing crimes under the guise of politics and trying to blame the government would not be spared, and suggested invoking the Public Safety Act to collect data on such individuals. He stressed the need for increased drone surveillance across all sectors and inquired about the progress of Drone City in Orvakallu. The CM also laid emphasis on public safety infrastructure. He instructed officials to ensure early warning sirens in lightning-prone areas and expedite the restoration of physio-meters and groundwater sensors. He said real-time monitoring of reservoir water levels and discharge is key for flood control and instructed that data from INCOIS on sea activity and fishing zones be shared promptly with coastal communities.



## I Found Hair, not a Cockroach: Minister Anitha Clarifies

- Minister says YSRCP spreading deliberate misinformation
- Clarifies it was a hair, not a cockroach, found in food
- Warden suspended for hostel mismanagement

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha has strongly refuted rumors circulating on social media claiming that a cockroach was found in her food during a recent visit to the BC Girls Hostel in Payakaraopet. Speaking to the media today, she clarified that what was actually found on her plate was a strand of hair, not a cockroach, and blamed the YSRCP for twisting facts and launching a malicious propaganda campaign. Minister Anitha recently made a surprise inspection at the BC Girls Hostel and had lunch with the students as part of a government initiative to ensure quality facilities in hostels. During the meal, she noticed a hair in her food and immediately took up the matter with the officials concerned.



## Accept Challenges to Achieve Goals: Lokesh

- VR School Reopens with Modern Facilities in Nellore
- Lokesh inaugurates upgraded school with robotics, digital labs
- Pledges to fill all teacher posts and strengthen govt schools
- Poor children to be adopted, educated under LEAP, P4 programs



TPN Correspondent | Nellore

State Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh said that challenges must be accepted in life to reach goals. He was speaking after inaugurating the fully modernized VR High School in Nellore on Monday. He was accompanied by Ministers Ponguru Narayana, Nasyam Farooq, MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, and others. Minister Lokesh toured the school's advanced facilities including digital classrooms, robotics and hydrofoils labs, computer lab, and the playground. He interacted warmly with teachers and support staff and played cricket and volleyball with students. Speaking to the newly admitted students and their parents, Lokesh said that the 150-year-old school, once a symbol of neglect, was transformed into a model institution due to Minister Narayana's vision and NCC group's efforts. He congratulated Narayana's daughter Sharani for her contribution and stated, “I'll be truly satisfied as Education Minister only when every government school has a board outside saying admissions are full.” Lokesh highlighted reforms such as appointing one teacher per class in 9,600 government schools and adding value-based literature like Chaganti's works to textbooks. He promised to issue “green passports” to students for tree plantation initiatives. He also emphasized the importance of mega Parent-Teacher meetings twice a year. He announced the adoption and full support for child beggars Penchalayya and Venkateshwarlu, who expressed their desire to study in the school last week. Minister Narayana said that the previous government had ruined the education system, and the re-opening of VR High School was a step to correct that. He recalled his own journey as a student and teacher in the school and thanked CM Chandrababu and Lokesh for enabling its revival. He urged Nellore natives to join the P4 initiative and support schools and poor children. Minister Farooq lauded Narayana's commitment and praised Lokesh for fast-tracking the Mega DSC to fill 16,000 teacher vacancies. MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy applauded Lokesh's reforms through LEAP and called on parents to focus on children's holistic development. Nellore Rural MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy, an alumnus of VR School, called the reopening a miracle and suggested VR College also be modernized. MLC Balli Kalyan Chakravarthy, MLAs Somireddy Chandramohan



## Anam's Controversial Remarks in Presence of Lokesh

A brief moment of controversy unfolded during the re-inauguration of the historic VR High School in Nellore on Monday, as Endowments Minister Anam Ramnarayan Reddy made remarks that raised eyebrows — even with Education Minister Nara Lokesh in attendance. Speaking at the event, Anam said that VR School had long been under the supervision of his family and voiced concern over the institutional change. “If the Municipal Minister supports its development, will it be turned into a corporation school?” he questioned. He further demanded that the phrase “municipal corporation” be removed from the name of VR High School, stating that converting it into a corporate-style school would lead to issues. Anam also criticized the previous YSRCP regime, alleging that he was removed as president of the school's managing committee out of political vengeance. “Minister Narayana should adopt government schools, but he entered politics only after setting up educational institutions. Our family, however, has been in politics from the beginning,” he remarked. The comments were made in the presence of State Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh, who had earlier inaugurated the newly modernized campus of the 150-year-old institution. The school, shut down in 2021, has now been revived with ₹15 crore investment, and 1,000 students have already enrolled.

Reddy, Dagumati Venkata Krishna Reddy, Kakarla Suresh, District Collector Anand, and other dignitaries participated in the event.





## Anam's Controversial...

Continued from page 1

Though Lokesh did not respond to Anam's comments directly during the event, the remarks have triggered a wave of reactions on social media. Netizens noted the indirect criticism aimed at Minister Narayana and questioned the timing and intent behind Anam's statements, especially during what was meant to be a celebratory occasion. Political observers view this as an early indication of friction within the ruling coalition, while others see it as a display of local ego politics surfacing during a sensitive moment of educational reform.

## I Found Hair, not a Cockroach...

Continued from page 1

She said the purpose of her visit was to check whether proper facilities were being provided to the students. "We observed that the prescribed menu was not being followed, and neither the warden nor the security personnel were present at the hostel during our visit," she revealed. As a result, the warden was suspended, and instructions were given for a comprehensive inspection of all hostels across the state. Minister Anitha accused YSRCP of using its official social media handles to distort the facts and mislead the public. "This is a deliberate attempt to turn a sincere inspection for students' welfare into a smear campaign," she alleged. "They are trying to tarnish our image by falsely saying a cockroach was found on my plate. Yesterday they lied about Srisailam prasadam; today it's this." She questioned the YSRCP's commitment to students' welfare, asking whether any of their MLAs had visited hostels during their five-year rule. "While we are working sincerely to ensure better living conditions for students, the YSRCP is busy spreading lies for political gains," she remarked. The Minister concluded by asserting that the coalition government remains committed to the welfare of students and would not be distracted by baseless propaganda.

## CM Targets Zero Crime with...

Continued from page 1

On data security, Chandrababu Naidu directed the use of blockchain technology to protect all government records, particularly revenue documents, and integrate departmental data into a unified data lake. He was informed that 517 services are currently available through WhatsApp Governance, but he asked that the services be further simplified for citizen use. Turning to welfare, the CM asked that all departments sync beneficiary data with RTGS and report any inconsistencies immediately. He reiterated his vision of making Andhra Pradesh poverty-free by 2029 and emphasized aligning all schemes accordingly. Under the P4 (People, Public, Private, and Partnership) model, he urged that the 'Bangaru Kutumbalu' mentoring system continue without interruptions. Chief Secretary K. Vijayanand, IT Secretary Katamneni Bhaskar, and other senior officials attended the review meeting.

# His Appointment Itself Under Question

- Allegations of irregular postings and corruption against Arji Narasimha Murthy
- Job granted despite suicide case raises procedural doubts
- Served five years on deputation without formal extension
- Bribery alleged in transfers and seat allocations



TPN | V.V.S Madhu Babu

Amaravati: Serious allegations have emerged regarding the compassionate appointment of Arji Narasimha Murthy in the Medical and Health Department, raising questions about procedural violations and misuse of authority in the Rajahmundry RDO office. According to government norms, compassionate appointments are given to a qualified nominee of a deceased employee who died due to illness, accident, or while on duty. However, in the case of Arji Narasimha Murthy, there are claims that his father committed suicide while working as a watchman in the Zonal Malaria Office — an instance that usually disqualifies a dependant from receiving a job under the compassionate grounds provision. Despite this, Murthy allegedly secured a government job. Further controversy surrounds Murthy's deputation from Bhima-

varam to the Rajahmundry RDO office in 2019. Though his initial deputation was approved for six months, he has reportedly been working there for five years without any formal extension orders. During the tenure of the previous YSRCP government, several ministers and MLAs allegedly supported such irregular arrangements, allowing Murthy to operate with significant influence within the office. Sources allege that Murthy manipulated postings in exchange for bribes, violating transfer rules and bypassing seniority norms. Nurses, MPHSS, and senior assistants were reportedly posted to their desired locations after making payments. Recently, a female clerk who was transferred out of the RDO office was allegedly brought back and allotted the R2B seat under Murthy's direction as part of another money-making strategy. Even more concerning is Murthy's



alleged unauthorized operation in a nursing seat within the RDO office without any official work order. He also reportedly assigned MRT positions to senior assistants without their written consent, violating service rules and norms established by the Joint Verification Officers (JVOs). Despite mounting complaints and visible irregularities, senior officials in the Health Department and the Corruption Eradication Department have so far not taken any action against Arji Narasimha Murthy. Whistleblowers are now questioning the inaction and suspect whether higher authorities are intentionally turning a blind eye or are themselves entangled in the corruption nexus. With mounting public scrutiny, demands are now rising for a full-fledged inquiry into Arji Narasimha Murthy's appointment, his continued deputation, and the alleged corrupt practices in the Rajahmundry RDO office.



## ₹1000 Cr Loan to Be Transferred for Grain Payments

Markfed to route NCDC funds to Civil Supplies in 3 days

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

In a crucial move to clear pending payments to farmers, Andhra Pradesh Markfed Managing Director Dilli Rao IAS announced that a ₹1000 crore loan will be transferred to the Civil Supplies Corporation within the next three days. The loan has been sanctioned by the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) with a guarantee from the state government under G.O. No. 25, dated July 4, 2025. The Civil Supplies Corporation had procured paddy from farmers during the last Rabi 2024-25 season. To enable immediate cash payments to the farmers, the state government permitted AP Markfed to raise a loan from the NCDC, with Markfed acting as the intermediary. Dilli Rao stated that the loan disbursement from the NCDC to Markfed will be completed within two to three days, after which the full amount will be transferred to the Civil Supplies Corporation. This transfer will ensure that farmers who sold their grain during the season receive their pending payments without further delay. The move is expected to provide much-needed relief to thousands of farmers awaiting their dues across Andhra Pradesh.

## First Step in Good Governance...

- But Silence on Illegal Mining in Pedana...?
- Congress leader Sonti Nagaraju questions the Govt's inaction



TPN | V.V.S Madhu Babu

Pedana: Congress leader Sonti Nagaraju has raised serious concerns about illegal mining in the Pedana constituency, accusing the ruling coalition of turning a blind eye while aggressively promoting their "First Step in Good Governance" campaign. On Monday, Nagaraju, accompanied by other Congress leaders, submitted a memorandum to Pedana

Tahsildar Anil Kumar demanding an immediate halt to the mining operations allegedly taking place unchecked in several villages. Speaking to the media after the meeting, Nagaraju expressed his outrage over the administration's failure to act, despite repeated public complaints. "Illegal mining is being carried out day and night in villages like Idumudi, Serivattarlapalli, Nelakondapalli, Balliparru, Madaka, and Nandamuru," he said. "It's been going on for the past three months, and no meaningful action has been taken. It's shameful that officials haven't

seized a single vehicle involved." Referring to a recent incident, he said a person was seriously injured on Sunday night when a tipper transporting illegal material from Serivattarlapalli hit him. "Even after such incidents, no action is taken. Are people's lives so cheap under this government?" he asked. Nagaraju alleged that local leaders belonging to the ruling coalition are orchestrating the illegal mining activities with the tacit support of the area's MLA. "They are looting crores of rupees in government revenue. This is not just theft of resources—

it's betrayal of the people," he said. He also pointed fingers at local government officials, claiming they have joined hands with the mining mafia. "It's become a system of mutual benefit—politicians, contractors, and some corrupt officials are all in it together," Nagaraju alleged. He demanded that the District Collector immediately intervene to stop the mining, launch an inquiry into the bribery behind it, and bring the guilty to book. "If this government is serious about good governance, let it begin with transparency and accountability in Pedana," he said.

## Flood Inflow Rises at Srisailam Project; Reservoir Nears Full Capacity



TPN Correspondent | Srisailam

The Srisailam reservoir is witnessing a steady rise in inflows as heavy floodwaters continue to enter from upstream projects. According to officials, a combined inflow of 1,98,550 cusecs is being received from the Jurala and Sunkesula projects. The current water level at the Srisailam dam stands at 880.40 feet, just 4.6 feet short of its Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 885 feet. The reservoir, which has a total storage capacity of 215.80 TMC (thousand million cubic feet), has already reached 190.33 TMCs, indicating that it is rapidly nearing its full capacity. To manage the rising water levels, authorities have released an outflow of 59,239 cusecs. Of this, 35,315 cusecs are being discharged through the left bank hydroelectric power station, while 23,924 cusecs are being released via the right bank power station. The discharged water is being di-

verted downstream to the Nagarjuna Sagar reservoir. Officials from the Irrigation Department are closely monitoring the situation and have assured that the floodwaters are being managed efficiently through controlled power generation and regulated outflows. With inflows continuing, authorities are expected to increase discharges in the coming days to maintain safe water levels. The rising inflows are a result of continued rainfall in the upstream catchment areas in Telangana and Karnataka. The public and local officials have been advised to remain alert as water levels may fluctuate depending on further inflow from upstream sources. The Srisailam project plays a crucial role in irrigation, drinking water supply, and power generation for both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, and the current developments are being closely tracked by both state governments.



# Only Dedicated Workers Will Get Positions: Nara Lokesh

- Market yard, temple panels to form by month-end
- Welfare schemes must reach every household
- TDP will move forward with unity and discipline

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

TDP National General Secretary and Minister Nara Lokesh emphasized that only hard-working and committed party workers will be appointed to positions, asserting that there will be no compromise in this regard. Speaking at a meeting of top TDP workers in Anil Gardens, Nellore, Lokesh said the process of forming market yard and temple committees will be completed by the end of this month as per the wishes of party cadres. He acknowledged the sacrifices made by thousands of workers that brought TDP back to power and promised to correct any mistakes made in governance. “We are ready to listen and improve,” Lokesh said, highlighting that even if Chandrababu becomes CM for a fourth time, he remains open to feedback. Lokesh urged party workers to spread the government’s welfare and development achievements through the Suparipalana – Tholi Adugu program. He mentioned free



bus travel for women and unemployment allowance would be implemented this year. He also pointed out that ₹10,000 crore has already been deposited into mothers’ accounts through a single GO. Reflecting on his Yuvagalam padayatra, Lokesh said the call for recognizing true workers

came directly from the people. “We are not afraid of reforms within the party and will fight internally five times harder than we fight Jagan,” he declared. Lokesh also condemned the lack of compassion shown by Jagan during tragic incidents, contrasting it with Chan-

drababu’s personal outreach. He stressed the need for unity, discipline, and grassroots engagement. Ministers Ponguru Narayana, NMD Farooq, MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, TDP Nellore district president Abdul Aziz, and MLCs participated in the meeting.

## Farmers' plight in Bangarupalyam sparks outrage

TPN | Kalyan Krishna

Bangarupalyam, July 7: Former Minister and Punganur MLA Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy today lambasted the coalition government for its gross failure to support mango farmers in Bangarupalyam, as he inspected arrangements of former CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy’s upcoming visit to the region. Farmers across the Chittoor district are eagerly awaiting YS Jagan’s visit to the Bangarupalyam mango market, ready to voice their grievances against a government that has left them in distress. The farmers are reeling from unprecedented losses due to the absence of a minimum support price and the government’s blatant neglect. “Never before have mango farmers faced such dire circumstances,” Reddy asserted, addressing



the media. “The coalition government’s promises of facilitating purchases through pulp factories and holding meetings with officials are mere rhetoric. Nowhere are mangoes being procured at the rates promised. This is nothing short of a catastrophe for farmers, and the government must be held

accountable.” Peddireddy highlighted the broader plight of farmers across Andhra Pradesh, noting that crops like tobacco, chili, cotton, and pulses are also fetching unremunerative prices, leaving farmers in despair. “The entire farming community is seething with anger and

is ready to revolt against this apathetic regime,” he declared. He accused the government of creating obstacles to hinder Jagan’s visit, underscoring that the YSRCP leader’s tour is driven by a commitment to stand by farmers, not political motives. “Wherever YS Jagan goes, people rally behind him in large numbers. His visit is to ensure justice for farmers by pressuring this government to act,” Reddy emphasized. Farmers are preparing to converge in Bangarupalyam during Jagan’s visit to share their struggles and demand action. As the Leader of the Opposition, Jagan aims to instill confidence in the farming community and advocate for their rights. Reddy reaffirmed that the YSRCP stands firmly with the farmers, committed to ensuring their voices are heard and their livelihoods protected.

## Minister Anagani Outlines TDP’s Vision 2047 Goals



TPN | Sekhar

Tirupati: As part of the Swarnandhra Vision-2047, Minister for Revenue, Registrations & Stamps and Tirupati District In-charge Anagani Sathya Prasad participated in a key meeting with the District Vision Action Plan Unit (DVAPU) and P4 program coordinators. The event

focused on shaping Andhra Pradesh’s long-term developmental roadmap to make the state No.1 in India by 2047, as envisioned by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. The Minister emphasized that zero poverty is a central goal and called for unprecedented efforts in preparing district and constituency-level vision

documents. He urged MLAs to actively contribute to this process and tap into opportunities in agriculture-allied sectors, industry, and services to boost local economies. He stated that Tirupati district must aim to be the best in the state and outlined the government’s plans under the P4 program, which aims to identify

and uplift ‘Bangaru Kutumbalu’ (Golden Families) by August 15. Special coordinators will be appointed in each constituency to support this initiative, with mentors identified to guide and assist the families in achieving improved living standards. The Minister reiterated that the government stands for public welfare and transparent governance, contrasting the current administration’s direction with what he called the destructive governance of the past. Through the “Supaari Palanalo Tholi Adugu” (First Step Towards Good Governance) outreach program, officials are directly engaging with every household to understand their needs. He also mentioned that in 2018, the TDP government stood by mango farmers, and now, subsidies of ₹4 per kg are being provided for Totapuri mango cultivators—a never-before support initiative. Earlier, Minister Sathya Prasad received public petitions for nearly two hours at the Tirupati Collectorate, assuring timely redressal of grievances.



## Congress' Chinta Mohan Slams BJP, AP Govt on Corruption, Welfare

- Amaravati project is a complete failure
- BJP waiving loans, fueling massive corruption nationwide
- Coalition government ruining job and education schemes

TPN | VVS MADUBABU

Amaravati: Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister Chinta Mohan launched a scathing attack on the BJP-led Central government and the Andhra Pradesh coalition government over rising corruption, failed promises in Amaravati, and the weakening of key welfare schemes like MGNREGA. In a press conference, Mohan alleged that BJP leaders are looting the country by waiving loans worth lakhs of crores for select individuals and demanding bribes for write-offs. “To get ₹100 crore loan waived, ₹10 crore bribe must be paid,” he said, claiming that BJP’s rule has led to a tenfold increase in corruption. He questioned Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on the status of NPAs across states and demanded transparency in financial data, especially from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. He also raised concerns over crude oil subsidies received from Russia, asking why petrol still costs over ₹100 per litre despite a 60% discount. Referring to Amaravati, Mohan shared a farmer’s anguish over surrendering 90 acres unwillingly and receiving none of the promised land compensation. He termed the 50-storey Secretariat project an “unrealistic failure” and criticized the proposal to build another international airport within 30 km of Vijayawada’s existing airport. On MGNREGA, Mohan said, “This scheme was born in a communist’s home, shaped by the Congress, and is now being destroyed by the coalition.” He alleged misappropriation of wages, with 90% of funds diverted to material costs and field assistants unpaid for months. He also condemned the government’s move to reduce school numbers and accused it of undermining education for SC, ST, OBC, and minority students.

## Seeing Pawan as a Hero Is the Karma of the Kapus... Jakkampudi Raja calls Pawan a “reel hero,” not a real one

TPN Correspondent | East Godavari

Leaders of the YSR Congress Party launched a scathing attack on Jana Sena chief and Pithapuram MLA Pawan Kalyan during a constituency-level meeting held in Pithapuram under the chairmanship of YSRCP leader Vanga Geetha. Prominent among the speakers was Jakkampudi Raja, who made controversial remarks directly targeting Pawan, questioning his political motives and leadership.

Jakkampudi Raja stated, “A person doesn’t become a hero just by taking four steps in a film or holding a mic. Seeing Pawan as a hero is the karma of the Kapu community.” He emphasized that true heroes of the Kapus were leaders like Vangaveeti Mohana Ranga and Mudragada Padmanabham and not actors-turned-politicians.

He questioned whether Pawan Kalyan’s real intent behind forming Jana Sena was to make himself the Chief Minister or simply to help TDP leader Chandrababu Naidu return to power. “Pawan must answer how many times he visited Pithapuram after winning the elections. Has he looked into the problems of the people here?” Jakkampudi asked. He predicted that Pawan’s political journey would end right where it began—in Pithapuram.

YSRCP senior leader and MLC Botsa Satyanarayana also launched an attack, asserting that “whenever Chandrababu becomes Chief Minister, women and farmers are bound to be cheated.” He defended calling Chandrababu a “fraud,” saying it’s not wrong to expose false promises. “If someone questions the unfulfilled assurances of the government, attacking them is nothing but cruelty,” Botsa said, urging party workers to take the slogan “Babu’s certainty, fraud guarantee” to the public.

Former minister Dadiseti Raja alleged that after the NDA government came to power, liquor belt shops have mushroomed across towns, with two on every street, worsening the youth’s future through unchecked marijuana sales.

Another senior leader Thota Narasimham remarked that coalition differences in Pithapuram itself have reached a boiling point, with clashes erupting even over chairs and party flags. The leaders called upon YSRCP cadres to intensify their outreach and expose the failures and contradictions within the NDA alliance.





# CM Fund a Lifeline for Poor, Says Minister Gottipati

CMRF helping poor patients despite state financial deficit  
Gannavaram MLA praised for proactive welfare efforts

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

**Gannavaram:** Andhra Pradesh Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar called on poor patients to make proper use of the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) for medical needs. The minister, along with Gannavaram MLA and Government Whip Yarlagadda Venkatarao, distributed Letters of Credit (LOCs) and cheques worth ₹23.92 lakh to 33 beneficiaries on Monday. Speaking at the MLA camp office in Gannavaram, Gottipati highlighted the government's commitment to supporting underprivileged patients through the CMRF. He noted that due to the active efforts of MLA Venkatarao, Gannavaram constituency has received higher allocations under the scheme compared to other areas. He praised Venkatarao's dedi-



cation to constituency development and specifically appreciated his initiative in providing irrigation motors using his own funds to resolve farmers' water problems. Gottipati also mentioned that he frequently receives calls from the MLA to resolve local power issues, showing his commitment to public service.

Despite the state's financial deficit, the minister emphasized that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is effectively implementing development and welfare schemes. He urged people to stand by the government in its efforts to uplift the poor. Several local TDP leaders and constituency officials participated in the event.

# We Will Stand By Mukteswara Rao's Family: Gadde Ramamohan Rao

Assures support under P4 framework and educational help for daughter

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Vijayawada East MLA Gadde Ramamohan Rao has assured complete support to the family of Sagurthi Mukteswara Rao, a former TDP booth leader from Patamata Kaundinya Nagar, who passed away on Sunday due to illness. The MLA paid floral tributes to Mukteswara Rao's body and personally visited the grieving family. Speaking on the occasion, he said the family would be supported under the P4 initiative of the government and the Telugu Desam Party. He assured that all possible help would be extended to Mukteswara Rao's wife,



Keerthi, including access to government welfare schemes. Ramamohan Rao also promised financial assistance to help complete the education of Mukteswara Rao's daughter, Sagurthi

Sattvika. As part of immediate aid, financial help was extended to the family. TDP Division In-charge Garikipati Bhadri, BC leader R. Yellababu, 13th Division President Gadde Prasad, Shaliva-

hana Kumari Corporation Chairman Peripi Easwar, RTC Union Leader Sagurthi Prabhakar Rao, and several TDP and Jana Sena leaders participated in the condolence visit.

# Krishna Police Use Drones to Crack Down on Eve Teasing

15 youths caught, counseled and fined under SP Gangadhara Rao's directive

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The Krishna District Police have intensified surveillance using drone cameras to curb eve teasing and mischief, especially around educational institutions following the reopening of schools. Under the directive of District SP R. Gangadhara Rao, IPS, law enforcement officials have been closely monitoring public areas and swiftly responding to incidents of harassment. On Monday, 15 youths were caught indulging in eve teasing near Lady Amptil Government College, Chaitanya College, Noble College, and the Machilipatnam Railway Station. Acting promptly, Machilipatnam police took

the offenders into custody and brought them to the station, where they were counseled in the presence of their parents. Fines were also imposed as part of the corrective action. Police have issued strict warnings that further violations will attract stringent legal action. The department reiterated its commitment to maintaining a safe environment, particularly around colleges and public transport zones. Additionally, based on intelligence inputs regarding marijuana smuggling, the police conducted a comprehensive search operation at Machilipatnam Railway Station. Teams comprising the local



SI, staff, and the Eagle Force inspected passenger baggage and parcels, aiming to prevent narcotics movement in the region. The Krishna District Police have made it clear

that such operations will continue with zero tolerance towards antisocial elements, ensuring safety and discipline through technological enforcement.

# Court Convicts Vijayawada Man in POCSO Case

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The POCSO Court in Vijayawada has sentenced a 25-year-old man, Ooradandam Simhachalam, to five years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of ₹4,000 for misbehaving with a six-year-old girl. The judgment was delivered by Judge V. Bhavani on Monday. The incident took place in 2019 under the jurisdiction of Nunna Police Station. The complainant, a daily wage laborer, had left her daughter, a Class I Anganwadi student, at home while she went to work. The girl was playing outside when the accused, Simhachalam—who belongs to the same locality—allegedly sat her on his lap and behaved in an obscene manner. A neighboring woman noticed the act and intervened, prompting the accused to flee. Based on the complaint, Nunna Police registered a case under Crime No. 400/2019 under IPC Sec-



tion 354(B) and Section 12 of the POCSO Act. Then-Sub-Inspector Raju took up the investigation, arrested the accused on November 18, 2019, and filed a charge sheet. Following the trial, the court found the accused guilty and awarded the sentence on July 7, 2025. Additionally, the judge directed the District Legal Services Authority to ensure that a compensation of ₹1 lakh is provided to the victim. Special Public Prosecutor V. Krishna Veni represented the prosecution. The case was supervised by CMS Inspector Jagadishwara Rao, Nunna CI Krishna Mohan, and CMS staff. Nine witnesses were examined during the trial to secure conviction.

# Tension at NTR Health University Over YSRCP Student Protest

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Tension prevailed near NTR Health University on Monday as members of the YSRCP student wing staged a protest demanding justice for foreign medical graduates and opposing the privatization of government medical colleges. The protestors, who started their rally from various parts of the city, marched towards the university, raising slogans and holding placards. They demanded an immediate halt to the government's alleged move to privatize medical colleges in Andhra Pradesh, stating that such decisions would severely affect affordable medical education. Another key demand was to ensure justice for foreign medical graduates (FMGs), including issuing permanent registration and withdrawing cases filed against those who protested in the past. As the protest intensified, a large contingent of police was deployed around the university premises to prevent any untoward incidents. Barricades were set up and student leaders were stopped near the main entrance. The protest concluded peacefully after submitting a representation.



# YS Jagan condoles Vegesna Ananda Raju's demise

TPN Correspondent |

**Amaravathi, Tadepalli:** Former Chief Minister and YSRCP President YS Jagan Mohan Reddy expressed deep sorrow over the passing of Vegesna Ananda Raju (67), Director of Raju Vegnesh Foundation. Ananda Raju played a pivotal role in the foundation's operations, contributing significantly to the welfare of devotees by allocating crores of rupees to provide essential facilities at various temples

across the country. He also supported the education of children from impoverished and distressed families by securing necessary funds. For many years, he continued his selfless service initiatives while residing in Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam. YS Jagan prayed for the departed soul to attain peace and extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members of Ananda Raju.

# Minister Nimmala Expresses Grief Over A. Anand Raju's Demise

TPN Correspondent | Amaravathi

Andhra Pradesh Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu expressed deep sorrow over the demise of A. Anand Raju of the Raju Vegesna Foundation, calling it a great loss to society. He praised Anand Raju's unparalleled service through the Foundation, particularly his efforts to provide safe drinking water to lakhs of people across the undivided West Godavari district through water plants. The minister highlighted Anand Raju's remarkable contributions in establishing basic amenities at temples across

the country, organizing free meal services (annadanam), and setting up drinking water facilities for devotees. He also acknowledged the vital role played by the Foundation in constructing the Dwaraka Tirumala Veer Trust Hospital, which has been serving thousands of patients. "Through his tireless service activities, Anand Raju earned a permanent place in the hearts of the people," the minister said. Nimmala Ramanaidu extended his deepest condolences to the bereaved family and offered prayers for strength during this difficult time.

# Former MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi Hospitalised with Breathing Trouble

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

**Gannavaram:** Former Gannavaram MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi has been admitted to a private hospital on Bandar Road, Vijayawada, after suffering from breathing difficulties due to a blocked nasal passage. According to his close aides, Vamsi was taken to the hospital on Monday after he developed a high fever and worsening respiratory distress. Doctors previously identified a nasal blockage during tests conducted at the Vijayawada Government Hospital and recommended immediate surgery. However, government doctors later advised him to undergo further tests and consult a private hospital for the procedure. Vamsi had earlier received treatment at both the Government Hospital and the Ayush Hospital while in sub-jail. Since being released on bail, he has been residing at his home in Telaprolu and attending multiple court-related visits. He regularly appears at Gannavaram, Hanuman Junction, Veeravalli, and Atkuru police stations and signs as required every Saturday, as per court directives. The frequent travel and stress are reportedly taking a toll

on his health. Doctors at the private hospital are currently conducting necessary tests for the nasal operation and are also treating his fever. His family and associates stated that his condition is stable and there is no cause for alarm. They requested the public and supporters not to rush to the hospital. Supporters have expressed their emotional connection with the former MLA, with many women reportedly tearing up upon seeing him during his recent constituency visits. His close aides stated that public affection for him is growing stronger.





# Tirumala Students Shine Across the Globe

Thousands in IITs, NITs; Many in Top Jobs Abroad  
Over 7,000 Tirumala students in IITs, NITs, IIITs, BITS  
More than 700 students in jobs from America to Australia  
Tirumala Institutions set to become Tirumala University

**TPN | Ch. Sri East Godavari:** Tirumala Educational Institutions in Katheru, Rajahmundry, are making history by producing thousands of top-ranking students across premier institutions in India and abroad. With a strong presence in IITs, NITs, IIITs, and BITS from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, and Gujarat to Mizoram, Tirumala has emerged as a symbol of educational excellence. In the last two years alone, 1126 students secured seats in IITs, while 2301 in NITs, 380 in IIITs,

and 95 in BITS Pilani. Including the current academic year, over 7,000 Tirumala students are now in elite colleges across India. What sets Tirumala apart is not just its national footprint but also its international reputation, with over 700 students working in high-level jobs across countries like the US and Australia, in fields ranging from tech to research. This rapid rise in reputation has laid the foundation for Tirumala Educational Institutions to soon be upgraded into a full-fledged university. The name

Tirumala, associated with sacredness and excellence, has now become synonymous with top-tier academic success. While the spiritual Tirumala in Tirupati is seen as the abode of Lord Venkateswara, parents consider Tirumala Educational Institutions in Rajamahendravaram as the "Vaikuntam" for their children's future. With facilities named after the seven hills of Tirupati and the founder Tirumala Rao personally involved in academic planning, the institution has maintained discipline, quality, and high



moral standards. Tirumala Rao, along with his team, is known for his strict no-alcohol policy and for refusing celebrity recommendations, opting instead for merit-based admissions. Admissions at Tirumala are no easy feat. Prospective students must clear rigorous entry-level tests, and only those



with outstanding academic abilities are admitted. Parents across Andhra Pradesh vouch for the transformational academic rigor, claiming students consistently secure top 10 state ranks in NEET, IIT, EAMCET, and Polytechnic exams. While critics often claim students are pressured with long study hours, parents and

supporters argue this structure is essential for producing high-achieving, disciplined future professionals. Despite negative propaganda from rival institutions, Tirumala remains the first choice for determined students and their families, continuing its journey from a private school to an emerging global brand in education.

## Proposals for 500-Bed ESI Hospital and Medical College in Amaravati

Minister Subhash inspects Rajahmundry ESI Hospital  
855 vacant posts to be filled across ESI hospitals in the state

**TPN | K Govinda Raju Ramachandrapuram:** State Labour Minister Vasamsetty Subhash conducted a surprise inspection of the ESI Hospital in Rajahmundry on Monday. Walking directly into the wards, the minister interacted with patients and enquired about the quality of medical services, cleanliness, and staff behaviour. Subhash personally asked patients if doctors were attentive and if the hospital's sanitation was up to standard. He later held a review with the in-charge superintendent Dr. Subhakar and other senior medical personnel. Notably, this is not the minister's first surprise visit — in an earlier inspection, he had suspended nine staff members for dereliction of duty. Since then, he noted that the medical team has shown significant improvement in their performance. Expressing satisfaction with the current services, Subhash stated that the government will not tolerate any negligence going forward and stern action would be taken against erring staff. Speaking to the media, Minister Subhash announced that proposals have been submitted for constructing a 500-bed ESI hospital and a medical college in Amaravati, for which 25 acres of land have been identified by CRDA. Additionally,



the 50-bed ESI hospital in Tirupati has been upgraded to a 100-bed facility, with 97 regular and 94 outsourcing posts sanctioned for operations. He further revealed that land has been identified for new ESI hospitals in Guntur, Sri City, Kurnool, and Penukonda, and the Prime Minister recently laid the foundation for 30-bed hospitals in Anantapur, Achutapuram, Nellore, and Srikakulam. The government is awaiting approval for 30 new ESI dispensaries and is working to fill 855 vacant posts in hospitals through regular, contract, and outsourcing channels. Of these, 28 Civil Assistant Surgeon posts have already been

filled on a contract basis. The minister highlighted that the government is committed to strengthening the ESI medical infrastructure. He presented performance figures from the past year, noting that 15,74,732 outpatients were treated, 26,283 bed occupancies, 87,600 blood tests, 3,828 surgeries, 1,099 sterilizations, and 121 health camps were conducted. HIV awareness seminars were also held as part of the healthcare initiatives. Minister Subhash was accompanied by Rajahmundry ESI Hospital in-charge superintendent Dr. Subhakar, along with medical staff including Dr. Hassan, Akhil, Ambika, and Tanuja.

## Atchannaidu Blames YSRCP for Farm Neglect

Seeks Centre's Help to Revive Agriculture  
64% of AP depends on agriculture, says Minister  
Central schemes ignored by previous govt  
State plans reforms, seeks support from Delhi

**TPN Correspondent | New Delhi**  
Andhra Pradesh Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu launched a scathing attack on the previous YSRCP government, accusing it of completely neglecting the state's agriculture sector and failing to utilise crucial central schemes that could have benefitted lakhs of farmers. Speaking to the media after meeting Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan in Delhi on Monday, Atchannaidu said, "Nearly 64% of Andhra Pradesh's population relies on agriculture and allied sectors. Despite this, the past government left the sector to its fate." He alleged that key central schemes aimed at agricultural development were deliberately ignored by the previous regime, leading to stagnation and distress in the farming community.



"The YSRCP government's negligence caused a virtual collapse of the agricultural economy in the state," he added. During his meeting, Atchannaidu urged the Union Minister to extend additional central assistance to revive the sector. He stated that the present TDP-led coalition government is committed to rebuilding agricultural infrastructure, improving delivery of state and cen-

tral benefits, and making agriculture a priority sector once again. The Minister said the new government is keen to align closely with the Centre to harness all possible resources and schemes for the welfare of farmers. He emphasized that this renewed coordination with Delhi would help address years of missed opportunities under the previous administration.

## Psycho Attack in Tirupati: One Dead, Two Injured

**TPN Correspondent | Tirupati**  
Tirupati witnessed a horrifying incident on Monday evening when a man went on a violent rampage with a knife and sticks on Kapil Theertham Road, under Alipiri police station limits. In the attack, 55-year-old Shekhar tragically lost his life, while Subramaniam and Kalpana sustained injuries and are currently undergoing treatment. According to the police, the attacker, believed to be mentally unstable, randomly assaulted pedestrians, causing panic in the area. Locals and passersby were shocked by the brutality of the sudden violence, and several attempted to intervene before law enforcement arrived. The situation was brought under control after a struggle that lasted nearly an hour, with both police and municipal staff working together to subdue the attack-

er. The Alipiri police later confirmed that the accused is a resident of Tamil Nadu, and an investigation is now underway to determine his identity and mental health condition. The police have taken the accused into custody and are also verifying if he had any previous criminal or psychiatric history. The victims' families have been notified, and the body of Shekhar has been sent for post-mortem.



## Collector's Inspection in Ramachandrapuram...

*Orders Swift Action on Dumping Yard, Hostel & Anna Canteen*

**TPN | K Govinda Raju Ramachandrapuram:** District Collector R. Mahesh Kumar visited Ramachandrapuram on Monday and issued key directives to concerned officials from various departments. Stressing the importance of environmental protection and public health, the Collector ordered swift action in managing the local dumping yard and improving conditions at government welfare hostels and Anna canteens. During his visit to the municipal dumping yard, where legacy waste is being processed, the Collector pointed out that poor waste management could lead to serious health and environmental issues. He examined the waste segregation equipment used to process soil, plastic, and oth-



er waste and instructed the contractor, Taruni Agencies, to expedite the processing of 22,500 tons of legacy waste. The Municipal Commissioner K.V.R. Raju was asked to give a detailed report on the volume of daily waste collected in the town. Later, the Collector visited the Mahatma Jyotirao Phule BC Welfare Girls Hostel, which is currently operating out of a private building. Concerned

about mosquito infestation, he directed officials to install mosquito nets on all windows and doors. Further, he instructed municipal authorities to allocate space in the adjacent park for the hostel girls to exercise and ordered the construction of a boundary wall and a sports ground. He also stressed the importance of segregating wet and dry waste properly to prevent foul smells

from affecting nearby residential areas. Measures for regular disinfection around the dumping yard were also advised. Inspecting the Anna Canteen, the Collector said the government considers food service a moral responsibility and a blessing. Meals are being provided at just ₹5 for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. He emphasized that time management, menu discipline, and hygiene should be strictly followed. Fresh and hot food must be served as per the prescribed schedule, and cleanliness in cooking, serving, and sanitation should be maintained. He confirmed that beneficiaries expressed satisfaction with the food quality during an interaction. The Collector noted that the Anna Canteens have become a lifeline for a

wide range of people — including daily wage workers, small traders, migrants, students, and the unemployed — and are a testimony to the government's commitment to public welfare. He appealed to donors to come forward and support this noble initiative. "The revival of Anna Canteens has brought tears of joy to many eyes. These canteens are a blessing for those who can't afford hotel food. The government has restarted this vital program with dedication to serve the poor in a clean and dignified setting," the Collector stated. Tahsildar B. Mrityunjaya Rao, Municipal Commissioner K.V.R. Raju, BC Welfare Hostel officials, and others accompanied the Collector during the inspection.



# Men must lead the way too: Gender equality is a shared responsibility

Gender equality is not just a women’s issue, it’s a social and economic necessity that calls for collective action from everyone, especially men. While much of the public discourse around gender equality rightly focuses on empowering women, sustainable and transformative change will only come when men actively participate in breaking down gender barriers, both at work and at home.

Men, as colleagues, leaders, policy-makers, and influencers, are in a unique position to shape inclusive cultures. They have the power to challenge stereotypes, advocate for fair workplace policies, and use their influence to foster environments where women can thrive without discrimination or bias. But more importantly, when men engage in gender equality efforts, they not only support women, they benefit themselves, their families, and the broader society.

Traditional masculinity norms, emphasizing dominance, competitiveness, and emotional suppression, do not serve modern workplaces or relationships. These outdated ideas also burden men by pressuring them into rigid roles. In contrast, embracing gender equality opens space for emotional intelligence, collaboration, and a healthier work-life balance for everyone. When gender roles are shared, whether it’s in household

responsibilities or leadership positions, society becomes more balanced, empathetic, and productive.

## Breaking barriers

Despite these clear benefits, many men remain hesitant or disengaged when it comes to gender equality. One major barrier is distancing, a belief that gender-based issues such as workplace harassment don’t concern them directly. Some men claim, “I don’t harass women. This isn’t my problem.” Others become defensive, seeing such initiatives as anti-male rather than pro-equality.

Socialization is another hurdle. From a young age, many boys are conditioned to accept gender-based jokes, dismiss “feminine” traits, or assert themselves in ways that reinforce harmful power dynamics. These behaviors are often normalized in male peer groups and carried into adulthood, where they contribute to workplace discrimination, bias, and harassment.

Many men also doubt their capacities, feeling ill-equipped to engage in conversations about gender or to advocate for change. The fear of “saying the wrong thing” or “not knowing enough” often keeps them on the sidelines. And then there’s fear, the fear of losing social standing among male peers, being mocked, or being seen as too sensitive or soft.



Anupama Darla  
Lawyer , Social  
Activist, Guntur.

These barriers are not insurmountable. What’s required is a willingness to learn, reflect, and take action. Men must understand that staying silent or passive perpetuates inequality. Breaking these patterns starts with self-awareness and a conscious decision to be part of the solution.

## How men can contribute

### 1. Listen and Learn

Men must take time to truly listen to women’s experiences without inter-

ruption, defensiveness, or judgment. Understanding the challenges women face—from workplace bias and underrepresentation to harassment and cultural expectations—is the foundation for empathy and advocacy. Men should seek out books, podcasts, workshops, and direct conversations that broaden their perspectives and deepen their understanding of gender dynamics.

### 2. Advocate for Inclusive Education

Change begins early. Men, especially those in leadership roles or parenting positions, can promote inclusive education that emphasizes equality, respect, and shared responsibility. School curricula should celebrate women’s contributions across disciplines and history, while open discussions about fairness and gender roles should be encouraged among boys. Teaching young boys that strength lies in empathy and respect—not dominance—builds future generations that value equity.

### 3. Promote Healthy Masculinity

Men must redefine masculinity to include emotional expression, vulnerability, and kindness. Healthy masculinity does not mean weakness—it means being strong enough to stand up for what’s right and support others. When men model these behav-

iors in both public and private spaces, they encourage others to let go of toxic expectations and embrace more balanced, supportive roles in society.

## A Shift That Benefits All

True gender equality is not achievable without addressing roles and expectations both at work and at home. Men who take equal responsibility in household duties and childcare demonstrate that gender roles are not fixed, and they pave the way for more equitable partnerships. In the workplace, men can advocate for parental leave, flexible work hours, and policies that allow everyone to thrive.

Moreover, diverse and inclusive workplaces perform significantly better. Research shows they experience higher employee satisfaction, lower turnover, and greater innovation. Gender-balanced leadership teams make stronger decisions and contribute to better financial outcomes. But this level of inclusivity doesn’t happen on its own, it requires a personal and collective commitment to identifying and addressing unconscious bias. The path to gender equality begins with action. Men must recognize their role not as bystanders, but as active participants. They must lead not with dominance, but with empathy, courage, and a sense of fairness. Gender equality is not a favor to women, it’s a shared responsibility that makes life better for everyone.



## Cease the Cess: Time for Structural Reforms in India’s GST System

### Can BRICS Be Compromised Like the SCO? Not This Time

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives in Rio de Janeiro for the 17th BRICS Summit, the global stage is markedly different from that of last month’s SCO meeting in Qingdao. At the SCO, India’s push to spotlight cross-border terrorism following the Pahalgam attack was undermined by a China-Pakistan nexus. A joint statement, backed by nine of ten members including Russia, China, and Iran, sidestepped India’s concerns while ironically labeling Baloch resistance as terrorism — a diplomatic sleight of hand India refused to endorse.

### But BRICS isn’t the SCO. And Rio isn’t Qingdao.

This time, Xi Jinping is absent — for the first time in the summit’s 12-year history. Vladimir Putin is attending virtually, constrained by geopolitical realities. That leaves Narendra Modi as the senior-most leader among BRICS founding members, stepping into a spotlight China once dominated. India, backed by a surging economy and growing global clout, enters the summit not just as a participant but as a driving force.

BRICS is a truly multipolar platform, unlike the SCO — often seen as a Chinese-dominated playground. Brazil and South Africa, both with strong bilateral ties to India, act as natural counterweights to any Chinese attempts at overreach. With defence and economic cooperation — such as Brazil’s interest in India’s Akash missile system — India is building a formidable network of allies.

India’s expectations at the BRICS summit are clear: secure a strong, unambiguous condemnation of state-sponsored terrorism, particularly the Pahalgam attack, in language acceptable to India. Early indicators suggest key partners are aligned with India’s position.

More broadly, India is asserting its role as a voice for the Global South. Unlike the SCO, BRICS offers India a serious platform where its concerns are respected and its leadership welcomed. In this new global order, India is no longer a silent observer — it’s a determined actor, and at BRICS, it’s playing to win.

## Living Ethically in Challenging Times: Insights from the Dalai Lama



In today’s fast-changing world marked by globalization, technological advances, and cultural diversity, living ethically is more crucial than ever. His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama offers a timeless and universal vision of ethics that transcends religious boundaries, emphasizing shared human dignity and values. According to the Dalai Lama, core virtues like compassion, tolerance, forgiveness, and self-discipline are not confined to any one religion but are inherent qualities that anyone can nurture through education and conscious effort.

He proposes a concept of “secular ethics” — a moral framework independent of religion but grounded in common sense, scientific understanding, and universal human experience. Ethics, he teaches, is not a religious duty but a human responsibility rooted in compassion and inner values.

Central to his message is the importance of cultivating inner peace and emotional resilience

through mindfulness and compassion training. Drawing on neuroscience and psychology, the Dalai Lama highlights how even brief mental training can reduce distractions such as worry and fantasy, laying the foundation for wisdom. He warns that neglecting this inner work can leave individuals vulnerable to destructive emotions and prevent them from realizing their full potential for growth and transformation.

A practical exercise he recommends involves reflecting on the lives of people we admire — whether spiritual leaders, compassionate professionals like doctors or teachers, or historical figures known for selfless service. By contemplating their kindness and dedication, we can internalize these qualities and inspire ourselves to live more ethically. Importantly, the Dalai Lama stresses that ethical living is about more than noble thoughts; it requires transforming our daily actions and responses to suffering.

He outlines three progressive stages of ethical development: restraint from harm, nurturing positive virtues, and selfless dedication to others’ welfare. These must be applied not only to our actions but also to speech and thoughts, since the mind is the source of all behavior. True ethical transformation begins within.

On justice, the Dalai Lama offers a compassionate view that balances fairness with mercy. He challenges punitive approaches like the death penalty, arguing that punishment should focus on prevention and rehabilitation rather than revenge. This vision promotes accountability, transformation, and social harmony.

Ultimately, the Dalai Lama calls for ethics to be seen as a shared human endeavor, bridging divides and uniting people beyond religious or cultural differences. His message offers a hopeful blueprint for cultivating kindness, compassion, and cooperation in an increasingly interconnected world.



# 'Kejriwal's' Politics in Bihar: Shock for Congress?



TPN | PC Rao

July 08: In a move that has sent shockwaves through the INDI alliance, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief and former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has announced that his party will contest the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections independently, without partnering with the Congress or any other INDIA bloc members. This decision further widens the growing rift within the opposition alliance, particularly between AAP and Congress.

The decision comes after Kejriwal reportedly expressed strong displeasure with the Congress's recent conduct, particularly its actions in the Gujarat Visavadar by-poll, where the party fielded a candidate against AAP. Kejriwal viewed this as a direct attempt to sabotage AAP's chances, despite being alliance partners at the national level. This is not the first sign of dissent within the INDI alliance. The Trinamool Congress has already distanced itself from Congress in West Bengal. Now, with AAP

charting its own course in both Haryana and Bihar, the cracks in the alliance are becoming more pronounced. The Congress and RJD — key alliance partners in Bihar — are expected to be hit hard if AAP succeeds in splitting the anti-BJP vote. AAP's Bihar strategy focuses on key urban and Dalit constituencies, where Congress has traditionally had influence. Kejriwal's campaign is expected to highlight issues of education, healthcare, power supply, and corruption — areas where AAP claims proven governance

- AAP to fight Bihar elections without alliance
- Kejriwal furious over Congress's Gujarat move
- Setback for INDIA bloc unity in key states

## Flag-Hoisting Ceremony at Ayodhya’s Ram Temple Likely in November; PM Modi May Attend as Chief Guest

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

A grand flag-hoisting ceremony is expected to be held at the Ram temple in Ayodhya this November, marking a major milestone in the temple's ongoing construction. According to officials from the Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra trust, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to attend the event as the chief guest, adding significance to what is anticipated to be another historic occasion following the consecration of Ram Lalla earlier this year. Two dates — November 16 and November 25 — are currently under consideration, with astrologers working to determine the most auspicious timing. The



final schedule will be announced once the detailed programme is finalized. The flag will be ceremonially hoisted atop the temple's 161-foot-high main spire amid traditional Vedic chants, devotional music, and elaborate worship rituals. Flags will also be raised on the spires of other tem-

ples within the complex, symbolizing progress toward the completion of the entire temple project. Temple trustee Anil Mishra confirmed that preparations are in full swing, and the event will be no less grand than the January consecration ceremony. A large number of guests—including

saints, religious leaders, prominent dignitaries, and devotees from India and abroad—are expected to attend. The Ayodhya administration has begun making large-scale logistical arrangements, including booking hotels, dharamshalas, and guest houses to accommodate the influx of visitors. Sources also revealed that the ceremony might include a Ram Katha (narration of Lord Ram's life) and performances by celebrated musicians and artists, enhancing the spiritual and cultural significance of the event. This flag-hoisting ceremony is being seen as a symbolic affirmation of the temple's growing religious and national prominence.

## PM Modi at BRICS Summit in Brazil Calls for Global Governance Reform, Strengthens Ties with Latin America

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, participating in the 17th BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro on July 7, 2025, emphasized India's commitment to climate goals, global health, and equitable international governance. During the session on “Environment, COP30, and Global Health,” Modi highlighted India's success in meeting its Paris Agreement targets ahead of schedule, showcasing the country's leadership on climate action. Modi also held key bilateral meetings with the Presidents of Bolivia and Uruguay, where discussions focused on enhancing partnerships in trade, investment, and capacity building. The leaders agreed to explore new areas of cooperation to strengthen ties between India and Latin American nations. A day earlier, on July 6, PM Modi met with Cuban Presi-



dent Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez on the sidelines of the summit. The two leaders discussed deepening cooperation in pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, traditional medicine, and digital infrastructure, including India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI). The conversation also covered collaboration in Ayurveda, disaster management, and technical training. At the summit's session on

“Peace and Security and Reform of Global Governance,” Modi reiterated India's long-standing call for structural reforms in global institutions. He voiced concern over the “double standards” often faced by the Global South and advocated for a more inclusive international order. The BRICS Leaders' Declaration, adopted on July 6, reflected several of India's core priorities, particularly

in counter-terrorism and fair representation of developing nations. PM Modi also joined fellow BRICS leaders, partner nations, and outreach invitees for a symbolic group photograph, underscoring India's active engagement on the global stage. The summit marked a renewed focus on South-South cooperation and India's growing influence in shaping global discourse.



## Tahawwur Rana’s Journey from Army Deserter to 26/11 Conspirator

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Tahawwur Hussain Rana, recently extradited to India after years of legal wrangling, has disclosed significant details about his involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks. The 64-year-old Pakistani-Canadian is accused of facilitating the deadly assault that killed over 170 people. During interrogation by Mumbai Police's crime branch, Rana revealed he assisted David Coleman Headley—the main scout for the attacks—in identifying key targets, including Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus. Rana's journey began in Pakistan's military. He completed his MBBS at the Army Medical College, Rawalpindi, in 1986 and served as a captain in the Pakistani Army. He was posted in volatile regions like Sindh, Balochistan, Bahawalpur, and Siachen. While stationed in Siachen, he developed pulmonary edema and went AWOL, later being declared a deserter. He claimed Headley promised to help erase this blemish from his military record in exchange for his help.

Rana said the Pakistani military trusted him, even deploying him on a secret mission to Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War. He later lived in Germany, the UK, the US, and eventually settled in Canada, where he started businesses in meat processing, real estate, and retail. Rana and Headley had known each other since their time at Cadet College Hasan Abdal in the 1970s. Rana claimed Headley attended Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) training camps in 2003-04 and described LeT as a spy network more than a purely ideological outfit. Rana admitted to founding the Immigrant Law Centre, a front Headley used to survey attack targets in cities like Mumbai, Delhi, and Goa. Rana visited Mumbai just days before the attack, staying in Powai on November 20–21, 2008, and left for Beijing via Dubai shortly before the carnage. He has confessed to knowing key Pakistani handlers, including Sajid Mir, Major Iqbal, and Abdul Rehman Pasha, and is alleged to have closely coordinated with LeT and ISI operatives.



## Peace Time Is an 'Illusion': Rajnath Singh Calls for Constant Preparedness and Indigenous Growth in Defence

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday declared that “peace time is nothing but an illusion,” urging India's defence establishment to maintain high preparedness even during periods of calm. Speaking at the Controllers' Conference 2025, hosted by the Defence Accounts Department (DAD) at DRDO Bhawan in New Delhi, Singh highlighted the strategic importance of financial agility and indigenous capabilities in defence. Referring to the recent Operation Sindoor, Singh praised the performance of indigenously developed defence equipment, stating it had significantly boosted global demand for India-made military products. “Most of the equipment we once imported is now being manufactured in India,” he said, crediting strong policy direction and leadership for the transformation. Stressing the importance of financial efficiency, Singh warned that even a small delay in processes could directly impact operational readiness. He encouraged the DAD to evolve from being just a “controller” to a “facilitator,” especially as private sector participation in defence continues to grow. Citing data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, he noted that global military spending reached \$2.7 trillion in 2024—creating immense opportunities for India's indigenous defence sector. Singh also praised DAD's new motto, “Alert, Agile, Adaptive,” as a reflection of the proactive mindset needed today. The minister emphasized internal reform, advocating for self-assessment over external audits. He further urged the DAD to integrate defence economics, including social and economic impact analysis of R&D and dual-use technologies, into planning. Singh concluded by calling for a broader view of defence budgets—not as expenses, but as long-term investments that stimulate economic growth.



# Trump Slams Musk’s ‘America Party’ as ‘Ridiculous,’ Calls Him a ‘Train Wreck’

TPN Correspondent | Washington

U.S. President Donald Trump has dismissed Elon Musk’s announcement of a new political party—the “America Party”—calling the move “ridiculous” and labeling the billionaire entrepreneur a “train wreck.” Speaking to reporters before boarding Air Force One in Morristown, New Jersey, Trump said, “It’s always been a two-party system. Starting a third party just adds to confusion. Third parties never work.” He emphasized the continued strength of the Republican Party and criticized Musk for trying to split it.

Musk launched the “America Party” in response to Trump’s recently signed tax-cut and spending bill, which Musk claims will add \$5 trillion to the national debt and “bankrupt the country.” He also vowed to target Republican incumbents who supported the legislation, known as the “big, beautiful bill,” in next year’s midterm elections.

The feud marks a dramatic shift in their relationship. Musk previously supported Trump’s 2024 campaign financially and made frequent White House appearances. Their falling out intensified after the bill removed green energy credits for Tesla, and Trump threatened to pull federal contracts and subsidies for Musk’s companies.

On Truth Social, Trump also criticized Musk’s ally, billionaire astronaut Jared Isaacman, whom Trump nominated to lead NASA but withdrew before Senate confirmation. Trump cited concerns over Isaacman’s polit-



ical affiliations and his ties to Musk, saying, “It’s inappropriate to have a close friend of Elon run NASA when SpaceX relies so heavily on it.” The party’s launch also sparked backlash from financial circles. Azoria Partners postponed its Tesla-focused ETF launch, citing a

conflict of interest. Azoria CEO James Fishback urged Tesla’s board to evaluate Musk’s political ambitions and whether they’re compatible with his CEO duties. The clash adds a new dimension to the already volatile U.S. political and business landscape.

# Israel Strikes Houthi Ports in Yemen After Red Sea Ship Attack; Rebels Respond with Missile



TPN Correspondent | Dubai

Israel launched airstrikes early Monday targeting Houthi-controlled ports and facilities in Yemen, following a weekend attack on a Liberian-flagged ship in the Red Sea. The Houthis responded by firing a missile at Israel, escalating tensions in an already volatile

region. The strikes hit ports at Hodeida, Ras Isa, Salif, and the Ras Kanatib power plant. According to the Israeli military, these ports serve as transit points for Iranian weapons used in attacks against Israel. The Israeli forces also targeted the Galaxy Leader, a ship seized by the Houthis in 2023, alleging it was being

used to monitor Red Sea traffic. Defense Minister Israel Katz warned of more retaliation, stating, “What’s true for Iran is true for Yemen. Anyone who raises a hand against Israel will have it cut off.” The Houthis claimed they intercepted the Israeli strike, but provided no evidence. Hours later, a missile was fired at Israel, triggering sirens near the Dead Sea. Though the missile made impact, there were no immediate reports of injuries.

The escalation follows Sunday’s assault on the Magic Seas, a Greek-owned vessel, which was attacked by small arms, RPGs, and bomb-laden drone boats. The crew was forced to abandon the ship, which took on water. A nearby vessel rescued them.

Houthi attacks on Red Sea shipping surged after the Israel-Hamas war began. Between late 2023 and early 2025, they targeted over 100 vessels. Though attacks had paused after U.S. strikes in March, the Magic Seas incident marks a potential return to more frequent maritime threats.

The situation unfolds as Israel considers a ceasefire with Hamas and as Iran’s nuclear negotiations hang in the balance, adding further complexity to the regional crisis.

# Putin Urges BRICS to Adopt Independent Payment System Using National Currencies

TPN Correspondent | Moscow

Russian President Vladimir Putin has called for the creation of an “independent settlement system” within BRICS to facilitate trade using national currencies, aiming to reduce reliance on Western financial systems and boost efficiency.

Speaking via video at the Main Plenary Session of the 17th BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro on July 7, Putin stressed the need to expand the use of national currencies among BRICS members—Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa—and emphasized the benefits of a dedicated financial infrastructure. “It is necessary to further expand the use of national currencies in mutual settlements,” Putin said. “The creation of an independent settlement and depository system on the BRICS platform will make currency transactions faster, more efficient, and safer.”

Citing 2024 trade data, Putin highlighted that 90% of Russia’s trade with BRICS nations was conducted in local currencies, including the ruble. He emphasized that this trend reflects growing financial cooperation and reduced dependence on Western financial institutions. In addition to trade settlements, Putin also proposed a BRICS-wide investment platform aimed at increasing reciprocal capital



investments. He suggested that the New Development Bank (NDB) play a central role in attracting funds from BRICS economies and countries of the Global South and East. “The idea is to jointly develop agreed instruments for supporting and attracting funds,” he said. Putin further stressed the importance of expanding cooperation in key areas such as politics, security, economics, and culture. He

noted BRICS’ growing influence and diversity, highlighting its expansion to include major players from Eurasia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America.

The 17th BRICS Summit focused on peace, global governance reforms, trade, and multilateral cooperation, reinforcing the group’s role as a counterbalance to Western-dominated institutions.

# Bangladesh Tribunal to Decide on Framing Charges Against Sheikh Hasina on July 10



TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

Bangladesh’s International Crimes Tribunal has scheduled July 10, 2025, to determine whether formal charges will be framed against former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and two of her top aides. The charges stem from alleged crimes against humanity during a deadly uprising in July last year that led to the fall of Hasina’s government.

The accused include Hasina, former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, and ex-police chief Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun. They face five counts, including murder, attempted murder, torture, and the use of lethal force during the month-long unrest. The tribunal will hear petitions from defense lawyers arguing for dismissal of what they call “baseless” charges. This follows a separate ICT verdict last week, in which Hasina was sentenced in absentia to six months in prison for contempt of court—the first sentence handed down against her since she lost power on August 5, 2024. A UN report estimates that up to 1,400 people were killed in the military crackdown under her government during the uprising.

In addition, Dhaka’s anti-corruption court has summoned Hasina, her family, and several former officials to appear in six graft cases linked to land plot allocations. The accused, including her children Sajeeb Wazed Joy and Saima Wazed Putul, and niece Tulip Siddiq, have been ordered to appear by July 20 or face trial in absentia. Arrest warrants have already been issued amid reports the family has gone into hiding or fled abroad, including to India.

The tribunal’s July 10 decision could mark a major turning point in the legal reckoning of Hasina’s nearly 16-year rule.

# BRICS Summit in Brazil Marked by Low-Key Diplomacy Amid Global Tensions



TPN Correspondent | Brazil

Brazil is hosting the BRICS summit on July 6–7, 2025, focusing on cautious diplomacy as global tensions rise. Held in Rio de Janeiro, the summit gathers leaders from an expanded bloc, now including Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia (pending formal confirmation). However, several key figures—including China’s Xi Jinping, Russia’s Vladimir Putin (joining via video), Iran’s Masoud Pezeshkian, and Egypt’s Abdel Fattah el-Sissi—will not attend.

Analysts view the absence of strong voices like Xi and Putin as a reason for the summit’s moderate tone. Unlike the bold anti-Western rhetoric at last year’s BRICS meeting in Russia, this year’s event reflects Brazil’s desire to keep discussions technical and non-confrontational, especially in light of Donald Trump’s return to the U.S. presidency.

Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva has emphasized artificial intelligence, climate change, healthcare, and trade over contentious issues like the Gaza conflict, Israel’s attack on Iran, or Russia’s war in Ukraine. This approach aims to avoid provoking U.S. retaliation, especially Trump’s threat of imposing 100% tariffs on countries challenging the dollar.

Internal divisions and a lack of cohesion among the enlarged group have made strong unified positions unlikely. Analysts note that Brazil is prioritizing institutional development to manage the bloc’s rapid expansion and integrate new members.



# Jindal India Secures Approval for Rs 3,600 Crore Steel Plant Project in Odisha

Jindal (India) Limited has received official approval from the Odisha government to establish a new steel plant valued at Rs 3,600 crore. This marks a significant step in the company's ambitious plan to invest a total of Rs 15,000 crore in Odisha over three phases, aiming to complete the project by 2030.

The upcoming steel facility will focus on manufacturing special coated steel products, catering to the growing demand for high-quality steel in various industrial sectors. A key highlight of the project is the installation of advanced coating lines, which will boast an impressive annual production capacity of 9.6 lakh metric tonnes. These coating lines are expected to be operational by 2027, accelerating the company's entry into the specialty steel market.

This greenfield project underscores Jindal India's commitment to expanding its footprint in the steel manufacturing sector while contributing to Odisha's industrial growth. The company's phased investment approach is designed to ensure sustainable development and gradual capacity enhancement, aligning with market demand and technological advancements.

The Odisha government's approval demonstrates the state's continued support for industrial development, with a focus on attracting large-scale investments that can generate employment and foster economic progress. The new plant is anticipated to create numerous job opportunities, both directly and indirectly, benefiting local communities and supporting ancil-



lary industries.

By investing in cutting-edge technology and modern infrastructure, Jindal India aims to produce steel products that meet international standards, positioning itself as a key player in India's steel sector. The project is also expected to boost the state's export potential by supplying high-value coated steel to domestic and global markets.

Overall, the approval for this Rs 3,600 crore steel plant project is a major milestone for Jindal India and Odisha alike. It reflects the growing confidence in Odisha as an industrial hub and highlights the steel sector's vital role in the country's infrastructure and manufacturing landscape. The project's successful implementation will contribute significantly to the region's economic development and the company's long-term growth ambitions.

# India Needs 10% Annual Nominal GDP Growth to Achieve Viksit Bharat by 2047: CII President

Rajiv Memani, President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), emphasized that India must sustain an average nominal GDP growth rate of 10% annually to realize its ambitious vision of Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047. This growth target is crucial for India to emerge as a strong, self-reliant, and developed economy by its 100th year of independence.

Memani pointed out that achieving this growth will require concerted efforts across sectors, enhanced investment, innovation, and reforms to improve productivity and competitiveness. He stressed the importance of maintaining a stable macroeconomic environment and fostering an ecosystem conducive to business expansion and technological advancement.

Highlighting recent developments, Memani referred to the interim trade agreement signed between India and the United States, describing it as a significant step that will help eliminate existing uncertainties in bilateral trade relations. This pact is expected to provide Indian exporters with greater access to the vast US market, thereby boosting trade volumes and opening new opportunities for Indian businesses.



The trade deal also signals stronger economic ties between the two countries, which could attract further foreign investment and collaboration in technology, manufacturing, and services. According to Memani, such partnerships will play a vital role in accelerating India's growth trajectory and supporting the broader goals of the Viksit Bharat initiative.

In conclusion, Rajiv Memani reiterated that sustained high nominal GDP growth, supported by strategic trade agreements and economic reforms, is essential for India to transform into a developed nation by 2047. Achieving this milestone will require the combined efforts of government, industry, and stakeholders to create a resilient and dynamic economy capable of meeting future challenges.



Mumbai markets opened lower on Monday, with benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty declining amid caution ahead of the crucial July 9 US tariff deadline, weak Asian market trends, and foreign fund outflows. The BSE Sensex dropped 170.66 points

to 83,262.23 in early trade, while the NSE Nifty slipped 53.75 points to 25,407.25. Market volatility was driven by uncertainty over the US-India trade deal, experts noted.

July 9 marks the end of a 90-day sus-

# Markets Slip in Early Trade Amid Tariff Deadline Concerns and Weak Asian Cues

pension period on Trump-era tariffs that imposed an additional 26% import duty on certain Indian goods entering the US. Investors are closely watching developments as any extension or modification of this suspension could impact trade and market sentiment.

Among the Sensex constituents, Bharat Electronics Ltd, Tech Mahindra, HCL Technologies, Eternal, ICICI Bank, and Sun Pharma were the main laggards in early trading. Conversely, Trent, Asian Paints, Hindustan Unilever, Bajaj Finserv, and HDFC Bank showed gains.

Asian markets painted a mixed pic-

ture with Japan's Nikkei 225, Shanghai's SSE Composite, and Hong Kong's Hang Seng trading lower, while South Korea's Kospi moved higher. US markets had ended positively on Friday, providing some support.

V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments, highlighted that market movements were influenced by concerns over the US-India trade negotiations and fallout from Sebi's report on Jane Street. He added that a potential interim trade agreement ahead of the tariff deadline would boost market sentiment.

Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research)

at Mehta Equities, noted that the looming tariff deadline could continue to drive volatility in the coming days.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude also slipped 0.63% to USD 67.87 per barrel, adding to cautious trading.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) sold equities worth Rs 760.11 crore on Friday, reflecting continued cautious sentiment among global investors.

On Friday, markets had closed higher with the Sensex rising 193.42 points (0.23%) to 83,432.89 and the Nifty gaining 55.70 points (0.22%) to 25,461.

# Rupee Falls 26 Paise to 85.66 Against US Dollar Amid FII Outflows and Weak Equities

Mumbai: The Indian rupee weakened by 26 paise to 85.66 against the US dollar in early trade on Monday, pressured by foreign institutional investor (FII) outflows and a sluggish start to the domestic equity markets. The US administration's recent warning to trading partners to finalize new trade deals before the July 9 deadline added to market uncertainty. The threat of higher tariffs coming into effect from August 1 is weighing on investor sentiment and adding pressure on the rupee.



Despite the losses, the rupee's fall was limited due to a weaker US dollar, declining global crude oil prices, and an increase in India's foreign exchange reserves. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 85.53 before sliding further to 85.66. On Friday, it had closed at 85.40 against the greenback.

Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director at Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP, said the rupee has been trading in a range of 85.30 to 85.60 over recent days. He noted that while nationalized banks have been buying dollars on dips, exporters and other inflows have been selling during upticks, keeping the currency within this band. Bhansali expects the rupee to trade between 85.30 and 85.80 for the day. The dollar index, which measures the strength of the greenback against a basket of six currencies,

declined 0.10% to 97.08, as concerns grow over the US administration's unpredictable tariff policies and their impact on economic growth and inflation.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, also eased 0.66% to USD 67.85 per barrel in futures trading.

Meanwhile, Indian equity markets showed weakness with the Sensex dropping 170.66 points to 83,262.23 and the Nifty falling 53.75 points to 25,407.25 in early trade.

India's foreign exchange reserves increased by USD 4.84 billion to USD 702.78 billion for the week ending June 27, according to the Reserve Bank of India. Meanwhile, FIIs sold equities worth Rs 760.11 crore on Friday, reflecting continued cautiousness among foreign investors.

# Crude Oil Prices May Rebound as Supply Stabilizes and Geopolitical Tensions Ease

New Delhi: Crude oil prices could see a recovery soon as supply conditions stabilize and geopolitical tensions ease, experts say. Despite ongoing concerns over weak global demand, market watchers are cautiously optimistic that crude prices may bounce back if key technical support levels hold firm.

On Friday, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude traded around the mid-USD 65 range amid thin holiday trading and subdued demand, particularly from major economies like China and the Eurozone. However, the upcoming OPEC+ meeting and the US tariff deadline are drawing traders' attention and could influence price movements.

Tejas Shigrekar, Chief Technical Research Analyst for Commodities and Currencies at Angel One Ltd, highlighted a mixed but hopeful outlook. He pointed out that although global manufacturing slowdowns have dampened demand, OPEC+ production cuts—mainly led by Saudi Arabia and Russia—continue to tighten supply, preventing a sharper decline in prices.

“These coordinated output cuts are providing a price floor despite softer demand projections from OECD countries,” Shigrekar explained. He added that barring any major supply disruptions, crude futures are expected to remain within a broad range, supported by strategic buying.



Geopolitical tensions that previously pushed prices higher have somewhat eased following a ceasefire between Iran and Israel and Iran's renewed commitment to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Although risks in the South China Sea and Middle East persist, there have been no major supply chain disruptions.

Traders are now focusing on the July 5 OPEC+ meeting, where a third consecutive production increase of 411,000 barrels per day is likely to be approved for August. Technically, Shigrekar noted that WTI crude prices could rebound if they hold above the USD 62.70 support level.

In the domestic market, prices could rise to Rs 6,000–6,200 if they break above Rs 5,780, but a slip below Rs 5,550 may trigger a fall toward Rs 5,330 or even Rs 5,000, analysts warned.



# Elephants Serenaded by Caretaker Show the Internet What True Love Looks Like

A heart-melting video capturing a moment of deep emotional connection between a caretaker and two elephants is leaving the internet teary-eyed. Shared by Lek Chailert, the founder of Thailand’s Save Elephant Foundation, the video is a powerful reminder of the bonds that can form between humans and animals when trust and love are at the center.



In the video, Chailert is seen sitting quietly on a dirt mound while two elephants stand gently beside her. One of the majestic animals slowly reaches out with its trunk and softly brushes her feet—a simple gesture, yet one filled with tenderness. As Chailert begins to sing a soothing melody, the elephants appear to respond, harmonizing in their own way with vocalizations that seem to match her tone and mood.

The interaction feels nothing short of magical. The elephants don’t just stand idly—they listen, respond, and appear to be emotionally in tune with their caretaker. The scene, bathed in natural light and stillness, conveys an unspoken language of affection, trust, and mutual respect.

Since being posted, the video has gone viral, with

viewers across social media calling it a pure example of unconditional love. Many commented that it felt like watching a sacred bond unfold, one that speaks volumes without a single word being exchanged.

This rare glimpse into the emotional lives of elephants reinforces what animal advocates have long believed: these gentle giants possess profound emotional intelligence and are capable of forming deep, intuitive relationships with those who treat them with care and dignity.

In a world often marked by noise and chaos, this quiet, soulful exchange reminds us of something beautifully simple—love is real, and sometimes, it speaks through a song and the touch of a trunk.

# Dengue, Diamonds & Dangerous Searches: Viral GK Quiz Trend Has Netizens Hooked

General knowledge quizzes are making a fun and informative comeback on social media—and this time, they’re going viral for all the right reasons. With topics ranging from health and science to geography and internet laws, these one-minute GK Q&A slides are not just entertaining but also surprisingly educational.

Curated by News18 Bengali and widely circulated across platforms, the quiz-style format includes rapid-fire questions that are perfect for quick scrolling and instant learning. Whether you’re a student, job aspirant, or just a curious browser, these tidbits of information can sharpen your awareness in no time.

One question asks: Which mosquito bite causes dengue fever? The answer: the female Aedes aegypti mosquito, a known carrier of the dengue virus. Another asks: What is dry ice? It’s solid carbon dioxide that sublimates directly into gas, making it popular in science experiments and stage effects.

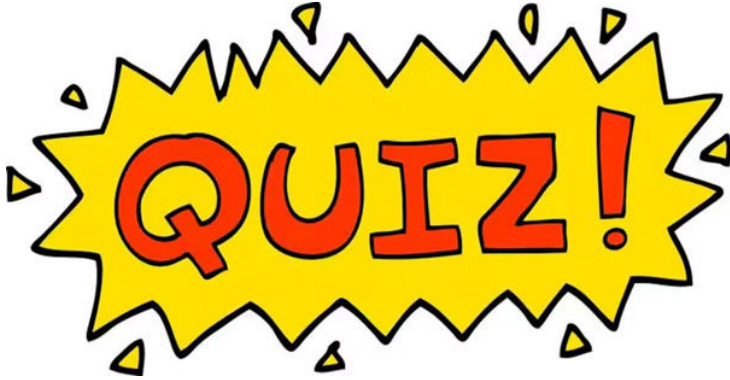
The quiz also touches on pressing environmental issues. For instance, it explains that motorised vehicles emit

harmful gases like CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, and hydrocarbons—major contributors to air pollution.

A standout fact in the quiz: India’s only active diamond mine is located in Panna district, Madhya Pradesh, with reserves estimated at over 976,000 carats. Not only fascinating, but it’s also a great addition to any competitive exam prep.

But the quiz takes a serious turn when it addresses illegal Google searches. Topics like child pornography, hacking tools, bomb-making, and pirated content are flagged as criminal offences in many countries, including India. Viewers are warned that even casual curiosity could attract legal trouble or surveillance.

This growing trend of rapid-fire GK sessions is proving that learning doesn’t have to be boring—it can be quick, useful, and even a little surprising.



# Man Spends 2 Days Searching for Wallet Hiding in Plain Sight — Photo Goes Viral

Losing everyday items like keys or a wallet is a common annoyance, but one man’s experience takes that frustration to a new level—and it’s leaving the internet both amused and amazed. A Reddit post has gone viral after a user shared how his relative spent two entire days searching for a missing wallet, only to find it right in front of him the whole time.

The baffling twist? The wallet was lying on the bathroom floor, completely camouflaged by the tile pattern. The photo posted shows a typical black-and-white checkered tile floor, with a bath mat and shower curtain in the background. But look a little closer, and you’ll spot a black wallet perfectly positioned on a black tile—so well-aligned that it became virtually invisible.

What makes this story so relatable and hilarious is the clever trick our eyes can play on us. The optical illusion

created by the wallet’s color and shape blending in with the flooring made it almost undetectable, even to someone actively searching the space multiple times.

The Reddit user wrote that his relative had retraced every step, searched every room, and even checked with friends and neighbors—only to finally spot the wallet after 48 hours of anxiety and confusion. The photo accompanying the post perfectly captures the hidden-in-plain-sight moment and has sparked a wave of similar stories in the comments, with people sharing their own experiences of “invisible” lost items.

The post has since gone viral, garnering thousands of upvotes and shares, proving once again that sometimes, what you’re desperately looking for might be right under your nose—or in this case, on the bathroom floor. All it takes is a change in perspective (or tile).

# iPhone 17 Pro Max May Pack Apple’s Biggest Battery Yet — Here’s What to Expect

Apple is gearing up for its next big launch this September, and early leaks suggest that the upcoming iPhone 17 Pro Max could feature the largest battery ever seen in an iPhone. According to a report cited by Forbes, the battery capacity of the iPhone 17 Pro Max may reach around 5,000mAh, a significant bump from the current record-holder, the iPhone 16 Pro Max, which houses a 4,676mAh battery.

If true, this increase may come with a slight design change. The new model is expected to be thicker than its predecessor, going from 8.25 mm to approximately 8.725 mm. The added thickness would help accommodate the larger battery, potentially offering even longer screen-on time, better video playback endurance, and improved battery life for power users.

**The iPhone 17 lineup is expected to include four variants:**  
iPhone 17  
iPhone 17 Air  
iPhone 17 Pro  
iPhone 17 Pro Max



Leaks also hint at two new color options being introduced this year—green and

purple—adding to the visual appeal of the lineup. Last year’s iPhone 16 came in five vibrant shades, including black, white, pink, teal, and ultramarine.

On the hardware front, the iPhone 17 Pro models may see camera upgrades, with enhanced low-light capabilities and improved zoom features expected to be part of the package.

As for pricing, early reports suggest the base model could start around ₹89,900, with the iPhone 17 Air priced at ₹95,000, and the top-end iPhone 17 Pro Max going up to ₹1,64,900.

Apple is likely to stick to its usual launch window in mid-September, with pre-orders beginning soon after and deliveries expected within a week or two.

Note: These details are based on leaks and speculations. Official features and specs will be confirmed at Apple’s launch event.

# Why Deep-Sea Mining Is Risky, Unnecessary, and Harmful to the Oceans

As pressure builds for a global shift toward cleaner energy, deep-sea mining is being promoted as a source of critical minerals like nickel, cobalt, and manganese. These are used in batteries and electronics. However, scientists and environmental experts argue that this new frontier is highly risky, unnecessary, and could cause irreversible harm to fragile ocean ecosystems.

Deep-sea mining involves collecting rock-like nodules from vast seabed areas, often thousands of meters below the ocean surface. These nodules contain valuable metals, but also serve as habitat for marine life. Research from Australia’s national science agency, CSIRO, and other institutions shows that mining these nodules severely damages the seafloor, endangering species that



depend on it—and in many cases, those species may never recover.

While the technology exists, no commercial deep-sea mining is currently underway, though efforts to create a global mining code are ongoing. This includes pressure from compa-

nies like The Metals Company, which has tested mining in the Pacific and is pushing to begin full-scale operations with the backing of nations like Nauru and Tonga.

But experts say the economic rationale doesn’t hold up. The minerals in question are not

scarce—land-based reserves are abundant and sufficient for current and future needs. Furthermore, deep-sea mining won’t replace existing land mining, meaning the same environmental and social issues will persist, and new ones will be added, including labor exploitation and governance concerns in international waters. Perhaps most critically, the ocean floor is considered the common heritage of humankind under international law. Yet, profits are already being funneled to powerful investors, leaving developing nations burdened with debt and uncertainty.

With high costs, serious ecological threats, and unclear economic benefits, experts argue that deep-sea mining is simply not worth the risk.



## Manu Bhaker Leads Indian Shooting Squad for 2025 Asian Championships in Kazakhstan

Olympian Manu Bhaker will headline a strong 35-member Indian shooting contingent for the 16th Asian Shooting Championship, set to take place in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, from August 16 to 30, 2025. The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) announced the squads on Monday, confirming Bhaker's participation in two individual events—the women's 10m air pistol and the women's 25m pistol, making her the only shooter to qualify for dual disciplines in the senior lineup.

The championship will feature 15 events, including three mixed team competitions, and will run alongside the Junior Asian Championships at the same venue. In addition to the senior squad for the Asian Championship, NRAI also revealed the line-ups for the ISSF Junior World Cup (scheduled for September-October in Delhi) and the senior ISSF World Cup (Rifle/Pistol) to be held in Ningbo, China, from September 7 to 15.



Several prominent shooters have earned their place back in the senior team, including former world champion Rudranksh Patil (men's air rifle), and Olympians Anjum Moudgil (women's 50m rifle 3 positions), Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar (men's 50m rifle 3 positions), Saurabh Chaudhary (men's 10m air pistol), and Kynan Chenai (men's trap).

Other notable names include Esha Singh (25m pistol), Mehuli Ghosh, and Kiran Ankush Jadhav (both in air rifle), who have secured berths in both the Asian and Ningbo World Cup squads. Olympic bronze-medalist Swapnil Kusale and former Asian Games champion Rahi Sarnobat also feature in the team bound for Ningbo.

Meanwhile, Olympian Raiza Dhillon has been named in the junior women's skeet squad for the Delhi World Cup, replacing Mansi Raghuvanshi, who will represent India at the Junior Asian Championships instead.

## Mexico Clinches 10th Gold Cup Title with Thrilling 2-1 Win Over U.S.

Mexico successfully defended their CONCACAF Gold Cup crown by defeating the United States 2-1 in a thrilling final held at NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas, on July 6, 2025. This victory marks Mexico's 10th Gold Cup title, further cementing their dominance in the regional tournament.



The United States started strong, taking an early lead just four minutes into the match. Sebastian Berhalter delivered a well-placed free-kick, which found Chris Richards. Richards rose above the defense and powered a header that struck the underside of the crossbar before bouncing down over the goal line. After a brief review, the referee confirmed the goal, giving the U.S. an early advantage.

However, Mexico quickly responded. In the 27th minute, striker Raul Jimenez leveled the score with a close-range finish, capitalizing on a well-executed play to bring the match back on even terms. Jimenez's goal energized the Mexican side and shifted momentum as both teams battled fiercely for control.

The rest of the match saw intense back-and-forth action, with both teams creating chances and defending resolutely. Mexico ultimately found the winner that secured their victory and the coveted Gold Cup trophy, thrilling their supporters in a packed stadium.

This win not only reinforces Mexico's position as a powerhouse in North and Central American soccer but also highlights the growing rivalry between the two nations. The United States fought hard but fell just short in this high-stakes encounter.

The 2025 Gold Cup final will be remembered for its dramatic moments, passionate play, and the celebration of Mexico's historic 10th championship triumph. Fans from both sides witnessed a memorable contest that showcased the best of CONCACAF soccer.

## Djokovic and Sinner Face Tough Tests at Wimbledon as Swiatek Finds Comfort on Grass

As Wimbledon reaches its critical stages, Novak Djokovic and world number one Jannik Sinner are preparing for some of their toughest matches yet, aiming to advance towards a highly anticipated semi-final clash. Djokovic, chasing a record-breaking 25th Grand Slam singles title, is set to face Australia's Alex de Minaur in the Round of 16, while Sinner will take on the talented Grigor Dimitrov.



Djokovic showed his dominant form by crushing Miomir Kecmanovic 6-3, 6-0, 6-4 in his previous match, delighting his seven-year-old daughter Tara with a post-match celebration. However, the seven-time Wimbledon champion remains cautious about the challenge posed by de Minaur, who has been in top form on grass courts. The Australian, ranked world number 11, has dropped just one set on his way to the last 16 and is known for his speed and all-around game. Djokovic acknowledged de Minaur as "a complete player" and admitted that facing him on grass is far from an easy task.

Meanwhile, Jannik Sinner continues to impress with his dominance, having lost only 17 games so far — tying the men's Open Era record at Wimbledon for fewest games lost to reach the fourth round. The US Open and Australian Open champion

is yet to lose his serve this year at the All England Club. Despite Sinner's strong form, Grigor Dimitrov is not intimidated. The experienced Bulgarian, a former Wimbledon semi-finalist, remains focused on enjoying the tournament even as his opportunities at Grand Slams become rarer.

On the women's side, five-time Grand Slam winner Iga Swiatek is emerging as the key figure in a wide-open draw. After an unexpected semi-final loss at the French Open, Swiatek has used the extra time to adjust to grass courts and recently reached her first grass-court final in Bad Homburg. She described her recent matches as "pretty smooth" and is optimistic about her chances, especially with several top seeds having exited early. Swiatek now eyes a deep run at Wimbledon, possibly reaching the quarter-finals for the second time.

With these marquee matches ahead, Wimbledon promises exciting tennis action in the coming days.

## Legendary Former India Captain MS Dhoni Turns 44: A Celebrated Journey of Cricketing Excellence

Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the iconic former captain of the Indian cricket team, celebrated his 44th birthday on Monday. Dhoni is uniquely distinguished as the only captain in international cricket history to have won all three major ICC trophies—the ODI World Cup, the T20 World Cup, and the Champions Trophy.

During his leadership, India's Test team also held the No. 1 ranking for 18 consecutive months, showcasing his prowess across all formats. In recognition of his stellar career, Dhoni was inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame in 2025, an honor befitting his legendary status.

Although Dhoni retired from international cricket nearly five years ago, he remains a vital figure in the Indian Premier League (IPL), representing the Chennai Super Kings (CSK). Despite battling a persistent knee injury, Dhoni stepped



up as the stand-in captain this season when regular skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad was sidelined with an elbow injury. Under Dhoni's resilient leadership, the team managed to secure several important wins, even as they struggled with consistency.

While age and injuries have tempered

his aggressive batting style, with Dhoni sometimes batting as low as No. 8, his enduring charisma continues to fill stadiums across the country during the IPL. Dhoni has been central to all five IPL titles won by CSK, cementing his legacy as their revered 'Thala.'

Looking ahead, Dhoni remains non-committal about his future in cricket. "It depends. I have four-five months to decide, and there's no hurry," he said, emphasizing the increasing effort required to maintain peak fitness at the highest level. He acknowledged the demands of professional cricket, noting that retirement decisions are more than just about form or performance.

For now, Dhoni is enjoying a quieter life in his hometown Ranchi, focusing on his fitness and contribution to the team while reflecting on an illustrious career that has left an indelible mark on Indian cricket.

## Sanjog Gupta Appointed as New ICC CEO, Replacing Geoff Allardice

In a significant leadership transition, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has named Sanjog Gupta as its new Chief Executive Officer, replacing Australia's Geoff Allardice, who stepped down earlier this year due to personal reasons. The appointment was confirmed on Monday, with Gupta taking charge immediately. Gupta, a well-known figure in Indian sports broadcasting, was previously CEO (Sports & Live Experiences) at JioStar—a company formed after the merger of Viacom18 and Disney Star. He brings over a decade of experience in media, sports strategy, and league development. His career began in journalism before he joined Star India in 2010, rising through the ranks to head major sports initiatives including the IPL and ICC tournaments. The ICC revealed that over 2,500 appli-



cations were received from 25 countries. Gupta was selected from a shortlist of 12 candidates after a rigorous evaluation by the ICC Nominations Committee, which included deputy chairman Imran Khwaja, ECB chairman Richard Thompson, SLC president Shammi Silva, and BCCI secre-

tary Devajit Saikia. His appointment was ratified by ICC chairman Jay Shah. "Sanjog has been a driving force behind the transformation of sports broadcasting in India and globally," said the ICC, noting his role in expanding properties such as the Pro Kabaddi League, ISL, Premier League, and Wimbledon. Jay Shah praised Gupta's "deep understanding of the global sports and media landscape" and his "passion for technology and fan engagement," which will be crucial as the ICC aims to expand cricket's global reach. Gupta, the ICC's seventh CEO, succeeds Allardice, whose exit in January reportedly stemmed from internal criticism over Pakistan's unpreparedness for the 2025 Champions Trophy. Gupta expressed excitement about leading cricket's next phase of growth on the global stage.





## Samantha Ruth Prabhu Turns Heads in Rust Drape at U.S. Event

Samantha Ruth Prabhu once again proves her fashion-forward flair with a breathtaking new look from her recent appearance at an event in the United States. The actress, who also delivered a heartfelt and widely shared speech during the occasion, made just as strong an impact with her sartorial choice.

She chose a striking rust-orange drape, modernized with a structured corset-style blouse that perfectly blended contemporary design with traditional elegance. The ensemble struck a powerful balance—bold yet graceful, refined yet edgy. Samantha’s confident presence elevated the look, giving it a sense of individuality that’s become synonymous with her personal style.

The photos, taken in what appears to be an urban outdoor setting—possibly a street or pedestrian walkway—are both sleek and grounded. Wide-angle shots capture the organic movement of the drape, showing how it flows naturally with her posture. The color choice—a warm, earthy rust—stood out beautifully against the minimalist background, enhancing the richness of the outfit.

What truly sets the look apart is the thoughtful styling. Minimal accessories, natural makeup, and loosely styled hair allowed the outfit itself to be the focal point. It’s clear Samantha and her team intended to let the drape speak for itself, and it certainly does—loudly and stylishly.



The ensemble reflects Samantha’s ability to reinterpret traditional Indian wear with a modern sensibility. While many stars experiment with fusion fashion, few manage to maintain authenticity quite like she does.

Whether it was her powerful words or her unmistakable fashion statement, Samantha Ruth Prabhu has once again captured the spotlight—and rightly so.

## Kantara Chapter 1: Rishab Shetty Roars Back in Fiery First Look

Rishab Shetty’s birthday came with a special gift—not just for him, but for fans eagerly awaiting the return to the mystical world of Kantara. The makers unveiled a powerful new poster from Kantara Chapter 1, the much-anticipated prequel to the 2022 blockbuster, and it’s nothing short of explosive.

In the newly released poster, Rishab Shetty is seen in full beast mode, gripping a massive axe and a traditional shield, his face locked in a fierce battle cry. The image captures raw energy, with flames and folklore blazing in the background. It’s a visceral reminder of the elemental power that defined Kantara—but this time, the story dives deeper into the roots of the legend.

Directed and written by Rishab himself, Kantara Chapter 1 explores the mythic origins of the forest, the deity, and the man who becomes its chosen protector. While the original film mesmerized audiences with its spiritual themes and rugged storytelling, the prequel promises to go even further, both in emotion and scale.

The production has officially wrapped, and post-production is in full swing. With everything on track, the film is set for a grand theatrical release on October 2nd, aligning with the Dussehra festivities—perfect timing for a film steeped in myth and tradition.

Produced by Vijay Kiragandur under the Hombale Films banner, Kantara Chapter 1 boasts an impressive team. Arvind S Kashyap returns as cinematographer, promising rich visuals, while B

Ajaneesh Loknath is back to score the soul-stirring soundtrack.

With intensity, intrigue, and an unmistakable Rishab Shetty signature, Kantara Chapter 1 is gearing up to be an unforgettable cinematic chapter. The legend is ready to rise—again.



## SJ Suryah and A.R. Rahman Reunite for ‘Killer’: A Pan-Indian Thriller in the Making

SJ Suryah, known for pushing cinematic boundaries both as an actor and director, is stepping into his next ambitious venture titled Killer. Set to be a pan-Indian thriller, the film promises to deliver a compelling blend of storytelling, suspense, and musical brilliance—especially with the legendary A.R. Rahman now officially on board as the composer.

This marks the fifth collaboration between SJ Suryah and the Oscar-winning music maestro, a partnership that has previously gifted fans with memorable musical moments. Taking to social media, Suryah shared his excitement, calling the reunion with Rahman a “dream

come true once again,” and hinting that the music will be one of the film’s stand-out elements.

Killer isn’t just about big names—it also brings in rising talent. Actress Preethi Anju Asrani has been cast in a pivotal role, adding fresh energy to the film’s intriguing narrative. Though plot details remain under wraps, the film is expected to revolve around high-stakes drama, psychological tension, and emotional depth, delivered with Suryah’s signature intensity.

The project is being jointly produced by Sree Gokulam Movies and Angel Studios Movie Hub LLP, two banners known for

backing quality content with commercial appeal. With a strong creative team and a gripping premise, Killer is shaping up to be a high-impact film across multiple languages and markets.

As production gears up, anticipation is already building. Whether it’s the dynamic direction, the pan-Indian scope, or Rahman’s much-awaited soundtrack, Killer looks poised to become one of the most talked-about films of the year. More updates are expected soon as the team dives into filming—until then, fans can revel in the excitement of another epic Suryah-Rahman collaboration in the works.



## Vijay Sethupathi, Samyuktha Kick Off Puri Jagannadh’s Pan-India Film in Hyderabad

Renowned director Puri Jagannadh has officially begun filming his latest Pan-India project, and the buzz is already building. The first day of shoot, which began in Hyderabad, features powerhouse performer Vijay Sethupathi alongside the talented Samyuktha, both of whom joined the production on day one.

A grand set has been erected in the city for the first schedule, focusing on talkie portions involving the lead actors. The shoot marks a critical moment for Puri, who is aiming to bounce back with a solid hit. With the spotlight firmly on this high-stakes project, the director is taking a meticulous approach to ensure it delivers on expectations.

Titled unofficially as #PuriSethupathi, the film is being crafted as a Pan-India spectacle, designed to appeal to audiences across languages and regions. The project is jointly bankrolled by Puri himself under the Puri Connects banner, alongside JB Narayan Rao Kondrolla of JB Mohan Pictures. Charmme Kaur comes on board as the presenter, further boosting the film’s profile.

Adding to the excitement, the ensemble cast includes acclaimed actress Tabu and action star Duniya Vijay in key roles. While details about their char-



acters are being kept under wraps, their presence adds substantial weight to the film’s star power.

Though much about the storyline and genre is still under wraps, the early signs point to a stylish, content-rich entertainer that combines commercial flair with powerful performances. The rest of the cast and technical team will be announced soon.

With Vijay Sethupathi at the center of the action and Puri Jagannadh at the helm, this untitled venture is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated films in the coming months. Stay tuned for more updates as the shoot progresses.

## ‘Ratsasan 2’ Announced: Will Bellamkonda Reprise His Role in Telugu Remake?

In a time where sequels are gaining momentum across Indian cinema, one of the most acclaimed thrillers, Ratsasan (2018), is all set to return with a sequel. The Tamil psychological crime thriller, directed by Ramkumar and starring Vishnu Vishal, is widely regarded as a benchmark in the genre for its intense storytelling and gripping suspense.

Tamil media reports confirm that Ratsasan 2 is officially in the works. Vishnu Vishal, who played the lead in the original, will reprise his role, and Ramkumar will return as director. In a recent interview, Vishnu Vishal shared his excitement about collaborating with Ramkumar again and said that filming for the sequel will commence soon. The announcement has sparked interest among Telugu cinema fans as well, with many wondering if Bellamkonda Sreenivas will take on the Telugu remake of the se-



quel. Rakshasudu, the Telugu adaptation of Ratsasan, was a major hit and is considered one of the best performances in Bellamkonda’s career. With Ratsasan 2 now greenlit, fans are eager to see if Rakshasudu 2 will also materialize.

However, any confirmation about a Telugu remake is expected only after Ratsasan 2 is released. For now, it remains speculation. Meanwhile, Bellamkonda has been seeking a career revival. After the success of Rakshasudu, he hasn’t delivered a major hit in the last five years. His most recent film, Bhairavam, underperformed at the box office. He is currently working on upcoming projects including Kishkindhapuri, Haindava, and Tyson Naidu. Whether or not he steps into the Rakshasudu universe again, fans are hopeful that a gripping thriller remake could bring the much-needed breakthrough in his career.