

BUZZ POINTS

CM Launches Development Projects



PAGE 02

Irrigation Transformation on the Horizon : Uttam



PAGE 02

People's Government Stands With Farmers: Ponguleti



PAGE 02



RS.23,000 Crore Road Works Launched Bhatti

Nalgonda, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said the Congress government's priority is public welfare and addressing the needs of people with a humane approach. Addressing a massive public meeting at NG College grounds in Nalgonda, he said the government's agenda is centred on development and improving the lives of citizens. The meeting was organised in connection with the launch of major road construction works by Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy. The road development initiative, described as a major infrastructure push, involves an estimated ₹23,000 crore investment, including ₹13,000 crore from the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF), around ₹10,000 crore from other planned allocations, and additional funds from various schemes. Bhatti Vikramarka said the state government is working towards large-scale infrastructure development across Telangana, with road projects and other initiatives expected to create a strong foundation for future growth. He praised Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy for taking forward the road construction programme with determination. The Deputy Chief Minister criticised the previous BRS government, alleging that it ignored key irrigation projects including the SLBC, Dindi, and Nakkalagandi projects for nearly a decade. He said these projects were long-standing aspirations of people in the region but were not given priority earlier. He said Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy brought the issue of regional backwardness and pending projects to the attention of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Following this, the Chief

Minister personally inspected the areas and directed officials to complete the SLBC and Dindi projects within the government's term, assuring that there would be no shortage of funds. "There is a difference between the previous government and ours. Earlier, people faced difficulties due to arrogance of power, while our government is working with sensitivity towards public needs," Bhatti said. Highlighting welfare initiatives, he said the government was providing large-scale interest-free loans to women through the 'Indiramma' administration. He stated that plans were underway to provide over ₹20,000 crore annually in loans to women and more than ₹1 lakh crore over five years. He said financial assistance of ₹5 lakh per family is being provided to poor and homeless families for house construction. He added that around ₹22,500 crore has been allocated for building 4.5 lakh houses across the state. Bhatti also mentioned welfare measures including the supply of 6 kg fine rice to 1.06 crore ration cardholders, free electricity up to 200 units for around 53 lakh families, and free travel for women in RTC buses. Recalling the support extended by Congress workers during the previous government's tenure, Bhatti thanked party activists from Nalgonda and Khammam districts for standing with the party despite challenges. He said the present government views its responsibility as serving the people who placed their trust in Congress. He assured that the government would continue implementing development and welfare programmes with public interest as its main objective.

BVS Kumar, Social Activist

With the onset of Yeruvara Pournami, the traditional and auspicious festival that marks the beginning of the agricultural season, farming operations for the Kharif season commence today. India is widely recognized as an agricultural nation. Since the Green Revolution, the country has transformed itself from a food-deficient nation into one of the world's largest producers and exporters of food grains. This remarkable achievement is a tribute to the resilience of Indian farmers, the vision of policymakers, and the contributions of agricultural scientists. Yet, despite these accomplishments, the Indian farmer continues to live in uncertainty and financial stress. Unlike professionals in most other sectors, a farmer begins every cropping season without any assurance of success. His livelihood depends almost entirely on factors beyond his control. A year's hard work by the farmer and his family can be



wiped out overnight by an unexpected cyclone, hailstorm, drought, flood, pest attack, or unseasonal rainfall. Climate change has further intensified these uncertainties, making agriculture an increasingly risky occupation. The cost of cultivation has also risen sharply over the years. Prices of quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, farm machinery, diesel, electricity, and irrigation have increased significantly. Labour costs have escalated due to shortages during peak agricultural seasons. Many farmers attribute this shortage to rural migration and the growing dependence on welfare schemes, forcing them to hire workers from distant states at much higher wages. Consequently, the cost of producing every quintal of crop continues to increase while farm incomes remain stagnant. One of the greatest paradoxes in agriculture is pricing. In almost every industry, manufacturers determine the selling price of their

products after considering production costs, transportation, marketing, and a reasonable profit margin. A car manufacturer, textile company, or pharmaceutical firm fixes the price of its products. However, in agriculture, the producer has almost no say in determining the price of what he grows. Instead, prices are often dictated by traders, market arrivals, demand-supply fluctuations, imports, exports, and global commodity markets. This imbalance places farmers at a severe disadvantage. After investing money, labour, and months of effort, they are often compelled to sell their produce immediately after harvest due to financial obligations and the absence of adequate storage facilities. The lack of scientific warehouses, cold chains, food processing units, and organized marketing infrastructure results in enormous post-harvest losses, particularly for fruits and vegetables. Every year, thousands of tonnes of valuable

Modi Conferred Seychelles' Top Environmental Honour

New Delhi, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred the 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon', the highest distinction of Seychelles for leadership in environmental conservation and sustainable development. The award recognises Prime Minister Narendra Modi's consistent push for sustainable growth and his long-



P3

Indian Agriculture Needs Support, Sustainable Income, Not Sympathy

produce are wasted because farmers cannot store or market them at the right time. Although the government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for several crops, many farmers feel that these prices do not adequately reflect the actual cost of cultivation. In several cases, procurement mechanisms are either limited or inaccessible, leaving farmers to sell in the open market at prices below the announced support price. The gap between production costs and market realization continues to widen. Recognizing these challenges, the Government of India constituted the National Commission on Farmers under the chairmanship of the eminent agricultural scientist M. S. Swaminathan. The Commission made several landmark recommendations aimed at improving the economic condition of farmers. Among its important suggestions was that the support price should be genuinely remunerative, taking into

account the comprehensive cost of cultivation, the value of family labour, and a reasonable margin above production costs. The central idea was that farming should become economically sustainable rather than merely a subsistence activity. The concerns of Indian farmers extend far beyond crop production. Rising expenditure on healthcare, children's education, social responsibilities, and family needs often forces them into debt. Crop failures or poor market prices can push indebted farmers into severe financial distress. Sadly, incidents of farmer suicides reported from various parts of the country underline the emotional and economic burden carried by farming families. These uncertainties are also changing social attitudes towards agriculture. Many farmers today are reluctant to encourage their children to continue farming. They aspire instead for careers that offer stable incomes and predictable futures. Similarly, agriculture

P3

Cabinet to Decide Fee Reimbursement, Musi DPR on July 2



Hyderabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has convened a Telangana Cabinet meeting on July 2 to discuss key issues including the state's fee reimbursement policy for students, approval of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Phase-I of the Musi rejuvenation project, and the future implementation of the Centre's new VB-G RAM G rural employment programme. According to official sources, the Cabinet is expected to review and finalize the fee reimbursement policy amid legal uncertainty surrounding the implementation of Government Order (GO) 9 issued on June 6.

The order proposed converting the existing fee reimbursement system into a Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) model from the 2026-27 academic year. Under the proposed DBT system, reimbursement amounts would be credited directly into the bank accounts of eligible students instead of being paid to college managements, as was the practice since the scheme was introduced in the erstwhile undivided Andhra Pradesh in 2008. However, the policy faced legal challenges after several private college managements approached the Telangana High Court against certain provisions of GO 9. The institutions objected to the clause preventing them from collecting tuition

fees from students during admission and also opposed the direct transfer of funds to students without clearing pending dues to colleges. College managements claimed that fee reimbursement arrears of more than ₹10,000 crore had accumulated since 2021 during the previous BRS government's tenure. The High Court has currently suspended the implementation of GO 9 and directed the state government to submit its response. The issue is expected to come up for hearing again later this week. In view of the court proceedings, the Cabinet is likely to examine the legal position and decide on a revised approach for implementing the scheme.

The government is reportedly planning to release fee reimbursement funds by August 15 for fresh applicants who submit applications between April and July, subject to final approval and legal clearance. Another major issue before the Cabinet will be the approval of the DPR for the first phase of the Musi rejuvenation project. The proposed Phase-I works include cleaning and developing stretches of the Musi River from Himayat Sagar to Bapu Ghat at Langar Houz and from Gandipet to Bapu Ghat. The project covers around 20 kilometres where the two stretches converge, with plans to create an integrated development corridor. The Cabinet will also

discuss the state's stand on the Centre's VB-G RAM G programme, which is expected to replace the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) from July 1. The Telangana government has not yet issued a notification for implementing the new programme and has raised concerns over certain provisions. The Cabinet will decide whether to proceed with the scheme from July or consider other options. The July 2 meeting is expected to determine the government's next steps on these major policy matters affecting students, urban development, and rural employment.

CM Revanth Reddy Highlights Development Works, Targets BRS

Nalgonda, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday announced that foundation stones were being laid for 6,300 kilometres of Roads and Buildings (R&B) works across the state at a cost of ₹13,000 crore. Addressing a public meeting in Nalgonda, he said his government was committed to development, welfare, and fulfilling the aspirations of the people. The Chief Minister recalled the contributions of leaders who sacrificed positions during the Telangana movement, including Konda Laxman Babuji and Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy. He said Babuji gave up his ministerial position during the first phase of the movement, while Komatireddy resigned and undertook a hunger strike during the second phase of the Telangana struggle. Taking aim at the BRS leadership, Revanth Reddy questioned claims of sacrifice made by the previous government and said the sacrifices of Telangana activists, stu-



dents, and martyrs should not be compared with political actions taken for power. He referred to the contributions of martyrs such as Srikantha Chari, Constable Kishtiaiah, and Yadaiah, saying their struggles represented the true spirit of the movement. The Chief Minister challenged opposition parties to a debate in the Legislative

Assembly and Council on the performance of the BRS, BJP, and Congress governments. He said the parties should compare their manifestos, achievements, and governance records before the people. Highlighting welfare initiatives of the Congress government, Revanth Reddy said lakhs of ration cards had been issued and fine-quality

rice was being supplied to 3.28 crore people at a cost of around ₹16,000 crore. He said the government was providing 6 kg of fine rice per person to ensure better nutrition for poor families. He said the government had launched the Indiramma Housing scheme, providing homes for poor families, and had taken up construction of 4.5 lakh houses. He criticised the previous government, alleging that sufficient attention was not given to housing needs during its decade-long rule. The Chief Minister also highlighted free electricity up to 200 units for eligible households, women's free travel in RTC buses, and farmer welfare programmes. He said the government had spent around ₹1.56 lakh crore on agriculture-related initiatives, including farm loan waivers, Rythu Bharosa, and other support measures. Revanth Reddy said Telangana achieved record grain procurement and claimed the government was working continuously to ensure adequate urea supply

for farmers. He criticised the previous administration over the Kaleshwaram project and said his government was focused on completing pending irrigation projects such as SLBC. On education and employment, he said the government was working to strengthen public schools by introducing education from nursery to Class 12 and modernising facilities. He also stated that 70,000 government jobs had been provided within 30 months, calling it a step towards restoring confidence among unemployed youth. The Chief Minister said his government was committed to completing the SLBC project before the next elections and promised to continue the Musi River rejuvenation project. He accused opposition leaders of spreading misinformation and said people would judge based on development and welfare programmes. Revanth Reddy concluded by asserting that the Congress government would continue its focus on public welfare and development in Telangana.

CM Launches Development Projects

Nalgonda, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday visited Nalgonda district and launched a series of infrastructure development initiatives aimed at improving drinking water facilities and road connectivity in the region. During his visit, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the first phase of the Nalgonda Municipal Corporation's drinking water project. The project, which includes the construction of a modern water treatment plant, is being taken up at an estimated cost of ₹3 crore. The initiative is expected to strengthen the drinking water supply system and address the long-standing needs of residents in the municipal corporation area. Later, Revanth Reddy attended a public meeting at

Nagarjuna Degree College in Nalgonda, where he addressed the gathering and interacted with residents, party workers, and local leaders. He highlighted the government's focus on taking up development works that directly benefit people and improve basic infrastructure. As part of the district tour, the Chief Minister also inaugurated and launched various development programmes across Nalgonda. A major highlight of the visit was the commencement of HAM (Hybrid Annuity Model) road works from Nalgonda district. The foundation ceremony for the road development project was held at Kanagal, where Revanth Reddy unveiled the project pylon, officially marking the beginning of the works. Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy



Venkat Reddy participated in the programme along with other public representatives and senior officials. The HAM road project is expected to enhance transportation facilities, improve connectivity between rural areas, and support economic growth in the district.

Officials stated that the combined focus on drinking water infrastructure and road development would contribute significantly to the overall progress of Nalgonda district. The government's initiatives are aimed at improving public amenities

while creating better facilities for residents. The Chief Minister's visit was attended by several ministers, legislators, government officials, and local leaders, who reviewed the progress of ongoing projects and discussed future development plans for the district.

People's Government Stands With Farmers: Ponguleti



Chintakani, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Revenue, Housing, and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Sunday said the 'People's Government' has remained committed to farmer welfare by taking several important decisions since coming to power. He stated that the upcoming 'Rythu Ashirvada Sabha' (Farmers' Blessing Meeting) scheduled on June 30 at Jagannathapuram village in Chintakani Mandal of Khammam district would become a major success despite the forecast of heavy rains.

The minister inspected arrangements for the meeting along with public representatives and senior officials from the erstwhile district. He reviewed preparations at the meeting venue, helipad area, and vehicle parking facilities, directing officials to ensure proper arrangements for visitors. He instructed authorities to use weather-resistant German hangars to handle possible changes in weather conditions. Speaking to the media after the inspection, Ponguleti expressed confidence that the meeting would receive a massive response and could achieve greater success than expected despite monsoon challenges. He said the government had fulfilled its commitments over the last two and a half years with a focus on the welfare of farmers and weaker sections. The minister recalled the government's decision to procure rain-affected paddy as an example of its farmer-friendly approach. He said the government not only purchased the produce but also ensured that payments reached farmers' bank

accounts within a week of procurement. Ponguleti criticised the previous administration, alleging that those who ignored farmers' issues in the past were now making false claims about supporting them. He said farmers were aware of the difference between genuine welfare measures and political statements. He accused earlier governments of neglecting farmers' struggles and said the current administration would continue working for their benefit. He said the meeting would be organised successfully under the guidance of Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao and Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, with the cooperation of all local legislators. Leaders involved in the arrangements highlighted various achievements of the 'Indiramma Rajyam' government, including providing 72,000 jobs in two years, plans to issue more recruitment notifications, and initiatives aimed at empowering women economically. They also mentioned the sanctioning of 2.5 lakh rural houses and one lakh urban houses, with funds being transferred directly to beneficiaries. They further stated that incomplete irrigation projects such as Kaleshwaram and Sitarama would be completed soon, while ₹22,000 crore had been sanctioned for road development. The inspection programme was attended by MLAs Koram Kanakalah, Payam Venkateswarlu, Tellam Venkatrao, Jare Adinara yana, Matta Ragamayi Dayanand, and Ramdas Naik, along with senior officials, public representatives, and Congress leaders.

Irrigation Transformation on the Horizon : Uttam

Nalgonda, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the state government is creating a new chapter in the irrigation history of South Telangana by focusing on completing long-pending projects and ensuring water security for farmers. Addressing a massive public meeting in Nalgonda along with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, and other leaders, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the Congress government is committed to transforming Nalgonda district from a region known for drought, fluoride problems, and migration into a centre for irrigation, safe drinking water, and agricultural prosperity. "The mention of Nalgonda should no longer remind people of drought and fluoride issues. It should represent green fields, safe drinking water, and a prosperous farming community," he said. The minister stated that the government believes in

action rather than promises and is moving ahead with irrigation projects worth thousands of crores. He announced that the Alimineti Madhava Reddy-Srisaillam Left Bank Canal (AMR-SLBC) project would be completed during the present government's tenure under all circumstances. He said the SLBC project is among the most important irrigation projects in Telangana and aims to utilise 30 TMC of Krishna river water to irrigate nearly four lakh acres and provide drinking water to 516 fluoride-affected villages in the erstwhile Nalgonda district. Uttam Kumar Reddy said technical hurdles that delayed the project had been addressed through a modern helicopter-based electromagnetic survey conducted with the support of the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) and national-level experts. He said works have resumed and are progressing. Speaking about the Dindi Lift Irrigation Scheme, the minister said the government gave top priority to resolving pending issues and securing necessary approvals. Once completed, the project will



provide irrigation facilities to 3.61 lakh acres spread across 14 mandals in Nalgonda district and five mandals in Mahabubnagar district. It will also support drinking water supply in fluoride-affected areas. He assured that land acquisition, rehabilitation, and resettlement processes would be carried out transparently while protecting the interests of affected families. Nagarjuna Sagar Modernisa

tion Plan Uttam Kumar Reddy announced that comprehensive modernisation works of the historic Nagarjuna Sagar project would be taken up after completion of ongoing major irrigation projects. Describing Nagarjuna Sagar as one of independent India's greatest engineering achievements, he said the modernisation of the Left Canal and distributary network would help reduce water losses and

improve irrigation efficiency for an ayacut area of 6.40 lakh acres. Record Grain Procurement The minister said Telangana has emerged as one of the leading grain-producing states due to expanded irrigation facilities and farmer-friendly policies. He stated that transparent procurement at Minimum Support Price (MSP) and timely payments increased confidence among farmers. He said the government procured more than 80 lakh metric tonnes of grain during the current Yasangi season. The combined procurement of 152 lakh metric tonnes during the 2025-26 Kharif and Yasangi seasons created a record, reflecting the government's commitment to procuring farmers' produce. ₹13,000 Crore Road Development Programme Uttam Kumar Reddy welcomed the state's road development initiative and said 4,000 kilometres of roads would be developed across Telangana at a cost of ₹13,000 crore. He said the programme would provide all-weather connectivity, strengthen rural infrastructure, and support agricultural growth across the state.

Damodar to Raise Key Health Issues at National Meet

Hyderabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha will participate in the 16th meeting of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare (CCHFW) scheduled to be held in New Delhi on Monday. The meeting will be chaired by Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda and will bring together health ministers from states and Union Territories to discuss crucial matters related to the country's healthcare sector. The CCHFW meeting is expected to focus on strengthening public healthcare serv

ices, improving the implementation of national health programmes, expanding digital health initiatives, and reviewing the utilisation of World Bank-supported healthcare funds. The council meeting will provide a common platform for the Centre and states to exchange ideas, discuss challenges, and coordinate policies aimed at improving healthcare delivery and ensuring better public health outcomes. Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha is expected to highlight Telangana's healthcare priorities and seek support from the Centre on vari

ous issues concerning the state's health sector. He will present the state's requirements and discuss measures needed to further strengthen medical infrastructure and healthcare services. A key issue likely to be raised by the minister is Telangana's proposal seeking an increase in medical education seats. The state government has requested approval for the addition of 110 undergraduate (UG) seats and 465 postgraduate (PG) seats. The minister is expected to urge the Centre to consider the proposal, which would help expand medical education opportunities and enhance



the availability of trained healthcare professionals. The meeting assumes importance as states continue to focus on improving health

care infrastructure, increasing accessibility to medical services, and adopting technology-driven solutions in the health sector. Officials stated that discussions during the CCHFW meeting will help strengthen cooperation between the Centre and states in implementing healthcare policies and addressing emerging public health needs. Minister Rajanarasimha's participation reflects Telangana's efforts to engage with national-level platforms and seek support for initiatives aimed at improving healthcare facilities and services across the state.

Development Push with RS.30 Crore Works

Bhainsa, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Tourism Minister Jupally Krishna Rao on Sunday launched a series of development initiatives in Bhainsa town, laying the foundation stone for works worth ₹30 crore and inaugurating 440 double-bedroom houses constructed for beneficiaries.

The minister distributed house pattas along with the newly allotted double-bedroom houses, stating that the government was committed to providing housing facilities and ensuring welfare benefits reach eligible families. He also inaugurated modernization works of the drinking water supply system under the AMRUT scheme at a cost of ₹28.18 crore and launched restoration works of the Mahadevpur tank with an estimated expenditure of ₹S2.14 crore. Addressing the gathering, Jupally Krishna Rao said the drinking water infrastructure works would provide a permanent solution to the water problems faced by residents of Bhainsa and would also help improve groundwater levels in the region. He stated that the government was taking steps to sanction more Indiramma houses under the second phase and assured that justice would be done to the displaced families affected by the Palsikar Rangarao project. The minister said welfare schemes were being implemented with transparency and that efforts were being made to ensure govern



ment benefits reach deserving people without discrimination. Adilabad MP Godam Nagesh said the newly launched development works would transform the face of Bhainsa and assured that further initiatives would be taken for the progress of the area. Earlier, the minister visited the Gnaana Saraswati Temple and offered prayers. Following a recent theft incident at the temple, he reviewed security arrangements and instructed officials to strengthen measures. He later visited the Mahankali temple, where another theft had been reported, and directed officials to speed up the tender process for proposed development works. Mudhole MLA Ramarao Patel, former MLA Vittal Reddy, Collector Bhavesh Mishra, Superintendent of Police Janaki Sharmila, and other officials participated in the programme. Meanwhile, Congress leaders raised concerns over the lack of prior information regarding the development programmes. Senior Congress leader Srihari Rao alleged that BJP leaders were influencing affairs in Nirmal district and stated that he would step down from his position while continuing to work as a party worker.

States May Join Hands Over Rural Job Scheme

Hyderabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Cabinet sub-committee examining the Union government's proposed VB-G RAM G scheme, which is intended to replace the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), has decided to explore coordination with other non-BJP ruled states, including Karnataka and Kerala, over the issue. The committee, headed by Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, held its second meeting within a week and discussed the legal, administrative, and financial implications of the proposed central framework. Members felt that the wider impact of the proposed changes had not been adequately communi

cated to the public and decided to place the matter before the state Cabinet meeting scheduled on July 2. The Cabinet is expected to take a final call on Telangana's future course of action, including whether to implement the central model, introduce a separate state legislation, approach the Supreme Court, or adopt a combination of legal and administrative measures. During the meeting, the committee proposed discussions with the governments of Karnataka and Kerala to examine the possibility of a joint approach on protecting the powers and financial interests of states. Uttam Kumar Reddy said an appropriate decision was essential in view of the concerns raised by committee mem

bers. The members expressed apprehension that the proposed legislation could affect the federal structure by reducing the role of state governments in rural employment programmes. They also discussed whether Telangana should challenge the provisions legally rather than directly implementing the Centre's guidelines. Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Dana sari Anasuya Seethakka attended the meeting physically, while Agriculture Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao and Employment Minister G. Vivek Venkat aswamy joined virtually. Senior officials, including Special Chief Secretary Dana Kishore and Commissioner of Panchayat Raj and Rural

Development D. Divya, participated in the discussions. The committee also received opinions from representatives of nearly 20 civil society organisations. The representatives criticised the Centre's move, stating that employment guarantee programmes directly impact rural livelihoods, state finances, and local administration. They urged the Telangana government to consider bringing its own employment guarantee law rather than adopting the proposed central framework. Civil society groups estimated that implementing the proposed changes could increase the financial burden on the state by around ₹2,500 crore. They also raised concerns over a proposed reduction in employment availability, opposing the suggested

60-day limit and demanding that Telangana provide at least 200 days of wage employment annually with statutory minimum wages. Another major issue discussed was the proposed 60:40 funding pattern between the Centre and states. Committee members argued that the allocation formula could disadvantage better-performing states while benefiting others. They stated that Telangana had already submitted suggestions to the Union government seeking changes but claimed that those recommendations were not considered. The state legal department has been asked to examine the constitutional aspects of the proposal before the Cabinet takes a final decision.



BJP Inaugurates Nine District Offices, Nitin Nabin Calls for Telangana Expansion

Ranga Reddy Rural, June 28 | TPN Bureau

BJP National President Nitin Nabin called upon party workers in Telangana to prepare for a renewed movement aimed at the state's comprehensive development, stating that politics should be guided by service, sacrifice, and dedication rather than the pursuit of power. He was speaking on the occasion of the inauguration of nine new BJP district offices across Telangana on Sunday. The new offices were inaugurated in Ranga Reddy Rural, Adilabad, Asifabad, Nirmal, Kamareddy, Siddipet, Medak, Wanaparthy, and Nagarkurnool districts amid the participation of senior leaders and thousands of party workers. Nitin Nabin said the newly established offices were not just buildings but would function as "Centres of Resolve"

and "Centres of Service," reflecting the party's ideology and commitment towards public welfare. He said the offices should become platforms to strengthen the party organisation and inspire workers who follow the principle of "Nation First, Party Next, Self Last." Paying tributes to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who played a key role in the integration of India, Nitin Nabin also remembered the sacrifices of Telangana activists who fought for the separate state movement and former Union Minister Sushma Swaraj, who supported the Telangana cause in Parliament. He said the aspirations of Telangana's martyrs have not been fully achieved even years after state formation and asserted that the BJP would work towards fulfilling those dreams. Responding to criticism that BJP is an out-



sider party in Telangana, he recalled that when the party had only two MPs across India in 1984, one of them was elected from Telangana. Nitin Nabin praised senior BJP workers who strengthened the party in the state through years of struggles, challenges, and sacrifices. He said the growth of BJP in

Telangana was the result of the dedication of countless activists since the party's formation in 1980.

Criticising the Congress and regional parties, he alleged that some political groups were focused only on gaining power rather than serving people. He urged BJP workers to reach every village and street, spread the party's ideology, and prepare for upcoming political challenges. He expressed confidence that the BJP would continue to expand in Telangana and said the "Lotus" would bloom across towns, villages, and cities with the support of the people. Highlighting the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Nitin Nabin said the country was progressing towards development and unity. He referred to the ideals of "Ek Bharat - Shreshtha Bharat," "Antyodaya," and good gover-

nance, stating that Telangana should contribute to the goal of making India a developed nation by 2047.

He said central government initiatives and a "double-engine government" would accelerate Telangana's development. He called upon party workers to work with full commitment in the upcoming municipal corporation elections and strengthen the BJP organisation at the grassroots level. The event was attended by BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao, National General Secretary and State in-charge Sunil Bansal, Abhay Patil, Ponguleti Sudhakar Reddy, Chandrashekhar Tiwari, Legislative Party Leader Eleti Maheshwar Reddy, MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, Ranga Reddy Rural District President Raj Bhupal Goud, and other senior leaders.

KTR Targets Congress, Urges BRS Workers to Strengthen Party

Vikarabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) attended the Vikarabad District BRS general body meeting as the chief guest and guided party workers on membership registration activities. Addressing party leaders and activists, he called upon them to work towards strengthening the party organisation and expanding its reach among people. KTR said he visited Vikarabad despite suffering from fever, stating that the district's natural environment and pleasant atmosphere had a positive impact on him. Describing Vikarabad as a potential tourist destination, he said the region's water, air, and natural surroundings had unique qualities. Criticising the Congress government, KTR alleged that

the promises made before coming to power had not been fulfilled even after two and a half years. He said people were questioning the government over issues such as urea availability, electricity supply, farmer support schemes, and loan waivers. KTR defended the previous BRS government's record under former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), stating that several welfare and development programmes were implemented during its tenure. He mentioned 24-hour electricity supply for farmers, timely Rythu Bandhu payments, farm loan waiver initiatives, establishment of medical colleges, expansion of residential schools, and increased pensions. Responding to criticism over state debt, KTR said the figures related to borrowing during the previous govern-



ment's tenure had already been presented in Parliament. He claimed that loans were utilised for welfare and development programmes rather than for personal gains. The BRS leader also criticised the government over issues related to irrigation projects and alleged that the Palamuru-Rangareddy proj-

ect was being delayed despite substantial completion during the previous administration. He accused the Congress government of halting development projects due to political reasons. KTR alleged that the Congress and BJP were working together on certain issues and criticised the government's decisions regarding

the Musi river development works and land allocation. He also raised concerns over environmental issues and alleged that earlier decisions were taken without considering the impact on nature.

Speaking about party organisation, KTR welcomed the formation of committees comprising 10 members each across 284 polling booths, resulting in 2,840 committees. He asked party workers to actively participate in membership drives and said membership identity cards would help recognise supporters in the future.

KTR expressed confidence that BRS would return to power in 2028 and urged workers to continue strengthening the party. He concluded by calling on activists to work together to bring back the party's governance model and "hoist the pink flag" across the state.

Indian Agriculture Needs Support, Sustainable Income, Not Sympathy

continued

is increasingly viewed as an uncertain profession in matrimonial alliances. Such changing perceptions should concern the nation because they indicate a gradual erosion of confidence in farming as a dignified and economically viable occupation.

Another emerging challenge is the rapid conversion of fertile agricultural land into residential and commercial real estate. Attractive land prices tempt many financially stressed farmers to sell their holdings. While such sales may provide temporary financial relief, they permanently reduce cultivable land. If this trend continues unchecked, India may eventually face serious threats to its long-term food security despite its present agricultural surplus.

The solution does not lie in offering sympathy to farmers after every natural calamity. What Indian agriculture requires is a comprehensive policy framework that ensures sustainable and predictable incomes. Investment in irrigation, climate-resilient farming, scientific storage, cold-chain infrastructure, food processing industries, rural logistics, crop insurance, digital marketing platforms, farmer-producer organisations, and value addition can significantly strengthen farm economics. Transparent markets, timely procurement, affordable credit, and effective risk management systems are equally essential.

The Indian farmer is not seeking charity. He seeks fairness. He seeks an opportunity to earn a dignified livelihood from honest labour. Food security, nutritional security, and rural prosperity are inseparable from the well-being of farmers. If agriculture becomes economically rewarding, young people will once again view farming as a respectable profession, ensuring continuity of food production for future generations.

India has achieved food self-sufficiency through the dedication and sacrifice of millions of farmers. Protecting that achievement now requires policies that provide sustainable income rather than temporary relief. Supporting farmers is not merely an agricultural necessity-it is a national responsibility. After all, a nation that secures the future of its farmers secures the future of its people.

(June 29 is Yeruvaka Pournami, the full moon day of June, marking the official commencement of sowing operations for farmers.)

PV Narasimha Rao Guided India's Economic Transformation: Bhatti

Hyderabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna awardee P.V. Narasimha Rao on his birth anniversary, describing him as a visionary leader who changed the direction of India's economic journey.

In a statement, Bhatti Vikramarka said P.V. Narasimha Rao, a scholar, polyglot, and statesman, played a historic role in shaping modern India. He stated that the path shown by PV continues to serve as a compass for the country's progress. Highlighting PV Narasimha Rao's contribution to economic reforms, the Deputy Chief Minister said he assumed the Prime Minister's office at a time when India faced a serious economic crisis. Through bold policy decisions and reforms, PV laid the foundation for India's growth and helped the nation move towards becoming a major global economic power. Bhatti Vikramarka praised PV as a proud son of Telangana and recalled his contributions beyond economic reforms. He said the land reforms introduced during PV's tenure as Chief Minister of the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh brought significant changes by helping provide land opportunities to the poor. He also highlighted PV's role in strengthening education, particularly in rural areas, through the establishment of Navodaya Vidyalayas across the country. These institutions provided quality education opportunities to talented students from villages, he said. The Deputy Chief Minister noted that PV Narasimha Rao was not only an able administrator but also a person with deep literary interests and knowledge of several Indian and foreign languages. Born on Telangana soil, PV made lasting contributions to politics, literature, and national development, he added. Bhatti Vikramarka said the ideals, vision, and leadership of P.V. Narasimha Rao would continue to inspire future generations. He stated that remembering such leaders is important for understanding the journey of India's transformation and development.



Seethakka Misses Nalgonda Event Due to Delhi Visit



Hyderabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Seethakka said she will not be able to attend the foundation-laying ceremony for Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) roads in Nalgonda, which is scheduled to be inaugurated by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday evening, due to her visit to Delhi.

In a statement from Praja Bhavan, Seethakka said she was travelling to Delhi to attend an important meeting scheduled on Monday with Union Minister for Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan regarding VBG Ramji. She said the Delhi visit was necessary due to the significance of the meeting, which led to her inability to participate in the Nalgonda programme.

"I regret missing the Nalgonda meeting, especially as my brother and colleague Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy personally visited my residence and invited me," Seethakka said.

She expressed confidence that the HAM road foundation programme would be a grand success and highlighted the importance of Nalgonda as a region associated with several historic movements and struggles.

Seethakka said it was a matter of pride that road construction works covering thousands of kilometres were being launched from a place like Nalgonda. She credited the vision of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the efforts of Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy for initiating major infrastructure development activities in the state.

CPI(M) Protests Arrests of Leaders Ahead of CM Visit

Nalgonda, June 28 | TPN Bureau

The CPI(M) on Sunday staged a protest in Nalgonda condemning the preventive arrests of its district leaders ahead of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's visit to the district. The party demanded the immediate and unconditional release of all arrested leaders, alleging that the government was suppressing democratic voices. CPI(M) District Committee member P. Narsi Reddy criticised the arrests and said the action against party leaders was undemocratic. A protest march was organised from the CPI(M) office, Doddi Komaraiah Bhavan, to the Subhash statue, where party leaders raised slogans against the government's move.



Addressing the gathering, Narsi Reddy alleged that CPI(M) leaders were being subjected to preventive arrests whenever the Chief Minister or ministers visited various districts. He questioned the government's approach, stating that a regime that had promised to

protect democracy was now allegedly restricting people's right to raise issues. He said the arrested leaders had only sought an opportunity to meet the Chief Minister and submit a memorandum regarding public problems. Detaining them instead of allowing them to

present their concerns was against democratic principles, he claimed.

Termining the government's actions as "coercive governance" rather than "people's governance," Narsi Reddy said public movements cannot be silenced through arrests or restrictions. He urged the government to listen to the concerns of citizens and respect democratic methods of protest.

The CPI(M) leader demanded the release of CPI(M) District Secretary Thummala Veera Reddy and district secretaries members Mudireddy Sudhakar Reddy, Banda Srisailem, Paladugu Nagarajuna, Chinapaka Lakshminarayana, Mohammad Salim, Dandampalli Sattaiah, V. Madhusudan Reddy, and

Outa Ravinder, along with other party workers who were detained at different police stations across the district.

The party leaders said they should be allowed to meet the Chief Minister and submit their memorandum on public issues.

Several CPI(M) leaders participated in the protest, including Thummala Padma, Gadha Narasimha, Bhimagani Ganesh, Bollu Ravindra Kumar, Salvaju Saidachari, Gowridevi Madhu, Ganji Rajesh, Telakapalli Srinivas, Shiva Siraj Khan, and others.

The protest concluded with party leaders reiterating their demand for the release of those detained and calling for greater respect for democratic rights.

BJP Confident of Victory in Hyderabad Civic Bodies: Ramchander Rao

Hyderabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao said the party is confident of strengthening its presence in the GHMC, Cyberabad, and Malkajgiri municipal corporations, asserting that the BJP flag will rise in these areas in the future. Addressing the BJP Booth Presidents' Convention held at Nampally Exhibition Grounds on Sunday, Ramchander Rao congratulated booth presidents, party leaders, and workers from GHMC, Cyberabad, and Malkajgiri areas for their large participation. He said the enthusiasm among party workers reflected growing public support for the BJP. He stated that no political alliance or opposition strategy could stop the BJP's growth in Hyderabad. He claimed that people were looking towards the BJP as an alternative and expressed



confidence that the "Lotus" would bloom in all three

municipal corporations. Criticising the state govern-

ment, Ramchander Rao alleged that Hyderabad's development was being affected by poor governance. He claimed that both the previous BRS government and the present Congress government failed to address urban challenges, including waterlogging and infrastructure issues during rains.

He alleged that the government's focus was more on real estate activities rather than improving civic infrastructure. He said Hyderabad requires planned development and better management of public resources.

Speaking about the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process, the BJP leader accused Congress, BRS, and MIM of spreading misinformation against the BJP. He said political parties win elections only through public support and claimed that BJP's performance in West Bengal was due to people's trust. Ramchander Rao said the BJP would continue gain-

ing support in Telangana and Hyderabad. He criticised opposition parties for allegedly prioritising political power over public service, while claiming that BJP's ideology places the nation and public welfare first.

He urged citizens to actively participate in the electoral process and ensure that eligible voters are registered. He also appealed to booth presidents and party workers to reach every household and explain the BJP's policies.

Ramchander Rao asked party workers to remain vigilant regarding electoral processes and work towards protecting Hyderabad's development interests. He said strengthening the BJP organisation at the booth level would be key to achieving future electoral success.

The convention witnessed the participation of BJP leaders, booth presidents, and party activists from across Hyderabad and surrounding municipal areas.

London Student's Death Raises Suspicion

Kamareddy, June 28 | TPN Bureau

A 25-year-old student from Kamareddy district, S. Srinath Reddy, who travelled to London for higher studies, has died under suspicious circumstances, leaving his family in deep shock. His body was found at his residence in London shortly after he had spoken to his family, raising concerns among relatives over the circumstances surrounding his death. Srinath, a native of Talamadla village in Tadwai Mandal of Kamareddy district, had moved to the United

Kingdom last year to pursue higher education. According to his family members, he was found dead in his room on June 23. Srinath's father, Madhusudan Reddy, expressed grief over the incident and said the family was yet to receive complete information regarding the exact cause of his son's death. He appealed to authorities to provide support and help uncover the facts behind the tragedy.Family members said that Srinath had attended a friend's birthday celebration in London on the night of June 22. After the event, he



spoke with his family over the phone. His father said Srinath appeared normal and cheerful during the conversa-

tion, and there were no indications that he was facing any difficulties. However, the next morning, Srinath's roommate reportedly found him dead in their room. Information about the incident was conveyed to relatives through the son of a family member living in London. Preliminary reports indicated that Srinath may have died by hanging.Relatives have expressed concerns over the delay in informing others about the incident and stated that the circumstances surrounding his death need to be

thoroughly investigated. The grieving family has appealed to the Central and Telangana governments to assist in bringing Srinath's mortal remains back to his native village. They also requested officials to coordinate with British authorities to ensure a detailed investigation and provide necessary support.A pall of gloom has descended over Talamadla village following the death of the young student. Meanwhile, London police have registered a case and initiated an investigation into the incident.

Villagers Perform 'Kappathalli' Rituals Seeking Rain



Adilabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Residents of Varthamannur village in Bazar Hathnur Mandal of Adilabad district performed traditional 'Kappathalli' rituals and special prayers on Sunday, seeking timely rainfall, good harvests, and prosperity for the village. The age-old custom, rooted in rural culture and nature worship, witnessed the participation of women, youth, children, and elders. Villagers decorated the symbolic representation of the rain deity 'Kappathalli' and carried it in a procession through the village streets while singing devotional songs and offering prayers for rainfall.

During the procession, villagers raised traditional appeals to the Rain God, seeking showers for the welfare of farmers and the growth of crops. Residents welcomed the deity by pouring water in front of their homes, creating a devotional atmosphere across the village.

Agriculture is the main livelihood for people in Varthamannur, and farmers have been concerned over insufficient rainfall. Many farmers who have already sown seeds are waiting for adequate rains to support crop growth. Through the ritual, villagers prayed for abundant rainfall, filled water bodies, improved groundwater levels, and sufficient water availability for livestock.

Later, special rituals were performed at village deity temples, including Jalabhishekam with milk and water, coconut offerings, and Naivedyam. Villagers prayed for peace, prosperity, and happiness among all families.

Village elders said the 'Kappathalli Aata' tradition has been followed for generations, with a belief that it brings rainfall and prosperity. They noted that while the ritual is based on faith, it also represents the close relationship between rural communities and nature while strengthening unity among villagers.

The participation of the younger generation highlighted the continued importance of traditional practices in modern times. Villagers expressed hope that the prayers would bring relief to farmers and ensure better crop yields.

Village Sarpanch Sidam Prabhakar, former Sarpanches, ward members, village elders, and residents participated in the programme.

Police Create Awareness on Cybercrime and Road Safety

Adilabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Adilabad district police conducted an awareness programme on cyber-crimes and road safety at Mannur village in Bazarhathnoor Mandal, advising people to remain alert and follow safety measures.

Boath Circle Inspector Guruswamy and Bazarhathnoor Sub-Inspector Ramesh led the awareness session and explained various precautions to prevent cyber fraud. They advised villagers not to trust unknown links, fake websites, or suspicious messages received through social media, emails, or other online platforms.

The police officials cautioned people against sharing personal information, banking details, passwords, or confidential data with strangers. They stressed the importance of using strong passwords and changing them regularly to protect against cyber threats.

Officials informed the public that anyone who becomes a victim of cybercrime should immediately contact the cyber-crime helpline by dialling 1930 and approach the police without delay. They said timely reporting can help in taking necessary action.

The police also focused on road safety measures and urged people not to drive vehicles after consuming alcohol. They highlighted that many young people are losing their lives due to road accidents caused by reckless driving and negligence.

They appealed to all vehicle users to wear helmets while riding two-wheelers and strictly follow traffic rules to prevent accidents.

During the programme, police personnel reiterated that the department is always available to assist citizens and encouraged people to approach them whenever they face difficulties.

The event was attended by Sarpanch Sidam Prabhakar, Deputy Sarpanch Devarla Srikanth, former Sarpanch Kurma Naramma Lakshman, villagers, and police personnel including Sridhar and Sungu.



Two Drops for a Healthy Future: MLA Vijaya Ramana Rao

Peddapalli, June 28 | TPN Bureau

MLA and Government Whip Chintakunta Vijaya Ramana Rao stated that the state government is committed to achieving a polio-free Telangana and emphasized that polio drops provide essential protection for children's health. He attended the Pulse Polio immunization programme held on Sunday at the

District Government General Hospital as the chief guest and administered polio drops to children.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA urged parents to ensure that every child, from newborns up to five years of age, receives polio vaccination without fail. He appealed to people to actively participate in the Pulse Polio drive and make it a success, stating that protecting children's

health is a collective responsibility.

Vijaya Ramana Rao highlighted the services being provided by the District Government General Hospital and said the hospital has earned recognition across the state for delivering quality medical care to poor and needy patients. He encouraged people to make use of government health-care facilities and benefit

from the available services. He also announced that the existing 50-bed government hospital is being upgraded into a 100-bed facility and will soon be made available to the public with enhanced medical services.

District Medical Officer Pramod, Peddapalli Municipal Chairman Noogilla Mallaiah, Vice-Chairperson Muskan Naz Nayyar, Hospital

Superintendent Sridhar, Councilor Kotte Swarupa, town councillors, Congress leaders, party workers, and others participated in the programme.

Officials stated that the Pulse Polio initiative aims to ensure that every eligible child receives vaccination and remains protected from the disease, strengthening efforts towards a healthier society.

Social Media Blackmail Case: Man Arrested

Hyderabad, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Gachibowli police have arrested a man accused of befriending women through social media platforms and allegedly extorting money by threatening to circulate their private photos and videos. The investigation revealed a pattern of online manipulation and blackmail. The accused was identified as Naga Teja, alias Nani. According to police, he used platforms such as Snapchat and other social media applications to send friend requests to women and gradually build relationships with them. After gaining their trust, he allegedly collected per-

sonal photos and videos and later threatened to make them public to demand money.

Police stated that in a recent case, the accused targeted a female tech professional. He allegedly lured her to a hotel room opposite DLF in Gachibowli, threatened her with a knife, and recorded private videos. Later, he reportedly blackmailed her and extracted ₹1.10 lakh by threatening to upload the videos on social media platforms. Unable to bear the harassment and threats, the victim approached Gachibowli police and lodged a complaint. Based on the com-



plaint, police registered a case and formed a special investigation team to trace the accused.

Using technical evidence and CCTV footage, investigators identified the accused and took him into custody. During question-

ing, police said that Naga Teja confessed to the crime. He is a native of Sudivaripalem village in Prakasam district.

Police seized two mobile phones allegedly used for committing the offence and a knife reportedly used to threaten the victim. During the investigation, officials also found private videos of two to three other young women on his mobile phone, raising concerns that more victims may have been targeted.

Authorities advised women to remain cautious while interacting with unknown people on social media platforms. Police warned

against sharing personal information, photographs, or videos with strangers online, as such material could be misused by cybercriminals.

Officials also appealed to victims of online harassment, blackmail, or cybercrime to immediately approach the police without fear or hesitation.

They emphasized that timely reporting can help prevent further misuse and assist in taking legal action against offenders.

The police reiterated that awareness and vigilance are essential to stay protected from growing cybercrime threats in the digital age.

SIR Process Must Reach Every Voter: Additional Collector

Ghanpur and Jogapur, June 28 | TPN Bureau

District Additional Collector P. Chandrayya directed officials to ensure strict implementation of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process initiated by the Election Commission and complete the exercise in a transparent manner.

On Sunday, Chandrayya inspected the distribution of enumeration forms to voters in Ghanpur and Jogapur villages of the mandal. During the inspection, he instructed Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to ensure that forms reach every eligible voter without any omissions.

The Additional Collector enquired whether enumeration forms had been distributed to all households and stressed that the process should be carried out according to Election Commission guidelines. He advised officials to remain alert and maintain transparency throughout the revision process.

During his visit to Ghanpur village, Chandrayya inaugurated the Pulse Polio programme by administering polio drops to children. He appealed to parents to ensure that all eligible children receive vaccination as part of the health initiative. He also inspected the ongoing construction works of Panchayat and Village Organisation (VO) buildings and directed officials to speed up the works and make the facilities available to the public at the earliest.

Later, in Jogapur village, Chandrayya instructed the Tahsildar to complete the process of identifying and handing over suitable land for the construction of Panchayat and VO buildings. He reviewed local development activities and visited the Jogapur Mattadivagu project.

During the project inspection, he interacted with farmers and collected details regarding water storage capacity, irrigation coverage, ayacut area, and crop cultivation patterns. He discussed the importance of ensuring effective utilisation of available water resources for agriculture.

Before visiting the villages, the Additional Collector inspected the Primary Health Centre (PHC) at the mandal headquarters. He reviewed staff attendance, availability of medicines, and medical services being provided to patients by discussing the details with Medical Officer Dr. Laxman. He advised health officials to remain cautious during the monsoon season and take preventive measures against seasonal diseases. He stressed the need for timely medical services and public awareness to control health risks.

The inspection was attended by Tahsildar Srinivas, MPDO Mohammed Abdul Hai, MPO Srinivas, APO Nares, and Ghanpur and Jogapur Sarpanches Ganna Satish and Durgam Shivaridya, among others.

Lizard Found in Vada, Hotel Sealed

Warangal, June 28 | TPN Bureau

A shocking food safety incident in Warangal city has raised concerns among the public after a customer allegedly found a cooked lizard inside a vada purchased from a local tiffin centre.

The incident occurred at Sri Rajarajeshwara Tiffin Center located in the Kashibugga area of Warangal. The hotel is run by Bidla Raju. According to reports, a customer named Raju purchased two plates of idli and vada as a takeaway for his children on Saturday morning.

After returning home, the family began eating the food. However, they were horrified to find pieces of a cooked

lizard inside one of the vadas. The children had already consumed some portion of the food and became frightened. They reportedly vomited after noticing the contamination. The customer immediately returned to the hotel and questioned the management about the incident. However, he alleged that the response from the hotel operators was unsatisfactory, following which he informed food safety officials. A food safety team inspected the hotel premises and found several violations. Officials reportedly found that the establishment did not have proper documentation and noticed unhygienic conditions, including dirty utensils and poor maintenance.

Following the inspection, officials imposed a fine of ₹10,000 on the hotel owner and sealed the premises. Samples of the vada, batter, and other food items were collected and sent to a laboratory for detailed analysis.

Food safety authorities warned hotel operators and food business owners that negligence in maintaining hygiene standards would not be tolerated. Officials stated that strict action would be taken against establishments that compromise public health and safety.The incident has once again highlighted the need for maintaining cleanliness and following food safety standards in hotels and eateries across the state.

Mother Felicitates Police After Justice in Son's Suicide Case

Bhadradri Kothagudem, June 28 | TPN Bureau

After an eight-year legal battle, Tirupathamma, a resident of Ashwaraopeta in Bhadradri Kothagudem district, expressed relief after the court convicted the accused in the case related to her son's suicide. She felicitated the police officials who investigated the case and ensured that the accused were brought before the court.

According to details, Tirupathamma's son Mutyala

Rao married Shyamala, a native of Narayanapuram village, in 2014. Their married life was reportedly peaceful initially, but later differences arose after allegations of an extramarital relationship surfaced. Mutyala Rao allegedly faced mental distress following the situation and attempted to resolve the issue, but there was no improvement.

The matter was also taken before village elders for mediation, but Mutyala Rao reportedly felt humiliated

and unsupported. Unable to cope with the emotional turmoil, he died by suicide on July 31, 2018.Following his death, his mother Tirupathamma approached the police and filed a complaint alleging that 14 people were responsible for her son's death. The Ashwaraopeta police registered a case, conducted an investigation, and submitted a charge sheet before the court.

After several hearings, the court delivered its judgment and convicted the accused.

Shyamala was sentenced to seven years of imprisonment, while other accused persons, including Venkateswara Rao, received different sentences based on their roles.

Following the verdict, Tirupathamma visited the Ashwaraopeta police station and thanked the officials involved in the investigation. She felicitated CI Nagaraju Reddy, SI Yayati Raju, and other police personnel by presenting shawls and distributing sweets.

Speaking emotionally,

Tirupathamma said the judgment brought peace to her mind and that she felt her son's soul could finally rest in peace. She appreciated the efforts of the police in pursuing the case and ensuring justice.She also stated that if the convicted persons approach the High Court with an appeal, she would continue her fight for justice. The incident has drawn attention to the long legal struggle undertaken by the bereaved mother in her pursuit of justice for her son.

The Seed of Innocence



The rock flaunts its hardness; the seed trusts only the dark.

The lock boasts of its strength; the door yields to the wind.

The river never reads a map; following its bends, it becomes the sea.

The butterfly knows nothing of the colors on its wings; that is why the flowers recognize it.

The sky never claims victory; each evening, it surrenders into the lap of the earth.

In the end, life endures like the smile of an infant for innocence alone is the wisdom that outlives time.

Dr. Perugu Ramakrishna India



Words Soaked in Experience: The Writings of Ravuri Bharadhwaja

Varala Anand



Poet, Film Critic & The Recipient of the Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award

"A smile, a compassionate glance, a warm and heartfelt handshake, no award or accolade can equal their value"

Ravuri Bharadhwaja once made this observation in an interview. Few writers have expressed the essence of human relationships with such clarity and grace.

Among Telugu writers who closely observed, experienced, and documented the lives of ordinary people, Ravuri Bharadhwaja occupies a distinguished place. His stories are not merely products of imagination; they are living records of the people who move around us every day. Poverty, hunger, hardship, hope, and despair flow naturally through his writings. One could, in fact, say that Bharadhwaja's own life was a novel in itself.

Poverty became his school. Hunger became his teacher. The struggle for survival became his university, teaching him lessons that no formal education could offer. Ravuri Bharadhwaja was not a writer nurtured in a sophisticated literary environment. Long before he read books, he had read life. He understood the smell of sweat and the dignity of labour. That is why there is no artificiality in his writing. His sentences are soaked in the experiences of fellow human beings.

Declaring openly that "hunger inspired my writing," Ravuri Bharadhwaja was born in 1925 in Moguluru village of the Paritala Jagir in Krishna district. His first poem was about his parents, Mallikamba and Kotayya. His formal education ended with the seventh standard, but his real education had only begun.

He started writing at the age of seventeen. In those difficult years, he often survived on a piece of fruit or a glass of water, quenching his hunger while feeding an even great-

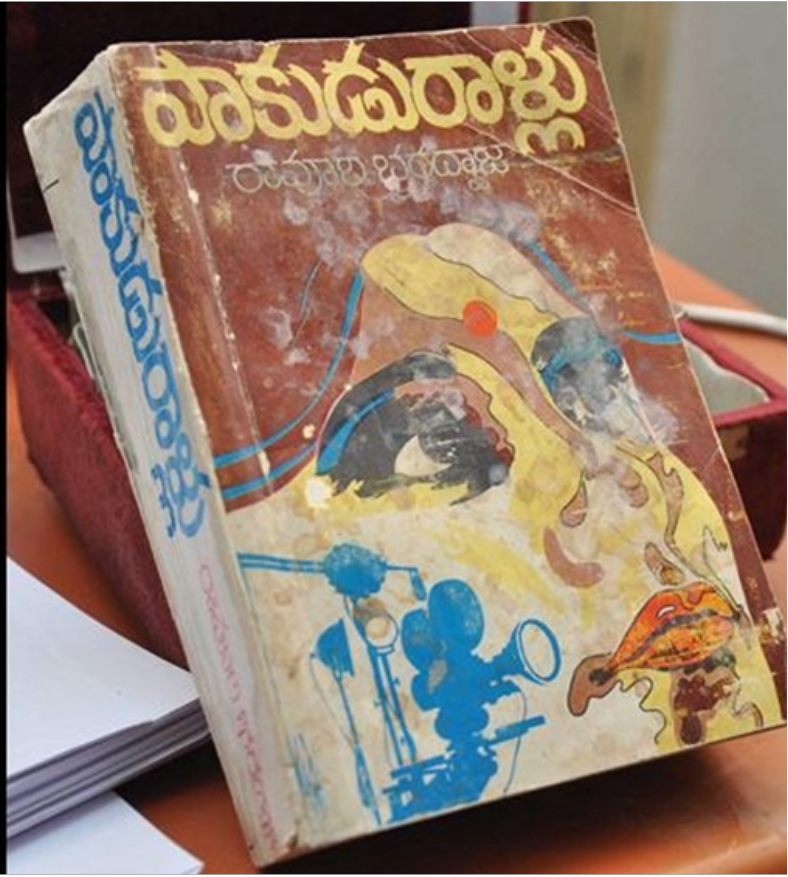
er hunger, the hunger for literature. Unable to afford even the three-rupee annual membership fee of a library, he worked at whatever jobs he could find and spent nights reading library books by the light of temple lamps. He studied everything he could lay his hands on, spending countless sleepless nights immersed in literature.

In 1950, he published Ragini. Later, Kotta Chigullu attracted the attention of Telugu readers with its distinctive style. Recognition gradually followed. He received the Andhra Pradesh Sahitya Akademi Award twice, in 1968 and 1983, as well as the Central Sahitya Akademi Award. Universities including Andhra, Nagarjuna, and JNTU conferred honorary doctorates upon him. He was also honoured with the Gopichand Award, the Soviet Land Nehru Award, the Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad Award, the Kala Ratna Award from the State Government, and numerous other distinctions.

The novel that ultimately brought him the Jnanpith Award, Pakuduralu, occupies a unique place in the history of Telugu fiction. It is not merely a novel set against the backdrop of the film industry; it is a social document exposing the harsh realities hidden behind the glittering world of cinema.

Bharadhwaja never viewed the film industry through the lens of glamour. Instead, he portrayed the loneliness of those who inhabit it, the relentless struggle for opportunities, and the collapse of dreams. Reading Pakuduralu does not feel like reading fiction, it feels like witnessing life itself.

In this novel, cinema is not merely a dazzling light. It is also a fire that slowly consumes those drawn towards it. Bharadhwaja vividly depicts how people chasing fame,



wealth, and opportunity gradually lose themselves. Through his female characters in particular, he reveals the inequalities, exploitation, and vulnerabilities faced by women in the film world with remarkable sensitivity and humanity.

One of the novel's greatest strengths is Bharadhwaja's style. Without exaggeration or rhetorical flourish, he conveys profound truths through simple language. Life speaks through the conversations of his characters. The cruelty of society becomes visible through their suffering.

At its core, Pakuduralu explores how human dreams become commodities. The title itself serves as a metaphor: countless lives are crushed like grinding stones beneath the machinery of illusion called cinema. Telugu literature has produced very few works that

portray the film industry with such honesty and depth. That is why Pakuduralu is not merely a novel it is a hidden history of darkness behind the dazzling lights.

In 1948, Ravuri Bharadhwaja married Kantham. Speaking of her, he once said with deep emotion:

"Though she came from a prosperous family, she patiently endured my poverty, lack of education, and unemployment. Just as an intelligent mother cares for an innocent child, that golden-hearted woman cared for me. That is why I called her 'Kanthamma'."

These were not merely words. The memoirs he wrote in her memory are filled with extraordinary tenderness and grief. More than three decades ago, when I read N l ni N vu (The You Within Me), every sentence seemed to fall like a drop of tears.

It left me wondering whether one



human being could truly love and cherish another so deeply. Bharadhwaja saw his companion as mother, beloved, and guardian all at once. In N l ni N vu, he transformed the pain of her absence into a stream of moving prose. One cannot fully understand its emotional power without reading it.

The sheer volume of Bharadhwaja's literary output is astonishing. He wrote thirtyseven short story collections, seventeen novels, six children's novellas, five collections of children's stories, three essay and autobiographical volumes, eight plays, and five radio dramas. He worked for publications such as Jameen Rythu and Deena Bandhu before joining All India Radio, where he served until his retirement.

Dr. Ravuri Bharadhwaja passed away on 18 October 2013.

Yet writers like him never truly die. They continue to live in the tears of their characters, in the struggles of ordinary people, and in the compassionate humanity that flows through their words. His writings remind us that literature is not born merely from imagination; it is born from life itself. And few Telugu writers transformed life into literature as truthfully and as movingly as Ravuri Bharadhwaja.

A Literary Pause in Life's Endless Race

Review on Soft Place in Life's Race

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Curated by Rupa and Carthy, the anthology Soft Place in Life's Race truly quenches the emotional thirst of readers who love poetry and prose. This compilation consists of versatile voices from multifaceted writers who have contributed their works.

To cite a few, the poem "The Midnight House," written by May Garner, shows how our lives are intertwined with the things in a house—its company. The Midnight House carries the disturbances of its inhabitants and the solace it has provided. It is beautifully articulated in the lines:

"Midnight doesn't comfort me, it recognises me. The same way ruins recognise those who stay."

Sharon Dorival clearly explicates what "Spark" reflects in her poem SPARK. The spark resembles a fire of justice, pride, compassion, and empathy for everyone's struggles and triumphs. It is truly a spark of hope, direction, and shelter.

The poem I Am Blue by Rupa manifests the conflict of a common man shackled by

the corporate race. The "life and death" thumb rule is presented in the lines: Second to none, Fool's paradise, Man eats man. Life becomes more of a fair fight, which is true for many of us as we run after careers, losing life in the process: "I have lost the life that I once claimed—mine." It ends with the harsh truth that life is a disguise.

The flow of life continues with the poem Caravan by Anupama Kadwad. In this poem, the poet says that life's journey is like a caravan, where we meet many people at different stations. We are all caught up in the mad race of survival, as per the dictum "Struggle for Existence and Survival of the Fittest."

Rooted by Joyce mentions the principle that we should all stay connected to our roots—our home, friends, kith and kin, and contentment. This poem is a token of gratitude for the blessings one has in life.

Dr. Balesh Jindal presents the kitchen as a safe place in this race of life in her short note. Truly, the kitchen stands as a stress-buster for women

in this never-ending race. They often find a positive aura in the kitchen amidst daily chores.

Catherine's Where Restless Wind Finds Rest takes the reader into a world where life is uncertain, unique, and eventually forgotten. Moreover, the poem suggests that one finds solace in nature, hills, and wind, irrespective of struggles.

Dr. Perugu's poem When the Fist Unclenched speaks about unexpected love when it is given freedom. The poem depicts that nothing and no one should be restricted; when nurtured properly, they bloom and share love with others.

The poem My Soft Place by Georgina reveals a man's conflict in seeking work-life balance and the difficulty of finding a soft place in this busy life. The poem has universal appeal, as everyone strives to find such a space; the quest often ends with the renewal of energy in the lap of nature.

On the whole, the anthology Soft Place in Life's Race is a compilation of innovative thoughts from acclaimed poets and writers, mainly focusing on man's endless march towards wealth, health, and happiness. Each work in this anthology is distinctive and unique. The expressive representation of life's race by the writers is exceptional.

Soft Place in Life's Race a collection of poetry and prose



Compiled by Rupa Rao and C.A. MacKenzie

The Silent Explosion



Yes, now Marching towards the light Is a hidden army! From the foundations of dark fortresses, A new flag is flying high!

Yes, indeed... we are the silent explosions Moving beneath your thrones! We are the blazing embers under your silk beds! Mocking this colorful world, We stood firm as syllables on digital screens! If you try to crush the fluttering of our wings, Out of that very silence, we will burst forth as volcanoes! We are the enduring forces of eternal consciousness! Even if the empires of dinosaurs collapsed, Yielding to no mighty plague of any century—we are the immortals!

We might have once waited for your leftovers, In the crevices of the walls! But what of it? Just because we are living beings crawling on the earth, Will you brand our foreheads as parasites? We may be the 'cockroaches' Seen in the drains to you... Oh Rulers! Who plays chess under the roofs of marble mansions! Remember... what remains in the end is not your fragrance, The breath of protest from these unemployed youth Shall rule the empires of tomorrow!



Original Telugu version: Wilson Rao Kommavarapu



Translated by: Dr T. Radha krishnamachayulu 98493 05871

PM Modi Highlights Self-Reliance, Culture and Innovation in 135th Mann Ki Baat

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, addressing the nation in the 135th episode of Mann Ki Baat on June 28, 2026, spoke about India's progress in defence, aviation, space technology, public welfare initiatives, cultural heritage and environmental conservation.

He said the first half of 2026 had been marked by achievements that strengthened national security and self-reliance. He highlighted the induction of INS Dunagiri, INS Sanshodhak and INS Agray into the Indian Navy, noting that these indigenous warships reflect India's growing defence manufacturing capabilities. He also mentioned the C-295 aircraft project, describing it as a major step in the Make in India initiative, with 40 aircraft being manufactured domestically, boosting M S M E growth and employment.

Modi also referred to the successful DRDO test of a long-range land-attack cruise missile, calling it a milestone in strengthening India's defence preparedness from seas to skies.

Turning to global engagement, he noted the widespread



participation in International Yoga Day across more than 2,500 locations worldwide. He also praised India's performance at the World Yogasana Championship in Ahmedabad, where the country won 114 medals, including 102 gold medals.

The Prime Minister urged citizens to continue supporting national initiatives during global uncertainty, recalling public participation in reducing gold purchases, promoting carpooling, and adopting chemical-free farming. He appreciated public cooperation and said such collective action

strengthens national resilience.

Highlighting social innovation, he mentioned a family from Nanded in Maharashtra that provided accidental insurance cover to 3,500 villagers during a wedding celebration. He also explained key government insurance schemes, including Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, which together benefit crores of citizens. In the cultural and environmental segment, Modi spoke about efforts to protect the rare Hargila bird in As-

sam, led by biologist Purnima Devi Barman and women volunteers known as the Hargila Army. He also highlighted Meghalaya's living root bridges and India's application for UNESCO World Heritage status. Referring to grassroots innovation, he praised women in Biaora, Madhya Pradesh, who converted plastic waste into eco-bricks for public use.

In a significant cultural appeal, the Prime Minister urged citizens to use clay idols made by local artisans during Ganesh festivals and avoid Plaster of Paris idols, stressing environmental protection and Vocal for Local.

Highlighting Andhra Pradesh indirectly through national development themes, he noted India's growing digital and technological strength, including AI education initiatives and expanding university-level innovation platforms such as Nalanda University's revival of Shastrarth traditions.

He concluded by urging citizens to continue water conservation efforts under the Catch the Rain campaign, stressing that every drop must be saved for future generations.

Shubhanshu Shukla Shares Journey in New Book



memoir.

Among the lighter moments described in the book is an incident during his journey aboard the Crew Dragon spacecraft. Feeling cold in the capsule, Shukla climbed into a large cloth bag used to store equipment and eventually fell asleep. In microgravity, he drifted into a corner of the spacecraft and became hidden from view. When the crew awoke, they briefly could not locate him inside the capsule, leading to a humorous search before he was finally pulled out. The memoir also reflects on lessons learned from childhood, military training, and space exploration. Shukla recalls a challenging 10-metre jump during his NDA days, describing it as an early lesson in overcoming fear and

uncertainty.

One of the most profound themes in the book is the "overview effect" experienced by astronauts viewing Earth from space. Shukla said seeing the planet from orbit reinforced the idea that humanity shares a common home beyond borders and national identities.

Looking ahead, he expressed optimism about India's future in space exploration. With the upcoming Gaganyaan programme, the planned Bharatiya Antariksha Station, and ambitions for a lunar mission by 2040, Shukla said future generations of Indians will not have to wait decades to see another compatriot travel to space. He expressed confidence that many more Indian astronauts will follow in the near future.

Major Maoist Arms Dump Unearthed in Malkangiri

Security forces have recovered a large cache of weapons, explosives and ammunition allegedly hidden by Maoists in the forests of Odisha's Malkangiri district, delivering another significant setback to the remaining Left-wing extremist network in the region.

The recovery was made during a search operation conducted by the District Voluntary Force (DVF) in the Guntabeda and Kadamguda forest areas under the Kalimela police station limits. The operation was launched following specific intelligence inputs and information gathered from surrendered Maoists during sustained interrogation by security agencies.

According to police, the concealed arms dump contained two Self-Loading Rifles (SLRs), two country-made pistols, an Improvised Explosive Device (IED), a Claymore mine, under-barrel grenade launcher (BGL) launchers, grenades and 37 varieties of explosive materials. Security personnel also recovered several components sus-



pected to have been used in the manufacture of firearms and explosive devices.

Investigators believe the weapons and explosives had been buried underground in dense forest terrain and were intended for future attacks against security forces operating in the area. The discovery is expected to further weaken the operational strength of Maoist cadres still active in isolated pockets of the district.

Addressing a press conference, Malkangiri Superintendent of Police Vinodh Patil H

said the latest seizure marked the third major Maoist arms dump recovered in the district during June.

He noted that earlier recoveries were made on June 9 and June 15. Based on fresh information obtained during the interrogation of surrendered Maoists, a DVF team was dispatched to the forested areas, resulting in the latest breakthrough.

The SP said that although the Odisha government had declared Malkangiri Maoist-free by the March 31 deadline, security forces continue to conduct

operations to trace hidden weapons stockpiles and dismantle any remaining extremist infrastructure.

Patil stated that sustained intelligence gathering and interrogation efforts have been instrumental in locating concealed caches. He congratulated the DVF personnel involved in the operation, describing the recovery as a major achievement in the ongoing anti-Maoist campaign.

Malkangiri, once considered one of the worst Maoist-affected districts in Odisha, has witnessed a significant decline in extremist activity in recent years due to continuous security operations, development initiatives and the surrender of several Maoist cadres.

Police officials said search operations would continue in remote forest areas in the coming days. Authorities remain committed to eliminating the remnants of Maoist influence, preventing extremist groups from regrouping and ensuring lasting peace and security in the district.

Girl Dies After Fall From 10th-Floor Balcony



A five-year-old girl lost her life after allegedly falling from the 10th-floor balcony of a residential apartment building in Delhi's Kalkaji Extension late on Saturday night, police said.

The tragic incident occurred at Asha Kiran Apartments, a 14-storey residential complex developed by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA). According to police, the child was living in the apartment with her family. Preliminary investigations suggest that she had gone to sleep earlier in the evening but woke up while her parents were occupied with household chores.

Unable to locate her mother, the girl reportedly walked towards the balcony. Investigators believe she may have leaned over the railing while looking down and accidentally slipped, resulting in the fatal fall. Family members immediately rushed the child to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared her brought dead. The victim's father, Mithun Das, operates a fish shop in the locality.

Police teams and forensic ex-

perts visited the scene shortly after the incident. Authorities have launched a detailed investigation and are examining CCTV footage from the apartment complex to reconstruct the sequence of events. Statements of family members, neighbours and other residents are also being recorded.

The grieving family questioned the safety arrangements in the high-rise residential building. Relatives stated that protective grills or safety netting in balconies could have prevented the tragedy and called for stricter safety measures in residential towers where young children live.

A family member said the child had simply woken up and was searching for her mother when the incident occurred, adding that the loss had left the family devastated.

Police said all possible angles are being examined, though initial findings point to an accidental fall. Further investigation is underway to determine the exact circumstances surrounding the incident. The tragedy has once again highlighted concerns regarding child safety in high-rise residential buildings and the need for adequate protective measures to prevent such accidents.

Sabareesan Sends Defamation Notices to TVK Ministers



A fresh political controversy has erupted in Tamil Nadu after Sabareesan, son-in-law of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin, issued legal notices to two ministers of the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), alleging that they made defamatory and baseless allegations against him.

The notices were served through legal counsel to TVK ministers Aadhav Arjuna and CTR Nirmal Kumar. Sabareesan has demanded that both leaders withdraw their statements and issue a public apology within 15 days. The notices warn that failure to comply will result in legal proceedings.

According to the notice sent to Aadhav Arjuna, the minister allegedly made corruption-related remarks against Sabareesan during a media interaction. The notice claims that Arjuna accused ministers of the previous DMK government of collecting money through corruption across multiple departments and distributing portions of those funds to Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin and Sabareesan.

The legal notice further states that these remarks were widely broadcast by regional television channels and circulated across social media platforms, attracting substantial public attention and viewer-

ship. Sabareesan's counsel argues that the allegations were made without evidence and have damaged his reputation.

In a separate notice, CTR Nirmal Kumar was accused of making insinuations that Sabareesan benefited from electricity tariff hikes implemented during the DMK government's tenure. The notice refers to comments allegedly made by Kumar during a press briefing in which he questioned who had gained from increased power tariffs and rising borrowings in the electricity sector.

Sabareesan's legal team contends that such statements were intended to create a false impression of personal finan-

cial gain and were made without factual basis. The notices describe the remarks as defamatory and harmful to his public image.

The development has intensified political tensions between the ruling DMK and the opposition TVK. While the ministers have yet to publicly respond to the notices, the dispute is expected to trigger further political debate in the state.

If the demanded apology and retraction are not issued within the stipulated period, the matter could move to court, setting the stage for a high-profile legal and political battle ahead of future electoral contests in Tamil Nadu.

Seven Arrested in Assam Government Job Scam

The Assam Crime Investigation Department (CID) has busted an alleged job recruitment scam involving fake appointments in the Water Resources Department and arrested seven people linked to the racket.

According to officials, the accused operated an organized network that targeted unemployed youth by promising government jobs in exchange for money. The victims were allegedly cheated of amounts ranging from thousands to several lakhs of rupees.

Investigators said the accused used forged appointment letters, fabricated government seals, and fake recruitment notifications purportedly issued by the Water Resources Department of the Assam government. Job seekers were led to believe that they had secured legitimate government employment and were asked to pay money to complete the re-



crutment process.

Following complaints and preliminary inquiries, the CID registered a case at the CID Police Station under various provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023. The case has been booked under Sections 61(2), 318(4), 336(3), and 340(2), which relate to criminal conspiracy, cheating, forgery, and the use of forged documents.

As part of a sustained investigation, CID teams conducted multiple operations across different locations and arrested seven individuals allegedly involved in the fraud. The latest arrest was made on June 27, when Gunamoni Baishya was apprehended from Nalbari district.

Officials stated that the accused are suspected of being part of a larger network that

exploited the aspirations of unemployed youth by offering fake government jobs. The CID is examining documents, financial transactions, and digital evidence to identify additional suspects and determine the full extent of the scam.

The investigation is also focused on tracing the money collected from victims and identifying others who may have assisted in preparing forged documents and conducting fraudulent recruitment activities.

Authorities have urged job seekers to verify recruitment notifications through official government channels and avoid dealing with unauthorized intermediaries. The CID has assured that strict action will be taken against all those involved in the racket.

Further investigation is underway, and officials have not ruled out additional arrests as the probe progresses.

Hasina Vows Return Amid Political Turmoil

Former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has declared that she will return to her country this year despite facing a death sentence and the continued ban on her party, the Awami League.

In an exclusive interview, Hasina said her return was not driven by personal ambition but by what she described as a larger struggle for democracy, political rights, and the rule of law in Bangladesh. The veteran leader, who has been living in exile since being forced from office nearly two years ago, expressed confidence that her party would overcome the challenges it currently faces.

Referring to the legal proceedings against her, Hasina alleged that the verdict was politically motivated and part of an effort to eliminate the leadership of the Awami League. She maintained that the judicial process had been misused for political purposes and insisted that previous attempts to weaken her party had failed.

"My return is tied to the restoration of democracy and the rights of the people," she said, adding that her political mission remains centered on realizing the vision of her father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who led Bangladesh's struggle for



independence.

The former prime minister emphasized that the Awami League is more than a political organization and described it as a force deeply connected to the country's history and identity. She argued that the party continues to enjoy significant public support despite restrictions imposed by authorities.

Hasina also voiced concern over the situation of minority communities in Bangladesh, stating that any attack on minorities should be viewed as an attack on the principles of the nation's independence. She stressed the need to protect the rights and security of all citizens regardless of religion or ethnicity.

Her remarks came days after the Awami League marked its 77th Foundation Day amid

heightened political tensions. The observance took place despite a nationwide ban on the party, and reports indicated that several activists were detained during security operations.

The political future of Bangladesh remains uncertain as the country continues to grapple with deep divisions between the ruling establishment and opposition groups. Hasina's announcement is likely to intensify political debate and speculation over whether she will attempt a return despite the legal and political obstacles facing her.

Her statement signals that she intends to remain an active figure in Bangladesh's political landscape and continue challenging the actions taken against her and her party.

Plane Crash Near French Airport Kills 11

A civilian aircraft crashed near an airport in the eastern French town of Tomblaine on Sunday, killing 11 people on board, according to preliminary reports from local authorities and media outlets. The tragic incident has triggered a major emergency response and an investigation into the cause of the crash.

The aircraft reportedly went down near the airport area shortly after takeoff or while conducting a flight operation. Initial reports indicated that the plane was carrying a group of skydivers and crew members. Emergency services rushed to the scene after receiving alerts about the crash.

Authorities quickly cordoned off the area surrounding the airport and urged residents to avoid the vicinity to allow rescue and investigation teams to operate without obstruction. Police issued public warnings requesting people to stay away from the crash site as emergency personnel worked to secure the area.

Local media reported that the aircraft was involved in a skydiving excursion, a popular



recreational activity in the region. Witnesses described hearing a loud noise before seeing smoke rising from the area where the plane came down. Rescue teams and firefighters were deployed in large numbers to deal with the aftermath of the accident.

Officials later confirmed that all 11 occupants of the aircraft were killed. No casualties on the ground were immediately reported, though authorities continued to assess the surrounding area for any damage.

French aviation authorities have launched an investigation to determine the circumstances that led to the crash. Investigators are expected to examine the aircraft's maintenance records, flight data, weather conditions, and communications with air traffic control. Technical experts from aviation safety agencies have also been dispatched to the site. The tragedy has shocked the local community and raised concerns about aviation safety in recreational flight operations. Messages of condolence have begun pouring

in from public officials and local residents, who expressed grief over the loss of life. The identities of the victims have not yet been officially released, pending notification of their families. Authorities said additional information would be provided as the investigation progresses.

The crash marks one of the deadliest civilian aviation incidents in the region in recent years and has prompted renewed scrutiny of safety procedures governing small aircraft and skydiving operations.

Modi, Seychelles President Hold Talks to Deepen Strategic Partnership

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday held delegation-level talks with Seychelles President Patrick Herminie at the State House in Victoria, reaffirming the strong and longstanding ties between India and the island nation. The discussions formed a key part of Modi's three-day State Visit to Seychelles and focused on expanding cooperation across strategic, economic, and maritime sectors.

The high-level meeting brought together senior representatives from both countries. The Indian delegation included S. Jaishankar, National Security Advisor Ajit

Doval, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, and other senior officials. Seychelles was represented by Vice President Sebastien Pillay and several cabinet ministers responsible for foreign affairs, finance, fisheries, and economic planning.

Prior to the delegation-level talks, Prime Minister Modi and President Herminie held one-on-one discussions aimed at enhancing bilateral cooperation. The leaders reviewed ongoing development projects and explored opportunities for greater collaboration in trade, security, capacity building, and sustainable development.



Earlier in the day, Prime Minister Modi received a ceremonial

Guard of Honour at the State House, underscoring

the warm relations between the two countries. The visit

comes at a significant time as Seychelles prepares to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its independence, with Modi attending the Golden Jubilee National Day celebrations as the Guest of Honour.

During his visit, the Prime Minister also handed over the India-built Fast Patrol Vessel PS Laspwar along with six ambulances, ten utility vehicles, and five laser-guided boats to Seychelles. The assistance is aimed at strengthening the country's maritime surveillance capabilities and enhancing patrol operations within its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). India and Seychelles share close ties rooted in de-

velopment cooperation, defence collaboration, and people-to-people exchanges. Over the years, India has supported several infrastructure, health-care, and security initiatives in the island nation.

Officials said the latest discussions reflect a shared commitment to deepening the strategic partnership and promoting stability, security, and sustainable growth in the Indian Ocean Region. The visit is expected to further strengthen cooperation in maritime security, blue economy initiatives, and regional connectivity, reinforcing the role of both nations as key partners in the region.

Heatwave Claims 1,000 Lives in France

France has recorded approximately 1,000 excess deaths during a severe heatwave that gripped much of the country and western Europe over recent days, according to French public health authorities. The alarming figures highlight the growing human toll of extreme weather events, with elderly citizens bearing the brunt of the crisis.

In a statement released on Sunday, Public Health France said that since June 24, around 1,000 more deaths than normally expected had been recorded across the country. The agency noted that the figures remain preliminary and are likely to rise as data collection continues.

Health officials reported that regions placed under the highest-level red heat alert experienced the most significant impact. Nearly 85 % of the excess deaths involved people aged 65 years and older, underscoring the vulnerability of senior citizens during prolonged periods of extreme heat.

Authorities also observed a notable increase in deaths occurring at home rather than in hospitals or care facilities. The trend was especially pronounced in the Ile-de-France region, which includes Paris and its surrounding suburbs. Officials suggested that social isolation may have contributed



to the rising death toll, particularly among elderly residents living alone.

Public Health France emphasized the importance of community support during extreme weather conditions. The agency called for greater solidarity with isolated and vulnerable individuals, especially in densely populated urban areas where high temperatures can become particularly dangerous.

The heatwave pushed temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius in several parts of France, placing immense pressure on

health services and prompting emergency measures. Local authorities opened cooling centers, extended public health warnings, and urged residents to remain hydrated and avoid unnecessary outdoor activities during peak daytime hours.

Meteorologists described the event as one of the most intense heatwaves to affect France in recent years. Similar extreme conditions were reported across several western European countries, renewing concerns about the increasing frequency and severity of heat-related disasters linked to climate change.

Conditions began to improve on Sunday as temperatures gradually declined across much of the country. However, health experts warned that the effects of extreme heat can continue even after temperatures drop, particularly among vulnerable populations.

The latest figures serve as a stark reminder of the public health risks posed by prolonged heatwaves and the need for stronger preparedness measures to protect at-risk communities during future climate-related emergencies.

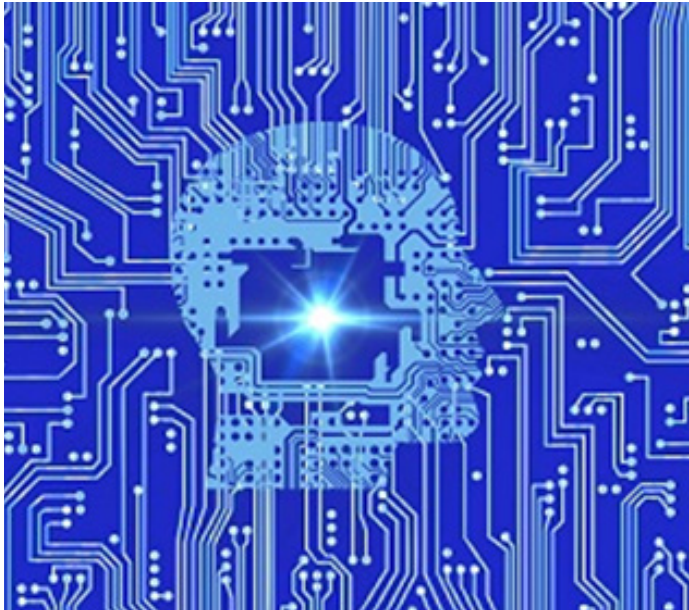
Chinese AI Narrows Cybersecurity Gap with US Rivals

Chinese artificial intelligence developers are rapidly advancing in the field of cybersecurity, with a new AI model from Zhipu AI reportedly reaching performance levels comparable to some leading American systems designed to detect software vulnerabilities.

According to security researchers, Zhipu AI's latest model, GLM-5.2, has demonstrated the ability to identify software bugs and security weaknesses, a capability increasingly viewed as critical in the global race to develop advanced AI-powered cybersecurity tools. Experts note that while the model still trails top-tier AI systems from companies such as Anthropic and OpenAI in several broader applications, the performance gap is steadily narrowing.

The development comes amid growing competition between China and the United States in artificial intelligence research and deployment. Researchers say China's AI industry has made significant progress over the past year, particularly in specialized domains such as cybersecurity, software analysis and automated vulnerability detection.

One of the key concerns surrounding these powerful models is their dual-use nature. While they can help security professionals discover and patch vulnerabilities before they are exploited, the same technology can also be used by malicious actors to identify weaknesses and launch more sophisticated cyberattacks. Security experts have warned



that the rapid advancement of AI-driven vulnerability discovery could create a scenario in which software flaws are found faster than organizations can fix them.

Anthropic's Mythos model, unveiled earlier this year, was specifically designed to identify software vulnerabilities and strengthen cyber defence. However, concerns over potential misuse led US authorities to place restrictions on the export of a less capable variant, citing national security considerations.

Zhipu AI's GLM-5.2 differs from many proprietary Western systems because it is an open-weight model. This allows users to download, run and modify the software on their own hardware. Supporters argue that open models encourage innovation and wider adoption, while critics warn

that they may also provide cybercriminals with powerful tools that operate beyond regulatory oversight.

The launch of GLM-5.2 is part of a broader wave of AI innovation emerging from China. Cybersecurity company 360 Security Technology recently introduced two AI-powered security tools under its "Yitian Tulong" platform. One tool focuses on automatically identifying software vulnerabilities, while another is designed for cyber defence and incident response.

Industry observers believe the increasing sophistication of Chinese AI models is likely to intensify global competition in cybersecurity technology, while also raising new questions about regulation, digital security and the responsible use of advanced artificial intelligence systems.

Markets Eye Geopolitics, Crude and Monsoon Trends

Investor sentiment on Dalal Street is expected to be shaped by a mix of global and domestic factors in the coming week, with renewed tensions between the United States and Iran emerging as the key concern. Market participants will closely monitor developments in West Asia and their impact on crude oil prices, which remain crucial for India's economy.

The latest exchange of military strikes between the US and Iran has heightened geopolitical uncertainty. Iran's reported drone and missile attacks on regional targets following US airstrikes have raised fears of further escalation. Investors are particularly focused on the security of shipping routes in and around the Strait of Hormuz, a vital artery for global oil supplies.

Crude oil prices, which had recently retreated to pre-conflict levels, will remain under close watch. Brent crude ended the previous week around \$72.7 per barrel, offering relief to



oil-importing countries such as India. Stable or declining oil prices could help ease inflationary pressures and improve the country's external balance.

Another major factor influencing market sentiment will be the progress of the south-west monsoon. A normal monsoon is expected to boost agricultural output, support rural incomes and strengthen demand in sectors such as fast-

moving consumer goods (FMCG), automobiles and consumer durables.

Foreign portfolio investor (FPI) activity will also remain a key market driver. Selling pressure from overseas investors has moderated in recent weeks, with FPIs turning net buyers on several trading sessions during the second half of June. Market experts believe the prolonged phase of aggressive foreign selling may be

nearing an end, although sustained inflows could take time to materialize.

The movement of the Indian rupee against the US dollar is another important indicator. After touching a low of 96.96 in May, the rupee has shown signs of stability and is currently trading near the 94.40 level, supported by easing oil prices and improved investor confidence.

Apart from these factors, investors will monitor upcoming domestic macroeconomic data releases, corporate developments and global market trends. Analysts believe that while volatility may persist due to geopolitical concerns, easing crude prices, a favourable monsoon outlook and improving foreign investor sentiment could provide support to Indian equities in the near term.

Overall, the week ahead is expected to test market resilience as investors balance geopolitical risks against improving domestic fundamentals.

Caliber Mining Raises ₹100 Crore Ahead of IPO



through an Offer for Sale (OFS).

As part of the fresh issue component, the company had proposed a pre-IPO placement of up to 100 crore. The final tranche was completed on June 27, 2026, when the company allotted 9.43 lakh shares worth nearly 40 crore to four investors. This followed an earlier round that had already secured the remaining amount, enabling the company to achieve its 100-crore pre-IPO fundraising target.

The successful fundraising reflects strong investor confidence in the company's growth prospects and business model. The participation of well-

known institutional investors is expected to strengthen market sentiment ahead of the IPO launch.

Backed by investor Sunil Singhania through the Abakus platform, Caliber Mining operates in the mining and logistics sector, providing services to mining companies across India.

With regulatory approval already in place and pre-IPO funding successfully completed, the company is now expected to move closer to launching its much-awaited public issue, which will be closely watched by investors looking for opportunities in the infrastructure and mining services space.

Midcaps Drag as Profit Booking Hits Broader Market

India's broader equity markets underperformed benchmark indices during the holiday-shortened trading week, with profit booking in several high-beta stocks weighing on investor sentiment. While frontline indices managed modest gains, midcap and smallcap stocks struggled to maintain momentum after two consecutive weeks of advances.

The benchmark BSE Sensex rose 297.57 points, or 0.38 per cent, to close the week at 77,100.47. The Nifty 50 gained 42.9 points, or 0.17 per cent, ending at 24,056 and touching its highest level in more than a month during the week.

In contrast, broader market indices lagged. The Nifty Midcap 100 declined nearly 1 per cent, snapping its recent winning streak, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 remained largely unchanged. Market analysts attributed the weakness to profit booking in stocks that had witnessed strong rallies in recent weeks, as investors



turned cautious amid elevated valuations.

Despite the benchmark indices remaining resilient, market participation was largely stock-specific, with investors selectively shifting towards sectors perceived as relatively defensive or fundamentally strong. Among sectoral performers, the Nifty Pharma Index emerged as the top gainer, rising about 2 per cent during the week. The Nifty Realty Index advanced 1.7 per cent, supported by optimism surrounding housing demand and

infrastructure activity. Banking and automobile stocks also attracted buying interest, with the Nifty Private Bank and Nifty Auto indices gaining 1.5 per cent each.

On the downside, metal stocks faced significant pressure. The Nifty Metal Index was the week's worst-performing sector, falling 4.4 per cent amid concerns over global demand and commodity price volatility. The Nifty Consumer Durables Index declined 2.4 per cent, while the Nifty Capital Market and Nifty Energy

indices lost 2.2 per cent each.

Market experts noted that the Nifty's inability to decisively cross the crucial 24,200 resistance level may lead to further consolidation in the near term. Technical analysts believe the broader trend remains positive, but a sustained breakout above resistance levels is needed to trigger fresh upside momentum.

Investors are expected to closely monitor developments in global markets, crude oil prices, foreign institutional investor activity, and domestic economic indicators in the coming week. With valuations in several broader market segments remaining stretched, analysts expect stock-specific movements and periodic profit booking to continue.

Overall, while benchmark indices ended the week in positive territory, weakness in midcap and smallcap stocks highlighted a cautious undertone among investors as markets entered a consolidation phase.

A combination of favourable tax reforms and supportive policy measures is expected to keep domestic money flowing into Indian equities, according to a recent report by J.P. Morgan. The global brokerage believes these structural changes have significantly enhanced the attractiveness of equity investments compared to other financial instruments.

The report noted that recent tax policy changes have strengthened the case for investing in stocks. Equity investments are currently subject to a long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax of 12.5 per cent, while changes such as the removal of indexation benefits, taxation of certain insurance policy proceeds, and slab-rate taxation for debt mutual funds have reduced the relative attractiveness of competing investment avenues.

According to JP Morgan, these measures have shifted the risk-reward balance in favour of equities and encouraged households to allocate a larger share of their savings to financial assets. The trend has been further reinforced by the growing popularity of Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs), which continue to attract consistent monthly contributions from retail investors.

The report highlighted that domestic investors have remained resilient despite peri-



ods of market volatility and foreign portfolio investor (FPI) selling. During FY25 and FY26, foreign investors reduced exposure to Indian equities amid global uncertainties and shifting investment preferences. However, steady domestic participation helped cushion the impact of these outflows and provided stability to the markets.

JP Morgan observed that retail investors have increasingly emerged as a key pillar of the Indian stock market. Through mutual funds and SIPs, domestic investors have maintained regular investments even during phases of muted market returns over the past two years.

The brokerage believes this sustained flow of domestic capital has transformed the structure of Indian equity markets. Unlike earlier periods when foreign fund move-

ments largely dictated market direction, domestic investors now play a much greater role in supporting valuations and reducing volatility.

The report also pointed to the broader shift in household savings patterns, with more investors moving away from traditional physical assets and fixed-income products toward market-linked financial instruments. This transition, combined with policy support and expanding financial awareness, is expected to continue driving equity participation.

JP Morgan concluded that the long-term outlook for domestic equity inflows remains positive. With favourable tax treatment, rising retail participation, and increasing confidence in financial markets, Indian equities are likely to benefit from a strong and steady domestic investment base in the years ahead.

Nifty Eyes 24,728 as Analysts See Bullish Breakout Potential



Such patterns typically indicate indecision among market participants, reflecting a balance between buying and selling pressure. However, when they appear after an upward move, they often signal a period of consolidation before the next major trend develops.

Kyal believes the broader market structure remains constructive despite the recent hesitation. He noted that banking and financial stocks are likely to outperform the benchmark in the coming weeks. The Nifty Bank index, he said, is showing relative strength and could advance toward the 60,000 mark in the near term. On the downside,

strong support is seen around 57,000.

While maintaining a positive view on the overall market, the analyst advised caution in certain overheated stocks. He specifically highlighted Aegis Logistics, which has surged more than 50 per cent since the beginning of June. According to Kyal, the stock now appears stretched from both a valuation and technical perspective.

He cautioned investors against chasing the rally at current levels, stating that the risk-reward ratio has become unfavourable after the sharp run-up. Profit booking and consolidation could emerge in the stock after its recent gains.

Market participants will now closely watch whether the Nifty can overcome the 24,200 resistance level. A successful breakout could strengthen bullish sentiment and trigger fresh buying, while failure to cross the barrier may result in continued consolidation before the next major move unfolds.

Falling Oil Prices Set Stage for Sector-Specific Gains in India

A sustained decline in crude oil prices, coupled with easing geopolitical tensions in West Asia, could provide a significant boost to several sectors of the Indian economy, according to market experts. As India imports more than 88 per cent of its crude oil requirements, lower oil prices have a direct and far-reaching impact on inflation, corporate profitability, and economic growth.

Analysts estimate that every one-dollar decline in Brent crude prices reduces India's annual import bill by approximately 10,000-13,000 crore. This not only helps narrow the current account deficit but also supports the rupee, eases inflationary pressures, and provides greater policy flexibility to the Reserve Bank of India and the government.

Among all sectors, aviation is considered the biggest beneficiary of lower crude prices. Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), derived from crude oil, accounts for nearly 40 per cent of airline operating expenses. A decline in fuel costs directly improves profit margins for carriers such as InterGlobe Aviation, Air India and Spice-



Jet. Lower fuel costs also allow airlines to reduce fares, stimulate passenger demand, and expand capacity.

Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are another major beneficiary. Lower crude prices improve inventory management, reduce working capital requirements, and can enhance marketing margins for companies such as Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum.

The paints and tyre industries also stand to gain because crude oil derivatives are key raw materials in their manufacturing processes. Companies in these sectors often witness margin expansion when input costs decline. Similarly, automobile manufacturers benefit through lower logistics expenses and stronger consumer demand, as reduced fuel costs increase household disposable income.

The logistics and transpor-

tation sectors are expected to see operational savings as diesel prices ease. Freight operators, trucking firms, and supply-chain businesses can improve profitability through lower fuel expenditure.

Financial institutions may also receive indirect benefits. Lower inflation resulting from cheaper oil can create room for interest rate reductions, supporting credit growth and boosting sectors sensitive to borrowing costs, including banking, housing finance, and consumer lending.

Market experts believe that selective exposure to aviation, oil marketing, paints, tyres, automobiles, logistics, and rate-sensitive financial stocks offers investors an opportunity to benefit from India's structural growth story if crude prices remain subdued and geopolitical risks continue to ease.

While falling oil prices do not guarantee gains across all sectors, history suggests that industries with high fuel or crude-linked costs tend to emerge as the strongest winners during such periods.

‘Darta Kaun Hai?’: Grandfather’s 18,000-Foot Skydive Wins Hearts

Age proved to be just a number when an elderly Indian man fearlessly leaped from an altitude of 18,000 feet in Australia, leaving social media users inspired by his courage and enthusiasm. The thrilling adventure, shared online by his grandson Ankit, has quickly gone viral, drawing admiration from people across the globe.

According to Ankit, this was not his grandfather's first skydiving experience. The adventurous senior citizen had earlier completed a jump from 15,000 feet, but this time the family decided to take the excitement to an entirely new level by opting for an 18,000-foot skydive.

Before boarding the aircraft, Ankit jokingly asked his grandfather if

he was feeling nervous. The elderly man's response instantly stole the spotlight. With confidence and a smile, he replied, "Darta Kaun Hai Main?" meaning, "Who is scared? Me?" His spirited answer perfectly captured his fearless attitude and soon became the most talked-about moment from the video. The excitement only intensified once the jump began. During the breathtaking freefall, the grandfather enthusiastically shouted patriotic slogans, including "Jai Hind," "Jai Bharat," and "Jai Haryana," adding a deeply emotional and inspiring touch to the adventure. His infectious energy and zest for life resonated strongly with viewers, many of whom praised his adventurous spirit.

The video was captioned by Ankit as "Dada Ji skydiving, 18,000 feet in Australia," and has since attracted widespread attention online. Social media users flooded the comments section with messages celebrating the grandfather's courage, positivity, and determination to embrace life without fear.

Many viewers described the clip as motivating and uplifting, noting that it challenges conventional perceptions about age and adventure. Others admired the grandfather's patriotism and joyful outlook, saying his enthusiasm during the jump was truly heartwarming. One user commented that the video showcased the true meaning of living life to the fullest, while another

said the patriotic chants during the skydive gave them goosebumps. Several users also hailed the grandfather as an inspiration for younger generations, proving that passion, confidence, and curiosity need not fade with age. The viral video serves as a powerful reminder that adventure has no age limit. Whether it is trying something new, pursuing a dream, or overcoming fear, the elderly man's daring leap demonstrates that enthusiasm and courage can keep the spirit young regardless of the years one has lived.

For many, his message was simple yet profound: life is meant to be experienced boldly, and fear should never stand in the way of creating unforgettable memories.



Bus Driver's Honesty Restores Indian Woman's Faith in Humanity



A simple act of honesty by a bus driver and the kindness of a stranger have touched thousands online after an Indian woman living in New Zealand shared her experience on social media. The heartwarming incident has become a reminder that integrity and compassion still thrive in everyday life.

Shreeya Gupte recounted the incident in a video that has since gone viral, saying it completely restored her faith in humanity. She explained that she had parked her car near her university in the morning and returned later in the evening expecting an ordinary end to her day. Instead, she discovered a note tucked beneath her windshield wiper.

At first glance, the message seemed alarming. It began with the words, "Sorry, I hit your car," prompting Gupte to fear that she had become a victim of a hit-and-run accident. However, as she continued reading, she realized that the situation was far from what she had imagined.

The note revealed that a bus driver had accidentally damaged her parked vehicle but had chosen to take full responsibility for the incident. He left his name, phone number, and requested that she contact the bus depot to address the repairs. His willingness to admit the mistake and provide his details impressed Gupte and changed her initial disappointment into gratitude.

What moved her even more was the unexpected gesture from a stranger. A passerby who had witnessed the incident took the time to find a piece of cardboard and a marker to leave another note. The person explained what had happened, confirmed that the bus driver had provided his information, and even offered witness details to ensure Gupte would not have to deal with the repair costs alone.

Sharing the story online, Gupte said she had initially expected the worst but was pleasantly surprised by the honesty and kindness displayed by people she had never met. She described the experience as one of the most positive moments she had encountered since moving

to New Zealand.

The video quickly resonated with social media users, many of whom praised both the bus driver and the anonymous witness for their integrity. Several commenters noted that such gestures demonstrate the importance of accountability and community spirit, while others described the incident as an inspiring example of how small acts of decency can leave a lasting impact.

For Gupte, what could have been a frustrating and stressful day ultimately became a memorable experience, proving that honesty and kindness can transform even an unfortunate situation into a powerful reminder of humanity at its best.

Dog Pulled Alive From Quake Rubble Inspires Hope in Venezuela

Amid the widespread destruction caused by the devastating earthquakes in Venezuela, a heartwarming rescue operation has emerged as a symbol of resilience, compassion, and hope. Firefighters from the Caracas Fire Department successfully rescued a dog trapped beneath the rubble of a collapsed building, an emotional moment that has touched millions across social media.

The dramatic rescue took place in the aftermath of two powerful earthquakes measuring 7.5 and 7.2 in magnitude that struck northern Venezuela on June 24. The twin tremors, occurring less than a minute apart, left a trail of destruction, damaging hundreds of buildings, claiming numerous lives, and injuring thousands of people.

According to rescue officials, a search-and-rescue team had already completed operations at a collapsed residence and was preparing to leave the site when they heard faint barking coming from underneath the debris. Realizing that an animal was still alive beneath the wreckage, firefighters immediately resumed their efforts.

Rescuers carefully removed concrete slabs, twisted metal, and other debris by hand to avoid causing further harm to the trapped dog. One of the most touching moments captured on video showed firefighters lowering a bottle of water through a narrow opening to hydrate the frightened animal while rescue efforts continued. The compassionate gesture highlighted the determination of emergency

workers to save every life possible, regardless of species.

After an intense operation, the dog was finally pulled to safety, visibly shaken but alive. Another widely circulated video also showed a puppy being rescued from beneath the debris, further uplifting spirits amid the tragedy.

The Caracas Fire Department described the rescue as a beacon of hope for those affected by the disaster. Officials stated that such extraordinary moments provide strength and encouragement to rescue teams and survivors alike during difficult times.

Emergency personnel continue to work tirelessly across affected areas, searching for survivors and assisting displaced families. With infrastructure severely damaged

and access to heavy machinery limited, many rescuers have relied on manual labour and basic tools to carry out their operations.

Despite the immense challenges posed by one of Venezuela's deadliest natural disasters in recent history, stories like these have reminded people around the world of the importance of compassion and perseverance. The successful rescue of the trapped dog has become a powerful symbol that even in the darkest moments, hope can still be found beneath the rubble.

As rescue operations continue, the bravery and dedication displayed by firefighters and volunteers serve as an inspiring example of humanity's unwavering commitment to protecting life in all its forms.



Europe Swelters as Deadly Heatwave Shatters Temperature Records

A severe heatwave sweeping across Europe continues to intensify, exposing millions of people to dangerous temperatures and putting increasing pressure on health systems. After affecting western Europe, the scorching weather has now shifted eastward, with several countries issuing red alerts and warning residents to take precautionary measures.

Meteorological agencies estimate that nearly 200 million people experienced temperatures exceeding 35 degrees Celsius over the weekend, making it one of the most intense heat events witnessed in recent years. The prolonged spell of extreme weather has already resulted in record-breaking temperatures in several countries, while authorities fear the human toll could continue to rise.

France has reported an unusually high number of heat-

related deaths, prompting concerns among health officials. French Health Minister Stephanie Rist indicated that mortality figures are expected to surpass those recorded during the same period last year. Hospitals in Paris have also reported a sharp increase in emergency room visits, reflecting the growing strain on health-care services.

Spain has linked more than 200 deaths over a four-day period to the ongoing heatwave, highlighting the severity of the situation. Emergency services in Austria's capital Vienna have similarly experienced a significant increase in demand, forcing authorities to deploy additional personnel to cope with the surge in cases related to heat exhaustion and dehydration.

The extreme temperatures have disrupted public life across several European nations. Authorities in France,



Germany, and the Netherlands have cancelled outdoor events, street celebrations, and music festivals due to safety concerns. However, some large gatherings have continued despite warnings, with organisers implementing measures to protect participants from the intense heat.

Germany has emerged as one of the worst-affected countries, with the German Weather Service issuing red alerts across much of the nation. Meteorologists recorded a temperature of 41.5 degrees Celsius in eastern Germany, marking the highest temperature ever observed in the country. Forecasters have cautioned that temperatures may climb even higher, potentially reaching 42 degrees Celsius and setting another national record.

Denmark has also witnessed unprecedented weather conditions, with its meteorological department confirming a new

national temperature record. Remarkably, the newly established benchmark lasted only an hour before being surpassed by another reading of 37 degrees Celsius near Aarhus.

Climate experts continue to warn that extreme heat events are becoming more frequent and intense, raising concerns about their impact on public health, infrastructure, and ecosystems. As the heatwave progresses eastward, governments across Europe remain on high alert, urging citizens to stay hydrated, avoid prolonged exposure to the sun, and look after vulnerable groups such as the elderly and children.

With forecasts suggesting that unusually high temperatures may persist for several more days, Europe faces another challenging chapter in its struggle against increasingly severe climate extremes.



India Bond Over Special Dinner in Belfast Ahead of Crucial 2nd T20

The India national cricket team enjoyed a warm and memorable evening in Belfast ahead of their second T20 international against Ireland national cricket team, as players attended a special dinner hosted by the Indian diplomatic mission.

The event, held in Belfast, was organized under the guidance of India's Consulate General and brought together players, officials, and members of the Indian diaspora living in Ireland. The gathering created a relaxed and cheerful atmosphere, offering the team a refreshing break from the intense competitive schedule of the ongoing series.

The dinner came at a crucial moment in the tour, with the two-match T20 series finely poised. Ireland had already created history by securing a victory in the opening match, putting India under early pressure in the short series. As a result, the second T20 has now become a must-win encounter for the visitors, who are determined to level the series and regain momentum.

During the evening, Indian players interacted freely with fans and members of the diaspora, posing for photographs and engaging in conversations. The event highlighted the strong emotional connection between the team and overseas

Indian supporters, who turned up in large numbers to show encouragement.

The gathering also reflected the cultural role cricket plays beyond the boundary ropes. More than just a sport, it continues to act as a bridge between communities and countries. The presence of local guests and Indian expatriates made the occasion a celebration of shared identity and sporting spirit.

Players appeared relaxed and in good spirits, using the opportunity to unwind before the high-pressure clash. The team management views such engagements as important for morale, especially during tightly scheduled tours where mental freshness becomes as crucial as physical preparation.

With the second T20 approaching, India will look to convert this positive off-field energy into on-field performance. The team is expected to make tactical adjustments after the first-match setback, focusing on sharper execution in both batting and bowling departments.

As anticipation builds in Belfast, the upcoming match carries added significance for India's campaign. A win would not only level the series but also restore confidence ahead of future fixtures on the tour.

Srikanth Storms Into US Open Final



Indian badminton star Kidambi Srikanth produced a determined performance to secure a place in the men's singles final of the US Open Super 300 tournament, overcoming Japan's Yudai Okimoto in a gripping three-game encounter in Fullerton.

The former world number one battled hard for 72 minutes before sealing a hard-fought 22-20, 15-21, 21-19 victory over the world number 33 Japanese shuttler. The win marks Srikanth's first final appearance of the 2026 season and signals a welcome return to form for the experienced Indian player.

A silver medalist at the 2021 World Championships, Srikanth showed immense composure and fighting spirit throughout the semifinal. He made an impressive start to the contest, taking an early advantage and building a commanding 17-10 lead in the opening game. However, Okimoto staged a remarkable comeback, winning ten of the next

twelve points to earn a game point.

Just when the momentum appeared to be shifting decisively in the Japanese player's favour, Srikanth regained control. The Indian shuttler responded with three consecutive points to snatch the first game 22-20 and gain a crucial advantage in the match.

Okimoto came back strongly in the second game, dictating the pace of rallies and maintaining his lead for most of the set. After taking a narrow advantage at the mid-game interval, the Japanese player steadily extended his lead to claim the second game 21-15, forcing the contest into a deciding set.

The final game turned into another intense battle. Srikanth initially looked comfortable with a 10-5 lead, but Okimoto once again fought back to edge ahead at 13-12. Displaying his experience, the Indian star responded brilliantly by winning six points in succession to move within touching distance

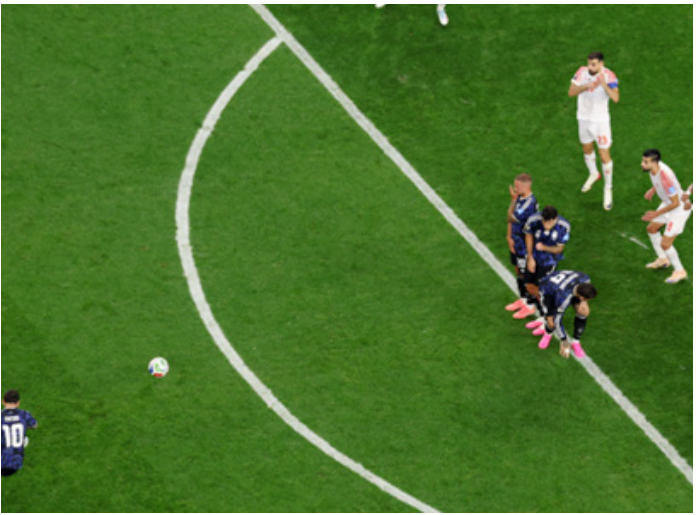
of victory at 18-13.

However, the drama was far from over as Okimoto mounted another comeback and levelled the scores at 18-18. With the pressure mounting, Srikanth kept his nerves intact and delivered at the crucial moments to close out the match 21-19 and book his place in the title clash.

The 33-year-old Indian will now face Chinese Taipei's Su Li Yang, currently ranked 46th in the world, in the championship match. Su Li Yang reached the final after defeating India's young sensation Rounak Chouhan in straight games.

Meanwhile, India's campaign in the women's singles ended in the semifinals, with sixth seed Devika Sihag going down to Denmark's Line Christophersen in a three-game contest.

Srikanth will now aim to cap off his impressive run by capturing his first title of the year and adding another significant achievement to his decorated badminton career.



Messi Magic Seals Argentina's 3-1 Win Over Jordan

At the FIFA World Cup 2026, Lionel Messi once again proved decisive as Argentina national football team secured a confident 3-1 victory over Jordan national football team in their final Group J match.

Even with qualification already confirmed, Argentina showed no signs of slowing down. The team started brightly, controlling possession and dictating the tempo from midfield. Giovanni Lo Celso opened the scoring with a well-placed finish after a smooth attacking move, giving Argentina an early advantage. Lautaro Martinez soon added a second goal, capitalizing on a defensive lapse to extend the lead before halftime.

Jordan responded with determination and managed to pull one goal back through a quick counterattack, briefly unsettling Argentina's defense. However, the South American side quickly regained control and continued to dominate proceedings with structured passing and high pressing.

The biggest highlight came in the second half when Lionel Messi was introduced from the bench. Despite limited time on

the pitch, his presence immediately changed the rhythm of the game. In the 80th minute, Argentina won a free-kick in a dangerous position just outside the penalty area. Messi stepped up and delivered a trademark low, curling strike that slipped past the wall and left the goalkeeper frozen, sealing the match in style.

The goal once again highlighted Messi's unmatched precision and ability to deliver in crucial moments, even in the later stages of his career. At 39, his influence continues to remain vital for Argentina as they progress deeper into the tournament.

With this victory, Argentina completed a perfect group-stage campaign and strengthened their momentum heading into the knockout rounds. The team's blend of experienced leaders and young talent has made them one of the strongest contenders for the title.

As the tournament moves forward, Argentina will look to maintain their form, with Messi's leadership and moments of brilliance expected to remain central to their World Cup ambitions.



Vaibhav Suryavanshi in Focus After Ireland Loss

The pressure is mounting on the India national cricket team management to consider giving young talent Vaibhav Suryavanshi a chance after a disappointing batting performance in the first T20 against the Ireland national cricket team.

India, who entered the series with high expectations, were stunned by Ireland's strong all-round performance in the opening match. Apart from a few individual contributions at the top, most of the batting order struggled to build momentum or convert starts into meaningful scores.

Key batters, including Sanju Samson and Ishan Kishan, failed to make an impact, while even experienced players in the middle order could not stabilize the innings. The overall lack of partnerships and consistency exposed weaknesses in India's batting approach under pressure conditions.

The defeat has triggered widespread discussion among fans and analysts, with growing calls to include Vaibhav

Suryavanshi in the playing XI. Supporters argue that the young batter has been in strong demand and represents a fresh attacking option that could inject energy into the lineup.

Team selection decisions have also come under scrutiny, especially regarding the balance of the XI and the role of all-rounders. Some feel that the team's current combination lacks clarity, particularly in the middle order, where stability was expected but not delivered.

As discussions intensify, there is speculation over possible changes for the second T20. The team management may consider reshuffling the batting order or introducing new faces to address recent shortcomings and improve overall performance.

With the series still open, the next match becomes crucial for India to bounce back. Whether Vaibhav Suryavanshi gets his long-awaited opportunity remains one of the key talking points ahead of the team selection.

DR Congo Create History with First World Cup Win

At the FIFA World Cup 2026, the DR Congo national football team produced a landmark performance by defeating the Uzbekistan national football team 3-1 to register their first-ever World Cup victory and secure a place in the Round of 32.

The African side showed great resilience after conceding an early goal. Uzbekistan struck first through Eldor Shomurodov in the 10th minute, putting DR Congo under pressure in the opening phase of the match. However, Congo gradually settled into a rhythm and began controlling key areas of the pitch.

The comeback started in the second half when Yoane Wissa converted a penalty in the 68th

minute to level the score at 1-1. The equalizer shifted momentum, with DR Congo growing in confidence and pushing forward with greater intensity.

Just ten minutes later, substitute Fiston Mayele made an immediate impact by scoring a crucial second goal in the 78th minute, giving DR Congo a 2-1 lead. Uzbekistan attempted to respond but struggled to break down a well-organised Congolese defence.

In stoppage time, Wissa struck again to seal the victory, completing his brace and confirming a historic 3-1 result. The win ensured DR Congo advanced as one of the best third-placed teams in the group stage.

This victory marks a major milestone for Congolese football, ending a long wait for success on the World Cup stage. The team had previously appeared in the tournament in 1974 under the name Zaire but failed to win a match at that time.

With this result, DR Congo now moves into the knockout stage, where they will face a tough challenge against the England national football team in the Round of 32.

The win is being celebrated as one of the standout stories of the tournament, highlighting DR Congo's determination, teamwork, and historic breakthrough on football's biggest stage.



Last-Minute Drama Ends Iran's World Cup Dream

Seattle, June 28 | TPN Bureau

Iran's hopes of reaching the knockout stage of the FIFA World Cup for the first time ended in heartbreak after a dramatic turn of events in Group G. Despite remaining unbeaten in the group stage, Amir Ghalenoei's side failed to secure a place among the best third-placed teams.

Iran concluded their campaign with a 1-1 draw against Egypt on Friday, finishing with three points from three matches. The team was then forced to wait for results from other group matches to determine their fate. For a brief moment, qualification seemed within reach when Algeria took a 3-2 lead against Austria in stoppage time.

However, Austria struck back almost immediately, scoring a last-gasp equaliser to seal a 3-3 draw. The result ensured progression for both Austria and Algeria, leaving Iran just outside the top eight third-placed teams and out of the tournament.

Iran's campaign was marked

by narrow margins. A stoppage-time goal against Egypt by Shoja Khalilzadeh was ruled out following a VAR review for offside, denying the team a crucial victory. Captain Mehdi Taremi also missed key opportunities, including a penalty and a header that struck the crossbar.

Off the field, the team faced significant logistical challenges. Due to geopolitical tensions, including the US-Israel war on Iran, the squad had to travel from their base in Mexico to the United States for each match under strict time restrictions imposed by US authorities.

Speaking after the Egypt match, Mehdi Taremi described the situation as a "disaster," questioning the fairness of the conditions. Coach Amir Ghalenoei also expressed concern, stating that the team felt "oppressed."

Despite the setbacks, Iran exits the tournament unbeaten, having drawn with Belgium, New Zealand and Egypt, but their long wait for a historic knockout berth continues.





Idupu Kayitam Debate Highlights Telangana Dialect and Cultural Identity

Ravi Podili

The ongoing discussion around the term “Idupu Kayitam” has triggered a wider debate on linguistic sensitivity, regional identity, and the cultural significance of dialects in Telugu-speaking states. The term, now widely discussed in public discourse, refers to a mutual agreement document prepared through mediation by village elders when a married couple decides to separate. It reflects a traditional social resolution practice once prevalent in Telangana villages during a time when formal legal access was limited.

The concept is not new, but its recent reference in public conversations has drawn mixed reactions. While some view it as part of Telangana’s cultural and linguistic heritage, others have questioned its usage and interpretation, leading to a broader conversation on dialect representation.

Language experts and cultural commentators note that language is not merely a communication tool but a reflection of history, tradition, and lived experience. Any form of ridicule directed at a dialect, they argue, is often perceived as an affront to regional identity and dignity. Concerns have been raised that the Telangana dialect has historically faced stereotyping in cinema, media, and public platforms, where it was sometimes used for comic or negative portrayals.

Following the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh and the formation of Telangana state, there has been a renewed emphasis on linguistic pride and cultural assertion. However, occasional controversies continue to emerge, reigniting de-

bates on perceived linguistic bias and regional sensitivities.

Observers point out that Telugu itself is a diverse language with multiple dialects, including Telangana, Rayalaseema, Coastal Andhra, Godavari regions, and North Andhra, each with distinct expressions and cultural tones. Cinema, too, has increasingly showcased these variations, with films representing different dialects gaining recognition and acceptance among audiences.

The recent discussion around “Idupu Kayitam” has also opened up comparisons with how dialect-based films are treated across industries. While regional language films often retain their original linguistic identity, questions have been raised about selective objections when it comes to Telangana dialect representation.

Some commentators argue that such debates risk reviving unnecessary regional tensions, while others maintain that constructive criticism is part of democratic discourse, provided it does not translate into cultural disrespect.

At its core, the discussion highlights a larger issue of linguistic respect and inclusivity. Advocates of cultural harmony emphasize that no dialect should be seen as inferior, and every linguistic form carries equal dignity within India’s diverse cultural fabric.

The evolving debate around “Idupu Kayitam” thus underscores the need for greater sensitivity towards regional expressions, reinforcing the idea that respecting language diversity is integral to preserving unity in a multilingual society.

Venkatesh’s ‘AK47’ Targets October Release

Veteran actor Venkatesh is riding high on the success of his recent films and is now gearing up to entertain audiences with another promising project titled Adarsha Kutumbam House No:47, popularly referred to as AK47. The film has already generated considerable excitement among movie lovers, and the makers have now officially announced its release date.

The family entertainer is slated to hit theatres worldwide on October 2, aiming to capitalize on the festive season and attract audiences looking for wholesome entertainment. The announcement was made through a special poster unveiled by music director Thaman, who is composing the soundtrack for the film.

Directed by Trivikram, the movie marks an exciting collaboration between the celebrated filmmaker and Venkatesh. Known for his ability to blend emotional storytelling, family values, and entertaining dialogues, Trivikram is expected to bring his trademark style to the project. The



film is anticipated to offer a mix of humor, drama, and heartfelt moments that resonate with audiences across age groups.

Actress Srinidhi Shetty plays the female lead opposite Venkatesh. Her pairing with the senior star has created curiosity among fans, who are eager to witness the chemistry between the two on screen. The film is being produced by S. Radhakrishna under a pres-

Ram Turns Director with Ambitious Psychological Thriller

Energetic star Ram Pothineni is all set to embark on a significant new journey in his career by stepping behind the camera for the first time. The actor, who has established himself as one of Telugu cinema’s most dynamic performers, is now gearing up to showcase his creative vision as a director with his upcoming project, tentatively titled RAP023.

The film is scheduled to be officially launched on June 29 with a grand pooja ceremony, marking the beginning of an exciting chapter for Ram. What makes this project even more special is that he is not only directing the film but also playing the lead role and penning the story himself. This multifaceted involvement reflects his passion and confidence in presenting a unique cinematic experience to audiences.

The upcoming movie is being described as a psychological action thriller, a genre that has gained immense popularity among moviegoers in recent years. Combining intense storytelling with action-packed sequences and psychological depth, the film is expected to offer something fresh and engaging for audiences.

Backing the project is Ram’s brother Krishna Pothineni under the banner of Rapo Cinematics. The production house is expected to provide strong support in bringing Ram’s vision to life on the big screen. Adding further strength to the technical team is renowned



cinematographer Thiru, whose work in several successful films has earned him a reputation for delivering visually compelling narratives.

Fans are eagerly awaiting more details about the project, especially since it marks Ram’s debut as a filmmaker. Over the years, he has impressed audiences with his energetic screen presence, versatility, and dedication to his craft. Now, expectations are high to see how he translates his creativity and storytelling instincts into direction.

Industry circles are also keenly observing the development of the film, considering the growing trend of actors taking up responsibilities beyond acting. Ram’s decision to direct his own film demonstrates his willingness to explore new dimensions of cinema and challenge himself artistically.

Preparations are already underway to commence regular shooting immediately after the launch event. With a promising genre, an experienced technical team, and Ram’s enthusiasm driving the project, RAP023 has generated considerable curiosity among fans and film enthusiasts alike.

As Ram Pothineni takes on the triple role of actor, writer, and director, all eyes are now on whether he can create a memorable cinematic experience and add another milestone to his successful career.



‘Gurtukosthunnayi’ Carries Allu Arjun’s Encouragement

The upcoming web series Gurtukosthunnayi is gearing up for its digital premiere with a strong blend of emotions, humor, and relatable life experiences. Ahead of its release, the makers unveiled the trailer at a grand event attended by several prominent personalities from the Telugu film industry.

Directed by Vinod Gali and produced by Sarath Chandra Naidu, the series features Viraj Ashwin in the lead role and is set to stream on ETV Win from July 3. The trailer launch witnessed the presence of director Boyapati Srinu, actor Satyadev, filmmaker Karunakaran, producers Y. Ravishankar, Bunny Vas, SKN, Dheeraj Mogilineni, and Vamsi Nandipati.

Speaking at the event, Boyapati Srinu highlighted the growing importance of compelling storytelling in today’s entertainment landscape. He observed that audiences are increasingly embracing content-driven projects irrespective of their scale and pointed to the recent success of several films and series as evidence of this changing trend. He expressed confidence that Gurtukosthunnayi would continue the momentum of quality storytelling and appreciated ETV Win and



Geetha Arts for consistently backing engaging narratives.

Actor Satyadev emphasized that the distinction between films and web series has gradually diminished, with audiences prioritizing strong stories above all else. He praised the content emerging from ETV Win and hoped that Gurtukosthunnayi would join the list of memorable productions from the platform.

Lead actor Viraj Ashwin described the series as an emotional journey inspired by various moments in life. He noted that while emotions form the heart of the narrative, humor also plays a significant role, making the series appealing to a wide spectrum of viewers.

One of the highlights of the event came from producer Sarath Chandra Naidu, who credited actor Allu Arjun for moti-

vating him throughout his professional journey. He revealed that he initially worked handling the star’s social media activities before taking on greater responsibilities in the industry. According to him, the encouragement and support extended by Allu Arjun gave him the confidence to evolve into a producer and bring a meaningful project like Gurtukosthunnayi to audiences.

ETV Win Business Head Sai Krishna announced that viewers would be able to watch the first episode free of cost, expressing confidence that the series would leave a lasting impression, much like its title suggests. With an emotional narrative, relatable characters, and a talented creative team, Gurtukosthunnayi is expected to resonate strongly with viewers upon its release.

Keerthy Suresh Reveals How Rejection Led to ‘Bujji’ in Kalki

Actress Keerthy Suresh has opened up about an interesting phase in her career, revealing how a rejection eventually paved the way for one of her most memorable roles in Kalki 2898 AD. As the blockbuster film completes two years since its theatrical release, the actress reflected on her journey and the unexpected turn of events that led her to become the voice behind the beloved character Bujji.

Speaking about the experience, Keerthy shared that she had initially hoped to appear physically in the film. However, circumstances did not work out as planned, and she could not become part of the project in the manner she had envisioned. Despite the disappointment, director Nag Ashwin later approached her with a unique opportunity—to lend her voice to Bujji, the futuristic AI-powered vehicle that eventually became one of the film’s most popular characters.

Keerthy admitted that she was initially surprised by the offer but quickly realized the significance of the role. The character’s quirky personality, witty dialogues, and emotional connection with the audience made Bujji a standout element in the film. Her voice performance received widespread appreciation from viewers and critics alike, proving that even unconventional roles can leave a lasting impact.

Kalki 2898 AD, headlined by Prabhas, emerged as a global



phenomenon upon its release, captivating audiences with its blend of mythology, science fiction, and grand visual storytelling. Among the many highlights of the film, Bujji developed a dedicated fan following and became an integral part of the narrative.

Keerthy believes that what initially seemed like a missed opportunity eventually transformed into a rewarding experience. She described the journey as a reminder that setbacks often open doors to unexpected possibilities. By embracing the chance to portray Bujji through voice acting, she was able to contribute meaningfully to one of Indian cinema’s

most ambitious projects.

Over the years, Keerthy Suresh has built a reputation for taking up diverse and challenging roles across languages. Her involvement in Kalki 2898 AD further showcased her versatility and willingness to experiment with different forms of performance.

As the film celebrates two successful years, memories associated with Bujji continue to resonate with audiences. Keerthy’s candid revelation about rejection leading her to the iconic character serves as an inspiring example of how unexpected opportunities can sometimes become career-defining moments.

