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Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Assures Relief to Small Contractors

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Tuesday assured small civil contractors in Telangana that the state government would clear their pending bills in a phased manner and continue to stand by them during financial difficulties.

Évian, June 16 | TPN Bureau

"India believes that the true test of partnership is not what we build for others, but what we enable others to build for themselves," said Narendra Modi while addressing the Outreach Session at the G7 Summit in Évian, underlining the importance of trust-based global cooperation.



the International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, Global Biofuels Alliance, Mission LiFE, and 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' as examples of India's people-centric global engagement.

mit, Modi held a series of bilateral meetings with world leaders. He met Mark Carney, reviewing progress in India-Canada relations and reaffirming commitment to strengthening ties.



expressing gratitude for the welfare of the Indian community in the UAE. Further engagements included meetings with Sanae Takaichi, Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, William Ruto, and Lee Jae-myung.

Union Minister Rebuts Revanth Reddy's Metro Funding Allegations

Hyderabad/New Delhi, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy on Tuesday dismissed allegations made by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy that he played a role in delaying the release of funds for the Hyderabad Metro Rail project, stating that the proposed loan arrangement is solely between the Telangana government and the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC).

ment was negotiated and finalised by the Telangana government and should not be politicised. "The state government itself finalised the loan agreement. It is a matter between the Telangana government and IRFC," Kishan Reddy said, strongly denying accusations levelled against him by the Chief Minister.



Telangana government to develop a sustainable financial model for the Hyderabad Metro project and ensure operational stability before relying on projected metro income for loan repayment.

He criticised Revanth Reddy for making what he described as politically motivated allegations and questioned the basis of the accusations. "Can the Chief Minister identify even one Union Minister who asked me to stop funds?" Kishan Reddy asked, calling the allegations baseless and inappropriate for a person holding a constitutional office.

n Reddy highlighted that the Union government had previously extended ₹1,250 crore support for Hyderabad Metro Phase-1, besides sanctioning funds for multiple railway, highway, and urban infrastructure projects in the state. He reiterated that the BJP-led central government has consistently supported Telangana's development irrespective of political differences and asserted that halting development projects does not align with the Centre's governance approach.

Retired IAS Officer Dr Raman Rao Passes Away at 96

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Retired IAS officer Dr Raman Rao, who served in key departments including transport, finance, and mines in the undivided Andhra Pradesh government, passed away on Tuesday. He was 96. A native of Karimnagar, Dr Raman Rao was widely respected for his long and distinguished career in public service, marked by dedication, administrative integrity, and commitment to social development.

at Nizam's College, Hyderabad, before joining public service and going on to hold several important administrative positions in the undivided Andhra Pradesh government. During his career, Dr Raman Rao served as secretary in major departments, including transport, finance, and mines, earning recognition for his efficient administration and contributions to governance. Apart from his official responsibilities, he was known for his efforts toward improving education and economic development, par-

ticularly in backward regions and among weaker sections of society. Even after retirement, Dr Raman Rao remained actively involved in educational and social service organisations, continuing his contribution to public welfare. He played a significant role in the activities of the Exhibition Society, serving in various capacities including honorary secretary and vice-president. He was also associated with several academic and professional bodies, including the Economic Committee and the Osmania



Graduates Association. Dr Raman Rao is credited with contributing to the establishment and promo-

tion of educational institutions in rural and semi-urban areas, reflecting his long-standing commitment to expanding educational opportunities. His passing has been mourned by former colleagues, educationists, and social organisations, who remembered him as a committed administrator and a strong advocate for education and inclusive development. Dr Raman Rao's contributions to public administration and social upliftment are expected to be remembered for years to come.

CM Revanth Reddy Reviews Bullet Train Project, Warangal Airport Plans

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau



Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday reviewed the proposed bullet train project and the design plans for the Warangal Airport during a high-level meeting held at Bodhi Pavilion in MCR HRD Institute, Hyderabad. The meeting was attended by MP Vem Narender Reddy, Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, CMO Principal Secretary Srinivasa Raju, TGIC Commissioner Shashank, Ranga Reddy District Collector Narayana Reddy, and R&B Special Secretary Praveenya, among other officials.

Shamshabad, should be developed and recognised as a major bullet train hub, considering its strategic connectivity and infrastructure potential. The Chief Minister also reviewed design proposals for the Warangal Airport, stressing that the airport should reflect the rich heritage and historical legacy of the Kakatiya dynasty. He directed officials to ensure that the architectural design of the airport prominently showcases Kakatiya cultural identity. As part of the proposed design vision, the Chief Minister suggested the construction of a large island at the airport entrance. He recommended installing statues of Rani Rudrama Devi, Rudradeva, and a massive Nandi statue at the island to highlight Warangal's historical and cultural significance. Officials were also instructed to hold discussions with Airports Authority of India (AAI) officials in New Delhi regarding the proposed airport designs and development plans. The review meeting focused on integrating infrastructure development with tourism, heritage preservation, and regional economic growth. Officials are expected to take forward the proposals after consultations with relevant central agencies and technical experts.

CM Revanth Reddy to Launch Telangana Public School



Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is set to inaugurate the Telangana Public School (TPS) campus at Arutla on Wednesday, marking the launch of one of the state government's flagship education initiatives. The Telangana Public School project, described as the Chief Minister's dream initiative, aims to provide high-quality public education comparable to corporate educational institutions through modern infrastructure, digital learning, and holistic student development. According to officials, the Chief Minister will arrive at the Arutla campus at 9:30 am and formally inaugurate the school by unveiling the Telangana Public School pylon. He is also scheduled to tour digital classrooms, science laboratories, the library, sports facilities, dining halls, and other amenities developed at the campus. A special interaction programme with students, teachers, and school committee members has been organised, during which the Chief Minister will share breakfast with students and seek their feedback on the school facilities and educational environment. A public meeting is also scheduled at the venue. Developed under the supervision of the state Education Commission, the Telangana Public School concept seeks to strengthen public confidence in government education by offering world-class facilities and English-medium instruction from nursery to Intermediate level under a

single campus. The Education Commission, constituted by the state government, played a key role in shaping the project. Education Commission Chairman Dr. Akunuri Murali and members P.L. Visweshwar Rao, Dr. Charakonda Venkatesh, and Joshna Shivareddy contributed to conceptualising the Telangana Public School model. Apart from academics, the school places emphasis on sports, cultural activities, personality development, and skill-building. Students are provided free transportation, breakfast, lunch, and evening snacks as part of the programme. The Arutla campus features digital classrooms, modern laboratories, spacious playgrounds, a library, gymnasium, dining halls, and sports infrastructure for cricket, football, volleyball, kho-kho, kabaddi, tennis, and carrom. Specialised sports coaches have also been appointed. The government has deployed five school buses to transport students from Arutla and surrounding villages. Currently, 1,814 students are enrolled at the Arutla Telangana Public School, including 150 pre-primary students, 600 in primary classes, 800 in high school, and 264 intermediate students. Officials said overwhelming public response has resulted in admissions reaching full capacity, with the school reportedly displaying a "No Admission" notice. The government plans to establish 100 Telangana Public Schools in phases, with Arutla emerging as a pilot model for future expansion across the state.

CM Writes Open Letter to Union Minister

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has written an open letter to Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, urging the Centre not to delay approvals and release of IRFC loan funds required for the expansion of the Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase-2 project. In the letter, the Chief Minister requested Kishan

Reddy to immediately arrange a meeting with Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to discuss pending approvals and financial support for the ambitious metro expansion. Highlighting the success of Hyderabad Metro Phase-1, Revanth Reddy stated that the existing 69-km metro network across three corridors has been serving commuters

Surender Reddy Seeks Telangana Representation in Judiciary

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana High Court Advocates' Association has strongly demanded fair representation for advocates of Telangana origin in appointments to the High Court Bench, stressing that the state's voice must be adequately reflected in the judiciary. At an Extraordinary General Body Meeting held at the Telangana High Court on Monday, members of the Association unanimously resolved to press for greater representation of deserving Telangana advocates in judicial elevations. The meeting was chaired by Association President S. Surender Reddy and attended by key office bearers, including Vice-President D.L. Pandu, Secretaries P. Shrawan Kumar Goud and K. Niranjan Reddy, Joint Secretary P. Krishna Keertana, Treasurer B. Balaji, Sports and Cultural



Secretary J. Vishnu Vardhan, along with Executive Committee members. During the meeting, senior advocates expressed concern over the lack of adequate representation of Telangana-origin legal professionals in judicial appointments. They emphasized that the state possesses a strong pool of experienced and competent advocates capable of serving effectively on the High Court Bench. Association leaders stressed

that judicial appointments should not be based solely on merit but must also reflect social justice, regional aspirations, and fair representation of all sections of society. They argued that Telangana, which has its own legal, social, and administrative identity, deserves equitable recognition in the process of judicial appointments. "The judiciary must reflect the diversity, aspirations, and social realities of the people it serves. Telangana deserves

its rightful representation on the Bench," the Association stated in its resolution. As part of its efforts, the Association decided to submit formal representations to several constitutional and political authorities, including the Chief Justice of India, the Supreme Court Collegium, the Union Law Minister, the Governor of Telangana, the Chief Minister of Telangana, and leaders of various political parties. The appeal seeks

transparency, fairness, and due consideration for Telangana-origin advocates in future judicial elevations. Senior advocates at the meeting said that ensuring regional representation in the judiciary would strengthen public confidence in the justice system and make it more inclusive. They maintained that appointments should mirror the aspirations of people from different regions and communities. To intensify its demand, the Telangana High Court Advocates' Association announced a protest demonstration to be held at the Telangana High Court on June 17. The protest aims to highlight concerns over representation and call for a more balanced and transparent judicial appointment process. The Association reiterated that Telangana's legal fraternity deserves fair opportunities and meaningful representation in the judiciary.

Telangana Martyrs Memorial Visited by Movement Activists Identification Committee



Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Movement Activists Identification Committee visited the Telangana Martyrs Memorial 'Amarajothi' in Hyderabad and announced plans to begin phased consultations from June 23 to identify individuals who actively participated in the Telangana statehood movement. Committee members toured various sections of the Amarajothi memorial complex, including the specially designed audio-visual room, to review facilities and arrangements at the site. Later, a committee meeting was held at the Amarajothi premises under the leadership of Committee Chairman K. Keshava Rao. The meeting was attended by Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar, Government Whip and MLC Addanki Dayakar, MLC Kodandaram, former MLC Ramulu Naik, Mothe Shobhan Reddy, and other members.

ed in the Telangana statehood movement between 2001 and 2014. The committee decided to hold extensive discussions with movement welfare committees, representatives of public organisations, and various sections associated with the Telangana agitation, while maintaining a non-political approach to the process. Officials stated that the phased consultations would help collect inputs necessary to formulate fair criteria for recognising activists who contributed to the movement for a separate Telangana state. To ensure greater transparency and wider participation, the committee announced that suggestions and representations would be accepted through both online and offline modes. As part of the online process, a dedicated website will be launched to receive feedback and applications. For offline submissions, special officers will be appointed to collect representations from movement activists and record relevant details and opinions. Committee members said the initiative is intended to create a structured and transparent mechanism to recognise the contributions of individuals and organisations that played a role in the Telangana statehood movement. The move is expected to generate significant interest among Telangana movement activists and associated organisations across the state, many of whom have long sought formal recognition for their participation in the statehood struggle.

Minister Assures Transparent Fertiliser Supply to Farmers

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Agriculture and Cooperation Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Tuesday assured farmers that the Telangana government is committed to ensuring timely and transparent distribution of fertilisers, including urea, while extending full support to farmers during adverse weather conditions. Participating in the 'Rythu Nestham' programme, the minister said the government introduced the Fertili ser App to simplify urea distribution and eliminate the need for

farmers to stand in long queues. Through the app, farmers can now book urea from their homes and collect it at the required time. He stated that the app is being continuously upgraded based on suggestions from farmers, with the primary aim of ensuring transparency, reliability, speedy service, and easy access to fertilisers. The minister revealed that Telangana currently has 90.22 lakh urea bags in stock, including 22.67 lakh bags at retail outlets, 5.56 lakh bags at cooperative societies, 59.56 lakh bags with Markfed, and 3.56 lakh bags in warehouses.

According to official figures, 4.06 lakh farmers have booked 13.22 lakh urea bags through the Fertili ser App, out of which 11.18 lakh bags have already been distributed, accounting for 84.6 per cent successful delivery. Minister Tummala said the government has also introduced a toll-free booking facility for farmers who do not own smartphones or are unfamiliar with app usage. The service is available daily from 10 am to 5 pm, allowing farmers to call and complete urea bookings with assistance from staff. The minister said the digital system was introduced to

curb black marketing, illegal diversion, and misuse of urea meant for farmers. He clarified that only genuine farmers with cultivable land are eligible to purchase urea under the system. Highlighting district-wise performance, he said Nizamabad district topped urea purchases through the app with 1,39,121 bags, followed by Kamareddy (71,742 bags), Kumuram Bheemasi fabad (50,638 bags), Sangareddy (34,482 bags), and Adilabad (33,485 bags). He appreciated farmers in Nizamabad for actively adopting the digital platform. Tummala also cautioned farmers

about changing weather patterns, stating that lower rainfall may occur this year due to the El Niño effect. He advised farmers to seek expert guidance on alternative crops if drought-like conditions emerge during June and July. Encouraging sustainable farming, the minister urged farmers to gradually reduce water-intensive paddy cultivation and shift toward profitable crops such as oil palm. He reiterated that the government considers timely fertiliser supply and support during climatic challenges as its responsibility toward the farming community.

Minister Promises to Raise Pension Demand for Band Artists with CM

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Tourism and Culture Minister Jupally Krishna Rao on Tuesday assured that the Telangana government is committed to the welfare of band and instrumental artists and would take a positive view on the demand for pensions for eligible artists. Addressing the Telangana State Conference of Band and Instrumental Artists held at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram in Bagh Lingampally, the minister said the issue of extending pensions to deserving artists would be brought to the attention of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for a favourable decision. Speaking as the chief guest at the event, Jupally Krishna Rao acknowledged the significant contribution of band and instrumental artists to Telangana's cultural and social life. He said these artists have played an impor-



tant role in festivals, jattras, social movements, and cultural programmes across the state. The minister also recalled the contribution of band and instrumental artists during the Telangana statehood movement, noting that their participation helped strengthen public mobilisation and cultural identity during the agitation. He emphasized that preserv-

ing traditional arts and supporting artists who have carried forward cultural practices for generations is the responsibility of the government. Assuring support to the artist community, he said the government is responding positively to their concerns and demands and remains committed to resolving the issues faced by them. Jupally Krishna Rao further called upon band and instru-

mental artists to actively participate in the proposed "Prabhata Bheri" programme, which the state government plans to launch to promote social awareness and address social evils. He said the initiative aims to strengthen social consciousness and bring positive change in society, adding that the cooperation of artists would be crucial to make the programme successful.

"The role of cultural artists is invaluable in spreading awareness among people. Their participation in programmes aimed at social reform will create a greater impact," the minister said. The conference witnessed participation from band and instrumental artists from various districts of Telangana, representatives of artists' associations, and prominent personalities from the cultural sector. Among those present at the event were Arunodaya Cultural Federation Chairperson Vimalakha and former minister Srinivas Goud, along with several cultural activists and representatives of artists' groups. The gathering focused on welfare measures, recognition, and long-pending demands of band and instrumental artists, with participants expressing hope for positive action from the government regarding pension benefits and livelihood support.

BJP Holds Statewide Cadre Training Camps Ahead of Future Polls

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is conducting Prashikshan Varga (training camps) for party workers across all districts as part of the national Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Prashikshan Maha-Abhiyan 2026, aimed at strengthening organisational structure and preparing cadres for upcoming elections. The BJP's two-day residential training programme, conducted once every three years, focuses on ideological, organisational, technological, governance, and communication-related aspects for party workers. According to party leaders, district-level camps are being organised under a structured training module, mostly at remote and outskirts locations, featuring 14 to 15 sessions covering 12 major topics. Senior leaders associated with the party and ideological organisations, along with subject experts, addressed participants during the sessions. Telangana BJP President N. Ramchander Rao, senior BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, and Telangana BJP affairs in-charge Sunil Bansal and Abhay Kumar Patil also participated in various training camps. The programme includes sessions on BJP ideology, party history, cultural nationalism, integral humanism, and the philosophy associated with the RSS-BJP framework. Workers are also being trained on governance-related topics, including welfare schemes such as PM Awas Yojana and Ujjwala Yojana, along with

discussions on public policy and administration. Technology-based modules focus on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for report preparation, graphic design, digital communication, PowerPoint presentations, and data mapping to improve organisational efficiency. Special emphasis is also being placed on communication skills, including media handling, television debates, public speaking, social media outreach, and political messaging. Election strategy sessions include booth-level management, strengthening Shakti Kendras, countering opposition narratives, and expanding the party's organisational base. Speaking on the importance of the programme, Telangana BJP President Ramchander Rao said cadre training is an integral part of the BJP's organisational culture and helps improve ideological clarity, discipline, and commitment among workers. He said the party conducts training programmes from mandal to state level once every three years and claimed that such structured cadre development distinguishes the BJP from other political parties. According to party leaders, training sessions have already been completed in 875 out of 950 mandals across Telangana. MPs, MLAs, MLCs, district office bearers, state executive members, and senior party leaders participated in the programme. The BJP leadership believes the ongoing training initiative will help prepare the organisation for upcoming municipal corporation elections and the 2028 Telangana Assembly elections.

Minister Attends SIR Awareness Camp for Booth-Level Agents

Sangareddy, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Medical and Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha and Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud participated as chief guests in an awareness and training camp organised for Booth Level Agents (BLAs) on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Sangareddy constituency. The programme focused on creating awareness among party workers and BLAs regarding the voter list revision process, aimed at ensur-

ing an accurate and updated electoral roll. Addressing the gathering, Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha emphasized the importance of every party worker understanding the SIR process in detail. He said the revision exercise plays a key role in strengthening democracy by ensuring eligible voters are included while removing duplicate or ineligible entries from the voter list. During the training session, leaders provided guidance on thoroughly reviewing voter lists, identifying eligible voters for inclusion, deleting



duplicate or ineligible names, and correcting errors in voter details. Participants were also briefed on the procedures involved in updating electoral records effectively. The minister urged party workers and Booth Level Agents to actively participate in the revision process and remain vigilant to ensure that every eligible citizen receives voting rights without discrepancies. TPCC President Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud also

highlighted the significance of maintaining transparent and error-free voter rolls, stressing that accurate electoral data is essential for fair democratic representation. The programme witnessed participation from several senior Congress leaders and public representatives. Among those present were Member of Parliament Suresh Shetkar, Narayan Khed MLA Dr. Sanjeeva Reddy, Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy, senior Congress leader Turpu Jayaprakash Reddy (Jagga Reddy), Patancheru Assembly con-

stituency Congress in-charge Kata Srinivas Goud, Neelam Madhu Mudiraj, and other district-level party leaders. Leaders at the event reiterated the need for coordinated efforts to ensure that deserving voters are not left out of the electoral rolls and that inaccuracies are addressed promptly. The awareness camp forms part of a broader effort to educate Booth Level Agents on their responsibilities during the Special Intensive Revision process and strengthen voter registration and verification mechanisms in the constituency.



Union Minister Rebuts Revanth Reddy's Metro Funding Allegations

continued
and expressing readiness to hold discussions involving state officials to resolve technical and financial concerns.

Welcoming dialogue, he said he is prepared to meet the Chief Minister and urban development officials to sort out pending issues and ensure progress on the metro expansion project.

The minister concluded by reaffirming his commitment to Telangana's infrastructure growth and urged constructive cooperation between the Centre and State for timely execution of major projects.

The Chief Minister explained that the state government had constructively addressed objections raised by the Union Urban Development Ministry regarding differences in the implementation structure between Metro Phase-1 and the proposed Phase-2.

CM Writes Open Letter to Union Minister

continued

efficiently. However, due to rapid urban expansion and population growth, the Telangana government submitted proposals to the Centre for Phase-2, which includes seven corridors spanning 122.9 km at an estimated cost of ₹38,595 crore. To ensure the metro system functions under a unified network, the Telangana government took the "extraordinary decision" to take over Metro Phase-1 operations, he said. According to the Chief Minister, the takeover process involves ₹15,000 crore in financial transactions, including ₹1,461.47 crore for equity purchase and ₹13,538.53 crore for refinancing project debt.

He noted that the process was carried out transparently through a committee formed by the state government, which also included a nominee from the Centre. Revanth Reddy further stated that the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) had completed due diligence and approved the loan agreement for the project. The Telangana government has already provided a government guarantee, accepted direct debit arrangements through the RBI, paid an upfront fee of ₹84.32 crore, and deposited ₹1,461.47 crore equity into an escrow account. Despite fulfilling all conditions, the Chief Minister expressed concern that the first instalment of the loan, expected on June 15, 2026, has not yet been released.

Clarifying that Telangana is not seeking any grant or donation, Revanth Reddy stressed that the state is only requesting the release of sanctioned loan funds as per the agreement. He urged Kishan Reddy, as a senior Union Minister from Telangana, to intervene and ensure timely release of IRFC funds while supporting the approval of Metro Phase-2 as a 50:50 joint venture between the Centre and the State. The Chief Minister also stated that if approvals are delayed, Telangana is prepared to move forward with the project using its own resources and institutional loans, provided necessary clearances are granted without further delay.

Jana Sena Telangana State Office to Be Inaugurated

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The Jana Sena Party has announced the inauguration of its new Telangana State office in Hyderabad on June 19, marking a significant development for the party's activities in the state. The newly established office will be inaugurated at Manikonda in Hyderabad on Friday, June 19, at 11:08 am. Party leaders have extended an open invitation to Jana Sainiks, Veera Mahilas, party leaders, supporters, and well-wishers from across Telangana to attend the event and make it a grand success.



According to party representatives, the opening of the new Telangana State office is expected to strengthen organisational activities and improve coordination among party cadres in the state.

The event is likely to witness the participation of senior party leaders, activists, and supporters from different districts. The office is located at 8-1-246/2, near Malkam Cheruvu, Manikonda, Hyderabad, Telangana. Party leaders said the inauguration reflects Jana Sena's efforts to expand its political presence and organisational network in Telangana. They expressed confidence that the new office would serve as a key centre for party programmes, meetings, and public outreach initiatives.

Supporters and party workers have been urged to participate in large numbers and contribute to the success of the programme. The announcement has generated enthusiasm among Jana Sena supporters, especially party activists and followers across Telangana, who view the inauguration as an important step in strengthening the party's activities in the region. The party concluded its invitation message with the slogans "Jai Telangana" and "Jai Hind," calling upon cadres to actively take part in the occasion.

Harish Rao Calls CM's Agriculture Review an 'Eye Wash'

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Senior BRS leader and former minister T. Harish Rao on Tuesday criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's review meeting on the agriculture department, calling it a "mere eyewash" aimed at diverting attention from what he described as the Congress government's attempt to gradually withdraw crop bonus benefits for farmers.



In a statement issued here, Harish Rao questioned whether the review meeting was conducted to impose fresh restrictions on farmers and reduce the government's financial burden in paying crop bonuses. He alleged that the Congress government had failed to honour its election promise of providing a ₹500 bonus for all crops, claiming that the commitment had been diluted in phases. "The Congress promised a ₹500 bonus for all crops in its election manifesto. Later, it restricted the benefit to 33 varieties of fine paddy and now eligibility has reported-

ly been reduced to just seven varieties. This exposes the government's intention to evade its promise to farmers," Harish Rao said. The former minister also raised concerns over farmers who had already prepared nurseries for paddy varieties based on previous government announcements. He questioned what support would be extended to those farmers if they are excluded from the revised crop bonus criteria. Criticising the government's crop diversification campaign, Harish Rao claimed that several farmers who followed official advice to cultivate alternative crops such as maize, sorghum, sunflower, soybean, and groundnut had suffered losses. He demanded clarity from the government on whether these crops would be procured at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and whether farmers would be protected from financial dis-

stress. "What guarantee does the government provide that farmers cultivating alternative crops will not be abandoned as happened in the previous season?" he asked. Harish Rao further alleged that the Chief Minister's agriculture review failed to address several pressing issues affecting the farming community, including Rythu Bharosa financial assistance, crop bonus payments, crop insurance, and Rythu Bima schemes. The BRS leader also reiterated his earlier allegation regarding an alleged ₹2,000-crore scam in the procurement of supplies for Gurukul schools, demanding accountability from the state government. His remarks come amid ongoing political exchanges between the ruling Congress and the opposition BRS over farmer welfare, agricultural policies, and implementation of election promises. The state government is yet to officially respond to Harish Rao's latest allegations.

MLA KP Vivekanand Criticised by Congress Leader



Quthbullapur, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Political tensions resurfaced in Quthbullapur constituency on Monday after senior Congress leader Aleti Srinivas launched sharp criticism against MLA KP Vivekanand, alleging that he did not secure electoral victories through genuine public support. Addressing a media interaction, Aleti Srinivas, a Congress leader from Pragathi Nagar Division, accused MLA KP Vivekanand of weakening the Congress Party and misleading people to emerge victorious in elections. He claimed that despite publicly projecting himself as a three-time MLA, Vivekanand had allegedly resorted to political tactics that influenced electoral outcomes. Srinivas further alleged that phone tapping was carried out involving former political leader Kolanu Hanumantha Reddy and his family members, claiming that political developments and public discussions were monitored to gain political advantage. He accused the MLA of misleading the electorate rather than winning solely based on public trust and support. The Congress leader stated that despite electoral setbacks, the party leadership has continued to remain among the people, identifying constituency-level issues and working toward their resolution. He said Congress leaders have been consistently fighting for public concerns, which, according to him, is gradually increasing public support for the party. Expressing confidence in the party's future prospects, Srinivas said the Congress Party would certainly emerge victorious in the coming elections and provide better service to the

people. He maintained that the public would respond appropriately to what he described as the MLA's political approach. He strongly condemned the alleged political methods adopted by MLA KP Vivekanand and asserted that voters in the constituency would deliver a fitting response in due course. The remarks have triggered discussion in political circles across Quthbullapur, once again intensifying the war of words between rival political groups in the constituency. Several Congress leaders and party activists participated in the media meeting, including Dr. Maddi Narayana Reddy, Guduru Murali Krishna, Prashanth Reddy, Madhusudhan Reddy, Subbu, Surendra Yadav, and Rafit. No immediate response was available from MLA KP Vivekanand regarding the allegations at the time of reporting.

HC Allows Diploma Students to Appear for Supplementary Exams



Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana High Court on Tuesday directed education authorities to allow two diploma students to appear for the supplementary examinations scheduled from June 18, offering relief to the students who had challenged the decision barring them from the exams. Juvvadi Sridevi ordered the authorities to permit the students to write the June 2026 supplementary examinations after hearing their plea against the decision of the education board. The petitioners argued that they had been permitted to attend regular classes, inter-

nal examinations, and practical sessions, but were later denied permission to appear for the supplementary examinations. They contended that medical grounds cited by some students and technical difficulties affecting attendance had not been adequately considered by the authorities. The students further claimed that the rigid enforcement of attendance requirements without accounting for exceptional circumstances was arbitrary and unfair. In a separate development, N. Tukaramji stayed proceedings in a divorce case filed by a Muslim husband before the Principal Family Court. The court observed that the legal

question of whether such a divorce petition was maintainable under the Family Courts Act and Muslim Personal (Shariat) Law required detailed examination. The case was filed by a woman challenging the validity of the divorce proceedings initiated by her husband. Her counsel argued that under Muslim Personal Law, a husband generally does not require court intervention for dissolution of marriage and that no statutory framework exists for such petitions before family courts. The High Court directed respondents to file their replies and granted an interim stay on further proceedings. Meanwhile, Renuka Yara directed the Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited to restore electricity supply to a stone crusher unit premises in Rangareddy district, citing hardship faced by quarry workers residing there. However, the court restrained the company operating the premises from resuming quarrying or stone-crushing activities. The petitioner had argued that workers staying at the site were suffering due to lack of electricity after quarry operations had already ceased. The court ordered immediate restoration of power while maintaining restrictions on industrial activity.

NMC Begins Inspections for Medical Seat Expansion

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has begun inspections of government medical colleges in Telangana following proposals for a significant increase in undergraduate (UG), postgraduate (PG), and super-specialty medical seats across the state. The Directorate of Medical Education (DME) has submitted proposals seeking expansion of seats in several government-run medical colleges, while multiple private medical colleges, particularly in Hyderabad, have also applied for additional UG and PG seats to meet the growing demand for medical education. Officials said four state-run medical colleges have sought approval for an additional 110 undergraduate seats and 465 postgraduate seats. As part of the proposed UG expansion,

the next two months. A senior official stated that colleges with adequate infrastructure and faculty strength were encouraged by the NMC to apply for seat enhancement. Accordingly, proposals covering undergraduate, postgraduate, and super-specialty programmes have been submitted. During inspections, NMC teams reportedly conducted detailed verification of institutional facilities and operations, including outpatient and inpatient services, faculty strength, infrastructure, workload, hostel facilities, human resources, departmental performance, statutory records, and birth and death registers. Officials expressed confidence that the expansion, if approved, would significantly strengthen medical education infrastructure in Telangana and increase opportunities for aspiring medical students across the state.

Sports Minister Inaugurates HSBC Rugby Premier League

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Sports Minister Vakiti Srihari on Tuesday inaugurated the HSBC Rugby Premier League at the Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad, marking the beginning of a major sporting event aimed at promoting rugby and strengthening India's sports ecosystem. The minister attended the inaugural ceremony as the chief guest and extended his congratulations to players, coaches, officials, franchise owners, partners, and fans who gathered for the league. Speaking on the occasion, Vakiti Srihari expressed happiness that GMR Sports selected Hyderabad as the venue for hosting the Rugby Premier League and said the event would help boost the popularity of rugby in the country. The minister noted



that the participation of six men's teams and four women's teams in the league is an encouraging development, not only for rugby but also for the growth of women's sports in India. "This is a significant step forward for rugby and women's participation in

sports. Such platforms inspire young athletes and strengthen India's sporting culture," he said. Vakiti Srihari also appreciated the collective efforts of all stakeholders involved in organising the event, including GMR Sports, Rugby India, franchise owners, sponsors,

broadcasters, and partners. He made special mention of the contributions of sports administrator and actor Rahul Bose, acknowledging his role in promoting rugby in India and supporting the successful conduct of the league. The minister reiterated that the Telangana

government remains committed to supporting every initiative that promotes sports, inspires young athletes, and strengthens the country's sporting ecosystem. "The Telangana government will always stand in support of efforts that encourage sports development and motivate youth to pursue excellence in athletics," he stated. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from sports officials and organisers. Among those present were SATS Chairman Shivasena Reddy, Managing Director Sony Bala Devi, and other organisers associated with the league. The hosting of the HSBC Rugby Premier League in Hyderabad is expected to give a major push to rugby in Telangana and inspire greater participation among young sportspersons in the state.

SHO Gaddam Mallesh Honours Auto Driver for Rescuing Missing Children



Quthbullapur, June 16 | TPN Bureau

In a heartwarming incident reflecting humanity and social responsibility, an auto driver helped reunite two missing children with their parents in the Jeedimetla police station limits on Monday. The incident occurred near Gandhi Nagar Bus Stop under the jurisdiction of Jeedimetla Police Station in Quthbullapur at around 11 am. Two young boys from Bihar, identified as Adhar and Shivansh, were found wandering alone after reportedly getting separated from their parents. Auto driver Srikanth, who noticed the children in a distressed and unattended condition, acted responsibly and took immediate steps to ensure their safety. Showing compassion and presence of mind, he safely brought the children to the Jeedimetla Police Station and informed the authorities. Following this, Jeedimetla police personnel gathered details about the children and launched efforts to trace their family members. Police circulated photographs and information about the children through various WhatsApp groups and other communication channels to locate their parents. Within a short time, the police successfully identified the parents of the children

and contacted them. The relieved parents arrived at the police station, where the children were safely handed over to them. The timely response of both the auto driver and police officials helped prevent any untoward incident and ensured the children were reunited with their family without delay. Appreciating the humanitarian gesture and responsible conduct of the auto driver, Jeedimetla Station House Officer (SHO) Gaddam Mallesh felicitated Srikanth with a shawl at the police station and commended him for his kindness and civic responsibility. Police officials praised Srikanth for setting an example by acting swiftly in a sensitive situation rather than ignoring the matter. Local residents and onlookers also appreciated his timely intervention, saying his actions reflected humanity and concern for public welfare. The incident has drawn praise from the public, with many lauding the combined efforts of the auto driver and Jeedimetla police in ensuring the safe return of the children to their worried parents. Officials urged citizens to remain alert and extend help whenever children or vulnerable persons are found in distress, emphasizing that timely action can make a significant difference in ensuring safe

Road Work Controversy Erupts in Krushi Colony

Quthbullapur, June 16 | TPN Bureau

A controversy has surfaced over alleged irregularities in the construction of a cement concrete (CC) road in Krushi Colony under the 292 Saibaba Nagar Division of Kompally Circle in Quthbullapur, with residents raising concerns over unauthorized work, lack of transparency, and possible violations of engineering norms. According to local residents, CC road works were carried out in the colony around 2 am on June 15. While two internal sub-road works were reportedly part of the approved project, an additional 20-feet stretch of road was allegedly laid without any official approval, triggering questions about who authorized the work and under what circumstances it was undertaken. Residents questioned whether the additional road construction was carried out independently by the contractor or with the knowledge of concerned engineering officials. Government works, they pointed out, are usually executed strictly according to approved esti-



mates, which specify the road length, material requirements, and construction boundaries. Locals demanded clarity on how extra material for the additional road stretch was procured and whose instructions led to the work being extended beyond the sanctioned limits. Further allegations have emerged regarding the quality of the construction. Residents claimed that the additional CC road was laid directly on mud without completing underground drainage work, excavation,

gravel filling, or base preparation. They argued that standard procedures such as leveling, gravel bedding, and drainage arrangements are mandatory before laying a CC road to ensure durability and quality. However, in Krushi Colony, the work was allegedly completed overnight without following these basic engineering practices. Residents also alleged that despite objections from colony members, the construction work continued uninterrupted. They questioned the urgency behind

conducting the work during midnight hours instead of carrying it out transparently in the presence of local residents. The silence of Kompally Circle engineering officials over the matter has further fueled suspicions. Locals questioned whether a contractor could proceed with government-funded road work without official approval or whether there had been lapses in monitoring by authorities. Critics say the incident raises larger concerns about accountability and quality control in public infrastruc-

ture projects. Residents have demanded a thorough inquiry into the matter and strict action against both the contractor and officials found responsible if any violations are established. They warned that poor oversight and lack of transparency in government works could lead to misuse of public funds and compromise infrastructure quality. The issue has now sparked widespread discussion in the locality, with residents demanding answers from the authorities.

Minister Assures Review of Free RTC Travel for NEET Students

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

NSUI State President Venkat Swamy and student leaders met Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar at the State Secretariat on Tuesday and urged the government to provide free RTC bus travel for students appearing for the NEET examination scheduled to be held again on June 21. The student representatives requested the minister to extend free transportation support to candidates who will be reappearing for the medical entrance examination, citing the burden on students and parents. During the meeting, NSUI leaders said students have been forced to take the examination once again due to issues surrounding the NEET examination

process and appealed to the state government to support candidates by allowing free travel in RTC buses on the examination day. Responding to the request, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar said the state government would positively consider the proposal and assured that the matter would be brought to the attention of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for a decision. "The Praja Palana government will certainly take this issue to the Chief Minister and examine the possibility of a positive decision," the minister reportedly said during the interaction. NSUI leaders also criticised the Central government, alleging that administrative failures led to irregularities in the NEET examination process, resulting in students having to appear for



the test again. They argued that students should not suffer due to circumstances beyond their control and stressed that transportation support would help ease logistical and financial difficulties for candidates traveling to examination centres.

The meeting highlighted concerns over the challenges faced by NEET aspirants and the need for government intervention to ensure smooth access to examination centres. The request for free RTC travel is expected to be reviewed by the state govern-

ment ahead of the June 21 examination date. Student leaders expressed hope that the government would take a favourable decision in the interest of students and provide relief to candidates preparing for the examination.

HCA Faces Contempt Plea Over Delay in Implementing High Court Order

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) is facing a contempt petition in the Telangana High Court over alleged failure to implement a court order related to the recovery of honoraria paid to appointees selected in violation of the association's bye-laws. The contempt petition has been filed by Acrylic Cricket Club and its secretary Chitti Sridhar, who alleged that the HCA failed to comply with a High Court

judgment delivered on May 2, 2025, concerning irregular appointments made within the association. The petition names HCA Vice-President Sardar Daljeet Singh, Joint Secretary T. Basava Raju, and Councillor Sunil Agarwal as respondents. The Telangana High Court is expected to hear the contempt plea later this week. According to the petitioners, the High Court had earlier set aside several internal appointments made by certain HCA office-bearers, ruling that the appoint-

ments were contrary to the association's bye-laws. While the court protected the entitlement of the appointees to receive honoraria for services rendered, it had specifically directed that any payments made should be recovered from the personal accounts of the office-bearers responsible for making the alleged illegal appointments. The amount involved is reportedly worth several crores of rupees. In the contempt affidavit, the petitioners argued that despite nearly a year passing since the

judgment, no meaningful steps had been taken by the HCA to identify, quantify, or recover the amounts paid as honoraria. The petition stated that "no steps whatsoever" had been initiated to enforce the court's recovery directive, raising concerns over continued non-compliance. The petitioners further pointed to subsequent developments within the HCA, including criminal proceedings, arrests, and suspensions involving some office-bearers, arguing that these developments made

implementation of the court's order even more urgent. They contended that the continued inaction by the HCA amounts to deliberate disobedience of judicial directions and undermines the authority of the High Court. The contempt plea seeks action against the concerned officials for allegedly failing to implement the court's order and ensure compliance with the recovery process. The matter is expected to come up for hearing before the Telangana High Court later this week.

MLC Malka Komuraiah Attends Excellence Awards 2026



Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Pallavi Engineering College (PEC), in association with Telangana People's Voice, organised the "Excellence Awards 2026" and Academic Merit Felicitation Ceremony in a grand manner at the college campus in Kuntloor, Hyderabad, on Tuesday. The programme honoured meritorious students from all 33 districts of Telangana who secured top marks in the Intermediate Public Examinations. A total of 256 outstanding students were felicitated with Excellence Awards-2026 medals in recognition of their academic achievements. The event was attended by several distinguished guests, including Pallavi Engineering College Chairman and MLC Malka Komuraiah, Telangana People's Voice President Kalam Madhusudan Reddy, BIS Telangana State Resource Person Gandhari Prabhakar, Telangana High Court advocate Kalam Janardhan Reddy, noted agricultural scientist Y. Venkateswara Rao, motivational speaker and author Akella Raghavendra, Horticulture Officer B. Manga, college advisor Professor SGS Murthy, Executive Director Dr. Malka Naveen Kumar, Management Representative Beerelli Kamalakar, media representatives, and other dignitaries. Speaking on the occasion, MLC Malka Komuraiah said India is emerging as one of the fastest-growing economies in the world and emphasized that the future of the nation lies in the hands of youth. He highlighted India's rich heritage, culture, intel-

lectual strength, and young population, expressing confidence that the country would become a global leader in the coming years. He said under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has achieved rapid progress across sectors and earned global recognition. Encouraging students to clearly define their goals, he advised them to combine hard work with smart work and effectively utilise technology to achieve success. Recalling the message of former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, Komuraiah urged students to dream big and work tirelessly to transform their aspirations into reality. He encouraged them to contribute not only to personal success but also to society, the state, and the nation. Telangana People's Voice President Kalam Madhusudan Reddy said recognising talent through such programmes inspires youth to strive for excellence while instilling social responsibility and positive values. Motivational speaker Akella Raghavendra delivered an inspiring speech, encouraging students to develop self-confidence, determination, and discipline to accomplish their goals. He motivated students to emerge as role models in society through dedication and perseverance. The organisers said the programme reflected their commitment to nurturing talent, promoting academic excellence, and shaping future leaders. College administrators, faculty members, and non-teaching staff were appreciated for their efforts in successfully organising the event.

Minister Receives Ujjaini Mahankali Bonalu 2026 Schedule

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The schedule for the 2026 Bonalu celebrations at Sri Ujjaini Mahankali Devasthanam in Secunderabad was formally submitted to Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnab Prabhakar by temple chairman and priests on Tuesday. According to temple authorities, the annual Ashada Bonalu festivities will commence with the Ghatotsavam (Edurukolu) on July 19, 2026 (Sunday) at 4 pm, marking the ceremonial beginning of the celebrations. The main Bonalu festival at the historic Sri Ujjaini Mahankali Temple will be observed on August 2, 2026 (Sunday), with rituals scheduled to begin at 4 am. Thousands of devotees are expected to participate in the traditional celebrations, which are among the most prominent religious events in Telangana.

The Rangam programme, a key spiritual event associated with Bonalu festivities, will be conducted on August 3, 2026 (Monday) at 8:30 am. This will be followed by the Gajavahana procession of the Goddess, expected to begin around 10:30 am. Temple priests informed the minister that a massive turnout of devotees is expected not only from across Telangana but also from neighbouring states during the Ashada Jatara. In view of the anticipated crowd, they urged the government to ensure adequate arrangements and provide all necessary facilities for devotees, including security, sanitation, transport, drinking water, and crowd management measures. Responding to the request, Minister Ponnab Prabhakar assured full government support for the Ashada Bonalu celebrations and stated that all necessary measures would be taken to ensure the smooth conduct of



The minister said a review meeting with officials and the Endowments Department Minister would soon be held to discuss arrangements related to the Bonalu festivities. He assured that the government is committed to making elaborate arrangements for the convenience and safety of devotees attending the celebrations. Sri Ujjaini Mahankali Temple in Secunderabad holds immense religious significance, and its Bonalu celebrations attract lakhs of devotees every year. The annual festival is observed with devotion, cultural fervour, and traditional rituals, making it one of Telangana's most celebrated spiritual events.

ABVP Protests Over Govt School Issues, Fee Hike



Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) on Tuesday staged a protest at the Directorate of School Education office in Saifabad, demanding immediate resolution of issues affecting government schools and action against alleged fee hikes by private and corporate educational institutions. A large number of ABVP activists participated in the demonstration, raising slogans against what they described as the State government's failure to address key concerns in the school education sector. The protesters urged the government to strengthen public education infrastructure and curb what they termed "fee extortion" by private and corporate schools. Speaking during the protest, ABVP National Executive Council member Jeevan expressed concern over what he alleged were attempts to close government schools instead of improving them. "It is unfortunate that efforts are being made to shut government schools without strengthening them," he said, calling for urgent reforms to improve educational standards and infrastructure. Jeevan demanded that the State government introduce a Fee Control Act to regulate excessive fee collection by private and corporate schools. He also urged

authorities to take immediate action against institutions allegedly burdening parents with high fees. The student organisation further demanded strict implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, along with immediate filling of vacant teaching and non-teaching posts in schools. ABVP leaders said vacancies in positions such as Mandal Education Officers (MEOs) and District Education Officers (DEOs) should be filled without delay to improve administrative functioning in the education sector. The protesters also sought better infrastructure in government schools, including provision of basic facilities and construction of permanent buildings for Gurukul schools. Additionally, the student body demanded effective implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, stating that educational reforms should be executed in a way that benefits students across the State. ABVP warned that if the government fails to address the concerns raised by students and educational institutions, the organisation would intensify its agitation across Telangana. The protest highlighted growing concerns over the condition of government schools and rising education costs in private institutions, with student groups demanding immediate intervention from the State government.

Gayatri Homam Marks New Academic Year at Saraswati Shishu Mandir

Adilabad District, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The 2026-27 academic year commenced on a spiritual note at Saraswati Shishu Mandir School in Ichoda mandal headquarters of Adilabad district, where a Gayatri Homam was conducted to mark the beginning of the new session. The school organised the inaugural ceremony in a grand manner, with prayers offered for students to receive quality education, imbibe good values, and achieve success in life. As part of the traditional practice followed at Saraswati Shishu Mandir schools, a Gayatri Yagna was performed seeking divine blessings for the students' bright future. The programme was formally inaugurated by school patron Smt. Gatla Shailaja Srinivas, who lit the ceremonial lamp. Addressing the gathering, she said the Gayatri Homam is conducted every year at the beginning of the academic session to invoke blessings for students to excel in academics and develop strong moral values. She emphasized the importance of education combined with discipline and good character, stating that students should strive to grow into responsible citizens while pursuing academic excellence. Special prayers were offered during the Homam seeking the blessings of Goddess Saraswati and Goddess Lakshmi for the welfare, wisdom, and prosperity of the students. Organisers prayed that divine grace would guide students throughout the academic year and help them achieve higher goals. Extending her best wishes to students for the new academic

year, Shailaja Srinivas encouraged them to study with dedication and discipline and bring recognition to the school through academic and personal achievements. School Principal Santosh Kumar, along with teachers Usha Rani, Bharati, Sujatha, Manjula, Kavitha, and Sindhuja, participated in the programme. School patrons, parents, and students also attended the event in large numbers. The event concluded in a devotional atmosphere, with participants expressing hope that the new academic year would bring success, knowledge, and positive growth for students. Organisers said such traditional ceremonies not only mark the beginning of academic activities but also help instill cultural values and discipline among students from an early age.

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Sajjanar Urges Motorists to Update Vahan Details to Avoid E-Challan Penalties

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

V.C. Sajjanar has urged all vehicle owners in Hyderabad to immediately update their mobile numbers and email IDs on the Central government's official Vahan portal to ensure timely receipt of traffic e-challans and important alerts. Issuing a public advisory on Tuesday, the Police Commissioner said the initiative is aimed at improving communication between the traffic police and motorists through SMS, Whats App, and email notifications. According to him, the department is increasingly relying on digital platforms to send traffic violation challans and pre-notifications directly to vehicle owners. Sajjanar explained that many motorists often fail to receive e-challan notifications due to outdated or incorrect contact information registered in the Vahan system. As a result, they unknowingly delay payments, which can lead to the accumulation of penalties and additional fines. He stressed that vehicle owners must immediately register or update their current mobile numbers and email addresses to avoid such inconveniences and stay informed in real time about traffic violations and other updates. Motorists can update their details through the official Vahan portal of the Ministry of Road Transport and



Highways. The Police Commissioner also highlighted an important legal aspect related to e-challans. He said that under government regulations, any e-challan sent to the mobile number or email ID registered on the Vahan portal will be legally considered as "deemed to be served" to the vehicle owner. Therefore, claims of not receiving notifications may not be legally valid if the registered details are outdated or incorrect. Sajjanar advised citizens not to be negligent in updating their contact information and appealed to motorists to strictly follow traffic rules and behave as responsible road users. He said keeping details updated would help prevent unexpected fines and ensure smoother communication with enforcement authorities.

Tension Erupts During Kavitha's 'Boggubayi' Programme at Singareni Mine

Mancherial, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed during a programme organised by Telangana Rakshana Sena chief Kavitha at an underground coal mine in the Srirampur area of Mancherial district on Tuesday after police reportedly stopped her and party workers from entering the mining premises. The incident occurred at the RK-7 mine in Srirampur, where Kavitha had planned to conduct a programme titled 'Boggubayi' and interact with workers. According to reports, police prevented Kavitha, party cadre, and labour union leaders from entering the mine premises, leading to brief tension at the location. Despite police resistance,

Kavitha and Telangana Rakshana Sena workers allegedly pushed through the gates and entered the mining area to continue the programme. Speaking on the occasion, Kavitha alleged that the Singareni management was repeatedly obstructing their programme and preventing them from holding a gate meeting with workers. "We have the right to conduct a gate meeting along with workers. Singareni authorities are stopping us at every step," she said. Kavitha accused the Singareni management of failing to provide even basic drinking water facilities to workers and alleged that this amounted to a violation of human rights. She further claimed that workers were being harassed

by management under the pretext of security concerns. Referring to remarks allegedly made regarding extremist presence in forest regions, Kavitha stated that "there are no annalu' (extremists) in the forests," adding that supporters of such struggles are also part of her party. She warned that if workers continue to face difficulties due to the actions of the management, her party would not remain silent and would pursue the matter legally if required. The incident led to temporary tension near the mine premises, though the situation was later brought under control. The Singareni management and police officials are yet to officially respond to the allegations made during the programme.

ACB Arrests Deputy Director Narahari in Assets Case

Hyderabad, June 16 | TPN Bureau

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has arrested Sunkari Narahari, Deputy Director of Lands and Survey Department, in a disproportionate assets case after conducting searches at multiple locations and allegedly uncovering properties and investments worth over ₹150 crore in market value. According to ACB officials, simultaneous searches were conducted at 10 locations, including Narahari's residence, as part of the investigation into allegations of possessing assets disproportionate to known sources of income. During the raids, officials reportedly recovered ₹1.54 crore in cash from Narahari's residence. The agency also identified fixed deposits worth ₹5.04 crore and ₹2.29 crore in bank accounts, officials said. The searches further revealed 1.3 kilograms of gold ornaments and approximately 8 kilograms of silver articles, besides the existence of two bank lockers in the name of his wife and a car, according to the ACB. Investigators also traced several immovable properties

allegedly linked to Narahari and his family members. The ACB stated that Narahari owns five open plots in Ranga Reddy district, 1.24 acres of agricultural land in Maheshwaram, and an apartment in Puppulaguda. In addition, officials identified two flats in an apartment complex at Narsingi, another flat in Rajendranagar, a G+3 building in TNGO Colony, Gachibowli, and a three-storey building in Chattrinaka. According to official valuation records, the total value of the seized and identified assets stands at approximately ₹13.05 crore. However, ACB officials estimated that the current open market value of the properties exceeds ₹150 crore. The agency has taken Narahari into custody and further investigation is underway to ascertain the full extent of the assets and financial transactions linked to the case. Officials said additional scrutiny of documents, bank records, and property details is being carried out as part of the ongoing investigation into the disproportionate assets allegations.

MP Dharmapuri Arvind, MLA Sanjay Kumar Spar Over Politics

Jagtial, June 16 | TPN Bureau

Political exchanges surfaced during the inauguration of a new Palle Dawakhana building at Dharmajipet village in Raikal mandal of Jagtial district, with Nizamabad MP Dharmapuri Arvind and Jagtial MLA Dr. Sanjay Kumar trading remarks over development, party politics, and government funding. Participating in the programme alongside MLA Dr. Sanjay Kumar, MP Dharmapuri

Arvind remarked that it had become difficult to identify which leader belongs to which political party in Jagtial district. Speaking at the public meeting, Arvind said the Central government sanctioned ₹20 lakh for the construction of the rural health centre, while the State government contributed only ₹3 lakh. He urged political leaders not to politicise development activities and suggested that money spent on leaders' flex banners could instead be utilised for

improving public healthcare infrastructure. The MP also criticised the State government's urea app, alleging that farmers are facing inconvenience due to its implementation and demanded that the system be withdrawn. After speaking briefly for around two minutes, Arvind reportedly left the event, citing other commitments. Responding to the MP's comments, MLA Dr. Sanjay Kumar criticised Arvind for allegedly not following protocol at the event and said he had waited

for nearly two-and-a-half hours for the MP to attend the programme. The MLA claimed that out of every ₹100 collected by the Centre from Telangana through GST, only ₹41 is returned to the State in the form of funds. He defended the State government's decision to introduce the urea app, stating that it was brought in due to reduced urea allocation from the Centre and to streamline fertiliser distribution among farmers. Dr. Sanjay Kumar also accused the MP of

speaking with arrogance and remarked that he would even consider taking Congress party membership if necessary for the development of his constituency. The MLA further announced ₹2 lakh from his constituency development funds for the newly inaugurated Palle Dawakhana. The exchange between the MP and MLA drew attention at the event, reflecting growing political tensions over development and governance issues in the region.

Stop Being a Vote Bank. Start Being a Governance Consumer

India's youth unemployment crisis, a crashing rupee, and collapsing exam systems demand one shift: from identity politics to governance accountability.

We are a nation of 1.5 billion people — the largest demographic powerhouse on Earth, packed with brilliance and millions of young minds capable of rewriting the global future. Yet we are trapped in a heart-breaking paradox.

Our leading political parties, across the spectrum, remain hyper-fixated on rearview-mirror politics — weaponizing caste and religious fault lines for prime-time ratings — while the actual future of Indian youth silently bleeds out. Identity politics does not build stable economies. It does not create jobs, stabilize currencies, or build meritocracies. And the data makes that cost brutally clear.

The Economics of Heartbreak

Youth unemployment in India sits at a staggering 15.3%, peaking at nearly 18.7% for educated young women (CMIE, 2024). The Indian Rupee has fallen to historic lows, eroding middle-class purchasing power and crushing the dream of sending a child abroad for higher education.

Most damaging of all is the collapse of our national examination infrastructure. The 2026 NEET-UG paper leak, which compromised over 2.2 million students and triggered a multi-state Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe. A re-examination has been ordered — it is not an isolated scandal. It is a systemic symptom. Behind every leaked examination paper, a student who missed birthdays, skipped celebrations, and spent hours and days preparing for a future that was sold in a backroom deal, the state has broken its most fundamental contract with its youth.

These are not abstract statistics. They are the daily lived reality of millions who did everything right and failed anyway.



From Vote Bank to Governance Consumer

The oldest trick in the political playbook is divide and rule. But inflation, a crashing currency, toxic air quality, and broken exam boards do not check your caste or religion before ruining your life. The moment a generation internalizes that truth, the game changes.

You are not a vote bank to be unlocked every five years. You are a Governance Consumer — and you must start demanding a premium product. Treat political parties the way you treat bad service providers: if they consistently fail to deliver, they do not deserve your loyalty, regardless of the identity they wave in front of you.

A Blueprint, Not Just a Dream

A dream without a blueprint is just a hallucination. Here is where the agenda must be snatched back:

- Enforce transactional accountability. Vote on delivery — job creation, exami-

nation integrity, currency stability. Nothing else. Build scorecards, track promises, and publish results.

- Flood the system with educated professionals. Civil services, local governance, and corporate policy bodies need an influx of ethically uncompromising young minds. Systemic corruption cannot survive professional scrutiny from within.

- Demand examination reform now. Push for an independent, statutorily insulated National Testing Authority with mandatory audits, decentralized question banks, and criminal liability for leaks — not just ministerial apologies.

- Weaponized economic unity. Build cross-caste, cross-community coalitions around shared economic grievances. A farmer's debt crisis and a graduate's unemployment are the same political failure wearing different faces.

We have every right to dream of a globally respected, economically prosperous India.

But playing along with manufactured cultural wars while the currency hits record lows and exam systems collapse is no longer an innocent pastime — it is collective negligence.

Look away from the screens showing manufactured social wars. Look directly at the governance infrastructure. Lock arms across every artificial barrier of caste and creed — and unapologetically claim the future that belongs to us.



Fouzia Tarannum

Youth Mentor

When Fear Replaces Freedom: A Society Failing Its Girls

There was a time when the birth of a girl child was met with quiet concern, largely driven by economic pressures and societal expectations. Today, that fear has taken on a far more disturbing dimension. It is no longer just about financial burden or social customs — it is about safety, survival, and dignity. Parents now dread raising daughters in a world where danger lurks not in the shadows alone, but in plain sight, often disguised behind familiar faces.

Modern parenting has become an exercise in constant vigilance. Families find themselves trapped in a painful dilemma: should they encourage their daughters to dream, grow, and explore freely, or should they prioritize shielding them from a society increasingly plagued by moral decay? The anxiety is relentless, fueled by daily reports of unspeakable crimes committed by individuals who are, disturbingly, often educated and socially integrated.

This raises an uncomfortable question — what has education truly achieved if it fails to instill empathy, respect, and basic human decency? Once, such acts of brutality were attributed to outlaws and bandits. Today, the perpetrators are not outsiders to civilization; they are very much a part of it. If education does not cultivate character, then what purpose does it serve?

The scale and nature of these crimes are deeply unsettling. Sexual violence no longer targets a specific age group; it spares no one — from infants to elderly women. The brutality often extends beyond the act itself, culminating in murder, as if to erase evidence rather than confront guilt. These are not crimes of impulse alone; they reflect a deeper sickness that society has failed to address. Equally disturbing is the silence and stigma that follow. Victims and their families are often burdened with an abstract notion of "honor," pushing them into isolation, shame, and in extreme cases, despair. Instead of rallying around survivors with support and justice, society frequently compounds their trauma with judgment and blame.



In many discussions, misplaced narratives emerge — questioning a woman's attire or behavior as contributing factors. But what explanation can possibly justify the assault of a child? What logic defends the violation of innocence? Such arguments only reveal the depth of denial and the urgent need for societal introspection.

High-profile cases — from Nirbhaya to Disha, from Manipur to recent incidents involving minors — spark outrage, protests, and demands for justice. Yet, beneath these visible reactions lies a grim reality: countless cases go unreported, unnoticed, and unresolved. Candlelight marches may symbolize collective grief, but they cannot substitute systemic change.

The failure is not just legal, but cultural. While laws such as the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act exist, their implementation often falls short. The absence of swift and certain punishment weakens deterrence, allowing perpetrators to act with alarming confidence. Justice delayed, in such cases, becomes justice denied — not just for the victim, but for society as a whole. At the same time, the influence of media, cinema, and digital platforms cannot be ignored. Content that objectifies women or normalizes problematic behavior contributes subtly yet significantly to shaping attitudes. Stronger regu-

lation and responsible storytelling must become part of the solution, not an afterthought.

Ultimately, the question remains: what kind of society are we becoming? One where girls grow up in fear, constantly aware of threats? Or one that ensures their right to live freely, safely, and with dignity? The answers lie not in isolated reforms, but in collective responsibility. Laws must be strengthened and enforced without compromise. Education must go beyond academics to instill values. Families must raise sons with as much care for empathy as for achievement. And society must shed its silence, confronting uncomfortable truths head-on.

Because until every girl can step out without fear, progress remains an illusion — and justice, an unfulfilled promise.



Radhakrishna Karri

Poet & Writer

When Algorithms Teach, Who Will Nurture Creativity?

Why Arts Education Matters More Than Ever

In classrooms across India, a quiet transformation is underway. Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools are helping students write essays, solve mathematical problems, summarize lessons, and even generate ideas. These technologies promise unprecedented access to knowledge and greater efficiency in learning. Yet, amid this technological progress, a deeper question deserves our attention: What happens to human creativity when thinking itself begins to be outsourced?

As someone trained in Bharatanatyam and having performed in over a hundred stage productions, I have experienced a very different kind of learning one that no algorithm can replicate. Classical arts are not merely extracurricular activities or cultural showcases. They are rigorous systems of knowledge that cultivate discipline, memory, emotional intelligence, perseverance, and originality.

The Slow Learning That Builds Deep Thinking

In an age that celebrates speed, the arts remind us of the value of patience.

Learning Bharatanatyam, Carnatic music, or storytelling traditions such as Harikatha and Burrakatha demands years of immersion. Students do not simply consume information; they embody it. Every movement, rhythm, expression, and gesture requires practice, reflection, and refinement.

A dancer must internalize rhythm, interpret emotion, and translate abstract ideas into movement. A musician must listen deeply, improvise within structure, and respond intuitively. These processes develop focus, resilience, creativity, and



problem-solving abilities, qualities that emerge only through sustained engagement and cannot be downloaded or automated.

The arts teach learners how to think, not merely what to think.

AI Efficiency Versus Human Originality

AI tools can generate answers

in seconds. However, instant answers often bypass the intellectual struggle that leads to genuine understanding and insight.

When students become overly dependent on AI-generated outputs, they risk losing the habits of questioning, experimenting, imagining, and discovering. Creativity thrives not in convenience, but in curiosity. Innovation emerges from exploration, mistakes, and

persistence. This is not an argument against AI. On the contrary, AI has enormous potential to democratize learning and enhance productivity. The challenge lies in maintaining balance.

If educational systems begin to prioritize speed and output over process and depth, we may produce a generation that is highly efficient yet less origi-

nal, less empathetic, and less capable of independent thought.

Arts as a Parallel Education System

India already possesses a powerful and time-tested parallel education system in its artistic traditions. Yet these traditions often remain undervalued, treated as hobbies rather than

essential pathways for learning and development.

What if we re-imagined education to include meaningful and sustained engagement with the arts?

For students, arts education enhances memory, concentration, emotional expression, and self-confidence.

For teachers, the arts provide interdisciplinary tools that can make complex concepts more engaging and accessible.

For policymakers, arts-based learning offers a culturally rooted and cost-effective approach to strengthening cognitive, social, and emotional development. Countries that invest in arts-integrated education consistently report stronger outcomes in creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication skills, increasingly recognised as indispensable in the age of AI.

A Call to Parents, Educators, and Policymakers

Parents today often prioritize coding classes, competitive examinations, and technical skills, believing these alone will secure their children's future. While such skills are important, a child trained only to optimize answers may struggle to ask meaningful questions.

Educators must move beyond token cultural programmes and occasional performances. Arts education should be integrated into the curriculum with seriousness, continuity, and purpose.

Policymakers, too, must recognize that preserving and promoting traditional arts is not merely an act of cultural conservation. It is an investment in human capability.

In a world increasingly shaped by artificial intelli-

gence, the uniquely human qualities of imagination, empathy, interpretation, and creativity will become even more valuable.

The Future Needs Both Technology and Tradition

The choice before us is not between AI and the arts. It is between passive consumption and active creation. Technology can expand access to information, but the arts help us make meaning of that information. AI can generate content, but it cannot replace the human capacity for imagination, emotion, and cultural expression. If AI represents the pinnacle of computational intelligence, then the arts represent the depth of human intelligence. A truly future-ready education must nurture both. As India embraces the opportunities of the digital age, it must also safeguard the traditions that cultivate creativity, character, and wisdom. Because in the end, while machines may generate content, it is human beings who create meaning.



Kum. CVS Nischay

Bharatanatyam practitioner, student & advocate for arts-integrated education

LoC Blast Injures Four Soldiers in Rajouri, Third Incident in a Week

Four Indian Army personnel, including a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO), were injured in a blast near the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district on Tuesday, marking the third such incident along the border in the past week.

According to reports, the explosion occurred during a routine patrol in the Nowshera sector of Rajouri. The injured soldiers were immediately evacuated from the area and airlifted to the Army's Command Hospital in Udhampur for specialized treatment. Their condition is reported to be stable.

The exact cause of the blast remains unclear, as the Army has not yet issued an official

statement regarding the incident. However, a senior Army officer indicated that all three recent explosions along the LoC were accidental in nature. The latest blast comes amid heightened concern following a series of similar incidents along the border. On June 9, two soldiers lost their lives in an accidental grenade explosion near Kamalkote in the Uri sector of north Kashmir. The deceased soldiers were identified as Sowar Chavan Vikram Balkrishna and Sapper Jadhav Arjun Rajendra. The Army's Chinara Corps paid tribute to the fallen soldiers, praising their courage, dedication and sacrifice in service to the nation.

Just three days later, on

June 12, two more soldiers were injured in another blast in the Poonch sector along the LoC. As in the latest incident, conflicting reports emerged regarding the nature of the explosion, and no official clarification was issued by the Army. The series of blasts has raised questions about operational safety and the circumstances surrounding these incidents, although military officials maintain that the explosions were accidental. Security agencies are likely to examine the causes to prevent similar occurrences in the future. Adding to the tense security environment, reports of firing were received from the Balakote area of the Mendhar sector in Poonch district on Sunday.

While some reports suggested a possible ceasefire violation, no official statement was released by the Army regarding the incident.

Meanwhile, security forces continue Operation Sherawali in Rajouri district, a large-scale counter-terrorism operation that has been underway for nearly three weeks. The operation aims to track down a group of terrorists believed to be active in the region.

The recent string of incidents underscores the continuing challenges faced by security forces deployed along the sensitive Line of Control, where vigilance remains high amid ongoing security operations and cross-border tensions.



Kailash Yatra Begins via Nathula Route

The first batch of pilgrims for the 2026 Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through the Nathula Pass route arrived in Gangtok on Monday, marking the official commencement of one of India's most revered spiritual pilgrimages.

The group comprises 44 pilgrims, including 32 men and 12 women, accompanied by liaison officers, support staff, and medical teams. The pilgrims represent a diverse cross-section of the country, coming from states such as Bihar, Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Delhi, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Odisha.

According to Lukendra Rasaily, Chairman of the Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation (STDC), the batch reflects the national character of the yatra, bringing together people from different regions, age groups, and backgrounds. He said extensive arrangements have been made to ensure the comfort, safety, and health of all participants.

Delhi accounts for the highest number of pilgrims in the first batch with 11 participants, followed by Maharashtra with six. The remaining pilgrims are distributed among various states across the country.

To prepare pilgrims for the challenging high-altitude conditions of the Himalayan region, authorities have scheduled a comprehensive four-day acclimatisation programme. The programme will be con-



ducted at Gangtok, 15th Mile, and Sherathang, allowing participants to gradually adapt to reduced oxygen levels and varying weather conditions before crossing into Tibet.

Following the acclimatisation phase, the pilgrims will proceed to Hangu Lake and subsequently cross the Nathula Pass into the Tibet Autonomous Region of China on June 20. From there, they will travel through Gyangze, an important transit town on the route to the sacred destinations of Mount Kailash and Lake Mansarovar.

Rasaily stated that a total of ten batches, each comprising 50 pilgrims, are scheduled to undertake the yatra through the Nathula route this year. Alto-

gether, around 500 pilgrims are expected to participate in the pilgrimage via this route during the 2026 season.

Many pilgrims described the journey as a once-in-a-lifetime spiritual opportunity. They expressed excitement and devotion as they prepared to embark on the sacred pilgrimage, which holds immense religious significance for Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and followers of the Bon faith.

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra is regarded as one of the most spiritually fulfilling journeys in the world, attracting devotees who seek blessings, inner peace, and a deeper connection with their faith amid the majestic Himalayan landscape.

Tamil Nadu Expands Crop Loan Waiver

In a major relief measure for the farming community, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay on Tuesday announced a full waiver of crop loans up to Rs 75,000 availed through cooperative banks between May 1, 2025, and February 28, 2026. The decision is expected to benefit approximately 14.43 lakh farmers across the state and provide a significant boost to the agricultural sector ahead of the upcoming cultivation season.

The enhanced waiver scheme will impose an additional financial burden of Rs 5,932 crore on the state government. Officials said the move was aimed at addressing the concerns of farmers struggling with debt and ensuring their access to fresh credit for future farming activities.

The announcement was made following a high-level review meeting chaired by the Chief Minister at the State Secretariat. The meeting was attended by ministers and senior government officials who assessed the impact of the earlier



loan waiver programme and discussed further measures to support farmers.

According to an official government release, farmers who borrowed amounts exceeding Rs 75,000 will also receive relief. Such borrowers will be eligible for a waiver of Rs 35,000 from their outstanding crop loans, ensuring that a wider section of the farming community benefits from the scheme.

The latest decision comes just weeks after the state government announced a waiver of crop loans up to Rs 50,000 for

small and marginal farmers who had availed loans through cooperative banks. Farmer organizations and agricultural groups subsequently appealed for an increase in the waiver limit, citing rising cultivation costs and financial difficulties caused by fluctuating market conditions and weather-related challenges.

Responding to these demands, the government revised the scheme and expanded its coverage. Officials noted that the decision aligns with the Reserve Bank of India's

Model Operating Procedures for Government Loan Waiver Schemes, which stipulate that the entire waiver amount should be disbursed within 45 to 60 days.

Despite the state's financial constraints, the government said the waiver would provide substantial relief to farmers and improve their ability to secure fresh loans for the forthcoming agricultural season. He expressed confidence that the measure would strengthen rural livelihoods, reduce financial stress, and contribute to agricultural growth in Tamil Nadu.

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Akal Takht Action Sparks Political Debate

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday said that the decision of the Akal Takht to declare Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann as "Guru Dokhi" (anti-Guru) and "Khalasa Panth Virodhi" (anti-Khalasa Panth) have significant political and social repercussions in Punjab. The development comes after the Akal Takht, the highest temporal authority of the Sikh community, accused Mann of misleading the Sikh clergy regarding a controversial video that allegedly hurt Sikh religious sentiments. On Monday, the Sikh clergy directed members of the community to distance themselves from the Punjab Chief Minister, citing findings from forensic examinations of

the video in question. According to the Akal Takht, forensic reports obtained from two laboratories concluded that the viral video was authentic and had not been manipulated through artificial intelligence or other digital technologies. The video allegedly shows Mann under the influence of alcohol and sprinkling droplets on photographs associated with Sikh Gurus. The Chief Minister has consistently denied the allegations, maintaining that the person seen in the video is not him and asserting that the clip is either fake or AI-generated. Reacting to the Akal Takht's decision, BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla described the matter as "shameful" and emphasized that respect for Sikh Gurus and Sikh religious traditions is non-negotiable. In a post on social media platform X, Poonawalla cited statements attributed to Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Kuldeep Singh Gargaj regarding the forensic findings and argued that the issue could influence public opinion in Punjab. "The statements by the Akal Takht are likely to have far-reaching political and social consequences," Poonawalla said, highlighting the significance of the Sikh religious institution's observations. The controversy has its roots in events earlier this year when the Akal Takht summoned Mann in January over remarks related to "Guru ki Golak" (gurdwara donation

boxes) and his alleged involvement in objectionable activities depicted in the viral video. On January 15, Mann appeared before the Sikh clergy and reiterated that the video was fabricated, encouraging independent forensic examination by any recognized laboratory in the country. In another significant development, the Sikh clergy has summoned all Sikh Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), irrespective of party affiliation, to appear before the Akal Takht on June 29 in connection with discussions surrounding an anti-sacrilege law. The issue has now evolved into a major political and religious controversy, drawing attention across Punjab and beyond.

Bidadi Township Plan Triggers Debate

Karnataka Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar has strongly defended the proposed Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township project near Bidadi amid mounting opposition from farmers and concerns voiced by some leaders within the ruling Congress party. The ambitious project, billed as India's first AI-powered integrated township, has sparked a political debate over land acquisition and its impact on local communities.

The proposed township is expected to span approximately 7,481 acres across nine villages on the outskirts of Bengaluru. According to official sources, the large-scale urban development initiative is projected to attract investments worth several thousand crore rupees and is intended to transform the region into a modern hub featuring advanced infrastructure and technology-driven planning.

Responding to criticism, Shivakumar clarified that the project was not a new concept in-



troduced by his government. He pointed out that the township was originally notified during the tenure of former Chief Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy and that significant groundwork had already been laid under previous administrations.

"This is not a township con-

ceived by me. It was originally notified by former Chief Minister Kumaraswamy. During the previous BJP government, nearly 1,000 acres were acquired and allotted by the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB)," Shivakumar told reporters.

The Chief Minister also cited similar development projects in other states, arguing that large-scale land acquisition is often necessary for economic growth and urban expansion. Referring to projects in Maharashtra and Telangana, he said major townships are being developed over tens of thousands of acres, highlighting the competitive need for Karnataka to pursue comparable initiatives.

Drawing attention to earlier industrial developments in the Bidadi region, Shivakumar questioned why current opposition was being raised when farmers had previously surrendered land for industrial and infrastructure projects. He maintained that many affected

landowners had accepted the proposal and accused some groups of politicising the issue.

However, Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi adopted a more cautious stance. He acknowledged concerns being raised by farmers and sections of the public, suggesting that the issue may be discussed at the state Cabinet meeting scheduled for June 20.

Jarkiholi stressed that development projects should generate positive outcomes and not become a burden on either the government or the ruling party. He noted that the administration was still assessing the extent of public opposition and emphasized the need for wider consultation before moving forward.

With both development aspirations and farmer concerns at the forefront, the proposed Bidadi township has emerged as a key political issue in Karnataka, and the upcoming Cabinet discussions are expected to shape its future course.

Mamata Challenges Bhabanipur Verdict

Trinamool Congress (TMC) chief Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday moved the Calcutta High Court challenging the result of the Bhabanipur Assembly constituency election, in which she was defeated by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Suwendu Adhikari.

The election petition was filed before the Calcutta High Court, seeking judicial scrutiny of the poll outcome from the high-profile constituency that had long been considered a stronghold of Banerjee. Sources within the Trinamool Congress said the party chief personally visited the High Court registry to affirm the petition and complete the necessary legal formalities.

The Bhabanipur Assembly election attracted national attention as it featured a direct contest between two of West Bengal's most prominent political figures. In the final results declared after the counting of votes on May 4, Adhikari emerged victorious, defeating Banerjee by a margin of 15,105 votes.

The defeat marked a significant setback for Banerjee, who has been one of the most influential political leaders in West Bengal for over a decade. Bhabanipur had previously been associated closely with her political career and electoral success, making the BJP's victory



in the constituency particularly noteworthy. While the specific grounds of the election petition have not yet been made public, such petitions generally seek a judicial review of electoral procedures, counting processes, or alleged irregularities during the conduct of elections. The High Court is expected to examine the petition and determine whether the matter warrants detailed hearings.

The 2026 West Bengal Assembly election witnessed a major political shift in the state. The BJP secured a decisive mandate, ending years of Trinamool Congress dominance in the state legislature. Following the party's victory, Suwendu Adhikari was sworn in as the first BJP Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Adhikari's rise to the state's top political office represents a remarkable transformation in West Bengal politics. Once a senior Trinamool Congress leader and a close associate of Banerjee, he later joined the BJP and emerged as one of its most prominent faces in the state. Political observers believe the legal challenge could add a new dimension to the post-election political landscape in West Bengal. The outcome of the petition may attract significant attention from both political parties and the public, given the stature of the leaders involved and the symbolic importance of the Bhabanipur constituency.

The Calcutta High Court is expected to take up the matter in the coming weeks as legal proceedings begin.

Hormuz Fee Plan Raises Global Concerns



Iran's proposal to impose fees on ships transiting through the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz has sparked international debate over maritime law, global trade, and the future of one of the world's most important energy corridors.

The controversy emerged after Iranian officials indicated that commercial vessels passing through the strait may soon be required to pay charges for services related to security, environmental protection, and maritime assistance. The announcement came despite recent claims by US President Donald Trump that the Strait of Hormuz would remain permanently open and free for international shipping following an interim understanding between Washington and Tehran.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei clarified that Tehran is not seeking to impose a transit toll on ships. Instead, he said, vessels may be charged fees in exchange for services provided during their passage through the waterway. According to Baghaei, the proposal is being considered within the frame-

work of international law and Iran's responsibility to safeguard its national security and maritime interests.

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most critical shipping routes, handling nearly one-fifth of global oil and liquefied natural gas trade during normal conditions. Any additional costs imposed on vessels could significantly affect shipping expenses, insurance premiums, and energy prices worldwide.

Legal experts note that international maritime law draws a clear distinction between a toll and a service fee. Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), countries bordering international straits cannot charge vessels simply for exercising their right of passage. However, they may levy reasonable fees for specific services such as pilotage, tug assistance, navigation support, or environmental management.

Several maritime specialists have questioned whether Iran's proposed charges would comply with these principles. Critics argue that charging ships merely for safe transit

through a natural waterway could effectively amount to a toll under another name. Maritime strategist James R. Holmes observed that natural waterways such as the Strait of Hormuz differ fundamentally from man-made canals like the Panama Canal or the Suez Canal, where service charges help maintain infrastructure and operations.

The proposal follows months of heightened tensions in the Gulf region. Since the outbreak of conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel, Tehran has exercised greater control over maritime movements in the area. Earlier this year, Iran established the Persian Gulf Strait Authority and began exploring mechanisms for managing vessel transit, including discussions with neighboring Oman.

World leaders have expressed concern that any fee-based system could alter the long-standing principle of free navigation through the strait. As discussions continue, the international community is closely monitoring developments that could reshape global shipping and energy markets.

Trump Claims Iran Agrees to Nuclear Ban

US President Donald Trump has asserted that Iran has agreed never to develop or possess nuclear weapons as part of a newly announced interim peace arrangement between Washington and Tehran. However, significant questions remain unanswered regarding the implementation and verification of the agreement, particularly concerning Iran's existing nuclear programme.

In a post on his Truth Social platform, Trump declared, "Iran has agreed to never have a Nuclear Weapon!" He also dismissed reports suggesting that the United States would provide Iran with a \$300 billion reconstruction fund under the agreement, calling such claims "fake news."

The statement comes amid growing international attention surrounding the memorandum of understanding (MoU) reportedly reached between the United States and Iran. While only limited details have emerged so far, reports indicate that the framework may include sanctions relief, access to frozen Iranian funds, and economic assistance linked to

Tehran's compliance with specific obligations.

Despite Trump's confident assertions, the White House has yet to clarify several critical aspects of the proposed arrangement. Questions remain regarding how Iran's nuclear commitments will be monitored, which international or domestic agencies will oversee compliance, and what steps will be taken to address highly enriched uranium reportedly stored at nuclear facilities damaged during US military strikes last year.

Analysts note that verification mechanisms are central to the credibility of any nuclear agreement. Without a clearly defined inspection and monitoring framework, uncertainty is likely to persist among international observers and policymakers.

Iranian media reports suggest that the MoU signed on June 19 may serve as a preliminary framework rather than a final settlement. According to these reports, both sides are expected to engage in a 60-day negotiation period aimed at resolving outstanding issues



related to Iran's nuclear activities and the broader terms of the agreement.

The full text of the memorandum has not yet been released publicly. However, US Vice President JD Vance stated in an interview with ABC News that the administration plans to publish the document within the week. Vance emphasized that Iran would receive no financial benefits unless it fulfills all obligations outlined in the agreement.

"And what everybody will see is that Iran doesn't get a dime of money unless they perform their obligations," Vance said.

The Vice President also reiterated the administration's position that preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons remains a non-negotiable objective. In a video message shared on social media platform X, Vance praised Trump's diplomatic efforts, arguing that the agreement represented another significant achievement in advancing regional stability and protecting American interests.

As negotiations continue, the international community will be closely watching for greater transparency and clarity regarding the future of Iran's nuclear programme.

Iran Seeks Israeli Exit from Lebanon

Iran has called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon as a key condition for the full implementation of the recently announced agreement aimed at ending the conflict between Iran and the United States. The demand has introduced fresh uncertainty over the still-unpublished memorandum of understanding (MoU), raising questions about the prospects for lasting peace in the region.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi stated that the war could not be considered fully over unless Israeli troops vacate territories occupied during the conflict. Addressing foreign diplomats in Tehran, Araghchi described the situation in Lebanon as an inseparable component of the broader peace arrangement and warned that continued Israeli military operations in the country would be viewed as violations of the agreement.

His remarks highlighted a significant difference between Iranian and Israeli interpretations of the deal. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has indicated that Israel is not a party to the agreement and intends to maintain a military presence in parts of southern Lebanon for security reasons. He said Israeli forces would remain in designated buffer zones for as long as necessary. The disagreement has intensified concerns about the durability of the accord, which is expected to be formally signed in Geneva later this week. Although details of the agreement have not been made public, officials involved in the negotiations have outlined several key elements, including the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, the eas-



ing of economic restrictions, and the start of a 60-day negotiation process on Iran's nuclear programme.

According to officials familiar with the discussions, the agreement may also pave the way for the release of frozen Iranian assets, potential sanctions relief, and a reconstruction package worth up to \$300 billion if Tehran fulfills specific commitments. Reports indicate that Gulf Arab nations have expressed willingness to support Iran's economic recovery through substantial investments.

Another unresolved issue con-

cerns Iran's stockpile of highly enriched uranium. While Iranian officials have reportedly agreed to discuss options for diluting or removing portions of the material during future negotiations, there is still no clear framework regarding verification procedures or enforcement mechanisms. Questions remain over who would monitor compliance and oversee the handling of sensitive nuclear materials.

Meanwhile, international leaders meeting at the Group of Seven summit in France have welcomed the diplomatic breakthrough and called for swift implementation of the agreement.

Several world leaders emphasized the importance of reopening the Strait of Hormuz and reducing regional tensions to stabilize global energy markets. Despite ongoing uncertainties, the agreement represents the most significant diplomatic effort in months to end a conflict that has disrupted trade, increased energy prices, and heightened instability across the Middle East.

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Knicks Celebration Turns Chaotic in Times Square



Celebrations following the New York Knicks' historic NBA championship victory descended into chaos in parts of New York City as gunfire, stabbings, vandalism, and clashes with police marred what was meant to be a night of jubilation.

Thousands of fans flooded the streets after the Knicks secured their first NBA title in 53 years, sparking massive celebrations across the city. However, the festive atmosphere quickly deteriorated in and around Times Square, where videos circulating on social media showed people running for cover after multiple gunshots were heard near the intersection of 42nd Street and Broadway.

According to reports, at least seven shots were fired during the disturbance. A 17-year-old boy suffered a gunshot wound and was rushed to a hospital in a police vehicle after emergency responders faced difficulty navigating the crowded streets. Authorities have not yet released further details regarding his condition.

The violence extended be-

yond the shooting incident. Four people were reportedly stabbed during separate altercations as large crowds gathered throughout the city. Social media footage also showed police officers wrestling a suspect to the ground in Times Square and recovering a loaded firearm from his waistband.

The New York Police Department later confirmed that officers had identified and apprehended an armed individual in the crowd shortly after the championship celebrations began. Officials credited the quick response of officers on the ground with preventing a potentially more serious incident.

As celebrations intensified, widespread property damage was reported across several areas. Groups of fans vandalized police vehicles, shattered windows, climbed street infrastructure, and ignited fireworks amid dense crowds. Authorities said five police vehicles and five school buses were set on fire during the unrest.

Some of the damaged school buses had been deployed by

city authorities to help transport visitors attending World Cup-related events. Witnesses reported seeing individuals climbing onto the roofs of buses and entering the driver's compartments before at least one vehicle was engulfed in flames.

The disorder also took a toll on law enforcement personnel. Ten police officers sustained injuries while attempting to control the crowds. Among them, one officer was reportedly punched in the face, while another was struck by a glass bottle.

Police said a total of 63 people were arrested on charges ranging from assault on police officers and criminal possession of weapons to disorderly conduct.

Despite the disturbances, the Knicks' championship remains a landmark achievement for the franchise, ending a title drought dating back to 1973. Authorities have announced heightened security measures ahead of the victory parade scheduled later this week, aiming to ensure celebrations proceed safely and peacefully.

Indian Seafarers Return After Tanker Attack

Indian Ambassador to Oman Prashant Pise met 21 rescued Indian crew members of the tanker MT Settebello on Tuesday before their return to India, following a deadly missile strike that claimed the lives of three Indian sailors earlier this month.

The Palau-flagged tanker came under attack on June 10 while sailing approximately 30 nautical miles off the coast of Oman. According to the Indian Embassy in Muscat, the vessel was struck during heightened tensions in the Gulf region, resulting in the deaths of three of the 24 Indian crew members onboard.

In a statement shared on social media, the Indian mission confirmed that the surviving 21 sailors were returning home safely. Prior to their departure, Ambassador Pise interacted with the crew members, conveyed his best wishes, and acknowledged their courage and resilience during the difficult ordeal.

The embassy reiterated its commitment to the welfare, safe-

ty, and well-being of Indian nationals working overseas, particularly those employed in the maritime sector amid ongoing regional instability.

The attack on MT Settebello marks the second incident involving a merchant vessel with Indian crew members being targeted near the Oman coast in recent days. Earlier, on June 8, US military forces reportedly disabled another Palau-flagged oil tanker, MT Marivex, which was carrying 24 Indian seafarers. In that case, all crew members were successfully rescued without loss of life.

A third maritime incident occurred on June 11 when the Guinea-Bissau-flagged MT Jalveer, carrying 22 Indian nationals, came under attack near an Omani port. The entire crew was evacuated safely following the incident.

The series of attacks has heightened concerns about the safety of commercial shipping in the Gulf region, particularly for vessels employing large numbers



of Indian seafarers. India, one of the world's largest suppliers of maritime manpower, has closely monitored the developments and expressed serious concern over the attacks.

The Government of India has described the targeting of commercial vessels as "deeply worrisome" and has strongly raised the issue with the United States, seeking greater clarity and safeguards for civilian shipping operating in international waters.

The incidents have occurred against the backdrop of escalating tensions involving Iran and

the United States. The US military imposed restrictions on Iranian maritime activity after Tehran effectively closed the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most strategically important waterways. Under normal circumstances, nearly 20 percent of global oil and energy supplies pass through the strait, making security in the region critical for international trade and energy markets.

The safe return of the rescued sailors brings relief to their families, even as concerns over maritime security continue to grow.

Iran, US Set for Fresh Nuclear Talks

Iran has announced that a new round of negotiations with the United States aimed at reaching a final agreement on Tehran's nuclear programme is likely to begin on Friday, marking another significant step in ongoing diplomatic efforts between the two countries.

The announcement was made by Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi during a briefing with foreign diplomats in Tehran. The remarks, which were broadcast on Iranian state television, indicated that preparations are underway for the next phase of discussions, although the venue for the talks has not yet been finalized.

"Likely on Friday, at a location to be determined, a new round of negotiations between Iran and the United States to reach a final agreement will begin," Araghchi said. The proposed negotiations come amid efforts by both nations to build on a recent-

ly announced memorandum of understanding that established a framework for reducing tensions and addressing key disputes. The next round of talks is expected to focus primarily on resolving long-standing concerns surrounding Iran's nuclear activities and establishing a comprehensive agreement acceptable to both sides.

Diplomatic sources suggest that the discussions could cover several sensitive issues, including the future of Iran's stockpile of highly enriched uranium, international monitoring and verification mechanisms, sanctions relief, and broader economic cooperation. These issues have remained at the center of disagreements between Tehran and Washington for years.

The renewed diplomatic engagement follows months of heightened tensions in the Middle East, including military confrontations, disruptions to maritime trade routes, and growing concerns over region-

al security. Recent efforts by international mediators have helped create conditions for dialogue, raising hopes that a negotiated settlement may be achievable.

Analysts believe the upcoming talks will be closely watched by governments around the world, as the outcome could have significant implications for regional stability, global energy markets, and international non-proliferation efforts. A successful agreement could potentially ease economic sanctions on Iran and contribute to a reduction in geopolitical tensions across the region.

However, several challenges remain. Key questions regarding the verification of Iran's nuclear commitments, the handling of enriched uranium reserves, and the timeline for sanctions relief are yet to be resolved. Political opposition from hardliners in both countries could also complicate the negotiations.



Despite these uncertainties, the announcement of a fresh round of talks has been welcomed by many observers as a positive sign that diplomatic channels remain open. International stakeholders are expected to closely monitor developments as negotiators seek to bridge differences and move toward a lasting agreement.

If successful, the negotiations could represent one of the most important diplomatic breakthroughs in recent years and help reshape relations between Iran and the United States.

Musk Becomes World's First Trillionaire



Elon Musk has achieved a historic financial milestone, becoming the world's first trillionaire after a dramatic surge in the value of SpaceX shares added an estimated \$164 billion to his personal fortune in a single day.

The extraordinary jump followed a 19.6 percent rally in shares of SpaceX, the aerospace and artificial intelligence company founded by Musk. The surge propelled his net worth to approximately \$1.27 trillion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, placing him far ahead of every other individual on the global wealth rankings. The scale of the one-day gain

has stunned financial markets and wealth analysts alike. Musk's estimated increase of \$164 billion in a single trading session exceeded the entire net worth of legendary investor Warren Buffett, whose fortune stood at around \$148 billion as of June 16. The comparison highlights the unprecedented magnitude of the wealth creation associated with the rapid growth of technology and space-related enterprises.

The latest rally has widened Musk's lead over other billionaires by an extraordinary margin. His fortune is now more than four times larger than that of the world's second-richest

person, Larry Page, co-founder of Google, whose net worth is estimated at \$314 billion.

Market observers describe the development as one of the most remarkable wealth-creation events in modern financial history. The \$164 billion increase is nearly equal to the combined gains recorded by the other 499 individuals listed on Bloomberg's billionaire ranking during the same period. Analysts note that very few wealth increases of this scale have ever been documented.

The surge reflects growing investor confidence in SpaceX's expanding role in the space exploration, satellite communica-

tions, and artificial intelligence sectors. The company has emerged as a dominant force in commercial spaceflight and has increasingly diversified into advanced technology fields, attracting substantial investor interest.

Musk's rise to trillionaire status also underscores the increasing concentration of wealth within the global technology sector. Over the past decade, founders of major technology companies have witnessed unprecedented increases in their fortunes as innovation, digital infrastructure, artificial intelligence, and space technology continue to

attract record levels of investment.

Financial experts caution, however, that billionaire wealth remains closely tied to stock market valuations and can fluctuate significantly with changes in investor sentiment and market conditions. Nevertheless, the latest milestone cements Musk's position as the wealthiest person in modern history.

The achievement marks a new chapter in the global business landscape, illustrating how technological innovation and capital markets can generate wealth on a scale previously considered unimaginable.

Markets Extend Winning Run

Indian equity markets continued their upward momentum for the third consecutive trading session on Tuesday, with benchmark indices posting solid gains amid easing geopolitical tensions and sustained buying in key sectors such as information technology, FMCG, realty, and heavy-weight stocks.

The positive sentiment was driven largely by signs of reduced global uncertainty following reports of an agreement between the United States and Iran, which helped improve investor confidence across international markets. Domestic investors also remained optimistic about economic prospects, supporting broad-based buying throughout the session. The BSE Sensex ended the day with a gain of 544.15 points, or 0.71 percent, to close at 76,808.48. The NSE Nifty 50 rose 135.25 points, or 0.57 percent, to settle at 23,989.15, just short of the psychologically important 24,000 mark.

Markets opened on a firm note and extended gains during early trading hours. Although indices moved within a narrow range for much of the day, buying activity intensified in the second half, pushing both benchmarks to fresh intraday highs. The Nifty briefly crossed the 24,000 level before profit-booking at higher levels pulled it slightly lower by the close. Analysts said the



market's resilience reflects improving investor sentiment amid favourable global cues and selective accumulation in fundamentally strong sectors. Technology stocks led the rally, benefiting from expectations of stable earnings growth and improving global demand. FMCG and real estate stocks also attracted strong interest from investors. Despite the gains in headline indices, the broader market underperformed. The Nifty Midcap 100 and Nifty Smallcap 100 indices advanced by around 0.4 percent each, indicating a more cautious approach among investors toward mid-sized and smaller companies. Market experts noted that while large-cap stocks continue to attract institutional inflows, investors remain selective in the broader market segment.

In the currency market, the Indian rupee strengthened for

the third straight session. The domestic currency appreciated by 15 paise to close at 94.56 against the US dollar, compared to its previous close of 94.71. The rupee's recovery was supported by improved risk appetite, stable foreign fund flows, and easing concerns in global financial markets. Market participants will now closely monitor upcoming economic data, global developments, and corporate announcements for further direction. Analysts believe that sustaining above key resistance levels could pave the way for additional gains in the coming sessions, although intermittent profit-booking may continue as markets approach record territory. The day's performance reinforced investor confidence and highlighted the strength of India's equity markets amid improving global conditions.

Royal Orchid Bets Big on Domestic Tourism Growth

India's hospitality sector is set for a significant expansion as Royal Orchid Hotels announced plans to add at least 50 new properties across the country over the next 12 to 18 months, banking on rising domestic tourism demand and changing travel preferences among Indian consumers.

The hotel chain, which currently operates around 120 hotels nationwide, aims to increase its room inventory from approximately 8,000 rooms to nearly 11,000 rooms by the end of 2027. The expansion reflects the company's confidence in the long-term growth potential of India's tourism and hospitality industry.

Royal Orchid Hotels Founder and Chairman Chander Baljee said the company is witnessing strong demand from domestic travellers, particularly as international travel has become more expensive and uncertain. According to him, geopolitical tensions in several parts of the world have prompted many Indians to reconsider overseas holiday plans and opt for destinations within the country.

Recent conflicts in the Mid-



East have disrupted travel patterns, leading to higher airfares and reduced flight capacities on several international routes. At the same time, the weakening of the Indian rupee has increased the cost of foreign travel, making domestic tourism a more attractive option for many families and leisure travellers.

"A lot of people who were planning to go for holidays to the Middle East and other places cancelled their trips and boosted domestic tourism de-

mand," Baljee said in an interview. He expressed optimism about the future of the hospitality sector, citing sustained demand from both leisure and business travellers.

The expansion strategy comes at a time when industry experts are forecasting robust growth in the hotel sector. Credit rating agency India Ratings and Research recently projected that both demand and supply in India's hospitality industry would grow by 10 to 15 percent during the cur-

rent financial year. The positive outlook is being driven by increasing domestic travel, improved infrastructure, rising disposable incomes, and a growing preference for experiential tourism.

Industry analysts believe hotel operators are well-positioned to benefit from these trends, especially in emerging tourist destinations and tier-two and tier-three cities where travel demand is rising rapidly. Several hotel chains have already announced expansion plans to capitalize on the growing market.

For Royal Orchid, the planned addition of 50 hotels represents one of its most ambitious growth phases. The company expects the expansion to strengthen its presence across key leisure, business, and pilgrimage destinations while enhancing its ability to cater to a broader range of travellers.

As domestic tourism continues to gain momentum, hospitality companies are increasingly viewing India as a high-growth market capable of delivering sustained opportunities in the years ahead.

IT Stocks Rally on Global Optimism and Fed Watch



Indian information technology (IT) stocks extended their gains for a second consecutive session, emerging as one of the top-performing sectors in the equity market amid improving global sentiment, easing geopolitical concerns, and investor anticipation surrounding the upcoming U.S. Federal Reserve policy decision.

The Nifty IT index rose sharply on Tuesday, becoming the second-best performing sectoral index after realty stocks. Over the past two trading sessions, the index has gained approximately 2.8 percent, reflecting renewed investor confidence in technology companies with significant ex-

posure to overseas markets. Leading the rally were major IT firms such as Coforge and HCL Technologies, which witnessed strong buying interest. The gains were supported by positive global cues and expectations of stability in the international economic environment.

One of the key factors driving the rally was the easing of concerns over global crude oil prices. Investor sentiment improved after reports of an interim arrangement between the United States and Iran, raising hopes that the strategically important Strait of Hormuz could reopen soon. The development helped reduce fears of disruptions in global

energy supplies and eased concerns about rising inflationary pressures worldwide.

Lower energy-related risks are generally viewed as positive for global economic growth and corporate spending, including technology investments. As a result, investors showed renewed interest in export-oriented IT companies that derive a significant portion of their revenues from overseas markets, particularly the United States.

Another major factor supporting the sector was the focus on the U.S. Federal Reserve's policy meeting scheduled for Wednesday. Market participants are closely monitoring the outcome of the

meeting, which will be the first under Federal Reserve Chair Kevin Warsh following his appointment earlier this year. Economists widely expect the Federal Reserve to maintain its benchmark interest rate at around 3.6 percent, where it has remained since December. Investors are particularly interested in the central bank's outlook on inflation, economic growth, and future rate decisions.

Analysts believe a neutral policy stance by the Federal Reserve could provide stability to global financial markets and support demand for technology services. The U.S. remains the largest market for Indian IT companies, making Federal Reserve decisions especially important for the sector. A third factor behind the rally is the improving outlook for global technology spending. With inflation showing signs of moderation and economic activity remaining resilient in key markets, expectations of sustained corporate technology investments have strengthened.

Market experts believe investor attention will now remain focused on the Federal Reserve's commentary and future policy guidance. Any indication of economic stability and continued business spending could further support Indian IT stocks in the coming weeks, reinforcing the sector's recovery momentum.

HDFC AMC Unveils Sustainable Investment Portfolio

HDFC Asset Management Company Limited (HDFC AMC) has launched a new Portfolio Management Services (PMS) strategy titled "Growth for GOOD Portfolio", aimed at investors seeking to combine long-term wealth creation with ethical and sustainable investing principles.

The new investment offering comes at a time when sustainable and values-based investing is gaining significant traction among investors. Increasingly, individuals are looking beyond traditional financial returns and seeking opportunities that align with their personal values while contributing positively to society and the environment.

According to the company, the Growth for GOOD Portfolio has been designed for investors who wish to pursue their financial goals through investments in businesses that demonstrate strong governance standards, transparency, sustainability, and responsible corporate practices. The strategy aims to identify companies capable of delivering consistent long-term growth while maintaining high ethical standards.



HDFC AMC stated that the portfolio will focus on businesses exhibiting strong quality indicators and sound financial fundamentals. Key metrics considered in the investment process will include Return on Capital Employed (ROCE), Return on Equity (ROE), Earnings Per Share (EPS), Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), and Free Cash Flow (FCF) growth. The strategy will also evaluate efficient cap-

ital allocation and the long-term growth potential of businesses before making investment decisions. A distinctive feature of the Growth for GOOD Portfolio is its commitment to the principles of sustainability and non-harm. The investment approach incorporates a rigorous screening process that excludes companies deriving a substantial portion of their revenues from sectors considered inconsistent with the portfolio's ethical framework. As part of this policy, the portfolio will avoid investments in businesses associated with defence manufacturing, alcohol production, cigarettes and tobacco products, gambling and betting activities, and industries linked to animal exploitation. It will also exclude companies involved in dairy products, leather goods, meat and poultry processing, animal testing practices, and establishments primarily serving meat or alcohol. Pharmaceutical compa-

Woman in Saree Wows Internet with Michael Jackson-Inspired Dance



An Indian content creator has gone viral after performing an energetic Michael Jackson-inspired dance routine while wearing a traditional saree, earning widespread praise for her creativity, precision, and cultural fusion. The video, featuring creator Komal Kumari, showcases her danc-

ing to the legendary track Billie Jean, delivering a performance that blends global pop culture with Indian traditional attire.

As the music plays, she seamlessly executes signature Michael Jackson moves, including sharp body isolations, smooth transitions, robotic

popping sequences, and the iconic moonwalk. Despite the saree's restrictive drape, she maintains impressive balance, rhythm, and control, making the routine both visually striking and technically challenging.

The performance also includes a light-hearted skit element, adding a humorous storytelling angle. The concept imagines a scenario where her mother, inspired after watching the 2026 musical film Michael, becomes fascinated by Michael Jackson's dance style and attempts to emulate it. This creative twist adds entertainment value and helps the video stand out in a crowded social media space. The clip quickly gained traction online, with viewers praising both the dancer's skill and the originality of the presentation. Many users highlighted how difficult it is to perform

such complex choreography even in comfortable attire, making her execution in a saree even more impressive.

Social media reactions were overwhelmingly positive, with comments applauding her energy, coordination, and confidence. Several users appreciated the fusion of Western music and Indian tradition, calling it a perfect example of cultural blending in modern digital content. Some even humorously suggested that Michael Jackson himself would have appreciated the tribute.

The video continues to circulate widely across platforms, reinforcing how creative performances can quickly capture global attention. It also highlights the growing trend of artists combining storytelling, humour, and dance to create engaging short-form content that resonates with diverse audiences.

Global Yoga Day Celebrates India's Ancient Wisdom and Holistic Health



International Yoga Day is observed every year on June 21 as a worldwide celebration of yoga, an ancient Indian practice that promotes harmony between the body, mind, and spirit. The day aims to spread awareness about the physical, mental, and spiritual benefits of yoga and encourage people across the globe to include it in their daily lifestyle for better health and well-being.

The idea of dedicating a global day to yoga was first proposed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his address at the United Nations General Assembly in 2014. He highlighted yoga as a priceless gift of India's ancient heritage, capable of uniting humanity and fostering balance between humans and nature. The proposal received strong global support and was quick-

ly recognized by member nation. Following this, the United Nations General Assembly officially declared June 21 as International Day of Yoga. The resolution gained support from a large number of countries, making it one of the most widely accepted international observances. The first International Yoga Day was celebrated on June 21, 2015, marking the beginning of a global movement that continues to grow each year.

The inaugural celebration in New Delhi witnessed massive participation, with thousands of people, including international delegates, performing yoga together in a historic mass session. The event created global records and symbolized unity, wellness, and shared cultural appreciation. Since then, Yoga

Day has been observed across continents with increasing participation from governments, organizations, and individuals.

The date June 21 was chosen for its natural and symbolic importance. It coincides with the summer solstice, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. This day represents light, energy, and renewal, which align closely with the philosophy of yoga. It is also associated with spiritual reflection and balance, reinforcing the deeper meaning of the practice. The word yoga comes from the Sanskrit term "Yuj," meaning to unite or join, symbolizing the integration of body, mind, and consciousness. Over time, yoga has evolved into a globally practiced discipline that includes physical postures, breathing techniques, and meditation. It is widely known for improving flexibility, reducing stress, enhancing concentration, and supporting overall emotional well-being.

Today, International Yoga Day stands as a global reminder of the importance of holistic health and inner balance. The 2026 theme, "Yoga for Healthy Ageing," emphasizes yoga's role in promoting long-term wellness and improving quality of life for people of all ages.

US AI Startup CEO Gifts ₹3 Lakh Mattresses to Boost Employee Productivity

A US-based AI startup is drawing attention for an unusual workplace experiment that places employee well-being at the center of productivity. The CEO of the company, Matan Grinberg, has invested heavily in premium sleep technology, providing high-end mattresses to staff in a bid to improve focus, efficiency, and overall performance.

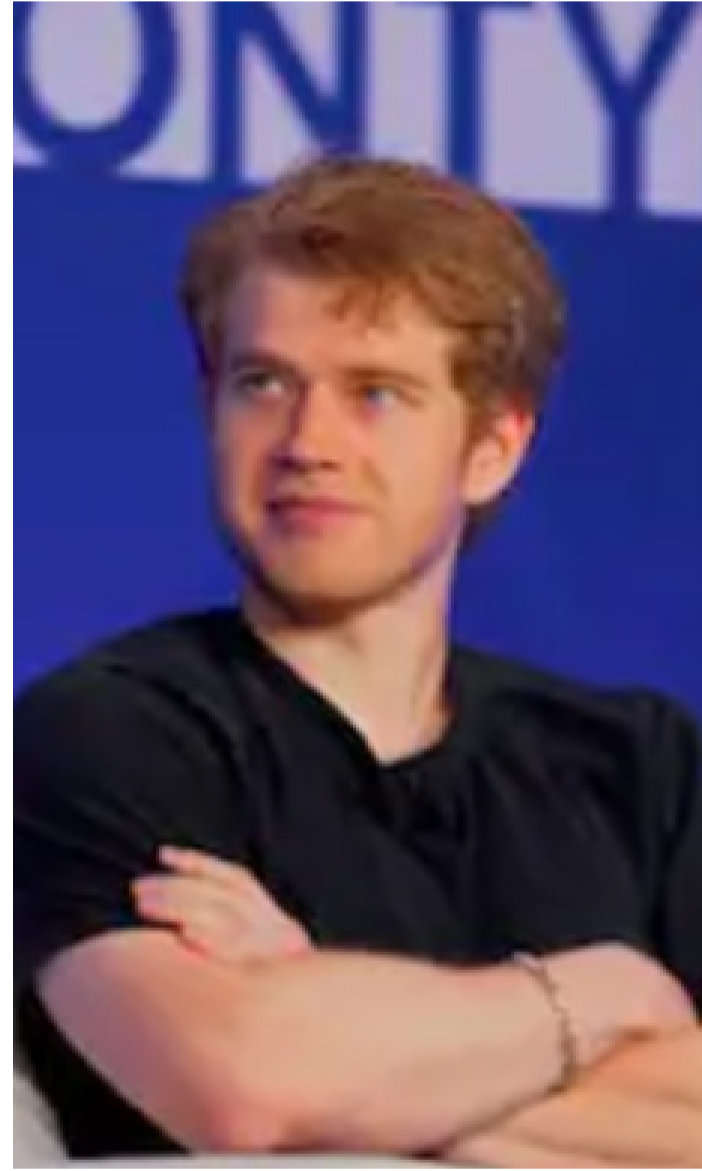
The initiative comes from Factory, a fast-growing artificial intelligence startup that has quickly scaled since its founding in 2023. With around 120 employees and strong backing from major global investors, the company is positioning itself as an aggressive, performance-driven workplace where output is closely tied to employee health and energy levels.

Grinberg reportedly distributed advanced smart mattress covers priced at around \$3,000 (approximately 2.8-3 lakh) each to early team members when the company had just about 30 employees. These high-tech systems regulate temperature using internal liquid channels and allow individualized comfort settings for each side of the bed. Some models also feature automated adjustments for posture and elevation, aiming to enhance sleep quality and recovery.

The CEO has compared his workforce to elite athletes, arguing that high cognitive performance requires disciplined rest. He believes engineers

should be treated like top-tier performers, where sleep is not a luxury but a strategic advantage. According to him, better rest directly translates into sharper thinking and higher productivity, especially in high-pressure AI development environments.

The company's investor roster includes Khosla Ventures, Sequoia Capital, and Blackstone, signaling strong confidence in its long-term vision despite its unconventional workplace policies. Beyond sleep-focused perks, Factory has also introduced strict dietary guidelines in the office, reducing access to processed sugar and promoting healthier alternatives like protein-based snacks and functional beverages. The company argues that nutrition and sleep are both critical pillars of sustained cognitive output. While critics may view such perks as extravagant, supporters suggest they reflect a broader shift in startup culture, where employee optimization extends beyond traditional workplace benefits. Grinberg has also hinted that premium sleep systems could become a standard offering for future hires if the model continues to improve productivity outcomes. As AI companies compete for talent and performance advantage, Factory's experiment raises a larger question: how far should startups go in engineering human performance to match machine-like efficiency



Despite ₹1.5 Lakh Salary, Gurugram Techie Struggles With Debt and Zero Savings

A software engineer from Gurugram has sparked widespread discussion on social media after revealing that despite earning nearly 1.5 lakh per month, he is struggling to save money and is currently repaying loans borrowed from friends. His story has resonated with many young professionals facing rising living costs and financial pressures in India's major cities.

Posting under the pseudonym "Frugal_Ind," the 27-year-old engineer shared details of his monthly expenses, explaining how a significant portion of his income is consumed by fixed financial commitments. According to his post, he earns around 1.44 lakh per month, but expenses leave very little room for savings.

The largest financial burden is a monthly instalment of 44,000 for a plot of land. In addition, he pays 25,000 in rent to live in Gurugram, one of India's costliest urban centers. Everyday expenses such as groceries, transportation, fuel, utility bills, and occasional leisure activities fur-



ther increase his monthly spending.

As a result, his regular monthly expenses reach nearly 1.1 lakh. Unexpected costs such as vehicle repairs, insurance premiums, healthcare expenses, and other emergencies often consume whatever remains from his salary. The financial strain has been significant enough that he had to borrow 2.25 lakh from close friends, a debt he is now focused on repaying.

Beyond the numbers, the engineer's post highlighted the

emotional challenges faced by many young professionals. Recently married, he admitted feeling pressure when comparing himself to peers who earn substantially higher salaries. He expressed concern about his ability to provide financial comfort for his wife and support his parents while managing existing obligations.

The post quickly gained attention online, with many users sharing similar experiences. Several commenters pointed out that high salaries

do not automatically translate into financial security, especially in metropolitan cities where housing, investments, and lifestyle costs continue to rise. Others suggested reviewing long-term financial commitments, reducing discretionary spending, and creating a more structured budget to improve savings.

Many users also advised him to prioritize clearing personal debts before taking on additional financial responsibilities. Some recommended exploring ways to generate additional income or restructuring existing investments to ease cash-flow pressures.

The viral discussion has shed light on a growing reality among India's urban middle class. While salaries in sectors such as technology have increased over the years, rising living expenses, housing costs, and long-term investments often leave young professionals feeling financially stretched despite seemingly attractive incomes. The engineer's story has become a reminder that income alone does not determine financial stability.

Indian Professional's US vs Bengaluru Job Dilemma Sparks Debate Online

An Indian professional currently based in the United States has sparked an online debate after sharing his dilemma between accepting a job offer in Bengaluru or continuing his career in the US while awaiting visa processing. The discussion has drawn widespread attention on social media, highlighting the financial and lifestyle trade-offs faced by many young professionals working abroad.

The individual reportedly holds a STEM OPT visa valid until mid-2026, with his H-1B visa application selected in the latest lottery and currently under processing. After a year-long job search struggle, he recently secured a US-based offer in Philadelphia with an annual salary of around \$60,000. At the same time, he has received a competing offer from Bengaluru worth 28 lakh per annum, leading to confusion over which path to choose.

In his post, he explained that his initial goal was to study in the US and eventually return to India. He also emphasized personal responsibilities, noting that he is an only son and wishes to be closer to his aging parents. This emotional factor,



along with financial considerations, has made the decision even more difficult.

The comparison between the two offers has triggered a broader discussion about cost of living, savings potential, and long-term career growth. Many users pointed out that \$60,000 in cities like Philadelphia may not provide strong savings after expenses such as rent, insurance, and taxes. In contrast, 28 lakh in Bengaluru is viewed by many as offering a relatively comfortable lifestyle with better purchasing power and lower living costs.

However, others argue that staying in the US could offer stronger long-term career opportunities, global exposure, and potential salary growth,

especially if the H-1B visa process is successful. The uncertainty around immigration policies and job stability has also been highlighted as a key concern influencing such decisions. Social media reactions largely leaned toward advising a return to India, with many users suggesting that the Indian offer provides better financial comfort in the short term. Others, however, emphasized that the final decision should depend on long-term career aspirations rather than immediate salary comparisons. The debate continues to reflect a common dilemma faced by many young Indian professionals navigating global job markets, immigration uncertainties, and personal priorities.

Amazon Executive Rejects Candidate Over Controversial T-Shirt at Job Interview



A hiring decision shared by a Mumbai-based Amazon Prime Video executive has sparked a lively debate on social media about professionalism, first impressions, and workplace expectations.

Bhavisha Jain, Social and Editorial Lead at Prime Video, recently revealed on LinkedIn that she once rejected a promising candidate for a creative role because of the message printed on her T-shirt during an interview. According to Jain, the applicant had an impressive profile, relevant work experience, a strong portfolio, and a social media following of over 50,000, making her a strong contender for

the position.

However, Jain said her perception changed when the candidate arrived wearing a T-shirt bearing the slogan, "Too hot for a job." While the applicant's qualifications were impressive, the message on the shirt raised concerns about her judgment and professionalism in a formal interview setting.

Clarifying her stance, Jain emphasized that the decision was not about enforcing a strict dress code. Instead, she argued that job interviews require an understanding of context and that every aspect of a candidate's presentation contributes to a first impression. She

noted that clothing, communication style, body language, and even printed messages can influence how a candidate is perceived.

The LinkedIn post quickly went viral, drawing mixed reactions from professionals and job seekers. Many users supported Jain's decision, arguing that interviews are professional environments where candidates should be mindful of the image they project. They felt the slogan sent the wrong message and reflected poorly on the applicant's seriousness about the opportunity. Others, however, questioned whether a single clothing choice should outweigh a candidate's experience, skills, and achievements. Some argued that employers should focus more on merit and performance rather than personal style, especially for creative roles where individuality is often valued.

The incident has reignited discussions about hiring practices, workplace culture, and the role first impressions play in recruitment decisions. It also highlights the fine balance candidates must strike between expressing individuality and demonstrating professionalism during job interviews.

Smriti Mandhana Lone Indian in TIME's 100 Most Influential Sports Personalities List

Indian cricket star Smriti Mandhana has earned global recognition after being named in TIME magazine's prestigious list of the 100 Most Influential People in Sports for 2026. The 29-year-old batter is the only Indian sportsperson to feature in this year's list, which celebrates athletes, coaches, administrators, advocates, and investors who are shaping the future of sports worldwide.

The annual list includes some of the biggest names in international sports, led by basketball legend LeBron James. Other notable personalities featured include football icons Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, tennis sensation Carlos Alcaraz, golfer Rory McIlroy, skier Eileen Gu, basketball star Victor Wembanyama, and FIFA President Gianni Infantino. Mandhana's inclusion reflects her remarkable achievements and growing influence in women's cricket. The left-handed opener from Mumbai has consistently rewritten record books and established herself as one of the most successful cricketers in the women's game. She became the first Indian woman to score a double century in a domestic one-day match and the first Indian woman to register centuries in all three international formats of the game. Her achievements extend



tend beyond individual milestones. Mandhana currently shares the record for the most international centuries in women's cricket and remains one of the most dependable performers for the Indian team. She also became the first woman cricketer to score more than 1,000 One-Day International runs in a calendar year, further underlining her consistency at the highest level.

TIME highlighted not only Mandhana's personal records

but also her contributions to team success. As captain of the Royal Challengers Bangalore, she guided the franchise to Women's Premier League titles in 2024 and 2026. She also played a key role as vice-captain of the Indian women's team during its victorious ICC Women's World Cup campaign, finishing among the tournament's leading run-scorers.

In recent years, Mandhana has continued to set new benchmarks in international cricket.

She broke the record for the most international runs scored by a woman across formats in a calendar year and surpassed her own mark the following season. Her outstanding performances also earned her the BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award in 2025. Mandhana's recognition by TIME further cements her status as one of the most influential figures in global cricket and a leading ambassador for Indian women's sport on the world stage.

Zee5 Faces Backlash After FIFA World Cup Streaming Issues Frustrate Fans

The excitement surrounding the FIFA World Cup 2026 opening match quickly turned into frustration for thousands of football fans in India as streaming platform Zee5 faced widespread technical issues during the tournament's launch. Viewers who eagerly logged in to watch the opening clash between Mexico and South Africa reported buffering, lagging streams, and app crashes that disrupted their viewing experience.

The problems surfaced just before kickoff, when traffic on the platform surged as fans attempted to access the live broadcast. Many users complained that the service became unreliable at a crucial moment, preventing them from watching the match smoothly. As frustration mounted, some viewers claimed they were forced to look for alternative sources to follow the action.

The controversy intensified because Zee5 had heavily promoted its FIFA World Cup coverage through its "Poora India Watchega" campaign. The promotional campaign encouraged football enthusiasts to subscribe to premium plans promising a high-quality viewing experience. However, several subscribers alleged that the service delivered on match

day did not match the features advertised before the tournament.

One of the major complaints involved changes to subscription benefits. Users claimed that premium plans originally offering support for multiple screens were modified shortly before the World Cup began, reducing the number of devices that could stream simultaneously. This unexpected change angered customers who had purchased plans specifically for family or group viewing.

Another point of criticism centered on video quality. Subscribers said they expected ultra-high-definition streaming but were unable to access the quality levels they had been promised. Many reported that the available resolution was significantly lower than anticipated, leading to disappointment during one of the world's biggest sporting events. Some customers also encountered issues with subscription recognition within the app. According to user complaints, active plans were not properly reflected in their accounts, prompting confusion and, in some cases, additional purchases to access World Cup content.

The issue quickly spilled onto social media, where disappointed fans criticized the



platform and demanded explanations. Posts expressing anger and frustration gained traction, with many users accusing the streaming service of failing to deliver the experience they had paid for.

Following the backlash, reports suggested that some of the disputed subscription features were later restored. Nevertheless, the incident has sparked broader discussions about the reliability of streaming platforms during major sporting events and the importance of maintaining customer trust when marketing premium digital services.

India A Face Must-Win Situation After Consecutive Setbacks in Tri-Series

India A find themselves in a difficult position in the ongoing tri-nation series in Sri Lanka after suffering consecutive defeats that have put their chances of reaching the final in jeopardy. Despite boasting a talented squad featuring several promising young cricketers, the team has struggled to deliver consistent performances when it mattered most. Led by Tilak Varma, India A entered the tournament as one of the favorites. The squad includes exciting talents such as Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Prabhsimran Singh, Priyansh Arya, Rituraj Gaikwad, and Tilak himself. However, the team's performances have fallen short of expectations, leaving them in a challenging situation

heading into the final stages of the competition.

India A began their campaign with a narrow escape against Sri Lanka A. Although they managed to secure victory by eight runs, the match exposed several weaknesses within the team. The concerns became more evident in their next encounter against Afghanistan A, where the batters put up a competitive performance but the bowling attack failed to defend the total. As a result, India A suffered a four-run defeat under the DLS method.

The team's troubles continued in their latest clash against Sri Lanka A. The top-order batters failed to provide a strong foundation, preventing India A



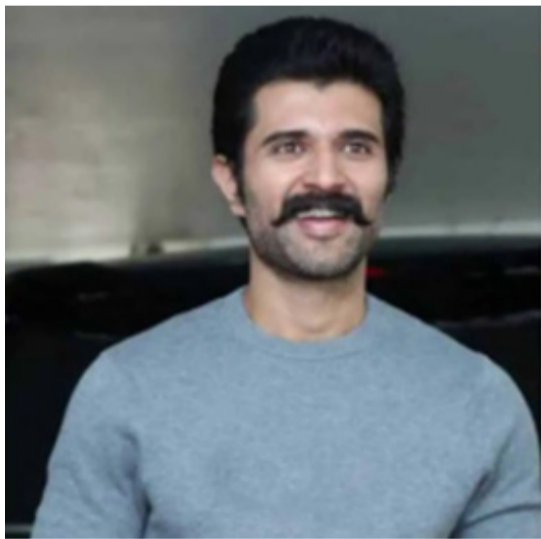
from posting a commanding score. The bowlers responded with an improved effort and managed to push the contest into a Super Over. However, Sri Lanka A held their nerve in the decider, handing India A another painful defeat.

With two losses in the tournament, India A now face a must-win scenario. Their final league-stage match against Afghanistan A has become crucial. A victory is essential if they are to keep their hopes of qualifying for the final alive. Moreover, a convincing win could significantly improve their net run rate, which may prove decisive if multiple teams finish with the same number of points.

The qualification equation

remains complicated. If Afghanistan defeat Sri Lanka A and India A defeat Afghanistan, all three teams could end up level on points. In that scenario, net run rate would determine the two finalists. Conversely, if Afghanistan lose both of their remaining matches, India A and Sri Lanka A would qualify for the title clash. Meanwhile, India A have made a change to their squad. Fast bowler Ashok Sharma has been drafted in as a replacement for Yuvhvir Singh, who has been ruled out of the tournament due to a shoulder injury. Ashok recently gained attention during IPL 2026 after clocking an impressive speed of 154.2 kmph while representing Gujarat.

Vijay Deverakonda Named Brand Ambassador of TG20 League 2026



The stage is set for the launch of the much-anticipated TG20 League 2026, a premier T20 cricket tournament organized by the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) with the aim of identifying and promoting young cricketers from Telangana. Adding star power to the competition, popular actor Vijay Deverakonda has been announced as the official brand ambassador of the league.

The tournament is scheduled to begin on June 21 and will feature eight franchise teams competing in a round-robin format, with each team playing against every other side once. Organizers are leaving no stone unturned to build excitement around the event, with extensive promotional activities already underway across Hyderabad. As part of the pre-tournament celebrations, the league trophy will be unveiled at Tank Bund, while a spectacular drone display recently showcased the logos of participating teams at Necklace Road, drawing the attention of

cricket enthusiasts and the general public alike.

The opening match of the tournament will see Palamuru Strikers take on Anvitha Khammam Aces. Hyderabad Champions, one of the participating franchises, will begin their campaign against Palamuru on June 23.

Speaking at a promotional event held in Begumpet, HCA Secretary Jivan Reddy and TG20 Governing Council Chairman Agam Rao shared details about the tournament. According to the organizers, the champion team will receive a prize money of 1 crore, while the runners-up will be awarded 50 lakh. The teams finishing in third and fourth places will receive 25 lakh each. A grand opening ceremony is also planned at the Uppal Stadium before the first match. The event will feature a live music concert by renowned music director Thaman, along with an impressive laser show designed to entertain fans and create a festive atmosphere.

Organizers stated that the league will largely follow the rules and regulations of the Indian Premier League, except for the Impact Player rule. Tickets for the matches have been made available through the District app, with prices kept affordable at 50 and 100 to encourage maximum fan participation.

Representing Hyderabad Champions at the event, ETV Bharat Director Brhathi expressed happiness about being part of the new league. She highlighted the commitment of Ushodaya Enterprises and the Ramoji Group toward supporting sports and nurturing young talent through various initiatives. She also urged all franchises to identify promising cricketers and provide them with opportunities that could help them reach the national level. With strong organizational backing, attractive prize money, and celebrity support, the TG20 League aims to become a major platform for discovering the next generation of cricket stars from Telangana.

Sooryavanshi-Sri Lanka A Clash Sparks Debate After Heated Tri-Series Finish

A tense finish to the India A versus Sri Lanka A match in the ongoing tri-series has become the center of attention after an on-field altercation involving young Indian batter Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and a Sri Lankan player. The incident occurred following Sri Lanka A's dramatic Super Over victory, overshadowing what had been a fiercely contested encounter.

The controversy unfolded moments after Sri Lanka celebrated their triumph. Reports suggest that a Sri Lankan player allegedly made a remark directed at Sooryavanshi while the Indian youngster was dealing with the disappointment of defeat. The comment reportedly implied that India A's campaign was over and that the player could now

head home.

The remark is believed to have angered Sooryavanshi, who reacted by moving toward the Sri Lankan player. The situation quickly escalated as both players confronted each other. Teammates and support staff intervened immediately, preventing the exchange from developing into a larger confrontation. Videos of the incident soon circulated on social media, drawing widespread reactions from cricket fans.

The clash has also raised questions about whether disciplinary action will be taken against the players involved. Unlike official international matches, India A and Sri Lanka A fixtures are not directly overseen by the International Cricket Council's disciplinary

framework. However, tournament organizers and participating cricket boards may still review the incident and decide whether any action is warranted.

Reports indicate that discussions were held within the Sri Lanka A camp following the match. There have also been suggestions that players may have been advised to defuse tensions and maintain sporting conduct moving forward. As of now, no official announcement regarding disciplinary measures has been made. The match itself was filled with drama even before the altercation. Chasing a target of 266, Sri Lanka A needed five runs from the final over. Indian pacer Arshad Khan bowled brilliantly, conceding only three runs from the first

five deliveries. On the final ball, Sri Lanka required two runs to win. A delivery struck Chamika Gunasekara on the pads, and the batters attempted to complete two runs. Although a run-out occurred while attempting the second run, the teams had already leveled the scores, forcing a Super Over. India A captain Tilak Varma questioned the award of a leg-by, arguing that the batter had not made a genuine attempt to play the ball. However, the umpires upheld their decision, and the match proceeded to a Super Over, where Sri Lanka A emerged victorious. The dramatic finish and subsequent confrontation have added another chapter to an already intense tri-series campaign.



Hero Vishal's Warm Interaction with Tamil Nadu CM Joseph Vijay Goes Viral



Actor Vishal recently met Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Joseph Vijay in a meeting that quickly drew attention for its emotional tone, personal memories, and a notable act of social goodwill.

well-known leaders from different eras, emphasizing how the state's leadership journey has evolved over time.

One of the most talked-about aspects of the meeting was Vishal's decision to traditional ceremonial gifts such as a bouquet and shawl. Instead, he chose to redirect the funds that would have been spent on these items towards a charitable cause.

Vishal further expressed gratitude for the opportunity to meet the Chief Minister and extended his wishes for continued success, positivity, and progress during his tenure.

According to Vishal, the meeting carried a sense of familiarity and warmth, as though time had not altered their personal bond.

The meeting has since gained traction on social media, with many users highlighting both the emotional camaraderie between the two personalities and the philanthropic angle of the gesture.

He also acknowledged the broader political landscape of Tamil Nadu by referencing several

Save The Tigers Season 3 Premiere Turns into a Laughter-Filled Celebration

The grand premiere of Save The Tigers Season 3 turned into a lively, laughter-filled evening as cast members, crew, and invited guests gathered to celebrate the return of the popular Telugu OTT comedy franchise.



The event saw the presence of several prominent names from the Telugu entertainment industry. Actor Sundeeep Kishan added star appeal to the evening, interacting warmly with the team and media.

comic presence. Meanwhile, Abhinav Gomatam continued to impress with his quirky, relatable screen presence, adding to the humour-driven narrative that has been a trademark of the series since its inception.

Actor Priyadarshi Pulikonda, who plays one of the central characters in the ensemble cast, was widely appreciated for his timing, emotional delivery, and

The chemistry between the three couples remains at the heart of Save The Tigers, with the new season blending everyday relationship struggles with a fantasy twist that adds freshness to the storytelling.

Stardom Made Me Overconfident, Says Samantha After Career Break



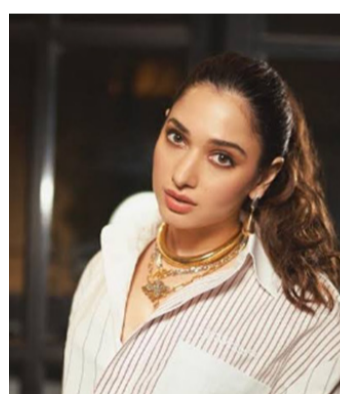
Actor Samantha Ruth Prabhu has offered a candid reflection on her journey in cinema, admitting that the rapid rise to fame and a string of successful films once shaped her mindset in ways she now views with greater clarity.

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Samantha shared that coming from a modest background, expe-

riencing stardom at a young age felt overwhelming. The overwhelming audience response to her films and performances brought not only admiration but also immense pressure to consistently deliver success.

Tamannaah Bhatia Says She Was Unsatisfied With 'Kaavaalaa'



Actor Tamannaah Bhatia has candidly admitted that she was not fully satisfied with her performance in the viral song Kaavaalaa from Rajinikanth's Jailer, stating that she felt she could have done better despite the track becoming a massive success.

charts and social media trends, making it one of the most talked-about dance numbers in recent years.

Speaking during a YouTube vlog interaction with choreographer-director Farah Khan, Tamannaah revealed that she experienced mixed feelings after completing the shoot of the song. While Kaavaalaa went on to become a major chart-buster and gained massive popularity across platforms, the actress said she personally felt she could have performed with greater precision, energy, and confidence.

Despite her personal reflections, Tamannaah continues to maintain a strong presence across film industries. She is currently associated with multiple upcoming projects, including Vvan - Force of the Forest, where she will share screen space with Sidharth Malhotra.

Tamannaah added that she had invested significant time in rehearsals for several dance numbers in her career, including Aaj Ki Raat, for which she reportedly practiced for nearly two weeks. Despite such preparation, she explained that she often walks away from performances believing there is always room for improvement.

In addition, she has also been linked to the upcoming horror project Ragini 3, which has already generated curiosity among audiences due to its title and casting buzz.

The actress further emphasized that while the audience response to Kaavaalaa was overwhelmingly positive, her personal satisfaction did not fully align with the final output. However, the song composed by Anirudh Ravichander became a cultural sensation soon after its release.

Her honest remarks about Kaavaalaa have sparked discussions about the gap that often exists between audience appreciation and an actor's personal satisfaction. The comments also highlight the pressure performers face in high-profile projects, where even widely successful work may not always meet their own creative expectations.

Kollywood Buzz Grows Over Ajith Kumar's Next Film Amid Salary Speculations



The Tamil film industry continues to witness strong speculation around actor Ajith Kumar, as the star has not yet made an official announcement regarding his next film.

houses are dealing with financial constraints, reduced investment appetite, and increased pressure to ensure box office returns.

Industry sources indicate that Ajith Kumar is reportedly seeking a high remuneration for his upcoming venture, with figures speculated to be in the range of 140 to 180 crores.

In this context, there is growing discussion within the industry about alternative compensation models, particularly profit-sharing arrangements instead of fixed upfront remuneration.

Samantha explained that this realization fundamentally changed her outlook on life and work. It encouraged her to adopt a more balanced approach, focusing on healthier boundaries, mindful choices, and a deeper understanding of longevity in her profession.

For now, the final outcome depends on how production budgets, remuneration expectations, and market conditions align. Until an official announcement is made, speculation around Ajith Kumar's next film is expected to remain one of the most closely watched topics in Tamil cinema trade circles.



Navika Kotia

RISING STAR

CAMBRIDGE MONTESSORI (UNDER THE AEGIS OF JALSA VENTURES) PRE SCHOOL | DAY CARE | MINDLAB

ADMISSIONS OPEN ENROLL NOW OUR FACILITIES: Child Centric Curriculum, CCTV Surveillance, Wonderful Play Area, Friendly Environment, Well Trained Staff, International Standard of Montessori Education. OUR PROGRAMS: Little Heart (1-2 yrs), Tender Heart (2-3 yrs), Nursery (3-4 yrs), L.K.G (4-5 yrs), U.K.G (5-6 yrs), Day Care.