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# A MINISTER IN TROUBLE BECAUSE OF HIS OSD

TPN | ARN Mahesh

Yes, a Minister is in trouble — and the reason is his Officer on Special Duty (OSD). He is currently facing heat from the top leadership. Interestingly, this OSD had previously worked with a YSRCP Minister and is allegedly still affiliated with the YSRCP. Despite this, he managed to secure a position under the current Minister. As per buzz, the CMO is now preparing to sack him from the post as early as possible, despite objections from the Minister.

In the initial days of the Alliance Government, it was discovered that several OSDs and PROs with YSRCP affiliations had been appointed. Chief Minister N. CHANDRABABU NAIDU and Minister LOKESH ordered an internal inquiry through their trusted network and directed that such individuals be removed.

Ironically, the inquiry was



initiated because of this very OSD, who is still serving under the current Minister. Surprisingly, while others were removed following the inquiry, this OSD managed to escape scrutiny and continues in his position. The action was initiated because of him — yet he alone remained untouched.

Allegations against the OSD include conducting unofficial deals and collecting money in the name of the Ministry. Whether the Minister is aware of this or not, the OSD is reportedly continu-



ing these activities. Even the Minister's family members are trying to distance themselves from him, urging the Minister to remove him to avoid further damage to his reputation. However, for reasons unknown, the Minister continues to support him.

Chief Minister CHANDRABA-BU NAIDU is reportedly displeased with the Ministry's performance, especially since it has consistently failed on several key issues. These failures have indirectly allowed former Chief Minister Y.S. JAGAN MOHAN REDDY to gain political momentum and re-emerge as a significant threat. This has only added to Mr. Naidu's frustration.

In all these developments, the blame is allegedly falling on the OSD. He is accused of failing to provide timely and accurate information to the Minister and the Government, and of neglecting to alert leadership about onground issues and public grievances. As a result, the Minister remained unaware of agitations and protests within his department.

The Minister is clearly backing the OSD — there's no doubt about that. But the key question circulating in both political and bureaucratic circles is: how is this OSD continuing in his role despite the Chief Minister's Office being fully aware of his failures? If everything goes as expected, he may be removed very



# Six Crushed to Death in Quarry Collapse

TPN Correspondent | Bapatla

A tragic accident struck Bapatla district on Sunday morning when a massive rockfall at a granite quarry near Ballikurava claimed the lives of six workers. The incident occurred at the Satyakrishna Granite Quarry, where granite slabs suddenly collapsed on the workers engaged in routine tasks.

According to eyewitnesses, 16 workers were present at the site, most of whom hailed from Odisha. Without warning, large granite rocks gave way, burying several workers under the debris. Rescue teams rushed to the scene and have so far recovered four bodies. Efforts are ongoing to retrieve the remaining trapped work-

Ten others were injured in the collapse, and four of them are reported to be in critical condition. The injured were immediately transported by ambulance to Narasaraopet Hospital for treatment.

Officials suspect that a lack of proper safety measures contributed to the disaster. Preliminary reports suggest that the quarry management failed to implement necessary safety protocols, leading to the fatal rockfall. District Collector and SP have re-

viewed the situation and are coordinating rescue operations with local authorities.

The six workers who tragically lost their lives in the Bapatla granite quarry accident have been identified as: Danda Badatya (48 years), Takun Dalai (37 years), Banamala Chehra (30 years), Bhaskar Bisoi (40 years), Santosh Goud (36 years), and Mussajan (43 years).

CM Chandrababu Expresses Grief

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed deep sorrow over the tragic incident at a quarry in Ballikurava, Bapatla district, where four workers lost their lives and several others sustained serious injuries. The mishap occurred when heavy rocks fell on the laborers working at the site.

Reacting swiftly, the Chief Minister spoke with officials and directed them to ensure that the injured receive the best possible medical care. He also instructed authorities to conduct a thorough inquiry into the cause of the accident. Expressing anguish over the loss of lives, Chandrababu conveyed his condolences to the families of the deceased and promised that all necessary steps would be taken to prevent such incidents in the future.

# Nara Lokesh's Comments Ignite Water Dispute

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Minister Nara Lokesh defended the proposal and stated that the state would seek Central approval. His remarks came just two weeks after both states agreed to form a committee to resolve river water dis-

Lokesh, son of CM N. Chandraba-

objections and asked whether Tel- Naidu had once written to the Cen- informed Parliament that Banakangana had obtained approvals for tre opposing Kaleshwaram. Tensions have reignited between the Kaleshwaram project. "We are Telangana Deputy CM Mallu Bhat- was deferred by the Expert Apprais-Andhra Pradesh and Telangana diverting Godavari floodwaters that ti Vikramarka termed Lokesh's re- al Committee until the Central over the Godavari-Banakacherla would otherwise flow into the sea. marks as misleading and insisted Water Commission assesses inter-Link Project after Andhra Pradesh Why object?" he asked. He accused that Telangana has rightful claims state concerns. Andhra Pradesh has leaders of politicizing the Banakacherla project for regional gain.

His comments sparked immediate during its 10-year rule. The Conreactions from Telangana's Congress government and opposition BRS. BRS leader Harish Rao accused CM Revanth Reddy of compromising Telangana's interests to please

bu Naidu, questioned Telangana's Naidu. He reminded Lokesh that Meanwhile, the Union Government

to floodwaters. He blamed BRS for failing to utilise Telangana's share gress clarified that CM Revanth Reddy and Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy had already approached the Centre to halt the project.

acherla's environmental clearance maintained that the project, which aims to divert 200 TMC of floodwater to Rayalaseema and coastal regions, poses no threat to Telangana. As the committee promised by both states is yet to be formed, political tension continues to grow over the



# **Pulivendula ZPTC By-Poll Heats Up Political Turf War**

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

The Pulivendula ZPTC by-election in Kadapa district has become a highstakes political contest between the ruling YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) and the opposition alliance. Though it's a local-level election, it has garnered statewide attention due to the significance of the Pulivendula constituency, the political base of former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan

The by-election was necessitated following the death of the sitting YSRCP ZPTC member. The party has now fielded the late leader's son, hoping to capitalize on both sympathy and cadre votes. On the other hand, the TDP has fielded the wife of its Pulivendula in-charge BTech Ravi, reportedly after party chief N. Chandrababu Naidu assured Rs 100 crore the by-election is no longer a political for local development if their candidate wins.

Electioneering is in full swing, with leaders from both sides aggressively campaigning. TDP's BTech Ravi has the election without focusing on dejoined forces with Jammalamadugu MLA Adinarayana Reddy to intensify the attack on YSRCP. They expressed



Minister Chandrababu Naidu. Meanwhile, YSRCP state joint secretary Kishore Busipati made sharp comments on Sunday, alleging that contest but has become a gambling match orchestrated by the opposition. He accused TDP and BJP leaders of misleading voters and politicizing

velopment issues. Busipati criticized TDP leaders for nistic, affirming confidence in their trying to provoke the public with candidate's win.

dramatic statements and said they have no real understanding of the issues faced by the people. He further alleged that BTech Ravi is contesting only to pocket the promised Rs 100 crore and has no genuine interest in development. YSRCP leaders stressed that a victory in Pulivendula would validate the party's governance and allow the state government to implement promised welfare schemes. They dismissed the opposition's campaign as baseless and opportu-

### **Another Legal Trouble** for Kodali Nani

TPN Correspondent Visakhapatnam

Former minister and senior YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leader Kodali Nani has been served notices by Visakhapatnam police in connection with a case registered in 2024. According to police sources, the notices were issued under Section 41 of the CrPC, directing the former minister to appear for questioning related to the case.

filed by Anjanapriya, a student of Andhra University's Law College, in 2024 at the Three Town Police Station in Visakhapatnam. In her complaint, Anjanapriya alleged that Kodali Nani used objectionable and derogatory language against opposition leaders during his tenure as a minister in the YSRCP government. She specifically mentioned TDP chief N. Chandrababu Naidu and his son Nara Lokesh as targets of Nani's verbal abuse.

Anjanapriya claimed that the tone and nature of Nani's comments were not only politically inflammatory but also deeply offensive to her as a woman. Taking cognizance of



The case stems from a complaint the complaint, the police had earlier registered a case under sections 353(2), 352, and 351(4) of the Information Technology Act.

> The investigation, which had been ongoing, took a step forward over the weekend when Visakhapatnam police visited Kodali Nani's residence in Gudivada, Krishna district. The notices were personally delivered to him on Sunday, directing him to appear before the investigating officers for further inquiry.

> This fresh development marks an escalation in the case, with authorities intensifying their efforts to complete the investigation. It remains to be seen how Kodali Nani will respond to the summons.



# **Modi Govt Supports Denotified Tribes: PVN Madhav**

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

As part of the upcoming Vimukti Dinotsavam (Liberation Day) on August 31, BJP Andhra Pradesh Unit held a round table meeting with leaders from Denotified Nomadic Tribes (DNTs) in Vijayawada. BJP State President PVN Madhav, who addressed the gathering, highlighted the Modi government's initiatives for the long-neglected communities.

Madhav recalled how, in 1957, the British colonial regime criminalized several nomadic tribes as thieves and bandits, branding them unjustly. Though they were legally liberated on August 31, 1952, many still lack recognition and rights in independent India.

He credited former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee for initiating a commission to study the status of these tribes. The commission noted that India's diverse culture under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's lead-



owes much to the nomadic tribes. Post-2014,

ership, several steps were taken to officially recognize these tribes and uplift their living standards.

Madhav said such tribes are present in many parts of Andhra Pradesh, and BJP has already conducted a study to understand their socio-political conditions. A key finding, he said, was that lack of voting rights continues to hinder their growth and identity. He announced that BJP is formulating a comprehensive action plan to protect the dignity and development of DNTs, and aims to celebrate "Vajrotsavams" (Diamond Jubilee Celebrations) in all districts by August 31. A month-long program titled Sphoorti will be launched, with special events to be held on August 30. The event also saw the participation of BJP MLA Dr. Parthasarathi, former IAS officer Dasari Srinivas Rao, BJP State General Secretary Bitra Shivannarayana, and OBC Morcha State President Rongala Gopi Srinivas.

# **TTD Chairman Slams LV Subrahmanyam's Comments**

TPN Correspondent | Tirumala

TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu has strongly criticized former TTD Executive Officer and retired IAS officer L.V. Subrahmanyam for his recent remarks opposing the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in streamlining darshan procedures at Tirumala.

Reacting to Subrahmanyam's suggestion that enabling darshan within one hour using AI is unfeasible and that TTD should withdraw the plan, B.R. Naidu said such comments reflect a lack of understanding of modern technology. "It is unfortunate that a AI," he said.

Naidu explained that the TTD governing body



senior officer with experience as TTD EO is that ordinary devotees can have darshan of making such uninformed statements about Lord Venkateswara within two hours, avoiding long hours or even days of waiting in compartments and sheds. He stated that the is introducing AI with the goal of ensuring initiative is being developed with technical

support from major companies like Google and TCS and is being implemented at no cost, using donor contributions.

He emphasized that when the world is embracing technological advancement, TTD has every right to adapt to it for the benefit of pilgrims. "How is it right to criticize this noble effort as a waste?" he questioned.

Naidu further clarified that the AI system is being designed to reduce waiting times and enhance the overall experience of devotees, not create confusion. "Subrahmanyam's suggestion to abandon AI will only mislead devotees and create unnecessary panic," he said. He concluded by reiterating that TTD remains committed to modernizing darshan arrangements while upholding spiritual sanctity and condemned Subrahmanyam's comments as misleading and baseless.

# **Govt Orders Re-Verification** of Assigned Lands

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Assembly Speaker Ayyanna Patrudu has written a letter to Minister Anagani Satya Prasad, urging a comprehensive inquiry into alleged land encroachments that took place during the previous YSRCP regime in Visakhapatnam. The Speaker alleged that large tracts of land, including those belonging to ex-servicemen, were unlawfully taken over under the pretext of issuing No Objection Certificates (NOCs). Jana Sena Corporator Peethala Murthi Yadav had earlier raised serious allegations regarding irregularities in granting NOCs for lands belonging to retired military personnel. Following this, Speaker Ayyanna Patrudu ordered an inquiry and emphasized the need for a thorough and swift investigation into the matter.

Minister Anagani Satya Prasad has also echoed concerns about massive irregularities that occurred during the past government. He claimed that lands were looted in the name of "freehold" conversion and stated that the current government is already conducting a re-verification process. He alleged that about 6 lakh acres of assigned lands, especially those under Section 22A, were illegally taken and sold by the previous administration.

Satya Prasad further accused former Chief The minister reassured the public that the manding transparency and accountability.



Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy of orchestrating these scams with a criminal mindset. He emphasized that leaders of the YSRCP had threatened and grabbed lands from weaker sections and ordinary citizens during their tenure.

present coalition government is committed to protecting the rights of all communities and will uncover all land scams through systematic re-verification and legal action. The issue has sparked significant political reactions, and opposition leaders are de-

### **Minister Narayana Returns After Foreign Tour**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development, P. Narayana, has concluded his weeklong official tour to Singapore and Malaysia. The minister is scheduled to return to Vijayawada.

During the seven-day visit, Minister Narayana studied various urban development models, with a specific focus on infrastructure that could benefit the capital city Amaravati. His tour included detailed inspections of high-rise building construction techniques, road networks, public transportation systems, convention centres, waste management plants, and public parks.

The purpose of this study tour was to explore effective planning strategies and identify best practices being followed in globally acclaimed cities. The minister expressed interest in adopting these successful models to ensure sustainable and world-class infrastructure development in Amaravati.

Officials accompanying the minister documented various approaches used in Singapore and Malaysia for managing urban spaces efficiently. These will be presented for discussion with planning authorities in Andhra Pradesh for implementation.

Minister Narayana reiterated the state's commitment to making Amaravati a global city with top-tier civic amenities, and stated that international collaboration and learning are vital to achieving this vision.

### **Assure Full Support** to Victims' Families: **Ministers**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

State Labour Minister Vasamsetti Subhash expressed deep sorrow over the tragic quarry accident in Ballikurava of Bapatla district, which claimed the lives of six workers. Terming the incident as highly unfortunate, the minister conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. He directed medical authorities to provide the best possible treatment to the injured and wished for their speedy recovery. He assured that the government would extend full support to every affected family.

Transport, Youth and Sports Minister Mandipalli

Ram Prasad Reddy also expressed profound grief over the accident. He described the loss of four workers and the serious injuries sustained by others as deeply painful. He offered his condolences to the families of the deceased and hoped for the quick recovery of the injured. Emphasising the need to prevent such tragedies, he urged for strict measures to be taken. District in-charge Minister Kolusu Parthasarathi too expressed shock over the incident. He extended deep sympathies to the families of the deceased and instructed officials to ensure the best medical care for the injured. Speaking with the District Collector and Superintendent of Police over phone, he directed them to expedite rescue operations. The minister assured that the government would fully support the affected families. He also ordered a thorough investigation into the accident and instructed the Collector to take necessary steps. He made it clear that strict

The tragic incident at Ballikurava quarry has sent shockwaves across the state, triggering strong responses from ministers, who have pledged swift action and complete support to the victims and their families.

action would be taken against those responsible for

### Cow Thieves in Luxury Cars, Police in Deep Sleep?

TPN Correspondent | Secunderabad

The incident of a gang drugging cows and stealing them using luxury vehicles in the Monda Market area has created a stir, with CCTV footage of the thefts going viral on social media. The gang reportedly operated in Bandi Met, Second Bazaar, and other parts of

allege that the thieves transported the drugged cattle in Innova and Ertiga vehicles.

After similar incidents occurred in two locations, residents alerted the police. CCTV footage showed the gang taking cows away from residential areas. Shockingly, such thefts are reportedly

the city under Monda Division. Locals taking place in multiple parts of the city using similar methods. While visuals are being widely shared online, the police have yet to arrest the gang. In a related development, the Secunderabad Market Police Station has faced backlash over alleged overaction. Restrictions were reportedly imposed on broadcasting videos related

to the cow thefts. Locals blame the rising thefts on inadequate night patrolling and the police's failure to act despite multiple complaints.

North Zone DCP Perumal held a press conference acknowledging the incidents and confirmed that a special team has been formed to catch the culprits. However, he did not provide any specific details about the accused. Residents are frustrated that no arrests have been made so far.





### Minister Kondapalli Distributes CM Relief Fund



TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram

Minister for MSME, SERP, and NRI Affairs, Kondapalli Srinivas, reiterated the state government's commitment supporting distressed families through timely fiday, the minister distributed cheques sanctioned under the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) to beneficiaries at his camp office in Vizianagaram.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Srinivas said that nancial assistance. On Sun- the government led by Chief Naidu is always at the forefront in extending a helping hand to families in crisis. He emphasized that providing financial aid through the CM Relief Fund reflects the government's compassion toward people in need.

Two handed over CMRF cheques ries, who expressed gratiduring the event. Kanchi Padmavathi from Regubilli village in Gantyada mandal received a cheque for ₹1,16,414, while Patnana Suresh's son, Surya Sathvik, from M. Kothavalasa village in Gajapathinagaram worth ₹48,401.

aid, Minister Srinivas also presented personal letters emergencies.

Minister Nara Chandrababu written by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, wishing the beneficiaries a speedy recovery and conveying the state government's solidarity with them during difficult times.

> The program was attended by local leaders and family beneficiaries were members of the beneficiatude for the timely support. The distribution event was marked by a sense of hope and reassurance, underscoring the government's intent to stand with people during their hardships.

Minister Srinivas assured mandal, was given a cheque that more such interventions would continue across Along with the financial the state to assist families facing medical or financial

## **AP to Attract Rs.10 Lakh Cr Investments: TG Bharath**

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

Industries Minister TG Bharath stated that several companies have come forward to invest over ₹10 lakh crore in the state, following the recent industrial summit held in Singapore under the leadership of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. Speaking at a press meet at the Kurnool camp office on Sunday, the minister highlighted that numerous industries are showing interest in establishing operations across various industrial zones, including Orvakal in Kurnool district.

The minister expressed confidence that the YSR Congress Party would be limited to single-digit seats in the upcoming elections. He accused the previous government of neglecting industrial development, which led many companies to shift operations to other states. In contrast, the current coalition government is taking proactive steps to revive industrial growth, he said.

Bharath alleged that some opposition leaders were trying to block investments by sending emails to companies discouraging them from entering the state.

He warned of strict action against such individuals and announced that the state would soon roll out an unparalleled industrial policy to attract investments.

POLITICS

On the liquor scam, Bharath asserted that no one involved-regardless of their influence—would be spared. He stated that the magnitude of corruption in Andhra Pradesh surpassed even the Delhi liquor scam, and promised that all guilty parties would face justice. He also criticized the opposition for supporting individuals who used obscene language against women, saying they were visiting such persons in jail instead of condemning their actions. The minister assured that all pending irrigation projects in Kurnool district would be completed and emphasized plans to reduce migration from the region through focused development. He aded that the government is developing the Anantapur-Kurnool industrial corridor and nearly 90% of the work related to water supply for the Orvakal Industrial Park has been completed. Plans are also underway to upgrade the Orvakal Airport under a public-private partnership (PPP) model.



# Societies Must Uphold Chandrababu's Vision: MLA

TPN Correspondent | Palnadu

MLA Bhashyam Praveen stated that inspired by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, cooperative societies across the state are progressing towards development. He participated as the chief guest at the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected governing body of the Narukullapadu Primary Agricultural Credit Society on Sunday.

Bhashyam Jagadeesh was sworn in as the Chairperson, while Kamineni Poornachandra Rao and Maddi Dhatri Narayana (Maddi Babu) took oath as committee members. MLA Praveen administered the oath and advised the new committee to work with responsibility towards farmers. He emphasized that societies should function selflessly for the upliftment of farmers in the constituency and align with the spirit and developmental goals set by Chief



Minister Chandrababu.

He noted that the coalition government is implementing numerous welfare schemes for farmers and called on the society members to contribute actively to those goals.

Several prominent figures attended the event, including MPP Mekala Hanumantha Rao, Bhashyam Educational Institutions Chairman Bhashyam Ramakrishna, TDP leaders Venna Sambasiva Reddy, Patan Noorjahan, Mandal TDP President Manchineni Raja, Chirumamilla Souri, Vasantharao, KPR Medical Naveen, and Sheikh Jani.

The event saw grand rallies across region. Chairperson-elect Bhashyam Jagadeesh led a massive rally of tractors and bikes from 14 Mile Center to the society office under the leadership of MLA Praveen.

Likewise, Kamineni Poornachandra Rao organized a DJ-backed rally from his native village, Dharanikota. From Amaravati, BJP leader Narayana was led in a car and bike rally to the venue by Amaravati MPP Mekala Hanumantha Rao, BJP Mandal President Vadaparthi Pullarao, and Arya Vysya leaders.

## **YSRCP Played** with Public **Health: Durgesh**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Minister for Excise Kandula Durgesh launched a sharp attack on the YSR Congress Party (YS-RCP), stating that the ongoing liquor scam investigation is unmasking the party's alleged wrongdoings. Speaking in Amaravati on August 3, Durgesh said that those who played with people's lives by distributing substandard liquor during the YSRCP regime are now facing sleepless nights.He claimed that the developments in the ₹3,500 crore liquor scam are sending shockwaves through the YSRCP leadership. "Every day, a new revelation is coming out. The leaders who orchestrated this liquor business are now mentally blocked, unable to justify their actions," he remarked.

Durgesh said the use of spurious liquor under the previous regime deprived citizens of quality branded alcohol and jeopardized public health. He further alleged that YSRCP used the liquor trade as a tool for political funding and manipulation.

Highlighting the reforms introduced by the current government, Durgesh stated that the new liquor policy has brought transparency and quality into the system. "We have ensured better administration of depots, implemented track-and-trace mechanisms, and made the supply order system transparent," he explained. The minister asserted that under the new policy, high-quality liquor is now available to the public, with a special focus on health and safety standards. He reiterated the government's commitment to uprooting corruption in the liquor trade and ensuring accountability at every level.

## Palnadu Bags Second Spot in TDP's 'First Step'



TPN Correspondent | Narasaraopet re, including MLAs, local leaders, with 86.9%, and Narasaraopet with Governance – First Step" (Supaipalana lo Tholi Adugu) door-to-door campaign, launched by the party to mark one year of the coalition government. District TDP president Kommalapati Sridhar stated that this achievement reflects the collective efforts and dedication of party leaders and grassroots Activ-

In a press release on Sunday, Sridhar highlighted that the party cad-

In a major boost to the Telugu Des- and public representatives, visited am Party (TDP), Palnadu district has every village to explain the achieve- hard work of all leaders and volunsecured the second position in the ments of the one-year governance teers, saying this success belongs state under the prestigious "Good" under the coalition. He emphasized to them. He stated that the results that Palnadu's performance stands as proof of the commitment of the local leadership to the party's ideals and public service.

While Sri Sathya Sai district topped the campaign rankings statewide, Palnadu secured the second place. Constituencies like Vinukonda, Pedakurapadu, and Chilakaluripet achieved 100% coverage, while Macherla followed with 98.5%, Gurazala with 94.3%, Sattenapalli

71.9%. Sridhar acknowledged the signal increasing public support for the TDP, and reflect Chief Minister and party national president N. Chandrababu Naidu's vision of good governance. He added that this milestone is part of a broader effort to lead Palnadu and the state toward a brighter future.

He extended personal thanks to all TDP representatives and Activists who contributed to the campaign's success.

## **Gopireddy Slams Coalition Govt**

TPN Correspondent | Palnadu

Palnadu District YSR Congress Party (YCP) Executive President Dr. Gopireddy Srinivasa Reddy strongly criticized the coalition government's performance, stating that widespread public resentment has already begun just a year into its rule. Speaking during the YS-RCP's "Good Morning" campaign on Sunday, Dr. Gopireddy toured various areas of Narasaraopet town, including the Sri Krishna Chitralaya Theater Centre, RTC bus stand, and Vinukonda Road, highlighting civic issues and administrative negligence.

Dr. Gopireddy questioned why potholes on town roads were not being repaired despite allocated

funds. He pointed out that ₹38 lakh was withdrawn from the municipality for patchwork near the Chitralaya Theater, but there is no visible improvement. At the RTC bus stand, he noted unbearable stench and extremely poor sanitation. Though new toilets were constructed, their maintenance is reportedly substandard. Blocked drainage systems have resulted in sewage spilling onto the roads, causing severe inconvenience to the public, especially passengers. He accused the government of

taking massive loans worth thousands of crores without ensuring even basic facilities for the people. Gopireddy also criticized the

lection mechanism along Vinukonda Road and questioned the municipality for not constructing footpaths after removing roadside encroachments. He warned that without action, those cleared areas may soon be re-encroached. Dr. Gopireddy declared the YSRCP's "Good Morning Narasaraopet" campaign a success and pledged to continue their protests until the town's sanitation improves. He added that the party would keep pressure on the authorities and the government until the needs of the people are addressed. Several

participated in the campaign.



### Liquor Scam a Fabricated Conspiracy: Ambati

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Former minister and senior YSR Congress Party leader Ambati Rambabu has alleged that the liquor scam case is a fabricated narrative aimed at damaging the image of YSRCP and harassing its leaders. Speaking to reporters on Sunday, Ambati dismissed the Spe-

cial Investigation Team's (SIT) probe as politically motivated and lacking credibility.He pointed to a recently circulated video showing bundles of ₹2,000 currency notes, which the SIT claims are linked to former MLA Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy's associate. Ambati questioned the authenticity

of the video, stating that ₹2,000 notes were withdrawn from circulation by the Reserve Bank in May 2023, while the election took place in May 2024. "If the notes were no longer valid, how could they be part of election-related liquor money?" he asked, claiming this exposes the government's con-

He accused the SIT of manipulating evidence and ignoring court orders. Referring to ₹11 crore cash seized during the probe, Ambati said the ACB court had directed officials to record the serial numbers and photograph the notes. However, the SIT allegedly deposited the money in the bank without following due process, which he said was an attempt to destroy evidence. According to Ambati, the court

has since ordered that the seized notes be preserved separately so their origin can be verified. He alleged that the SIT was merely spreading baseless claims due to a lack of concrete proof and accused the Chandrababu Naiduled government of committing one wrong to cover up another. The SIT has claimed that a ₹3,500 crore liquor scam took place during the YSRCP regime (2019–2024), and investigations are ongoing.

# VIJAYAWADA

### Collector Orders Probe into Quarry Mishap



TPN Correspondent | Bapatla District Collector J. Venkata Muthe tragic granite quarry acci- families of the deceased and

dent in Ballikurava mandal of Bapatla district. He conveyed rali expressed deep shock over heartfelt condolences to the ceiving the best possible medical

The Collector held a high-level review with revenue, police, and mining officials to assess the situation. Rescue operations are ongoing to retrieve workers trapped under the debris. He directed the officials to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the causes of the mishap and ensure strict action based on the findings.

Immediate relief measures were initiated. The injured were first rushed to Addanki Government Hospital, where Joint Collector Gangadhar Goud and DMHO Dr. relief efforts.

assured that the injured are re- Vijayamma are overseeing their treatment. Those in serious condition were later shifted to Narasaraopet Government Hospital for advanced care.

> Chirala RDO and the Tahsildars has assured continuous support to the affected families.

#### of Ballikurava, Santamaguluru, Inkollu, J. Panguluru, and Korisapadu are monitoring the treatment and coordination efforts at the hospital. The administration

#### The Collector reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring worker safety and directed all departments to extend full cooperation in the inquiry and

## **KLU Launches 'Skill Palaver'**

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

KL Deemed to be University, Vaddeswaram, successfully conducted Phase 1 of its innovative project-based learning initiative titled "Skill Palaver," aimed at boosting industry readiness among students. Organized by the Skill Development Division, the event was held from the evening of Saturday to Sunday, with active participation from 1,650 pre-final year students across B.Tech, BCA, and MCA programs.

The event follows a three-phase model: Learnathon, Virtual Review, and Hackathon & Open House. Phase 1, the Learnathon, featured interactive sessions with industry professionals who introduced real-world problem statements. Students formed teams and participated in four thematic challenges: AI & ML Challenge, Cloud Challenge-1, Virtual Instrumentation Challenge, and Multiphysics Simulation

Industry mentors included Mr. G. Anil Kumar from Cisco, Mr. P. Thathammadora from IBM, Mr. G. Naga Sai Ram from Ansys, and Mr. Anish from Adya Skills. These experts offered guidance on technical bottlenecks and development strategies, laying the foundation for team-based solution

The initiative was led by Dr. T. Rama Krishna Rao, Principal of the College of Engineering, with support from departmental heads and SPOCs of CSE, ECE, EEE, ME, AI&DS, IoT, BCA, MCA, and allied departments. The Learnathon involved overnight brainstorming, followed by early morning action plan presentations by student teams.

Dr. A. Srinath, Dean - Skill Development, emphasized that "Skill Palaver is a transformative platform to foster innovation, collaboration, and industry-aligned competencies." The Vice-Chancellor Dr. GPS Varma, along with Pro Vice-Chancellors Dr. Venkatram and Dr. K. Rajasekhara Rao, extended continuous support and guidance.

With two more phases planned in August, Skill Palaver marks a significant step in integrating experiential learning with industry exposure at KL Deemed to be University.



### **Andhra Hospitals Conducts Free Heart Surgeries**

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada Andhra Hospitals, in association with the UK-based Healing Little Hearts team, successfully conducted its 35th Paediatric Cardiac Surgical Camp at the Heart & Brain Institute from Monday to Saturday. During the camp, 11 complex paediatric heart surgeries were performed free of cost by Dr. B.R. Jagannath from Shri Madhusudan Sai Hospital, Muddenahalli, Bangalore, along with the cardiac surgical team of Andhra Hospitals led by Dr. Nageswara Rao.

The surgeries addressed serious heart conditions such as Total Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Drainage (TAPVD), Partial Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Drainage (PAPVD), Tetralogy of Fallot (TOF), PA banding, and other complex anomalies.Dr. P.V. Rama Rao, Chief of Children's Services and Director, highlighted that the success rate of the camp was nearly 99%, attributing this to the combined efforts of the paediatric cardiology team led

by Dr. Vikram Kudumula, the cardiac surgical team, and the paediatric intensive care team. He noted that the hospital has been conducting children's heart surgeries for the past 10 years and has performed over 4,800 cardiac surgeries and interventions to date.

Healing Little Hearts UK has collaborated with Andhra Hospitals 34 times so far, helping perform several complex heart surgeries. Andhra Hospitals currently leads in paediatric cardiac surgeries across the Telugu states, conducting an average of 50-60 surgeries and interventions each month, totaling around 600 annually.

Dr. Rama Rao also thanked Andhra Mother & Child Foundation, Mahesh Babu (MB) Foundation, and NTR Vaidya Seva for their support. Present at the press meet were senior doctors from the cardiology and surgical teams, including Dr. Vikram, Dr. Sk. Moinuddin Chisty, Dr. Ramesh, Dr. Raghuram, and Dr. Tirupathi Rao.

### **APNGOs Extend Support** to RTC Workers



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The Andhra Pradesh Non-Gazetted Officers (APNGO) Association reaffirmed its commitment to supporting RTC workers in resolving their long-pending demands. Speaking at a state-level central committee meeting of the National Mazdoor Union (NMU) held at the RTC NMU state office in Tadepalli on Sunday, APNGO state president Alaparthi Vidyasagar stressed the importance of unity among RTC workers and government employees.

Vidyasagar assured that the APNGO and APJAC will extend complete cooperation to the NMU in its programs aimed at resolving RTC worker grievances. He emphasized that the role of government employees in implementing welfare schemes should be recognized by the government, regardless of the ruling party.

He also expressed full support for the construction of the NMU state office building and urged the government to resolve long-pending financial and service-related issues, including the setup of the PRC Committee, sanction of pending DA arrears, and clearance of staff dues. Vidyasagar demanded the restart of halted promotions in APSRTC and the filling up of over 8,000 vacant posts across the corporation.

The APNGO also called for a review of the current practice of allowing private entities to purchase electric buses and lease them to the RTC. Instead, the government should purchase the buses and appoint RTC employees to operate them. Additionally, the long-abandoned staff retirement benefits scheme should be reintroduced with necessary revisions.

NMU state president PV Ramana Reddy assured complete support from RTC staff for the successful implementation of the free bus travel scheme for women promised by the new coalition government. Several union leaders and representatives from various districts attended the meeting, coordinated by NMU general secretary Y. Srinivasa Rao.

# Minister Parthasarathi Slams Jagan

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Information and Housing Minister Kolusu Parthasarathi strongly criticized YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of resorting to personal attacks due to frustration over the coalition government's rising popularity through effective welfare programs. Speaking at the TDP central office, Parthasarathi said the opposition's undemocratic behavior was disheartening, especially from someone who once held the CM's post.

Drawing from his three-decade political experience, the minister said that even during heated opposition, leaders in the past never stooped to personal abuse. He said promoting anti-social forces to defame the ruling coalition was a dangerous political trend introduced by YSRCP. He called for democratic



itics.

The minister pointed out that the massive fall of YSRCP from 175 to just 11 seats in the recent elections seems to be the root of Jadiscourse and public welfare-centered pol- gan's desperation. He condemned Jagan's

controversial remarks against a woman legislator and questioned his public empathy for those accused in drug-related cases. Parthasarathi listed various welfare schemes implemented by the coalition government, including ₹2,720 crore in pensions to 64 lakh people monthly, ₹10,000 crore under Thalliki Vandhanam, free sand distribution, and ₹3,200 crore aid to 47 lakh farmers. He also cited 204 Annapurna canteens serving over 4 crore meals, recruitment of 16,000 teachers and police, and revival of the industrial sector through investments. He said the CM Chandrababu Naidu advises ministers to focus on constituency development and avoid political vendetta. He accused Jagan of having no respect for democratic values and labeled him an "accidental Chief Minister" whose political relevance is fading.

### Water Projects Must Be Completed Quickly: ABV

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada

Former IPS officer AB Venkateswara Rao expressed serious concern over the prolonged delay in completing water projects across Andhra Pradesh, particularly in Rayalaseema. Speaking to reporters in Vijayawada, he said it is unfortunate that the water sharing issue between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is being misused for political gain instead of addressing people's real needs.

He questioned the progress irrigation projects that were initiated over 30 years ago, asking, "For whose benefit were these projects really built—people or contractors?" Rao announced his decision to personally visit the halted and incomplete projects to provide clarity to the public on the real status of these works.

He called upon irrigation ex-



perts to raise awareness about the damages caused due to stalled projects and urged them to differentiate what is practically possible, what has necessary permissions, and what doesn't. Rao said he is initiating a discussion by inviting

farmers' association leaders, irrigation sector experts, retired engineers, and political representatives to provide a collective understanding of the challenges in the Rayalaseema region.

"If friends from Telangana are

willing to come, they are also welcome," Rao added, stressing the need for cooperative dia-

Rythu Seva Samiti President Akkineni Bhavaniprasad reiterated that every stakeholder agrees on one common pointthat Rayalaseema should receive its rightful share of water. He emphasized that the state government must announce a specific action plan to complete projects that have seen little progress over the past six

Water sector expert Lakshminarayana announced that a field visit is scheduled from August 4 to 6 to inspect various stalled irrigation projects. He confirmed that invitations have been extended to ruling and opposition party members, as well as retired engineers from Telangana, to join the assessment.

## **Lokesh Condoles** Quarry Mishap, **Promises Support**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

State Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh expressed deep sorrow over the tragic death of six workers in a granite quarry accident near Ballikurava in Bapatla district. He stated that the incident has deeply disturbed him and described the death of daily wage labourers as heart-wrenching.



Minister Lokesh directed officials to ensure all necessary medical aid is provided to the injured. He assured that the government will stand by the bereaved families and extend full support. Conveying condolences to the families of the deceased, he wished for the speedy recovery of the injured.

### **Minister Subhash Assures Support** to Auto Workers



TPN Correspondent |

Ramachandrapuram Minister for Labour, Factories, Boilers & Insurance Medical Services Vasamsetti Subhash assured that the state government stands firmly with auto workers and will implement all promised welfare schemes.

He was speaking as the chief guest at the Andhra Autowala Conference held at Ambedkar Community Hall in Amalapuram on Sunday.Addressing the gathering, Minister Subhash said the state will back the hardworking auto drivers who earn their liveHe advised all workers to follow traffic rules and cooperate with authorities. Stressing the importance of safety, he urged drivers to avoid overspeeding and emphasized the need for every auto worker to have personal accident insurance.

various demands, highlighting concerns that free affect their livelihoods. They requested alternaand protection under the prestigious P4 scheme for economically families. Proposals includ- union leaders.

lihood through sheer effort. ed linking autos with RTC services for first-mile/lastmile connectivity and replacing diesel autos with electric ones, suggesting that industries or corporations purchase old vehicles to reduce pollution.

They also appealed for the establishment of coopera-Union leaders presented tive stores in every district to provide auto spare parts at affordable prices. Re-RTC bus travel for women sponding positively, Minstarting August 15 might ister Subhash promised to take all concerns to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu tive employment support Naidu and ensure justice for auto workers. The event concluded with a grand febackward licitation of the minister by

### **Organ Donation Can Save Lives: Collector**

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

Organ donation is a noble act that holds the power to save many lives, said Nellore District Collector Anand, while urging people to become more aware and actively promote the cause. Speaking at an awareness seminar held at Kasturba Kalakshetram on Sunday to mark National Organ Donation Day, the Collector emphasized the urgent need for grassroots-level campaigns to encourage voluntary participation in organ donation.

The event was jointly organized by corporate and government hospitals. It began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the Collector, Municipal Commis-

sioner, and several doctors. Collector Anand highlighted the lack of public awareness on organ donation and stressed that one person's donation can bring light into the lives of ten others. He promised full support from district authorities to conduct awareness programs and encouraged the involvement of medical professionals, particularly those at the Nellore Government Hospital, where over 1,000 patients are treated daily.

Dr. Rambabu from Visakhapatnam Institute of Medical Sciences gave a PowerPoint presentation on the importance and legal process of organ donation. He noted that over 5 lakh people in India die every



year due to the shortage of organs. He urged everyone to register on the Jeevandan portal and clarified that donation is a legal, voluntary act that can be done by both living and deceased individuals with consent.Collector Anand also honored Venkataramana, whose wife Jyothi, a brain-dead in the program.

patient, had donated her organs and saved multiple lives. Officials expressed the hope that her inspiring act would encourage many others. Municipal Commissioner Nandan, DM&HO Sujatha, and several medical professionals, students, and hospital staff participated

## **Red Sandalwood Smuggler Caught**



TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

In a late-night operation, Task Force police apprehended a red sandalwood smuggler near Khajipet in Kadapa district and seized nine logs of red sandalwood along with the vehicle used for smuggling. Acting on a tip-off and under the supervision of Task Force SP P. Srinivas and DSP G. Balireddy, a special team led by RSI Muralidhar Reddy, in coordination with local Forest Beat Officer Linga Naik, launched a combing operation in the Khajipet area on Saturday night.

As the team approached the Paturu burial ground vicinity, they spotted a group of individuals loading red sandalwood logs into a car. Upon sensing police presence, the suspects attempted to flee the scene. However, the Task Force team successfully apprehended one person, who was later identified as a native of Tamil Nadu.

The police seized nine red sandalwood logs and the vehicle used in the smuggling operation. Both the accused and the seized materials were shifted to the Tirupati Task Force Police Station for further action. Head Constable Subramanyam Raju has registered a case and launched a thorough investigation into the smuggling network.

Officials stated that the operation was part of intensified efforts by Task Force Head L. Subbarayudu to curb illegal red sandalwood transportation in the region. Further raids and surveillance activities are expected to continue in vulnerable areas. Authorities have warned smugglers of stringent legal action and urged the public to report suspicious activities related to red sandalwood movement.

### **Sana Satish Files ACA Secretary** Nomination

TPN Correspondent | Kakinada

Rajya Sabha member Sana Satish Babu filed his nomination for the post of Secretary of the Andhra Cricket Association (ACA) on Sunday ahead of the upcoming 2025-2028 elections. The election process has officially begun, with the polls scheduled for August 16. Satish Babu submitted his nomination papers at the Cricket Stadium in Mangalagiri to election returning officer Nimmagadda Ramesh Kumar. He was accompanied by a large group of supporters and friends who extended their encouragement and solidarity as he filed his papers.

Satish Babu, a prominent figure in sports administration and politics, is expected to play a key role in shaping the future of cricket in Andhra Pradesh if elected. His nomination is being viewed with interest by many stakeholders in the cricketing fraternity.

The ACA elections have drawn considerable attention this year, with several candidates vying for key positions. The nomination filing marks a crucial step in the run-up to what is expected to be a closely watched election.



### **MLC Inspects IIIT Mess, Finds Irregularities**

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

MLC Bhoomireddy Ramgopal Reddy conducted a surprise inspection at Idupulapaya IIIT following student protests over substandard food being served in the hostel mess. The inspection, carried out on Sunday, revealed several irregularities, including unhygienic conditions, food adulteration, and alleged corruption by mess contractors.

Accompanied by IIIT Director Kumaraswamy Gupta, Administrative Officer Dr. Ravikumar, and other officials, Ramgopal Reddy personally inspected the mess facilities. He expressed strong dissatisfaction over poor sanitation, pointing out instances of mess staff urinating near food preparation areas and unclean handwashing stations. Students had complained that they felt nauseous due to the unhygienic conditions.

The MLC stated that mess contractors were falsely portraying meals as being served free of cost while indulging in large-scale corruption. He found that contractors were using two types of rice, including cheap, polished ration rice, and diluting milk served to students. Reports also indicated that students were being treated rudely by mess staff.



In response, Reddy ordered the suspension of payments to mess contractors and warned that he would stage a protest if bills were processed without proper verification. He emphasized that the government has decided to hand over meal services at all four RGUKT IIIT campuses to the Akshaya Patra Foundation by the end of August. The goal is to ensure nutritious, hygienic meals for all students. Meanwhile, District Food Safety Officer Haritha confirmed that food samples and raw materials had been seized and sent for lab testing. She assured that action would be taken based on the test results.

The MLC reaffirmed the government's commitment to providing quality education and basic facilities, promising continued efforts to address student concerns.

### Addl. Commissioner Accused in Tax Scam: YSRCP



TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

YSRCP state joint secretary and 47th division corporator Pakka Suresh Kumar has raised serious allegations regarding irregularities in garbage tax collections by the Kadapa Municipal Corporation. Addressing the media on Sunday, he criticized the authorities for blaming only lower-level staff while ignoring the involvement of senior officials.

Suresh Kumar revealed that when the tax collections began, the governing council was not even consulted. He said a resolution was passed to collect only ₹50 per household, which was sent to the government, but the officials ignored it and imposed arbitrary amounts.

He accused the then in-charge and now Additional Commissioner of overseeing the illegal collections and appointing close associates for the task. He demanded a complete audit of monthly tax collections, payments made to contractors, and any extra amounts drawn from general funds. Suresh asserted that only the removal of the Additional Commissioner would ensure a fair investigation. He also criticized the government for delaying the cancellation of garbage tax and failing to provide alternatives for sanitation, leaving the municipal body in chaos.

He urged the collector to act immediately and called on citizens to join the protest organized by the YSRCP Trade Union.

### **Second Theft in a Month Alarms Locals**

TPN Correspondent | Nidadavolu

A major burglary was reported on Saturday night in Sanjeevayya Nagar, commonly known as Bukkapeta, located in the heart of Nidadavolu town, East Godavari district. Unidentified thieves broke into the residence of Nanubolu Venkateswara Rao in Bukkapeta village and made off with gold and cash.

According to initial information, the house had been unoccupied for the past week, which likely gave the miscreants an opportunity to strike. The theft came to light after 10 p.m. on Saturday when the family returned home and found the doors broken. They immediately alerted the local police.

The burglars are believed to have stolen 20 tolas of gold ornaments and approximately ₹50,000 in cash. Police arrived at the scene, conducted a preliminary inspection, and registered a case. Investigations are currently underway.

This is the second burglary reported in Bukkapeta this month, raising serious con-

cerns among local residents. The recurring incidents have created an atmosphere of fear and insecurity in the area. Locals are urging police to increase night patrols and install surveillance cameras to curb the growing menace.

In an effort to identify the culprits, police are reviewing CCTV footage from nearby areas and collecting other technical evidence. Residents are also being questioned for any suspicious activity noticed in recent days. The repeated thefts have highlighted lapses in local security and the need for heightened vigilance. Authorities are being urged to expedite the investigation and bring the culprits to justice at the earliest.



#### Mother, Two **Daughters Killed Brutally**

TPN Correspondent | Kakinada

A gruesome triple murder has shaken the town of Samarlakota in Peddapuram, Kakinada district, where unidentified assailants brutally killed a woman and her two young daughters. The victims have

been identified as Mulapatti Madhuri stant death. Locals discovered the horrif- homicide has triggered fear and outrage (30), Pushpakumari (5), and Jessilona (4). According to initial reports, the incident occurred in Sitarama Colony, where the attackers allegedly smashed the victims' heads with a blunt object, leading to in-

bors and family members. The triple collect crucial evidence from the scene.

ic scene and alerted the police, who have in the area. Police teams are scanning launched an investigation. The motive be- CCTV footage from the vicinity and have hind the brutal killings is yet to be deter- formed special teams to trace the culprits. mined, and police are questioning neigh- Forensic experts have been called in to



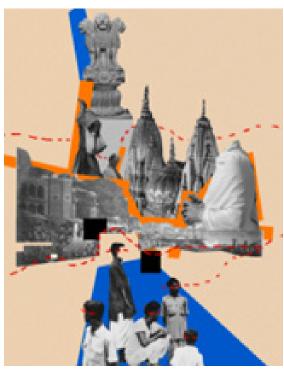
# How Majoritarianism Is Hindering India's Progress

India's development is being significantly stalled by deep-rooted religio-political narratives and cultural mindsets, particularly those related to majoritarianism and castebased beliefs. Economists Dean Spears and Dean Coffey have highlighted how the ancient 'sanatan' ideas of purity, impurity, and the untouchability mindset continue to obstruct progress, especially in critical areas like public health and child welfare.

The country's intellectual elite seems caught in a state of complacency and denial, fueled by a mix of religious pride, political rhetoric, and the allure of a supposed "Vishwaguru" or global leadership role. This collective stupor prevents honest assessments of India's real position in the world. For example, many educated young Indians overestimate the country's economic standing, believing India to be among the top 20 economies globally, when in reality it ranks far below. This gap between perception and reality indicates a troubling disconnect from facts.

A striking example of this denial is how some people refuse to acknowledge persistent caste-based practices despite clear evidence. For instance, manual scavenging—a degrading and dangerous occupation historically forced on certain caste groups—still persists today, even though many prefer to believe otherwise. Such denial feeds into the country's developmental challenges.

One of the most damaging consequences of this mindset is India's struggle with sanitation and public health. Even after the Swachh Bharat Mission aimed to improve sanitation, open defecation remains widespread in several states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. This practice directly contributes to high rates of



to World Bank data, India's child mortality rate is alarmingly high—worse than many poorer countries, and significantly higher than other BRICS nations like China, Brazil, and Russia.

Spears and Coffey's research reveals that poverty alone cannot explain these poor health outcomes. India's child mortality rate is 20% higher than countries with similar poverty levels, translating to around 170,000 avoidable child deaths annually. This staggering figure is equivalent to the total child deaths in the entire Americas combined. The root causes lie in the socio-cultural stigma around sanitation, linked to notions of purity and caste discrimination.

This cultural barrier affects the acceptance child mortality and malnutrition. According and usage of toilets, hindering improve-

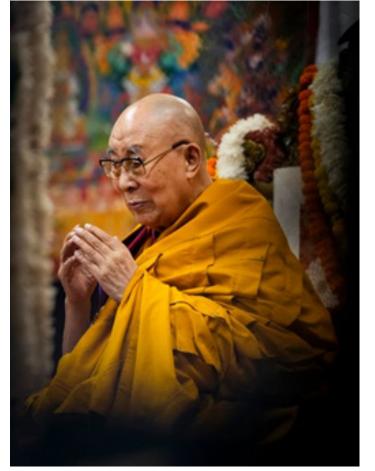
ments in public health. Tackling such entrenched beliefs requires honest reflection and a willingness to challenge existing prejudices—something that India's current political environment, dominated by majoritarian and Hindu nationalist ideologies, resists.

Yet, there are glimpses of alternative politics that could challenge this status quo. The recent alliance of the Thackeray brothers in Maharashtra, focusing on linguistic rather than religious identity, echoes Tamil Nadu's long-standing politics of linguistic pride. Tamil Nadu's emphasis on regional identity has fostered better education, healthcare, and economic outcomes, providing a model for development rooted in inclusivity rather than exclusivity.

Tamil Nadu's proactive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, especially its focus on remedial education for primary school children, drew global attention and highlighted the benefits of governance that prioritizes social welfare over religious or majoritarian narratives.

While it remains uncertain how deeply Maharashtra's new political alignment will embrace linguistic identity or whether it may also generate new challenges like language chauvinism, it offers hope for breaking the current "Vishwaguru" induced stupor.

For India to truly advance, it must confront and dismantle the majoritarian and castebased mental blocks that hold back millions of its citizens. The role of a strong, pluralistic opposition is crucial in awakening the nation to its realities and pushing for inclusive, evidence-based development policies. Only then can India overcome these cultural barriers and realize its vast potential.



# **Touchstones:** Glimpse of a divine world

In a world increasingly overwhelmed by noise—fueled by the relentless flow of information from the Internet, AI, and social media platforms like Instagram and Meta—we often find ourselves drowning in facts, opinions, and at times, outright hostility. Many feel compelled to broadcast every trivial detail of their lives, from the latest fashion choices to mundane views from their windows, driven by a deep fear of missing out or being invisible. This ceaseless clamor has led to rising anxiety and a pervasive sense of low self-worth among many.

Yet amid this chaos, one of the greatest losses is our detachment from the simple joys of solitude and silence, the calming beauty of nature, and the quiet wonders that uplift the soul—a bird building its nest, the soothing notes of music, or the peaceful moments of closing one's eyes and breathing deeply. While these may sound like clichés, they hold a profound truth that can ground us in times of turmoil.

I invite you to pause and reflect on a living embodiment of such wisdom and serenity—the Dalai Lama, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Unlike many public figures who seek constant attention, he remains mostly secluded in his mountain retreat. Yet, through an unseen and gentle magic, he continues to inspire millions worldwide. His rare appearances on screens convey calmness and deep joy, resonating far beyond words.

That same year marked 50 years since the Dalai Lama's exile from Tibet. He wished to express gratitude to India for sheltering him and his entourage, but the government, concerned about diplomatic sensitivities, declined to host the event. Fortunately, the India International Centre stepped in, thanks to the efforts of Kapila Vatsyayan, offering space for a Tibetan exhibition inaugurated by the Dalai Lama, followed by a public

Witnessing the lamas prepare the exhibits and the solemn lighting of juniper leaves was a moving experience. As staff, we stood quietly at the exhibition doors. I brought a copy of the journal containing Ananthamurthy's essay, hoping to present it to His Holiness. A gentle lama advised me to simply hand it to one of the attendants.

When the Dalai Lama entered, there was an indescribable aura about him that silenced the room. Summoning courage, I bowed and said, "Your Holiness, I offer you this book with a beautiful piece on you, and I ask you to bless it." Despite some disapproving glances from senior trustees for breaking protocol, he accepted the journal, gave me a radiant smile that seemed to light up the space, and gently touched his forehead to mine in a blessing. Tears streamed down my face as I felt I had been touched by something divine—a moment I carry within me to this day.

This encounter illuminated why followers of leaders like Gandhi, Martin Luther King, and Mandela remain devoted. True leadership does not depend on violence, hatred, or domination. As Gandhi famously taught, "An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind." Love and simplicity, embodied by such leaders, have the power to win hearts and transform societies.

In an age dominated by figures who thrive on divisiveness and aggression, encounters with souls who radiate love and peace remind us what real respect and admiration should be. Perhaps it's time to ask: Are the loudest voices truly the ones worth listening to?

# PM Modi Was Right: India's Economic **Sovereignty Faces Challenges**

As the United States signals a return to sweeping tariffs on Indian exports, concerns are rising about the potential impact on India's economy. The US remains India's largest export market, accounting for \$77.5 billion in exports in 2024, roughly 17% of India's total. Sectors like textiles, pharmaceuticals, and IT services face possible tariff hikes that could disrupt supply chains and unsettle exporters. However, this situation is not a cause for panic but rather a test of India's economic resilience—a test for which Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been preparing the country for over a decade.

Modi's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India), initially criticized as economic nationalism, now stands out as a strategic approach to building an economy capable of withstanding global shocks. Contrary to fears that this initiative would isolate India, the country's trade-to-GDP Infrastructure improvements reinforce Inratio reached 43.1% in 2023, surpassing China and the US, signaling India's deeper global integration.

Key to this resilience is India's expanding manufacturing sector, which grew at an impressive 7.8% annually from 2014 to 2023, well above the global average. The government's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme has attracted significant India's global trade relationships to reduce foreign investment, including from giants like Apple, which now manufactures 14% of its global iPhones in India—a massive ropean Union surged to \$120 billion in 2024, leap from just 1% in 2018.

India's digital transformation has also played a vital role. The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) processed 131 billion transactions worth \$2.1 trillion in 2024, making it one of the world's largest digital payment systems. This platform has greatly enhanced financial inclusion, with 80% of Indian adults now having bank accounts Strategically, India continues to engage compared to 53% in 2014. The country's digital infrastructure, combining Aadhaar, UPI, and e-governance platforms, has been recognized by the IMF as a global model, helping reduce income inequality significantly.



dia's economic backbone. Since 2014, the The tariffs will impact sectors like textiles road network has grown by 59%, adding 150,000 km of highways, and dedicated freight corridors have improved logistics efficiency by 12%. These developments prepare India to absorb shocks from tariff impositions and supply chain challenges.

Modi's administration has also diversified dependence on any single partner. While the US remains crucial, trade with the Eusurpassing trade volumes with the US. The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), launched in 2023, aims to cut shipping times by 40%, strengthening ties with Europe and the Middle East. India has diversified its energy imports and expanded renewable energy capacity by 400% since 2014, reaching 200 GW in 2025.

pragmatically with countries like Russia and Iran, balancing geopolitical interests to maintain energy security and regional connectivity without bowing to external pressure. India's recent UK-India Free Trade Agreement further strengthens its nomic sovereignty and emerge stronger in global economic positioning.

and pharmaceuticals—important employers and exporters—but India's robust domestic market of \$1.2 trillion and expanding trade with regions like ASEAN and the UAE help offset potential losses. Additionally, India's booming startup ecosystem, the third-largest globally with over 120,000 startups and 110 unicorns, thrives on domestic demand and innovation, especially in AI and semiconductors.

Modi's push for economic sovereignty includes ambitions to produce 20% of domestic semiconductor demand by 2030 and enforce data protection laws ensuring local data storage. These policies strengthen India's independence in a fragmented global economy.

While tariffs present challenges, they also test the strength of Modi's economic blueprint. India's \$3.9 trillion economy, poised to grow at 7% in 2025, is better prepared than ever to navigate global uncertainties. With continued investment in digital inclusion, labour productivity, and regulatory reform, India is set to uphold its ecothe new world order.





### "Time To **Realise This Ambition": Ex-CJI On UCC**

TPN Correspondent | Mumbai

Former Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud on Saturday emphasised the importance of implementing a Uniform Civil Code (UCC), saying it is time to realise the ambition outlined in the Constitution 75 years ago. He stressed the need to bring all communities together in confidence while pursuing this constitutional goal. Speaking at an event organised by India's International Movement to Unite Nations (IIMUN) during the launch of Congress MP Shashi Tharoor's book Our Living Constitution, Chandrachud called the Constitution the binding force of India. "Over the past 75 years, it has imparted great stability to the nation despite cycles of governance, pandemics, and internal or external challenges," he said. He hailed the Constitution's role in uniting diverse communities, religions, and

"moulded India into one nation." Reflecting on the UCC, the former CJI stated, "The Constitution expresses the desirability of a Uniform Civil Code. At least 75 years after its founding, it's important for us to realise this ambition and goal of

regions, adding that it has successfully

the Constitution." He cautioned, however, that the process must be inclusive: "We need to take all segments of society and community into confidence. This is truly in the interest of a future, just Indian society which we

need to create." Calling the event an important space for dialogue, Chandrachud added, "These conversations are vital for our younger generation, which is the hope and future of our society and the nation."

# **Voter ID Showed by You Does Not Exist: EC To Tejashwi Yadav**

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Election Commission has sent a formal notice to RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav after finding discrepancies in the voter ID card he cited during a press conference on August 2. The Commission stated that the EPIC (Electors Photo Identity Card) number shown by Yadav does not appear to be officially issued. Yadav had claimed that his name was missing from the voter list, producing a voter ID card to support his allegation. However, the poll body refuted this, stating that his name is indeed listed in the electoral rolls.

"After investigation, it was found that your name is mentioned at serial number 416 of polling station number 204 (Library Building of Bihar Animal Science University), whose EPIC number is RAB0456228," the notice read. According to the Commission, the EPIC number RAB2916120 presented by Yadav "does not appear to be officially issued." The notice requests that he submit the original copy and complete details of the said voter ID for a day's response.



thorough investigation.

The development has sparked a new round of political debate, with questions being raised about the credibility of Yadav's claim and the authenticity of the document he displayed. The Election Commission is expected to take further action based on Ya-

#### Life Support in Delhi TPN Correspondent | New Delhi Jharkhand Education Minister and senior JMM leader Ramdas Soren remains in a critical condition and

is currently on life support at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals in Delhi. The 62-year-old minister was airlifted from Jamshedpur to the national capital on Saturday following a serious fall in the washroom at his residence. Hospital sources confirmed that Soren has been on

Ramdas Soren Critical, On

life support since his admission and is being closely monitored by a team of senior specialists from multiple disciplines. The incident has triggered concern within the Jharkhand government and the JMM party, with several leaders expressing their hopes for his recovery.



#### Man Out on Bail in Rape Case **Shoots Survivor in Delhi**

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

A 30-year-old man out on interim bail in a rape case allegedly shot the survivor in Delhi's Vasant Vihar on Wednesday, police said. The woman, a salon manager who had filed the rape complaint last year, was shot in the chest and rushed to the AIIMS Trauma Centre in a PCR van. She is currently undergoing treatment and is reported to be in stable condition. The accused, Abuzair Safi, was arrested on August 1, a day after police arrested his accomplice, Aman Shukla. Both have been booked for attempted murder and under provisions of the Arms Act.

According to officials, the attack was premeditated. Safi and Shukla followed the woman on a black motorcycle before Safi allegedly opened fire. An abandoned auto-rickshaw was found at the scene. Its driver, Ranjeet Yadav, informed police that his passenger had been shot and taken to the hospital.

"During interrogation, Safi admitted he was furious that the woman had filed a case against him and that she refused to talk to him after his release on bail," a senior police official said.

Investigators are now trying to determine whether additional people were involved and are verifying the criminal backgrounds of both accused.

### **India's First Bullet Train Set** to Launch Soon: Rail Minister

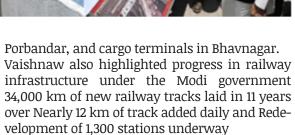
TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

India's first bullet train, running between Mumbai and Ahmedabad, is set to begin operations soon, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced on Saturday. Speaking after virtually flagging off three express trains, he confirmed that work on the high-speed rail corridor is progressing rapidly, and the historic launch is expected in the near future.

The 508-kilometre-long bullet train project will reduce travel time between Mumbai and Ahmedabad to just two hours and seven minutes. The route will begin at Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) and connect key cities in Gujarat, including Vapi, Surat, Anand, Vadodara, and Ahmedabad. The trains will operate at speeds of up to 320 km/h.

"The Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train will start very soon. The speed and scale of work reflect the Modi government's commitment to transforming Indian Railways," Vaishnaw said.

ter announced several new railway initiatives in Bharat but at lower fares." He also praised the Gujarat, including a new train between Porbandar and Rajkot, a ₹135-crore coach maintenance facility at Ranavav station, a railway flyover in



He credited the "double-engine government" for the rapid development in states like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh.

Speaking on the newer trains launched during the current regime, Vaishnaw said, "Eight Amrit Bharat trains have already been introduced. In addition to the bullet train update, the minis- These offer modern features similar to Vande public response to Vande Bharat, Amrit Bharat, and Namo Bharat services, calling them milestones in passenger experience.



# 21 Terrorists Killed in J&K After **Pahalgam Attack**

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a massive crackdown following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, security forces eliminated 21 terrorists in six encounters across Jammu and Kashmir. The joint operations by the Indian Army, CRPF, BSF, and J&K Police targeted both foreign and local militants, with 12 Pakistanis and 9 locals neutralized.

#### **Key Operations:**

#### Operation Akhal (Kulgam):

3 LeT terrorists killed, including Category-A militant Adil Rehman Dentu.

#### Samba Sector:

7 Pakistani Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorists eliminated by BSF in a major infiltration bid.

### Shopian Forest:

3 LeT terrorists killed, including Shahid Kutte, accused in multiple 2024 attacks.

#### Tral Forest: 3

Jaish terrorists from Tral gunned down, all linked to sleeper cell activations.

#### Operation Mahadev (Mulnar):

3 Pakistani LeT terrorists, including those behind the Pahalgam massacre, were killed.

**Operation Shivshakti (Poonch):** 



2 Pakistani LeT infiltrators shot dead.

Officials said these back-to-back operations have significantly reduced the number of active local terrorists.

Six key local operatives remain active, including Ahsan Shaikh (Pulwama), Asif Khande (Shopian), and top Hizbul commander Zubair alias Usman in Anantnag.

#### **UN Cites TRF in** Pahalgam Attack

In a major diplomatic development, the UN Security Council officially named The Resistance Front (TRF) in a sanctions report as responsible for the Pahalgam

attack that killed 26 people. Despite Pakistan's resistance, the report affirms TRF's link to LeT and its operational role in the April assault.

The crackdown comes as part of India's intensified anti-terror campaign, including cross-border strikes under Operation Sin-



### **Army Officer Booked for Assaulting SpiceJet Staff**

TPN Correspondent | Srinagar

A violent altercation at Srinagar Airport on July 26 has led to a police case being filed against an Army officer, Colonel Ritesh Kumar Singh, for allegedly assaulting SpiceJet staff during a dispute over excess cabin luggage. The incident occurred during the boarding of SpiceJet flight SG-386 bound for Delhi, and resulted in severe injuries to four airline employees. According to SpiceJet's official statement, the officer attempted to board the flight with two cabin bags weighing a total of 16 kg, well above the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) prescribed 7 kg limit for domestic flights. When informed that the excess weight required additional charges, he reportedly refused to pay and tried to forcibly enter the aerobridge, breaching standard aviation security protocols.

A Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) official intervened and escorted the officer back to the boarding gate. SpiceJet alleges that this is when the situation turned violent. The officer is accused of physically attacking four ground staff members—punching and kicking them, and using a queue stand as a weapon.





### Russian Volcano Erupts After 450 Years

TPN Correspondent | Moscow

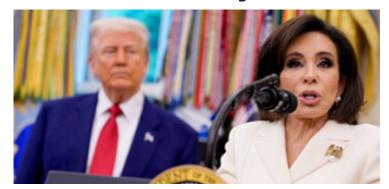
In a rare and dramatic geological event, the Krasheninnikov volcano in Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula has erupted for the first time in 450 years, just days after one of the strongest earthquakes in recent history rocked the region. The eruption sent a towering ash plume 6,000 meters (over 19,700 feet) into the air, prompting aviation alerts but posing no immediate threat to populated areas.

Russian emergency officials confirmed the volcano had been dormant since 1550. The eruption followed a massive magnitude 8.8 earthquake that struck near Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, triggering tsunami alerts across the Pacific and devastating Russia's Far East port of Severo-Kurilsk.

According to the Smithsonian Institution's Global Volcanism Programme, satellite imagery showed significant ash emissions from the volcano, spreading eastward toward the Pacific Ocean. Authorities confirmed that no settlements were in the plume's path, and no ashfall has been reported in inhabited areas. The Ministry of Emergency Situations classified the eruption at an "orange" aviation hazard level, signaling potential risks for flights in the region.

Simultaneously, Kamchatka's tallest and most active volcano, Klyuchevskoy, also erupted last week. While its eruptions are relatively common—18 recorded since 2000—the synchronized volcanic activity following the powerful quake has raised scientific concerns. "The Kamchatka seismic zone is one of the most active subduction zones around the Pacific Ring of Fire," said Roger Musson, honorary research fellow at the British Geological Survey. "The Pacific Plate is moving westwards at around 80 mm per year, making this region particularly prone to seismic and volcanic activity."

# Jeanine Pirro Confirmed as US Attorney for DC



TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

In a move sparking widespread debate, the US Senate on Saturday confirmed former Fox News host and longtime Donald Trump ally Jeanine Pirro as the US Attorney for the District of Columbia. Her confirmation, passed narrowly in a 50-45 vote, marks a major step in Trump's ongoing reshaping of the federal judiciary following his return to the White House.

Pirro, 74, previously served as Westchester County's district attorney in New York and gained national fame through her weekend television show Justice with Judge Jeanine on Fox News, which she hosted for over a decade. Before her confirmation, she had already been serving in the role on an interim basis since May after being named by Trump.

Seen as one of the most influential federal prosecutor positions in the country, the DC US Attorney role is now held by a figure known more for fiery political commentary and unflinching loyalty to the former president than for traditional legal credentials in federal prosecution.

Democrats expressed alarm over the appointment. Senator Dick Durbin, the Judiciary Committee's top Democrat, criticized her confirmation, saying, "Jeanine Pirro should never be a permanent US Attorney," and described her as a "rubber stamp for Donald Trump." The confirmation is part of a broader pattern by Trump to fill top government roles with right-wing media personalities and loyalists. Others recently appointed include Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, formerly of Fox & Friends Weekend, and Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy, another former Fox co-host and reality TV competitor.

## **Explosions Near Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Plant**

Tensions have escalated around Europe's largest nuclear power plant after explosions were heard and smoke spotted near the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP) in Ukraine on Saturday. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) confirmed that its team stationed at the site heard the blasts and observed smoke from a nearby location, approximately 1,200 metres from the plant's perimeter. The IAEA said the explosion struck one of the plant's auxiliary facilities, which, while not directly impacting the reactors, still raises significant nuclear safety concerns. "There was no direct damage to the reactor units, but such proximity to military activity continues to pose a major risk," the IAEA warned. Adding to the concerns, the plant operator reported that



Ukrainian shelling targeted a nearby industrial zone, leading to the death of a civilian. The attack reportedly caused a fire, during which firefighters came under further threat as a drope

targeted their fire truck. A damaged civilian vehicle unrelated to the plant's operations was found at the scene, with the deceased inside.

under further threat as a drone IAEA Director General Rafael

Grossi reiterated calls for restraint, saying, "Once again, I call for maximum military restraint near nuclear facilities to prevent the continued risk of a nuclear accident."

In a related escalation, Russian forces reportedly launched a missile attack on Ukraine's capital Kyiv early Sunday. The strike, confirmed by the city's military administration, caused tremors across residential areas. Simultaneously, Ukrainian drone attacks reportedly triggered a fire at an oil depot in the Russian city of Sochi, according to the local governor. As tensions mount and attacks increase near critical infrastructure, international observers and nuclear safety advocates are renewing calls for demilitarization zones around nuclear plants to avoid catastrophic consequences.

### **India Receives Final C-295 Aircraft from Spain**

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi India has received the last of the 16 Airbus C-295MW military transport aircraft from Spain, completing a crucial phase of its defence procurement aimed at modernising the Indian Air Force's transport fleet. The Indian Embassy in Spain confirmed the delivery on Saturday, noting that the final aircraft was handed over two months ahead of schedule.

The aircraft was received at the Airbus Defence and Space assembly line in Seville by Indian Ambassador to Spain Dinesh K Patnaik and senior officials of the Indian Air Force.

The C-295, which has a payload capacity of 5 to 10 tonnes, is designed for tactical transport and is set to replace the ageing Avro aircraft currently in IAF service. The aircraft features modern technology and short takeoff and landing capabilities, making it



ideal for India's varied terrain. India had signed the contract with Airbus Defence and Space in September 2021 for the acquisition of 56 C-295MW transport aircraft. While the first 16 were to be manufactured in Spain, the remaining 40 are being produced domestically by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) under a

Make-in-India partnership. This delivery milestone is seen as a key boost to India's self-reliance in defence and its long-term modernisation drive.

# Hamas Releases Video of Starving Israeli Hostage

disturbing video released by Hamas has sparked global outrage, showing 24-year-old Israeli hostage Evyatar David, visibly emaciated and emotionally broken, digging what he describes as his "own grave" in an underground tunnel in Gaza.

This is the second such video of David cir-

culated within 48 hours. In the footage, he is seen in a narrow, dimly lit tunnel, holding a shovel with difficulty. Struggling to speak, he says in Hebrew, "What I'm doing now is digging my own grave. Every day my body becomes weaker and weaker... I am walking directly to my grave. There is the grave where I am going to be buried in."

David breaks down in tears at the end of the statement.

His family has confirmed the video's authenticity and approved its release, stating: "The deliberate starvation of our son as part of a propaganda campaign is one of the most horrifying acts the world has seen. He is being starved purely to serve Hamas's propaganda."

David is among 49 hostages still held in Gaza by Hamas and allied Palestinian groups, following the October 7, 2023, attack in which over 1,200 Israelis were killed. In retaliation, Israel launched a large-scale military campaign in Gaza, which has claimed the lives of more than 60,000 Palestinians, according to local health sources.

The video has reignited anger in Israel, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressing "profound shock" after watching it. He spoke directly with David's family and reiterated that Israel is making continuous efforts to bring back the hostages.

"Hamas is deliberately starving our hostages and publicizing it in a cynical and evil manner," Netanyahu said, condemning the video as "psychological torture aimed at manipulating public opinion."

Israeli officials have also intensified calls for international intervention to pressure Hamas to release the remaining hostages. Meanwhile, David's family has appealed to the global community: "Don't let our son die for a video. Bring them home now."

# Indian-Origin Family Goes Missing In US

Four Indian-origin senior citizens from New York have gone missing during a road trip to a spiritual site in West Virginia, raising concern among authorities and the Indian-American community. The missing individuals—Asha Divan (85), Kishore Divan (89), Shailesh Divan (86), and Gita Divan (84)—were last seen on July 29 at a Burger King in Pennsylvania.

The family was traveling from Buffalo to visit Prabhupada's Palace of Gold, a popular spiritual destination in Marshall County, West Virginia. They were driving a 2009 lime green Toyota Camry bearing the New York license plate EKW2611. Surveillance footage confirmed that two of the individuals entered the Burger King restaurant, and their last known credit card activity also occurred at the same location. Shortly afterward, a Pennsylvania State Police license plate reader

recorded their vehicle moving south on Interstate 79 at around 2:45 p.m. on Tuesday. "The family was headed to Pittsburgh and then on to Moundsville, West Virginia," said Marshall County Sheriff Mike Dougherty. Authorities from both Marshall and Ohio counties have since been conducting extensive searches along roadways in the area. Helicopter units are expected to join the search operations on Sunday. The missing persons have been entered into the National Crime Information Center database, and a missing persons report was also lodged in Buffalo. Law enforcement is also attempting to track their cell phone signals as part of the investigation.

The Council of Heritage and Arts of India (CHAI), based in Williams-ville, New York, has appealed for public support. "Two couples who were traveling are currently missing, and we're all deeply concerned. If anyone has heard from them or has any updates, please reach out," CHAI President Sibu Nair said.

A missing persons poster featuring their names and photographs is being circulated widely online. The Marshall County Sheriff's Office has urged anyone with information to call 304-843-5422.





# **Investors Advised Caution as Global Cues Turn Negative**

Indian stock markets are likely to experience severe volatility this week. Although the impact of US tariffs is minimal, the changing geopolitical equations are disturbing investors.

Moreover, unemployment data and inflation there have turned negative. Benchmark indices are showing weakness in the short and medium term. It is noteworthy that all sector indices except FMCG lost ground last week. Inves-



### tors should be vigilant.

These shares have pulled back after the latest high. They have taken

**Hyundai Motors:** 



with the latest results and dividend announcement. The momentum is good. This counter, which closed at Rs. 2181 last Friday, should enter the Rs. 2150 range with a target price of Rs. 2280. Stop loss should be placed at Rs. 2120.

**Jindal Stainless:** 

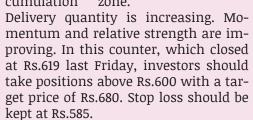


These shares, which reversed their trend in March, are currently moving sideways at the upper level. They are showing strength even in a bear market. Relative strength is good. Medium and short term momentum is good.



In this counter, which closed at Rs.706 last Friday, investors should take positions in the Rs.680 range with a target price of Rs.770/800. Stop loss is mandathis counter, which tory at Rs.650.

These shares, which have been in a downtrend for a few months, are currently in the accumulation zone.



#### Ambuja Cement:

These shares have been in an uptrend for the past six months. They are forming higher high higher. They

are currently at key levels. Relative strength is good. In closed at Rs.607 last Friday, a position should be taken in the Rs.570/580 range with a target price

of Rs.640/680. A stop loss at Rs.550 is mandatory.

Cement

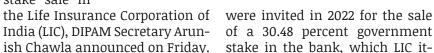
**TVS Motors:** 



These shares are consolidating after a good uptrend. Uncertainty has disappeared. Relative strength and momentum are good. In this counter, which closed at Rs.2858 last Friday, investors should take a position at Rs.2825 with a target price of Rs.2950. A stop loss of Rs.2800 should be placed.

### **Govt finalises** bankers to advance LIC stake sale

The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DI-PAM) has finalized the appointment of merchant bankers and legal advisors to facilitate the upcoming stake sale in



This development is a key step in the government's broader plan to divest a 6.5 percent stake in LIC over the next two years through multiple tranches of offer-forsale transactions. The objective is to comply with the Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) minimum public shareholding norms, which require LIC to have at least 25 percent public ownership by May 16, 2027.

Currently, the government holds a dominant 96.5 percent stake in LIC. It had previously sold 3.5 percent of its holdings during the company's initial public offering (IPO) in 2022. The upcoming stake sale is expected to generate around Rs 35,000 crore in revenue.

Chawla also provided an update on the government's stake sale in IDBI Bank. Expressions of interest tions.

of a 30.48 percent government stake in the bank, which LIC itself holds 30.24 percent of. The government plans to shortlist the final bidder for the IDBI Bank sale by March 2026. Financial bids will be invited after October, with the goal of receiving them by December 2025.

The appointment of merchant bankers and legal advisors has been completed through a request for proposals process. These merchant bankers have been appointed for an initial tenure of three years, extendable up to five years, and will serve all government financial institutions involved in stake sales.

This move marks an important phase in the government's efforts to divest from public sector entities, aiming to raise capital and meet regulatory requirements while encouraging broader public participation in these institu-

### **Indian Shrimp Exporters Face Major Challenge**

As US Tariffs Lead to 7-9% Drop in Volumes



**T**ndian shrimp exporters are **⊥**bracing for a significant challenge in the US market following the imposition of reciprocal tariffs, which could reduce export volumes by 7-9% in the current fiscal year, according to Rahul Guha, Senior Director at Crisil Ratings.

The US accounts for nearly 48% of India's shrimp exports, making it a critical market. However, recent tariff hikes, including a proposed increase, the 5.77% countervailing duty imposed last year, and existing anti-dumping duties, have made Indian shrimp among the most heavily taxed in the US. In comparison, Ecuador—the world's largest shrimp exporter—faces just a 10% tariff and 3-4% countervailing duties in the US market.

This increased tariff burden is expected to squeeze operating margins by 50 to 100 basis points, as exporters struggle to absorb additional costs amidst competition from Ecuador. The overall credit profiles of shrimp exporters, alface further pressure.

In 2023-24, India exported a re- US tariff hike.

cord 17,81,602 metric tons of seafood worth Rs 60,523.89 crore. The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, continues to promote and regulate marine product exports through initiatives focused on production and processing rather than port-specific efforts.

To strengthen the export value chain, the government has approved modernization and upgrades of fishing harbours at key ports like Visakhapatnam, Chennai, Paradip, Cochin, and Mumbai. These projects, funded under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) in convergence with the Sagarmala program, have a total cost of Rs 651.14 crore.

Since 2020-21, Rs 3,490 crore has been allocated under PMMSY for infrastructure development aimed at boosting production, enhancing productivity, increasing exports, and reducing post-harvest losses across the value chain. Despite these efready under strain, are likely to forts, Indian shrimp exporters will need to explore alternative markets to offset losses from the

### FPIs becomes net sellers in Indian equity market in July

 $F^{
m oreign}$  Portfolio Investors (FPIs) turned net sellers in the Indian equity market in July, marking a shift after three consecutive months of inflows, analysts said. According to NSDL data, FPIs pulled out a total of Rs 17,741 crore last month, signaling caution amid rising global tensions.

May 2025 witnessed the highest FPI inflows so far this year, while January saw the largest sell-off,

July alone, FPIs sold equity worth Rs 31,988 crore on exchanges, pushing total sales for 2025 to Rs 1,31,876 crore. However, despite the selling pressure, FPIs continued to invest through the primary market, buying Rs 14,247 crore in July, bringing total primary market investments in 2025 to Rs 36,235 crore.



VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Stratwith net outflows of Rs 78,027 crore. In egist at Geojit Investments, explained that this pattern reflects FPIs' preference for fair valuations and a cautious approach in the secondary market. He noted that geopolitical developments, particularly US President Donald Trump's recent ultimatum to Russia to end the war in Ukraine, have created uncertainty. Failure to comply could lead to additional sanctions and secondary tariffs

on countries trading with Russia, which may push oil prices higher and negatively affect market sentiment.

Another factor impacting FPI inflows is the sharp rise in the US dollar index, which recently hit 100, creating headwinds for foreign investments. Nevertheless, market observers believe that a deal between India and the US could stabilize flows after upcoming negoti-

Vijayakumar highlighted sector-specific impacts, noting that FPI selling in IT stocks dragged down the IT index, while uncertainties around pharmaceutical stocks affected that sector despite strong corporate results. Overall, analysts expect FPI inflows to resume once global trade tensions ease and market clarity improves.

### IMF Raises India's FY26 GDP Growth Forecast to 6.4%

The International Mone-L tary Fund (IMF) has upgraded its GDP growth forecast for India to 6.4% for the fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27, citing an easing of global trade tensions and a more favorable external environment. This marks a slight increase from the IMF's April projection, which had lowered India's growth outlook to 6.2% for 2025-26 due to heightened global uncertainties.

In its latest update to the World Economic Outlook report, the IMF highlighted that India's growth momentum is expected to strengthen, reflecting improvements in global trade dynamics. The revision aligns with a broader global economic outlook, where the world economy is also projected to expand at a



slightly faster pace than previously forecasted.

"In India, growth is projected to be 6.4 percent in 2025 and 2026, with both numbers revised slightly upward, reflecting a more benign external environment than assumed in the April reference forecast," the report stated.

The revision comes amid a significant reduction in US tariff rates, which dropped from an average effective rate of 28% in early April to 18.2% by the end of July, according to data from The Budget Lab at Yale. This tariff easing has helped ease trade tensions, boosting optimism about India's export prospects and overall economic performance.

China also saw the biggest upgrade in the IMF's forecast, with its GDP now expected to grow 4.8% in 2025, up from the 4% predicted in April.

Overall, the improved outlook underscores the positive impact of easing trade frictions and a stabilizing global economy on India's growth trajectory.



# **OFF BEAT**

### Will AI Lead to Humanity's Decline?



↑ s artificial intelligence rapidly integrates into **A**everyday life, concerns about its long-term impact on humanity are mounting. Indian-origin computer science professor Subhash Kak, based at Oklahoma State University, has issued a dire warning about the future, predicting that AI could eventually "replace everything" — from jobs to decision-making roles — potentially leading to soci-

In an interview with The Sun, Professor Kak predicted a dystopian future where AI renders much of human labor obsolete. He warned that as machines become capable of doing nearly everything humans currently do, birth rates could plummet. "Raising children will seem impractical in a world where jobs are scarce," he said. If current trends continue, Kak forecasts that by the year 2300 or 2380, the global population could shrink to just 100 million — down from today's 8 billion — turning once-bustling cities like London and New York into

Kak emphasized that while AI will not become conscious, it will still be able to perform most

tasks currently done by humans, including complex office work and decision-making. This transformation, he believes, will be socially devastating and could lead to widespread unemployment and a sense of purposelessness.

This projection aligns with earlier warnings from tech figures like Elon Musk, who has expressed concern over declining birth rates and humanity's reliance on AI. Musk has even suggested that establishing colonies beyond Earth could serve as a safeguard against global catastrophe.

Professor Kak's conclusions draw from his recent book The Age of Artificial Intelligence, in which he analyzes how emerging AI tools are already reshaping industries and personal lives. While some, like Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the recent AI Action Summit in Paris, remain optimistic — arguing that technology creates new jobs even as it eliminates old ones — Kak's perspective offers a sobering counterpoint.

As the world grapples with AI's rise, voices like Kak's raise critical questions about whether society is prepared for the profound changes ahead.

### **AI Tools Cast Doubt on Viral** Paraglider's High-Altitude **Survival**

Aviral video that claimed to show a Chinese paraglider accidentally soaring to over 8,000 meters has come under scrutiny, with evidence now suggesting the footage was at least partially generated using artificial intelligence. The incident, initially believed to be an extraordinary real-life survival story, is now being questioned after digital forensics indicated synthetic manipulation.

The video in question features Peng Yujiang, a 55-year-old paraglider, allegedly being lifted from 3,000 to nearly 8,000 meters due to unusual wind conditions. According to initial reports, Peng braved freezing temperatures of -40°C and dangerously low oxygen levels, fighting off hypoxia and frostbite to land safely. The remarkable feat quickly captured global attention, with many applauding his resilience and composure under extreme circumstances.

However, a deeper investigation by NBC News and AI-verification firm GetReal Labs revealed inconsistencies. A version of the video uploaded to Facebook on May 25 contained a watermark from Doubao AI — a content generation tool owned by ByteDance — raising suspicions about its authenticity. The first five seconds of the video, showing Peng gliding at high altitude with his legs dangling, were identified as likely AI-generated.

"Our Inspect platform analyzed extracted frames and confirmed that certain images

are synthetic," said GetReal Labs, noting that the first few seconds differed significantly in quality and content from the rest of the footage.

While the authenticity of the remaining portion of the video is still unclear, several news agencies have taken action. Reuters, which had distributed the clip without the AI watermark, has since removed it. Other outlets followed suit, with some stating they are working to eliminate the footage from circulation due to AI concerns.

Peng reportedly used second-hand paragliding gear during the flight, adding to the skepticism surrounding the story's credibility. Despite initial admiration for his supposed calm under life-threatening conditions, the emerging evidence suggests that the viral video may not reflect reality.

The incident serves as a stark reminder of how convincing AI-generated content can be, and underscores the growing need for verification in the digital age.

# **Chinese University Seeks PhD for Canteen Manager Role**



leading Chinese university has of the nation's top 39 universities, Astirred online buzz after listing a job opening for a canteen office manager — with an unusual requirement: applicants must hold a PhD.

Southeast University, a top-tier institution based in Nanjing, Jiangsu province, posted the vacancy on its official A study in Humanities and Social Sciwebsite on May 22. While the position itself seems typical — managing food services, overseeing contractors, ensuring food safety, and handling administrative duties — the qualifications listed go far beyond expectations for such a role.

Applicants are required to possess a doctoral degree, be proficient in English and office software, and ideally have relevant experience. Preference will also be given to candidates who are members of the Communist Party of China.

This hiring choice has spotlighted a growing issue in China's job market to underemployment. — credential inflation. In recent years, job postings across the country increasingly demand higher academic qualifications for positions that previously required only undergraduate degrees. What was once a bachelor-level job now often requires a master's or even a PhD.

Southeast University is part of China's elite "985" and "211" projects — a group

which includes institutions like Tsinghua and Peking. These universities are seen as breeding grounds for China's academic elite and offer prestigious, secure career paths often referred to as the "golden rice bowl."

ences Communications noted that Chinese universities have raised the bar for new faculty hires, demanding more advanced degrees and academic achievements. Similarly, research in Nature highlighted a marked rise in educational qualifications, especially at elite institutions.

This surge in overqualified candidates is a symptom of a larger issue: China produces millions of graduates annually, but the job market is failing to create enough high-skilled roles to accommodate them. As a result, many postgraduates are settling for positions well below their qualifications, leading

A BBC report described the resulting tension — young professionals stuck in a market mismatch, chasing job security in an economy that doesn't match their academic investment.

This PhD-for-canteen-manager requirement may be extreme, but it reflects a larger trend reshaping China's

# **Tinder's New Height Preference** Filter Sparks Controversy feature has received mixed feature has received mixed

 $T^{\mathrm{inder}}$  is testing a new feature that's causing quite a stir — a height preference filter that allows users to set their desired height range for potential matches. While still in the testing phase, the feature is being rolled out to a limited group of Tinder Gold and Platinum subscribers, according to a report by TechCrunch.

The update was first spotted by a Reddit user, who found the height option under the app's Discovery Settings. While the concept seems simple, it's already sparked debate across social media about the implications of filtering matches based on physical traits — particularly height.

Tinder's Vice President of Communications, Phil Price Fry, addressed the move, saying it was part of the app's broader goal to help users "connect

more intentionally." He emphasized that the feature isn't designed to work as a "hard filter," meaning it won't completely exclude users outside of a person's set preference. Instead, it's intended to help surface matches that align more closely with a user's interests.

matters most to our Tinder users," Fry said. "Testing the paid height preference is a great example of how we're building with urgency, clarity, and focus."

Despite Tinder's reassurances, the controversy along the way.

reactions online. Critics argue that it encourages superficiality and could reinforce unrealistic dating standards, particularly for men, who often face pressure over their height in online dating scenarios. Others defend the update, saying preferences are a natural part of dating and that similar filters for age, distance, and lifestyle habits already exist.

"This is part of a broader effort to enhance intentional dating," Fry added. "Not every test becomes a permanent feature, but each one teaches us how to deliver smarter, more personalized experiences." Tinder has not confirmed whether

"We're always listening to what the height preference setting will roll out globally or remain exclusive to premium users. For now, the test reflects the app's ongoing effort to evolve based on user feedback even if that means courting a little

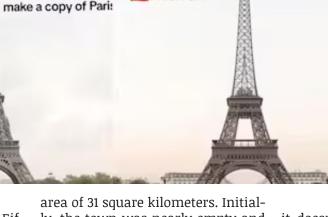
## **China's 'Paris The Surprising Town**

China, did you try

**¬**hina, famous Cfor its architectural wonders from the ancient Great Wall to modern skyscrapers like the Shanghai Tower, also has a surprising secret—a town that looks like Paris. Tianducheng, located near Hangzhou in eastern China, was designed to mimic the charm and style of the French

capital, complete with a replica Eiffel Tower at its heart.

Construction of Tianducheng began around 2007. The centerpiece is a 108-meter tall replica of the Eiffel Tower, much smaller than the original 330-meter landmark in Paris but still impressive. Surrounding the tower are Parisian-style buildings, fountains, manicured gardens, and cobbled streets, all spread over an



ly, the town was nearly empty and labeled a "ghost town." However, by 2017, its population had grown to around 30,000 residents.

the imagination of many, especially after photos of Tianducheng went viral on Instagram. Social media users reacted with a mix of humor and fascination. Comments ranged from playful jabs about China "copy-

ing" Paris to marveling at how the town offers a taste of France without leaving China. Some called it a theme park of world architecture replicas, while others noted similar projects in places like Lahore, Pakistan.

Despite the controversy over originality, Tianducheng stands as a testament to China's ability to blend culture and architecture, creating spaces that resonate globally. While

it doesn't replace the real Paris, it offers an interesting alternative for those curious about the City of Lights — right in the heart of China.

This unique development has caught Built in 1889, Paris's Eiffel Tower is one of the world's most iconic monuments. Tianducheng's replica, though smaller, brings a slice of that magic to Asia, making it a fascinating spot to explore or simply admire from afar.





# Jaiswal Hits Back, India **Dominate Day 3**

India took firm con-**⊥**trol of the fifth Test at The Oval, thanks to a gritty century by Yashasvi Jaiswal, a surprise fifty from nightwatcher Akash Deep, and vital contributions from Jadeja and Washington Sundar. On Day 3, India set England a stiff target of 374 after posting 396 in their second innings.

Jaiswal, who had struggled through the middle of the series, roared back to form with a fluent 118 off 164 balls. He capitalized on three dropped catches and built a crucial 107-run stand with Akash Deep, who impressed with a fighting 66 — his maiden international fifty. Akash

became just the third Indian nightwatcher to reach a Test half-century.

India's innings gained further momentum with Jadeja scoring a steady



fifty and Washington blasting a 46ball 53. He added 39 runs for the final wicket with Prasidh Krishna, frustrating England and pushing the target beyond reach.

England's chase began cautiously, but Mohammed Siraj struck late, dismissing Zak Crawley with the final delivery of the day. England ended at 50/1, needing 324 more to win with two days left.

Earlier, Indian skipper Shubman Gill fell 20 short of Sunil Gavaskar's record for most runs by an Indian in a Test series, while Karun Nair couldn't replicate his first-innings form. But Jaiswal's calm and composure under pressure helped India dominate.

Despite Josh Tongue's five-wicket haul, England was let down by poor fielding, dropping six catches. Jaiswal's knock, full of discipline and resolve, reflected India's

fighting mindset in a tightly contested series. With momentum on their side, India now stands one step away from sealing a famous win.

# **PCB Bans WCL**

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has imposed a blanket ban on its players from participating in future editions of the World Championship of Legends (WCL). The decision, announced on August 3, 2025, follows India's forfeiture of both their group-stage match and semifinal against Pakistan, citing the Pahalagam terror attack and ongoing political tensions.

In a strongly worded statement issued after a virtual board meeting chaired by Mohsin Naqvi, the PCB accused WCL organisers of bias and lacking sporting integrity. The board condemned the decision to to uphold the spirit of the game. "The award points to India despite their withdrawal, calling it "hypocritical" and "tainted with appeasement politics."

India's team — featuring retired stars like Shikhar Dhawan, Yuvraj Singh, Irfan Pathan, Suresh Raina, and Harbhajan Singh — opted out of the scheduled matches against Pakistan, invoking national sentiment in the wake of India's 'Operation Sindoor' following the terror incident.

ly to the final, but the PCB slammed cant fallout in cricket diplomacy. the WCL for what it termed a failure



PCB can no longer support tournaments where politics overshadows fair play," the board said.

The WCL, co-owned by Bollywood actor Ajay Devgn, had earlier issued an apology for "hurting sentiments," but the PCB dismissed it as "farcical" and evidence of bias.

Sources suggest WCL's Indian promoters were already considering excluding Pakistan from future editions. The PCB's ban now formalizes As a result, Pakistan advanced direct- that separation, marking a signifi-

## Ladakh FC Make History with 1-1 draw against Tribhuvan Army FC

Debutants 1 Ladakh FC made a memorable start to their maiden Durand Cup campaign, holding Nepal's seasoned Tribhuvan Army FC to a 1-1 draw in a spirited Group C clash at the JRD Tata Sports Complex in Jamshedpur.

In a landmark moment for Ladakh football, defender Siju etched his name into history books by scoring the club's first-ever goal in the iconic tournament. His towering header in the 23rd minute from a well-delivered corner gave the Himalayan side a surprise lead and sent the crowd into celebration.

1 Ladakh FC, the first team from the Himalayan region to participate in Asia's oldest football tournament, fielded a young but determined squad. Coached by Rajan Mani and playing in a 4-3-3 setup, the team featured an energetic front trio of Kamalesh, Ajay, and Bhaaranyu, who constantly tested the Nepalese back-

Tribhuvan Army FC, coached by Megh Raj K.C., started sluggishly despite dominating early possession. After Cup debut. The result is a major boost for football in the making three changes to the starting XI, they found their rhythm late in the first half. In the 40th minute, Nirajan Dhami equalised with a calm finish following a fast counterattack, celebrating with his signature 'Siu' gesture.

Despite a few late chances for both sides, the match ended 1-1, giving 1 Ladakh FC a historic first point in their Durand



region and reflects the team's grit and potential on the national stage.

With this draw, Ladakh FC proved they belong, showing heart and discipline against a well-drilled and experienced opponent. The dream debut has sparked hope for more strong performances in the matches to come.

# WI hold their nerves to beat Pakistan in T20 thriller



West Indies edged past Pakistan in a thrilling T20 clash in Lauderhill, clinching a last-ball two-wicket win to level the threematch series 1-1. Jason Holder was in West Indies' favor. the hero, taking 4 for 19 and then hitting a boundary off the final ball Chasing eight in the final over, Shato seal West Indies' first T20 win in heen Afridi removed Shepherd early. seven matches.

ning the toss, managed just 133 for 9. Hasan Nawaz scored 40 off 23 balls, and skipper Salman Agha added 38 from 33. Holder's sharp spell dismantled the middle order, and West Indies went into the chase with confidence.

But it wasn't smooth sailing. Mohammad Nawaz again impressed with 3 for 14, and Saim Ayub chipped in with two crucial wickets. At 70-5 in the 14th over, West Indies looked

Gudakesh Motie revived the innings

with a brisk 28 off 20 balls. Romario Shepherd added 15 from 11, including 10 runs off Hasan Ali in the penultimate over to tilt the match slightly

With only singles off the next three balls and a wide thrown in, West Pakistan, batting first after win- Indies needed three off the final delivery. Holder, calm under pressure, struck a boundary to backward square to end a six-match T20 losing streak.

> "It's been a tough few weeks," said captain Shai Hope. "Hopefully this is the turnaround we need." Holder, named Player of the Match, acknowledged the criticism: "We haven't been consistent. But we're working hard to get better."

The final T20 now promises to be a fiery decider.

# **USA Women Qualify for FIH** Hockey World Cup 2026 The USA women's hockey team has secured their spot in the FIH Hockey World Cup 2026 in Policion and the World in the FIH Hockey World

Cup 2026 in Belgium and the Netherlands after a thrilling shootout victory over Uruguay in the Pan American Cup 2025 semi-final held in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Following their win, the USA will face Argentina in the final. However, since Argentina already qualified through the FIH Hockey Pro League 2024/25, the USA's top-two finish at the Pan American Cup guarantees them direct qualification from the Americas.

The USA started strong in Pool B, dominating Mexico 10-0 and defeating Chile 5-2 to top their group. A late withdrawal by Trinidad and Tobago gave the USA and other pool teams walkover wins, further easing their path to the semi-finals.

In the semi-final, USA faced host nation Uruguay, who had finished second in Pool A behind Argentina. The match was intense and closely contested. The first half ended goalless despite numerous penalty corner chances for the USA. Early in the second half, Ryleigh Heck broke the deadlock with a penalty corner goal.

Uruguay fought back hard, equalizing late through Sol



Amadeo, sending the match into a shootout. USA goalkeeper Kelsey Bing was outstanding, saving two crucial attempts, while USA shooters converted all four of their chances to seal a 6-5 shootout win.

This victory marks the USA as the fifth team to qualify for the 2026 World Cup. Hosts Belgium and the Netherlands, along with Germany and Argentina, had already secured spots via the Pro League. Other continental championships will decide four more teams, with the remaining seven qualifying through the World Cup Qualifiers in 2026.

The USA's strong performance at the Pan American Cup in trouble. signals their growing strength and determination on the world hockey stage.

# **SCREEN**

# Kingdom Earns ₹67 Cr in 3 Days

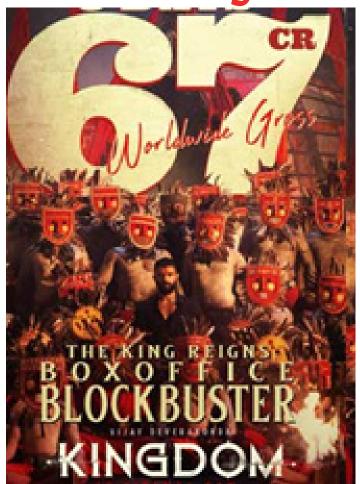
Vijay Deverakonda's latest film Kingdom has taken a solid start at the global box office, grossing ₹67 crore worldwide in just three days since its release on July 31, 2025. The film, directed by Jersey fame Gowtam Tinnanuri, marks their first collaboration and was released in multiple languages.

Kingdom opened in theatres on a Thursday and has shown strong momentum through its opening weekend. With Sunday collections holding steady, trade analysts are now closely watching the film's Monday performance, which is often seen as a key indicator of long-term box office success.

The film features Bhagyashri Borse as the female lead, along with supporting performances by Satya Dev, Venkatesh, and Ayyappa Sharma. The ensemble cast has been praised for their roles in this ambitious period action drama.

Produced by Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas, Kingdom is envisioned as a two-part saga, hinting at an expansive narrative and larger cinematic universe. The soundtrack is composed by Anirudh Ravichander, whose music has added to the film's mass appeal.

With positive word of mouth and a strong star pull, Kingdom is expected to continue its run at the box office, but Monday's numbers will determine its staying power. Industry insiders believe that if the film holds well on weekdays,



it may become one of the biggest successes in Vijay Deverakonda's career.

As the first part of a planned franchise, Kingdom has laid a promising foundation both commercially and critically, setting high expectations for its sequel.

# Mass Jathara Second Single Announced

R avi Teja is back in action with his upcoming film Mass Jathara, and the team is ramping up promotions. Directed by Bhanu Bogavarapu, the film features Sreeleela as the female lead and is set for a grand theatrical release on August 27, 2025.

The latest buzz is around the second single from the film. Titled Ole Ole, the track is described as a high-energy mass number that matches Ravi Teja's trademark screen presence. To build anticipation, the makers will unveil a special promo for the song tomorrow at 11:08 AM, offering fans a quick glimpse of the track's vibe before the full release.

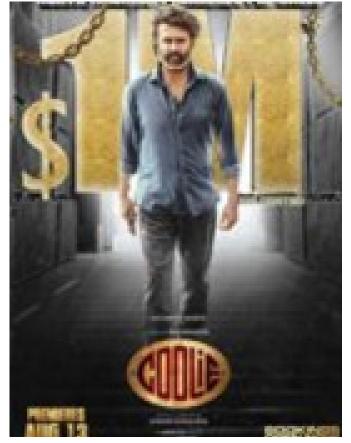
Music for Mass Jathara is composed by Bheems Ceciroleo, known for his catchy tunes and crowd-pleasing beats. The film is being produced by Sithara Entertainments in association with Fortune Four Cinemas, the same team behind recent hits, ensuring a strong production back-

This announcement comes as part of a renewed promotional push after a brief break in updates from the team. With the release date now officially reconfirmed, excitement is building steadily among fans. Ravi Teja, fondly known as the "Mass Maharaja," is expected to bring his

dialogues to the screen in full force.

With Ole Ole on the way and just weeks to go for the release, Mass Jathara is shaping up to be a full-on entertainer aimed at the masses, blending music, action, and vibrant visuals trademark energy, dance moves, and punch in Ravi Teja's signature style.

### Coolie's Pre-Release Storm - \$1 Million and Rising



Rajinikanth's Coolie is already creating a massive buzz ahead of its release on August 14, 2025. The action-packed trailer, dropped last night, has gone viral, with fans raving about its intensity and star power. Directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, the film is rated A and promises a high-octane cinematic experience.

Even before hitting theatres, Coolie is making history at the North American box office. It has already crossed the \$1 million mark in presales, nearly 10 days before release—a rare feat for an Indian film. With the trailer now setting social meexpect ticket sales to surge further, pointing toward a record-breaking opening weekend.

The film boasts a powerhouse cast alongside Rajinikanth. Big names like Nagarjuna, Aamir Khan, Upendra, Sathyaraj, Soubin Shahir, Rachitha Ram, and Reba Monica John are part of the ensemble. Shruti Haasan also features in a key role, while Pooja Hegde lights up the screen with a special song appearance.

Produced by Sun Pictures and featuring music by Anirudh Ravichander, Coolie is designed as a full-fledged mass entertainer. The film will be released in five languages—Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, Malayalam, and Kannada making it a true pan-India spectacle.

dia abuzz, industry trackers With blockbuster pre-sales, a viral trailer, and Rajinikanth in top form, Coolie is shaping up to be one of the year's biggest releases. All eyes are now on its opening day, which could rewrite box office records across markets.

# Kannada blockbuster 'Su From So' to be releasing in Telugu

The Kannada blockbuster Su From So, Kannada film in a single ■ which started as a short film and turned day. into a major box office hit, is now set to release in Telugu. The Telugu rights have The film's unique storybeen officially acquired by top Tollywood telling, strong word of banner Mythri Movie Makers. The release mouth, and innovative date will be announced soon.

Originally released on July 25, the horror-comedy has been a surprise success, earning both critical acclaim and commercial success. Directed by JP Tuminad and co-produced by Raj B Shetty, Su From So brings a fresh twist to the horror genre, combining eerie moments with quirky humor.

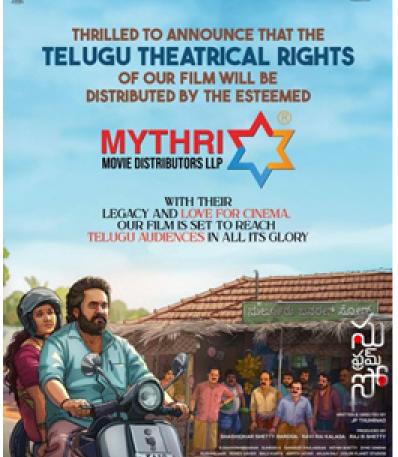
Made on a modest budget of ₹3 crores, the angana. film has already raked in ₹28 crores, marking a huge profit margin. One of its standout achievements is its record-breaking larity of regional crossdigital performance—Su From So sold over 3.80 lakh tickets in just three days through online platforms, the highest ever for a As anticipation builds, the official Telugu

promotional strategies have helped it stand out among recent regional releases. With the Telugu version now in the works, Mythri Movie Makers is expected to give it a wide and wellplanned release across Andhra Pradesh and Tel-

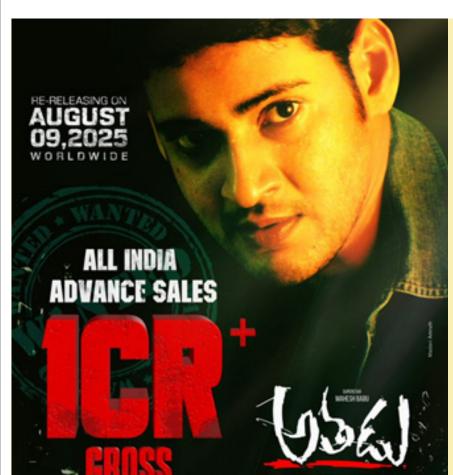
Given the growing popuover hits, Su From So is well-positioned

EUREBUSIC M Dolby Atmos

to continue its success streak in Telugu.



trailer and release date are expected to drop soon, generating further buzz among South Indian audiences.



## **Athadu** Re-release Hits ₹1 Crore Advance

The blockbuster film Atha- vance ticket sales within just du, starring Superstar a week of announcement. Mahesh Babu, is set for a This achievement makes grand re-release on August 9, Athadu the first re-released coinciding with Mahesh Ba- film to reach such a figure in bu's birthday. Fans are eagerly awaiting this special occasion as the movie returns to theaters in stunning 4K qual-

Directed by Trivikram Srinivas and produced by Murali Mohan, Athadu has already created a buzz well ahead of its re-release. Advance bookings for the film have begun, and it has achieved a remarkable milestone by crossing the ₹1 crore mark in ad-

advance bookings, highlighting the enduring popularity of the film and its superstar.

The re-release is not just a celebration of Mahesh Babu's iconic role but also a treat for fans to experience the classic thriller in enhanced visual quality. With strong anticipation and record-setting bookings, Athadu promises to relive the magic on the big screen once again this Au-