

BUZZ POINTS

Uttam: Kaleshwaram Barrages Only After Safety Clearance



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Telangana, Victoria Explore Stronger Technology and Trade Partnership



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Ponguleti Reviews Urban Housing, Revenue Infrastructure Projects



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Kishan Reddy Reviews SCCL Operations, Calls for Boost in Coal Output

Hyderabad: July 04 | TPN
Bureau

Union Coal Minister G. Kishan Reddy on Friday attended a review meeting of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCLL) in Hyderabad, emphasizing the need to enhance coal production, improve efficiency, and strengthen the role of public sector undertakings in the country's energy security. The minister arrived at the meeting in the distinctive blue uniform of coal workers, symbolising solidarity with the workforce. In a post on social media after the review, he described the "blue of the Singareni coal miner's uniform" as more than just a colour, calling it a representation of the bravery, hard work, and sacrifice of workers who contribute to



powering India's growth. He said wearing the uniform during the SCCL review was "a matter of great honour and immense pride." At Singareni Bhavan, the minister directed officials to prepare comprehensive action plans aimed at boosting coal production, which he described as the core strength of SCCL. He

State to Strengthen Rural Job Guarantee Implementation

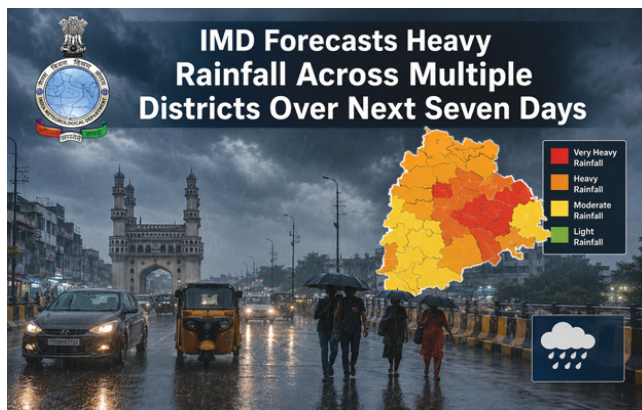


Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN
Bureau

The Telangana government has decided to constitute a State Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Council headed by the Chief Minister to oversee and monitor the implementation of the VB-G RAM G Act, aimed at strengthening rural employment delivery and ensuring timely wage payments to workers across the state. According to an official gazette notification, the Council will be responsible for monitoring the scheme's implementation, reviewing its performance, advising the government on policy matters, and submitting an annual report to the Telangana Legislative Assembly. A state-level steering committee headed by the Chief Secretary or Special Chief Secretary will supervise overall execution, while district collectors will coordi-

nate implementation at the district level. Zilla and mandal parishads will carry out field-level operations. The new framework enhances guaranteed employment from 100 to 125 days per financial year for rural households. Every rural household willing to undertake unskilled manual work will be registered with the Gram Panchayat and issued a Rural Rozgar Guarantee Card. All adult members of registered households will be eligible to seek employment under the scheme. The notification mandates strict timelines for wage payments. Workers must receive wages weekly or within 15 days of completing work. In case of delay beyond the 16th day, the government will be liable to pay compensation at the rate of 0.05 percent per day on unpaid wages until settlement.

IMD Forecasts Heavy Rainfall Across Multiple Districts Over Next Seven Days



Hyderabad: July 04 | TPN
Bureau

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a seven-day weather forecast warning of widespread rainfall activity across the region, with several districts expected to receive heavy to very heavy rains in the coming days.

According to the Meteorological Centre in Hyderabad, light to moderate rain or thundershowers are likely at most places across the state from the evening of July 4 to the morning of July 5.

However, isolated locations in Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Bhadradi Kothagudem, and Khammam districts are expected to witness heavy to very heavy rainfall during this period.

The IMD has also cautioned that heavy rainfall is likely in Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Peddapalli, Karimnagar, Warangal, Hanamakonda, Mahabubabad, Suryapet, and Kamareddy

initiatives, and instructed officials to ensure timely implementation of projects in line with the government's vision of building a resilient, sustainable, and self-reliant energy ecosystem. He also highlighted the need for preparedness in view of El Niño-Southern Oscillation conditions and asked the management to take appropriate contingency measures to avoid disruptions in production. The meeting also reviewed SCCL's operational performance and upcoming project roadmap. Earlier in the day, a delegation of BJP leaders submitted a memorandum to the Union minister, urging the allocation of additional coal mines to strengthen the future prospects of Singareni Collieries.

districts. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds reaching speeds of 50-60 kmph are likely in parts of Adilabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherla, and Nirmal districts, posing risks of localized disruption. For the period from July 5 to July 6, the weather department has forecast light to moderate rains at many places, with heavy rainfall likely in northern districts including Adilabad, Nizamabad, Jagtial, Sangareddy, Medak, and Kamareddy. Thunderstorms with lightning and strong surface winds of 40-50 kmph are also expected in several regions during this phase. Between July 6 and July 7, rainfall activity is expected to decrease slightly, with light to moderate rain occurring at a few places. However, isolated northern districts may still experience thunderstorms accompanied by gusty winds.

Bhatti Praises Revanth Reddy's People-Centric Governance



Nagarkurnool, July 04 | TPN
Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Saturday hailed Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's two-decade political journey, describing him as a leader whose governance is rooted in the experiences and aspirations of ordinary people. Addressing a public meeting at Midjil in Nagarkurnool district, Bhatti said Revanth Reddy's return to the place where he began his political career as a ZPTC member reflected his humility and gratitude towards the people who first placed their trust in him. Speaking at the event commemorating the Chief Minister's completion of 20 years in public life, Bhatti Vikramarka said Revanth Reddy's rise from grassroots politics to the state's highest office was a testament to his perseverance, determination, and unwavering commitment to public service. The Deputy Chief Minister remarked that Revanth Reddy does not confine himself to official reports or administrative briefings but prefers to understand people's problems firsthand by visiting villages and interacting directly with citizens. According to him, this style of governance has enabled the government to design and implement welfare programmes that address the real needs of the people. Bhatti said the government's vision of building a hunger-free Telangana reflects the Chief Minister's concern for the underprivileged. He highlighted the decision to provide fine-quality rice to nearly 1.15 crore poor and middle-class families, stating that

Telangana Releases Rs7,135 Crore Under Rythu Bharosa in Five Days

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN
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Rythu Bharosa - Vanakulam 2016						
Assistance Released as on 04-07-2026						
S.No	Released Date	Day	Extent Reqd in Acres	Number of Beneficiaries	Extent in Acres	Amount in Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	20-06-2026	Day 1	Up to 1 Acre	26,55,656	1,64,89,918	67,99,666
2	20-06-2026	Day 1	Up to 2 Acres	17,72,609	26,71,007	16,63,064
3	01-07-2026	Day 2	Up to 3 Acres	16,62,691	26,50,896	15,90,023
4	02-07-2026	Day 3	Up to 4 Acres	6,39,859	22,17,208	6,32,351
5	03-07-2026	Day 4	Up to 5 Acres	6,43,143	19,79,999	13,87,993
6	04-07-2026	Day 5	Up to 6 Acres	1,68,524	9,09,815	5,46,802
		Total	67.44 Acre	1,88,92,952	71,35,37,37	

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Revanth Unveils Statues, Launches RS.47-Crore Development Works in Midjil

Nagarkurnool, July 04 | TPN
Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday unveiled the statues of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, and former MLA Dyapa Gopal Reddy (Gudiganipalli Gopal Reddy) at Veljala Cross Road in Midjil, while launching development projects worth ₹247.08 crore for the mandal. The occasion coincided with a gratitude meeting marking the completion of the Chief Minister's 20-year political journey.

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Ministers Jupally Krishna Rao and Vakati Srihari, MPs Vem Narendar Reddy and Mallu Ravi, Government Advisor Jitender Reddy, legislators, MLCs, and Corporation Chairpersons attended the event.

As part of the development initiatives, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the ₹10-crore development of the Sri Anjaneyaya Swamy Temple at

Urukondapeta. He also launched works worth ₹20 crore for the development of 40 gram panchayats in the erstwhile Midjil Mandal, now spread across Midjil and Urukonda mandals. In addition, projects worth ₹17.08 crore were inaugurated for the construction of check dams, including structures across the Dhundhubi stream near Bhairampalli and Vadiyal villages, besides the restoration of the Vaspula Katva near Vaspula village.

Addressing the gathering, Revanth Reddy recalled that July 2, 2006, marked the beginning of his political journey when the people of Midjil elected him as an independent ZPTC member. He described the trust placed in him by the people as the foundation of his rise to the office of Chief Minister.

"The sapling you planted two decades ago has today grown into a mighty tree standing before you as the Chief Minister," he said, thanking the people of Midjil for their



unwavering support throughout his political career. The Chief Minister paid tribute to the district's rich political legacy, recalling the contributions of Hyderabad State's first Chief Minister Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, veteran parliamentarian Jaipal Reddy, and former MLA Dyapa Gopal Reddy, whose statue was unveiled alongside that of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Calling Midjil his political birthplace, Revanth Reddy

said it was now his responsibility to transform the once backward region into a model mandal. He requested Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka to adopt Midjil for focused development, stating that the area, once classified as a "Dark Mandal" due to chronic underdevelopment, should emerge as a symbol of progress. He said his government was pursuing a balanced approach by combining welfare with long-term development.

ment. According to him, initiatives such as the caste census, welfare schemes for farmers, fine-quality rice distribution, free bus travel for women, farm loan waivers, Rythu Bharosa assistance, bonuses for fine paddy, and free electricity reflected the government's commitment to inclusive governance. The Chief Minister also asserted that his rural background had given him first-hand knowledge of the problems faced by farmers and the poor, enabling him to govern effectively. "When village problems are resolved, the state's problems are resolved," he remarked. Launching a sharp political attack on the previous BRS government, Revanth Reddy alleged that despite accumulating public debt of ₹8.21 lakh crore over a decade, it had failed to fulfil promises such as providing double-bedroom houses, jobs for every family, three acres of land to Dalits, and irrigation for one crore acres. He claimed the Congress govern-

ment had instead prioritised transparent governance and people-centric welfare. He further accused the previous administration of encouraging corruption and asserted that those seeking a return to power were motivated by the loss of opportunities for personal gain rather than public service. Emphasising his emotional bond with the people of Palamuru, Revanth Reddy said developing the migration-prone region was one of his foremost responsibilities. He expressed confidence that the Congress government would continue in office until 2034 and appealed to the people to strengthen the party's position in Telangana. Concluding his address, the Chief Minister urged people to support the Congress in future elections and called for united efforts to see Congress leader Rahul Gandhi become the country's Prime Minister, while expressing gratitude to Sonia Gandhi for the formation of Telangana.

Rahul Gandhi's Leadership Key to India's Future: Revanth

Midjil, July 04 | TPN Bureau
Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday asserted that electing Congress leader Rahul Gandhi as the next Prime Minister is a "historic necessity" for the country and appealed to the people of Telangana to support the Congress in achieving that goal. Addressing a public meeting at Midjil after laying foundation stones for development works, the Chief Minister also launched a sharp attack on the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and its president K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), accusing the previous government of financial mismanagement and corruption. The meeting was held as part of Revanth Reddy's visit to Midjil to mark his 20-year political journey since being elected as a ZPTC member from the region. Thanking the people for their support over the past two decades, he described his political growth as the result of the faith reposed in him by the people of Midjil. Revanth Reddy urged the people of Telangana to express



their gratitude to Sonia Gandhi for granting statehood to Telangana by strengthening the Congress and supporting Rahul Gandhi's leadership at the national level. He expressed confidence that the Congress would continue to remain in power in Telangana until 2034 with the blessings of the people. Recalling the political legacy of the region, the Chief Minister said Mahabubnagar district had produced distinguished leaders such as

Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, Jaipal Reddy, and Dyapa Gopal Reddy. He appealed to Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka to adopt Midjil Mandal and develop it into a model region. Referring to Midjil and Gattu as once being identified as "Dark Mandals," he said the government was determined to transform them into prosperous and developed areas through focused investment and infrastructure. Highlighting his rural background, Revanth Reddy said

some political opponents had questioned his administrative abilities when he assumed office as Chief Minister. However, he maintained that his firsthand understanding of farmers' hardships and rural life had enabled him to deliver people-centric governance. "If village problems are resolved, the state's problems are resolved," he remarked. Launching a scathing attack on the previous BRS government, the Chief Minister alleged that it had left Telangana burdened with a debt of ₹8.21 lakh crore while its leaders amassed enormous personal wealth. He accused the former regime of prioritizing corruption over public welfare and claimed that attempts by the BRS to return to power were motivated by the loss of opportunities for "loot and profiteering."

Revanth Reddy criticized KCR for allegedly remaining absent from Assembly proceedings while seeking to regain power. He also accused the previous government of failing to fulfill key

promises, including the construction of double-bedroom houses, providing jobs to every household, distributing three acres of land to Dalits, and ensuring irrigation facilities as promised. Defending his government's performance, the Chief Minister listed several welfare initiatives implemented since the Congress assumed office, including the farm loan waiver, Rythu Bharosa assistance, bonuses for fine-variety paddy, free bus travel for women, 200 units of free electricity, distribution of fine-quality rice to poor families, and direct payments to farmers during crop procurement. He said these measures reflected the government's commitment to balancing welfare with development. The Chief Minister concluded by urging the people to continue supporting the Congress, stating that the government's vision was to build an inclusive, prosperous, and farmer-friendly Telangana while contributing to a stronger leadership at the national level under Rahul Gandhi.

Telangana Releases Rs7,135 Crore Under Rythu Bharosa in Five Days

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government's commitment to fulfilling its promise of extending support to every eligible farmer in the state. Under the fifth phase of the scheme, the government deposited ₹545.41 crore into the accounts of 1.69 lakh farmers cultivating between five and six acres of land. The amount was credited directly to beneficiaries through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system. Tummala Nageswara Rao stated that during the first four phases, financial assistance had already been provided to farmers cultivating up to four acres of land. With the completion of the fifth phase, the government has now extended the benefit to all eligible farmers owning between five and six acres. The Minister said that a total of ₹7,135.77 crore has been transferred to 67.45 lakh farmers across Telangana under the Rythu Bharosa scheme since the programme commenced this season. He described the pace of fund disbursal as unprecedented and said the government was ensuring that assistance reaches farmers without delay. Highlighting the government's commitment to the agricultural sector, Tummala said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has placed farmers' welfare at the top of the state's development agenda. He said strengthening agriculture and improving the economic well-being of farming families remain key priorities of the government. The Minister added that timely financial assistance enables farmers to purchase seeds, fertilizers, and other agricultural inputs before the cultivation season, reducing dependence on private borrowing and helping improve farm productivity. Reiterating that the government is committed to implementing welfare programmes efficiently, Tummala Nageswara Rao said the phased release of Rythu Bharosa funds demonstrates the administration's resolve to provide direct financial support to every eligible farmer and promote sustainable agricultural growth across Telangana.

State to Strengthen Rural Job Guarantee Implementation

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Similarly, applicants must be provided employment within 15 days of submitting their request, failing which they will be eligible for unemployment allowance. Gram panchayats have been instructed to prepare labour budgets and work plans, which must be approved by Gram Sabhas and consolidated at mandal, district, and state levels before being uploaded to the national rural infrastructure portal. Approved works will be implemented through convergence of Central, State, and local schemes. The notification also mandates provision of basic facilities at work sites. In case of death or permanent disability during employment, compensation will be provided under the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana or as per Central government norms. Provisions have been included for recovery of misused funds under the Revenue Recovery Act and for establishing grievance redress mechanism. Officials said a separate notification will identify a 60-day lean agricultural period during which no works under the scheme will be undertaken, in line with Central guidelines.

IMD Forecasts Heavy Rainfall Across Multiple Districts Over Next Seven Days

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Authorities have advised the public to remain cautious, especially in low-lying and flood-prone areas, as continuous rainfall may lead to waterlogging, disruption of transport, and localized flooding in vulnerable regions. Emergency services and district administrations have been alerted to respond to weather-related incidents promptly.

Rosaiah Remembered for Integrity and Financial Discipline



Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau
Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Konijeti Rosaiah was remembered as a statesman of integrity, financial prudence, and value-based politics during his 93rd birth anniversary celebrations held at Ravindra Bharati on Friday. The programme was organized jointly by the Telangana Department of Language and Culture and the Konijeti Rosaiah Memorial Trust. State Ministers Ponnampallam Prabhakar and Vivek Venkatswamy attended the event and felicitated renowned orator and Padma Shri awardee Garikapati Narasimha Rao for his contributions to literature and public discourse. The ministers also unveiled the logo of the KSR Education Foundation. Government Whip Birla Ilaiah, MLA Vinod, former Minister T.G. Venkatesh, former MP K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao, Vysya Corporation Chairperson Kalva Sujatha, IAS officer Vani Prasad, and several distinguished personalities participated in the commemorative programme. Paying rich tributes to Rosaiah, Minister Ponnampallam Prabhakar described him as a symbol of honesty, commitment, and ethical politics. He said Rosaiah dedicated over five decades to public service, discharging key responsibilities as a legislator, Finance Minister, Chief Minister, and later as the Governor of Tamil Nadu with distinction. The Minister noted that Rosaiah's exceptional understanding of financial management and his emphasis on the prudent use of public funds earned him respect across political lines. He said Rosaiah successfully guided the state through challenging times as Chief Minister while upholding democratic values and maintaining the confidence of the people. Ponnampallam Prabhakar urged today's political leaders and youth to draw inspiration from Rosaiah's simple lifestyle, humility, and commitment to public service. Recalling his personal association with the late leader, he said he had interacted with Rosaiah on several occasions during his days as an NSUI leader and later worked alongside him in various public roles. Minister Vivek Venkatswamy also praised Rosaiah's legacy, describing his life as a model of financial discipline and responsible governance. He said maintaining fiscal discipline is essential for a state's long-term progress and called upon future generations to emulate Rosaiah's ideals of integrity, accountability, and dedicated public service.

Bandi Sanjay Alleges Vote Deletion Conspiracy

Vemulawada, July 04 | TPN Bureau
Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Saturday alleged that the Telangana government was attempting to manipulate the electoral process through the ongoing "SUR" (Special Unit/Survey) initiative and claimed that there was a conspiracy to delete the votes of Hindu voters. Addressing the media during his tour of the Vemulawada Assembly constituency, the BJP leader urged people to remain vigilant while also launching a sharp attack on the Congress and BRS governments over debt, governance, and development. Bandi Sanjay made the remarks after inaugurating and laying foundation stones for several development works in Medipalli, Bheemaram, and Kathalapur mandals of Jagtial district. The projects included cement concrete roads, drainage works, and a bus stand constructed with MPLADS funds. Alleging irregularities in the ongoing survey exercise, the

Union Minister claimed that officials were not receiving adequate cooperation from the state government and that many Hindu households were allegedly not being properly covered. He accused the Congress of colluding with the AIMIM to remove Hindu votes from electoral rolls and warned that such practices, if continued, could alter the demographic and electoral balance in the state. The state government has not publicly responded to these allegations. Highlighting development initiatives undertaken with Central assistance, Bandi Sanjay said he had secured more than ₹22,000 crore in Central funds for the Karimnagar parliamentary constituency during the past seven years. According to him, over ₹10,000 crore was spent on road infrastructure alone, while thousands of crores were invested in national highways, village roads, and connectivity projects through schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF), and the rural



employment programme. He said major highway projects, including the Karimnagar-Warangal National Highway and the Karimnagar-Jagtial highway expansion, were progressing rapidly and would significantly improve connectivity in the region. He added that his priority as a Member of Parliament had always been development rather than politics. The BJP leader also criticized both the Congress and the BRS, alleging that together they had burdened Telangana with nearly ₹10

lakh crore in debt while failing to deliver meaningful development. Citing figures he attributed to the state government's own financial disclosures, he claimed the previous BRS government accumulated over ₹8 lakh crore in debt, while the Congress government had added substantially to the state's liabilities in the past two and a half years. Bandi Sanjay alleged that financial mismanagement had resulted in delays in salary payments, pensions, fee reimbursement, health scheme dues, and contractor

Bhatti Vikramarka Calls for Upholding Alluri's Ideals

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau
Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Saturday said that standing against injustice and working for the upliftment of marginalized communities is the most meaningful tribute that can be paid to legendary tribal freedom fighter Alluri Sitarama Raju. The Deputy Chief Minister, accompanied by Minister for Sports, Dairy Development, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Youth Services Vakati Srihari, paid floral tributes to the statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju at Tank Bund in Hyderabad on the occasion of the revolutionary leader's 129th birth anniversary.



Addressing the gathering, Bhatti Vikramarka recalled Alluri Sitarama Raju's extraordinary contribution to India's freedom movement and his unwavering commitment to protecting the rights of tribal communities. He

said the revolutionary leader sacrificed his life at the young age of 27 while courageously fighting British colonial rule and oppression. The Deputy Chief Minister described Alluri's struggle as a people's movement rooted in justice, equality, and the welfare of the oppressed. He remarked that the revolutionary's ideals continue to inspire generations and remain relevant in the present day. According to him, questioning injustice in society and striving for the welfare of disadvantaged sections reflect the true spirit of Alluri Sitarama Raju's legacy. Bhatti Vikramarka said Alluri was not merely a historical figure but a powerful

symbol of courage, patriotism, and resistance whose life continues to motivate every Indian committed to the values of freedom and social justice. He urged the younger generation to draw inspiration from the freedom fighter's selfless service and dedication to the nation. As part of the birth anniversary celebrations, the Deputy Chief Minister handed over an ambulance, arranged by the Kshatriya Seva Samithi, to officials of the Malkajgiri Police Commissionerate. He expressed confidence that the vehicle would strengthen emergency response services and provide timely assistance to the public, particularly during emergencies and while police personnel are

carrying out their duties. The programme witnessed the participation of representatives of the Kshatriya Seva Samithi, including former MLC Rudra Raju Padma Raju, Naga Raju, Bangaru Raju, D.S. Raju, Jagannadh Raju, Ramana Prasad, and Rama Krishnam Raju, along with members of the Kshatriya community, social leaders, public representatives, and well-wishers. The event concluded with floral tributes and a renewed call to preserve Alluri Sitarama Raju's ideals of courage, sacrifice, justice, and service to society, inspiring future generations to work towards a more equitable and inclusive nation.

Harish Rao Accuses Bhatti of 'Goebbels Propaganda'

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau
Former Telangana minister T. Harish Rao on Saturday accused Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka of making "false claims" about the state's financial condition and alleged that the Congress government was attempting to divert public attention from its unfulfilled election promises by exaggerating Telangana's debt burden. Addressing the media, Harish Rao said the Congress leadership was indulging in what he described as "Goebbels-style propaganda" by presenting misleading fig-



ures on the state's finances. He alleged that the government was creating a false narrative about Telangana's

debt in an attempt to justify its inability to implement the welfare assurances made before the Assembly elections. According to Harish Rao, the Congress government has failed to fulfill several promises despite completing a substantial period in office. He claimed that instead of delivering on its commitments, the ruling party was resorting to political rhetoric to shift the focus away from public dissatisfaction. "Before the elections, Congress leaders made attractive promises and distributed guarantee cards to win the confidence of the

people. After coming to power, they are unable to implement those guarantees and are now offering excuses instead," Harish Rao alleged. The former minister further claimed that Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka had begun making repeated statements about the state's finances to deflect criticism over what he termed the government's administrative failures. He alleged that these statements were intended to distract people from issues related to the implementation of the Congress party's poll promises. Harish Rao maintained that merely making allegations

about the previous government would not alter the facts on the ground. He asserted that the Congress should focus on delivering the commitments it made to voters rather than blaming financial constraints for delays in implementation. The BRS leader also accused the ruling party of attempting to influence public opinion through political messaging instead of addressing governance challenges. He said people were expecting the government to honor the assurances made during the election campaign, including various welfare schemes and guarantees.

TWJF Announces Statewide Protests Over Journalists' Issues

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Working Journalists Federation (TWJF) has announced a series of statewide protests to press the government to address long-pending demands of journalists, including health cards, housing plots, accreditation cards, and welfare measures. The decision was taken at a meeting of the TWJF State Executive Committee held at Thyagaraya Ganasabha in Hyderabad on Saturday under the chairmanship of Acting President Pilli Ramchander. Addressing the meeting, Acting President



Pilli Ramchander and General Secretary B. Basavapunniah urged the state government to respond proactively to the concerns of journalists. They announced that protests and

the submission of memoranda would be held at District Collectorates across Telangana on July 13, followed by a massive dharna at the office of the State Information Commissioner

on July 15. The federation expressed concern over the delay in issuing new health cards, alleging that the existing cards are accepted only at NIMS and not at most corporate hospitals, causing hardship to journalists. It also demanded the immediate distribution of accreditation cards, stating that delays have prevented many journalists from obtaining RTC bus passes and other benefits. The TWJF further alleged that the issue of housing plots for journalists has remained unresolved due to the Cabinet Subcommittee's failure to take a decision. The federation urged the government to

expedite the process and fulfil its assurances. Among its other demands were a monthly pension of ₹10,000 for journalists and a 100 per cent fee waiver for journalists' children studying in private and corporate educational institutions through a Government Order. The federation also announced that district-level conferences would be held by the end of July, followed by the TWJF State Conference at the end of August. Pilli Ramchander was appointed Convener of the Reception Committee for the state conference. Senior office-bearers and district representatives participated in the meeting.

BJP Delegation Raises Singareni Issues with Kishan Reddy



Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau A delegation of BJP district presidents and senior leaders from the six districts of the Singareni coal belt met Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy at Singareni Bhavan on Saturday and submitted a memorandum highlighting issues related to the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), including alleged coal theft, workers' welfare, pending government dues, and the Naini coal block tender process. Speaking to the media, former BJP Kisan Morcha State President Sridhar Reddy said the delegation apprised the Union Minister of what it described as the deteriorating condition of Singareni. He alleged that the Telangana government owes approximately ₹52,000 crore to the company, affecting its financial health and delaying the provision of basic amenities and welfare measures for workers. The BJP leaders urged the Union government to take steps to ensure that the pending dues are cleared and sought the allocation of additional coal blocks, similar to the Naini coal block, to strengthen Singareni's future operations. Sridhar Reddy also alleged that BJP leaders were prevented from visiting sites to inspect complaints relating to coal theft. He accused the present Congress government of mismanaging Singareni and claimed it was following the same path as the previous BRS government. The Telangana government had not responded to the allegations at the time of publication.

National Legal Conclave Focuses on Constitution and Democracy

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau A National Legal Conclave organized under the auspices of the Indian Youth Congress was held in Hyderabad on Friday, bringing together senior Congress leaders, legal experts, lawyers, law students, and Youth Congress representatives from across the country to deliberate on key constitutional and legal issues. TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, former Union Minister Salman Khurshid, AICC Mahila Congress National President Alka Lamba, and Indian Youth Congress National President Uday Bhanu Chib attended the conclave as chief guests. The conference witnessed extensive discussions on contemporary legal challenges, with a strong focus on safeguarding the Constitution, strengthening the judicial system, and protecting democratic values. Participants emphasized the importance of an independent judiciary and the rule of law in ensuring justice and preserving India's democratic framework. Speakers highlighted the role of legal professionals and young leaders in promoting constitutional awareness and defending the rights guaranteed under the Constitution. They also encouraged law students to actively engage in public service and contribute to upholding democratic institutions. Several senior Congress functionaries and party leaders also participated in the event, including AICC Secretary Sachin Sawant, All India Congress Joint Secretary Krishna Alaveru, Corporation Chairman Iravatri Anil, Telangana Youth Congress President Jakkidi Shivcharan Reddy, Gurdeep Singh, Roshini Jaiswal, Shravan Raj, Supriya, and others. The conclave drew participation from lawyers, law students, and Youth Congress leaders representing different states, providing a national platform for exchanging ideas on legal reforms and constitutional governance. Organizers said the discussions aimed to encourage greater awareness of constitutional principles and reinforce the importance of democratic institutions in addressing contemporary legal and social challenges.

TGSRTC Pays Tribute to Konijeti Rosaiah

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) celebrated the 93rd birth anniversary of former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Konijeti Rosaiah with a commemorative programme at RTC Bus Bhavan in Hyderabad on Saturday. TGSRTC Executive Director M. Rajasekhara led the tributes by garlanding the portrait of the late leader and recalling his distinguished contributions to public life. Speaking on the occasion, Rajasekhara praised Rosaiah's exemplary service as Chief Minister and later as the Governor of Tamil Nadu. He highlighted Rosaiah's remarkable tenure as Finance Minister, noting that he created a record by presenting numerous state budgets and was widely respected for his financial discipline, administrative efficiency, and transparent governance. Rajasekhara said Rosaiah's commitment to prudent financial management and people-centric administration continues to inspire public servants and political leaders alike. He added that the late leader's decisions and dedicated service during his tenure in various constitutional positions would always be remembered. The programme was attended by TGSRTC Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer Vijaya Pushpa, Chief Mechanical Engineer Johnny Reddy, Chief Civil Engineer Kavitha, senior officials, and corporation staff, who paid floral tributes and remembered Rosaiah's lasting contribution to public administration and good governance.

Mahesh Kumar Goud Extends Birthday Wishes to CM Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President Mahesh Kumar Goud extended his heartfelt birthday wishes to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, describing him as a people's leader whose remarkable political journey reflects determination, courage, and commitment to public service.

In a statement issued on Friday, Mahesh Kumar Goud said Revanth Reddy's rise from serving as a Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency (ZPTC) member to becoming the Chief Minister of Telangana over two decades is an inspiring example of perseverance and hard work. He recalled that Revanth Reddy began his electoral journey by winning as an independent candidate from the Midjil Mandal ZPTC, overcoming significant political challenges and



pressures through courage and unwavering resolve. Goud said these qualities enabled him to steadily achieve greater milestones in public life. The TPCC chief noted that Revanth Reddy has gained extensive experience by serving in various capacities, including as a local body representative, Member of the Legislative Council (MLC), Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), Member of Parliament (MP), PCC Working President, and later as TPCC President before assuming the office of Chief Minister.

Mahesh Kumar Goud further congratulated the Chief Minister for earning widespread public appreciation during his tenure. He said the government has received recognition for implementing welfare and development initiatives aimed at improving the lives of people across Telangana. Expressing confidence in Revanth Reddy's leadership, Goud wished him good health, long life, and continued success in steering the state towards greater progress and inclusive development while fulfilling the aspirations of the people.

BRSV Seeks Probe Into School's Alleged Violations

Kutbullapur, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Leaders of the BRSV student wing from the Kutbullapur constituency have lodged a complaint with the District Educational Officer (DEO) against Yuwan Vidyalayam, an IIT and NEET Foundation school located in Simhapuri Colony, Bowrampet, Dundigal Mandal. They urged the Education Department to conduct a detailed inquiry into the school's functioning and take strict action if any violations are established. According to the student leaders, the school has official permission to operate only up to Class 7 but is allegedly conducting classes up to Class 10 in violation of departmental regulations. They also raised concerns over the absence of basic infrastructure, including a proper playground for students. The complaint further highlighted safety issues,



alleging that an electrical transformer is located dangerously close to the school premises, posing a potential risk to students. The leaders also claimed the institution lacks essential fire safety measures, including fire-fighting equipment and emergency exit routes. Additionally, they expressed concern over inadequate ventilation and poor natural lighting in classrooms, stating that such conditions could negatively impact students' health and learning

environment. The BRSV leaders alleged that the school management responded negligently when questioned about the issues following complaints from parents. They demanded that authorities immediately investigate the allegations and, if found true, revoke the school's recognition and initiate action against those responsible. BRSV leaders Nishanth, Praveen Naik, Ravi Kiran, and others participated in submitting the complaint.

Court Orders Social Service for Drunk Driving Offenders

Nalgonda, July 04 | TPN Bureau

In a unique initiative to promote road safety, a court in Nalgonda district directed 11 motorists booked for driving under the influence of alcohol to perform one day of community service by assisting traffic police and creating awareness about road safety. The offenders were among 36 motorists booked during a special drunk-driving enforcement drive conducted by the Nalgonda District Police in Miryalaguda town as part of a "Naka Bandi" operation held last Tuesday. After being produced before the court, the offenders were awarded appropriate penalties, with 11 of them also being ordered to undertake social service.

Following the court's directions, the offenders participated in traffic regulation duties under the supervision of traffic police personnel. They also interacted with road users, educating them about traffic rules,



responsible driving practices, and the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol. Speaking on the occasion, Nalgonda District Superintendent of Police Sharath Chandra Pawar, IPS, said drunk driving is not merely a traffic violation but a serious threat to public safety. He pointed out that alcohol-impaired driving claims many lives every year and leaves numerous others with severe and permanent injuries. The SP warned that the district police would continue to take stringent action against drunk-driving offenders by registering

cases and producing them before the courts. He noted that punishments could include fines, imprisonment, suspension or cancellation of driving licences, and community service wherever ordered by the court. Appealing to motorists to act responsibly, Sharath Chandra Pawar urged people never to drive after consuming alcohol and instead use cabs, auto-rickshaws, or other safe modes of transport. He said special drunk-driving checks would continue across the district to reduce road accidents and ensure safer roads for all.

Ministers Congratulate CM on 20 Years in Public Life



Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Several Telangana ministers congratulated Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on successfully completing two decades in public service, marking a political journey that began with his election as the ZPTC member from Midjil Mandal. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, along with Ministers Ponnampallabharani, Danasari Anasuya (Seethakka), Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, and Vakati Srihari, met the Chief Minister and extended their heartfelt congratulations. The ministers lauded Revanth Reddy's rise through various levels of public office, describing his political journey as an example of dedication, perseverance, and commitment to serving the people. They wished him continued success in leading Telangana and expressed confidence in his efforts to advance the state's welfare and development agenda.

Peace Conference Calls for Global Harmony



Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao on Saturday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emerged as a global leader capable of promoting peace amid growing international conflicts. He was addressing the 'Glow Peace' International Conference held at the Delhi Public School (DPS) campus in Nacharam, Hyderabad, which witnessed the participation of thousands of students, parents, teachers, youth, and spiritual leaders. Speaking as the chief guest, Ramchander Rao expressed concern over the increasing number of conflicts across the world, stating that wars continue to claim innocent lives, including those of children, while causing widespread human, economic, and material losses. Referring to the devastation caused by the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, he warned that the threat of nuclear conflict remains a serious concern for humanity. He said that lasting solutions to global disputes can only be achieved through dialogue and peace rather than violence. Stressing that India has always stood for peace and harmony, he said the country continues to advocate peaceful coexistence among nations. Ramchander Rao praised the 'Glow Peace' conference as an important initiative to inculcate the values of peace among young people. He urged students to practice peace not only at the international level but also within families, schools, friendships, and society. He also appreciated the Delhi Public School management for organizing the event in Telangana and spreading awareness about the importance of global peace. Highlighting a major initiative of the conference, he said nearly one lakh postcards written by students from DPS Nacharam and other schools would be sent to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, appealing to him to continue working for global peace and serve as an ambassador of harmony. Expressing confidence in the campaign, Ramchander Rao said the students' initiative could evolve into a broader movement promoting peace across India and the world, inspiring future generations to resolve differences through dialogue and mutual understanding rather than conflict.

Minister Srihari Pays Tribute to Alluri Sitarama Raju



Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Sports, Dairy Development, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, and Youth Services Vakati Srihari, along with Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, paid rich tributes to legendary tribal freedom fighter Alluri Sitarama Raju on the occasion of his 129th birth anniversary on Friday. The leaders garlanded the statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju at Tank Bund in Hyderabad and remembered his extraordinary contribution to India's freedom struggle. Floral tributes were offered in recognition of the revolutionary leader's unwavering commitment to the rights and welfare of tribal communities. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Vakati Srihari described Alluri Sitarama Raju as one of the greatest freedom fighters in Indian history who fearlessly challenged British colonial rule and dedicated his life to protecting the rights of Adivasis. He said Alluri's courage, patriotism, and spirit of self-sacrifice continue to inspire generations across the country. The Minister noted that Alluri Sitarama Raju's leadership during the freedom movement reflected his deep commitment to justice and equality. He said the revolutionary leader's determination to fight oppression remains a shining example for young people and urged citizens to draw inspiration from his life and values. Calling upon the youth to emulate Alluri's ideals, Srihari stressed the importance of serving the nation with dedication, honesty, and a strong sense of responsibility. He said preserving the legacy of great freedom fighters is essential to strengthening patriotism and promoting national unity. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka also joined in paying homage, recalling Alluri's immense sacrifices for the country's independence and his enduring legacy in the history of India's freedom movement. Several public representatives, officials, and admirers participated in the commemorative programme, paying floral tributes to the iconic tribal hero and reaffirming their commitment to carrying forward the values of courage, sacrifice, and service to the nation exemplified by Alluri Sitarama Raju.

BRS Alleges Irregularities in 'Bhu Bharati' Scheme

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Former MLA Gadari Kishore Kumar on Friday launched a sharp attack on the Congress government, alleging large-scale irregularities in the implementation of the 'Bhu Bharati' land management system and accusing the state administration of failing to ensure transparency in governance.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Kishore Kumar questioned whether the state government was functioning effectively, alleging that corruption had spread across various departments. He claimed that the Congress government replaced the previous 'Dharani' land portal with 'Bhu Bharati' but had failed to explain who was responsible for the alleged irregularities in the new system.

The BRS leader alleged that around 4,500 applications



under the Bhu Bharati initiative had been approved without proper authorization or verification. He claimed that approvals had been granted in several districts, including Siddipet and Rangareddy, even in cases where applications had allegedly not been filed. Kishore Kumar further alleged that changes in land records were being made in

exchange for commissions and demanded an independent inquiry into the functioning of the Bhu Bharati system. He also questioned the role of Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and alleged that private lands were being placed under the prohibited list to facilitate irregular transactions. He accused the Chief Minister and senior leaders

of interfering in administrative decisions, alleging irregularities in transfers and appointments across departments. He also raised questions over the transfer of T-SAT from the Information Technology Department to the Education Department and claimed that governance had become highly centralized. The former MLA defended

the previous BRS government's Dharani portal, stating that it had been introduced to establish clear land ownership and prevent unauthorized transactions through digital safeguards. He claimed that any shortcomings in the portal had already been addressed during the previous administration. Kishore Kumar also announced that a BRS delegation would visit Kannepalli on Saturday to examine issues related to irrigation water supply from the Kannepalli pump house and interact with farmers over their concerns.

Several BRS leaders, including Palla Praveen, Dharmender, Padala Satish, Kadari Swamy Yadav, Krishna, Mithun, and Karthik, attended the press conference.

The Congress government has not responded to the allegations at the time of publication.

Concerns Raised Over Alleged Illegal Private Bus Operations



Adilabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Allegations of widespread irregularities by private travel operators have sparked concern in the undivided Adilabad district, with passengers and local residents urging authorities to intensify inspections and enforce transport regulations. Concerns have been raised over passenger safety, alleged revenue losses to the government, and the operation of buses under questionable permit conditions. According to reports, 15 to 18 private buses operate daily between Adilabad and Hyderabad, while several other buses connect passengers to destinations including Nagpur, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. Allegations suggest that some operators are using tourist permits to run regular commercial passenger services, which, if confirmed, would violate transport regulations and potentially result in a loss of government revenue. Passengers have also expressed concern over alleged overloading, speeding, and the use of buses that are reportedly not maintained to required safety standards. Complaints further point to inexperienced drivers and negligence as factors that could increase the risk of road accidents. The issue has gained renewed attention in the wake of last year's Mahabub Ghat accident in Nirmal district, in which a private travel bus crash claimed one life and injured 22 others. The incident had raised questions regarding vehicle permits and driver qualifications. Fresh allegations have also surfaced that some operators issue tickets beyond the seating capacity of buses and increase fares sharply during periods of high demand. In addition, suspicions have been raised about the transport of commercial goods in luggage compartments without proper tax compliance, though these claims have not been independently verified. Questions have also been raised over allegations that some operators may be running multiple buses under a single permit. Several established private travel services operating on the Adilabad-Hyderabad route, including Muskan, Sahara, Metro Galaxy, MBK, Diamond, Orange, and GDR, have been mentioned in public discussions. However, no findings of wrongdoing against these companies have been officially established. Members of the public have called upon the Transport, Motor Vehicles, and Police departments to conduct comprehensive inspections and take action wherever violations are found. Authorities have not yet issued an official response to the allegations.

Devi Prasad Alleges Neglect of Outsourcing Employees

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Former Telangana Beverages Corporation Chairman Devi Prasad on Friday alleged that the state government has failed to safeguard the interests of outsourcing employees, claiming that thousands of workers across various departments are facing prolonged delays in receiving their salaries. In a press note, Devi Prasad said there is a significant gap between the government's assurances and the ground reality. While the Chief Minister

has reportedly directed that salaries be credited on the first day of every month, he questioned why many outsourcing employees continue to wait for their wages for months. He alleged that delayed salary payments have left workers struggling to meet household expenses, pay children's school fees, settle house rent, and repay debts. According to him, the government's promises have not translated into effective implementation at the departmental level. Devi Prasad claimed that

outsourcing employees in several government departments have not received salaries for extended periods. He alleged delays of up to seven months in Telangana Model Schools, nine months in Niloufer Hospital, three months in the Panchayat Raj Department, and four months in the Warangal ESI Dispensary. He further claimed that employees in departments such as Ground Water, Municipal Administration, government hospitals, and the

Police Department are also awaiting salary payments. He also raised concerns over allegations that some outsourcing agencies were deducting Employees' State Insurance (ESI) and Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) contributions from workers' salaries without depositing the amounts into the respective accounts. He urged the government to initiate strict action against agencies found violating labour welfare norms. Devi Prasad demanded the immediate

release of all pending salaries, disciplinary action against officials responsible for delays, blacklisting of agencies that fail to deposit ESI and EPF contributions, and the introduction of a direct salary transfer system to employees' bank accounts. He also called for a comprehensive inquiry into the functioning of all outsourcing agencies operating in the state. The Telangana government had not responded to these allegations at the time of publication.

Unemployed JAC Demands Rs.1,000 Crore for Osmania University

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

The Unemployed Joint Action Committee (JAC) has urged the Telangana government to immediately release the ₹1,000 crore it had promised to Osmania University and expedite recruitment for vacant government posts. The demand was made during a roundtable conference held at the Arts College on the Osmania University campus on Friday. The meeting, organized under the banner of the Unemployed JAC, was presided over by its State Convener and OU research scholar R.L. Murthy.



Academics, student leaders, and representatives of various civil society organisations participated in the discussion. Addressing the gathering, Professor Konda Nageshwar criticized the government for allegedly failing to fulfil its promises and urged a

united movement to protect the education sector and address the issues facing Osmania University. He said the university had played a historic role in the Telangana movement and deserved greater support. Professor Ram Shepherd alleged that the state's prior-

ities were shifting away from the interests of Telangana and called upon students to actively participate in democratic and political processes to safeguard public education. Speaking on the occasion, R.L. Murthy claimed that despite promises to fill two lakh government vacancies, only a limited number of recruitments had been completed. He alleged that the promised ₹1,000 crore for Osmania University had not yet been released and demanded its immediate sanction. The JAC also called for the issuance of recruitment notifications for Group-I,

Group-II, Group-III, Group-IV, DSC, police, lecturer, and other government posts. Among its other demands were the announcement of an annual job calendar; filling vacant teaching and non-teaching positions at Osmania University, providing a monthly unemployment allowance of ₹5,000, and releasing funds under the Rajiv Yuva Vikas Scheme. Representatives of several student organisations and unemployed youth groups participated in the programme and pledged to continue their agitation until the demands are addressed.

Footpath Encroachments Cleared in Simhapuri Colony

Kutbullapur, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Officials launched a major drive against illegal encroachments on footpaths in Simhapuri Colony under the Dundigal Municipal Circle on Saturday, removing unauthorized structures that had obstructed public movement and endangered pedestrian safety. The special operation targeted encroachments along both sides of the 100-foot main road, where several structures had allegedly occupied footpath space. Using JCB excavators, officials demolished the illegal constructions to restore free movement for pedestrians and ease traffic congestion. Authorities said the encroachments had become a significant inconvenience to residents and road users, besides creating safety hazards for pedestrians. The drive was undertaken in the public interest to reclaim government land and ensure that footpaths remain accessible. Speaking on the occasion, Dundigal Circle Deputy Commissioner Dr. S. Venkata Manikaran warned that strict action would be taken against individuals found illegally occupying government land or constructing structures on footpaths. He emphasized that the municipal administration would continue conducting regular inspections and special enforcement drives to prevent fresh encroachments and maintain public roads free of illegal occupations. The operation was carried out with the support of officials from multiple departments, including ACP Srinivas, TPS Mukesh Singh, Solid Waste Management Deputy Engineer Anvesh Reddy, Assistant Engineer Surender Naik, and other municipal and enforcement staff. Officials urged the public to cooperate with civic authorities in protecting public spaces and ensuring safer roads for all.



Deputy Commissioner Reviews Sanitation, Orders Swift Action

Kutbullapur, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Dundigal Circle Deputy Commissioner Dr. S. Venkata Manikaran conducted a field inspection on Saturday to review sanitation management and ensure the prompt resolution of public grievances across the municipal limits. During his visit to the Dommara Pochampally area, the Deputy Commissioner noticed an overflowing drain behind Pista House. Responding immediately, he instructed the concerned officials to clear the blockage without delay and ensure that the issue did not cause inconvenience to residents. Dr. Manikaran later inspected a park near Doctor Basti, where he reviewed maintenance, cleanliness, and greenery. He advised officials to improve the upkeep of the park and enhance its landscaping to provide a cleaner and healthier environment for the local community. The Deputy Commissioner also inspected roadside areas where garbage had accumulated and directed sanitation workers to remove the waste immediately. The cleaning operation was carried out on the spot under his supervision. Emphasizing the importance of sanitation, Dr. Manikaran instructed officials to remain vigilant and ensure that civic complaints are addressed promptly. He stressed that there should be no negligence in sanitation management and called for regular monitoring to maintain cleanliness throughout the Dundigal Circle. Solid Waste Management Deputy Engineer Anvesh Reddy, Assistant Engineer Ashok Kumar, Urban Biodiversity Manager Raghuvir Reddy, and other municipal staff accompanied the Deputy Commissioner during the inspection and participated in the sanitation drive.



Sai Kumar Celebrates CM Revanth Reddy's Political Milestone

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Fisheries Corporation Chairman Mettu Sai Kumar celebrated Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's completion of two decades in public life by distributing sweets and joining Congress workers and leaders in celebrations at Gandhi Bhavan on Friday. Speaking on the occasion, Sai Kumar lauded the Chief Minister's remarkable political journey, stating that Revanth Reddy had overcome numerous challenges and setbacks during his 20-year career without losing sight of his goals. He said the Chief Minister's perseverance, determination, and commitment to public service have made him a source of inspiration for young political leaders across Telangana. Sai Kumar remarked that Revanth Reddy's rise through various stages of public life demonstrates the importance of hard work, resilience, and dedication. He added that many young leaders, including himself, regard the Chief Minister as a role model and continue their political journey by drawing inspiration from his leadership and commitment to serving the people.



BRS MLC Questions Congress Over Employment Scheme Policy

Hyderabad, July 04 | TPN Bureau

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLC Dr. Dasoju Sravan on Saturday released an open letter addressed to Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, alleging contradictions between the Congress party's national position and the Telangana government's stand on the Centre's proposed "VB-G RAM G" policy relating to the rural employment guarantee programme. In the letter, Sravan questioned whether the Telangana Congress government was adhering to the policies of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) or functioning independently under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. He alleged that while the Congress leadership had opposed the Centre's proposed policy at the national level, the Telangana

Cabinet had approved its implementation, creating confusion among the public. The BRS leader claimed that the AICC had publicly criticized the proposed policy and accused the Telangana government of taking a position contrary to the party's declared national stand. He further alleged that the state's decision reflected a contradiction between Congress' statements in New Delhi and its actions in Telangana. Drawing comparisons with other states, Sravan claimed that governments in Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, and Jharkhand had either opposed or sought a review of the Centre's proposal. He urged Rahul Gandhi to clarify the Congress party's official position and explain why the Telangana government had acted differently.

Congress' Seat-Sharing Demand Puts SP Under Pressure

The Congress has intensified political speculation in Uttar Pradesh by seeking an "equal partnership" with the Samajwadi Party (SP) ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections, a move that could reshape opposition politics in the state. With less than a year remaining before the polls, the demand is being viewed as an attempt to strengthen the Congress' bargaining position while keeping alternative political options open.

The debate gained momentum after the Congress appointed Rajendra Pal Gautam as its new Uttar Pradesh in-charge. Besides demanding a larger share of seats in a possible alliance with the SP, Gautam also praised Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati, fuelling speculation that the Congress is willing to explore other political equations if negotiations with the SP fail.

According to political sources, the Congress is expected to



seek around 150 seats in any alliance with the SP. However, Akhilesh Yadav's party is reportedly prepared to offer only 70 to 80 seats, making seat-sharing talks increasingly challenging.

Congress leaders argue that their demand is justified by past alliance arrangements. During the 2017 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, the party contested over 100 seats as part of its alliance with the SP. They also point to the improved per-

formance in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, where the Congress won six of the 17 seats it contested in Uttar Pradesh, recording an impressive strike rate and contributing significantly to the INDIA bloc's success.

The history of the Congress-SP relationship has seen several ups and downs. The two parties fought the 2017 Assembly elections together under the "Two Boys of UP" campaign but suffered a heavy defeat. They parted ways in the 2019 Lok

Sabha and 2022 Assembly elections, with the Congress performing poorly and winning only two Assembly seats in 2022.

The political landscape changed in 2024 when both parties reunited under the INDIA alliance. The SP emerged as the largest opposition force in the state with 37 Lok Sabha seats, while the Congress won six seats, helping the opposition significantly improve its performance.

Political observers believe the current seat-sharing negotiations will test the strength of opposition unity. While the Congress hopes to convert its revived electoral performance into greater political space, the SP remains the dominant opposition party with a stronger grassroots organisation. The outcome of these negotiations is expected to play a crucial role in shaping the opposition's strategy for the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections.

Navy Airlifts Injured Seafarer From Oil Tanker Off Mumbai

The Indian Navy carried out a swift and challenging medical evacuation operation on Saturday, rescuing an injured seafarer from the crude oil tanker MT Desh Shakti off the Mumbai coast despite adverse weather conditions caused by heavy monsoon rains.

According to the Indian Navy, a Sea King helicopter from INS Shikra was deployed after an emergency request was received for the evacuation of a crew member who had sustained serious injuries while onboard the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) tanker.

The rescue mission was conducted under extremely difficult conditions. Authorities said the region was under a "red alert" due to incessant rainfall, poor visibility and rough sea conditions, making the operation particularly challenging for the helicopter crew.

Despite the hazardous weather, the Sea King helicopter successfully reached the tanker and carried out the evacuation using a rescue basket. The highly trained naval aircrew carefully hoisted the injured seafarer from the vessel before providing immediate medical attention onboard the helicopter.

After stabilising the patient during the flight, the helicopter transported the injured crew member safely to shore, where he was handed over to medical



authorities for urgent treatment at a hospital. The Navy did not disclose the identity of the seafarer or the nature of the injuries sustained.

The operation highlighted the Indian Navy's capability to respond rapidly to emergencies at sea, even under severe weather conditions. Rescue missions during the monsoon season often involve additional risks due to strong winds, heavy rainfall and turbulent waters, requiring exceptional flying skills and precise coordination between the ship and helicopter crew.

The successful evacuation once again demonstrated the operational readiness of the Navy's aviation units, particularly the Sea King helicopters, which continue to play a crucial role in maritime surveillance, search-and-rescue missions, anti-submarine warfare and humanitarian assistance.

In an official statement, the Indian Navy said the mission reaffirmed its commitment to safeguarding lives at sea and reflected its role as a dependable first responder in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

The Navy regularly undertakes rescue operations involving merchant ships, fishing vessels and other maritime emergencies within India's area of responsibility. Such missions form an integral part of its humanitarian and disaster response efforts, ensuring timely assistance to seafarers in distress.

The successful evacuation of the injured crew member from MT Desh Shakti stands as another example of the Indian Navy's professionalism, operational excellence and unwavering dedication to protecting lives, regardless of the challenges posed by nature.

PM Modi Inaugurates Gujarat Semiconductor Facility

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday inaugurated the CG Semi Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility in Gujarat, describing it as a major milestone in India's journey towards becoming a global semiconductor manufacturing hub and achieving the vision of a developed nation under "Viksit Bharat."

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said India is steadily building a complete electronics value chain—from manufacturing finished products and electronic components to producing advanced semiconductor chips. He termed the development the next major phase of the "Make in India" initiative.

"The expansion of the semiconductor industry in India did not happen overnight. It is the next step in the electronics revolution that has taken place in the country over the past decade," Modi said.

During the inauguration, the Prime Minister was presented with the first semiconductor chips manufactured at the facility, which are scheduled to



be exported to Japan. Calling it a proud moment for the country, he said the achievement demonstrates India's growing technological capabilities and its emergence as a trusted partner in the global semiconductor supply chain.

Highlighting the government's long-term vision, Modi said India is working towards creating a comprehensive semiconductor ecosystem that includes chip design, fabrication, assembly, packaging and testing. He noted that the Semicon India programme is progressing rapidly and laying a strong foundation for the country's future in advanced electronics

manufacturing.

"First products, then components, and now semiconductors. India is building the entire electronics value chain. This is the roadmap to Viksit Bharat," the Prime Minister remarked.

Modi also underlined the importance of semiconductors in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, automation, electric vehicles and advanced computing. He expressed confidence that Indian youth would play a leading role in driving the next technological revolution with chips manufactured in India.

"India's youth will power the

AI, robotics and next-generation technology revolution with Made in India chips," he said. The Prime Minister emphasized that strengthening domestic semiconductor manufacturing will reduce dependence on imports, enhance technological self-reliance and create thousands of high-skilled employment opportunities for engineers, researchers and technicians.

The inauguration of the Gujarat OSAT facility is expected to significantly boost India's semiconductor ambitions and strengthen its position in the global electronics manufacturing ecosystem. The project is also seen as an important step towards attracting further investments in high-technology sectors while supporting the country's goal of becoming a major global manufacturing destination.

With semiconductor demand rising worldwide, the new facility marks another significant milestone in India's efforts to establish itself as a competitive player in the rapidly evolving global chip industry.

Seethakka Urges Special Financial Relief for Tribal Panchayats



Telangana Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Dr. Danasari Anasuya Seethakka has urged the 16th Finance Commission to provide special exemptions and financial support for tribal, hill, scheduled and backward gram panchayats, arguing that uniform performance criteria would disadvantage remote and economically weaker regions.

Addressing the National Workshop of State Panchayati Raj Ministers in New Delhi, chaired by Union Panchayat Raj Minister Rajeev Ranjan Singh, Seethakka called for a more inclusive approach while framing recommendations for local bodies. Senior ministers and officials from various states participated in the deliberations.

The minister welcomed the proposal for performance-based grants to gram panchayats but stressed that assessments should not be based solely on tax collection or own-source revenue. Instead, she suggested that equal weight be given to parameters such as sanitation, transparency, digital governance, quality of pub-

lic services and citizen participation.

Seethakka pointed out that many gram panchayats located in tribal and scheduled areas have small populations and limited economic activity, making it difficult for them to generate substantial local revenue. She urged the Finance Commission to grant special exemptions to such panchayats and relax eligibility norms for performance grants in regions with large tribal, hill and Scheduled Caste populations.

The minister also highlighted the issue of 62 gram panchayats in Telangana where elections have been delayed due to pending court cases. She said withholding central development funds from these local bodies was unfair to the residents and appealed for provisions allowing financial assistance to continue in exceptional circumstances where elections are postponed by judicial orders. Emphasising the importance of local decision-making, Seethakka requested the continuation of untied basic grants, enabling gram sabhas to address village-specific pri-

orities without restrictive funding conditions.

She also welcomed digital governance initiatives such as e-Gram Swaraj and the Public Financial Management System (PFMS), but urged the Centre to strengthen internet connectivity, technical infrastructure, staffing and capacity-building programmes to ensure effective implementation in remote villages. The minister further sought greater financial weightage for scheduled areas, backward districts and geographically challenging regions, noting that delivering public services in such areas involves significantly higher costs.

Concluding her address, Seethakka said empowered gram panchayats are essential for building a stronger nation. She stressed that states require adequate financial resources to strengthen rural local bodies and urged the 16th Finance Commission to recommend a balanced framework that promotes cooperative federalism while ensuring equitable development for India's most vulnerable rural communities.

Chandrima Bhattacharya Quits as Bengal TMC Chief Amid Deepening Party Rift

The political turmoil within the Trinamool Congress (TMC) intensified on Saturday after West Bengal state president Chandrima Bhattacharya resigned from her post, barely a month after taking charge of the organisation. Her resignation marks another major setback for the Mamata Banerjee-led faction as the party continues to grapple with internal divisions following its defeat in the 2026 West Bengal Assembly elections.

In her resignation letter addressed to party chief Mamata Banerjee, Bhattacharya stepped down not only as state president but also relinquished all other organisational responsibilities within the party. She further withdrew herself as the authorised signatory for the party's bank accounts and as the representative handling TMC matters before the Election Commission.

Bhattacharya, a long-time associate of Mamata Banerjee and former minister who handled important portfolios including



Finance and Health, had been appointed state president on June 3, replacing veteran leader Subrata Bakshi.

Speaking to reporters after submitting her resignation, Bhattacharya revealed that her decision was prompted by a telephone conversation with Mamata Banerjee. She claimed the TMC chief blamed her for allowing the Ritabrata Banerjee-led rebel faction to take control of Trinamool Bhavan, the party's operational headquarters in Kolkata.

The rebel faction had entered the party office on Friday, held a meeting inside the premises, changed the locks and declared

that it would operate from the headquarters. Although Bhattacharya was present in the office when the rebels arrived, she left shortly afterwards.

"I was deeply hurt when my loyalty and trustworthiness were questioned. Once that foundation is shaken, there is no reason for me to continue," Bhattacharya told reporters.

While she declined to confirm whether she would formally join the rebel camp, she later attended a meeting with dissident leaders, including Leader of Opposition Ritabrata Banerjee, at the West Bengal Assembly. She stated that she was yet to decide her future political course.

Bhattacharya's resignation comes shortly after her son, former Kolkata Municipal Corporation councillor Sourav Basu, joined the rebel faction.

The development reflects the widening split within the Trinamool Congress following its electoral setback earlier this year. Several senior leaders, including former Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim, veteran MLA Jawed Khan and Golam Rabbani, have already aligned with the dissident camp. Additionally, a significant number of the party's Lok Sabha members have reportedly joined a breakaway bloc that has extended support to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

The rebellion has now evolved into a full-scale organisational crisis, with both factions staking claim to the party headquarters, symbol and financial assets. The Election Commission has initiated proceedings to examine the dispute, while the future leadership and organisational control of the Trinamool Congress remain uncertain.

Farmers' Body Backs Students' Protest, Plans Jantar Mantar Visit

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), which spearheaded the nationwide farmers' protest against the now-repealed farm laws in 2020-21, has announced that a delegation will visit Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Sunday to express solidarity with students protesting over alleged examination irregularities.

According to a statement issued by the SKM, the delegation will reach the protest site at 11 a.m. and extend support to the

students participating in the agitation. The farmers' body said it also stood in solidarity with climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, who has reportedly been participating in the protest demanding accountability in the education system.

In a letter addressed to the organisers of the demonstration, the SKM expressed support for what it described as a peaceful democratic movement and conveyed sympathy to students and

families allegedly affected by repeated examination-related issues, including paper leaks and irregularities.

The organisation stated that every student has the right to a transparent, fair and credible examination system and asserted that ensuring such standards is the responsibility of the government.

The SKM recalled that its National Council had earlier adopted a resolution supporting stu-

dents demanding greater accountability in the conduct of competitive examinations and opposing what it termed growing irregularities in the education sector.

Highlighting the connection between farmers and students, the farmers' body said that the youth represent the future of the country and that many students come from farming families. It maintained that the struggles of students and youth are closely

linked with those of farmers and that democratic organisations have a moral responsibility to support young people seeking justice.

The organisation expressed hope that its visit to the protest site would strengthen the movement and encourage constructive dialogue between the protesters and the government. It also called for measures to restore public confidence in the examination system through greater transpar-

ency and accountability.

In its appeal, the SKM urged students, youth, farmers, workers and citizens from different sections of society to participate peacefully in the demonstration and support demands for reforms in the education and examination process.

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha is a coalition of several farmers' organisations, primarily from Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. It gained national prominence

after leading the year-long agitation against the three central farm laws introduced by the Union government. Following prolonged protests, the Centre repealed the three laws in November 2021.

The latest announcement signals the SKM's decision to extend its support beyond agrarian issues by expressing solidarity with student movements raising concerns over examination governance and accountability.

India Sends High-Level Delegation to Ayatollah Khamenei's Funeral

India was represented by Union Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita and Bihar Governor Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Syed Ata Hasnain at the funeral ceremony of Iran's former Supreme Leader, Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, held in Tehran. The two leaders paid their respects on behalf of the Government and the people of India, reaffirming the long-standing civilizational ties between the two nations.

Following the ceremony, Pabitra Margherita shared on social media that the Indian delegation had conveyed condolences and respect to the Iranian leadership and people. Bihar Raj Bhavan also confirmed Governor Hasnain's participation, stating that he expressed sympathy to the families of those who lost their lives during the recent conflict in West Asia.

The Embassy of Iran in India acknowledged the presence of the Indian delegation by



sharing visuals of the tribute ceremony. In a separate post, the embassy also highlighted the participation of a delegation of Indian religious leaders who paid homage to the late Iranian leader.

According to official sources, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian had extended an invitation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the funeral. However, the Indian government nominated Minister of State Pabitra Margherita and Governor Syed Ata Hasnain as its official representatives.

Former External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid attended the ceremony on behalf of the Congress party.

Responding to media queries during a weekly briefing, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal confirmed that the Indian delegation represented the Government of India at the funeral. He noted that the high-level participation reflected the importance India attaches to its historic relationship with Iran.

The Ministry of External Affairs earlier stated that the representation underscores the deep-rooted civilizational links, strong people-to-people contacts, and enduring political and economic engagement between the two countries. India and Iran have maintained close cooperation in areas including trade, connectivity, energy, and regional security over the years.

The funeral ceremonies are being conducted in phases across Iran. While the official mourning ceremony was held in Tehran, the main public funeral procession is scheduled for July 6. Additional memorial events will take place in the holy city of Qom on July 7, with the final burial ceremony planned in Mashhad, the late leader's hometown, on July 9.

India's participation in the funeral reflects its continued commitment to maintaining constructive diplomatic engagement with Iran and honouring the longstanding friendship between the two nations.

India-Israel Investment Pact Comes into Force



The Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA) between India and Israel officially came into force on July 4, 2026, marking a significant milestone in the economic relationship between the two countries. The agreement is expected to strengthen investor confidence, promote cross-border investments, and deepen long-term economic cooperation between India and Israel.

The agreement was signed on September 8, 2025, in New Delhi by the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Israel. Its implementation follows the completion of all required legal and procedural formalities by both countries.

According to the Ministry of Finance, the BIA establishes a transparent and predictable legal framework for investments, providing stronger protection to investors and their investments while preserving the sovereign right of both governments to regulate in the public interest.

The agreement has been designed in line with India's modern investment treaty framework. It balances investor protection with the government's ability to pursue legitimate public policy objectives, including measures related to public health, environmental

protection, national security, and financial stability. The treaty reflects evolving international investment law and contemporary global standards governing bilateral investment agreements.

Officials said the BIA is expected to encourage greater investment flows between India and Israel by reducing uncertainty and enhancing legal certainty for businesses operating across both markets. The agreement provides confidence to investors by laying down clear rules regarding investment protection, fair treatment, dispute resolution, and other investment-related obligations.

India and Israel have steadily expanded their strategic partnership over the past three decades, with cooperation spanning defence, agriculture, water management, innovation, cybersecurity, renewable energy, healthcare, artificial intelligence, and advanced manufacturing. Bilateral trade has also witnessed consistent growth, supported by increasing business collaborations and technology partnerships.

The new investment agreement is expected to provide additional momentum to this relationship by facilitating long-term investments in key sectors such as infrastructure, technology, clean energy, re-

search and development, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, digital innovation, and manufacturing.

Government officials believe the treaty will also strengthen business confidence among companies seeking to establish or expand operations in either country. By offering a stable and rules-based investment environment, the BIA aims to attract fresh capital while supporting sustainable economic growth and employment generation.

The agreement also reflects the commitment of both governments to fostering closer economic integration and creating a business-friendly environment for investors.

The India-Israel Bilateral Investment Agreement 2026 has been made available on the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance website, enabling investors, businesses, and other stakeholders to access the complete provisions of the treaty.

With the agreement now in force, India and Israel are expected to witness stronger investment cooperation, enhanced commercial engagement, and deeper economic ties in the years ahead, further reinforcing their comprehensive strategic partnership.

Trump Hails Founding Fathers Ahead of America's 250th Anniversary

South Dakota, July 5: US President Donald Trump paid glowing tributes to four of America's most influential founding leaders during a patriotic address at Mount Rushmore, as the United States marked the eve of its 250th Independence Day celebrations.

Addressing a large gathering, Trump praised George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt, describing them as "American giants" whose leadership shaped the nation's destiny.

He said the four leaders embodied courage, intelligence, ambition, and determination, adding that their achievements continue to inspire generations of Americans. According to Trump, the monument serves as a lasting reminder of the values that built the United States



and the ideals that continue to define the country's identity.

Calling them "men of action" and "great men of history," Trump said they declared, secured, defended, and preserved American freedom. He urged citizens to rededicate themselves to building a nation that reflects the same boldness and greatness demonstrated by these historic leaders.

The President also highlighted America's contributions to global progress, describing the

country as the birthplace of numerous technological, scientific, and cultural innovations. He credited the United States with pioneering inventions such as the light bulb, telephone, airplane, assembly line, personal computer, internet, GPS, and smartphone. He also pointed to achievements including mapping the human genome, harnessing nuclear energy, and landing astronauts on the Moon.

Trump further praised the

country's influence in entertainment, sports, and research, noting that Americans have earned the highest number of Nobel Prizes, Olympic medals, patents, and world records. He also cited the nation's role in developing globally popular sports such as baseball, basketball, football, volleyball, NASCAR, and rodeo.

Describing the United States as "the greatest civilization in human history," Trump said the country's pioneers forged a unique national character built on freedom, resilience, and innovation.

Concluding his address, the President vowed to safeguard the legacy of America's founders, declaring that no one would be allowed to diminish the nation's heritage or achievements as it enters its 250th year of independence.

5.5-Magnitude Earthquake Jolts Central Chile Coast

A moderate earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale struck off the coast of central Chile on Friday, according to the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ). The tremor occurred at a shallow depth of 10 kilometres beneath the Earth's surface, a factor that can increase the intensity of ground shaking in nearby areas.

The GFZ reported that the earthquake's epicentre was located near Chile's central coastline, a region that frequently experiences seismic activity due to its position along the Pacific Ring of Fire. No immediate reports of casualties, injuries, or significant property damage were available following the quake.

Authorities are continuing to assess the impact of the earthquake while monitoring the affected areas for any aftershocks. Emergency response agencies have advised residents to remain alert and follow official safety instructions



as inspections of infrastructure and public utilities continue.

Chile is one of the world's most earthquake-prone countries because it lies on the boundary where the Nazca tectonic plate subducts beneath the South American plate. This ongoing geological process generates frequent earthquakes of varying magnitudes, ranging from minor tremors to powerful seismic events capable of causing widespread destruction.

The country has developed

one of the world's most advanced earthquake preparedness and response systems. Strict building regulations, regular disaster preparedness drills, and efficient emergency management have significantly reduced the impact of many earthquakes over the years.

Although Friday's 5.5-magnitude quake is classified as moderate, experts note that shallow earthquakes can be strongly felt over a wide area. Residents in coastal communities reported noticeable shaking, prompting many people to briefly

evacuate buildings as a precaution. Seismologists continue to monitor the region for aftershocks, which commonly follow earthquakes as the Earth's crust adjusts after the initial release of energy. Most aftershocks are smaller than the main event, though some can still be strong enough to cause additional damage to already weakened structures.

At the time of reporting, there were no tsunami warnings issued by the relevant authorities, indicating that the earthquake was not expected to generate dangerous sea waves.

Officials have urged the public to remain calm while staying informed through official government and emergency management channels. Citizens have also been reminded to keep emergency kits ready and review earthquake safety procedures, as Chile's geographical location makes seismic events an ongoing natural hazard requiring constant preparedness.

Massive US Fireworks Display Sparks Health and Environmental Concerns

Washington is preparing to host what organizers describe as the world's largest fireworks display as part of the United States' 250th Independence anniversary celebrations, but the ambitious spectacle has also sparked widespread concern among health experts, environmentalists and animal welfare advocates.

The "Freedom250" initiative, backed by the Trump administration, plans to launch more than 850,000 fireworks from 10 locations around the Lincoln Memorial and the Potomac River. The 40-minute display is expected to surpass the current Guinness World Record for the largest fireworks show, set in the Philippines in 2016.

Organizers have promoted the event as a once-in-a-generation celebration featuring aerial displays, military flyovers, cultural performances and large public gatherings. However, the total cost of the event has not been disclosed.

Scientists have warned that the massive fireworks display could



significantly deteriorate air quality. Atmospheric chemistry experts say fireworks release large amounts of fine particulate matter (PM2.5), which can penetrate deep into the lungs, enter the bloodstream and increase the risk of respiratory and cardiovascular problems.

Professor Russell Dickerson of the University of Maryland cautioned that launching such an enormous number of fireworks during hot weather and already polluted conditions could expose thousands of spectators to unhealthy levels of airborne pollutants. Experts noted that smoke

may linger longer because of the ongoing heat wave affecting the eastern United States.

Air quality specialists also highlighted that fireworks emit trace metals and volatile organic compounds that contribute to pollution. According to environmental monitoring data, Washington experienced hazardous spikes in PM2.5 levels during last year's Independence Day celebrations, with pollution reaching levels comparable to some of the world's most polluted cities.

Animal welfare groups have also voiced concern over the impact of the loud explosions. Veteri-

narians say fireworks often cause severe stress in pets, particularly dogs, leading to panic, trembling and attempts to flee. Wildlife experts warn that birds and other animals can also suffer long-term disturbances to their natural habitats. Environmental researchers further pointed to studies showing that chemicals used in fireworks, including perchlorate, can contaminate groundwater and surface water after large displays.

Despite the concerns, supporters argue that fireworks remain an important part of American tradition and national celebrations. Public health experts acknowledge the cultural significance of Independence Day but encourage authorities to balance patriotic festivities with environmental protection and public health considerations.

The record-breaking display is expected to attract hundreds of thousands of spectators as the United States marks its historic 250th anniversary.

India Names 23 Terror Operatives Under Security Crackdown



India has intensified its counter-terrorism efforts by identifying and pursuing several individuals allegedly linked to Pakistan-based terrorist organisations, including Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD), Al-Qaeda, and ISIS. The latest list includes operatives accused of involvement in terror financing, recruitment, logistics, cross-border infiltration, drone-based arms smuggling, and conspiracy to carry out attacks in India.

Among those named is Mohammad Yaqoob, also known as Abu Sumama, who is alleged to serve as an operational commander of LeT from Islamabad. Investigators claim he coordinated financial and logistical support for militants operating in the Kashmir Valley, and a case has been registered against him under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

Another individual, Maulana Yusuf Taibi, has been identified as a senior JuD and LeT functionary associated with the organisations'

religious outreach and administrative activities. Authorities allege he has held leadership positions within institutions linked to the network.

Indian national Owais Farooz has also been named. According to investigators, he travelled to Pakistan in 2018 and allegedly joined LeT. Officials say a proclamation order has been issued against him by a National Investigation Agency (NIA) court after he failed to appear before investigators.

The list further includes Qari Yaqub Sheikh, who has been accused of raising funds internationally for LeT and JuD and has previously been designated a global terrorist by the United States. Rana Iftikhar, described as a close associate of LeT leadership, is alleged to have managed finances for the group's Kashmir operations and welfare activities for families of imprisoned or deceased militants. Security agencies have also identified Wasim Noor Jat, also known as Qari Wasim, as a JeM operative allegedly involved in coordinating

drone-based delivery of weapons and ammunition into Indian territory during 2021 and 2022. One of the most significant names on the list is Mohammad Shahid Faisal, who investigators allege has maintained links with LeT, Al-Qaeda, and ISIS while operating from Pakistan. Authorities accuse him of acting as a handler in multiple terrorism-related investigations, including cases involving the 2024 Rameswaram Cafe blast, the Mangaluru cooker blast, and alleged ISIS recruitment networks. He is also accused of using encrypted messaging platforms and social media channels to radicalise and recruit individuals.

Indian security agencies say the action is part of broader efforts to dismantle cross-border terror networks, disrupt financing channels, and prevent recruitment and infiltration. Authorities continue to pursue legal action under anti-terror laws while coordinating with international partners in cases involving designated global terrorists and transnational extremist networks.

Happy Steels to Launch ₹25-Crore IPO on July 9

Punjab-based precision automotive components manufacturer Happy Steels is set to launch its Initial Public Offering (IPO) on July 9, aiming to raise nearly 25 crore through a fresh issue of equity shares. The company plans to utilize the proceeds to strengthen its business operations and support future growth initiatives.

The IPO consists entirely of a fresh issue of 37.88 lakh equity shares, with no offer-for-sale (OFS) component. This means the entire amount raised from the issue will flow directly to the company, enabling it to fund its expansion plans rather than providing an exit route for existing shareholders.

The company has fixed the price band at 62 to 66 per equity share, valuing Happy Steels at approximately 94 crore at the upper end of the price band. At the maximum issue price, the company expects to mobilize around 25 crore from the public offering.

Ahead of the public subscription, the anchor investor portion of the issue will open for a single day on July 8. The IPO will then remain open for public subscription from July 9 to July 11, giving investors three days to bid for shares.

Happy Steels manufactures precision automotive components that cater to the automobile industry, supplying prod-



ucts designed to meet stringent quality and engineering standards. The company has built its business around manufacturing specialized components for automotive applications and aims to leverage increasing demand from the sector to expand its operations.

The IPO comes at a time when investor interest in small and medium enterprise (SME) public issues remains robust. Several manufacturing companies have tapped the capital markets in recent months to fund capacity expansion, technology upgrades, working capital requirements, and business development. By opting for a fresh issue, Happy Steels intends to strengthen its financial position and create additional production capabilities to meet growing customer demand. The company is also expected to focus on improving operational efficiency and en-

hancing its manufacturing infrastructure. The automobile component industry continues to benefit from rising vehicle production, increasing localization of manufacturing, and the growing shift toward advanced engineering solutions. Companies operating in the sector are also exploring opportunities arising from the expansion of electric vehicles and exports.

Market participants will closely watch the subscription response to Happy Steels' IPO, as investor appetite for manufacturing and auto ancillary businesses has remained encouraging. The company's listing is expected to provide it with greater visibility, improved access to capital, and a stronger platform for long-term growth while offering investors an opportunity to participate in its future expansion journey.

SEBI Clears Waaree Promoter Trust Transfer Without Open Offer

India's capital markets regulator, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), has granted an exemption to Waaree Energies Limited's promoter family from making a mandatory open offer as part of a succession planning exercise. The regulator ruled that the proposed transfer of promoter shareholding to a family trust is an internal restructuring measure that does not alter the company's control structure or adversely affect public shareholders.

The exemption allows the CT Doshi Family Trust to acquire a direct 44.88 percent stake in Waaree Energies from promoter Chimanlal Tribhuvandas Doshi. In addition, the trust will gain an indirect 18.34 percent stake through the acquisition of nearly 100 percent of Waaree Sustainable Finance Pvt. Ltd., a promoter group entity.

Under normal circumstances, such a large acquisition would have triggered the provisions of the SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011,



commonly known as the Takeover Code. These rules require an acquirer crossing 25 percent voting rights or obtaining control of a listed company to make an open offer to public shareholders. Similar requirements also apply to indirect acquisitions through holding companies or trusts.

However, after examining the proposal, SEBI concluded that the transaction is a non-commercial, family succession arrangement aimed solely at ensuring continuity of ownership and governance within the promoter family. Since there is no change in the ulti-

mate control or management of Waaree Energies, the regulator found that the interests of minority shareholders would remain unaffected.

The regulator observed that the restructuring is intended to facilitate an orderly transfer of wealth and management across generations rather than to acquire control for commercial purposes. As a result, the exemption from the mandatory open offer requirement was considered appropriate.

Succession planning through family trusts has increasingly become a preferred mechanism for promoter fami-

lies of listed companies to ensure smooth ownership transitions while maintaining long-term stability. Such trusts help preserve business continuity, simplify estate planning, and reduce the risk of ownership disputes among future generations.

SEBI has, in the past, granted similar exemptions in cases where transfers were purely inter-generational and did not involve any change in the controlling shareholders or governance framework. The latest decision reinforces the regulator's approach of distinguishing genuine succession planning from acquisitions intended to alter corporate control.

Waaree Energies, one of India's leading solar energy companies, will continue to remain under the control of the existing promoter family following the transfer. The exemption enables the restructuring to proceed without requiring an open offer, while ensuring that the rights and interests of public shareholders remain protected.

Temasek Arm Sells 2.2% Stake in PB Fintech for ₹1,633 Crore

Singapore-based investment giant Temasek Holdings, through its indirect wholly owned subsidiary Macritchie Investments Pte Ltd, has sold a 2.2 percent stake in PB Fintech Ltd, the parent company of Policybazaar and Paisabazaar, in a major block deal worth 1,632.98 crore.

According to bulk deal data released by the stock exchanges, Macritchie Investments of-floated 1.01 crore equity shares through open market transactions on July 3. The shares were sold at an average price of 1,604.12 per share.

Following the large stake sale, PB Fintech's stock witnessed heavy selling pressure on Friday. The shares opened with a sharp gap-down and ended the trading session 5.4 percent lower at 1,591.20 on the National Stock Exchange amid significantly higher trading volumes.

As per the company's March 2026 shareholding pattern, Macritchie Investments held a



6.47 percent stake in PB Fintech before the transaction. After selling 2.2 percent equity, the Temasek subsidiary continues to remain a significant shareholder in the company.

PB Fintech operates two of India's leading digital financial platforms—Policybazaar, an online insurance marketplace, and Paisabazaar, a digital lending and credit platform. The company has emerged as one of the country's largest fintech players, offering insurance comparison, policy purchases, loan products, and other finan-

cial services. Large institutional investors periodically trim their holdings as part of portfolio rebalancing or investment strategy adjustments. Such stake sales do not necessarily indicate any change in the company's business fundamentals but often influence short-term market sentiment due to the increased supply of shares.

The sharp fall in PB Fintech's share price reflected investor caution following the sizeable transaction, even though the sale was executed through the open market. Market participants will now monitor future shareholding disclosures and institutional activity to assess the impact of the transaction on the stock.

PB Fintech has remained in focus in recent quarters on the back of improving financial performance, growing insurance penetration, and expanding digital financial services, making it one of the closely tracked fintech stocks in the Indian equity market.

Artha Bharat Investment Managers has launched India's first physical gold fund authorised by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), marking a significant milestone in the country's bullion investment ecosystem. The new fund is expected to boost institutional participation in the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) and strengthen India's position as a global bullion trading hub.

The fund has been designed to provide institutional investors with direct exposure to physical gold through a regulated investment structure. By enabling investments backed by physical bullion, the initiative aims to offer greater transparency, security, and efficiency while encouraging wider participation in the international bullion market operating from Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).

Artha Bharat said the launch aligns with India's broader vision of establishing the IIBX as a globally competitive bullion exchange. Increased institutional participation is expected to improve



market liquidity, enhance price discovery, and facilitate more efficient gold trading within the country's financial ecosystem.

The India International Bullion Exchange, inaugurated in 2022 at GIFT City, serves as India's first international bullion exchange, allowing qualified jewellers, banks, bullion dealers, and institutional participants to directly import and trade gold and silver. The platform was established to reduce India's dependence on overseas bullion exchanges and make domestic pricing more competitive.

The newly launched physical gold fund is expected to attract domestic and interna-

tional institutional investors seeking regulated access to physical gold without the operational complexities associated with direct bullion ownership. Investors can gain exposure to gold through professionally managed investments while benefiting from a regulated framework overseen by the IFSCA.

Market experts believe the fund could play an important role in broadening the investor base of the IIBX, particularly among pension funds, family offices, alternative investment funds, and other institutional entities looking to diversify their portfolios with physical gold assets.

Gold continues to be regard-

ed as a preferred safe-haven investment, especially during periods of market volatility, inflationary pressures, and geopolitical uncertainty. India's position as one of the world's largest consumers of gold further enhances the importance of developing sophisticated investment products linked to the precious metal.

The launch also reflects the growing maturity of India's financial markets, where innovative investment vehicles are being introduced to meet evolving investor preferences. By combining physical gold ownership with a regulated fund structure, Artha Bharat aims to create a credible investment avenue that supports both wealth preservation and long-term portfolio diversification.

With the introduction of this pioneering fund, Artha Bharat expects to contribute to the growth of India's bullion ecosystem while supporting the government's efforts to position GIFT City and the India International Bullion Exchange as globally recognised centres for precious metals trading and investment.

SEBI Revamps Rules for Unpaid Client Securities

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has introduced a revamped framework for handling unpaid client securities, bringing in an investor-friendly system that strengthens shareholder protection while allowing stock brokers to recover legitimate dues. The new regulations introduce an automatic pledge and automatic release mechanism, replacing the earlier framework introduced in 2019 and amended in 2022.

The revised norms come in response to representations made by the Brokers' Industry Standards Forum (ISF), which highlighted operational challenges under the existing system and recommended changes to better align with the current market structure, where securities are credited directly to investors' demat accounts.

Under the new framework, shares purchased by a client but remaining unpaid will continue to be credited directly into the client's demat account. However, these securities will automatically be pledged in favour of a separate Client Unpaid Securities Pledgee Account (CUS-PA) maintained by the broker. This mechanism enables brokers to secure their financial exposure without taking owner-



ship or custody of the client's shares.

A key feature of the revised framework is the introduction of a strict timeline for brokers to act. SEBI has capped the period during which brokers can retain the pledge over unpaid securities. If the broker does not invoke the pledge or initiate recovery proceedings within five trading days, the pledge will be automatically released, restoring complete control of the securities to the investor.

The regulator has also prohibited brokers from using unpaid client securities to raise funds or obtain financing for their own business purposes. This restriction aims to prevent the misuse of client assets and further strengthen investor confidence in the securities market.

SEBI stated that the revised framework strikes a balance be-

tween safeguarding investors' rights and enabling brokers to recover outstanding payments efficiently. By introducing an automated process, the regulator expects to reduce disputes, improve transparency, and eliminate delays associated with manual intervention.

The changes are expected to simplify operational procedures for market participants while ensuring greater accountability among stock brokers. Investors will continue to receive securities directly into their demat accounts, reinforcing the principle that ownership remains with the client even when payment obligations are pending. Market experts believe the new framework will enhance trust in India's capital markets by providing a more transparent and secure system for handling unpaid securities. The automated pledge and release mechanism is also expected to reduce compliance burdens, improve settlement efficiency, and strengthen overall investor protection.

With these reforms, SEBI continues its efforts to modernise market infrastructure and create a regulatory environment that protects investors while ensuring the smooth functioning of the securities market.

Markets Extend Four-Week Rally Despite Rupee Weakness

Indian equity markets extended their winning streak to a fourth consecutive week, with benchmark indices closing at their highest levels in nearly two months. Positive global cues, easing crude oil prices, renewed optimism over a possible India-US trade agreement, and the revival of the southwest monsoon boosted investor sentiment, even as the Indian rupee weakened sharply against the US dollar.

For the week, the BSE Sensex advanced 663.44 points (0.86%) to settle at 77,763.91, while the Nifty 50 gained 214.85 points (0.89%) to close at 24,270.85. Softer crude prices, driven by improving prospects for a US-Iran peace arrangement and easing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, also supported the rally.

Sectoral performance remained broadly positive. The Nifty Realty Index emerged as the biggest gainer, surging nearly 8 percent, followed by the Nifty Pharma and Nifty Healthcare indices, which rose around 3 percent each. The Nifty Capital Market and Nifty Defence indices also posted gains of nearly 2 percent. However, banking stocks underperformed, with the Nifty



PSU Bank Index falling 2.6 percent, while the Nifty Energy Index slipped 1 percent. The Nifty Bank and Nifty Private Bank indices also ended the week marginally lower.

In the broader market, the Nifty Midcap 100 Index rose 0.6 percent, led by gains in Oberoi Realty, L&T Finance, One 97 Communications (Paytm), Godrej Properties, Phoenix Mills, and Prestige Estates Projects. Among the notable losers were KPIT Technologies, Tata Elxsi, Waaree Energies, Bharat Heavy Electricals, JSW Energy, and Indian Bank.

The Nifty Smallcap 100 Index outperformed with a 2 percent

gain, supported by strong buying in Aegis Logistics, Zensar Technologies, Ather Energy, Five-Star Business Finance, Inventurus Knowledge Solutions, Delhivery, and City Union Bank. Stocks such as Tata Chemicals, Tata Technologies, NBCC (India), and Indraprastha Gas ended the week in negative territory.

The rally added nearly 5 lakh crore to the total market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies. Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Finance, Eternal, and Bajaj Finserv were among the biggest contributors to the increase in market value, while Larsen & Toubro, Reliance Industries, and Kotak Mahindra Bank witnessed the largest ero-

sion in market capitalisation. Institutional investment trends remained mixed. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net sellers, offloading equities worth around 4,000 crore during the week. In contrast, Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) provided strong support by investing 12,633.54 crore, helping offset foreign outflows and sustaining the market's upward momentum.

Despite the gains in equities, the Indian rupee weakened considerably. The domestic currency ended the week at 95.22 per US dollar, compared with 94.40 in the previous week, marking a depreciation of 82 paise. During the week, the rupee traded in a range of 94.24 to 95.39, reflecting continued volatility amid global trade concerns and external market pressures.

With benchmark indices maintaining their upward trajectory and domestic institutional support remaining strong, market participants will now closely monitor global developments, corporate earnings, inflation trends, and policy announcements for further direction in the coming weeks.

America@250: Grand Celebrations Light Up Skies

The United States has begun marking a historic milestone as celebrations for the 250th anniversary of American independence unfolded with dazzling displays, military pageantry and patriotic events across the country.

Ahead of the official Independence Day observance on July 4, cities across America witnessed spectacular aerial performances, drone shows and fireworks, symbolising two and a half centuries of freedom and nationhood. The commemorative events, organised under the "America 250" initiative, showcased the country's

history, achievements and cultural legacy.

In Texas, vibrant pyrotechnic displays illuminated the night sky, featuring iconic American imagery including the bald eagle and Uncle Sam. Thousands gathered to witness the celebrations as fireworks created colourful patterns, reflecting the spirit of national pride.

One of the major attractions was held in North Richland Hills, Texas, where an impressive drone show involving nearly 2,500 drones captivated audiences. The drones formed giant images of a rocket, a

soaring bald eagle and the likeness of George Washington, America's first president, offering a blend of technology and patriotism.

The celebrations also extended to the nation's capital, Washington DC, where the Great American State Fair hosted several commemorative events. Military flypasts added grandeur to the occasion as elite parachute teams descended into the National Mall carrying a massive American flag. Spectators were treated to thrilling aerial demonstrations by fighter jets and precision flying teams, highlighting the coun-

try's military traditions.

Elsewhere, patriotic visuals transformed some of America's most recognisable landmarks. The Sphere in Las Vegas displayed striking images celebrating the nation's journey, while the Washington Monument was illuminated with visuals depicting significant moments in American history. The festivities were not limited to the United States alone. The 250th anniversary celebrations resonated internationally, with landmarks in Tokyo, Japan, joining in the commemorations. Tokyo Tower, Rainbow Bridge and the To-

kyo Aqua Symphony were illuminated in red, white and blue, symbolising friendship and longstanding ties between the two nations.

The United States Embassy in Tokyo encouraged residents and visitors to participate in the celebrations by sharing photographs and experiences, reflecting the global reach of the commemorative events.

As America celebrates 250 years since declaring its independence, the nationwide festivities represent not only a tribute to its past but also a reflection on its future aspirations. Through fireworks,



drone technology, military displays and international participation, the anniversary celebrations have become a powerful symbol of unity, resilience and national identity.

AI Exposes Festival Ticketing Flaw



Artificial intelligence has once again highlighted its growing influence in cybersecurity after helping a researcher uncover a significant vulnerability in a ticketing platform used by some of the largest music festivals in the United States.

The issue was discovered by independent cybersecurity researcher Ian Carroll, who used an advanced AI model developed by Anthropic to identify a weakness in the systems operated by Front Gate Tickets. The company manages ticket sales and event access for several prominent festivals, including Lollapalooza, Bonnaroo, South by Southwest and Austin City Limits.

According to Carroll, the vulnerability had the potential to expose millions of customer and staff records and could have allowed unauthorised users to generate event tickets, including high-value VIP passes. He stated that the artificial intelligence system assisted in identifying a method to bypass security protections designed to prevent a known category of cyberattacks.

Carroll explained that the AI tool suggested techniques and pathways that he had not initially considered, ultimately helping him gain access to administrative controls within the ticketing infrastructure. Despite obtaining access

to sensitive areas of the system, he stressed that no tickets were created, altered or misused. Instead, the findings were immediately reported to the company through responsible disclosure practices.

Front Gate Tickets responded swiftly after receiving the report and confirmed that the vulnerability was resolved within 24 hours. The company said there was no evidence indicating that customer information had been compromised or that malicious actors had exploited the flaw before it was fixed.

Company officials clarified that the weakness affected an internal platform used by event entry scanners rather

than customer-facing ticket purchasing systems. They also noted that several premium access categories rely on physical RFID wristbands, which could not have been generated through the identified vulnerability.

The incident has renewed discussions about the expanding role of artificial intelligence in cybersecurity. While AI-powered systems are increasingly being used to strengthen digital defences and identify weaknesses before attackers can exploit them, experts caution that the same technology can accelerate the discovery of vulnerabilities in complex software systems.

Anthropic stated that its Cyber Verification Program enables authorised security researchers to use advanced AI tools in a controlled and responsible manner to improve online safety. The company emphasised that it has safeguards in place to detect and prevent attempts to misuse its technology for illegal hacking activities.

Cybersecurity specialists believe the episode serves as a reminder that organisations must continuously upgrade their security practices as artificial intelligence becomes more capable, sophisticated and widely available. The growing adoption of AI is expected to transform cybersecurity, presenting both powerful opportunities for defence and new challenges in protecting critical digital infrastructure.

Promise Fulfilled, Mother Soars High



A heartwarming video capturing a son's effort to fulfil a childhood promise to his mother has touched millions of people on social media, turning an emotional family moment into an inspiring story of love, gratitude and perseverance.

Instagram influencer Yogesh Rawat shared a video documenting his mother's first-ever helicopter ride, a dream he had promised to make come true when he was a young boy. The touching journey unfolded in the picturesque hill town of Munsyari, where Rawat finally fulfilled the promise he had cherished for years.

In the video, Rawat recalls telling his mother during his childhood that once he became successful, he would take her on a helicopter ride. Years later, he was able to honour that commitment, making the experience a deeply emotional milestone for both mother and son.

While his mother initially appeared excited about the adventure, her enthusiasm soon turned into nervousness as she came face-to-face with the heli-

copter. Overcome with fear, she hesitated to board the aircraft and held onto her son's leg, expressing concerns about the journey ahead.

Rawat patiently comforted and reassured her, telling her that she had nothing to fear because he would be by her side throughout the ride. His words gradually eased her anxiety, allowing her to gather the confidence to step aboard.

As the helicopter ascended into the sky, her apprehension slowly faded away and was replaced by amazement and joy. The video shows her becoming increasingly comfortable, taking in the breathtaking aerial views and enjoying the unique experience. At one point, she even wore her son's sunglasses and enthusiastically gestured with excitement, fully embracing the adventure.

The stunning landscapes visible from above added to the emotional significance of the moment. Rawat shared panoramic views of his village and surrounding mountains, describing their beauty as compa-

nable to some of the most scenic destinations in the world.

Reflecting on the experience, Rawat said that although he was the one taking his mother on the journey, it was the child within him who felt the greatest happiness. Fulfilling a promise made many years ago brought him immense satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment beyond material success.

When asked about her experience after the ride, his mother simply smiled and described it as "very nice," a response that resonated deeply with viewers.

The video has since gone viral, garnering millions of views and thousands of heartfelt reactions. Social media users praised the bond between the mother and son, with many describing the gesture as a true measure of success. Others said the clip reminded them of the importance of creating memorable experiences for parents and cherishing the sacrifices they make throughout life.

Man Opens Up About Feeling Isolated While Working From Home

A young professional's candid reflections on working from home have resonated widely online, sparking conversations about isolation, human connection and the changing nature of modern workplaces.

Naman, who recently completed his first month of remote work, shared a video describing how his perception of working from home evolved over time. What initially seemed like an ideal arrangement offering flexibility and freedom eventually left him feeling disconnected from people and trapped in a monotonous routine.

In the video, he admitted that he had always viewed commuting as an unnecessary burden and believed that remote work would provide him with more personal time and a better quality of life. However, after experiencing the reality of working from home, he realised that the extra hours saved each day did not necessarily translate into greater happiness.

According to Naman, the absence of casual interactions with colleagues and the lack of everyday social engagement created a sense of emptiness. He said that while he had succeeded in reclaiming time that would otherwise have been spent travelling, he found himself missing spontaneous conversations, shared experiences and the human connections that are often taken for granted



in office environments.

Reflecting on the experience, he questioned whether saving time alone was enough if it resulted in feelings of loneliness and isolation. He described remote work as a repetitive cycle in which days blended together, making life feel less dynamic and engaging.

Naman also used the opportunity to discuss a broader aspect of life and ambition. He observed that people often spend much of their lives pursuing the next milestone, believing that achieving a particular goal will finally bring satisfaction. Before securing a job, he said, employment seemed like the ultimate aspiration. Once employed, however, new frustrations

emerged, leading him to seek greater freedom and independence.

His reflections highlighted what he believes is a common human tendency to constantly look ahead rather than appreciating present circumstances. He suggested that complete contentment often remains elusive because aspirations continue to evolve with every achievement.

Concluding his message, Naman encouraged people to focus less on outcomes and more on embracing the journey itself. He advised individuals to make the most of their current situations, strive to do their best and learn to find joy in everyday experiences rather than becoming consumed by

expectations about the future.

The video quickly gained attention on social media, with many users saying they related closely to his experiences. Several professionals shared similar feelings about the challenges of prolonged remote work, particularly the loss of workplace camaraderie and social interaction.

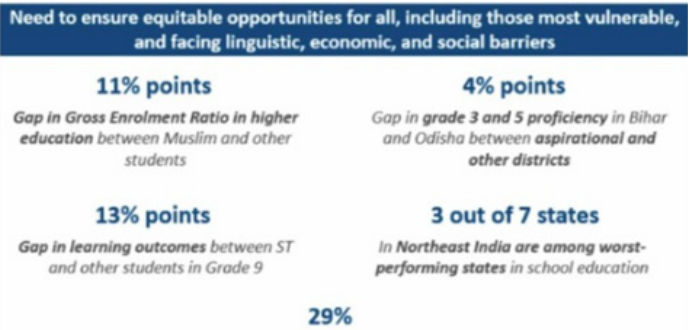
Others approached the discussion with humour, highlighting the ongoing debate between office-based work and remote employment. The conversation reflects a growing recognition that while working from home offers convenience and flexibility, maintaining social connections and a healthy work-life balance remains equally important.

AI Roadmap Charts Future of Education in India

India's education sector is poised for a transformative shift as a new report by Wadhvani AI, developed in collaboration with The Bridgespan Group and supported by Google.org, lays out a comprehensive roadmap for integrating responsible artificial intelligence into the country's public education system.

Titled "Harnessing AI in Education for Future Readiness: Bold Bets for Every Learner," the report presents a vision for leveraging AI to improve learning outcomes, strengthen educational delivery and prepare millions of students for a rapidly evolving digital economy. It highlights India's unique position to adopt AI-enabled education at scale, supported by progressive policy frameworks and expanding digital infrastructure. With more than 250 million students enrolled across nearly 1.5 million schools, of which close to 60 per cent are government and aided institutions, India possesses one of the world's largest education ecosystems. According to the report, this vast network presents an unprecedented opportunity to use artificial intelligence to address challenges related to access, quality, equity and efficiency.

The report points to the enabling environment created by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and digital platforms such as DIKSHA and the National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR). These ini-



tiatives have laid the foundation for scalable technology adoption, making it possible to introduce AI-driven interventions across diverse educational settings.

Shekar Sivasubramanian, Head of Wadhvani AI, emphasised that technology alone cannot transform education. He stressed the need for AI solutions to be embedded within strong systems supported by teachers, reliable data and effective safeguards. According to him, the real measure of success will be the ability to deliver meaningful learning experiences that can be sustained and expanded within public education systems. The report estimates that AI-enabled education could contribute as much as \$2.6 trillion to India's Gross Domestic Product by 2047, aligning with the nation's ambitious Viksit Bharat vision. This economic potential underscores the importance of investing in innovative educational models that equip learners with future-ready skills.

Marija Ralic, Head of APAC Grantmaking at Google.org, highlighted the role of quality education as the foundation for future growth, noting that artificial intelligence can help unlock opportunities for continuous learning and skill development at scale.

The study identifies seven strategic "Bold Bets," including personalised learning pathways, AI-powered teacher support systems, multilingual learning access and adaptive assessments. Together, these interventions have the potential to positively impact up to 350 million learners across the country.

Importantly, early deployments of AI-based assessments and adaptive learning tools in several states are already demonstrating encouraging results. As India moves toward a knowledge-driven economy, the report suggests that responsible and inclusive adoption of AI could play a decisive role in shaping the future of education for generations to come.

FIFA World Cup 2026 Enters High-Stakes Round of 16

The FIFA World Cup 2026 has reached one of its most thrilling phases as the Round of 16 begins, bringing together the world's top footballing nations in a battle for a place in the quarterfinals. After weeks of intense competition featuring 48 teams, only 16 remain in contention for the most coveted trophy in world football.

The expanded tournament format has delivered several memorable moments, surprise performances, and dramatic exits. Teams that successfully navigated the group stage and knockout encounters have now entered a stage where every match becomes a do-or-die contest. A single mistake can end a nation's dream, while one inspired performance can create history.

Among the biggest talking points of the tournament has been the emergence of underdog teams that exceeded expectations. Cape Verde captured global attention with its remarkable run before eventually bowing out against Argentina in the Round of 32. Their journey has been hailed as one of the standout stories of the competition, proving once again that the World Cup is capable of producing unforgettable surprises.

Traditional powerhouses



such as Argentina, Brazil, France, England, Spain, and Portugal continue to be among the favourites, but the competition remains fiercely unpredictable. Nations like Morocco, Norway, Colombia, Belgium, and Egypt have also shown impressive form and are eager to challenge the established hierarchy.

The Round of 16 promises several fascinating encounters. Canada faces Morocco in a clash between two teams looking to continue their dream run, while France takes on Paraguay in what is expected to be a highly competitive fixture. Brazil will battle Norway, and England will meet Mexico in another eagerly anticipated contest. One of the standout matches of the round will see Iberian

rivals Portugal and Spain renew their historic rivalry on football's biggest stage. Meanwhile, the United States will lock horns with Belgium, Argentina will face Egypt, and Switzerland will take on Colombia in what could be another closely fought encounter.

The winners from these matches will advance to the quarterfinals scheduled from July 10 to 12, followed by the semifinals on July 15 and 16. The third-place playoff is set for July 19, while the grand finale will take place on July 20.

With the stakes higher than ever, fans across the globe are eagerly awaiting another chapter of drama, passion, and brilliance as the FIFA World Cup 2026 moves closer to crowning its next champion.

Abrar Ahmed Faces Tough Choice Between National Duty and Franchise Commitment

Pakistan's mystery spinner Abrar Ahmed finds himself at the center of a challenging decision as he weighs national responsibility against a lucrative franchise opportunity. With Pakistan preparing for an important Test series against the West Indies and The Hundred set to begin around the same time, the leg-spinner must decide which path to take.

Abrar was signed by Sunrisers Hyderabad in The Hundred for a reported fee of 190,000 pounds, making him one of the notable overseas acquisitions for the competition. The franchise is owned by Kavya Maran, who also co-owns Sunrisers Hyderabad in the Indian Premier League ecosystem. The substantial contract presents a significant professional opportunity for the spinner.

However, Pakistan's selectors are reportedly keen on including Abrar in the squad for the upcoming two-match Test series in the Caribbean. The national side views him as a valuable asset, especially given his ability to trouble batters with his variations and mystery spin. If selected, Abrar would



likely have to prioritize international duty over franchise cricket.

The scheduling overlap has complicated matters considerably. The Hundred is scheduled to commence on July 21, while Pakistan's first Test against the West Indies is set to begin on July 25. Participating in both competitions may not be possible, forcing the spinner to make a difficult choice.

Abrar's participation in The Hundred has also drawn attention because of the broader sporting context between India and Pakistan. Since Pakistani players do not participate in the IPL, his signing by a franchise linked to Indian ownership gen-

erated considerable discussion among cricket followers. Nevertheless, The Hundred operates under regulations established by the England and Wales Cricket Board, which promotes equal opportunities for players from all cricketing nations.

For Abrar, the dilemma goes beyond finances. Representing Pakistan in Test cricket remains a prestigious honour for any player, while franchise leagues provide substantial earnings and global exposure. Balancing these two aspects has become a common challenge for modern cricketers as international calendars continue to clash with expanding league competitions.

The final decision could depend on Pakistan's squad announcement and whether the Pakistan Cricket Board grants the necessary permissions for participation in overseas leagues. Until then, Abrar remains caught between two attractive opportunities—one offering the pride of wearing national colours and the other promising a rewarding franchise experience on an international stage.

Djokovic Equals Federer's Wimbledon Milestone with 105th Career Victory

Novak Djokovic continued to strengthen his legacy at Wimbledon by registering his 105th career singles victory at the prestigious All England Club, equalling Roger Federer's longstanding record for the most men's singles match wins at the tournament. The Serbian legend achieved the milestone after overcoming France's Arthur Rinderknech in four sets, 7-5, 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (4), in an intense third-round encounter.

At 39 years of age, Djokovic once again demonstrated his resilience and ability to perform under pressure. Although he dominated the opening two sets, the 24-time Grand Slam champion experienced a brief lapse in the third set, which he lost rapidly. However, he regrouped strongly in the fourth set and produced his trademark composure in the tie-break to secure victory. The decisive moment came in dramatic fashion when Rinderknech slipped near the net while attempting a volley. Sensing an opportunity, Djokovic rushed forward and executed a brilliant backhand volley winner to seal the contest. Reflecting on the moment, Djokovic admitted that he hoped his opponent would remain down just long enough for



him to finish the point.

The Serbian star acknowledged the significance of matching Federer's Wimbledon achievement, describing it as a great honour and privilege. He even joked about wanting a symbolic match against Federer to determine who would claim the 106th victory. Djokovic is also pursuing another major milestone, as he seeks to equal Federer's record of eight Wimbledon men's singles titles.

Djokovic admitted that he felt more pressure than usual heading into the match, recognising the challenge posed by Rinderk-

nech. Nevertheless, his experience and mental toughness helped him navigate difficult moments and emerge victorious.

With the win, Djokovic advanced to the fourth round, where he will take on Russian qualifier Roman Safiullin. The Russian reached this stage after producing an impressive straight-sets victory over Brazilian youngster João Fonseca.

Meanwhile, defending champion Jannik Sinner also progressed comfortably into the fourth round with a straight-sets victory over Jenson Brooksby. Sinner appears to be gradually rediscovering his rhythm after recent setbacks and believes his movement and return game are steadily improving. In the women's draw, top seed Aryna Sabalenka and four-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka set up a blockbuster fourth-round clash. Osaka reached the last sixteen at Wimbledon for the first time in her career, while Sabalenka expressed confidence ahead of their highly anticipated encounter.

As Wimbledon enters its decisive stages, Djokovic's pursuit of another title and further records promises to remain one of the tournament's biggest storylines.

England Turn to Altitude Strategy Ahead of Crucial Mexico Clash

As the FIFA World Cup 2026 enters the Round of 16 stage, England's preparations for their highly anticipated encounter against Mexico have taken an unusual turn. Reports indicate that England's players have been granted permission to use Viagra as part of their strategy to cope with the challenging high-altitude conditions in Mexico City.

The knockout fixture is scheduled to be played at the iconic Estadio Azteca on July 6. Situated approximately 7,350 feet above sea level, the stadium presents a significant physical challenge for visiting teams. Reduced oxygen levels at such elevations can lead to quicker fatigue, decreased endurance, and difficulty in maintaining peak performance levels throughout the match.

Medical experts have long studied the potential benefits of sildenafil, commonly known by its brand name Viagra, in high-altitude environments.



Beyond its conventional medical use, the drug is believed to improve blood circulation and help the body utilize oxygen more efficiently, making it a subject of interest in sports science for athletes competing at elevated venues.

England's coaching staff reportedly sought approval from the relevant governing authorities to use the medication strictly for physiological adaptation purposes. Since such substances fall under regulated medical guidelines in pro-

fessional sport, clearance from football and anti-doping authorities is essential before players can use them in a competitive setting.

The decision highlights the importance of marginal gains in modern football, where teams explore every legal avenue to maximize performance. England enters the match as one of the favourites to lift the trophy, but facing Mexico at the Azteca Stadium is expected to be a stern test.

Mexico has enjoyed an im-

pressive campaign so far and remains unbeaten in the tournament. The home side also boasts a formidable record at the Azteca, where passionate supporters and familiar conditions often provide a considerable advantage. Historically, visiting teams have found it difficult to secure victories at the venue, making England's task even more challenging.

While tactics, skill, and experience will ultimately determine the outcome, managing environmental factors has become an increasingly important aspect of elite sport. England's approach reflects the growing influence of sports medicine and scientific preparation in international football.

With a place in the quarterfinals at stake, all eyes will now be on whether England's meticulous planning can help them overcome both Mexico and the demanding conditions of one of football's most iconic stadiums.

A Father's Bold Decision That Changed Sanju Samson's Cricket Journey

Indian wicketkeeper-batter Sanju Samson has opened up about a defining moment in his life, revealing how a courageous decision made by his father transformed his cricketing career forever. Speaking about his early struggles, Samson shared that his journey to professional cricket was shaped not just by talent and hard work, but by the unwavering faith and determination of his family.

Growing up in Delhi, Samson developed a passion for sports at a very young age. His father, Vishwanathan, was associated with the Delhi Police football team, and the family lived in police quarters where sports played an important role in daily life. Surrounded by young athletes and inspired by friends representing Delhi in cricket, Samson dreamt of wearing the Delhi state jersey one day.

With that ambition in mind, he attended trials, participated in state camps, and consistently performed well. However, despite his efforts, he was unable to secure a place in the Delhi state cricket team. The intense competition and limited opportunities proved to be a major setback for the young cricketer.

Samson recalled the day when the final squad list was



announced and his name was missing. It was a disappointing moment for the family. Yet, instead of accepting defeat, his father took an extraordinary decision that would alter the

course of Samson's future. He decided that the family should relocate to Kerala immediately so that his son could pursue better opportunities in cricket. The decision surprised eve-

ryone at home. Samson's mother initially felt that the children were too young and suggested waiting until they completed their schooling. But his father was determined. Within days, the family packed their belongings and moved to Kerala, believing that a fresh start could open new doors.

That move eventually proved to be a turning point in Samson's career. In Kerala, he found the platform he needed to showcase his abilities and began representing the state in domestic cricket. Over the years, his performances earned him recognition at the national level, paving the way for his entry into the Indian team.

Samson also credited his father for identifying his cricketing potential early. Although his father was a football player, he never forced his children into the same sport. Instead, he encouraged Samson and his brother to pursue cricket after recognizing their natural talent.

Looking back, Samson believes that his father's courage, vision, and belief in his abilities laid the foundation for everything he has achieved. What seemed like a risky decision at the time ultimately became the defining chapter of an inspiring cricketing journey.

Vaibhav Suryavanshi Becomes India's Youngest International Cricketer, Breaks Sachin's Record

Manchester, July 4 | TPN Bureau

Indian cricket entered a new era with teenage sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi creating history by becoming the youngest player ever to represent India in international cricket. The 15-year-old made his debut in the second T20 International against England at Old Trafford in Manchester, breaking a record that had stood for more than three decades.

Suryavanshi stepped onto the field at the age of just 15 years and 99 days, surpassing the previous benchmark set by legendary batter Sachin Tendulkar, who made his international debut for India at 16 years and 205 days in 1989. The achievement marks a remarkable milestone in Indian cricket and highlights the emergence of one of the country's brightest young talents.

India captain Shreyas Iyer won the toss and elected to bat first, announcing a single change to the playing XI. Suryavanshi was handed his maiden international opportunity, replacing wicketkeep-



er-batter Sanju Samson in the side. The memorable occasion became even more special as Tilak Varma presented the youngster earned his place in the squad through exceptional performances during training sessions, particularly while facing some of India's most experienced bowlers in the nets. According to Iyer, Suryavanshi displayed remarkable confidence and ma-

has consistently impressed the team management over the last few months. The Indian skipper noted that the youngster earned his place in the squad through exceptional performances during training sessions, particularly while facing some of India's most experienced bowlers in the nets. According to Iyer, Suryavanshi displayed remarkable confidence and ma-

turity despite his young age, showing the temperament needed to succeed in international cricket. His impressive performances behind the scenes convinced the team management that he was ready for the challenge of competing against one of the world's strongest sides. England captain Harry Brook also acknowledged the excitement surrounding Suryavanshi's debut, revealing that his team had prepared for the possibility of the teenager featuring in the match. Brook confirmed the return of fast bowlers Jofra Archer and Josh Tongue to England's playing XI, indicating that the hosts were fully aware of the significance of the occasion.

Suryavanshi's debut is being viewed as a landmark moment for Indian cricket, reflecting the growing confidence in nurturing young talent and providing opportunities to exceptional players at an early stage of their careers. As he begins his international journey, cricket fans across the world will be eager to witness the progress of India's newest prodigy.



Minister Kandula Durgesh Launches ‘Hoyila’ Song

The fourth single, “Hoyila,” from the upcoming Telugu romantic drama Chennai Love Story was unveiled on Saturday at Raj Yuvraj Theatre in Vijayawada by Andhra Pradesh Minister for Tourism, Culture and Cinematography Kandula Durgesh and Deputy Speaker Raghu Rama Krishna Raju. The event brought together the film’s cast, crew and cinema enthusiasts ahead of the film’s worldwide release on July 24.

Produced under the banners of Mass Movie Makers and Amrutha Productions by *S.K.N.* and *Sai Rajesh*, the film is directed by debutant **Ravi Namburi* and stars Kiran Abbavaram and Sri Gouri Priya in the lead roles. The soundtrack has been composed by Mani Sharma, whose melodies have already generated positive buzz among audiences.

Speaking at the event, Minister Kandula Durgesh congratulated the filmmakers for showcasing Andhra Pradesh’s scenic beauty on the silver screen. He noted that much of the film was shot across picturesque locations including *Chirala, **Bapatla, and **Suryalanka Beach*, highlighting the state’s tourism potential through cinema.

The minister reiterated the Andhra Pradesh government’s commitment to supporting the film industry under the leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. He said the govern-

ment has streamlined shooting permissions through a single-window clearance system, making Andhra Pradesh an attractive destination for filmmakers.

Durgesh also called upon industry stakeholders to invest in film infrastructure across the state, including modern studios and post-production facilities. He assured producers and filmmakers of the government’s full cooperation in creating a vibrant filmmaking ecosystem that would strengthen the Telugu film industry and encourage more productions to choose Andhra Pradesh as a shooting destination.

The film’s team expressed gratitude to the state government for extending prompt support during production. The producers said that every permission required for the shoot was granted swiftly through the single-window mechanism, allowing filming to proceed without delays.

According to the makers, Chennai Love Story presents a refreshing and realistic take on romance, built around the idea that while first love is unforgettable, it does not necessarily define one’s entire life. They added that the teaser, glimpse and the first three songs have already received an encouraging response, raising expectations for the film.

Guests at the event watched the newly released “Hoyila” song and wished the film grand success upon its worldwide theatrical release on July 24.

Regina Cassandra Set to Lead Lokesh Kanagaraj's First Production Venture

Actor-director Lokesh Kanagaraj is reportedly preparing to expand his creative journey by stepping into film production, with a female-centric project expected to mark his debut as a producer. According to industry buzz, actress Regina Cassandra has been chosen to headline the upcoming film, which is likely to be directed by Vishal Venkat.

Lokesh Kanagaraj has established himself as one of the most successful filmmakers in Tamil cinema through blockbuster projects such as Kaithi, Vikram, Leo and Coolie. Having built a strong reputation for delivering high-octane entertainers, the filmmaker now appears keen to explore new avenues beyond direction.

Sources suggest that the proposed venture will be a woman-oriented film with Regina Cassandra playing the central character. The actress, known for her versatility across Tamil, Telugu and Hindi cinema, is said to have impressed the makers with her screen presence and ability to carry performance-driven roles.

The script work for the project is reportedly complete, and preparations are underway to begin filming in the coming months. While an official announcement is yet to be made, the development has already generated considerable interest among movie enthusiasts and industry observers.

For Regina Cassandra, the film could prove to be another significant milestone in her career. The actress has consistently experimented with diverse roles, balancing commercial entertainers with content-driven stories. A female-led project backed by Lokesh Kanagaraj is expected



to provide her with a platform to showcase a different dimension of her acting abilities.

Meanwhile, Lokesh Kanagaraj continues to remain occupied with several commitments, including promotional activities for his forthcoming projects. His decision to venture into production reflects a broader ambition to support unique stories and fresh talent within the industry.

The filmmaker’s move also aligns with the growing trend of established directors launching production houses to nurture innovative narratives and encourage unconventional storytelling. Female-centric films, in particular, have witnessed increasing acceptance from audiences in recent years, creating opportunities for actresses to headline commercially viable projects.

If the reports materialise, the collaboration between Lokesh Kanagaraj, Vishal Venkat and Regina Cassandra could emerge as an exciting addition to the evolving landscape of South Indian cinema. Fans are now eagerly awaiting an official confirmation regarding the cast, title and production schedule of what promises to be an intriguing cinematic venture.

Female Stars Redefine Action Cinema

Action films were once considered the stronghold of male superstars, with larger-than-life heroes dominating screens through high-voltage stunts, intense fight sequences and thrilling chases. However, 2026 has witnessed a remarkable shift in cinematic trends, as female-led action films continue to gain popularity and establish a strong presence at the box office.

Over the last three months, a series of women-centric action entertainers have demonstrated that audiences are increasingly embracing stories driven by powerful female characters. Combining emotion, drama and adrenaline-pumping action, these films have successfully challenged conventional notions about the genre.

The trend gathered momentum in May with the release of Blast, featuring Priety Mukundan, Abhirami and Arjun in prominent roles. The film stood out for blending emotional storytelling with action-packed sequences, giving its female leads an opportunity to showcase both strength and vulnerability. Their impressive combat scenes and gripping confrontations with



the antagonist earned appreciation from audiences, helping the film emerge as a commercial success.

June witnessed the arrival of Maa Inti Bangaram, which marked Samantha Ruth Prabhu’s much-awaited return after a significant break from cinema. The actress delivered a memorable performance, seamlessly balancing humour, emotion and action. Her portrayal of a strong female character resonated with viewers, while her energetic chase sequences and stylish fight scenes became major highlights of the film.

The success of Maa Inti Bangaram once again underlined the growing acceptance of female-led narratives in mainstream cinema. The film proved that strong storytelling and engaging content can attract audiences regardless of whether a film is centred around a male or female protagonist.

Although Alpha, starring Alia Bhatt and Sharvati Wagh, did not receive the expected response from audiences, the actresses were appreciated for their spirited performances and action-oriented roles. Their efforts further reinforced the idea that female ac-

tresses were appreciated for their spirited performances and action-oriented roles. Their efforts further reinforced the idea that female ac-

tresses were appreciated for their spirited performances and action-oriented roles. Their efforts further reinforced the idea that female ac-

tors are increasingly taking on challenging characters traditionally associated with male stars.

The momentum behind women-centric action films is expected to continue in the coming months with several high-profile projects in the pipeline. Rashmika Mandanna is preparing to appear in a full-fledged action role for the first time in Maisaa, a film that has already generated considerable anticipation among movie enthusiasts.

Nayanthara’s Rakkayi is also creating buzz with a female-oriented action drama, while Priyanka Chopra is set to showcase intense action sequences in Varanasi, a project being mounted on an ambitious scale. Deepika Padukone’s Raka and Taapsee Pannu’s Gandhari are also expected to strengthen the growing trend of women leading action-packed narratives.

With a string of successful releases and several promising projects on the horizon, female stars are steadily reshaping the action genre, proving that audiences are ready to celebrate women as powerful and compelling action heroes.

Celina Jaitley Returns With Sister Nivedita Biopic

Bollywood actress Celina Jaitley is set to make a much-awaited return to the big screen after a gap of 15 years, taking on the lead role in a biographical film based on the life of Sister Nivedita, one of the most revered disciples of Swami Vivekananda.

Celina was last seen in a full-fledged lead role in the 2011 Kannada film Shrimati, opposite actor Upen-dra. Her comeback project has already generated interest among cinema lovers, particularly because of its spiritual and historical significance. The biopic will be directed by filmmaker Ram Kamal Mukherjee, who received a National Award for his acclaimed short film Ek Dua.

Expressing her excitement about the project, Celina described portraying Sister Nivedita as one of the most meaningful opportunities of her career. She said the role holds deep personal significance, as she was introduced to the life and contributions of Sister Nivedita by her mother during her childhood. Bringing such an inspiring personality to life on screen, she noted, is both an honour and an unforgettable experience.

The actress also reflected on her own journey over the past decade and a half. Having spent nearly 15 years in Europe, Celina said she eventually returned to India seeking a stronger connection with her roots and cultural heritage. She revealed that reconnecting with Sanatan Dharma played an important role in her personal transformation, making the opportunity to portray Sister



Nivedita even more special.

Sister Nivedita remains one of the most influential figures associated with India’s spiritual and educational history. Born in Ireland in 1867 as Margaret Elizabeth Noble, she was deeply inspired by the teachings of Swami Vivekananda after meeting him in the late nineteenth century. Drawn by his philosophy and vision, she travelled to India and embraced his ideals wholeheartedly. In 1898, she formally became a disciple of Swami Vivekananda and was given the name Sister Nivedita, meaning “the dedicated one.” She devoted her life to education, social service, literature and the upliftment of women, leaving behind a lasting legacy that continues to inspire generations.

Beyond her contributions to spirituality, Sister Nivedita played a significant role in India’s intellectual and cultural awakening during the freedom movement era. Her work as an educator, writer and reformer earned her immense respect across the country.

She passed away in 1911 at the age of 43, but her influence remains deeply embedded in India’s social and spiritual history. With Celina Jaitley stepping into the role, the forthcoming biopic aims to introduce contemporary audiences to the remarkable life and enduring legacy of Sister Nivedita.

Bandla Ganesh Vows Supreme Court Battle Over Property Auction Dispute

Producer and actor Bandla Ganesh has broken his silence on the controversy surrounding the auction of his property, alleging that the sale was carried out unfairly and at a price far below its actual market value. The filmmaker has announced his intention to challenge the matter in the Supreme Court, expressing confidence that he will ultimately receive justice.

In a statement shared on social media, Bandla Ganesh claimed that the bank disposed of his property through an auction process that he believes was conducted improperly. He alleged that the property was sold at a significantly lower valuation and described the transaction as unjust.

According to Ganesh, he had first approached the courts in 2022 to contest the sale. He stated that the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) had initially ruled in his favour, providing relief in the matter. However, the legal battle took a different turn when the High Court recently overturned the earlier decision and upheld the validity of the auction process.



Despite the setback, Ganesh remains optimistic about the judicial process. He reiterated his faith in the Indian legal system and asserted that he would continue pursuing legal remedies by approaching the Supreme Court. He maintained that his fight is aimed at securing what he believes are his legitimate rights.

The dispute revolves around real estate assets located in Hyderabad’s upscale Jubilee Hills locality. The properties, owned by Bandla Ganesh and his family members, were reportedly auctioned by Union Bank as part of a loan recovery exercise. The bank initiated pro-

ceedings to recover outstanding dues, leading to the sale of the assets through a public auction.

Earlier, the DRT had directed that the auction be cancelled and that the amount generated from the sale be returned to the property owners. Challenging this order, Union Bank moved the High Court, arguing that the auction had been conducted in accordance with legal procedures.

After reviewing the matter, the High Court ruled in favour of the bank, holding that the auction process was valid and legally justified. This decision has prompted Bandla Ganesh to seek further legal recourse at the country’s highest court.

The case has attracted attention not only because of Ganesh’s prominence in the Telugu film industry but also due to the larger questions it raises regarding property valuations, loan recovery mechanisms and the rights of borrowers. With the producer now preparing to move the Supreme Court, the legal proceedings are expected to continue in the coming months.

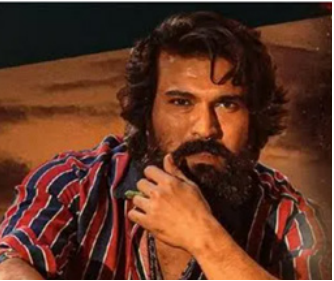
Ram Charan's 'Peddi' Locks OTT Release Date

Ram Charan’s rural sports drama Peddi is all set to make its digital debut, with Netflix officially announcing its streaming date. After enjoying a successful theatrical run and receiving positive responses from audiences, the film will begin streaming on the platform from July 9.

The makers had remained tight-lipped about the OTT release despite speculation circulating for several weeks. Netflix has now confirmed that Peddi will be available not only in Telugu but also in Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam, allowing the film to reach a wider audience across South India.

Directed by Buchi Babu, Peddi blends sports, emotion and social themes against the backdrop of a remote village in Vizianagaram district. The film revolves around a community that remains neglected and unrecognised in official records despite being home to hundreds of families. This sense of exclusion forms the emotional foundation of the story.

Ram Charan essays the role of Peddi, a daily wage labourer who possesses extraordinary cricketing talent. Known locally as an “athletic worker,” Peddi earns admiration for his ability to dominate the cricket field, with competing teams eager to recruit him for tournaments. However, unexpected circumstances force him to step away from cricket and embrace wrestling, setting the stage for an inspiring journey of resilience and self-discovery. The narrative also introduces Janhvi Kapoor as Achamma, a character who plays a pivotal role in Ped-



di’s life and mission. As the story unfolds, the protagonist’s personal struggles become intertwined with his determination to uplift his village and secure recognition for its people.

During its theatrical release, Peddi received appreciation for its emotionally driven storytelling, strong performances and sports-centric backdrop. Ram Charan’s portrayal of a grounded and determined village youth was widely praised, while the film’s blend of entertainment and social commentary resonated with viewers.

With its arrival on Netflix, Peddi is expected to attract a fresh wave of audiences who may have missed it in theatres. The film’s combination of rural drama, sports action and inspirational themes could help it find renewed popularity in the digital space. As streaming platforms continue to extend the life cycle of successful theatrical releases, Peddi now has the opportunity to reach viewers beyond traditional cinema halls, further strengthening its appeal among family audiences and sports drama enthusiasts alike.



Priyanka Bose

RISING STAR