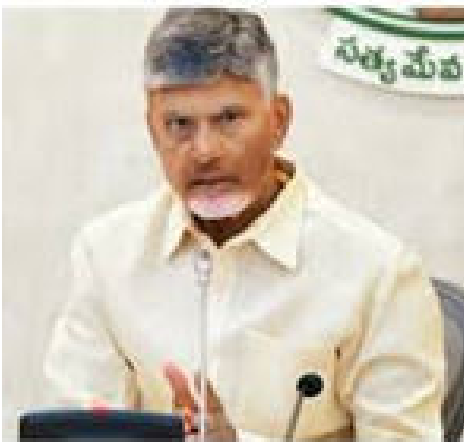




Who Backs
These Excise
Operators?

Contract staff dominate liquor supply in East Godavari; political protection suspected in excise irregularities.

Read full article in PAGE 4



CM Sets
Vision for
Governance

Targets ₹5.42 Lakh Per
Capita Income by 2029

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu emphasized a governance model prioritizing People, Vision, Nature, and Technology during a review with the Planning Department on Monday. He urged departments to align plans with short, medium, and long-term goals to achieve a per capita income of ₹3,47,871 by 2025–26 and ₹5.42 lakh by 2029, aiming to elevate Andhra Pradesh as the state with the highest per capita income. Naidu stressed designing schemes with families as units, ensuring basic needs and income growth while preserving natural resources. He advocated for a circular economy, where waste from one industry becomes raw material for another, and integrating advanced technology in sectors like healthcare and agriculture to enhance services. “Governance must coordinate these elements for optimal outcomes,” he said. Highlighting the importance of value addition, Naidu noted that horticultural crops contributed ₹1,26,098 crore and aqua-related industries ₹1.12 lakh crore to the state’s Gross Value Added (GVA). He emphasized that increasing Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is key to delivering welfare and development.

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All Eyes on
Delhi

High-Level Meetings
Spark Speculation

TPN | G. Avinash

Hyderabad: A series of high-level political and strategic meetings in Delhi has triggered widespread speculation across political and media circles. The NDA Parliamentary Party is scheduled to meet at 9:30 AM in Parliament today, but the buzz has already intensified following a string of closed-door discussions on Monday night involving key figures in the Modi government. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired a crucial meeting with BJP President JP Nadda, Union Minister Piyush Goyal, and Law Minister Kiren Rijiju. At the same time, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Home Secretary, and Intelligence Bureau Chief met with Union Home Minister Amit Shah in what is being described as a “high-level” strategic meeting. Adding fuel to the fire, both Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Shah held consecutive meetings with President Droupadi Murmu on Sunday.

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“LAND POOLING A FLAWED
PRIORITY” JD

You chose to become a politician instead of continuing as an IPS officer. Many have made this transition—what sets you apart?

My perspective on politics is unique. My bureaucratic experience has given me a deep understanding of people’s challenges, which I aim to address through meaningful public service. After engaging with communities and witnessing their struggles, I decided to enter politics to make a broader impact.

Which role do you find more fulfilling—IPS officer or politician?

To me, politics is the ultimate form of public service. Bureaucracy is valuable but often confined to specific areas of operation. Politics, however, has no limits in its potential to drive change. While I excelled as a bureaucrat, I believe politics offers a larger platform to serve and benefit the people.

Your political career includes associations with Lok Satta, Jana Sena, and now leading the Jaya Bharat National Party. Does this suggest confusion in your political journey?

I am not confused—my mission has always been clear, whether in bureaucracy or politics. I never formally joined Lok Satta; there was



In an exclusive interview, former bureaucrat-turned-politician and leader of the Jaya Bharat National Party, JD Lakshmi Narayana, shared his journey, vision, and perspectives on Andhra Pradesh’s political landscape. Focusing on youth empowerment and self-reliance, he discussed his motivations, political transitions, and critiques of the current government, in a conversation with TPN Correspondent Sumanth Jangam.



party would mean adopting their ideology. Instead, I chose to lead Jaya Bharat National Party to pursue my own vision.

What is your opinion on Pawan Kalyan and Jana Sena’s shift from alliances with Left parties and BSP to joining BJP and TDP?

In politics, gaining power is critical, and alliances are often strategic. Pawan Kalyan’s alliance with BJP and TDP was likely aimed at preventing Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy from retaining power. Importantly, Jana Sena has maintained its individuality without merging with other parties, reflecting a pragmatic approach while preserving its identity.

Do you think the BJP influenced Pawan Kalyan to expand his influence in southern states?

It’s possible. As a prominent figure with a large fan base, Pawan Kalyan has significant influence. The BJP, already in alliance with him, likely saw an opportunity to leverage his popularity to strengthen their presence in southern states.



State Debt &
Broken Promises

JD points out that the TDP government has already borrowed ₹1.86 lakh crore and failed to implement key promises like the ₹3,000 allowance for unemployed youth, risking a long-term debt trap.

welfare programs, like direct benefit transfers. The shift toward more freebies, like Talliki Vandanam and free bus services, contradicts our party’s ideology at Jaya Bharat National Party, which opposes freebies and focuses on creating employment opportunities for self-reliance.

What is your opinion on the government’s plan for additional land pooling for the capital?

Andhra Pradesh already has sufficient land to develop the capital city. The focus should be on completing the current phase of Amaravati before considering further land pooling. Compared to capitals like Delhi or Mumbai, we have ample space. The state is burdened with debt, and the ruling party has acknowledged the need to develop other regions, like Uttarandhra and Rayalaseema, as mandated by the Reorganisation Act. Prioritizing balanced regional development over concentrating solely on one city is crucial.

The TDP government claims the previous administration left the state in debt and promises to reverse the damage and make Andhra Pradesh prosperous. Do you see progress in this regard?

The current government has taken loans worth ₹1.86 lakh crore from central institutions, the World Bank, and others. If this continues, Andhra Pradesh risks falling into



Direct Criticism of
Land Pooling and
Amaravati Focus

He criticizes the state’s plan for more land pooling in Amaravati, arguing that sufficient land already exists and balanced regional development (like in Uttarandhra and Rayalaseema) is being ignored.

What is your view on the coalition government’s performance after one and a half years?

The media is polarized—some outlets praise the government, while others highlight its failures, often obscuring the truth due to declining journalistic standards. The coalition has prioritized projects like Amaravati and Polavaram, which is positive. However, they have not fulfilled key election promises, such as the “Super Six” schemes or continuing the previous government’s



Why He Left
Janasena

JD Lakshmi Narayana left Jana Sena solely because Pawan Kalyan continued his film career while leading the party, which he believed diluted political commitment and weakened grassroots consistency.

a discussion with Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan about continuing their platform, but Lok Satta’s focus on avoiding electoral politics didn’t align with my belief that elections are vital in a democracy. So, I moved on.

I joined Jana Sena because I was drawn to their “zero-budget politics” policy. However, I left when Pawan Kalyan chose to continue his film career alongside politics. I felt this dual commitment would undermine the party’s consistency and grassroots strength. In 2023, I took over the Jaya Bharat National Party, originally founded by Mr. Chinnaya Dhor in 2014. We revitalized it with a new ideology centered on empowering youth to become self-reliant, not dependent on freebies. Contesting elections allowed us to connect with people and present a manifesto focused on creating opportunities for young people.

There’s speculation that ideological differences with Mr. Nandendla Manohar led to your departure from Jana Sena. Is this true?

No. The sole reason I left Jana Sena was Pawan Kalyan’s decision to pursue his film career while leading a political party. I believed this would compromise the party’s focus. After leaving, I realized joining another



CM Sets Vision for Governance

Continued from page 1

To achieve better living standards, Naidu called for monitoring indicators like forest cover, air quality, and per capita electricity consumption at the village and family levels. He directed departments to define sector-specific standards, similar to the 42 indicators under the 'AVARE' system, for sectors like electricity, transportation, and water resources. Starting August 15, 700 government services will be available online, enhancing accessibility. Naidu cited Singapore's success with limited resources, urging Andhra Pradesh to leverage its potential. He emphasized using RTGS data and AI to enhance departmental efficiency, with quarterly progress reviews. Minister Payyavula Keshav and Chief Secretary K. Vijayanand attended the review, reinforcing the state's commitment to quality living standards.

All Eyes on Delhi

Continued from page 1

Although there has been no official word from the Centre regarding the outcomes of these meetings, the timing and urgency have sparked intense political chatter. Sources suggest that the meetings may be linked to ongoing national initiatives, possibly related to the Election Commission's SIR drive. There is speculation that some important announcements regarding internal political processes or electoral reforms may be on the cards. While a section of observers connects the flurry of activity to the issue of Jammu and Kashmir—especially since August 5 marks the anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370—those close to the developments hint that this round of meetings may not be directly related to any immediate change in the status of the region. Ongoing tensions with Pakistan have made any decision on that front unlikely for now. Instead, the back-to-back meetings with the President and involvement of BJP leaders from different states suggest that the leadership may be aligning for bigger political and administrative moves. Notably, Home Minister Shah is also expected to meet West Bengal BJP President Samik Bhattacharya later today, where the Bengal SIR process could come up for detailed discussion.

Five New Cities to Get Waste-to-Energy Plants: Narayana

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Ponguru Narayana announced that Andhra Pradesh will be declared a "Legacy Waste-Free State" by the end of December 2025. Speaking at a media briefing after launching a state-level workshop on Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) and capacity building organized by Swachh Andhra Corporation, the Minister emphasized the importance of solid and liquid waste management across all municipalities in the state.

He directed all municipal commissioners to prioritize waste management and contribute to achieving Swachh Andhra goals. "The legacy waste left behind by the previous government amounts to 85 lakh tonnes, which will be cleared by October 2. Additionally, 20 lakh tonnes of newly accumulated waste will be removed by Decem-



ber," he said. Narayana underlined the key role of municipal commissioners in transforming urban areas into clean and garbage-free spaces. He stated that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is personally participating in the monthly 'Swarana Andhra - Swachh Andhra' programme every third Saturday to

raise public awareness. The Minister also informed that the waste-to-energy plants currently functioning in Visakhapatnam and Guntur will be supplemented by new units in Kadapa, Kurnool, Nellore, Rajahmundry, and Tirupati. Once operational, these will eliminate the need for dumping yards. He added that sewage treatment plants will

be established within two years to handle liquid waste, while AMRUT scheme funds will be used to complete drinking water pipeline works. On the international front, Minister Narayana highlighted efforts to rebuild ties with Singapore, which were strained under the previous government. "Between 2014 and 2019, agreements were made with companies holding major stakes in Singapore. But the past administration cancelled these MoUs and even sent CID officials for investigation, damaging bilateral ties," he said. To revive these relations, CM Chandrababu recently visited Singapore and held talks with officials, who responded positively. The Singapore government has expressed readiness to provide technical support for Amaravati's development in collaboration with the World Bank. The CRDA Commissioner will soon send a formal letter to Singapore authorities to initiate follow-up consultations.

Pawan Supports Orphaned Students

TPN Correspondent | Pithapuram

Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena Party chief Pawan Kalyan has once again demonstrated his commitment to supporting orphaned students by arranging monthly financial aid from his personal salary. Continuing his ongoing initiative, he has directed his office staff to prepare cheques for the latest round of assistance. As part of this month's support, cheques amounting to ₹5,000 each will be distributed to 42 orphaned students in Pithapuram. The cheques will be handed over on Wednesday by ten active Jana Sena party workers, who have been entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring smooth and dignified distribution. This gesture is a continuation of Pawan Kalyan's consistent efforts to uplift underprivileged students



through direct financial help. Officials from his office confirmed that the Deputy CM personally monitors the initiative to ensure that the benefits reach the deserving without delay. The move has been widely appreciated by local residents and party members, who see it as a reflection of his values and commitment to social responsibility. Beneficiary families have expressed gratitude, noting that the monthly aid greatly helps cover educational expenses. Such sustained support from a senior leader is being seen as a morale booster for many economically disadvantaged students in the region.



Govt Reserves PG Seats for PHC Doctors

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The State government has finalised a reservation quota for government doctors in postgraduate (PG) medical admissions for the 2025-26 academic year. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu approved the proposal submitted by the state Medical and Health Department. The decision was made after assessing the projected need for clinical and non-clinical specialists in government hospitals by the 2028-29 academic year. Simultaneously, the aspirations of doctors serving in Primary Health Centres (PHCs) were also considered. Medical and Health Minister Satyakumar Yadav said the state decided to implement reservations in both clinical and non-clinical streams. Under this policy, 15% reservation is being provided in seven clinical subjects—General Medicine, General Surgery, Pediatrics, Gynaecology, Anaesthesia, Emergency Medicine, and Radiology. These courses fall within the 17 total PG specialisations available. Additionally, 30% reservation has been allotted in nine non-clinical courses including Hospital Administration, Biochemistry, Anatomy, Physiology, Forensic Medicine, Microbiology, Pathology, and Social & Preventive Medicine. Minister Satyakumar added that the reservation policy takes into account the expectations of 2,288 doctors currently working across 1,144 PHCs in the state. A committee comprising senior officials from the ministry evaluated the demand for specialists in the coming years and submitted a comprehensive report supporting the reservation plan. The minister said the government had also decided to offer more PG opportunities than the estimated demand to encourage higher education among government doctors. As per the government order, 50% of the PG seats under the convector quota in government and private medical colleges will be made available to PHC doctors as per the reservation policy.

Free Bus Travel for Women from August 15

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

In a significant step towards fulfilling the "Super Six" promises, the Andhra Pradesh government has announced that women and transgender individuals will be allowed to travel free of cost in state-run buses starting August 15. Transport, Youth and Sports Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy made the announcement at the Secretariat on Monday. As part of this initiative, women and transgender persons can avail free travel in services including Pallevelugu, Ultra Pallevelugu, City Ordinary, Express, and Metro Express buses. To access the benefit, valid ID proof such as Aadhaar, Voter ID, or Ration Card must be presented. The minister confirmed that 74% of APSRTC buses—amounting to approximately 6,700 vehicles—will be covered under this scheme. The minister added that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has instructed officials to implement the scheme in a transparent and fool-proof manner. A team of three ministers was sent to Karnataka, Tamil

Nadu, and Telangana to study the implementation of similar schemes in those states and submit a comprehensive report. The scheme is set to be approved in the state cabinet meeting scheduled on Wednesday. The expected annual cost of this initiative is around ₹1,950 crore. Additionally, the government is planning to purchase 3,000 electric buses this year, with 1,400 more expected over the next two years. Steps are also being taken to recruit additional drivers and mechanics to meet the rising demand.



SAAP Chairman Urges Grand Sports Day Prep

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP) Chairman Animini Ravinaidu has called upon sports associations to work collectively to make the upcoming National Sports Day on August 29 a grand success. Reviewing the preparations on Monday at the SAAP office conference hall, he emphasized that the celebrations should aim to instill a strong sports spirit among youth. The event will be conducted with district-level competitions from Wednesday to Sunday, zonal-level events from August 11 to 15, and state-level contests from August 16 to 20. Ravinaidu instructed officials to conduct these competitions in a well-planned, transparent, and professional manner, ensuring maximum benefit to athletes. He urged the Sports Authority and various associations to coordinate and conduct the tournaments without any disputes. Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in different categories. Circulars have already been sent to district collectors, and the education department's assistance is being sought. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is also expected to attend the National Sports Day celebrations. Ravinaidu announced that the government is planning a new policy to ensure official recognition for participants through certified credentials in future editions of Sports Day.

Garbage Tax Scam Rocks Kadapa Corporation

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

Leaders of the YSR Trade Union Congress (YSR TUC) and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) staged a protest in Kadapa on Monday, demanding criminal cases against corrupt officials who allegedly embezzled collected garbage tax amounts without depositing them into the Kadapa Municipal Corporation accounts. During the protest, leaders said those who pocketed the garbage tax must be booked under criminal charges and sent to jail. They demanded that the government recover the misappropriated amount and credit it back to the corporation. Accusing the administration of turning a blind eye, they said the city's civic system had become thoroughly corrupted and must be cleaned up immediately. The protestors alleged that fake receipts were used to collect garbage tax from the public and the key culprits behind the scam were left untouched, while lower-level staff were being scapegoated.



ed. They called for a thorough investigation into the roles played by senior municipal officials and said that the exact whereabouts of the ₹8 crore collected must be traced by an honest officer. Allegations of deep-rooted corruption were also raised against the engineering and town planning sections of the corporation. Protestors accused officials of siphoning lakhs of rupees even under the pretext of conducting stray dog

sterilization operations. The protest saw the participation of YSRCP corporators Paka Suresh, Balaswami Reddy, Shamsheer, Sriranjana Reddy, and leaders including Basavaraju, Vinod, T.P. Subbamma, Narayanaamma, Tyagaraju, Babu, CPM City Secretary Rammohan Reddy, B. Manohar, Kamanur Srinivasula Reddy, Dastagiri Reddy, Veeranaala Shivakumar, Chandrar Reddy, and Venkatasubbayya.

Pulivendula ZPTC By-Poll Turns Into Prestige Battle

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

The upcoming ZPTC by-elections in Pulivendula and Ontimitta mandals of Kadapa district have turned into a political battleground. The Pulivendula by-election was necessitated due to the sudden demise of ZPTC member Maheshwar Reddy, while Ontimitta seat became vacant after the resignation of Amar Nath Reddy. Pulivendula, known as the political stronghold of the YSR family, is witnessing an intense campaign from both the YSRCP and the TDP-led alliance. The ruling YSRCP is going all out to retain its dominance, with MP Y.S. Avinash Reddy, MLAs Ram Subbareddy and Ramesh Yadav, and leaders SV Satish Reddy and Rachamalla Shiva Prasad Reddy taking part in



door-to-door campaigning. They are highlighting YSRCP's development work and blaming the opposition alliance for halting progress. Meanwhile, the TDP is putting in massive efforts to make a mark in the YSR heartland. Leaders like Minister Savitha, MLAs Adi Narayana Reddy, Chaitanya Reddy, MLC Ramgopal Reddy, and dis-

trict president Srinivasa Reddy are leading the campaign, promoting the welfare programs introduced by the coalition government and strategizing to lure defectors. In Ontimitta, YSRCP has taken an early lead in campaigning. Former ZP Vice Chairman Iragamreddy Subba Reddy is the candidate. Rajya Sabha MP Meda Raghunadha Reddy, MLA Amarnath Reddy, and



ex-Deputy CM Amzath Basha are actively campaigning. In contrast, confusion reigns in the opposition camp. Though the alliance finalized Bedde Venkata Ramana as the candidate, Jana Sena's Hari Royal also filed a nomination, leading to internal discord. Allegations of red sandalwood smuggling against the TDP candidate have further weakened the alliance's position.

YSRCP Demands Relief for Farmers

TPN Correspondent | Anantapur

YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) Anantapur District President Anantha Venkatarami Reddy has strongly criticized the coalition government over its inaction in addressing the dire situation faced by farmers in the region. Submitting a representation to District In-Charge Collector Shivnarayan Sharma on Monday, Venkatarami Reddy alleged that the government failed to support farmers who are suffering due to insufficient rainfall and lack of resources. He stated that although the Kharif season began two months ago, only 3.26 lakh acres out of the expected 8.5 lakh acres have been cultivated. Even those crops are now under threat due to a prolonged dry spell. Farmers are struggling with acute shortages of fertilizers such as urea and DAP, which are allegedly being



sold at inflated prices due to official apathy. Venkatarami Reddy demanded the immediate release of water from HLC North and South canals and requested that an Irrigation Advisory Board (IAB) meeting be held to decide water allocations. He expressed frustration over the government's silence despite rising water levels in major dams like Tungabhadra and Srisailem.

The YSRCP leader also highlighted the absence of any review meetings by public representatives and accused the government of failing to plan for alternative crops. He urged the state to ensure minimum support prices for crops like custard apple (cheeni), for which rates have halved.

Additionally, he called for the release of pending financial assistance under the Rythu Bharosa scheme and ₹20,000 per farmer as previously promised. With over 250 farmer suicides reported in the past year—46 in Anantapur alone—Venkatarami Reddy demanded ex gratia payments to bereaved families and immediate implementation of employment schemes to prevent migration.

Palnadu Needs More Jobs: Madhav

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

BJP President PVN Madhav, who recently took charge, has kick-started his state-wide tour from a spiritual beginning, stating that he began his journey "from the doorstep of God." During his visit to Narasaraopet in Palnadu district, Madhav interacted with locals as part of the "Chai Pe Charcha" event held at the Municipal Complex. He was accompanied by local MLA Chadalavada Aravind Babu. Addressing the gathering, Madhav expressed happiness over visiting the Palnadu region and emphasized the need for more employment opportunities in the area, which is home to one of the largest agricultural zones in the state. He noted that under the coalition government, Andhra Pradesh is steadily progressing on the path of development.



MLA Chadalavada Aravind Babu also spoke during the event and emphasized the strong trust that both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, along with Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan, share in driving the state's development forward. The MLA confidently stated that the coalition is poised to return to power in the upcoming elections

and that this will further accelerate development across the state. He also highlighted that the laying of the foundation stone for Amaravati by Prime Minister Modi was a good omen for the state's future. Both leaders affirmed that the NDA alliance is committed to realizing the aspirations of the people and reviving stalled development projects, especially in the capital region.

Sympathy Denied, Democracy Betrayed: Rachamalla

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

YSRCP State Official Spokesperson Rachamalla Shiva Prasad Reddy strongly criticized the TDP for contesting the Pulivendula ZPTC by-poll, terming it a battle between "Pulivendula's legacy and Chandrababu's cheap politics." Speaking to the media during his visit to Pulivendula on Monday, Rachamalla recalled that it was in 1978 that the late YS Rajasekhara Reddy began his political career from this constituency, and since then, the family has never faced defeat here. He stated that the upcoming election is merely for a one-year term, held



due to the untimely demise of Maheshwar Reddy. "Usually, out of sympathy, such seats are uncon-

tested, but the TDP has jumped into the fray, not to engage in fair politics, but relying on money and

police support," he alleged. Rachamalla claimed the TDP has minimal presence in Pulivendula, with only nominal support, and added that in the 2024 polls, the YSRCP secured a 3,400-vote majority in this mandal. "TDP leaders are buying local leaders with crores of rupees, making deals, and misusing police power through false cases and bindovers," he alleged. He emphasized that if free and fair polling occurs, YSRCP would secure a lead of over 4,000 votes. "Chandrababu is using this bypoll as a tool to humiliate CM Jagan, but the people of Pulivendula are smart and aware," he asserted.

CM's Schemes Uplifting Women: TG Bharath



TPN Correspondent | Kurnool

Industries, Commerce, and Food Processing Minister TG Bharath reiterated the coalition government's commitment to women's empowerment, announcing a series of welfare initiatives during an event in Kurnool on Monday. Addressing women undergoing tailoring training at KVR College campus, the minister said the government is taking concrete steps to ensure women's holistic development under the leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

Minister Bharath highlighted the free tailoring training program launched on April 15, which is nearing 100 days. He said that from August 15, women will be eligible for free travel in government buses and will continue to receive free LPG cylinders. He mentioned the success story of a Kurnool family earning ₹5 lakh per month through tailoring and encouraged women to aim high with determination.

Referring to the "Thalliki Vandhanam" scheme, he stated that financial support will be extended to all children in a family for their education. The minister also promised skill training in toy making and said efforts are underway to link trainees with companies to ensure sustainable income. Expressing gratitude to the BC Corporation and his team, the minister commended the training model. BC Corporation Executive Director Zakir Hussain noted that 3,440 women from BC and EBC communities in Kurnool district are being trained, and those attending at least 75% of the sessions will receive a free tailoring machine. Top performers will get entry into fashion design courses. Valmiki Corporation Director Sanjeevalakshmi said orders for stitching school uniforms would be given to trained women. Municipal Corporation officials and instructors also spoke at the event, where the women honored the minister and celebrated the milestone with a cake-cutting ceremony.



Former Union Minister Slams NDA

TPN Correspondent | Srikakulam

Former Union Minister Dr. Killi Kruparani has criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent statements in Parliament, calling them "laughable and misleading." Addressing the media at Indira Vijnana Bhavan in Srikakulam on Monday, she dismissed Modi's claims of victory in Sindh as fabricated and questioned the NDA government's achievements in defense, foreign policy, and economy. She pointedly asked if the NDA regime had managed to eliminate even a single terrorist responsible for the tragic Pehalgam attacks, during which many women lost their husbands and their "sindhoor" (symbol of marriage). Killi accused the Modi-led NDA of turning India's foreign policy into a failure since 2014 and said the government's diplomatic blunders have embarrassed the country on global platforms. Criticizing the praise lavished on foreign powers, she mentioned that after the Pehalgam attack, the Pakistani military general was hosted for dinner at the White House—a move she termed "shameful." She also questioned Modi's participation in campaign activities for a political party while visiting the United States, asking whether it was appropriate for a sitting Prime Minister. Killi expressed disappointment over the NDA allies' silence in Parliament, despite having fewer MPs this time, especially when issues concerning Andhra Pradesh were discussed. She argued that the current government in Andhra Pradesh is essentially a TDP-led one, with no visible participation from BJP or Jana Sena. "Where is Pawan Kalyan?" she questioned.

APCOB Celebrates 62nd Foundation Day

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank (APCOB) celebrated its 62nd Foundation Day at the MB Knowledge Centre in Vijayawada. Agriculture, Cooperation, and Marketing Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu, who attended as chief guest, praised APCOB's role in empowering the rural economy and cooperative sector. The Minister highlighted APCOB's support to farmers through timely loans for seeds, fertilizers, and investment needs. He said institutions like APCOB, DCCBs, and PACS are crucial for rural financial services, especially in areas not served by commercial banks.



He assured that the government is committed to expanding these services using technology to improve accessibility. Atchannaidu credited Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for initiating reforms

such as computerizing PACS to increase transparency and efficiency. He also appreciated Prime Minister Modi's move to create a dedicated Ministry for Cooperation, elevating the sector nationally. The Minister noted APCOB's evolution

from loan provider to a comprehensive rural support system, offering agricultural inputs, medical stores, and petrol bunks. He stressed that tenant farmers should register with societies to access full benefits and added that auditing and online systems are being implemented in DCCBs and PACS. On women empowerment, he highlighted the success of DWCRA groups and said nearly ₹42,000 crore worth of SHG transactions must be brought under APCOB to offer lower interest rates. He urged collective efforts to strengthen the cooperative network and ensure inclusive financial growth across rural Andhra Pradesh.

Centre Clears 9 Major NH Expansions:BC Janardhan

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Roads, Buildings, Infrastructure & Investments Minister B.C. Janardhan Reddy has announced that national highway projects worth ₹1 lakh crore will be completed within the next two years in the state. Speaking to media personnel at the Secretariat, the minister said Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, during a meeting on August 2, approved a total of ₹1 lakh crore worth of highway projects for Andhra Pradesh, including ongoing ones. Currently, ₹70,000 crore worth of works are already in progress, with nearly 80% of land acquisition and forest clearance



permissions granted through the task force committee. He listed nine national highway expansion projects sanctioned by the Centre, including the Hyderabad-Vijayawada Greenfield Highway, six-lane projects for Hyderabad-Vijay-

awada (₹6,700 crore), Vijayawada-Machilipatnam (₹2,600 crore), and four-lane roads like Vinukonda-Guntur (₹2,605 crore), Guntur-Nizampatnam (₹2,000 crore), Bugg-Kaipa-Gid-dalur (₹4,200 crore), Akiveedu-Digamaru (₹2,500 crore), Pedana-Lakshmipuram (₹4,200 crore), and Muddanur-Kadapa (₹1,182 crore). Detailed project reports (DPRs) for these will be submitted soon. He criticized the previous government for leaving behind ₹2,300 crore in dues between 2019-24 and noted that the current administration cleared ₹922 crore to contractors within 100 days of taking office. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu

Naidu had also launched a pothole-free road mission in November last year with ₹861 crore, which covered nearly 20,000 km across 171 constituencies. Under the Plan Scheme, ₹600 crore was spent to improve 1,433 km of Category "C" SH and MDR roads in 128 constituencies. Additionally, under NABARD funding, ₹400 crore was allocated for 1,250 km of roads in 114 constituencies, with tendering and construction initiated. Furthermore, work has resumed on 87 NDB road projects stalled by the previous government, with ₹637.76 crore worth completed so far. All NDB works are targeted for completion by December next year.

CPM Slams Govt Over Power Burden



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) has accused the coalition government of imposing a massive ₹12,717 crore burden on power consumers in the form of fresh "true-up" charges, continuing the exploitative practices allegedly initiated by the previous YSRCP regime. CPM leader Ch. Babu Rao said the new burden comes on top of ₹15,485 crore already recovered under adjustment charges for FY 2022-23 and ₹2,787 crore through Fuel Price Adjustment Charges (FPPCA) this year. He warned that the total power burden in the first year of the co-

alition government has already touched ₹30,000 crore. Addressing public gatherings during a door-to-door campaign in Vijayawada Central Constituency's 61st Division, Babu Rao and other activists highlighted shocking billing data. One consumer, Lakshamma, was charged ₹147 for power usage and ₹777 as extra charges—525% more than her actual bill. Another user, Jam-mula Venkateswara Rao, paid ₹638 for a ₹277 bill due to 130% additional charges. The CPM alleged that smart meter deals with Adani and solar power agreements signed during YSRCP rule are being continued by the coalition, despite previous legal challenges and corruption allegations. He called for mass participation in the statewide protests on Tuesday at electricity offices to oppose smart meters and rollback arbitrary charges.

New Judge Joins AP High Court Bench

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Justice Tuhin Kumar took oath as an additional judge of the High Court at a ceremonial event held on Monday at the High Court premises in Amaravati. The oath was administered by Chief Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur. The appointment follows the orders issued by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu. Justice Tuhin Kumar will serve a tenure of two years from the date of assuming office. The oath-taking ceremony was conducted in the first court hall of the High Court building. The event witnessed the participation of several dignitaries, including Advocate General Dammalapati Srinivas, Andhra Pradesh Bar Council Chairman Dwarkanath Reddy, High Court Judicial Officers Association Chairperson K. Chidambaram, and senior members of the legal fraternity. Registrars, bar council members, representatives from the Andhra Pradesh Legal Services Authority, and the AP Judicial Academy were also present to mark the occasion.



Intensive Training Under Swachh Andhra

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

A key workshop on plastic eradication and waste management was held at a hotel in Vijayawada to train all the municipal commissioners across Andhra Pradesh. Minister Ponguru Narayana announced that the state would become a legacy waste-free state by December 2025. He said over 1 crore tonnes of legacy and fresh garbage will be cleared as part of the mission. Waste-to-energy plants are being set up in major cities to process solid waste efficiently. The Minister also stressed the importance of solid and liquid waste management in all municipalities and urged active public participation through the Swachh Andhra initiatives. Swachh Andhra Corporation Chairman Pattabhi, Managing Director Anil Kumar Reddy, and Principal Secretaries Sampath and Suresh Kumar were present at the workshop. Posters promoting plastic-free practices were unveiled as part of the awareness campaign. To strengthen the mission, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) identified Information, Education, Communication, and Capacity Building (IEC&CB) as crucial. Under the National Capacity Building Framework for Garbage-Free Cities, 23 Swachhata Knowledge Partners (SKPs) were empanelled. Andhra Pradesh's State Advisory Committee (SAC) received proposals from three of them—WASH Institute, AILSG, and SAAHAS. AILSG is leading the programme in 13 districts, while WASH and SAAHAS are jointly working in the remaining 13. With 99 years of experience and 35 offices nationwide, AILSG is playing a major role in training local officials. These efforts aim to improve municipal capacity and public awareness toward achieving a garbage-free Andhra Pradesh.



Teachers Crucial in Education Transformation: Lokesh

TPN Correspondent | Undavalli

Teachers play a pivotal role in transforming Andhra Pradesh into a model state in the education sector, said Minister for Education and IT, Nara Lokesh. He made these remarks while meeting representatives of the Noble Teachers Association at his Undavalli residence. The delegation was led by former MLC A.S. Ramakrishna. During the meeting, the association requested that Zilla Parishad teachers be considered for Mandal Education Officer (MEO) posts. They also appealed for the reintroduction of the old pension scheme for teachers recruited through the 2003 DSC. A memorandum with their demands was handed over to the minister. The association praised the government for recently conducting teacher transfers in a transparent manner without political interference and for establishing new model primary schools across the state, which they said has brought satisfaction among the teaching community. Responding to the requests, Minister Lokesh assured that all issues faced by teachers would be addressed through dialogue. He emphasized that no teacher should feel anxious and asked them to directly bring any grievances to his notice. He also committed to attending cluster-level meetings in districts going forward. Lokesh urged teachers to go beyond academics and instill moral values in students. He said teachers are the guiding lights of society and must work with dedication to achieve the best outcomes. The delegation included State President Kondu Srinivasa Raju, General Secretary Bonigela Haimarao, Disciplinary Committee Chairman Cherukuri Subhash Chandra Bose, Finance Secretary J. Srinivasa Rao, and Honorary President M. Reddy Ramesh.



RTC Employees Gears Up for Statewide Agitation

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Andhra Pradesh State Public Transport Department (APPTD) Employees Union has strongly opposed the state government's decision to allocate prime RTC land in Vijayawada to the Lulu Mall project. In a press release issued on Monday, State President Paliseti Damodar Rao and General Secretary G.V. Narasayya announced that the union is preparing for a statewide agitation to resist this move. The union leaders condemned the allocation of RTC-owned land—valued at ₹400 crore and covering the Governorpet Depot and the old bus stand—to the private retail giant. They declared their intent to organize district-level meetings and press conferences in six districts per day across four dates: August 5, 9, 13, and 17.

On Tuesday, meetings will be held in Anantapur, Kakinada, Tirupati, Visakhapatnam, Ongole, and Eluru districts. On August 9, similar events will be held in Kadapa, Rajahmundry, Nellore, Srikakulam, Guntur, and Krishna districts. The campaign will continue on August 13 in Kurnool, Vizianagaram, Palnadu, Parvathipuram, Bhimavaram, and Sri Sathya Sai districts. On August 17, the meetings will cover Nandyal, Anakapalli, Chittoor, Konaseema, Annamayya, Paderu, and Bapatla. The union demanded that the state government revoke Government Order (G.O.) No. 137, which sanctioned the land transfer. The union also announced that a state-level meeting will be convened soon to decide on further action.

Newlywed Woman Dies by Suicide



TPN Correspondent | Krishna district

A tragic incident has unfolded in Kalavapamula village of Krishna district's Uyyuru mandal, where

24-year-old Srividya ended her life unable to bear the alleged domestic abuse by her husband, Rambabu. Srividya, who worked as a lecturer in a private college, was married just six months ago to Rambabu, a village surveyor. In her emotional suicide note, Srividya detailed the continuous physical and mental torture she faced since the first month of marriage. She wrote that Rambabu regularly returned home drunk and physically assaulted her, once hitting her head against a cot and punching her back. The letter also mentioned how Rambabu insulted her by claiming she was worthless in front of another woman. Srividya's final words included a heart-wrenching message to her younger brother: "Dear brother, I may not be able to tie Rakhi for you this time." She demanded that strict action be taken against Rambabu and his family. Srividya was found hanging in her home, leaving her family and the community in shock. Police have registered a case and are investigating the matter.

Who Backs These Excise Operators?

TPN | Ch Raju
East Godavari: An unsettling reality is unfolding in East Godavari district, where outsourced computer operators in the state excise department appear to be exercising more control over liquor distribution than the officials themselves. In particular, the Rajahmundry excise depot has come under scrutiny for alleged manipulation of liquor stock allocation, leaving small-time wine shop owners at a severe disadvantage.

Operators Turn Power Brokers

Despite being hired on contract, several computer operators have retained their positions for over a decade—defying the standard 3–5 year rotation policy. These operators are reportedly deciding who gets what liquor brand, and when. Bars owned by politically influential individuals are given top preference, while small retailers are left out. Sources say these operators act as intermediaries between higher officials and liquor traders, with allegations of bribe-taking to manipulate indents and brand allocation.

Official Silence and Long-Term Influence

Repeated complaints from traders have not led to any significant action. When questioned about the long-term stay of specific individuals, officials either offer vague responses or cite the contractual nature of appointments. One such individual, Prasad, is said to be the de facto authority in the Rajahmundry depot. His continued influence—despite a regime change from YSRCP to the TDP-led coalition—raises questions about political protection.

Impact on Liquor Trade Ecosystem

The alleged control exercised by operators has skewed the liquor supply chain. Small wine shops complain of delayed or denied access to popular brands, while bars get an uninterrupted supply. This favoritism is reportedly pushing some retailers to the brink, forcing them to either pay bribes or face market isolation. The depot’s role as a neutral hub is thus being compromised, causing commercial distortion across East Godavari’s liquor market.

As local traders demand a thorough investigation, the larger question remains: how can contractual staff hold such disproportionate power for so long—and who is enabling them? Unless addressed, this issue threatens to erode the integrity of the excise system itself.

Pulivendula ZPTC Poll Sparks Political Tension

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa
Tensions are running high in Pulivendula ahead of the upcoming ZPTC by-election, with fresh allegations and political counterattacks intensifying the atmosphere. TDP leaders held a press meet alleging threats from YSRCP leaders to those who recently switched allegiance. Vishwanatha Reddy, the former vice-president of the mandal, who joined TDP from YSRCP, claimed that senior YSRCP leaders including Deva Reddy Shankar Reddy, MP’s PA Raghava Reddy, YS Bhaskar Reddy, and Tummalapalli Gangadhar Reddy were intimidating him and pressuring him to come to Kurnool for talks. He alleged that he feared for his life and had voluntarily joined TDP due to injustice in YSRCP.

TDP Pulivendula in-charge B.Tech Ravi accused YSRCP leaders of violating bail

conditions and using intimidation tactics due to fear of electoral defeat. He said that those on bail, including Shankar Reddy and Bhaskar Reddy, were threatening former colleagues, which is against the law. He added that TDP would file a complaint with the CBI seeking cancellation of their bail.

Responding to the allegations, YSRCP State General Secretary SV Satish Reddy dismissed the claims as politically motivated. He said no such threats were made and challenged the TDP leaders to produce call recordings if their claims were genuine. He argued that asking why a senior leader defected was natural and did not amount to a threat. Satish Reddy warned against making baseless claims for political mileage and reiterated that YSRCP respects democratic values and supports free campaigning for all.



AISF Protests Poor Conditions in Government Hostels



TPN Correspondent | Anantapur
The All India Students Federation (AISF) staged a protest at the Anantapur Collectorate on Monday, demanding urgent resolution of issues faced by students in government hostels across the district. AISF district president Hanumantharayudu and general secretary Kullaiswamy led the protest, where students wore black shirts and submitted detailed representations highlighting the dire conditions. AISF leaders alleged that government negligence has led to inhumane conditions in hostels, comparing the budget allocation for hostel students (₹53 per day) to that of prisoners (over ₹100 per day). They pointed out that in the Gooty BC Women’s Hostel, over 270 students are accommodated in just 11 rooms. Many hostels lack basic facilities such as adequate rooms, toilets, and bathrooms, forcing students to bathe in the open.

The protesters demanded that the long-closed SC hostel in central Anantapur be reopened and renovated, as it could house hundreds of students. They also urged the government to install mineral water plants, supply quality food, and ensure proper living conditions. The AISF criticized the absence of regular wardens and the misuse of hostel facilities by non-resident staff.

In addition, they called for filling vacant posts of cooks, tutors, and watchmen, and demanded mosquito nets, bedding, trunks, and nutrition-rich food similar to what Minister Nara Lokesh claims is provided to his son Devansh. AISF leaders also urged the immediate filling of vacant teacher posts in KGBV and Gurukula model hostels and warned of statewide agitations if the government fails to act. The protest highlighted the poor state of hostel infrastructure despite over six lakh students residing in them across Andhra Pradesh.

Operation Kunkie Brings Relief

TPN Correspondent | Chittoor
The Forest Department successfully completed its first “Operation Kunkie,” aimed at driving away wild elephants damaging crops near forest-bordering villages. The operation was launched in Mogili area of Bangarupalem mandal, Chittoor district, where a herd of wild elephants had been destroying mango plantations.

Using trained Kunkie elephants—Krishna, Jayanth, and Vinayak—brought from Karnataka, forest officials managed to drive the wild herd back into the forest. Krishna, a particularly agile Kunkie, played a key role during the operation, which lasted from Saturday night to Sunday morning.

Forest officials said the elephants had been roaming in the area for over 15 days. After two months of training, this was the first deployment of the Kunkies, marking a significant milestone in Andhra Pradesh’s efforts to manage human-wildlife conflict.

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan praised the efforts of forest officials, mahouts, and support staff, and thanked Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre for providing the Kunkie elephants. He noted that the Chandrababu Naidu-led coalition government is working in a planned manner to protect both human lives and crops from wild elephant threats. Officials are now preparing for the next operation in Punganur forest region.

Collector Promises Swift Action on Complaints

TPN Correspondent | Bapatla
Bapatla District Collector Venkata Murali on Monday received a flurry of petitions from distressed citizens across the district during the public grievance redressal programme held at the Bapatla Collectorate. The event saw individuals and community representatives presenting a range of issues spanning multiple sectors, seeking immediate intervention from the administration.

Among the key issues brought to the collector’s notice were the non-credit of welfare schemes into bank accounts, land encroachments, problems faced by the fishing community, incomplete school building infrastructure, and delayed issuance of disability pension certificates. Journalists also presented concerns related to accreditation and welfare, while others highlighted delays in graduate pass-



book updates and access to essential records. Notably, political leaders from the region also used the platform to escalate farmers’ demands. Bapatla and Santhanuthalapadu YSRCP constituency coordinators submitted a memorandum

through former Deputy Speaker Kona Raghupathi and former minister Merugu Nagarjuna. They urged the collector to resolve the ongoing issues of input subsidies and facilitate immediate disbursement of pending farm loans.

Collector Venkata Murali assured the attendees that their grievances would be addressed systematically and that appropriate directions had been issued to the respective departments for swift action. He emphasized that the welfare and benefit of farmers remained a priority.

Speaking to the media later, Kona Raghupathi and Merugu Nagarjuna criticized the previous government for failing to release input subsidies on time. They labeled Chandrababu Naidu’s previous administration as negligent towards farmers’ welfare, alleging that programs such as ‘Annadata Sukhibhava’ were merely symbolic and lacked actual benefit.

YSRCP leaders Narayana Reddy, Gade Srinivas Reddy, Madhu, and others were also present during the event, extending their support to the aggrieved parties.

Advanced Dialysis Now Free

TPN Correspondent | Dharmavaram
Healthcare infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh continues to witness rapid progress, with Dharmavaram Government Hospital leading the way through the expansion of its dialysis services. On Monday, constituency in-charge Harish Babu visited the hospital located at Pothukunta Road and inspected the newly installed dialysis machines, praising the state government’s efforts in making quality healthcare accessible to all.

Speaking on the occasion, Harish Babu stated that under the visionary leadership of State Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav, the dialysis center was first established last year with five



beds. Due to the increasing number of patients, another five machines were swiftly installed within a year to cater to the growing demand. “Earlier, patients had to travel long distances or depend on costly private hospitals for dialysis treatment. Now, free and quality dialysis services are available right here at the government hospital,” he added.

He further said that the Andhra Pradesh government is giving high priority to strengthening the healthcare sector not only in cities but also in rural areas. Expansion of emergency services and advanced medical equipment is being actively pursued to ensure the wellbeing of poor and middle-class kidney patients. Harish Babu also highlighted that this initiative is a major relief for financially weaker sections of society and that the government’s mission is to modernize all government hospitals across the state. Ministerial staff and officials participated in the program and appreciated the government’s proactive approach toward improving public healthcare.

Govt Offers Free Oil Palm Saplings: Collector

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool
District Collector P. Ranjith Basha on Monday directed horticulture officials to meet the designated targets for oil palm cultivation in Kurnool district. Launching a wall poster related to oil palm awareness at the Sunayana Auditorium in the Collectorate, the Collector emphasized the importance of the crop for sustainable farmer income, especially in challenging weather conditions. He stated that for the year 2025–26, the target is to cultivate oil palm across 550 hectares in the district. The state government’s vision is to encourage farmers to adopt oil palm as a profitable and climate-resilient crop. Officials were instructed to raise awareness among farmers about the benefits of oil palm cultivation and to promote the crop extensively across suitable areas. Under the National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)



scheme, 13 mandals in Kurnool district have been identified for the project. These include Kurnool, Krishnagiri, C. Belagal, Kautalam, Adoni, Holagunda, Mantralayam, Peddakadubur, Kosigi, Nandavaram, Emmiganur, Halmarvi,

and Gonegandla. Farmers with adequate water resources in these mandals are eligible to participate. The Collector informed that 100% subsidy will be provided for oil palm saplings. Additionally, financial assistance of ₹5,250 per year for four years will be given for crop maintenance, along with another ₹5,250 annually for inter-crop encouragement. The government will also facilitate buyback of the harvested produce through designated companies, ensuring secure market access.

Joint Collector Dr. B. Navya, DRO C. Venkata Narayanamma, District Horticulture Officer Ramamjaneyulu, APMIP Director Srinivasulu, and other officials participated in the event.

Trust: A ‘Tender Anchor’ in Close Connections

In a world dominated by instant messaging and fleeting connections, one ancient element remains the foundation of all meaningful relationships: trust. It is the invisible thread that links hearts, minds, and souls—not through euphoria, but through small, consistent acts of integrity and care.

A Responsibility

Modern relationships, despite their digital proximity, often suffer from emotional distance. People speak of trust as if it is a given, a humble asset, that comes bundled with time or blood. But trust is neither a birthright nor an entitlement. It is something that must be cultivated, nurtured, and—most importantly—respected. Whether in marriages, friendships, or familial ties, the assumption that trust will “always be there” is often taken for granted. Relationships begin to rot not when people argue, but when they stop valuing trust as sacred.

Silent Language of Trust

Trust rarely announces itself. It does not seek credit, nor does it demand



daily validation. It manifests in the silence of mutual understanding, in the comfort of being one's vulnerable self, in the assurance that a secret remains safe and a promise will be kept. And yet, its silence should not be mistaken for invincibility. Like an anchor that steadies a ship without being seen, trust performs its duty quietly—until it snaps. When it does, even the strongest relation-

ships are left to drift.

Fragility in Familiarity

Strangely, trust is most vulnerable in close bonds. In professional settings, breaches of trust often have formal consequences. But in personal relationships, hurt is internalized, forgiveness is assumed, and emotional damage is quietly buried. This pattern leads to emotional erosion—an invisible weakening of



Subbarao Pokkuluri
Freelancer

ties that eventually fall apart. The danger lies in our carelessness. Casual lies, repeated forgetfulness, ego-driven silences, or even failure to acknowledge hurt—all contribute to the slow unraveling of trust. And once fractured, even if forgiveness is extended, trust rarely returns in its original form.

Antidote: Humility and Honesty

If trust is the anchor, honesty and humility are the ropes that keep it tied. Admitting mistakes, listening without defense, apologizing without excuses, and showing up with consistency—these are not outdated values; they are timeless remedies for fractured faith. Forgiveness may restore the connection, but rebuilding trust takes time, effort, and a conscious choice to be better—every single day. In a world increasingly trained to seek shortcuts, this long road to trust is perhaps the most simple, but rewarding journey one can undertake. Need to Handle with Consistent Care It's often said that trust takes years to build, seconds to break, and forever to repair. This isn't just a quote—it's a warning. As relationships age, they must not be taken lightly. Like the keel of a boat, trust may be invisible from above, but it's the very element that keeps us afloat. Let us, therefore, recognize trust not as a luxury but as a lifeline—and hold it, in all our close bonds, with the care it deserves. Because when all else fails, it is trust—not mere affection—that decides whether two people stay connected, or drift apart forever.

Why Is SpiceJet Repeatedly Tangling with Security Forces?

TPN | G. Avinash

Hyderabad: An incident involving a serving Indian Army officer and SpiceJet staff at Srinagar Airport on July 26 has sparked outrage online, with many calling out the airline for alleged mistreatment and extortion. Earlier reports suggest that the army officer was wrong to in the issue but latest reports suggest that there is more to the story. The officer, who was reportedly on emergency leave, arrived alone with only a small 8-9 kg cabin bag. After receiving confirmation at the check-in counter to carry the bag onboard, he was later stopped at the boarding gate and asked to pay for excess weight. According to sources close to the officer, he tried to explain that he had no additional baggage and referred to the confirmation he had received earlier. However, with the gate about to close, the staff allegedly behaved rudely and continued to press for extra payment. Several users on social media have since questioned whether this was an attempt



to extract money or harass the officer, noting that many airlines routinely allow larger cabin baggage

to streamline check-ins and reduce baggage handling costs. Eyewitnesses have also spoken out, stating that

the media coverage was biased and failed to present the officer's side of the story. One such account high-

lighted the disturbing trend of selective narratives, saying, “It is truly disturbing to see how biased and irresponsible certain media platforms can be, publishing one-sided stories without real investigation.” Adding fuel to the controversy, some online commentators alleged that there might be a local bias at Srinagar Airport against military personnel, although such claims remain unverified. This is not the first time SpiceJet has come under fire for its staff's conduct. On July 11 at Jaipur Airport, a SpiceJet crew member allegedly assaulted a CISF Assistant Sub-Inspector. The officer was performing his duty by preventing unauthorized entry through a restricted gate. The staff member reportedly slapped the CISF officer, leading to a public backlash. Despite this, the airline defended the crew member's actions at the time. As the current incident gains traction, many are urging aviation authorities to probe SpiceJet's internal protocols and examine repeated allegations of unprofessionalism by its ground staff.

Tibal Torchbearer Shibu Shoren

The passing of Shibu Soren, fondly known as 'Dishom Guru', marks not just the end of an extraordinary political journey but the closing chapter of an era that saw tribal aspirations rise from the margins to the mainstream of Indian politics. As the founder of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) and a relentless voice for tribal rights, Soren's life was a testament to resistance, resilience, and reform. Born on January 11, 1944, in the small village of Nemra in the Ramgarh district of erstwhile Bihar, Shibu Soren's life was shaped early by personal tragedy. At the age of 15, his father, Shobaran Soren, was allegedly killed by moneylenders. That harrowing incident in 1957 lit a fire in the young boy—one that never extinguished. That same pain would later drive a lifelong commitment to fight feudal exploitation and social injustice in tribal lands. In 1973, Soren co-founded the JMM alongside AK Roy and Binod Bihari Mahto. From that point, the JMM would become the principal vehicle for demanding a separate tribal state, resonating across the Chotanagpur and Santhal Pargana belts.



Through mass mobilisations, grassroots movements, and unwavering activism, Soren emerged as the face of Jharkhand's statehood movement. After decades of agitation, their vision materialised with the formation of Jharkhand on November 15, 2000 — a landmark that remains Soren's most defining achievement. But Soren's political influence didn't

stop with Jharkhand's creation. He played an active role at the national level, having been elected multiple times as MP from Dumka, including his eighth term from 2014 to 2019. He also served in the Union Cabinet as Coal Minister in the UPA government. However, his time in national politics was marred by legal entanglements. From the 1975 Chirudih

massacre case to the sensational 1994 murder of his secretary Shashinath Jha, Soren faced trials and tribulations that nearly derailed his political career. Though acquitted in both cases—most notably by the Supreme Court in 2018—the episodes left a lasting impact on his public image. Still, controversy couldn't eclipse his connection with the people. In Jharkhand, he remained a revered figure. His three short-lived stints as Chief Minister may have lacked administrative longevity, but symbolically, they underscored the complexities of coalition politics and the struggles of regional leadership in a fractured polity. A failed assassination attempt in 2007 while being escorted to jail only highlighted the danger and volatility that surrounded his career. What truly set Soren apart was not just his survival in such a turbulent political landscape, but how he managed to retain the trust of his people. For 38 years, he led the JMM before handing over the reins in April 2025 to his son, Hemant Soren, currently the Chief Minister. Even in semi-retirement, as the party's founding pa-

tron, Soren remained a lodestar for tribal politics in India. His personal life, like his political one, was rooted in struggle and legacy. He is survived by his wife Roopi Soren, daughter Anjani, and two sons, Hemant and Basant. His eldest son, Durga, passed away in 2009, but the family's political lineage continues with Hemant at the helm of Jharkhand's government and Basant serving as a legislator. For the people of Jharkhand, Shibu Soren will forever be remembered as the embodiment of their long and difficult fight for identity, autonomy, and dignity. He was not without flaws, but his contribution to the tribal movement is indelible. His name is etched in the political and emotional fabric of a state that exists today largely because of his vision. As India moves forward, Shibu Soren's life reminds us that real change often comes not from corridors of power, but from the pain of personal loss, the grit of grassroots struggle, and the courage to challenge systemic injustice. His voice may be silenced, but his message will echo for generations.



Shibu Soren passes away at 81

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Veteran tribal leader and former Jharkhand Chief Minister Shibu Soren passed away at the age of 81 on Monday after battling a kidney-related illness. He had been on life support at Delhi's Sir Ganga Ram Hospital for nearly a month. The nation is in mourning as tributes poured in from top political leaders, recognising his pivotal role in the upliftment of tribal communities and the creation of Jharkhand. Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the tributes, calling Soren a "grassroots leader" who dedicated his life to the cause of tribal welfare. "He empowered tribal communities and worked tirelessly for the poor. His demise is a great loss to Indian politics," PM Modi said. President Droupadi Murmu, in an emotional post on X, said, "The demise of Shri Shibu Soren Ji is a big loss in the space of social justice. He championed the cause of tribal identity and the formation of the state of Jharkhand. His emphasis on the welfare of the people, especially the tribal communities, will always be remembered."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah remembered the late leader for his lifelong struggle for tribal rights. "He fought for decades for the rights and empowerment of the tribal society in Jharkhand. He connected with people with his simple personality and easy nature," he posted on X. Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, son of Shibu Soren, expressed deep grief over the loss of his father. "I am left with nothing," he said in a moving statement. Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also offered condolences, stating, "This is a very saddening news for all of us. My condolences and prayers are with the family members in this difficult time. I have also texted Kalpana Soren ji." Shibu Soren, also known as "Guruji," was born in 1944 in the Ramgarh district (then Bihar) and belonged to the Santhal community. Over decades, he became a symbol of the tribal movement, serving multiple terms as Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Union Minister, and Member of Parliament. His legacy includes not just political leadership but an unwavering commitment to tribal rights and social justice.

Himachal Floods Toll Rises to 184, Over 300 Roads Blocked



TPN Correspondent | Himachal Pradesh

The 2025 monsoon has wreaked havoc across Himachal Pradesh, with 184 people dead and key infrastructure crippled by relentless rain, landslides, and flash floods. The State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) reported that 103 of these deaths were directly rain-related, while 81 resulted from road accidents caused by dangerous terrain and damaged roads. As of Tuesday, 309 roads, including National Highway 305 (NH-305), remain blocked due to landslides and debris flows. Water supply and electricity have also been severely disrupted, with 236 water supply schemes and 113 distribution transformers non-functional. Mandi district has emerged as the most severely affected, accounting for 23 rain-related deaths and 14 road fatalities. It also leads in infrastructure collapse with 167 roads blocked, 74 water schemes disrupted, and 91 transformers out of service. Kangra follows with 24 weather-related deaths and six accident fatalities, while Kullu reported 10 monsoon deaths and eight road accident deaths. Chamba and Shimla districts have also sustained multiple casualties and significant

damage. In Lahaul-Spiti, a bridge collapse at Dared Nallah has severed the connection between Madgran and Kurched, isolating local populations. Meanwhile, a major landslide in Kullu near Jhed (Khanag) has rendered NH-305 impassable. However, a detour via Kandugad is currently open for light vehicles. NH-505 in Lahaul-Spiti also remains closed due to landslides. The SDMA has warned that continued rain in the coming days could trigger further landslides, flash floods, and service failures. On Sunday alone, 296 roads were blocked, 134 transformers went offline, and 266 water supply schemes were disrupted, highlighting the widespread infrastructure breakdown. The cumulative damage to public property—including roads, electricity, water infrastructure, health centres, and schools—has crossed ₹1,71,495 lakh. Additionally, over 88,800 hectares of agricultural and horticultural crops have been impacted. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted light to moderate rainfall across the state in the next 12 hours, with heavy rain expected at isolated places in Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmour, Solan, and Una.

"True Indian Won't Say This": SC Raps Rahul Gandhi

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi faced stern words from the Supreme Court on Monday over his remarks about the Indian Army and China during the 2022 Bharat Jodo Yatra, even as the apex court stayed ongoing criminal defamation proceedings against him. A bench comprising Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice AG Masih questioned the veracity of Gandhi's statement that "Chinese troops are thrashing Indian soldiers in Arunachal Pradesh" and that China had taken over 2,000 sq km of Indian territory. The remarks, made in December 2022, referred to the border clash in Arunachal's Tawang sector. "How do you know China grabbed 2,000 sq km of land? Were you there? Do you have any credible material?" Justice Datta asked, adding pointedly, "If you are a true Indian, you won't say all of this." Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Gandhi, defended his client by arguing, "If he can't say these things, how can he be the Leader of the Opposition?" But the court responded, "Then why don't you say such things in Parliament?" Despite staying the proceedings for now, the court issued notice on Gandhi's plea to quash the defamation case, which originated from a complaint by Uday Shanker Srivastava. The complainant alleged that Gandhi's remarks defamed the Indian Army and lowered its morale. The Supreme Court's comments come after the Allahabad High Court, in May, rejected Gandhi's challenge to a summons issued by a special court in Lucknow. That court had taken cognisance of



Srivastava's complaint and summoned Gandhi as an accused. The High Court had also dismissed Gandhi's claim that he was not given a hearing and said, "Freedom of speech does not include the right to make defamatory remarks about the armed forces." Gandhi's legal team argued that the case was politically motivated and violated procedural norms, but the courts have so far maintained that the content and tone of the statements warranted serious legal scrutiny. The Supreme Court will now hear the matter further following its notice, but its strong words have already reignited political tensions over the role and responsibility of leaders when speaking on sensitive national security issues.



Rahul Gandhi Always Speaks Against India: Kangana Ranaut

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Actor and BJP MP Kangana Ranaut lashed out at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday, accusing him of repeatedly making statements that "undermine India's honour and support enemy nations," following the Supreme Court's sharp remarks over his controversial comments on the Indian Army. The Supreme Court earlier in the day granted an interim stay on defamation proceedings against Gandhi in connection with his comments made during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in 2022. During the event, Gandhi had alleged that the Chinese Army "killed 20 Indian soldiers" and "thrashed Indian jawans" in Arunachal Pradesh. Reacting strongly to these remarks, Kangana Ranaut said, "Rahul Gandhi always speaks against India, whether it's about the economy or our Defence forces. He speaks in support of enemy nations. He has an anti-India mindset. So, it is a welcome move by the Supreme Court that they pulled him up." She further added, "In the time to come, others should be mindful that they do not hurt the honour, integrity and morale of India." While granting the stay on defamation proceedings, the Supreme Court also made key observations about the sensitivity of such public statements, particularly when they involve national security and the armed forces.



2 More Arrested in Odisha Student Suicide Case

TPN Correspondent | Balasore

Two more individuals have been arrested in connection with the death of a 20-year-old student from Fakir Mohan (Autonomous) College in Odisha's Balasore district, who died by self-immolation last month after alleging that no justice was served in her sexual harassment case. The Odisha Crime Branch on Sunday night arrested Jyoti Prakash Biswal, a fellow student who had sustained burns while trying to save her, and Subhra Sambait Nayak, the state joint secretary of a student organisation. Both were produced before the Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate (SDJM) in Balasore and remanded to 14 days of judicial custody after their bail pleas were rejected. According to police, the woman poured petrol on herself and set herself on fire on July 12 after her complaint against the Head of the Department (HoD) of Integrated BED was reportedly dismissed by the college's internal enquiry committee. She suffered 95% burn injuries and succumbed at AIIMS Bhubaneswar on July 14. Earlier, two others — assistant professor Samira Kumar Sahoo and former principal Dillip Ghose — had also been arrested for abetment to suicide. Police officials say the investigation is ongoing and more developments are expected as they probe institutional failures that allegedly led to the tragedy.

Some Don't Agree to Share Power: DKS

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Amid continued speculation about an internal power tussle in Karnataka, Congress leader and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday made carefully worded remarks on power-sharing in politics, praising Sonia Gandhi's sacrifice in 2004 while indirectly highlighting the challenges of sharing leadership roles within the party. Speaking at the AICC-organised event titled "Constitutional Challenges" in

New Delhi, Shivakumar lauded Sonia Gandhi's decision to step aside from the Prime Minister's post in 2004, calling it an extraordinary act of political sacrifice. "When Sonia Gandhi was asked by the President to take oath as Prime Minister, she said, 'For me, power is not important.' She decided a Sikh, a minority, and an economist should lead the country. That was an unmatched decision," he said. He then contrasted this with the present political landscape: "Has anyone

in such a big democracy made such a sacrifice? Even a small position is not let go today. At the panchayat level, people refuse to share power. Some MLAs and ministers do, but many of us don't even agree to share power," Shivakumar remarked. Though he stopped short of naming anyone, the statement carries significant political weight in the backdrop of persistent reports of friction between him and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. It was widely speculated that the Congress central leadership

had brokered a power-sharing deal post the 2023 Karnataka election victory, under which Shivakumar would succeed Siddaramaiah after two and a half years. However, Siddaramaiah has publicly denied such an arrangement, asserting that he would serve the full five-year term. The timing and venue of Shivakumar's remarks—made during a high-level event in the national capital—have added further intrigue to the already sensitive issue of leadership transition in Karnataka.





Philippines President Embarks on 5-Day State Visit to India

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Philippines President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. landed in New Delhi on Monday to kick off his first official visit to India since assuming office in 2022, describing India as a “valued friend” and underlining the potential for expanded bilateral cooperation across sectors.

Speaking ahead of the five-day visit, President Marcos said, “Our bilateral relations have seen a measured and stable development that is both comprehensive in scope and multifaceted in nature.” He emphasized the mutual benefit of deeper engagement in defence, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, health, tourism, and digital connectivity.

He also expressed hopes that the visit would “bring concrete benefits for the Filipino people, such as more affordable medicine, greater connectivity, and food security.”

The state visit coincides with the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and the Philippines, highlighting a shared resolve to advance regional security and economic goals. Marcos noted that India’s democratic values, maritime interests, and Indo-Pacific strategy align with the Philippines’ vision for peace and cooperation in the region.

After his arrival in New Delhi, Marcos will meet with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and key Indian officials. The two leaders are expected to discuss expanding cooperation in strategic areas such as defence and security, political coordination, trade, investment, and people-to-people exchanges. They are also likely to exchange views on regional and international issues of common concern.

Following his engagements in the national capital, President Marcos will visit Bengaluru, where he is expected to meet Indian business leaders and technology stakeholders to further enhance economic and innovation partnerships.

India’s Ministry of External Affairs also highlighted the importance of this visit, noting that ties between the two nations have strengthened over the decades, particularly since the launch of the Look East Policy in 1992 and its later evolution into the Act East Policy.

President Marcos and Prime Minister Modi previously interacted at the ASEAN-India Summit in Lao PDR in October 2024 and during the 20th ASEAN-India Summit in Jakarta in 2023, where both sides expressed a commitment to deepening regional cooperation.

"Be Very, Very Careful with Nuclear Rhetoric": Russia to US

The Kremlin on Monday issued a cautious statement urging all nations to be “very, very careful” with nuclear rhetoric. This comes after former US President Donald Trump stated he had ordered two American nuclear submarines to reposition in response to comments from ex-Russian president Dmitry Medvedev. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov addressed Trump’s announcement, saying, “In this case, it is obvious that American submarines are already on combat duty. This is an ongoing process.” He downplayed the incident, avoiding direct confrontation or escalation, but emphasized that nuclear-related statements must be handled responsibly.

Trump had made the remarks last Friday, indicating the submarines were being moved to “appropriate regions” in light of Medvedev’s warning about the risk of war between nuclear powers. While this has sparked concern in international circles, the Kremlin appeared to



dismiss it as routine rather than provocative. “We do not believe that we are talking about any escalation now,” Peskov said. “Very complex, sensi-

tive issues are being discussed and are perceived emotionally by many.” When asked whether the Kremlin had asked Medvedev to refrain from aggressive rhetoric, Peskov avoided a direct answer. “In every country, there are individuals with different views — some are very tough-minded. That’s the case in both the US and European countries.”

He reiterated that the official stance on foreign affairs comes solely from President Vladimir Putin, highlighting that internal divergences in opinion don’t alter Russia’s official position.

The Kremlin’s measured response suggests that while Trump’s statement drew attention globally, Moscow is opting for restraint — at least publicly — to avoid feeding further speculation of a growing nuclear standoff.

Trump Aide Targets India Over Oil Delays with Russia

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Donald Trump’s deputy chief of staff, Stephen Miller, has sharply criticized India for continuing to buy Russian oil and allegedly “cheating” the U.S. on trade and immigration. Speaking to reporters on August 3, Miller accused India of indirectly “financing” the Ukraine war by importing large volumes of Russian crude, almost as much as China, according to a Bloomberg report.

“President Trump wants a tremendous relationship with India and its prime minister. But we need to get real about dealing with the financing of this war,” Miller stated. He suggested that under Trump’s leadership, “all options are on the table to deal diplomatically, financially and otherwise” with the Ukraine conflict.



Miller’s remarks come amid persistent pressure on India to cut its oil trade with Russia. The Biden administration has also raised similar concerns in recent months, though India has not shown urgency to change its course. Sources quoted by Bloomberg say that no formal instructions have been given to Indian

oil refiners to halt Russian imports. Both public and private sector oil companies are free to buy from their preferred sources, with purchases based on commercial decisions. In addition to oil trade, Miller lashed out at India for what he described as “massive tariffs” on American goods and manipulating the U.S. immi-

gration system. He didn’t elaborate on the latter, but his comments signal growing frustration within Trump’s camp toward India’s economic stance. Despite tensions, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reiterated India’s commitment to self-reliance. At a rally on August 2, Modi said, “The world economy is going through many apprehensions — there is an atmosphere of instability. Now, whatever we buy, there should be only one scale: we will buy those things which have been made by the sweat of an Indian.”

The Trump administration had earlier imposed a 25% tariff on Indian exports and threatened further actions. As the U.S. election season heats up, Trump’s team appears to be tightening its foreign policy rhetoric, especially regarding strategic allies like India.

India’s US Envoy Meets Tulsi Gabbard

TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

Indian Ambassador to the United States, Vinay Mohan Kwatra, held a meeting on Sunday with Tulsi Gabbard, the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) in the US, discussing key issues of mutual interest between the two nations. The meeting, described by Ambassador Kwatra as an “engaging conversation,” also included Gabbard’s husband Abraham Williams.

Kwatra posted about the meeting on X, stating, “Pleasure to meet DNI Tulsi Gabbard and her husband, Abraham Williams; we had an engaging conversation on various issues of mutual interest.” The meeting came a day after a significant move by India to expand its diplomatic outreach in the United States through the opening of eight new Indian Con-



sular Application Centres (ICACs). These new centres have been launched in Boston, Columbus, Dallas, Detroit, Edison, Orlando, Raleigh, and San Jose, taking the total number of ICACs in the US to 16. Another centre is expected to open in Los Angeles later this

month. Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Kwatra highlighted the importance of people-centric diplomacy in the India-US relationship. “We are very happy to announce the opening of 8 new Indian Consular Application Centres... We

firmly believe that people-to-people ties are the heart of the India-US partnership,” he stated.

The initiative, jointly launched by the Indian Mission and VFS Global, aims to provide enhanced consular services to the Indian-American community and others seeking India-related documentation. These centres will offer a full range of services including visa applications, Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) processing, passport renewals, renunciation of Indian citizenship, police clearance certificates, Global Entry Programme applications, and document attestation. To improve accessibility, the newly launched centres will remain open on Saturdays and include return courier services as part of the standard fees. Additional support such as photographs, photocopies, and form-filling assistance will also be available at no extra charge.

Beijing On High Alert as New Rainstorm Looms

TPN Correspondent | Beijing

Beijing has placed much of its mountainous regions under top alert as the city braces for another round of torrential rains on Monday, just days after deadly flooding killed 44 people—China’s worst rain-related disaster in the capital since 2012.

The Beijing Meteorological Bureau issued a red alert for six hilly districts—Mentougou, Fangshan, Fengtai, Shijingshan, Huairou, and Changping. Authorities have urged residents to avoid unnecessary travel as forecasters predict up to 200 mm of rainfall within a six-hour window beginning midday. This is nearly one-third of the capital’s average annual rainfall.

The recent floods have prompted officials to reassess their emergency response plans. Many of the victims were reportedly trapped at a nursing home in Miyun district, located in the city’s northeastern periphery. “The risk of flash floods and landslides is extremely high,” officials said in a public notice, urging strict caution. The city’s geography contributes to the disaster risk. With mountains surrounding Beijing to the west and north, moist air tends to get trapped, intensifying rainfall. This “rain trap” effect has been blamed for past flood disasters, including the catastrophic 2012 event which killed 79 people—many in the same western districts now under alert.

The current situation is raising alarm across other parts of China as well. In the southern province of Guangdong, five people were confirmed dead after being swept away during recent flash floods. More than 1,300 rescuers had been involved in the search operation, local media reported.

The capital’s emergency services remain on standby, and residents in high-risk areas have been advised to relocate to safer ground. Schools and workplaces in affected districts have been instructed to follow emergency protocols and suspend non-essential operations. Authorities are expected to hold a press briefing later today on additional safety measures and evacuation plans.



Equities Rebound on Metal, Auto & Institutional Buying

The series of losses came to an end. Domestic stock markets closed on Monday. They closed with huge gains. Although they fluctuated in the range for a while in the morning, they recovered from mid-session. The reasons for this were falling crude oil prices, good corporate results, support from metal and auto shares, and buying by institutional and retail investors. Overall, the Nifty gained 157 points and the Sensex gained 418 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 80,599 in the previous session, opened at 80,765 on Monday. It touched an intraday low of 80,5000. It reached an intraday high of 81,093. It finally closed at 81,018 with a gain of 418 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,596, touched a low of 24,554 and a high of 24,596. It closed at 24,722, up 157 points. The Nifty Bank rose one point to settle at 55,619.

In the Nifty50, 43 companies gained while 7 lost. Tata MotoCorp, Tata Steel, Bharat Electronics, Adani Ports, JSW Steel were the top gainers. Power Grid, HDFC Bank, ONGC, Apollo Hospitals, ICI- CI Bank were the biggest losers. Metal, Finance, Realty, Auto, IT, Media, Consumer Durables, PSU Bank, Pharma, Healthcare, Telecom and Oil indices rose. The FMCG index rose slightly.

Market breadth on the NSE today was in favor of buyers. Out of a total of 3093 stocks traded, 1833 gained and 1168 lost. 48 shares touched their 52-week high and 70 touched their 52-week low. The upper circuit was 90 and the lower circuit was 86.

The rupee weakened by 13 paise to settle at 87.65 against the dollar. Nomura has given a reduce rating to Godrej with a target price of Rs. 1900. CLSA has given an outperform rating to Federal Bank with a target price of Rs. 230. It is noteworthy



that HSBC has given a buy rating to ITC with a target price of Rs. 510. Kirloskar Ferrous's net profit rose 36% to Rs 95 crore from Rs 70 crore. Vascon Engineers' net profit rose from Rs 9.8 crore to Rs 22.5 crore. HSBC maintains Buy rating on UPL with a target price of Rs 775. Hero Moto sales in July grew 21% to 4.49 lakh units. 25 lakh shares changed hands in Axis Bank. Swan Defense and Warex Imaging signed an agreement to manufacture cargo and vehicle inspection systems. HSBC has given Buy rating to PB Fintech with a target price of Rs 2250. Premier Explosives has received an order worth Rs 190 crore. Ather Energy's net loss narrowed to Rs 178 crore from Rs 183 crore.

Stock Recommendations

JSW Steel: These shares, which have been

moving sideways for a few months, are now ready for a bull run. The trend is bullish. Uncertainty has reduced. Relative strength is increasing. Investors should take positions in the Rs. 1040 range in this counter, which closed at Rs. 1055 on Monday.

Grasim: This counter, which has been moving sideways for a few months, has started a bullish trend again. It is close to a key resistance. If it is overcome, there will

be a good base breakout. Investors should buy this counter, which closed at Rs. 2787 on Monday, above Rs. 2750 in the buy on dips method.

Tata Steel:

Despite the loss of momentum in the past few days, interest in these shares has increased as the metal sector is showing strength. There is a possibility of prices rising again. Investors should buy at Rs. 155 in this counter, which closed at Rs. 159 with a huge gain on Monday.



Hindalco: The trend is currently turning bullish in this counter. Relative strength and momentum are increasing. Investors should take a position in the Rs. 660 range in this counter, which closed at Rs. 687 on Monday.



SBI Life:

These shares have been consolidating at high levels for a few weeks. Relative strength and momentum in all time frames are good. In this counter, which closed at Rs. 1831 on Monday, as the market falls, it should be bought in the Rs. 1800 range.



Vikram Solar Secures 250 MW Module Order from Bondada Group



TPN Correspondent | Maharashtra

Vikram Solar, one of India's leading solar PV module manufacturers, has secured a major order from Bondada Group to supply 250 megawatts (MW) of high-efficiency solar modules. The modules will be deployed for a solar power project in Maharashtra, with deliveries set to begin in the financial year 2025-26. The company did not disclose the value of the order, but emphasized its significance in reinforcing Vikram Solar's position as a top-tier manufacturer listed under the Government of India's Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM). The modules supplied will be Vikram Solar's advanced N-Type variants, known for their superior energy output and long-term performance. Vikram Solar Chairman & Managing Director Gyanesh Chaudhary stated, "Every project we deliver is a reflection of the trust our partners place in our technology, performance, and com-

mitment to excellence." Bondada Group, which is actively involved in solar EPC and infrastructure projects, currently has over 3 GW of projects in hand. Bondada Group CMD Raghavendra Rao said, "With over 3 GW of projects currently in hand, and more opportunities emerging through trusted partnerships like this, we are confident of delivering purpose-led infrastructure with speed, innovation, and execution excellence." The upcoming project is expected to contribute significantly to Maharashtra's renewable energy capacity, reduce carbon emissions, and help meet the state's sustainability goals. Vikram Solar emphasized that this order aligns with its broader mission to support India's clean energy transition through technology-driven manufacturing and execution excellence. Headquartered in Kolkata, Vikram Solar has a cumulative module manufacturing capacity of 4.5 GW as of fiscal 2025.

GST Evasion Of ₹7.08 Lakh Crore Detected In 5 Years

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Central GST (CGST) field officers have unearthed a staggering ₹7.08 lakh crore worth of tax evasion over the last five financial years from 2020-21 to 2024-25. The revelation, made in the Lok Sabha on Monday by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, highlights the growing scale of fraud, especially in Input Tax Credit (ITC) claims. According to government data, a total of 91,370 GST evasion cases were detected during this five-year span, of which 44,938 were related specifically to ITC fraud — totaling ₹1.79 lakh crore. These fake ITC claims allow businesses to illegitimately reduce their tax liability by claiming credit for taxes never actually paid. In the current fiscal year 2024-25 alone, GST evasion of ₹2.23 lakh crore has been detected from 30,056 cases, with ₹58,772 crore linked to fake ITC claims from



15,283 cases. Similarly, during the 2023-24 fiscal, ₹2.30 lakh crore worth of tax evasion was uncovered, with ITC fraud accounting for ₹36,374 crore. In FY 2022-23, authorities found ₹1.32 lakh crore in evasion, including ₹24,140 crore of fake ITC. In the earlier years, the evasion stood at ₹73,238 crore (FY22) and ₹49,384 crore (FY21), with ITC-related frauds of ₹28,022 crore and ₹31,233 crore respectively. Over the five-year period, the govern-

ment managed to recover more than ₹1.29 lakh crore in taxes through voluntary deposits. Minister Pankaj Chaudhary said the government has implemented several digital reforms to tackle evasion and fraud, including e-invoicing, analytics-based GST return scrutiny, flagging system-based mismatches, and risk-based audits. These tools are intended to provide actionable intelligence to tax officials and ensure better compliance.

Responding to another query in the House, the Minister informed that the net Central GST collection for 2024-25 stood at ₹10.26 lakh crore — about 96.7% of the Revised Estimate (RE) of ₹10.62 lakh crore. This net figure includes CGST, Integrated GST, and compensation cess. In comparison, FY24 saw the government surpass its target slightly with collections reaching ₹9.57 lakh crore against the RE of ₹9.56 lakh crore.

ED Turns Heat on Anil Ambani Over ₹3,000-Cr Loan Fraud

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In fresh legal trouble for Reliance Group Chairman Anil Ambani, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has written to over a dozen banks, seeking detailed information about loans extended to his companies, including Reliance Housing Finance, Reliance Communications, and Reliance Commercial Finance. The ED has approached both public and private sector banks, including SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, UCO Bank and Punjab & Sind Bank. Sources familiar with the matter said the ED has requested documents related to the due diligence process for sanctioning the loans, the timeline of defaults, and the recovery steps taken since the loans turned into non-performing assets (NPAs). The ED is also likely to summon officials from these banks for questioning as part of its investigation into what it believes is a major corporate loan fraud that runs into ₹3,000 crore. The probe agency has intensified its efforts after it arrested Partha Sarathi Biswal, Managing Director of Biswal Tradelink Pvt Ltd, last week under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. Biswal is accused of submitting fake guarantees worth ₹68.2 crore on behalf of Reliance Power. Sources say the ED believes fake guarantees were used to secure loans which were later misused. It is also probing possible quid pro quo arrangements between Reliance Group firms and YES Bank promoters, as payments were allegedly made to the latter just before loan disbursements.



The ED has already conducted raids at over 50 firms linked to the case and is now expanding the probe to cover lending institutions. A lookout circular has also been issued against Anil Ambani to prevent him from leaving the country during the ongoing investigation. The ₹3,000-crore case primarily involves loans disbursed by YES Bank between 2017 and 2019 to various Reliance Group entities, which eventually turned into bad loans. With the first arrest already made and the agency zeroing in on bank officials, the case could mark a major escalation in legal troubles for the embattled industrialist.

Airtel Xtelify Launches Cloud & AI Suite

Bharti Airtel's digital arm, Xtelify, has launched two major offerings to accelerate digital transformation for enterprises and telcos worldwide: a sovereign 'Airtel Cloud' platform and an AI-powered software suite.

Tailored to handle 140 crore transactions per minute and already powering Airtel's internal systems, the new Airtel Cloud offers IaaS, PaaS, and AI-driven provisioning. Hosted on sustainable, next-gen data centers and managed by 300 certified experts, it promises up to 40% savings in cloud costs for Indian businesses, with no vendor lock-ins and complete in-country data control.

Xtelify also unveiled a next-gen software platform to help telcos globally simplify operations, enhance customer experience, and increase ARPU. The platform includes Xtelify Work (task and workforce optimization), Xtelify Serve (AI-driven customer service), Xtelify Data Engine (insights at scale), and Xtelify IQ (omni-channel engagement).

Strategic partnerships have already been signed to drive global adoption of Xtelify. In Singapore, Airtel has partnered with Singtel to deploy Xtelify



fy Work, aiming to enhance field operations and workforce productivity. In the Philippines, Globe Telecom has integrated Xtelify Serve to enable an AI-led transformation in customer service operations. Meanwhile, Airtel Africa has adopted the full Xtelify suite across 14 countries, empowering over 1.5 lakh field staff and strengthening efforts to combat fraud and operational inefficiencies.

Gopal Vittal, MD & VC of Airtel, called it a "pivotal moment," stating the platform's power has already transformed Airtel's internal operations. With strong global partnerships and cutting-edge digital infrastructure, Xtelify is poised to redefine the enterprise and telecom digital ecosystem across India and beyond.

Honda August Discounts

Up To ₹1.22 Lakh On Elevate, City, Amaze

Honda Cars India has introduced exciting discounts for August 2025 on its popular models including the Elevate, City, and Amaze. As per information shared by dealership sources, these offers are applicable in select locations and may vary depending on the dealership and state.

The biggest discount this month is on the Honda Elevate, where buyers of the top-spec ZX trim can avail up to ₹1.22 lakh in benefits. The VX variant of the Elevate is also being offered with discounts of up to ₹78,000. The Honda Elevate is currently priced starting from ₹11.91 lakh (ex-showroom).

In the case of the Honda City, petrol variants are eligible for discounts up to ₹1.07 lakh. However, the City e:HEV hybrid continues without any discount this month, as its prices were recently revised. The petrol Honda City starts from ₹12.38 lakh (ex-showroom).

The Honda Amaze also comes with generous offers. Buyers of the second-gen Amaze can avail up to ₹97,200 in discounts. Meanwhile,



the third-gen Amaze ZX trim is available with discounts up to ₹77,200, and the VX trim with benefits of up to ₹67,200. The second-generation Amaze starts from ₹7.63 lakh, while the new Amaze is priced from ₹8.10 lakh (ex-showroom).

These offers are valid through August 2025 and may include a mix of cash discounts, exchange bonuses, and corporate benefits. Interested buyers are advised to check with local dealerships for variant-specific and region-specific offers.

Broccoli also has These Side Effects

Broccoli is widely regarded as one of the healthiest vegetables, packed with essential nutrients. Yet, health experts caution that excessive consumption can lead to a variety of health issues.

While its high fiber content is beneficial in moderate quantities, eating too much broccoli can overload the digestive system, resulting in bloating, gas, and constipation.

Individuals with sensitive stomachs are particularly advised to limit its intake.

Broccoli also contains compounds known as goitrogens, which can hinder thyroid function. These compounds block iodine absorption, potentially reducing the production of thyroid hormones. For people with existing thyroid conditions, overconsumption of broccoli may worsen their symptoms.

Another concern is broccoli's rich vitamin K content, which plays a crucial role in blood clotting. For individuals on blood-thinning medications for heart conditions or other reasons, consuming



large amounts of broccoli could interfere with the drugs' effectiveness and increase the risk of clot formation.

Some people may also experience allergic reactions to broccoli, including symptoms such as skin rashes, itching, or swelling. In such cases, immediate medical attention is advised.

In conclusion, while broccoli remains a valuable part of a healthy diet, experts strongly recommend moderation. People with thyroid issues, heart conditions, or digestive sensitivity should consult a healthcare provider before making broccoli a regular part of their meals.

20 Peacocks Found Dead Near Stream in Karnataka

In a shocking incident from Hanumanthapura village in Karnataka, twenty peacocks — India's national bird — were found dead under mysterious circumstances near a stream. According to reports, local farmers discovered the carcasses of 17 female and 3 male peacocks, prompting immediate concern and investigation by the Forest Department.

Forest officials who reached the spot collected evidence and dispatched the carcasses to the Forensic Science Laboratory. Officials stated that the cause of death would be confirmed after scientific examination, with poisoning being one of the suspected causes.

This mass death comes at a time when Karnataka is already grappling with a series of unexplained wildlife fatalities. Just a month earlier, 20 monkeys were found dead in the Chamara-janagar district, where forest and police officials also suspected poisoning.

In another alarming case, five tigers — a tigress and her four cubs — died on June 27 in the Male Mahadeshwara Hills Wildlife Sanctuary. Initial investigation revealed that the tigress had preyed on a cow that was allegedly poisoned by villagers in retaliation. The meat was laced with poison, leading to the tragic deaths. Three individuals — Konappa, Madaraja, and Nagaraj — from Koppa village were arrested in that case.

Both the peacock and tiger incidents have raised serious ques-



tions about wildlife protection and human-animal conflict in Karnataka. While the forest department does offer compensation for livestock killed by wild animals, the benefit is not extended when such killings occur within the core areas of sanctuaries or national parks — where cattle grazing is illegal. The recent peacock deaths are particularly disturbing given the state's commitment to preserving the species. Karnataka is home to two prominent peacock sanctuaries — Adichunchanagiri and Bankapura — both established to protect and conserve the national bird.

With multiple wildlife deaths being reported in short succession, activists and environmentalists are urging stricter enforcement of wildlife laws and better coordination between forest officials and local communities to prevent further incidents.



114-Year-Old Shigeo Kagawa Becomes Japan's Oldest Living Person

Shigeo Kagawa, a 114-year-old retired physician from Japan's Nara Prefecture, has officially become the oldest living person in the country, according to Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The announcement follows the death of Miyoko Hiroyasu, who was also 114.

Kagawa, an obstetrician and gynaecologist by profession, served as a wartime physician at a hospital in Osaka during the Second World War. After a long career in medicine, she retired at the age of 86

from her family-run clinic.

Despite her age, Kagawa remains a symbol of Japan's famed longevity. She drew global attention in 2021 when, at 109, she took part in the Tokyo Olympics torch relay—becoming one of the oldest Olympic torchbearers in history.

Speaking to local media in 2023, Kagawa credited her long life to a carefree and active lifestyle. "I don't have any [secret]... I just play every day. My energy is my greatest asset. I go where I want, eat what I want and do what I want. I'm free and

independent," she told TOS News.

Before her, the title was held by Miyoko Hiroyasu, born in 1911, who passed away in a nursing home in Oita Prefecture. A former art student, Hiroyasu spent her final days reading, sketching, and playing card games. She raised three children and remained mentally and physically active until her passing.

Both women are celebrated as reflections of Japan's aging yet resilient population, where longevity continues to break global records.

India Clinches Thriller in Oval Nail-Biter

Siraj and Krishna’s heroics seal 2-run win in historic Test finish

India pulled off one of the most dramatic Test wins in its cricketing history by defeating England by just 2 runs at The Oval on Day 5 of the final Test, levelling the series 2-2. It is India’s narrowest-ever victory in terms of runs in Test cricket. The match reached a fever pitch with England needing just 35 runs on the final day and having two wickets in hand, but an inspired bowling effort led by Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna turned the tide.

England, resuming at 339/8 and chasing a target of 374, had an entire day to reach their goal but lasted just 53 tense deliveries. Jamie Overton gave the hosts early hope with two boundaries off the day’s first two balls, but the next over changed everything. Jamie Smith, England’s last recognized batter, edged one behind off Siraj, triggering a collapse. Overton soon fell LBW to a sharp inswinger by Siraj, and though Josh Tongue resisted briefly — even overturning a close call on review — he was eventually castled by Krishna with 17 runs still required. Drama peaked when Chris Woakes, nursing a dislocated left shoulder, bravely walked in to bat one-handed. With Woakes in obvious pain, Gus Atkinson shielded him by farming strike. At one point, Atkinson hit a six off a spilled catch by Akash Deep and edged the equation down to 11 runs.



However, with immense pressure mounting, Atkinson was bowled attempting a sweep to a full toss from Siraj. England were dismissed for 367, falling short by just two runs. Siraj finished with figures of 5 wickets in the innings, while Krishna’s timely strike proved decisive. Woakes was lauded by Indian players for his courageous stand despite injury. The crowd, too, gave him a rousing ovation for his fighting spirit. Though India won the match and squared the series, they remain third in the World Test Championship standings. The match will be remembered not just for its close margin but for the heart, grit, and unpredictability Test cricket can deliver — even in the span of less than an hour on a rainy London morning.

Siraj Is A Captain’s Dream, Says Shubman Gil

India captain Shubman Gill showered praise on pacer Mohammed Siraj for his relentless bowling efforts in the recently concluded Test series. Speaking after India’s thrilling win, Gill lauded both teams for their competitiveness and singled out Siraj for his consistency and intensity throughout the series. “Definitely both the teams played brilliantly throughout the series. Both the teams came up with their A-game, happy to get on the right side today,” Gill said in his post-match presentation. Emphasising the role of the bowling unit in the final Test, he added, “When you have bowlers like Siraj and Prasidh, captaincy seems easy. They were making the ball talk.” India had to defend a sizeable 367-run target on the final day, and the skipper acknowledged the pressure but praised the way his bowlers handled the situation. “Yes, there was a bit of pressure on us but they were really bowling well. We were confident. We wanted them to feel the pressure throughout the 367 runs they scored,” he said. Referring to Siraj’s efforts, Gill remarked, “He is a captain’s dream. Every ball, every spell he bowled, he came all out and gave it



everything for the team. Both teams coming into Day 5 not knowing who would win shows how passionate both teams were and how hard everyone has played.” Talking about his own performance, Gill expressed satisfaction at ending as the series’ top scorer. “Feels very rewarding. There were certain things I wanted to work on as a batter and it was a goal to end as the best batter of this series, glad to get that goal,” he said. On what he has learned from the contest, Gill concluded, “That we never give up.”



Messi Sidelined Indefinitely with Muscle Injury

Inter Miami has confirmed that their star forward and captain Lionel Messi will be sidelined indefinitely due to a “minor muscle injury” in his right leg. The injury occurred during Saturday’s Leagues Cup match against Necaxa, where the 38-year-old Argentine exited the field in the 11th minute. Messi walked off the pitch and into the locker room on his own after feeling discomfort in his upper right leg. Subsequent medical tests revealed a minor muscle injury, the club said in a statement released Sunday. “There is no set timetable for his return,” Inter Miami added. “His medical clearance will depend on his clinical progress and response to treatment.” This uncertainty comes at a crucial point in the season. Messi currently leads the MLS scoring charts with 18 goals and has also provided nine assists in just 18 matches. His absence is a major concern not only for Inter Miami’s league campaign but also for their title defense in the Leagues Cup. Veteran defender Jordi Alba, who scored a stoppage-time equalizer in Saturday’s 5-4 penalty shootout win, described Messi’s departure as “a huge sadness for the whole team.” Inter Miami is currently fifth in the MLS Eastern Conference with 42 points from 22 matches, trailing leaders Philadelphia by eight points but having three games in hand. In the ongoing Leagues Cup, the club is in a strong position to qualify for the knockout rounds and could clinch a quarter-final spot with a win over UNAM Pumas on Wednesday. However, Messi’s absence could alter their momentum significantly in both competitions.

Zverev Advances After Cerundolo Retires with Injury

Top seed Alexander Zverev progressed to the quarterfinals of the National Bank Open after his opponent, 14th-seeded Francisco Cerundolo of Argentina, retired due to an abdominal injury. Zverev was leading 6-4, 1-0 when Cerundolo pulled out during their Saturday night match. Zverev, the 2017 champion and current world number three, will now face Australia’s Alexei Popyrin, the defending champion. Popyrin secured his quarter-final spot with a comeback win over fifth-seeded Holger Rune of Denmark, winning 4-6, 6-2, 6-3. With top-ranked players Jannik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz skipping the tournament, Zverev was the highest seed in the draw. Other major players like Novak Djokovic and Jack Draper have also opted out of this year’s event, opening



the field for new contenders. Earlier in the day, American Alex Michelsen defeated compatriot Learner Tien 6-3, 6-3 to enter the quarterfinals. He will face 11th seed Karen Khachanov of Russia, who beat eighth-seeded Casper Ruud 6-4, 7-5. The hard-court tournament is set to conclude on Thursday.

Sreeshankar Clinches Gold at Qosanov Memorial

Indian long jumper Sreeshankar marked a successful comeback with a gold medal at the Qosanov Memorial 2025 athletics meet held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on Saturday. Competing in the men’s long jump event, the 26-year-old secured the top spot with a leap of 7.94 metres on his very first attempt. This event, part of the World Athletics Continental Tour Bronze label series (Category C), witnessed Sreeshankar maintain his winning streak, making it his third consecutive victory since returning to competition.



According to Olympics.com, Sreeshankar’s jump comfortably secured him the title. The Philippines’ Janry Ubas finished second with a best attempt of 7.53 metres, while Azerbaijan’s Nazim Babayev came in third with 7.48 metres. Sreeshankar, one of India’s top track and field athletes, had been building momentum ahead of major international events. His latest victory adds to his growing reputation on the global stage and sets a positive tone for upcoming competitions in the season.

Surya Begins Rehab at NCA After Surgery



India’s T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav has officially begun his rehabilitation at the National Cricket Academy (NCA), now known as the Centre of Excellence (CoE), in Bengaluru. The star batter is undergoing fitness assessments and recovery sessions in preparation for the upcoming Asia Cup scheduled to be held in the UAE from September 9 to 28. The 33-year-old was recently left out of West Zone’s 15-member Duleep Trophy squad, a decision confirmed by selectors after he informed them of his unavailability due to ongoing rehab. Shardul Thakur has been appointed captain of the squad, which features prominent Mumbai players like Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shreyas Iyer, Sarfaraz Khan, Shams Mulani, Tanush Kotian, and Tushar Deshpande. Suryakumar had publicly revealed in June that he underwent surgery for a sports hernia in Munich. “Underwent surgery for a sports hernia in the lower right abdomen. Grateful to share that after a smooth surgery, I’m already on the road to recovery. Can’t wait to be back,” he posted on June 26. According to officials from the Mumbai Cricket Association, Suryakumar remains optimistic about recovering in time to lead India in the Asia Cup. He was last seen in competitive action for the Mumbai Indians during IPL 2025.



It’s Not Always Good to Play the Good Guy: Nagarjuna



Veteran actor Nagarjuna shared interesting insights about his role in the upcoming film *Coolie*, starring Rajinikanth and directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj. Speaking at the film’s pre-release event in Hyderabad, Nagarjuna commented that it is not always good to stick to positive roles, quoting Rajinikanth himself. “It’s not good to always act like good guys, like Rajini sir says. Simon’s role in *Coolie* is really like a hero,” he said, referring to his character in the film. Nagarjuna explained that experimenting with roles is what keeps him engaged and excited on film sets. “Some people said, after a film like *Ninne Pelladatha*, why do *Annamaiya*? But I’ve always believed in trying new things. I’ve taken blows, but I’ve also seen big success,” he said. Recalling how the collaboration with Lokesh Kanagaraj began, Nagarjuna said, “One day, Lokesh came to me and said, ‘If you let me tell a story with you as a villain, I’ll do it. Otherwise,

I’ll just have tea and leave.” Nagarjuna revealed that he had wanted to work with the young director ever since he watched *Khaidi*, and that desire eventually brought them together. He also recounted how the character of Simon was developed after Lokesh narrated the story. “After hearing it, I asked him whether Rajini sir would accept such a bold concept. Lokesh calmly explained, and I recorded that narration. Later, with some changes, Simon’s role was shaped into what it is today,” Nagarjuna added. He also praised Lokesh Kanagaraj’s composure and clarity on set. With *Coolie* set to release on August 14, expectations are high, especially with such a bold casting choice and a unique narrative from Lokesh Kanagaraj. Nagarjuna’s portrayal of Simon is already gaining attention for its complexity and unconventional nature.

Mahavatar Narsimha Becomes Box Office Sensation in Hindi Belt

What began as a low-profile animated release has now turned into a theatrical phenomenon. *Mahavatar Narsimha*, an animated mythological feature based on the Vishnu avatar story, has clocked a phenomenal ₹67.25 crore at the Hindi box office in just 10 days. The film opened with a modest ₹1.35 crore on Day 1 but witnessed a staggering 1200% jump in collections by the second weekend. Despite its limited promotions and lack of star power, *Mahavatar Narsimha* has managed to draw massive family audiences and repeat viewers, a feat rarely achieved by Indian animated films. Multiplexes and single screens alike have reported housefull shows in cities such as Delhi, Lucknow, Jaipur, and Mumbai.

Trade experts say the film’s relatable cultural theme, combined with engaging storytelling and high-quality animation, struck a chord with both children and adults. The story, based on Prahlad and the ferocious Narsimha avatar of Lord Vishnu, is deeply embedded in Indian traditions, especially during *Holi*ka Dahan and *Holi* festivities — giving the film a strong emotional connect. Unlike previous animated Indian films that struggled for audience attention, *Mahavatar Narsimha* has gone pan-India with dubbed versions in multiple regional languages, though the Hindi version remains the strongest performer. Industry insiders suggest that the film’s suc-



cess could set a new benchmark for mythological animation in India, long considered a niche or commercially risky segment. Theatres have already increased show counts, and discussions are underway for a possible sequel or spin-off. As of now, *Mahavatar Narsimha* continues its dream run with sold-out weekend shows and growing interest from school groups, temples, and family audiences — signaling a cultural as well as commercial victory.

Kiran Abbavaram names son ‘Hanu’ at Tirumala



Young Tollywood actor Kiran Abbavaram and his wife Ardhangi Rahasya have named their son ‘Hanu Abbavaram’ in a traditional and devotional ceremony held at the sacred Tirumala temple. The couple performed the naming ceremony in the presence of Lord Venkateswara, expressing their wish for their son to be eternally blessed by Srivari and Anjaneya Swamy. Speaking to the media, Kiran Abbavaram said, “We have immense devotion for Anjaneya Swamy. We were blessed with our son on Hanuman Jayanti this May, and we’ve named him ‘Hanu’ in memory of that divine connection. Holding this ceremony at Srivari’s abode makes it even more special. These are emotional and unforgettable moments for us as parents.” Photos from the ceremony,

showcasing the family amid the serene Tirumala surroundings, have gone viral on social media. Fans are showering blessings on the child and appreciating the couple’s spiritually significant gesture. Kiran and Rahasya’s decision to celebrate the naming at one of the holiest sites in the country is being seen as a mark of their deep-rooted belief and devotion. The name ‘Hanu’ — derived from Lord Hanuman — reflects their hope for a life filled with strength, grace, and divine protection for their child. On the professional front, Kiran Abbavaram is currently working on his upcoming film *K Ramp*. Simultaneously, he is nurturing new talent through his home banner KA Productions, signaling his dedication to both his career and the future of Telugu cinema.

NTR Doesn’t Need Rehearsals, Says Hrithik

The excitement around *War 2* just got bigger, as Hrithik Roshan publicly praised Jr NTR’s remarkable dance skills during a recent event in Sri Lanka. The two stars, set to share screen space in the much-awaited sequel, are set to feature in a high-octane dance sequence that fans have been eagerly waiting for. Hrithik, known for his own prowess in dance, spoke highly of Jr NTR, saying, “Jr NTR is incredible, and a true

champ. He’s the first co-star I’ve worked with who doesn’t need rehearsals. He has every step inside him already. That amazed me completely. Working on the dance-off with Jr NTR was an extraordinary experience, and I learned a lot from him, which I’ll now incorporate.” The statement has further reinforced Jr NTR’s reputation in Telugu cinema as a one-take performer. Fans and industry insiders alike have



long praised the actor for his ability to grasp complex choreography with ease, often delivering flawless moves in the very first take. Hrithik’s endorsement brings national attention to this rare skill, highlighting the mutual respect between the two pan-India stars.

The upcoming dance-off has been choreographed by Bosco Martis and set to music by Pritam. The track, according to the makers, will be released around August 7 and is expected to be a massive visual treat, blending Hrithik’s smooth style with NTR’s explosive energy.

Rashmika Reveals her Off-Screen Routine

Pan India star Rashmika Mandanna, who is constantly occupied with back-to-back film shoots, recently opened up about how she spends her time when not facing the camera. During an interaction with fans, the actress shared insights into her off-screen routine, giving a glimpse into the personal side of her otherwise hectic life.

“When I’m not shooting, I love spending time with my pet dog,” said Rashmika. “I usually go on walks, play with my dog, catch up on shows I’ve missed, or read books.” She added that indulging in these small joys brings balance to her fast-paced lifestyle. But it’s not all rest and relaxation. Rashmika also dedicates time to her entrepreneurial commitments. “Sometimes I’m busy with brand-related calls. I’m also actively involved in my project ‘Dear Diary’ — as a founder, I make sure I’m part of every step,” she revealed.

The actress emphasized that despite her professional demands, her health and peace of mind are top priorities. “I regularly do yoga, weight training, and other forms of exercise to stay fit. Spending time with nature, family, or even just being alone is part of my routine,” Rashmika said. Known for her glowing skin and positive energy, the actress shared that a healthy diet and a consistent skincare regimen help her manage stress. Fans praised her balanced approach to life, admiring how she handles fame, fitness, and business with the same grace that she brings to the big screen.

