

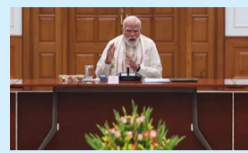


BUZZ POINTS



NFHS-6 Row Escalates as Nadda, Kharge Clash Over India's Health Survey Findings

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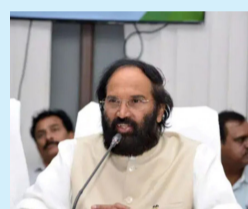
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Projects to Boost Global Image, Says Revanth Reddy

Koheda, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy stated that the proposed integrated fruit market at Koheda in Ranga Reddy district will elevate Hyderabad's stature to international standards. He laid the foundation stone for the integrated fruit market and an integrated sub-registrar complex on Saturday, asserting that such infrastructure projects are key to transforming the city into a global hub.

Addressing the gathering, Revanth Reddy recalled the hardships faced by farmers after the fruit market was shifted to Koheda, where temporary arrangements exposed them to difficult conditions. "Farmers suffered injuries during windstorms due to makeshift tents. I had promised to build a permanent integrated market when I was an MP, and we are now fulfilling that commitment," he said. The new facility will cater to both fruits and vegetables, ensuring better infrastructure and safety for



traders and farmers.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the poor conditions prevailing in registration offices, citing lack of drinking water and seating facilities. He said the integrated sub-registrar complexes are being constructed to provide modern amenities and improve public services.

Revanth Reddy emphasized that infrastructure projects

like the Regional Ring Road (RRR) will continue despite criticism. "Development will not stop under any circumstances," he asserted, adding that Telangana is demonstrating that agriculture can be a profitable and sustainable sector. He announced that the government is providing a bonus of 500 per quintal to paddy farmers, reinforcing its commitment to the farming

community.

Launching a sharp attack on Bharat Rashtra Samithi, he remarked that the "car" symbol has "broken down and is in the workshop," indicating political decline. He criticized K Chandrababu Naidu for failing to complete the Palamuru-Rangareddy project despite earlier promises.

Revanth Reddy said the government is prioritizing the 'Future City' project as an alternative to the pollution-prone Pharma City, aiming to attract 500 global companies. He also targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stating that the Centre must ensure procurement of Telangana's grain produce. He added that he would work towards making Rahul Gandhi the Prime Minister and secure national status for key irrigation projects, along with funds for Metro expansion and the RRR.

The Chief Minister asserted that coordinated development initiatives will strengthen Telangana's position on the national and global stage.



Congress Protest Targets Centre Over NEET Row, Fuel Price Hike

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud on Saturday launched a sharp attack on the Central Government over the NEET-UG examination controversy and rising fuel prices, alleging gross negligence and anti-people policies.

A massive protest rally was organized from Bashirbagh Crossroads to the Ambedkar statue at Tank Bund, drawing large participation from Congress leaders and party workers. Minister Ponnampet Prabhakar, Rajya Sabha Member Anil Kumar Yadav, AICC Secretary Sachin Sawant, Khairatabad DCC President Mota Rohit, and several other leaders joined the rally in solidarity with affected students.

Addressing the gathering, Mahesh Kumar Goud said the alleged paper leak and subsequent cancellation of the NEET-UG examination had left lakhs of students across the country in distress. He termed the incident a clear reflection of administrative failure and accused the Centre of playing with the future of students. He said aspirants who had prepared for months were now facing uncertainty due to the government's negligence.

Demanding accountability, he called for the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, holding him responsible for the examination fiasco. Congress leaders

also alleged that the crisis had pushed several students into severe distress and demanded justice for affected families.

The protestors also raised concerns over CBSE's functioning, alleging lapses in conducting national-level examinations and failing to ensure transparency. Slogans were raised against the Central Government, demanding immediate corrective measures.

Mahesh Kumar Goud further criticized the Centre for increasing LPG, petrol, and diesel prices soon after elections, stating that the move has imposed an additional burden on common people. Protesters demanded an immediate rollback of the fuel price hikes.

He also pointed to broader governance issues, including the depreciation of the rupee and reported incursions by China, alleging that these developments expose the Centre's failure on both economic and national security fronts.

Reaffirming the party's support, Mahesh Kumar Goud said the Congress stands firmly with students and their families. He added that under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Telangana is implementing a people-centric governance model with a strong focus on education and healthcare.

The rally concluded with a call for continued agitation until the Centre addresses the concerns of students and provides relief to the public.

Revanth Reddy Highlights HYDRAA Crackdown, Calls for Skill Shift Among Youth

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has asserted that the HYDRAA enforcement mechanism was established with a clear objective to curb the rampant encroachment of water bodies across Hyderabad and surrounding regions. Speaking at a conference in Bengaluru, the Chief Minister said the initiative has already created a strong deterrent effect, with people now hesitating to encroach upon lakes and ponds.

Elaborating on the government's approach, Revanth Reddy stated that affluent sections had been illegally occupying water bodies to construct luxury villas and farmhouses, while also dumping construction debris into lakes. "To put an end to such activities, we constituted HYDRAA as a dedicated 3,000-member force led



by a senior IPS officer. Today, any illegal structure raised through encroachment is being demolished without hesitation," he said.

The Chief Minister empha-

sized that the HYDRAA model is gaining national attention for its firm enforcement and structured approach to protecting natural resources. He added that the initiative aligns

with the state government's broader vision of urban sustainability, environmental conservation, and planned development.

Revanth Reddy also highlighted the role of the 'Eagle Force,' a specialized unit set up to combat the growing drug menace. He described it as one of the most effective anti-narcotics forces in the country. "Both HYDRAA and the Eagle Force are being closely watched across India as models of governance and enforcement," he noted.

Touching upon employment trends, the Chief Minister addressed concerns regarding job losses in the white-collar sector due to the rise of artificial intelligence and automation. He advised the youth to adapt to changing economic realities by focusing on skill development in emerging and alternative sectors.

"There is a perception that AI is reducing white-collar job opportunities. In this context, blue-collar jobs are emerging as a viable alternative. The youth must identify these opportunities and equip themselves with relevant skills," he said.

He further stressed the importance of vocational training, technical education, and industry-aligned skill development programmes to enhance employability. The government, he said, is working towards creating an ecosystem that supports both innovation and job creation. Revanth Reddy's remarks underscore Telangana's dual focus on strict enforcement against illegal activities and proactive measures to prepare the workforce for future challenges, positioning the state as a progressive model in governance and economic adaptation.

Telangana Eyes Global Leadership in Rice Exports

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that Telangana is aiming to emerge as a global hub for rice exports, modern technologies, and value-added products after achieving the status of the country's leading paddy-producing state.

Addressing the International Rice and Grains Tech Expo 2026 at the HITECH Exhibition Centre in Hyderabad as chief guest, Uttam Kumar Reddy described rice millers as key partners in the state's development and assured full government support to benefit farmers, millers, and consumers.

The Minister said the government is considering special incentives for newly established export-oriented rice mills and existing units shifting towards exports to strengthen Telangana's presence in the global rice market.

Highlighting challenges in the sector, he pointed out that labour shortage has become a major issue and stressed the need for mechanization and automation to improve productivity and efficiency.

Uttam Kumar Reddy emphasized the urgent need for modern storage infrastructure, including steel silos, automated warehouses, AI-based grain monitoring systems, and digital inventory management. He invited investments under the Public-Private Partnership model to develop high-capacity storage facilities.

He also urged industries to adopt eco-friendly parboiling technologies to reduce water and electricity consumption, and to focus on nutrient-rich rice production using advanced processing techniques.

The Minister noted that Telangana produces around 300 lakh metric tonnes of paddy annually and accounts for nearly 60 percent of the country's Yasangi procurement. He added that 39,000 crore has been credited to farmers this season, while 96,000 crore has been disbursed since the Congress government assumed office.

He expressed confidence that coordinated efforts will position Telangana as a global leader in rice production and exports.

Counselling Centres Resolve 6,700 Marital Disputes, Says DGP CV Anand

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana DGP CV Anand stated that 6,700 out of more than 17,000 marital dispute cases registered across police stations in four commissionerates have been resolved through 30 counselling centres over the past few years.

He was speaking as the chief guest at the 'Mee Suraksha' programme themed 'Happiness Lies in Togetherness,' organised by the Malkajgiri Police Commissionerate at Imperial Gardens in the Cantonment area on Saturday. The DGP noted that changing lifestyles and evolving social conditions are leading to misunderstandings among couples.

He said efforts are being made to resolve disputes through counselling centres instead of women police stations, enabling couples to reunite and lead peaceful lives. Highlighting women's safety initiatives, he referred to the establishment of Bharosa centres and SHE Teams. He observed that ego clashes and minor disagreements are increasingly resulting in separations, stressing that counselling plays a key role in restoring harmony.



S.N. Sridevi, Head of Telangana State Judicial Academy, said families are the foundation of values and that couples must learn adjustment to sustain happy marriages. She noted that Community Media Centres have been set up under the Law Department in places such as Kamareddy and Hyderabad to address disputes.

DGP of the Women's Safety Wing Charu Sinha and Malkajgiri Commissioner Sumathi also addressed the gathering. Representatives from My Choices Foundation and police officials participated. Several couples shared experiences of reconciliation after approaching counselling centres. The DGP presented mementos to representatives of these

centres. Meanwhile, the Telangana Police launched the 'Stree Ride' initiative to promote women's financial independence and safety. CV Anand flagged off e-bikes and e-autos under the project, a joint effort of the Women's Safety Wing and the State Transport Department. In the first phase, 55 women were trained in driving two-wheelers and three-wheelers at Amberpet Police Lines and issued licences. The DGP appreciated women working with delivery platforms such as Zomato and Swiggy and called for increasing the number of women riders threefold within four months, reaffirming government support for women's empowerment.

Former MLA Bolla Brahmanaidu Remanded in Gandipet Case

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Former YSRCP MLA Bolla Brahmanaidu has been remanded to 14 days of judicial custody by the Upparapalli Court in connection with the Gandipet land-grabbing case. Following the court's orders, police shifted him to Chanchalguda Jail, marking a significant development in the ongoing investigation.

Bolla Brahmanaidu was arrested by Cyberabad police in Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, and subsequently brought to Hyderabad by road. Upon arrival, he was taken to the Narsingi Police Station, where officials recorded his statement as part of the probe. He was later produced before the Upparapalli Court under tight security.

The case triggered tension at the Narsingi Police Station, as a large number of YSRCP activists and supporters gathered after learning about his arrival. However, police restricted entry into the premises citing security concerns, leading to a brief period of unrest.

After hearing arguments, the court remanded Bolla Brahmanaidu to judicial custody for 14 days. He was transferred to Chanchalguda



Jail.

Police have already arrested five individuals in connection with the Gandipet land-grabbing case. With the arrest of the former MLA, the total number of arrests has risen to six. Officials stated that several others are being questioned as part of the ongoing investigation.

Cyberabad police are conducting a detailed probe into allegations of land encroachment, document irregularities, and the involvement of various individuals. Authorities indicated that further action would be taken based on evidence gathered during the investigation.

The arrest and remand of Bolla Brahmanaidu have assumed political significance, drawing attention across Telangana's political landscape.

Pawan Kalyan Consoles Shankar Goud's Family

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Janasena chief and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan expressed deep condolences over the passing of Bharatamma, mother of Janasena State President Shankar Goud. On Saturday, Pawan Kalyan visited Shankar Goud's residence in Swaraj Nagar, Borabanda, and paid his respects to Bharatamma's mortal remains.

He spent time with the bereaved family and conveyed his heartfelt sympathies. Pawan Kalyan urged the family members to remain strong during the difficult time.



Leaders and party cadres also gathered at the residence to pay their last respects and extend support to the grieving family.

Ponnam Prabhakar Leads Tree Plantation Drive on World Environment Day

Karimnagar, June 05 | TPN Bureau

Marking World Environment Day, Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar participated in a large-scale tree plantation programme at Deer Park in Karimnagar town and called upon citizens to actively contribute to environmental conservation by planting and protecting trees.

The programme was attended by District Collector Chitra Mishra, Police Commissioner Ghaus Alam, SUDA Chairman Komatireddy Narendra Reddy, Chief Conservator Officer Kshitij, Additional Collector Ashwini Tanaji Wakade, Municipal Commissioner Prapal Desai, Munnuru Kapu Corporation Chairman Bomma Sriram Chakravarthy, RTA Member Padala Rahul, DFO Satyanarayana, corporators, public representatives, and senior officials.

Extending World Environment Day greetings, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar said environmental protection should not remain confined to speeches and discussions. He urged people to take responsibility for safeguarding nature through meaningful action. He emphasized that society must serve as a guiding force in spreading awareness about environmental conservation.

The Minister noted that government initiatives become successful only with public participation. Referring to a plantation programme conducted in Siddipet district last year, he said nearly 11,000 people, ranging from attendants to the District Collector, participated in a simultaneous plantation drive. He suggested organizing similar initiatives in Karimnagar.

Highlighting eco-friendly



measures undertaken in Husnabad constituency, Ponnam Prabhakar said steel utility kits containing 13 items were distributed to 280 women's self-help groups. Around 70,000 steel plates and steel glasses were also distributed to encourage reduced plastic usage. He added that Husnabad and Suryapet municipalities were receiving recognition for their outstanding performance.

The Minister said committees comprising five members each had been formed in villages across his constituency to oversee plantation and environmental protection activities. He further stated that under the Indiramma Housing Scheme, nearly four lakh houses are being constructed across the state, and beneficiaries are being encouraged to plant useful trees such as curry leaf, drumstick, and guava saplings.

Calling for extensive avenue

and housing plantations, he urged authorities and citizens to utilize every available space for greenery. He also highlighted the state's EV policy, which offers significant tax exemptions to reduce pollution and ensure Hyderabad does not face environmental challenges similar to heavily polluted metropolitan cities.

Expressing concern over weather forecasts indicating the possible impact of El Niño this year, Ponnam Prabhakar stressed the need for rainwater conservation through recharge pits in every household. "If we protect nature, nature will protect us," he said, urging everyone to plant trees and uphold the spirit of "Vriksho Rakshati Rakshitah" (Protect Trees, Trees Protect Us). He also referred to the Prime Minister's call to plant trees in the name of one's mother and encouraged citizens to turn that message into action.

Congress Hits Back at BRS Over Palamuru-Rangareddy Project

Hyderabad, June 05 | TPN Bureau

TPCC Media Communications Chairman Sama Ram Mohan Reddy strongly criticized the BRS over its remarks on the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project, accusing the previous government of misleading the people of Telangana and failing to complete the project despite being in power for ten years.

In a press statement issued on Thursday, Sama Ram Mohan Reddy questioned former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) for not completing the project after promising in 2015 that it would be finished within two years. He said it was surprising that BRS leaders were now presenting themselves as defenders of a project they had allegedly failed to execute effectively.

The TPCC leader alleged that the BRS government spent thousands of crores of rupees in the name of irrigation projects without delivering the promised benefits to farmers. Referring to BRS

claims that 90 percent of the Palamuru-Rangareddy project had been completed, he challenged the party to explain the status of several key components.

Sama Ram Mohan Reddy pointed out that nine motors were planned for installation at the Narlapur pumping station, but only one motor had reportedly been installed during the BRS regime. He questioned how the project could be termed nearly complete when such a crucial requirement remained pending.

He also alleged that distributary canal excavation works had not been taken up despite substantial expenditure. Raising concerns over the utilization of nearly 28,000 crore, he demanded an explanation regarding the spending of public funds when major works remained unfinished.

Further attacking the BRS, he asked whether even a single acre had received irrigation water under the project during the party's decade-long rule. According to him, the project failed to provide practical ben-



efits despite repeated claims of progress.

Sama Ram Mohan Reddy praised Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy for speeding up pending works, addressing land acquisition issues, and taking steps to install the remaining motors. He said the present government was committed to

completing the project and ensuring irrigation benefits reach farmers. He also accused the BRS of relying on misleading presentations and publicity campaigns instead of answering questions about its performance. He asserted that the people of Telangana would judge the project based on results rather than political claims.

Ponnam Prabhakar Backs Rahul Gandhi's Stand on Nicobar Island Conservation

Hyderabad, June 05 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar has expressed solidarity with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's concerns over environmental issues related to the development of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, emphasizing that economic growth should not come at the cost of ecological destruction.

Speaking on the occasion of World Environment Day, Ponnam Prabhakar said development is essential for the nation's progress, but it must be carried out in a manner that protects nature and preserves ecological balance. He stated that projects undertaken in environmentally sensitive regions should prioritize sustainability and long-term environmental protection.

Referring to the ongoing discussions surrounding development activities in the Nicobar Islands, the Minister said Rahul Gandhi had raised serious concerns about the potential impact of large-scale industrial projects on the region's unique ecosystem. According to Ponnam Prabhakar, the Congress leader has been consistently highlighting the need to safeguard natural resources and biodiversity while pursuing development initiatives.

The Minister noted that the Nicobar Islands are internationally recognized for their ecological significance, rich biodiversity, and unique geographical characteristics. He expressed concern that extensive developmental activities could adversely affect the fragile environmental balance of the region if adequate safeguards are not implemented. Ponnam Prabhakar alleged

that large numbers of trees and green cover in the area could be affected by proposed development works. He argued that environmental conservation must remain a priority and that any project undertaken in such ecologically sensitive zones should undergo careful evaluation to ensure minimal impact on nature.

He clarified that neither he nor the Congress party opposing development. However, he stressed that growth should be inclusive, environmentally responsible, and beneficial to future generations. Projects should strike a balance between economic progress and environmental sustainability, he said.

The Minister further stated that protecting forests, biodiversity, and natural ecosystems is a collective responsibility. He called upon citizens,

environmental activists, and public representatives to support efforts aimed at preserving ecologically important regions across the country.

On World Environment Day, Ponnam Prabhakar urged people to draw inspiration from Rahul Gandhi's environmental advocacy and actively participate in initiatives that promote conservation and sustainable development. He said environmental protection should remain a shared social commitment and appealed for greater awareness about the importance of preserving natural resources for future generations.

The Minister reiterated that development and environmental conservation must go hand in hand and emphasized that safeguarding nature is essential for ensuring a sustainable and prosperous future.

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Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy to Appear Before SIT in Phone Tapping Probe

Hyderabad, June 05 | TPN Bureau

Bhuvanagiri Member of Parliament Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy is scheduled to appear before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Friday in connection with the ongoing phone tapping investigation in Telangana. SIT officials are expected to record his statement as part of their probe into allegations of unauthorized surveillance of political leaders during the previous BRS government.

According to sources, police have informed Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy to report to the Integrated Command and Control Centre in Hyderabad at 11 a.m. on June 6. His appearance before the SIT comes after investigators reportedly identified him as one of the leaders whose phone may have been subjected to surveillance.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy emerged as a key Congress leader during the 2023 Telangana Assembly elections and played a significant role in strengthening the party's campaign in the Bhuvanagiri region. Congress leaders have often credited him with contributing to the party's success during the Assembly elections, which ultimately brought the Congress to power in the state.

Building on that political momentum, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy contested the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from the Bhuvanagiri constituency



and secured victory, becoming a Member of Parliament. Since then, he has remained an active voice on several public and political issues.

The SIT investigation is focused on allegations that the phones of several opposition leaders, particularly Congress leaders, were monitored during the previous administration. As part of the inquiry, officials have been identifying individuals who may have been affected and collecting their statements to determine the scope and nature of the alleged surveillance activities.

Investigators are expected to seek details from Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy regarding any incidents, communications, or circumstances that may assist the probe. His testimony could provide valuable

information as officials continue to piece together evidence related to the alleged phone tapping network.

The phone tapping case has attracted significant public and political attention in Telangana, with the SIT examining technical records and statements from several individuals connected to the matter. Authorities have maintained that the investigation is being conducted thoroughly and in accordance with legal procedures.

With Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy set to appear before the SIT on Friday morning, the investigation is expected to move forward as officials continue gathering evidence and recording statements from key political figures linked to the case.

Hyderabad, June 05 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has decided to conduct a state-wide special training programme for Anganwadi staff on June 7 with a focus on strengthening food safety standards and ensuring the delivery of safe and nutritious food to beneficiaries. The initiative is being organized under the directions of Women and Child Welfare Minister Seethakka as part of World Food Safety Day observances.

According to officials, the programme aims to enhance awareness among Anganwadi workers regarding food quality, hygiene, safe storage practices, and nutrition standards. The government has placed special emphasis on maintain-

ing food safety measures for children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers who depend on Anganwadi services for nutritional support.

To ensure effective implementation, Food Safety Officers have been designated as master trainers across districts. These trainers will conduct awareness sessions and provide practical guidance to Anganwadi staff on various aspects of food handling and safety management.

The training programme will cover key areas such as food safety regulations, hygienic cooking practices, proper storage techniques, contamination prevention, and maintaining cleanliness in Anganwadi centres. Officials said the initiative is intended to improve the quality of services

provided through Anganwadi centres and strengthen public confidence in the nutrition programmes being implemented by the government.

Special focus will also be placed on educating staff about the safe preparation and distribution of supplementary nutrition provided to beneficiaries. Participants will be trained to identify potential food safety risks and adopt preventive measures to ensure the well-being of children and women receiving nutritional assistance.

The programme will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). Officials believe that enhancing the knowledge and skills of Anganwadi workers will play a

crucial role in improving nutrition outcomes and promoting healthy practices at the grassroots level.

The Women and Child Welfare Department stated that food safety is a vital component of public health and that continuous training and capacity-building efforts are necessary to maintain high standards across all Anganwadi centres in the state.

Through this initiative, the government aims to create greater awareness about food safety while ensuring that beneficiaries receive safe, hygienic, and nutritious food. The programme is expected to benefit thousands of Anganwadi workers and contribute to the overall improvement of nutrition and child welfare services across Telangana.

Husnabad Municipality Wins Green Honour

Hyderabad, June 5 | TPN Bureau

Husnabad Municipality received recognition as one of the best municipalities in the state for its outstanding performance in waste management and environmental protection. The prestigious award was presented on the occasion of World Environment Day during a special programme organized by the Pollution Control Board (PCB) in Hyderabad.

The award was received by

Husnabad Municipal Chairperson Dandi Lakshmi and Commissioner Mallikarjun from the hands of State Forests and Endowments Minister Konda Surekha. The recognition highlights the municipality's commitment to maintaining cleanliness, promoting environmental conservation, and implementing efficient waste management practices for the benefit of residents.

Following the achievement, TPCC Chief and MLC Bomma Ma-

hesh Kumar Goud, along with Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, congratulated and felicitated Chairperson Dandi Lakshmi and Commissioner Mallikarjun for bringing laurels to the municipality. They praised the dedicated efforts of the municipal administration in ensuring effective sanitation systems and creating a cleaner and healthier environment for the people.

Speaking on the occasion, the leaders stated that the award reflects the collective efforts of mu-

nicipal officials, public representatives, sanitation workers, and citizens. They emphasized that environmental protection and cleanliness are shared responsibilities and that sustained participation from all sections of society is essential to achieve long-term success in waste management and ecological conservation.

Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud and Ponnam Prabhakar expressed hope that the recognition would serve as a source of inspiration for

the municipality to continue its efforts toward sustainable development and improved civic services. They also appreciated the role played by councillors, municipal staff, and residents in maintaining cleanliness standards and supporting various environmental initiatives.

The leaders further noted that such achievements demonstrate how local bodies can contribute significantly to environmental sustainability through proper plan-



ning, public awareness, and efficient implementation of waste management systems. They encouraged municipalities across the state to adopt similar practices and work collectively toward building cleaner and greener urban communities. The award has brought pride to Husnabad Municipality and

stands as a testament to its commitment to environmental stewardship. Officials expressed confidence that the honour would motivate them to strengthen their initiatives further and continue setting benchmarks in cleanliness, waste management, and environmental protection in the years to come.



Revanth Reddy Unveils Vision for Koheda Fruit Market, Targets Opposition

Hyderabad, June 7 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday outlined an ambitious development agenda while addressing a public meeting at Koheda, highlighting plans for a world-class fruit market, infrastructure expansion, and welfare initiatives.

The Chief Minister said Hyderabad has evolved into a global city with a population of nearly 1.3 crore, creating a growing demand for agricultural and horticultural products. To meet these needs, the government is constructing an international-standard fruit market over 240 acres at Koheda. He stated that the project would ensure efficient supply of fruits, vegetables, and dairy products while providing better facilities for farmers and traders. Operations at the market are expected to begin by December, with full completion targeted within two years.

Revanth Reddy also announced plans to establish a tomato processing and sauce manufacturing unit in the Kandukur region and reiterated the government's commitment to developing Bharat Future City, which he described as a future hub for global investment and employment. He said the project aims to attract 500 leading international companies.



Launching a strong attack on the opposition Bharat RashtraSamithi, the Chief Minister accused its leaders of obstructing development projects, including Bharat Future City, the Regional Ring Road, airports, and irrigation schemes. Highlighting welfare measures, Revanth Reddy said the government has issued 15 lakh ration cards, sanctioned 4.5 lakh Indiramma houses, waived 20,000 crore in farm loans, provided free bus travel for women, and extended zero-interest bank linkage loans to women's groups. He asserted that the government remains committed to balancing development and welfare despite financial challenges and pledged to continue implementing major infrastructure projects across Telangana.

Faheem Hits Back at Harish Rao, Defends Congress Government

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Food Corporation Chairman and TPCC Vice President M. A. Faheem launched a sharp attack on senior BRS leader T. Harish Rao, accusing him of making baseless allegations against the Congress government and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Addressing a press conference at Gandhi Bhavan on Saturday, Faheem said Harish Rao was not in a position to challenge the Chief Minister and asserted that Congress leaders were fully capable of responding to his criticism. He alleged that Harish Rao had avoided debates in the past when questions were raised about the achievements of the previous BRS government during its decade-long rule.

Referring to Harish Rao's claims that BRS would win a majority of seats in the Palamuru region, Faheem questioned the party's current strength in Medak, pointing out that BRS failed to secure a Lok Sabha seat there. He also cited the Congress party's victories in local body and by-elections as evidence of growing public support.

The Congress leader accused the previous BRS administration of large-scale corruption in projects such as Mission Kakatiya and the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. He alleged that the present government is burdened with repaying debts accumulated during the BRS regime while continuing to implement welfare and development programmes.

Faheem challenged Harish Rao to first respond to allegations raised within his own party before demanding public debates with Congress leaders. He expressed confidence that the Congress government would retain public support and return to power in future elections.



MP Chamala Appears Before SIT, Alleges Widespread Phone Tapping

Hyderabad, June 7 | TPN Bureau

Bhongir MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy appeared before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Saturday in connection with the alleged phone tapping case that has generated significant political debate in Telangana. Speaking to the media after appearing before the SIT, the Congress MP alleged that his phone was tapped in July 2023 when he was serving as the Chairman of the TPCC Media Committee and was closely associated with then TPCC chief Revanth Reddy. He claimed that surveillance was carried out because of his political activities and association with senior Congress leaders. Chamala further alleged that the phone tapping operation was extensive and involved the monitoring of thousands of phones. According to him,

private conversations of political leaders and other individuals were intercepted. He stated that the details uncovered by the SIT would be shocking to the public. The MP also claimed that several prominent political figures were affected by the alleged surveillance. He asserted that BRS leader T. Harish Rao was among those whose phone was allegedly tapped, adding that changes were made to his personal staff due to concerns over surveillance. He also referred to previous statements made by K. Kavitha, who had alleged that her phone was tapped. Chamala accused the previous administration of misusing state power and expressed confidence that the SIT investigation would reveal the full extent of the alleged phone-tapping network. The investigation into the case is currently ongoing.

Kavitha Alleges Large-Scale Government Land Transfers in Telangana

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Jagruthi President K. Kavitha on Saturday alleged that the Revanth Reddy-led Congress government is facilitating the transfer of valuable government lands to influential individuals and corporate interests. Addressing the media in Hyderabad, she claimed that government properties worth nearly 1 lakh crore were being handed over under the guise of development and administrative decisions.

Kavitha alleged that several senior political leaders, government officials, Members of Parliament, and MLAs were linked to the land transactions. She expressed concern over what she described as the misuse of public assets and warned that her organization would explore all legal options, including approaching the Supreme Court, to safeguard government lands.

Criticizing the government's policies, she claimed that ac-



tions were being taken against settlements of poor residents while valuable public lands were being allocated to powerful interests. She asserted that government land belongs to the people of Telangana and should be protected for public welfare and future generations.

Drawing a political comparison, Kavitha remarked that the state's governance was in-

creasingly being influenced by a select group of individuals. She accused the Congress government of deviating from its promises and failing to protect public resources.

The Telangana government has not yet responded to the allegations. Kavitha said her party would continue to raise the issue and mobilize public opinion to protect government properties across the state.

RS Praveen Kumar Targets CM Revanth Over Remarks on Deputy CM Bhatti

Hyderabad, June 7 | TPN Bureau

BRS General Secretary R. S. Praveen Kumar launched a sharp attack on Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, alleging that his recent remarks indirectly insulted Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka.

Addressing the media, Praveen Kumar claimed that Bhatti Vikramarka was being repeatedly humiliated within the Congress government despite holding the position of Deputy Chief Minister. Refer-

ring to Revanth Reddy's recent comments, he alleged that the remarks were aimed at Bhatti and questioned why senior leaders were being subjected to such treatment.

The BRS leader further accused the Chief Minister of failing to show adequate respect to his deputy and claimed that Bhatti Vikramarka had endured several instances of public embarrassment without responding. He alleged that the Congress leadership was sending the wrong message through such comments and actions. Praveen Kumar also raised

concerns about what he described as disrespect toward leaders from Scheduled Caste communities. He questioned whether social background should determine how political leaders are treated and called for equal respect for all public representatives regardless of caste or status.

The remarks come amid ongoing political exchanges between the ruling Congress and the opposition BRS, with both parties frequently trading accusations over governance, leadership, and political conduct in Telangana.



DK Aruna Calls for Intensified BJP Campaign Against Congress Government

Yadagirigutta, June 6 | TPN Bureau

BJP National Vice President and Mahabubnagar MP D. K. Aruna called upon party workers to intensify public campaigns and democratic agitations against what she termed the Congress government's failure to fulfill its election promises.

Addressing the inaugural session of the DeenDayalUpadhya training camp for Hyderabad Central District BJP cadres at Yadagirigutta on Saturday, Aruna urged party leaders and workers to prepare for large-scale protests, hunger strikes, and public outreach programmes across Telangana. She also inaugurated a photo exhibition as part of the event.

The BJP leader asserted that public dissatisfaction with the Congress government is growing due to the alleged non-implementation of key promises made to women, youth, farmers, and unemployed people. She claimed that welfare com-

mitments, including financial assistance schemes and unemployment benefits, remain unfulfilled.

Aruna said BJP workers should take Central Government welfare initiatives directly to the people while highlighting the State Government's shortcomings. She emphasized that the party must strengthen its grassroots network and mobilize public support ahead of future elections.

Expressing confidence in the BJP's prospects, she said the party is steadily expanding in Telangana and should aim to hoist the saffron flag over the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC). Drawing parallels with the BJP's growth in other states, she urged cadres to work with dedication and unity to bring the party to power in Telangana.

The programme was attended by senior BJP leaders, including Boora NarsiahGoud, district office-bearers, and party workers.

Raghunandan Rao Highlights Self-Employment Opportunities

Hyderabad, June 7 | TPN Bureau

BJP MP M. Raghunandan Rao has sparked discussion with his remarks on employment and entrepreneurship, stating that self-employment can often generate higher earnings than many conventional government jobs.

Speaking to the media, Raghunandan Rao emphasized that employment should not be viewed solely through the lens of government recruitment. He pointed out that small businesses and self-employment ventures can provide substantial income and financial independence.

Citing the example of the popular Hyderabad eatery Gokul Chat, the MP claimed that a food counter there could generate earnings of around 1 lakh per day, far exceeding the daily income of most government employees. He argued that running businesses such as food stalls, snack counters, and other entrepreneurial ventures should be considered respectable and viable career options. Raghunandan Rao said that self-employment plays a crucial role in economic growth and job creation. He stressed the need to encourage young people to explore entrepreneurship instead of depending exclusively on government jobs.



His comments come amid continuing debates over employment opportunities and job creation. While governments at both the Centre and state levels have announced various recruitment drives and employment initiatives, the MP underscored the importance of promoting entrepreneurial skills and supporting small businesses as an additional pathway to livelihood and economic empowerment.

The remarks have since attracted widespread attention on social media, generating discussion on the merits of self-employment versus traditional government jobs.

Women Safety Priority: Minister Reviews Markapuram Policing

Markapuram, June 6, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Home and Disaster Management Minister Smt. Vangalapati Anitha emphasized that women's safety and protection must remain the top priority during a review meeting with police officials of the newly formed Markapuram district held in Kanigiri on Saturday. She appreciated the

performance of SP Sri V. Harshavardhan Raju, IPS, noting a 17% decline in crimes against women and effective road safety measures. The Minister reviewed law-and-order, police administration, and jurisdictional issues, and directed officials to strengthen crime prevention strategies. She instructed strict action against offences targeting minor girls

and stressed respectful handling of victims at police stations. She also urged wider use of CCTV cameras, drones, and fingerprint technology for better crime control. Awareness programmes in educational institutions were recommended to educate students on legal rights and consequences of crime. The Minister also called for intensified vehicle checks at

border points to curb drug and ganja trafficking.

SP Harshavardhan Raju detailed measures such as timely investigations, improved conviction rates in POCSO cases, Shakti Team awareness drives, convex mirror installations, and continuous surveillance systems. Senior police officials participated in the review meeting.



Telangana Eyes Global Leadership in Rice Exports

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy has said the state is aiming to become a global hub for rice exports, technology, and value-added rice products after emerging as one of India's leading paddy-producing states.

Addressing the International Rice and Grains Tech Expo-2026 at HITEX Exhibition Centre in Hyderabad on Saturday, the Minister described rice millers as key partners in Telangana's agricultural growth and assured government support for modernization of the sector.

He announced that the government is considering special incentives for export-oriented rice mills and existing units willing to shift towards exports. The initiative is aimed at strengthening Telangana's presence in international rice markets.

Highlighting the challenges posed by labour shortages, Uttam Kumar Reddy urged millers to adopt mechanization and automation to improve productivity and efficiency. He



also called for investments in modern infrastructure, including steel silos, automated warehouses, AI-based grain monitoring systems, and digital inventory management facilities under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.

The Minister stressed the need for eco-friendly technologies in parboiling units to reduce water and power consumption while promoting sustainable processing practices. He also advocated nutrient-preserving rice processing methods to improve food quality.

Stating that Telangana produces nearly 300 lakh metric tonnes of paddy annually, he said collaborative efforts by farmers, millers, technology experts, and policymakers would help transform the state into a global centre for rice production, innovation, and exports.

Gandhi Hospital Doctors Successfully Remove Rare Tumor



Secunderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Doctors at Gandhi Hospital and Medical College successfully performed a complex laparoscopic (keyhole) surgery to remove a rare adrenal gland tumor, giving a new lease on life to a 27-year-old woman from Mahabubnagar district.

The patient, S. Lavanya of Chityala village in Makthal Mandal, had been suffering from severe and uncontrolled high blood pressure for nearly two years despite being on multiple medications. Following detailed medical evaluation, doctors diagnosed her with pheochromocytoma, a rare adrenal gland tumor that affects only a small number of people worldwide.

The high-risk surgery was carried out successfully through the coordinated efforts of specialists from multiple departments. The urology

team was led by Dr. Ravichander, while Dr. Vijay Shekhar headed the endocrinology team. The anesthesia team was led by Dr. Muralidhar and the radiology team by Dr. Srihari.

Hospital officials stated that the minimally invasive procedure enabled the safe removal of the tumor while reducing recovery time and surgical complications. They noted that Gandhi Hospital has successfully treated ten such rare cases over the past five years, reflecting the institution's growing expertise in handling complex endocrine disorders.

Doctors said the successful outcome highlights the availability of advanced healthcare services in government hospitals and demonstrates the Telangana government's commitment to providing quality, world-class medical treatment to patients, particularly those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Authorities Clear Footpath Encroachments on KPHB Colony



Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Town Planning officials on Saturday conducted a special drive to remove footpath encroachments along the busy MeeSeva Road in KPHB Colony, Hyderabad, aiming to improve pedestrian movement and ease congestion in the area.

During the operation, officials cleared several temporary structures and roadside stalls, including tiffin centers, chicken pakodi outlets, and juice kiosks that had been operating on the footpath. The drive was carried out following repeated complaints that unauthorized occupations were obstructing public pathways and creating inconvenience for pedestrians.

According to local residents, small traders have been conducting business along Mee-Seva Road for several years, gradually occupying portions of the footpath. Town Planning authorities had reportedly is-

sued warnings and raised concerns on multiple occasions before initiating the enforcement action.

Officials stated that public spaces and footpaths are meant for pedestrian use and that encroachments would not be permitted as they pose safety risks and contribute to traffic bottlenecks. The clearance operation was undertaken as part of ongoing efforts to maintain civic order and ensure unobstructed access for the public.

Meanwhile, affected vendors expressed concern over the action, stating that roadside businesses serve as their primary source of livelihood. Some traders alleged that the drive had caused hardship to families dependent on daily earnings and appealed to the authorities to provide alternative arrangements for small vendors. The operation drew attention from local residents and commuters, with mixed reactions over the balancing of public convenience and livelihood concerns.

Defeat Is First Step to Success: Minister Vakiti Srihari

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Sports Minister Vakiti Srihari said that defeat should be viewed as the first step towards victory and urged students to develop resilience in the face of challenges. He was speaking as the chief guest at the closing ceremony of the month-long summer training camp held at Gachibowli on Saturday.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister praised the participation of nearly 600 students in the camp, which was conducted from April 24 to June 7. He appreciated the organizers for successfully conducting the training programme every year and providing young athletes with an opportunity to develop their sporting skills.

Srihari expressed concern that many students become mentally discouraged by minor setbacks and failures. He emphasized that sports play a



crucial role in building both physical fitness and mental strength. Students, he said, should cultivate the determination to rise again after a defeat rather than giving up.

The Minister also advised youngsters to spend more time on sports grounds instead of becoming addicted to mobile phones. He said the government is promoting the message of "shunning intoxicants and heading to the sports grounds" to encourage a healthier lifestyle among youth.

Highlighting the government's commitment to sports

development, Srihari announced that sports infrastructure across the state would be strengthened and skilled coaches appointed under the new sports policy. He noted that significant budgetary allocations had been made for sports this year.

The Minister further revealed that around three lakh children participated in the second edition of the CM Cup and set a target of five lakh participants for the third edition. Prizes were distributed to students who completed the summer training camp.

Five Convicted in Charminar Eve-Teasing Case

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

In a strong message against harassment of women, five individuals involved in eve-teasing incidents near the historic Charminar have been convicted and sentenced by a local court following action by Hyderabad SHE Teams.

The accused were caught red-handed during a special operation conducted by SHE Teams after they allegedly harassed women in public, behaved indecently, and touched them inappropriately. Cases were registered immediately, and the accused were produced before the court without delay.

The Nampally Court found all five accused guilty and sentenced each of them to three days of simple imprisonment. The court also imposed a fine of 1,000 on each offender.

Hyderabad SHE Teams stated that the action reflects the police department's zero-tolerance policy towards crimes and harassment against women. Officials reiterated that strict legal action would be



Khaja Moin Uddin

Ahmed

Ishak



Ramzan

Imran

taken against individuals involved in stalking, eve-teasing, cyber harassment, and other offences targeting women.

Police urged women and the public not to remain silent when facing harassment and to report incidents immediately. Citizens can seek assistance by calling emergency helplines 100 or 112 or by contacting the

SHE Teams WhatsApp helpline at 9490616555.

Reinforcing its awareness campaign, SHE Teams highlighted its message: "Silence protects the offender; not you." Officials encouraged women to come forward and report any form of harassment to ensure safer public spaces across the city.

Secunderabad Student Enters Guinness Records

Secunderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

A talented young musician from Bansilalpet, Secunderabad, has brought laurels to the city by earning a place in the Guinness World Records through an international keyboard music event.

M. Eliezer, a Class 10 student and son of Pastor M. Prabeen Kumar of Hebron Fellowship, was among the standout participants in a world-record keyboard performance organized by Hallel Music School. The event, held in Hyderabad on February 2, 2026, witnessed nearly 2,000 keyboard players from 22 countries performing continuously for one hour in the presence of Guinness

World Records representatives.

Out of the thousands of participants, 777 students who displayed exceptional talent were specially recognized by the organizers. Eliezer was among those selected and was later felicitated at the "Guinness Achievers Meet" held at Victory Auditorium in Gachibowli on May 29.

Founder of Hallel Music School, Augustine Dandingi, personally presented certificates to the achievers and congratulated them on their accomplishment.

To celebrate the achievement, Eliezer, accompanied by his family members, met Tala-sani Srinivas Yadav on Friday. The former minister and MLA



honored the young achiever by presenting him with his Guinness World Record certificate and a medal.

Congratulating Eliezer, Tala-sani expressed confidence that the student would achieve greater success in the future and assured him of continued support and encouragement in pursuing his talents.

DGP Stresses Women's Participation as Key to Faster Development

Hyderabad, June | TPN Bureau

Director General of Police (DGP) C.V. Anand emphasized that empowering women is essential for accelerating social and economic development. He stated that women's empowerment should be a central component of the state government's Praja Governance and Pragati Plan initiatives.

Speaking to the media in Hyderabad on Saturday, the DGP highlighted efforts being undertaken through the Women's Safety Wing to create employment opportunities for women. As part of these initiatives, a special women riders programme has been launched to encourage greater female participation in the gig economy and transport-related services.

C.V. Anand revealed that 55 women have already received professional driving training under the programme and have been provided with em-



ployment opportunities. He noted that sectors traditionally dominated by men are now opening up to women, creating new avenues for financial independence and self-reliance.

"Until now, gig work has largely been carried out by men. From now on, women will also become an integral part of this sector," the DGP said, expressing confidence that increased participation of women in the workforce would contribute significantly to the state's development.

He stressed that providing

women with skills, employment, and a safe working environment is crucial for achieving inclusive growth. The initiative is expected to encourage more women to enter non-traditional professions while strengthening their economic empowerment and social status.

The DGP reiterated the government's commitment to promoting gender equality and creating opportunities that enable women to contribute actively to Telangana's progress.

Council Chairman Promotes Pochampally Handlooms at HITEX



Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy attended the "Pochampally Thread" textile exhibition at HITEX Hall-4 in Madhapur on Saturday and called upon people to support handloom weavers by purchasing and wearing traditional handloom fabrics.

During his visit, the Chairman toured the exhibition stalls, interacted with traders and weavers, and reviewed the wide range of handloom products on display. Speaking on the occasion, he highlighted the global recognition earned by Pochampally textiles for their craftsmanship, quality, and cultural significance.

Recalling his tenure as a Member of Parliament, Gutta Sukhender Reddy said he frequently presented Pochampally shawls to fellow MPs

and Union Ministers in New Delhi, using the opportunity to showcase the uniqueness of Bhoodan Pochampally handloom products. He noted that such efforts helped promote the rich weaving heritage of Telangana at the national level.

The Chairman also spoke about the initiatives undertaken for the welfare and development of handloom weavers, emphasizing the need to protect the traditional weaving sector and provide sustained support to artisan communities.

Urging citizens to preserve India's cultural heritage, he encouraged people to wear handloom garments and support local weavers. He also invited the public to visit the exhibition at HITEX, explore the diverse textile collections, and purchase quality handloom products, thereby contributing to the growth of the handloom industry.

Pawan Kalyan Condoles Demise of Shankar Goud's Mother

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Jana Sena Party chief and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan on Saturday expressed his condolences over the demise of Bharatamma, mother of Jana Sena State President Shankar Goud.

Pawan Kalyan visited Shankar Goud's residence in Swaraj Nagar, Borabanda, Hyderabad, where he paid his respects to the mortal remains of Bharatamma. The Deputy Chief Minister spent time with the bereaved family members and conveyed his heartfelt sympathies during their time of grief.

Offering condolences, Pawan Kalyan prayed for the departed soul and extended support to the family. He urged Shankar Goud and his rela-

tives to remain strong and face the loss with courage.

Party leaders and supporters were also present at the residence to pay their respects and express solidarity with the family. The visit reflected the Jana Sena leadership's support for party members during personal hardships.

Bharatamma's passing has saddened Jana Sena Party leaders and workers, many of whom have been visiting the family to offer condolences and pay tribute. Messages of sympathy have continued to pour in from political leaders and well-wishers following the news of her demise.

The Deputy Chief Minister's visit underscored his personal bond with Shankar Goud and his family, as he joined them in mourning the loss of a beloved family member.

Environmental Protection Requires Daily Commitment: Jalandhar Goud



Secunderabad, June 5 | TPN Bureau

Stressing that environmental conservation is a continuous responsibility rather than a one-day observance, Maktala Foundation Greenery Club Founding President Jalandhar Goud called upon citizens to actively participate in protecting nature. Speaking at a World Environment Day programme held in Secunderabad on Friday, he said every effort towards environmental protection contributes to restoring ecological balance and safeguarding future generations.

Referring to this year's World Environment Day theme focusing on land restoration, combating desertification, and drought resilience, Jalandhar Goud highlighted the growing challenges posed by deforestation, pollution, and climate change. He noted that rising temperatures, currently ranging between 42°C and 45°C in several regions, could increase

further if immediate action is not taken.

As part of the celebrations, the organization distributed saplings and promoted innovative urban gardening practices by encouraging the cultivation of plants in containers where open land is unavailable. The foundation also urged the public to adopt rainwater harvesting, construct soak pits, avoid single-use plastics, and segregate wet and dry waste for composting.

The programme also marked the 12th consecutive day of the foundation's free buttermilk distribution campaign, aimed at providing relief from the summer heat while spreading awareness about environmental conservation. The foundation announced plans to undertake a large-scale tree plantation drive during the upcoming monsoon season.

Several volunteers and environmental enthusiasts participated in the event.

BRS Leader Pawan Kumar Goud Urges Cadre to Ensure Success of SIR Programme



Secunderabad, June 7 | TPN Bureau

BRS Padmarao Nagar in-charge Gurram Pawan Kumar Goud has called upon booth agents and party workers to work with commitment and coordination to make the SIR programme a success.

Addressing a meeting of booth agents and key party leaders at Bellward Gardens on Saturday, Pawan Kumar Goud outlined the action plan for the programme and stressed the importance of grassroots-level participation. He announced that the SIR programme would commence on June 8 and be conducted on a daily basis, covering one polling station at a time to ensure effective implementation. Highlighting the unique demographic profile of Padmarao Nagar, which has a large number of apartment complexes, he said special awareness and mapping drives would be or-

ganized to strengthen outreach efforts. As part of the initiative, an awareness programme involving apartment associations will be held at Bellward Gardens on June 14, while another programme is scheduled for June 21 in the Shivananda Ashram area.

Pawan Kumar Goud urged party cadre to actively engage with residents, spread awareness about the programme, and ensure maximum participation. He emphasized that systematic planning and teamwork at the booth level are essential for achieving the programme's objectives.

The meeting was attended by Division President Venkatesh Raju and several senior leaders, including Aesuri Mahesh, Mittapalli Jagayya, Srikanth Reddy, Venkat Ramana, Sriramulu, Lambu Srinivas, Janardhan, Mukka Srinivas, Amrutha, Nagalakshmi, and other party functionaries.

Munnuru Kapu Leaders Call for Unity to Build 'Atma Gourava Bhavan'



Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Leaders of the Munnuru Kapu community have called upon members across Telangana to unite and contribute towards the construction of the proposed Atma Gourava Bhavan (Self-Respect Building) at Kokapet, describing the project as a symbol of the community's pride and collective identity.

Speaking at the grand foundation day celebrations of the Munnuru Kapu Foundation Trust held at the five-acre site allotted for the project, Apex Council Chairman and Government Whip Adi Srinivas urged every member of the community to become a stakeholder in the initiative. He said the building would stand as a monument to the self-respect and unity of the Munnuru Kapu community and pledged efforts to secure additional government support for the project.

Trust Board Chairman and Rajya Sabha MP Vaddiraju Ravichandra emphasized the need for collective participation, while former minister Gangula Kamalakar called upon community members to demonstrate unity under the slogan "One Caste, One Association."

Munnuru Kapu Corporation Chairman Bomma Sriram assured support for the welfare and advancement of the community and announced plans to contribute towards the construction after consulting his family.

Leaders stated that the proposed complex has been designed to serve future generations and will become a landmark institution for the community. District association representatives, trust board members, and community leaders from across Telangana attended the event and pledged support for the early completion of the project.

Seethakka to Personally Monitor Women's Federation Building Works Daily

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, and Women & Child Welfare, Dr. Dana-sari Anasuya Seethakka, has announced that she will personally monitor the progress of women's federation building construction works on a daily basis and conduct regular reviews through video conferences with officials across the state.

During a video conference held with Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, and SERP department officials while on a tour of Mulugu district, the Minister directed authorities to accelerate the construction of village women's federation buildings and Employment Guarantee Scheme works. Senior officials, including Special Chief Secretary Dana Kishore and Commissioner Divya Devarajan, participated in the review meeting.

Seethakka described the women's federation buildings

as a prestigious initiative of the state government and said they represent symbols of women's dignity and empowerment rather than mere physical structures. Referring to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's recent launch of foundation works for 8,000 such buildings across Telangana, she stressed that the project must be completed on a war footing.

The Minister warned that negligence in execution would not be tolerated and instructed officials to closely monitor quality standards and construction timelines. She directed MPDOs to function as programme officers in their respective mandals and ensure timely completion of the works.

Seethakka also called for greater focus on Employment Guarantee Scheme projects, emphasizing effective implementation to achieve development targets and strengthen rural infrastructure across Telangana.

MLA Ganesh Seeks Police Jurisdiction Reforms for Better Public Access

Cantonment, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Cantonment MLA Ganesh has appealed to the Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) to reorganize police station jurisdictions to improve public access to police services and ensure quicker response to grievances and emergencies.

In a representation to the DGP, the MLA highlighted the situation in Ambedkar Nagar, located near the Bowenpally Agriculture Market. Although the locality currently falls under the jurisdiction of the Alwal Police Station, its geographical position between the Alwal, Bowenpally, and Tirumalagiri police station limits often creates confusion and inconvenience for residents as well as police personnel.

Ganesh requested that Ambedkar Nagar be brought under either the Bowenpally or Tirumalagiri Police Station jurisdiction, arguing that such a move would make police services more accessible and efficient for local residents.

The MLA also raised concerns over the relocation of the Tukaramgate Police Station from its long-standing lo-



cation to Lalaguda. He said residents have been experiencing difficulties in filing complaints and obtaining timely police assistance following the shift. According to him, the increased distance has affected the delivery of emergency and routine police services. Seeking a permanent solution, Ganesh urged the authorities to restore the Tukaramgate Police Station to its original

location and reinstate its previous jurisdictional limits. He emphasized that a police presence closer to the community would strengthen public confidence, improve service delivery, and enhance law-and-order management in the area. The MLA expressed hope that the police department would consider the proposals in the larger interest of public convenience and safety.

Ministers Review Arrangements for Annual Fish Prasadam Distribution in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Vakiti Srihari on Saturday inspected preparations at the Nampally Exhibition Grounds for the annual distribution of fish prasadam to asthma patients on the occasion of Mrigasira Karte, scheduled to begin at 9 p.m. on June 8.

The ministers reviewed arrangements made for the large influx of devotees expected to attend the event and directed officials to ensure that visitors face no inconvenience. Rajya Sabha MP Anil Kumar Yadav, Fisheries Corporation Chairman Mettu Saikumar, SHOT Chairman Shivsena Reddy, and senior officials from various departments participated in the inspection.

Authorities were instructed to maintain strict crowd management measures, prevent stampedes, and ensure uninterrupted power supply throughout the programme. Special emphasis was placed on installing fans and coolers in queue areas to provide relief from the summer heat. Ambulances, medical camps, CPR teams, fire engines, and adequate medicine stocks will



be kept ready at the venue.

Officials were also directed to monitor the event through a dedicated control room and WhatsApp coordination groups until distribution is completed. Continuous surveillance through CCTV cameras, traffic management in surrounding areas, and deployment of SHE Teams to prevent pickpocketing and ensure public safety were also ordered.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Vakiti Srihari said the Battini family has been distributing fish prasadam for 176 years and that around 1.35 lakh fish fry have been arranged through the Fisheries Department. He stressed that all departments must work in coordination to ensure the smooth conduct of the traditional event, which will continue until the last devotee receives the prasadam.

Telangana Committed to Strengthening Handloom Sector: Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy reaffirmed the state government's commitment to the welfare of handloom weavers, stating that no artisan should be forced to abandon the profession due to economic hardships.

Addressing the "Thread... Pochampally" exhibition at HITEC on Saturday, the Minister praised the skill, creativity, and dedication of Telangana's weaving community. He described the exhibition as a tribute to thousands of weaving families whose craftsmanship has earned Pochampally textiles global recognition.

The exhibition features more than 100 stalls displaying authentic Pochampally sarees, fabrics, and contemporary handloom products. Visitors are also being offered live weaving demonstrations and insights into the renowned Ikat tie-and-dye technique, enabling direct interaction with artisans.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government is expanding market opportunities for weavers



through direct marketing initiatives, exhibitions, and e-commerce platforms to ensure that artisans receive better returns for their products. He emphasized the importance of innovation through partnerships with designers and educational institutions to develop products that appeal to young consumers and international markets.

Highlighting the role of technology, the Minister noted that digital branding and online

sales platforms would help take Pochampally products to customers across the globe. He also stressed the need to equip the next generation with skills in design, entrepreneurship, and digital commerce.

Calling upon the public to support handloom workers by purchasing authentic products, Uttam Kumar Reddy said such support would strengthen livelihoods while preserving Telangana's rich cultural heritage.

Yonex-Sunrise Sub-Junior Badminton Tournament Concludes on a High Note



Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

The Yonex-Sunrise All India Sub-Junior Ranking Badminton Tournament concluded successfully on Saturday at the renowned Pulella Gopichand Badminton Academy in Gachibowli after a week of intense competition. The prestigious event, held from May 29, attracted over 3,600 young shuttlers from 28 states, making it one of the largest junior badminton tournaments in the country.

The championship witnessed several thrilling matches across Under-15 and Under-17 categories. In the Under-15 Boys' Singles event, Aditya Singh Negi of Uttarakhnad emerged victorious, while Anvi Rathore of Rajasthan secured the girls' title. Telangana's Hamsini impressed with a run-

ner-up finish. In the Under-17 Girls' Singles category, Avani clinched the championship.

The Boys' Doubles crown went to the pair of Tabin Anuf Ahmed M.F. and Srichaitan Shaurya Shyamala, while Alexia Elsa Alexander and Jaya Saphashree M. Won the Girls' Doubles title. The Mixed Doubles championship was claimed by Liansangpuia and Kimkim Khongsai.

Telangana IT Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, who attended the closing ceremony, presented prizes to the winners and praised Pulella Gopichand for his outstanding contribution to Indian badminton. Officials of the Telangana Badminton Association congratulated the participants and expressed confidence that many of the young talents would go on to represent India at the international level.

Sridhar Babu Invites Malaysian Firms to Invest in Telangana's Semiconductor Sector



Hyderabad, June 7 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Information Technology and Industries D. Sridhar Babu has invited Malaysian companies to invest in the state's rapidly growing semiconductor and advanced manufacturing sectors, highlighting Telangana's emergence as a key destination for high-tech investments in India.

The Minister made the invitation during a meeting with a delegation from Penang, led by Deputy Chief Minister Jagdeep Singh Deo, at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat on Saturday.

The discussions focused on strengthening cooperation in semiconductor, electronics manufacturing, artificial intelligence, innovation, and human capital development. Sridhar Babu said Hyderabad is rapidly evolving into a major hub for chip design, electronics manufacturing, and emerging technologies, supported by proactive government policies and a strong industrial ecosystem.

He highlighted investment opportunities across sectors including semiconductors, biotechnology, life sciences, clean energy, aerospace, defence, and precision engineering. The Minister emphasized that Telangana is committed to building global partnerships that foster innovation, economic growth, and industrial expansion.

Referring to Penang's global reputation in semiconductor assembly, testing, and packaging, Sridhar Babu noted that collaboration with Malaysian firms could significantly strengthen Telangana's semiconductor value chain and enhance its competitiveness in international markets.

Jagdeep Singh Deo expressed Penang's interest in deepening ties with Telangana and exploring mutually beneficial partnerships. Both sides agreed to work towards a structured roadmap for cooperation in the identified sectors, paving the way for greater economic and technological collaboration between Telangana and Malaysia.

Talasanani Calls for Strengthening BRS in Khairatabad

Hyderabad, June 6 | TPN Bureau

Former Minister and BRS Deputy Floor Leader in the Assembly, Talasani Srinivas Yadav, called upon party leaders and activists to work unitedly to further strengthen the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) in the Khairatabad constituency.

Addressing a meeting of key BRS leaders at Telangana Bhavan on Saturday, held under the chairmanship of Dasoju Sravan, Talasani urged party cadres to ensure the success of the Khairatabad constituency-level meeting scheduled for June 14. He emphasized the importance of the Special Summary Revision (SSR) of electoral rolls and directed booth-level agents to ensure that every eligible youth above 18 years is registered as a voter. He also instructed party workers to intensify membership drives and conduct door-to-door outreach programs while engaging the public on the promises made by the Congress government before the



Assuring full support to dedicated party workers, Talasani said hardworking activists would receive recognition and opportunities within the party. He credited K. Chandrashekar Rao for Telangana's statehood movement and subsequent development, stating that BRS had transformed the state into a model of welfare and progress. Criticizing the Congress government, he alleged that it had failed to deliver on key promises and burdened the state with heavy debt. He expressed confidence that growing public dissatisfaction would pave the way for BRS to return to power and declared that the party would emerge stronger in upcoming elections.

Green Warrior Beyond the Silver Screen

Actor Sayaji Shinde's journey from cinema stardom to creating a vast ecological movement across Maharashtra

In Maharashtra, an orphanage has been established not for people, but for trees. In an age when even human beings often find themselves without support, actor Sayaji Shinde has created a sanctuary for abandoned and neglected trees.

For Telugu audiences, Sayaji Shinde is instantly recognizable through his memorable dialogue, "Tinnama... Padukunnama... Tellarinda?" Yet beyond the powerful screen presence that made him a household name lies a remarkable story of social commitment and environmental stewardship.

Shinde first gained recognition through Marathi theatre, appearing in acclaimed plays such as Jhulwa, One Room Kitchen, and Amchya Ya Gharat. His success on stage opened the doors to Marathi cinema and eventually to regional language films and Bollywood, where his commanding performances earned him widespread acclaim.

In Telugu cinema, Sayaji Shinde became synonymous with formidable villains and compelling character roles. His performances in films such as Tagore, Athadu, Pokiri, Arundhati, and Dubai Seenu left an indelible impression on audiences. Tamil viewers likewise admired his portrayal of the legendary poet Subramania Bharati in the film Bharathi. His acting prowess, resonant voice, and emotionally charged performances have made him one of the most respected actors in Indian cinema.

Born in 1959 in Maharashtra's Satara district, Sayaji Shinde came from a humble farming family. His childhood was marked by financial hardship, but his passion for theatre led him to Marathi



stage productions. Through plays like Jhulwa, One Room Kitchen, and Amchya Ya Gharat, he entered the world of cinema and carved out a distinctive identity for himself.

Many actors in Indian cinema earn fame and fortune and are remembered solely for their screen careers. A few, however, transcend entertainment and become symbols of social consciousness. Sayaji Shinde belongs to this rare category. While he played heroes and villains on screen, in real life, he emerged as a green warrior dedicated to protecting nature.

Like Sonu Sood and Nana Patekar, he is among those exceptional artists whose humanitarian contributions have elevated them beyond their cinematic

achievements.

For Shinde, environmental conservation became a life mission. He has spearheaded large-scale tree planting initiatives, nurturing thousands of saplings and campaigning tirelessly for ecological restoration. His work reflects a simple but profound belief that if humanity protects nature, nature will protect humanity. Roles played on the silver screen may end with the closing credits, but acts of service to society endure long after.

A significant turning point in his life came from a personal experience of injustice. In 1978, the government acquired his family's land for the construction of a dam. As compensation, Shinde was offered a job as a watchman in

the Irrigation Department. However, the replacement land promised to the family took thirty-five years to materialize.

"The government treated people unfairly. Our land was taken in 1978, but the alternative land was allotted only in 2022," Shinde once remarked.

Another transformative moment arrived during Maharashtra's severe drought of 2016. Witnessing barren villages devoid of trees, he realized that restoring greenery was essential to safeguarding rural life.

"If villages are to survive, we must first plant trees," he concluded.

From this conviction emerged an extraordinary environmental movement.

Shinde arranged for two truckloads of saplings to be transported from Hyderabad, spending nearly one lakh rupees on the effort. Around the same time, he drew inspiration from the ancient Indian concept of Devarai, sacred groves protected and revered by local communities for generations. Inspired by this tradition, he launched the Sahyadri Devarai movement and began creating forests in his mother's name.

Behind this movement lay a deeply personal emotional story.

In 2016, Shinde's mother was ninety-two years old. The thought of losing her weighed heavily on him. One day sitting beside her he confronted his helplessness. He could neither stop death nor halt



the passage of time. Yet he realized that he could preserve her presence in another form. "I told my mother that I did not possess the power to keep her alive forever. But I could weigh seeds equal to her body weight and plant them across Maharashtra. One day they would grow into trees bear flowers and fruits provide shade and spread fragrance. In that fragrance I would continue to find her presence. In that way, she would remain with me forever."

That promise became the mission of his life.

Today, Sayaji Shinde oversees forestation projects in forty-eight locations across Maharashtra. Some sites contain thousands of saplings; others have grown into forests of hundreds of thousands of trees. Those tiny plants have now matured into lush green ecosystems laden with fruits, revitalizing biodiversity and restoring environmental balance.

"My mother is still alive through these forests," he says.

Shinde also emphasizes the economic benefits of ecological restoration. He points out that planting a thousand tamarind trees in a village could generate nearly one crore rupees in income for villagers within fifteen years. He has

even proposed that temples distribute saplings instead of conventional offerings.

"If people receive saplings as sacred offerings, they will plant and protect them with devotion," he argues.

Among the species most actively promoted through his movement are banyan, neem, peepal, mango, jamun, and tamarind trees. These species play a vital role in supporting birdlife, sustaining insect populations, enriching soil fertility, and replenishing groundwater resources.

Rarely does a film star transform public popularity into a movement for environmental responsibility. By planting more than 650,000 saplings and inspiring communities to reconnect with nature, Sayaji Shinde has set an extraordinary example of social leadership.

His journey reminds us that true heroism is not confined to cinema screens. It flourishes in acts of compassion, responsibility, and service to future generations. A heartfelt salute to Sayaji Shinde.



Varala Anand

Poet, Film Critic & Recipient of Sahitya Academy Award for Translation

Grand Sports Drama Powered by Emotion, Performance, and Music

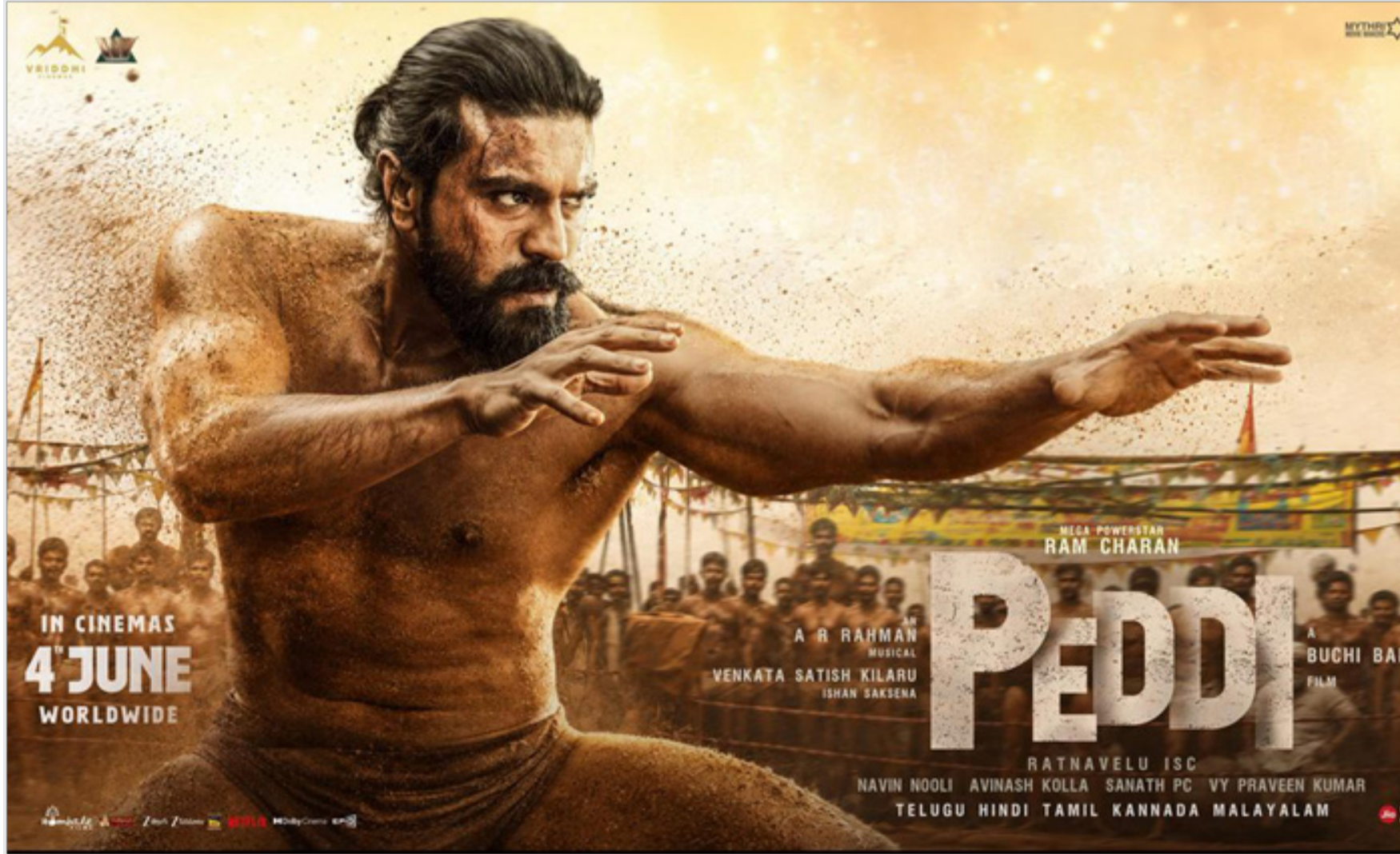
The Telugu sports drama Peddi arrives as one of the most ambitious films in recent years, bringing together a powerful creative team and a star-driven narrative rooted in rural sport and emotional transformation. Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, the film is produced by Mythri Movie Makers in collaboration with Sukumar Writings, with music composed by the legendary A. R. Rahman. The film features Ram Charan in the lead role, with Janhvi Kapoor playing a pivotal character.

At its core, Peddi is a story of transformation, resilience, and identity. Ram Charan plays a rural youth who begins as a rough-edged, emotionally suppressed individual and gradually evolves into a disciplined sportsman whose journey oscillates between wrestling and cricket-inspired athletic discipline. The character is designed as a deeply internalized role, and Ram Charan undergoes significant physical and emotional transformation to bring authenticity to the part.

Story and Narrative Approach

The film follows a familiar sports-drama structure but attempts to ground itself in raw rural emotions and cultural textures. The first half of Peddi establishes the protagonist's world—his struggles with poverty, family expectations, and social limitations. However, this portion unfolds at a slow pace, with several stretches prioritizing mood and atmosphere over narrative progression.

The romantic track involving Janhvi Kapoor has received mixed reactions. While visually polished, it is often seen as underwritten and loosely integrated into the central sports narrative, functioning more as a detour than a driving emotional force.



The second half, however, brings the film back on track with high-intensity sports drama elements, training sequences, and emotional confrontations that steadily build toward a powerful climax.

Performances
Ram Charan stands as the backbone of Peddi. His portrayal is intense, controlled, and physically demanding, with critics calling it one of his most committed performances. The emotional restraint in key scenes and explosive energy in

sports sequences create a layered character arc that carries the film forward.

Janhvi Kapoor delivers a sincere performance, but her character remains limited due to weak writing. Supporting actors add authenticity to the rural setting, though several characters remain underutilized.

Music and Technical Strength

One of the film's strongest pillars is its music. A. R. Rahman's background score ele-

vates even the simplest scenes, transforming routine sports sequences into emotionally charged moments. The rhythmic intensity during training montages and the soulful undertones in emotional scenes significantly enhance the cinematic experience.

Cinematography captures rural landscapes with a raw, earthy aesthetic, while the sports sequences are staged with a mix of realism and stylized energy. The editing, however, has drawn criticism for

contributing to the film's lengthy runtime of over three hours.

Climax and Emotional Payoff

The final 30 minutes of Peddi are widely regarded as its strongest section. The emotional culmination of the protagonist's journey, combined with high-stakes sports sequences and Rahman's powerful background score, delivers a satisfying cinematic payoff. The pre-interval block also stands out for its intensity and

narrative grip.

Criticisms

Despite its strengths, Peddi struggles with consistency. The most common issue is its uneven pacing, particularly in the first half, which slows down the overall momentum. The romantic subplot also lacks depth and clear integration with the main storyline.

The film's runtime, stretching beyond three hours, makes it feel overextended in parts, and tighter editing could have significantly improved its

impact.

Additionally, while the second half is emotionally effective, it occasionally falls back on familiar sports-drama tropes, limiting originality.

However, the film's songs themselves receive mixed responses. While the tunes are melodically strong, the lyrics in a couple of songs feel unnecessarily complex and at times forced, diluting the emotional simplicity of key moments. Some lines appear more ornamental than meaningful, reducing their connection with the rural backdrop the film tries to establish. This inconsistency slightly affects the emotional flow of the narrative in musical portions.

Box Office and Release

Peddi has reportedly been released across a wide global network, including major circuits in India, North America, the Middle East, and select European regions, reflecting strong overseas expectations driven by Ram Charan's star power.

Overall Verdict

Peddi succeeds as an emotionally charged sports drama powered by strong performances, especially from Ram Charan, and an impactful musical score by A. R. Rahman. While the film suffers from pacing issues, an underdeveloped romantic track, and occasionally predictable storytelling, it ultimately delivers a satisfying emotional experience, particularly in its latter half.

It is a film that works best when viewed for its performances and emotional core rather than its narrative innovation, offering audiences a heartfelt, if uneven, cinematic journey.

NFHS-6 Row Escalates as Nadda, Kharge Clash Over India's Health Survey Findings

A political storm has erupted over the findings of the National Family Health Survey-6 (NFHS-6), with Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge engaging in a sharp war of words over the state of healthcare, nutrition, and public welfare in India.

The controversy began after Kharge cited findings from the latest NFHS-6 survey to accuse the BJP-led government of failing women and children. The Congress chief claimed that the data exposed serious shortcomings in nutrition and healthcare delivery, pointing to persistent levels of child malnutrition, underweight children, and inadequate nutrition among infants and young children. He also alleged that the government was withholding crucial data that could reveal the true extent of public health challenges.

Kharge argued that despite years of government schemes and welfare announcements, millions of Indians continue to face nutritional deficiencies and health-related hardships. According to him, the survey highlights the gap between official claims and ground realities, particularly in areas re-



lated to child welfare and maternal health.

Responding strongly, Health Minister J.P. Nadda dismissed Kharge's criticism, saying that "half knowledge is dangerous" and accusing the Congress leader of selectively interpreting the survey findings for political purposes. Nadda asserted that NFHS-6 actually demonstrates significant progress in India's healthcare system under the Narendra Modi government.

The minister highlighted several indicators that have improved over the past two decades. According to NFHS-6, first-trimester antenatal regis-

tration has increased substantially, institutional deliveries have crossed 90 percent, and births attended by skilled health personnel have also risen sharply. Nadda said these improvements reflect better access to healthcare services and safer outcomes for mothers and children across the country.

He further pointed to gains in full immunisation coverage, health insurance access, menstrual hygiene awareness, and reductions in child stunting. The government maintains that these achievements are the result of sustained investments in healthcare infra-

structure, nutrition programs, sanitation initiatives, and financial protection schemes.

The debate has also been fueled by concerns over missing indicators in the NFHS-6 fact sheet. Several key data points related to population trends, family planning, anaemia, women's health, and government welfare schemes were omitted from the initial release. Health Ministry sources have described the move as part of a "data harmonisation" exercise, while opposition leaders argue that the exclusions raise questions about transparency.

Despite the political sparring, experts note that the survey presents a mixed picture. While India has made measurable progress in areas such as maternal healthcare, immunisation, and insurance coverage, challenges related to nutrition, anaemia, and healthcare access continue to affect millions of citizens.

As both the government and opposition continue to interpret the data through their own lenses, NFHS-6 has become the latest battleground in the broader debate over India's public health performance and social development priorities.

PM Modi Holds Key Economic Advisory Council Meeting Amid Iran Conflict, Focuses on Growth and Stability

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday chaired a crucial meeting of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), with discussions centered on safeguarding India's economic growth amid rising global uncertainty and the continuing conflict in West Asia. The high-level meeting comes at a time when the Iran-related crisis has raised concerns over energy supplies, trade routes, inflation, and global economic stability.

According to official sources, the Prime Minister and members of the advisory council reviewed the potential impact of the West Asia conflict on India and the broader global economy. Experts presented their assessments of how prolonged geopolitical tensions could affect international trade, commodity prices, supply chains, and financial markets.

The meeting also focused on measures aimed at strengthening India's economic resilience. Discussions covered reforms to improve ease of living and ease of doing business, along with strategies to sustain the country's growth momentum despite external challenges. Council members explored policy initiatives that could help India remain attractive to investors while maintaining macroeconomic stability.

The timing of the meeting is significant, as the ongoing conflict in West Asia has become a



major concern for energy-importing nations. India, which relies heavily on imported crude oil, is closely monitoring developments in the region, particularly around critical shipping routes that play a vital role in global energy supplies. Rising geopolitical tensions have increased fears of higher fuel prices and disruptions to international trade.

This is not the first time the government has reviewed the economic implications of the crisis. In recent months, Prime Minister Modi has chaired several high-level meetings involving key ministers and security officials to ensure uninterrupted supplies of fuel, fertilizers, power, and other essential commodities. The government has also been working on contingency plans to reduce the impact of global disruptions on Indian consumers and businesses.

Officials said the Prime Minister emphasized the need to remain vigilant while continuing to pursue reforms that support long-term growth. Discussions reportedly focused on strengthening economic fundamentals, attracting investments, boosting productivity, and ensuring that global uncertainties do not derail India's development trajectory.

As geopolitical tensions continue to evolve, the meeting underscored the government's efforts to balance economic growth with preparedness. With India among the world's fastest-growing major economies, policymakers are keen to ensure that external shocks are managed effectively while maintaining confidence among investors, businesses, and consumers.

Who Are the 'Cockroach Janta Party'? Inside the Protest Demanding Dharmendra Pradhan's Resignation

A little-known online movement that began as a satirical campaign has rapidly transformed into a nationwide youth protest, drawing thousands to Delhi's Jantar Mantar and placing the spotlight on issues such as examination irregularities, unemployment, and accountability in India's education system.

The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), led by founder Abhijeet Dipke, organized a major protest in New Delhi on Saturday demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. The group accuses the minister of failing to prevent alleged irregularities and paper leaks in several national-level examinations, including NEET

and other competitive tests that affect millions of students across the country.

The protest was held at Jantar Mantar, a traditional venue for public demonstrations in the national capital. Participants included students, job aspirants, young professionals, and social activists who gathered to voice concerns over what they described as a growing crisis in the education and recruitment systems. Protesters carried placards, raised slogans, and called for greater transparency and accountability in the conduct of examinations and government recruitment processes.

The movement is spearheaded by Abhijeet Dipke, a former political activist cur-

rently based in Boston, who returned to India specifically to lead the demonstration. Before the protest, Dipke stated that he was placing his faith in the Constitution and democratic institutions while urging supporters from all political backgrounds to participate peacefully.

Interestingly, the Cockroach Janta Party began as an online campaign that used the image of a cockroach as a symbol of resilience and survival. What started as social media satire quickly evolved into a broader youth movement focused on education, employment, and governance issues. Over the past few weeks, the group has gained significant attention

online and attracted a large following among young Indians frustrated with recurring controversies surrounding examinations and job opportunities.

Organizers repeatedly emphasized that the protest would remain peaceful. Ahead of the gathering, the CJP released a detailed list of guidelines urging participants to maintain discipline, avoid violence, respect public property, and cooperate with authorities. Prominent activist Sonam Wangchuk also expressed support for the movement and its demand for accountability.

The protest drew a heavy security presence, with police closely monitoring the event. Despite concerns about possi-

ble disruptions, the demonstration concluded largely peacefully, although reports indicated that a few individuals were briefly detained during the day.

Political observers say the rise of the Cockroach Janta Party reflects growing frustration among India's youth over educational challenges, employment opportunities, and governance issues. Whether the movement develops into a lasting political force or remains a pressure group focused on specific causes, its first major street protest has succeeded in attracting national attention and igniting debate about the future of education and accountability in India.



Karnataka Crisis Eases as DK Shivakumar Says Ramalinga Reddy's WhatsApp Resignation Issue Is 'Settled'

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has sought to defuse a brewing political crisis in his newly formed government, claiming that all issues with senior Congress leader Ramalinga Reddy have been resolved after the latter submitted his resignation over dissatisfaction with portfolio allocation. The development came just days after the formation of the new Congress government, exposing signs of unrest within the ruling party.

The controversy began when Ramalinga Reddy, a veteran Congress leader and minister in the Shivakumar cabinet, resigned after being assigned the Water Resources (Irrigation) portfolio. Reddy reportedly believed he had been promised the Bengaluru Development portfolio and expressed disappointment over the final allocation. He even accused the leadership of going back on assurances made before the cabinet formation.

In a surprising revelation, Shivakumar confirmed that Reddy had sent his resignation through WhatsApp. However, the Chief Minister insisted that the matter should not be blown out of proportion and maintained that the differences had been ironed out following extensive discussions. "He is my friend. All problems will be sorted out. Yes, he sent his resignation on WhatsApp, but now things have been settled," Shivakumar told reporters.

To prevent the issue from escalating further, Shivakumar held a marathon late-night



meeting with Reddy that reportedly lasted more than two hours. Senior Congress leaders and close associates of the minister also participated in efforts to persuade him to reconsider his decision. Following the discussions, the Chief Minister described the episode as a "family matter" and expressed confidence that the government would continue functioning smoothly.

The resignation created embarrassment for the four-day-old government and triggered speculation about wider dissatisfaction within the cabinet. Reports indicated that other ministers had also expressed concerns regarding the distribution of portfolios, raising questions about internal coordination within the new administration.

Earlier, Shivakumar acknowledged that he had indeed assured Reddy of the Bengaluru Development port-

folio, but said the final decision rested with the party leadership, which eventually allocated the department to another minister. This explanation, however, did little to prevent the initial fallout. Despite the turbulence, Congress leaders are projecting unity and insisting that the crisis has been contained. Shivakumar has repeatedly emphasized his long-standing friendship with Reddy and expressed optimism that the government will move forward without further disruption. The episode nevertheless highlights the challenges facing the new Karnataka government as it seeks to balance senior leaders' expectations while maintaining party cohesion. With the immediate crisis appearing to have subsided, attention will now shift to whether the Congress leadership can prevent similar disputes from emerging in the future.

Mamata Banerjee Curbs Abhishek's Influence in Major TMC Reshuffle Amid Growing Internal Revolt

Trinamool Congress (TMC) chief Mamata Banerjee has undertaken a sweeping organizational overhaul that is widely being viewed as an attempt to regain control of the party amid an escalating internal rebellion. The reshuffle comes at a time when the TMC is facing one of the most serious crises in its history, with growing dissent among legislators and speculation about possible defections.

According to reports, Mamata Banerjee has significantly reduced the influence of her nephew and senior party leader Abhishek Banerjee in the latest restructuring exercise. Several organizational changes have shifted authority back toward experienced and loyal leaders, signaling Mamata's determination to personally steer the party through the ongoing turmoil.

The reshuffle follows a series of developments that have exposed deep cracks within the TMC. In recent weeks, a section of party legislators and leaders has openly expressed dissatisfaction with the leadership. Reports suggest that a substantial number of MLAs have either aligned with rebel factions or stayed away from meetings called by the party leadership, fueling concerns about a potential split.

The crisis became more evident when a crucial meeting convened by Mamata Banerjee witnessed a poor turnout. Reports indicate that only a handful of the party's MLAs and



MPs attended the gathering, intensifying speculation about internal divisions and weakening control at the top.

As part of her strategy to reassert authority, Mamata has reportedly placed greater trust in veteran leaders and loyalists. One of the most notable decisions in the reshuffle was the appointment of Chandrima Bhattacharya to a key organizational role, reflecting the leadership's preference for experienced figures during a period of uncertainty.

The developments come in the aftermath of the TMC's disappointing performance in the 2026 West Bengal

Assembly elections, which triggered intense introspection within the party. Since then, criticism of the leadership structure and concerns over the concentration of power have become increasingly visible. Some dissenting voices have specifically questioned the growing prominence of Abhishek Banerjee within the organization.

Political observers believe the latest reshuffle is aimed at preventing further erosion of party unity and reassuring cadres that Mamata Banerjee remains firmly in control. The move is also being seen as an effort to counter the

influence of rebel groups that have emerged within the party in recent months.

While the restructuring may help consolidate Mamata's authority in the short term, questions remain about whether it will be enough to contain the growing unrest. With reports of possible defections and continuing dissatisfaction among sections of the party, the Trinamool Congress faces a critical test in the weeks ahead. How effectively Mamata Banerjee manages the rebellion could determine the future direction of the party and its political relevance in West Bengal.

Iran Sets \$24 Billion 'Trust Test' for Trump as Nuclear Talks Reach Deadlock

Tensions between the United States and Iran have intensified once again after a senior aide to Iran's Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei declared that negotiations with Washington have reached a deadlock, placing the responsibility for any breakthrough squarely on US President Donald Trump. The remarks come amid ongoing efforts to secure a broader peace agreement following months of conflict and diplomatic uncertainty.

Mohsen Rezaei, a military adviser to Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei, said Iran is demanding the release of \$24 billion in frozen Iranian assets before negotiations can move forward. According to Rezaei, Tehran wants \$12 billion to be released immediately after an initial agreement is signed,

with the remaining \$12 billion to follow at a later stage. He described the demand as a crucial "test of trust" for the Trump administration.

Rezaei stressed that Iran does not view the funds as a concession from Washington but as money that rightfully belongs to the Iranian people. He argued that releasing the assets would demonstrate America's commitment to resolving the dispute and could pave the way for broader cooperation between the two countries. "The ball is in Trump's court," he said, emphasizing that further progress depends on actions from the US side.

The dispute over frozen assets has emerged as one of the biggest obstacles in the current negotiations. While President Trump has recently expressed optimism about reaching a deal with Iran and even suggested that he would be willing to meet Mojtaba Khamenei under the right circumstances, Iranian officials remain cautious about Washington's intentions.

Rezaei also issued a strong warning about the consequences of a collapse in diplomacy. He said that if military conflict resumes, Iran could expand its response beyond the Persian Gulf, potentially affecting strategic waterways such as the Strait of Hormuz, the Bab al-Mandab Strait, the Red Sea, and even parts of the Mediterranean region. Such a development could have significant implications for global energy markets and international shipping routes.

Despite Trump's recent comments that relations with Iran's leadership appear to be improving, Rezaei dismissed the possibility of a direct meeting between the US president and Iran's supreme leader at this stage. He argued that negotiations are still in their early phases and that current conditions are not conducive to a high-level summit.

The latest exchange highlights the fragile nature of US-Iran relations, with both sides publicly signaling a willingness to negotiate while continuing to disagree on key issues. As diplomatic efforts continue, the fate of the proposed \$24 billion asset release could become a decisive factor in determining whether the two countries move toward a lasting agreement or slide back toward confrontation.



Ultra-Orthodox Protest Erupts in Israel After Arrest of Haredi Men in Beit Shemesh

Thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jews took to the streets in Israel after the arrest of several Haredi men triggered widespread protests in the city of Beit Shemesh and other religious communities. The demonstrations, which quickly escalated into clashes with police, highlighted growing tensions between law enforcement authorities and sections of Israel's ultra-Orthodox population.

According to reports, the unrest began after police detained a group of Haredi men following an incident at a police station in Beit Shemesh, a city located west of Jerusalem and home to a large ultra-Orthodox community. The arrests sparked outrage among religious leaders and residents, who accused authorities of using excessive force and disrespecting members of their community.

Videos and images from the protests showed large crowds gathering in the streets, with demonstrators blocking roads, chanting slogans, and confronting police officers. In several areas, protesters reportedly threw objects at security personnel, while police responded with crowd-control measures to disperse the gatherings. The confrontations led to traffic disruptions and heightened security across parts of the city.

The Haredi community, often referred to as ultra-Orthodox Jews, has a long history of friction with Israeli authorities over issues ranging from military conscription and public policy to religious autonomy. Beit Shemesh, in particular, has frequently been at the center of disputes involving religious practices, public space, and relations between secular and ultra-Orthodox residents.

Community representatives argued that the arrests reflected a broader pattern of strained relations between law enforcement agencies and religious groups. Some leaders called for an independent review of the incident, while others urged protesters to continue demonstrating until authorities provided a full explanation for the arrests.

Israeli police defended their actions, stating that officers acted in accordance with the law and were responding to disturbances that required intervention. Authorities also emphasized that maintaining public order remained their priority and warned that violence against police officers would not be tolerated.

The latest unrest comes at a sensitive time for Israel, which is already facing significant political and security challenges on multiple fronts. Analysts noted that tensions involving the ultra-Orthodox community have increasingly become a domestic political issue, with debates over religious rights and state authority continuing to shape public discourse.

As investigations into the incident continue, government officials are expected to engage with community leaders in an effort to reduce tensions and prevent further escalation. For now, however, the events in Beit Shemesh have once again drawn national attention to the complex relationship between Israel's religious communities and state institutions.



The protests underscore the deep social and political divisions that continue to influence Israeli society, particularly in cities where religious and secular populations live side by side. Whether the latest confrontation leads to meaningful dialogue or further polarization remains to be seen.

Sirens, Missile Alerts Rock Kuwait and Bahrain as Iran Expands Gulf Offensive

The ongoing conflict between the United States and Iran took a dramatic turn as Kuwait and Bahrain activated emergency response systems following a wave of Iranian missile and drone attacks in the Gulf region. Air raid sirens echoed across several areas in both countries, while videos shared on social media captured residents reacting to warning alerts and heightened security measures.

According to reports, Iran launched a series of missiles and drones targeting locations linked to the American military presence in the Gulf. Bahrain, which hosts the headquarters of the US Navy's Fifth Fleet, and Kuwait, home to several strategic US military facilities, were placed on high alert as authorities monitored the evolving situation.

Footage circulating online showed warning sirens sounding across urban areas, with emergency messages urging residents to remain indoors and follow official instructions. Security forces and emergency response teams were deployed at key locations as governments worked to assess the threat and reassure the public.

The latest attacks came amid rapidly escalating tensions between Washington and Tehran. In recent days, US forces reportedly carried out military operations against Iranian targets following a series of confrontations involving drones and naval activity in the region. Iran has described its actions as a response to what it considers American aggression, while the United States has vowed to protect its interests and allies in the Gulf.

Authorities in both Kuwait and Bahrain moved quickly to activate air defense systems. Officials stated that several incoming threats were intercepted before reaching their intended targets, helping prevent significant damage. While initial reports did not indicate large-scale casualties, assessments of the attacks and their impact continued throughout the day.

The developments have sparked fresh concerns about regional stability. The Gulf region plays a critical role in global energy supplies, and any escalation involving key shipping routes could have significant consequences for international markets. Investors and governments around the world are closely monitoring the situation, particularly developments near the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most important oil transit corridors.



Diplomatic efforts to reduce tensions have so far struggled to gain momentum. Several countries have urged both sides to exercise restraint and avoid actions that could trigger a wider regional conflict. However, the exchange of military strikes in recent days has heightened fears that the confrontation could spread beyond its current scope.

For residents of Kuwait and Bahrain, the sounding of sirens served as a stark reminder of the growing security challenges facing the region. As military and political leaders weigh their next moves, the Gulf remains on edge, with the international community watching closely for signs of either further escalation or a return to diplomatic engagement.

The latest attacks underscore the fragile nature of security in the Middle East and highlight the risks posed by the continuing confrontation between Iran and the United States.

Lebanese President Rebukes Iran, Says Country Cannot Be a 'Bargaining Chip' in Regional Conflicts

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun has delivered one of his strongest criticisms of Iran since taking office, accusing Tehran of using Lebanon as a bargaining tool in its negotiations with the United States and warning against foreign interference in the country's affairs. The remarks come amid ongoing tensions involving Iran, Hezbollah, Israel, and the United States, which have left Lebanon caught in the middle of a broader regional conflict.

In a recent interview, Aoun made it clear that Lebanon's sovereignty must be respected and that no foreign power should dictate the country's future. Addressing Iran directly, he stated that Lebanon belongs to the Lebanese people and not to outside actors seeking to advance their own strategic interests. He argued that Lebanon has suffered enough from conflicts driven by regional rivalries and should not be used as leverage in international negotiations.

The Lebanese leader specifically criticized Iran's support for Hezbollah, the powerful armed group and political movement that has long been backed by Tehran. According to Aoun, the continuing confrontation between Hezbollah and Israel has imposed a heavy burden on ordinary Lebanese citizens, many of whom are struggling with economic hardship, displacement, and security concerns. He said the majority of Lebanese people are weary of war and are seeking stability rather than further escalation.



Aoun also renewed calls for Hezbollah to engage in dialogue and political negotiations rather than military confrontation. He emphasized that diplomacy remains the only viable path to resolving tensions with Israel and restoring stability in southern Lebanon. The president has repeatedly argued that the Lebanese state should have exclusive authority over matters of war and peace, a position that reflects his broader efforts to strengthen state institutions and reduce the influence of non-state armed groups.

His comments come at a time when ceasefire efforts between Israel and Lebanon remain fragile. Although international mediators have attempted to broker agreements aimed at reducing hostilities, clashes involving Hezbollah and Israeli forces continue to threaten regional stability. Iran has linked broader peace efforts to developments in Lebanon, while Hezbollah has resisted proposals that would require it to significantly reduce its military presence in the south.

The president's remarks are being viewed as part of a broader shift in Lebanese politics. Since assuming office, Aoun has sought to reassert state authority and promote a vision of Lebanon that is independent of external influence. His administration has increasingly emphasized national sovereignty, stronger state institutions, and a foreign policy based on Lebanon's interests rather than regional power struggles.

Political analysts say Aoun's public criticism of Iran reflects growing frustration within sections of Lebanese society over the country's repeated involvement in regional conflicts. Many citizens fear that continued instability could further damage Lebanon's already fragile economy and undermine efforts to rebuild after years of political and financial crises.

As tensions continue across the Middle East, Aoun's message underscores Lebanon's desire to avoid becoming a battleground for competing regional powers. Whether his call for sovereignty and diplomacy can translate into lasting stability remains uncertain, but his remarks have clearly signaled a tougher stance toward foreign involvement in Lebanon's internal affairs.

Business Leaders Push Back After Trump's Green Card Proposal Sparks Immigration Concerns

A controversial immigration proposal by US President Donald Trump's administration has triggered concern across corporate America, prompting business leaders and industry groups to privately lobby the White House over fears that the move could disrupt workforces and damage the country's ability to attract global talent.

The controversy began on May 22 when the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that most individuals seeking permanent residency, or Green Cards, would be required to return to their home countries to complete the application process, except in "extraordinary circumstances." The announcement marked a major departure from a long-standing practice that allowed many applicants already living and working in the United States to adjust their status without leaving the country.

The policy immediately created uncertainty among hundreds of thousands of immigrants, including skilled professionals working in sectors such as technology, healthcare, engineering, and finance. Many feared that leaving the United States could result in lengthy delays, visa complications, or difficulties returning to their jobs and families.

According to reports, major corporations, industry associations, and business executives quickly raised their con-



cerns with officials from the White House, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Labor, and the State Department. The US Chamber of Commerce and leading technology companies were among those that privately warned the administration that the proposal could hurt American businesses that depend heavily on skilled immigrant workers.

The pushback appears to have had an impact. Following discussions with business groups, administration officials reportedly reassured employers that most work visa holders would not be affected. Immigration lawyers have indicated that implementation

of the tougher policy has been paused while officials work out how it would be applied in practice.

A White House official later argued that the guidance largely restated existing law and would have limited impact on foreign workers who follow legal immigration procedures. Officials also suggested that immigration officers would retain discretion to decide on a case-by-case basis whether applicants must leave the country or could continue the process from within the United States.

The episode highlights a recurring tension within the Trump administration between immigration hardliners

seeking stricter controls and business groups that rely on international talent. Over the years, corporate leaders have repeatedly argued that skilled immigrants play a crucial role in maintaining America's competitiveness, particularly in technology and innovation-driven industries.

While the future of the proposal remains uncertain, the debate has reignited broader questions about US immigration policy and its impact on economic growth. For now, businesses, immigration lawyers, and prospective Green Card applicants are awaiting greater clarity from the administration on how the rules will ultimately be enforced.

Markets Extend Losing Streak for Second Week, Rupee Strengthens as Media Stocks Outperform

Indian equity markets ended the week on a subdued note, extending their losing streak to a second consecutive week amid persistent foreign investor selling, concerns over global crude oil prices, and cautious sentiment following the Reserve Bank of India's latest policy review. Despite intermittent recoveries during trading sessions, benchmark indices struggled to maintain momentum and ultimately closed lower for the week.

The BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty witnessed pressure throughout the week as investors remained concerned about elevated geopolitical tensions and the potential impact

of rising energy prices on India's economic outlook. Analysts noted that the absence of major positive triggers also contributed to the weak market sentiment, resulting in limited buying interest across several sectors.

While the broader market remained under pressure, some sectors managed to outperform. Media stocks emerged as one of the standout performers during the week, attracting investor attention and posting notable gains. Select mid-cap and small-cap counters also displayed resilience, helping cushion losses in the broader market. However, weakness in key sec-

tors such as banking, financial services, and consumer-related stocks weighed on overall market performance.

One of the positive developments during the week was the performance of the Indian rupee. The domestic currency strengthened against the US dollar, supported by government and central bank measures aimed at attracting foreign capital. Improved sentiment surrounding policy initiatives and expectations of higher foreign inflows helped the rupee register gains despite challenging global conditions. Market participants closely monitored the Reserve

Bank of India's policy decisions and commentary regarding inflation and economic growth. Although the central bank maintained rates, it revised its economic projections in response to concerns over energy prices and other external risks. Investors interpreted the cautious outlook as a signal that uncertainties continue to persist in the near term.

Global developments also influenced investor sentiment. Fluctuations in crude oil prices, ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, and foreign institutional investor outflows remained key concerns for the market. These factors

contributed to increased volatility and prevented a sustained recovery in domestic equities. Despite the second straight weekly decline, market experts believe investors will continue to watch macroeconomic data, corporate developments, and global cues for direction. The rupee's resilience and selective sectoral strength, particularly in media stocks, provided some optimism amid an otherwise challenging week for Indian equities. As markets enter a new trading week, participants will be looking for fresh catalysts that can help reverse the recent downward trend.



Reliance's Reported US Refinery Deal Sparks Debate Over India's Energy Future

A reported long-term agreement involving Reliance Industries and a proposed oil refinery project in Texas has triggered intense discussion about India's energy security, foreign investments, and dependence on imported crude oil. While some commentators view the development as a strategic business move, others have raised concerns about its potential implications for India's economy and energy independence.

The refinery project is planned near the Port of Brownsville in South Texas, close to the US-Mexico border. It is being developed by America First Refining (AFR), a startup company aiming to establish a large-scale refining facility in the region. Supporters of the project describe it as a significant addition to America's refining capacity and an important step toward strengthening US energy infrastructure.

According to reports circulating in business and political circles, Reliance Industries has entered into a long-term commercial arrangement linked to the refinery's operations. The agreement is said to involve the purchase of substantial volumes of American

light shale oil and refined petroleum products over an extended period. Such long-term contracts are common in the global energy sector, where companies seek to secure reliable supplies and manage price volatility.

The development has also attracted attention because of alleged links between Reliance-affiliated entities and the Trump Organization through previous real-estate licensing arrangements in India. Some critics have suggested that these past business dealings indicate a broader relationship between the parties. However, no public evidence has emerged showing that former US President Donald Trump has a direct ownership stake or financial investment in the Texas refinery project.

The deal has prompted questions about India's future crude oil sourcing strategy. Critics argue that increased reliance on American crude could reduce flexibility in sourcing cheaper oil from countries such as Russia or Iran. They also contend that large overseas investments by Indian companies may contribute to capital outflows and place additional pressure on the Indian rupee.



Industry experts, however, offer a different perspective. They point out that Reliance is a private company operating in a competitive global market and routinely sources crude from multiple countries based on price, quality, and availability. They emphasize that commercial agreements signed by private corporations do not determine India's national energy policy or prevent the country from importing oil from other regions.

Economists further note that currency movements are influenced by a wide range of factors, including trade balances, inflation, interest rates,

foreign investment flows, and global economic conditions. As a result, attributing changes in the rupee's value solely to one overseas investment would be an oversimplification.

As discussions continue, the reported agreement highlights the growing interconnectedness of global energy markets and the strategic decisions major corporations make to secure long-term growth. Whether viewed as an opportunity or a concern, the development has reignited debate over the balance between global expansion and national economic interests.

Wall Street Tumbles as Chip Stocks Sink, Strong Jobs Data Sparks Rate Hike Fears

Wall Street ended sharply lower on Friday, with technology and semiconductor stocks leading a broad market selloff after stronger-than-expected U.S. jobs data fueled concerns that the Federal Reserve could raise interest rates later this year. The sharp decline brought an end to the market's impressive nine-week winning streak and triggered the biggest one-day fall in the Nasdaq Composite since April 2025.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 695.15 points, or 1.35%, to close at 50,866.78. The S&P 500 fell 2.64% to 7,383.74, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite plunged 4.18% to 25,709.43. The selloff was particularly severe in the semiconductor sector, where investors rushed to book profits after months of strong gains driven by enthusiasm surrounding artificial intelligence and advanced computing technologies.

The Philadelphia Semiconductor Index suffered one of its steepest declines in years, wiping out more than \$1 trillion in market value. Major chipmakers including Nvidia, Broadcom, AMD, Intel, Micron, and Qualcomm recorded significant losses as investors reassessed growth expectations in a higher interest-rate environment.



The trigger for the market downturn was a surprisingly strong U.S. employment report. According to the Labor Department, the U.S. economy added 172,000 jobs in May, far exceeding analyst expectations, while the unemployment rate remained steady at 4.3%. Although the data reinforced confidence in the strength of the American economy, it also raised fears that persistent economic resilience could keep inflation elevated and force the Federal Reserve to maintain a hawkish stance.

Following the jobs report, Treasury yields climbed sharply as traders increased their expectations of a future interest-rate hike. Market participants now see a significantly higher probability of the Federal Reserve raising rates before the end of the year, reducing hopes for any near-term monetary easing. Higher borrowing costs typically

weigh on technology stocks because their valuations depend heavily on future earnings growth.

Investors were also keeping a close watch on geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. Concerns about the conflict's impact on oil supplies and inflation added another layer of uncertainty to financial markets. Rising energy prices could further complicate the Federal Reserve's efforts to control inflation, increasing the risk of tighter monetary policy. Despite the sharp selloff, market analysts believe the decline may represent a correction following an extended rally rather than a sign of a broader economic slowdown. Many experts argue that the long-term outlook for technology and artificial intelligence remains strong, even as investors adjust to the possibility of higher interest rates in the months ahead.

SBI Mutual Fund Acquires Stakes in Adani Firms Worth 5,747 Crore From GQG Partners

SBI Mutual Fund has significantly increased its exposure to the Adani Group by acquiring stakes in two key companies—Adani Enterprises and Adani Energy Solutions—through block deals worth a combined 5,747 crore. The transactions were executed on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and involved shares sold by US-based investment firm GQG Partners Emerging Markets Equity Fund.

According to exchange data, SBI Mutual Fund purchased 1.64 crore shares of Adani Enterprises, representing a 1.27 percent stake in the company. The shares were acquired at a price of 2,913.4 per share, resulting in a transaction value of approximately 4,789.6 crore.

In a separate transaction, SBI Mutual Fund bought 63.65 lakh shares of Adani Energy Solutions, equivalent to a 0.52 percent stake, for 957.9 crore. The deal was executed at 1,504.8 per share.

The two transactions together amounted to nearly 5,750 crore, making them among the largest block deals involving Adani Group companies this year. Market observers noted that SBI Mutual Fund absorbed the entire stake sold by GQG Partners in both companies, highlighting strong domestic institutional interest in the Adani Group despite recent market volatility.

GQG Partners, led by renowned investor Rajiv Jain, has been one of the most prominent foreign institutional investors in the Adani Group since 2023. The investment



firm had previously increased its holdings across multiple Adani companies through several large transactions. The latest sale appears to be part of a portfolio rebalancing exercise rather than a complete exit from the group.

As of March 2026, GQG Partners held a 1.59 percent stake in Adani Enterprises and a 1.91 percent stake in Adani Energy Solutions. Following the latest transactions, its shareholding in both companies is expected to decline. Meanwhile, SBI Mutual Fund's increased participation signals growing confidence among domestic institutional investors in the long-term prospects of the Adani Group.

The deals come at a time when Adani Group companies are witnessing renewed investor interest, supported by strong business expansion plans and improved market sentiment. Analysts believe the participation of a large domestic fund house such as SBI Mutual Fund could be viewed positively by the market, as it reflects confidence in the group's future growth trajectory.

With institutional ownership continuing to shift between global and domestic investors, the latest block deals underline the strong appetite for Adani Group stocks among India's largest asset managers and mutual funds.

SEBI Approves OYO Parent Oravel Stays IPO Along With Four Other Public Issues

India's primary market is set to witness another wave of public offerings after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) granted approval to OYO parent company Oravel Stays and four other firms to launch their initial public offerings (IPOs). The regulatory clearance marks a significant milestone for the companies as they prepare to tap the capital markets and raise funds for expansion, debt reduction, and other corporate objectives.

Oravel Stays, the parent company of hospitality and travel-tech platform OYO, is among the most closely watched names to receive SEBI's approval. The company has been working toward a public listing for several years and had previously delayed its IPO plans amid changing market conditions and efforts to strengthen its financial performance. The latest approval brings OYO a step closer to becoming a publicly traded company and is expected to attract considerable attention from investors.

Apart from Oravel Stays, SEBI has also cleared IPO proposals from four other companies across diverse sectors. These include healthcare services provider Paras Healthcare, education-focused company Crizac Limited, infrastructure and engineering firm Icodex Publishing Solutions, and pharmaceutical



manufacturer Sudeep Pharma. The approvals were granted after the regulator reviewed their draft red herring prospectuses (DRHPs) and other required disclosures.

The upcoming IPOs are expected to add further momentum to India's vibrant primary market, which has remained active despite periodic volatility in equity markets. Strong participation from retail investors, institutional funds, and high-net-worth individuals has encouraged many companies to pursue public listings over the past few years. Market experts believe the latest approvals indicate that investor appetite for new offerings remains healthy, particularly for companies with strong growth po-

tential and established business models.

For OYO, the proposed listing represents a major step in its corporate journey. Founded by Ritesh Agarwal, the company has grown into one of the largest hospitality technology platforms in the world, operating across multiple countries and serving millions of travelers. Over the years, OYO has focused on improving profitability, streamlining operations, and strengthening its balance sheet in preparation for a public market debut. Industry observers expect the company's financial performance, growth strategy, and valuation to be closely scrutinized by investors once the final IPO details are announced. Given

OYO's high profile and extensive presence in the hospitality sector, its public issue is likely to become one of the most talked-about IPOs in the market. With SEBI's approval now secured, the companies can move ahead with the next stages of the listing process, including finalizing issue sizes, price bands, and launch timelines. If market conditions remain favorable, these IPOs could provide investors with fresh opportunities across sectors ranging from hospitality and healthcare to education and pharmaceuticals. The approvals also reinforce confidence in India's capital markets as a preferred destination for companies seeking growth capital through public offerings.

Passenger Bites Police Officer After Boarding Plane Without Paying Baggage Fee

A routine domestic flight in Argentina turned into a dramatic and chaotic scene after a passenger allegedly refused to pay an excess baggage fee, boarded an aircraft without proper clearance, and later bit a police officer who was attempting to remove her from the plane.

The incident occurred at Jorge Newbery Airpark in Buenos Aires and involved a JetSmart flight scheduled to travel to Cordoba. According to reports, the woman was carrying baggage that exceeded the airline's cabin luggage limits. Airline staff informed her that she would need to pay an additional fee before boarding. However, the passenger reportedly refused to comply with the requirement, leading to an argument at the boarding gate.

Despite the dispute, the woman managed to enter the aircraft. Airport personnel subsequently alerted security authorities, prompting police officers to board the plane and escort her off the flight. What followed was a tense confrontation that was witnessed by dozens of passengers.

Videos recorded by fellow travelers and shared online captured the dramatic struggle. The footage showed officers attempting to remove the passenger from her seat while she resisted forcefully. During the altercation, she



allegedly bit a female police officer, further escalating the situation. Several officers were eventually required to restrain and escort her out of the aircraft.

Passengers on board watched the confrontation unfold in disbelief. Some recordings show travelers reacting with shock as the incident delayed the flight's departure. Once the woman was removed from the plane, many passengers reportedly applauded the efforts of the security personnel who had brought the disturbance to an end.

Authorities later confirmed that the passenger sustained minor injuries during the struggle and was taken to an airport medical facility for treatment.

1,100 Parathas And 500 Eggs? Traveller Shocked By Luxury Hotel Food Prices



A social media post highlighting the sky-high prices of food at a luxury hotel has triggered a lively debate online about the cost of dining at premium establishments. The discussion began after a traveller shared a photograph of a hotel menu featuring what many users described as "astounding" prices for everyday food items.

The image, posted on X (formerly Twitter), showed a menu from a high-end hotel where a single paratha was priced at 1,100, while a serving of eggs reportedly cost around 500. Other common breakfast and snack items were also listed at rates significantly higher than what customers would typically pay at restaurants or local eateries.

Expressing his disbelief, the traveller questioned how hotels could justify charging such amounts for basic food items. The post quickly gained traction on social media, attracting thousands of views, comments, and reactions from users across the country.

Many people agreed with the traveller's concerns, arguing that the prices appeared excessive and disconnected from the actual cost of the ingredients used. Several users compared the hotel rates with those at local restaurants, where similar dishes can often be purchased for a fraction of the price. Some joked that a family could enjoy multiple meals outside the hotel for the cost of a single breakfast item on the menu.

However, others came to the hotel's defence. They pointed out that luxury hotels do not charge solely for the food served on a plate. According to these users, the price reflects a combination of factors, including premium ingredients, staff salaries, taxes, high property costs, ambience, customer service, and the overall luxury experience. They argued that guests staying at upscale hotels are paying for con-

venience and exclusivity as much as for the meal itself.

The incident also sparked a broader conversation about the economics of luxury hospitality. Industry observers noted that premium hotels often operate under different business models than regular restaurants. Their pricing structures account for maintenance costs, extensive staffing requirements, and the expectations of affluent travellers who prioritise comfort and personalised service.

As the debate continued online, opinions remained sharply divided. While some viewed the menu prices as unreasonable and difficult to justify, others considered them a standard feature of luxury hospitality. Regardless of where people stood on the issue, the viral post once again highlighted the stark contrast between everyday dining costs and the premium prices charged at some of the world's most exclusive hotels.

70 Lakh Job Offer, But No Happiness: IIT Student's Dilemma Sparks Debate on Success

A final-year student at one of India's prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) has ignited a widespread discussion on social media after revealing that he is reluctant to accept a lucrative job offer worth 70 lakh per annum. While such a package is considered a dream achievement for most engineering students, the IITian says it does not align with the life he truly wants to live.

The student shared his concerns in an email to entrepreneur and content creator Ankur Warikoo. Coming from a middle-class farming family, he described how his life had been shaped by academic competition from an early age. Like many students, he focused on scoring high marks, becoming a class topper, and eventually securing admission to IIT. However, despite achieving milestones that society often associates with success, he admitted that he feels uncertain about his future.

According to the student, the high-paying corporate career that awaits him does not excite him. Instead, he fears becoming trapped in a cycle of promotions, workplace competition, and constant pressure to adapt to changing technologies, including artificial intelligence. He questioned whether spending decades chasing financial security would ultimately lead to happiness.

The IITian explained that



his real passion lies in health and fitness. He enjoys working out, maintaining a disciplined lifestyle, and following a structured diet. Yet he struggles to see a clear path to earning a living from this interest. The financial expectations of his family further complicate the decision, making it difficult for him to reject the offer outright.

Responding to the student's concerns, Ankur Warikoo acknowledged his feelings and advised him not to view the job

as a lifelong commitment. Instead, he suggested treating it as a "Life Fund" that could help secure his family's financial future during the first few years of his career. Once that stability is achieved, the student could pursue his passion with greater confidence and less guilt.

Warikoo also encouraged him to explore opportunities in the growing creator economy. By combining the discipline and credibility gained through his IIT education with

his enthusiasm for fitness, he could potentially build a personal brand and generate income through content creation.

The story has resonated with thousands online, highlighting a growing shift among young professionals who are increasingly questioning whether high salaries alone define success. For many, purpose, fulfillment, and personal happiness are becoming just as important as financial rewards.

Why Sesame Street's Elmo Is Facing Backlash From NBA Fans

Sesame Street's beloved red monster, Elmo, has unexpectedly found himself at the center of an online sports controversy after drawing criticism from passionate New York Knicks fans during the 2026 NBA Finals. The backlash erupted when the popular children's character posted a seemingly harmless message on social media wishing both teams good luck instead of openly supporting the Knicks.

Ahead of Game 1 of the NBA Finals between the New York Knicks and the San Antonio Spurs, Elmo shared a message on X (formerly Twitter) saying that he hoped both teams would have fun. While the comment reflected the friendly and positive attitude associated with the Sesame Street character, many Knicks supporters were far from pleased.

Fans quickly pointed out that Elmo is closely associated with New York City, the hometown of the Knicks and the setting of Sesame Street. Because of these roots, many believed the character should have publicly backed the local team rather than remaining neutral. Social media users flooded the comments section, urging Elmo to choose a side. Some jokingly called him a "coward" for refusing to support the Knicks, while others reminded him not to forget the city that



made him famous. As the criticism intensified, Elmo attempted to ease tensions with a follow-up post filled with wordplay. He joked that he did not mean to "SPUR" anyone on, referencing the San Antonio Spurs. However, the lighthearted clarification did little to calm upset Knicks fans, who continued to question his loyalty to New York. The online drama soon attracted attention from other organizations. The New York

Police Department joined the conversation humorously, suggesting that the social media version of Elmo might be an imposter. New York City's transportation department also playfully hinted that it could remove the official Sesame Street sign installed in Manhattan.

The controversy highlights just how emotionally invested New Yorkers are in the Knicks' championship run. The team is pursuing its first NBA title

in decades, and fans have embraced the Finals with intense enthusiasm. In such a charged atmosphere, even a neutral comment from a fictional children's character was enough to spark a viral debate.

While the criticism was largely humorous, the incident demonstrated how deeply sports fandom can influence online conversations. For Knicks supporters, neutrality was not an option—they wanted Elmo firmly on their side.

Mumbai Couple Earning 2.2 Lakh A Month Says They Are Still Struggling To Save

A Mumbai-based couple has sparked a debate online after revealing that despite earning a combined monthly income of 2.2 lakh, they are finding it difficult to save money at the end of each month. Their story, shared on Reddit, has resonated with many urban professionals who say the rising cost of living in India's financial capital is making financial stability increasingly difficult.

In their post, titled "Mumbai is too expensive to live," the couple explained that they live in a one-bedroom apartment and reside far from their respective hometowns. Although their income places them well above the average earnings of many households, they

claimed they are left with very little money by the time the month ends. Seeking advice from fellow users, they shared a detailed breakdown of their monthly expenses.

According to the couple, their biggest expense is rent, which costs them 44,000 every month. Grocery bills amount to around 20,000, while paying their domestic helper requires another 8,000. Electricity and travel expenses add approximately 5,000 to 6,000 each. In addition, the couple invests 60,000 every month through a Systematic Investment Plan (SIP), demonstrating a commitment to long-term financial planning.

They also highlighted a less obvious expense: office-related social activities. The

couple spends around 12,000 to 13,000 monthly on gatherings and events connected to their workplaces. After accounting for these regular expenses, they estimated they should still have roughly 60,000 available for savings. However, they admitted that unexpected purchases and lifestyle spending often consume the remaining amount.

The Reddit user explained that discretionary spending frequently includes clothing, watches, perfumes, and other personal purchases. Another major financial burden is travelling to visit family members in their hometowns. According to the post, a single trip can cost nearly 45,000 once transportation, gifts, and other related ex-

penses are included.

The post quickly went viral, prompting mixed reactions from social media users. While some sympathised with the couple and argued that Mumbai's soaring living costs make saving difficult even for high earners, others pointed out that their monthly SIP contributions already represent significant savings. Several commenters suggested that controlling discretionary spending and travel expenses could improve their financial situation. The discussion has reignited a broader conversation about lifestyle inflation, urban expenses, and whether a seemingly high salary is enough to achieve financial comfort in India's largest metropolitan cities.



Gill, Rahul Hundreds Put India in Command Against Afghanistan on Day 1

India dominated the opening day of the one-off Test against Afghanistan in Mulanpur, with captain Shubman Gill and senior opener KL Rahul scoring commanding centuries to put the hosts firmly in control. The strong batting display ensured India ended the day in a powerful position, leaving Afghanistan with plenty of work to do in the remainder of the match.

The Test marks the first red-ball meeting between India and Afghanistan since their historic encounter in 2018, when India secured an innings victory inside two days. While Afghanistan arrived with hopes of producing a more competitive performance this time, India quickly asserted their dominance after winning

the toss and electing to bat first.

Leading the side in a new era of Indian Test cricket, Shubman Gill chose to make first use of favorable batting conditions at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh International Cricket Stadium in New Chandigarh. India also handed a Test debut to Rajasthan all-rounder Manav Suthar, underlining the team's focus on developing young talent.

India's innings was built around a disciplined and authoritative knock from KL Rahul, who anchored the top order and laid the foundation for a substantial total. Once Rahul established control, captain Gill took charge, displaying composure and class en route to a magnificent century. The

duo frustrated Afghanistan's bowlers with their patience and shot selection, steadily pushing the scoring rate while minimizing risks.

Gill's century was particularly significant as it came in his first Test assignment of the season and further strengthened his credentials as India's long-term red-ball leader. Rahul's return to form was equally encouraging for the team management, which has been looking for stability at the top of the batting order.

Rishabh Pant also made a valuable contribution during the latter stages of the day. The wicketkeeper-batter, who was playing his 50th Test match, reached a half-century and joined an exclusive list of Indian wicketkeepers to achieve

the milestone. His aggressive yet controlled innings ensured India maintained momentum heading into the final session.

By stumps, India had reached a commanding 368 for 3, with Gill unbeaten on a century and Pant providing solid support at the other end. Afghanistan's bowlers struggled to make regular breakthroughs despite disciplined efforts from Mohammad Saleem and others.

With a massive first-innings total now within reach, India will look to press home their advantage on Day 2. Afghanistan, meanwhile, will need early wickets and a spirited bowling effort to prevent the hosts from taking complete control of the contest.



"He Forced Us to Pick Him": BCCI's First Reaction After Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's India Call-Up

India's teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has received his maiden call-up to the senior national T20I squad, and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has made it clear that his selection was impossible to ignore. The 15-year-old prodigy, who enjoyed a record-breaking IPL 2026 season, has been included in India's squads for the upcoming T20I series against Ireland and England, marking a historic moment in his rapidly rising career.

Speaking after the squad announcement, chief selector Ajit Agarkar described Sooryavanshi as a player who had effectively "forced" the selectors to pick him through his extraordinary performances. Agarkar acknowledged that the youngster's form, consistency, and impact throughout the IPL left the selection committee with little choice but to reward him with a place in the national team.

Sooryavanshi's selection comes on the back of a sensational IPL campaign with Rajasthan Royals. The left-handed batter scored 776 runs during the season, emerging as one of the tournament's biggest stars. His remarkable run-scoring spree also saw him break several records and earn widespread praise from former cricketers, experts, and fans alike. He finished the season as one of the standout per-



formers and was widely regarded as a future star of Indian cricket.

The teenager's inclusion is particularly significant because it makes him the youngest player ever selected for India's senior men's T20 squad. In doing so, he surpassed records previously associated with some of the biggest names in Indian cricket history. His rapid rise from youth cricket to the national team has been one of the most talked-about stories of the year. The BCCI had earlier hinted at its confidence in Sooryavanshi's future. Secretary Devajit Saikia recently praised the youngster's talent and assured that the board would do everything possible to help him reach the highest

level of the game. Those comments now appear prophetic following his official selection to the national side.

India's squad announcement also signals the beginning of a new era in T20 cricket. Shreyas Iyer has been appointed captain for the Ireland and England series, while several young players have been given opportunities as the team begins planning for future global tournaments.

For Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, the call-up represents the realization of a dream and the start of a potentially historic international career. All eyes will now be on the teenage sensation as he prepares to wear the India jersey for the first time and test his talent on the biggest stage.

Shreyas Iyer Returns as India Announces T20I Squads for Ireland and England Series

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced India's T20I International squads for the upcoming series against Ireland and England, with several notable inclusions and exclusions grabbing attention. The selections also reflect the team's preparations for the Asian Games and the long-term roadmap leading into future ICC tournaments.

One of the biggest talking points is the return of Shreyas Iyer to the T20I setup. The middle-order batter, who has impressed with his consistency across formats, has earned a recall after being left out of recent T20 assignments. His inclusion is expected to strengthen India's batting unit and provide additional experience in the middle order.

Suryakumar Yadav, who continues to be one of India's most explosive T20I batters, has retained his place in the squad. The selectors have once again placed their faith in the Mumbai star, who remains a crucial component of India's white-ball plans despite facing occasional fluctuations in form. His ability to accelerate the scoring rate and dominate bowling attacks makes him a key player for the upcoming series.

Meanwhile, Virat Kohli's absence from the squad has be-



come a major discussion point among fans and experts. While the selectors have not indicated any long-term concerns, the move is being viewed as part of workload management and an opportunity to test younger players ahead of a busy international calendar.

The squad also features several emerging talents as India continues to build depth in its T20I setup. Young players who have performed well in domestic cricket and franchise leagues have been rewarded with opportunities to prove themselves at the international level. The management ap-

pears focused on identifying future match-winners while maintaining a balance between youth and experience.

A name that has generated considerable excitement is Vaibhav Sooryavanshi. The young cricketer has been included in the broader plans of the national setup, reflecting the selectors' confidence in his potential. His progress will be closely monitored as India looks to groom the next generation of stars.

The upcoming series against Ireland and England are expected to provide valuable preparation ahead of major

international assignments. England, in particular, will offer a strong challenge given their reputation as one of the most dangerous T20I sides in world cricket.

With experienced campaigners returning, promising youngsters receiving opportunities, and a clear focus on the future, India's latest squad announcement signals the beginning of another important phase in the team's T20I evolution. Cricket fans will now eagerly await the start of the series to see how the selected players perform on the international stage.

Suryakumar Yadav Breaks Silence After Captaincy Change, Welcomes Young Vaibhav Sooryavanshi



Star batter Suryakumar Yadav has reacted gracefully after being replaced by Shreyas Iyer as India's T20I captain, choosing to focus on the team's future rather than the leadership change. The experienced cricketer also had special words of encouragement for teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who recently earned his maiden call-up to the Indian national team.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced a major leadership reshuffle ahead of the upcoming T20I series against Ireland and England, naming Shreyas Iyer as the new captain. The decision marked the end of Suryakumar's tenure as T20I skipper, a role in which he guided India through an important transitional phase in recent years.

Shortly after the squad announcement, Suryakumar took to social media to share his reaction. Instead of expressing disappointment, the Mumbai batter posted a positive message congratulating

the selected players and reaffirming his commitment to contributing to Indian cricket in any role assigned to him. His response drew praise from fans and former cricketers, many of whom appreciated the maturity and professionalism he displayed.

A major highlight of Suryakumar's message was his welcome note to Vaibhav Sooryavanshi. The 15-year-old batting prodigy has become one of the most talked-about names in Indian cricket after a sensational IPL season. Suryakumar congratulated the youngster on achieving a dream that millions of aspiring cricketers work toward and encouraged him to enjoy the experience of representing the country at the highest level.

Vaibhav's selection has generated enormous excitement across the cricketing world. The young batter earned his place in the squad after producing a remarkable run of performances that captured the attention of selectors and

fans alike. Many experts believe he has the potential to become one of the future stars of Indian cricket.

Meanwhile, Suryakumar remains a key member of India's T20I setup despite losing the captaincy. The selectors have repeatedly emphasized that the leadership change should not be viewed as a reflection of his performances or value to the team. His experience, aggressive batting style, and ability to change the course of a match within a few overs continue to make him one of India's most important white-ball players. The appointment of Shreyas Iyer as captain signals the beginning of a new phase for India's T20I side. However, the positive response from Suryakumar Yadav has helped ensure a smooth transition. As India prepares for the upcoming international assignments, the focus now shifts to on-field performances, with fans eager to see both the new captain and the next generation of talent make their mark on the global stage.

Suryakumar Yadav Dropped as T20I Captain, Agarkar Opens Up on Tough Conversation

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has ushered in a new chapter in its T20I setup by replacing Suryakumar Yadav as captain ahead of the upcoming series against Ireland and England. Chief selector Ajit Agarkar revealed that informing the star batter about the decision was far from easy, given his contributions to Indian cricket and his role in leading the side to T20 World Cup success.

India announced its T20I squads on Saturday, with Shreyas Iyer being appointed as the new captain. The decision marks a significant leadership transition as the team begins preparations for future ICC events and seeks to build a fresh core of players for the next phase of its white-ball journey.

Addressing the media after the squad announcement, Agarkar acknowledged that conversations involving leadership changes are always difficult, particularly when they involve a player of Suryakumar's stature. He said the selection committee and team management held detailed discussions before arriving at the decision and believed a change in leadership was necessary as part of the team's long-term plans.

Despite losing the captaincy, Suryakumar Yadav remains an important member of India's T20I setup. The selectors emphasized that the move should not be viewed as a reflection of his abilities or value to the team. Instead, it was



described as a strategic decision aimed at creating a different leadership structure while continuing to benefit from Suryakumar's experience and match-winning skills as a senior player.

Suryakumar had taken charge of the T20I side during a transitional period and played a key role in guiding a relatively young squad. Under his leadership, India maintained an aggressive brand of cricket and delivered several notable performances. His fearless approach and attacking mindset earned praise from fans and former cricketers alike.

The appointment of Shreyas Iyer signals the selectors' confidence in the Mumbai batter's leadership abilities. Having impressed with his performances across formats and demonstrated composure under pressure, Iyer is expected to lead a squad that blends experienced campaigners with emerging talents.

The latest squad announcement also generated headlines due to the inclusion of teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, whose remarkable rise through domestic and franchise cricket has captured national attention. The selectors believe introducing young

players alongside established stars will help strengthen India's bench strength for future tournaments.

While leadership changes often spark debate, the BCCI appears focused on the bigger picture. With important international assignments on the horizon, the management hopes the new structure will help India remain competitive across formats. For Suryakumar Yadav, the captaincy may have ended for now, but his influence within the team remains as significant as ever, and he is expected to continue playing a vital role in India's T20I ambitions.



Samantha Gears Up for Aggressive Promotions as Maa Inti Bangaram Nears Release

Samantha Ruth Prabhu is set to intensify promotional activities for her upcoming Telugu film Maa Inti Bangaram as the movie prepares for its theatrical release on June 19. With less than two weeks left before the film reaches cinemas, the actress is expected to lead a comprehensive publicity campaign aimed at boosting visibility and generating excitement among audiences.

According to industry reports, Samantha plans to actively participate in a series of promotional events, interviews, media interactions, and digital campaigns in the coming days. The move comes at a crucial stage for the film, as trade circles have been emphasizing the importance of sustained publicity to maximize audience awareness ahead of release.

Directed by Nandini Reddy, Maa Inti Bangaram marks Samantha's much-anticipated return to the big screen after a considerable gap. The film has already attracted attention through its teaser and recently released trailer, both of which showcased Samantha in a powerful and action-oriented role. The trailer has significantly raised expectations among fans, who are eager to see the actress in a fresh avatar.

The movie revolves around a woman with a mysterious past who struggles to gain acceptance within a traditional fam-

ily. When danger from her former life resurfaces, she must protect her loved ones while keeping her secrets hidden. The blend of family drama, action, and emotional storytelling has emerged as one of the film's key attractions.

Industry observers believe Samantha's direct involvement in the promotional campaign could significantly strengthen the film's prospects at the box office. Earlier reports suggested that while the initial promotional material generated positive buzz, a more aggressive marketing push was needed to keep the film in public conversation amid increasing competition in the theatrical market.

Produced under Samantha's own banner, Tralala Moving Pictures, Maa Inti Bangaram features an ensemble cast that includes Gulshan Devaiah, Diganth Manchale, Gautami, Sreemukhi, Sathyaraj, and others in key roles. The film's music has been composed by Santhosh Narayanan, adding further appeal to the project.

With advance buzz steadily growing and Samantha preparing to lead promotions on an aggressive note, the makers are optimistic about building strong momentum before release. If the campaign succeeds in capturing audience attention, Maa Inti Bangaram could emerge as one of the most talked-about Telugu releases of the season.

Vijayendra Prasad Drops Another Exciting Hint About Rajamouli's Varanasi

SS Rajamouli's highly anticipated magnum opus Varanasi, starring Mahesh Babu in the lead role, continues to generate enormous buzz among movie lovers. Adding to the excitement, veteran writer Vijayendra Prasad has now revealed another intriguing detail about the film, giving fans a fresh reason to eagerly await the project's release.

During a recent interaction, Vijayendra Prasad hinted at a significant sequence inspired by the Ramayana. According to the celebrated writer, Varanasi will feature a powerful episode depicting the legendary battle between Lord Rama and Kumbhakarna. The revelation has sparked widespread curiosity among fans, who are already speculating about how the mythological element will be woven into the film's larger narrative.

This is not the first time Vijayendra Prasad has shared exciting updates about the project. Earlier, he revealed that the film includes a massive 30-minute action sequence that left him thoroughly impressed even before the addition of visual effects and background music. He specifically praised Mahesh Babu's performance in the sequence, describing it as unforgettable and one of the film's major highlights.

Directed by SS Rajamouli, Varanasi marks the first-ever collaboration between the acclaimed filmmaker and Superstar Mahesh Babu. The film has already become one of the most talked-about Indian pro-



jects in recent years due to its ambitious scale, global production values, and star-studded cast. Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Prithviraj Sukumaran play pivotal roles alongside Mahesh Babu.

Industry reports suggest that the film is being mounted on a staggering budget and is designed as a globe-trotting cinematic spectacle. Rajamouli has reportedly planned several large-scale action episodes and visually grand sequences that are expected to push the boundaries of Indian filmmaking. The production is currently progressing at a brisk pace, with significant portions of the shoot already completed.

The latest update from Vijayendra Prasad has further intensified anticipation sur-

Peddi Maintains Strong Momentum, Crosses 181 Crore Worldwide in Two Days

Ram Charan's latest release Peddi continues its impressive run at the box office, registering solid collections on its second day and reaffirming its status as one of the biggest Telugu blockbusters of the year. After opening to phenomenal numbers worldwide, the sports action drama has successfully sustained audience interest, delivering a strong performance despite it being a regular working day.

The film had already created history on its opening day by collecting a massive 135 crore gross worldwide. Such an extraordinary start raised expectations about its ability to maintain momentum over the following days. Encouragingly for the makers, Peddi has managed to hold its ground exceptionally well on Day 2, thanks largely to strong support from audiences across the Telugu-speaking states.

According to the latest official figures released by the production team, Peddi has amassed a worldwide gross of 181.8 crore within just two

days of its release. The film reportedly earned around 46 crore gross globally on its second day alone, a remarkable achievement considering the weekday factor. Trade analysts view this performance as a clear indication of the movie's strong word-of-mouth and widespread appeal among moviegoers.

The Telugu states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana continue to be the primary contributors to the film's success. Packed theatres and encouraging occupancy rates have ensured that collections remain robust even after the record-breaking opening day. Fans have responded enthusiastically to Ram Charan's performance, helping the film maintain a strong hold at the box office.

Industry observers are particularly optimistic about the film's prospects over the weekend. Advance bookings and occupancy trends have shown noticeable growth, suggesting that Peddi could witness a significant jump in collections



during the next few days. If the current momentum continues, the movie is expected to cross several major milestones in the domestic and international markets.

Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, Peddi is a sports action entertainer that blends intense drama, emotion, and high-en-

ergy sequences. The film stars Ram Charan in the lead role, while Janhvi Kapoor plays the female lead, marking a notable collaboration that has attracted considerable attention from audiences.

Produced by Venkata Satish Kilaru under the Vriddhi Cinemas banner, the film has

emerged as a major commercial success within a short span of time. With strong audience support and a promising weekend ahead, Peddi appears well-positioned to continue its box-office dominance and further strengthen Ram Charan's standing as one of Telugu cinema's biggest stars.

Acclaimed Cinematographer Thiru Joins Ram Pothineni's Upcoming Film



Ram Pothineni is gearing up for another exciting project, and the latest update has generated considerable buzz among movie enthusiasts. Renowned cinematographer Thi-

ru has officially been brought on board to handle the visuals for the actor's upcoming film, adding further strength to the project's technical team.

Known for his exceptional

work across Telugu and Tamil cinema, Thiru enjoys a strong reputation for crafting visually striking films. Over the years, he has worked on several notable projects and collaborated with some of the biggest stars in South Indian cinema. His inclusion in Ram Pothineni's next venture has raised expectations regarding the film's visual quality and overall presentation.

The project is already attracting attention due to the combination of talented technicians and the growing anticipation surrounding Ram's upcoming lineup. Following recent developments in his career, fans are eager to see the actor return with a film that showcases him in a fresh and powerful avatar. The addition of an experienced cinematographer like Thiru is being viewed as a significant boost to the production.

Industry circles suggest that

the makers are assembling a strong crew to ensure the film stands out both technically and creatively. Cinematography plays a crucial role in shaping the visual identity of a movie, particularly in large-scale commercial entertainers. With Thiru behind the camera, audiences can expect rich visuals, dynamic action sequences, and an engaging cinematic experience.

While the makers have not yet revealed extensive details about the storyline, pre-production work is reportedly progressing at a steady pace. Casting and other technical appointments are also expected to be announced in the coming weeks. The production team appears focused on building excitement gradually by unveiling key updates one after another.

For Ram Pothineni, the film represents another important step in his career as he contin-

ues to explore diverse roles and collaborate with accomplished filmmakers. The actor remains one of Telugu cinema's most energetic performers, and his fans are keenly awaiting more information about the project.

The appointment of Thiru has already become a talking point among movie lovers and trade observers. His track record of delivering visually appealing films has created optimism that the upcoming venture will offer audiences a high-quality theatrical experience.

As additional announcements regarding the cast, music director, and shooting schedule are expected soon, the project continues to gather momentum. With Ram Pothineni in the lead and Thiru handling cinematography, the film has already generated significant curiosity among fans and industry insiders alike.

Vijay Sethupathi Dubs Teaser in Three Languages as Slumdog: 33 Temple Road Gears Up for Big Reveal

The makers of Slumdog: 33 Temple Road have unveiled an exciting update about the much-awaited pan-Indian film starring Vijay Sethupathi and directed by Puri Jagannadh. The latest announcement has further heightened anticipation, revealing that Vijay Sethupathi has personally dubbed the film's teaser in three different languages ahead of its release. The teaser is scheduled to be unveiled on June 8 at 6 PM.

According to director Puri Jagannadh, Vijay Sethupathi has completed dubbing not only in his native Tamil but also in Telugu and Hindi. By lending his own voice across multiple languages, the actor has added a personal touch to the teaser and strengthened the film's appeal among audiences across India. The move reflects the makers' ambition to position Slumdog: 33 Temple Road as a true pan-Indian entertainer.

The film has been generating considerable buzz ever since its title and first-look poster were revealed earlier this year. The poster featured Vijay Sethupathi in a rugged and intense avatar, holding a blood-stained weapon while standing amidst stacks of cash. The striking visual immediately caught the attention of fans and industry observers, creating curiosity about the character and

storyline. Directed by Puri Jagannadh, known for delivering high-energy commercial entertainers, the film marks his first collaboration with Vijay Sethupathi. The project is expected to blend action, emotion, and drama on a grand scale. Reports indicate that principal photography has already been completed and the movie has now entered the post-production phase, with work progressing simultaneously across multiple language versions.

The film boasts an impressive ensemble cast. Alongside Vijay Sethupathi, the movie features Samyuktha as the female lead, while veteran actress Tabu plays a pivotal role. Kannada actor Duniya Vijay, Brahmaji, and VTV Ganesh are also part of the project in important supporting roles. Music for the film is being composed by Harshavardhan Rameshwar, whose previous works have earned acclaim for their intensity and emotional depth. With the teaser launch just around the corner, excitement surrounding Slumdog: 33 Temple Road continues to build. The decision to have Vijay Sethupathi dub in Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi has added another layer of anticipation, and fans are eager to get their first glimpse of the film's world when the teaser arrives on June 8.

