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# Uniform Drive Gets Student Feedback

Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has announced that the Telangana government will introduce a student feedback mechanism through WhatsApp to assess the quality of school uniforms distributed in government schools and hostels. The initiative aims to ensure that every student receives comfortable, well-fitting, and durable uniforms while allowing the government to improve future distribution based on direct feedback from beneficiaries.

The Chief Minister made the announcement during a high-level review meeting on the uniform distribution programme held at the Bodhi Pavilion in the MCRHRD campus. He said the government would seek responses from every student regarding the quality, size, stitching, and overall satisfaction with the uniforms after they are distributed.

According to the Chief Minister, the feedback collected through WhatsApp will play a key role in deciding future policies related to school uniforms, including design, colour, fabric quality, and other specifications for the next academic year. He said the government intends to make students active participants in improving welfare schemes that directly affect them.

Revanth Reddy reiterated that there would be no compromise on the quality of uniforms supplied to students studying in government schools and residential hostels. He directed officials to ensure that every eligible



child receives uniforms by August 15 and warned that negligence or unnecessary delays would not be tolerated.

To accelerate the programme, the Chief Minister instructed SERP Chief Executive Officer Divya to work closely with District Collectors and women's self-help groups engaged in stitching the uniforms. He said coordinated efforts at the district level were essential for timely completion of the work and smooth distribution across the state.

The Chief Minister also criticised the manner in which uniforms were distributed during the previous administration, stating that the process had lacked proper planning and quality control. He said the present government was completely restructuring the system to ensure transparency, accountability, and higher standards. Emphasising the importance of the initiative, Revanth Reddy reminded officials that they were serving children from

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# CM Reviews Assembly Renovation

Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday inspected the ongoing repair and renovation works at the historic Telangana Legislative Assembly building and reviewed the progress of the restoration project. During his visit, the Chief Minister toured various sections of the Assembly premises and interacted with officials overseeing the renovation. He sought detailed information on the status of the works, timelines, and the measures being taken to preserve the heritage character of the iconic building while upgrading its infrastructure.

Revanth Reddy offered several suggestions to officials to ensure that the renovation is carried out with high standards of quality and in a time-bound



manner. He stressed the importance of preserving the architectural significance of the historic structure while incorporating modern facilities to improve its functionality. The Chief Minister also reviewed the execution of repair works and directed officials to maintain close supervision over the project to ensure that all works are completed efficiently and without compromising the

building's heritage value. Legislative Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar accompanied the Chief Minister during the inspection. Minister Adhuri Laxman, Government Whips Adi Srinivas, Addanki Dayakar, and Balmuri Venkat, MLAs Kavvampalli Satyanarayana and Jaiveer Reddy, along with senior government officials, were also present during the inspection.

# Bhatti Charts Future for Singareni

Sathupalli, Khammam district, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Thursday asserted that the Telangana government's foremost priority is to secure the long-term future of Singareni Collieries by strengthening its competitiveness, expanding its business, and ensuring sustainable growth in an increasingly competitive energy sector. During a field inspection of the Singareni open-cast coal mine at Sathupalli, the Deputy Chief Minister reviewed mining operations, assessed coal reserves, and examined the quality of coal being extracted. Accompanied by senior officials, including Energy Special

Chief Secretary Naveen Mittal, Singareni CMD N. Balaram Buddha Prakash Jyothi, Genco CMD Harish, Singareni Director Gautam Potru, Khammam District Collector Diwakar T.S., and MLAs Matta Ragamayi and Maloth Ramdas Naik, Bhatti interacted with engineers and officials to understand operational challenges and future requirements.

Addressing the media after the inspection, Bhatti Vikramarka described Singareni as the "heartbeat of Telangana," saying the organisation shares an emotional bond with the people of the state that has been built over its 130-year history. He said protecting the public sector enterprise and ensuring its



profitability for future generations was a collective responsibility. The Deputy Chief Minister stressed the importance of reducing production costs while maintaining the highest standards of coal quality to withstand increasing

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# Modi Announces Fast-Track Courts for NEET Leak Cases

New Delhi, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Amid nationwide protests over the NEET question paper leak, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday announced the establishment of fast-track courts to ensure swift action against those responsible. Emphasizing that the welfare of students remains a top priority, he stated that individuals "playing with the future of the youth will not be spared," and directed officials to take immediate steps for implementation.

The announcement comes as protests that began at Jantar Mantar in Delhi spread across the country, with opposition parties joining agitations led by the 'Cockroach Janata Party' (CJP). The issue has also disrupted proceedings in Parliament, leading to repeated adjournments.

Reacting sharply, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi accused the government of failing to protect students' interests. In a post on X, he demanded the removal of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, an apology to students, and strict action against those responsible for the leak and alleged police excesses. Meanwhile, opposition members continued protests inside Parliament, demanding the resignations of



Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi and other leaders staged demonstrations within the Parliament complex in solidarity with students.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju reiterated the government's willingness to hold discussions, accusing the Opposition of imposing conditions to stall debate. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, however, pressed for a dedicated discussion under special rules. Amid the unrest, authorities temporarily shut 16 Delhi Metro stations as a precautionary measure. With protests continuing both on the streets and inside Parliament, the focus remains on accountability and restoring trust in the examination system.

# CM Orders 50-Year Water Supply Plan



Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday directed officials to prepare a comprehensive drinking water supply master plan for the Core Urban Region Economy (CURE) area, with a vision to meet Hyderabad's water requirements for the next 50 years. He stressed the need for a uniform and reliable water supply system across the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), Malkajgiri, Cyberabad municipal corporations, and the newly merged municipalities.

The Chief Minister issued the directions while reviewing the functioning of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) at the Bodhi Pavilion in MCRHRD. During the review, Revanth Reddy emphasized that the master plan should account for the city's future population growth and infrastructure expansion. He also urged officials to give top priority to drinking water management in view of the rainfall deficit caused by the El Niño phenomenon.

To strengthen Hyderabad's water security, the Chief Minister directed officials to interconnect all major drinking water sources surrounding the city. He explained that such integration would ensure uninterrupted supply by allowing water to be diverted from alternative

sources whenever the primary source encounters shortages or technical issues.

Expressing concern over the irregular supply of drinking water in several localities, Revanth Reddy noted that some areas within GHMC have been receiving water only once every three or four days for many years. He instructed officials to take immediate steps to improve the system and ensure that these areas receive water at least on alternate days.

The Chief Minister also reviewed the progress of ongoing drinking water projects and instructed officials to complete all pending works within the next one-and-a-half years. He updated on the construction of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and directed that all projects be completed within the prescribed timelines without delays.

Revanth Reddy further instructed officials to resolve legal and administrative hurdles affecting the implementation of water supply and sewage infrastructure projects at the earliest.

To ensure continuous monitoring, he directed the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board to submit monthly progress reports on drinking water supply projects and STP construction. He also suggested developing a digital dashboard to track project implementation, monitor deadlines, and improve transparency.

Looking ahead, the Chief Minister called for regulations mandating the use of treated greywater in industries, commercial establishments, and construction activities to promote sustainable water management and reduce dependence on potable water.

The review meeting was attended by Special Chief Secretary for Municipal Administration Jayesh Ranjan, Chief Minister's Secretary Manik Raj, Water Board Managing Director K. Ashok Reddy, Joint Managing Director Mayank Mittal, and senior officials from the department.



# Police Judo Championship

Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau

The 11th All India Police Judo Cluster 2026 Championship was inaugurated with much fanfare at the G.M.C. Balayogi Indoor Stadium in Gachibowli on Thursday, with Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar officiating as the chief guest. Organized by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), the championship has

brought together over 1,600 athletes and officials representing 36 police and security force teams from across the country, including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Addressing the gathering, Bandi Sanjay said the Narendra Modi-led government has adopted a long-term vision to transform India into a global sporting powerhouse. He stated that India is preparing to host the World Police and Fire Games in Ahmedabad in 2029 and the Commonwealth Games in 2030, while also pursuing the bid to host the 2036 Olympic

Games. The Centre's goal, he said, is to place India among the world's top 10 sporting nations by 2036 and among the top five by 2047.

Congratulating the CISF for successfully organizing the championship, the Minister praised the force for efficiently managing travel, accommodation, medical support, and logistics for participants. He said the event symbolizes national unity by bringing together police and security personnel from different parts of the country. Bandi Sanjay observed that the championship is not

merely about winning medals but about cultivating qualities such as discipline, courage, resilience, and quick decision-making-traits essential for police and security personnel entrusted with protecting the nation. He noted that martial arts disciplines including Judo, Wushu, Taekwondo, Karate, and Pencak Silat help strengthen both physical fitness and mental toughness.

The Minister said the championship would prepare athletes for prestigious international events such as the World Police and Fire Games,

the Commonwealth Games, the Asian Games, and the Olympics while fostering camaraderie among police forces nationwide.

Highlighting the Centre's commitment to sports development, Bandi Sanjay said the government has significantly increased investment in the sector. He noted that the sports budget for 2026-27 has been raised to approximately ₹4,480 crore, with an additional ₹500 crore earmarked for domestic sports equipment manufacturing, research, and technology development. He also pointed

to the success of the Khelo India programme, launched in 2017, which has established over 1,000 training centres across more than 700 districts and benefited around 27,500 young athletes. Praising the CISF's contribution to both national security and sports, the Minister highlighted the force's recent welfare initiatives for athletes, including financial assistance, improved nutrition, modern training facilities, and rehabilitation support. He also lauded the CISF's largest-ever sports recruitment

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# Kishan Reddy Accuses Opposition of Politicising NEET Issue

New Delhi, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy on Thursday accused the Congress and Left parties of politicising the NEET paper leak issue and using students to create unrest, asserting that the Central Government has adopted a zero-tolerance approach toward examination irregularities and is committed to safeguarding students' futures.

Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, Kishan Reddy described the recent protests in several states as politically motivated and alleged that "anti-national forces" were attempting to exploit students to destabilise the country. Drawing a comparison with the Shaheen Bagh protests, he claimed certain groups were using students as a shield to further political agendas.

The Union Minister said the Centre acted swiftly after the

NEET paper leak by ordering an investigation, arresting 17 accused through the CBI, and conducting a fresh examination under enhanced security arrangements. He stated that the re-examination was held after question papers were transported under stringent security, including the use of military aircraft, to ensure fairness and restore confidence among students.

Kishan Reddy said the Narendra Modi government had strengthened the legal framework against examination fraud through amendments to the Public Examinations Act, providing for strict punishment and fast-track court proceedings against those responsible for paper leaks. He urged all states to cooperate with the Centre in preventing such incidents.

Criticising the Congress, he alleged that the party was attempting to undermine national institutions instead



of participating in constructive discussions in Parliament. He questioned Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy over paper leak incidents that

occurred during Congress governments and asked why ministers had not resigned in those cases.

The Union Minister also referred to alleged examination irregularities in various states, including Rajasthan, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Telangana, arguing that paper leaks had occurred under governments led by different political parties. He accused the opposition of applying "double standards" by targeting only the BJP over such incidents.

Kishan Reddy criticised the Telangana government over alleged recruitment and examination issues, including the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGpsc) paper leak controversy and delays in filling government vacancies. He questioned the implementation of Congress' employment promises made during the 2023 Telangana Assembly elections and

accused the state government of failing to meet the expectations of unemployed youth.

Defending the Centre's record in education, the Minister highlighted reforms introduced under the National Education Policy, expansion of medical colleges, and increased postgraduate medical seats. He reiterated that the government remains open to further reforms aimed at strengthening the examination system and preventing future paper leaks.

Calling on the opposition to engage in a debate during the ongoing Parliament session, Kishan Reddy urged political parties to offer constructive suggestions instead of, what he described as, "petty politics." He maintained that the Centre's priority is to protect students' interests, uphold the integrity of public examinations, and strengthen India's education system through institutional reforms and strict enforcement of the law.

# Uniform Drive Gets Student Feedback

continued

economically weaker sections and should treat the programme with the highest priority. He urged them to remain committed to delivering quality products that enhance students' confidence and comfort.

Looking ahead, the Chief Minister directed officials to prepare a comprehensive action plan to ensure that uniforms for the next academic year are distributed before schools reopen on June 2, eliminating delays experienced in previous years.

State Government Advisor P. Sudarshan Reddy, Special Chief Secretary Sabyasachi Ghosh, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister N. Sridhar, OSD Vemula Srinivasulu, SERP CEO Divya, and senior officials from the concerned departments attended the review meeting.

# Bhatti Charts Future for Singareni

continued

competition from private mining companies and imported coal. He explained that although contractors are paid based on the quantity of material handled, Singareni's management must clearly distinguish between valuable coal and overburden-the soil and rock removed during mining operations.<He instructed officials to ensure that overburden material does not mix with coal during blasting, excavation, and loading operations. Continuous monitoring at every shovel and loading point, he said, was essential to maintain coal quality and improve operational efficiency. Bhatti warned that transporting low-grade coal results in unnecessary freight expenses and adversely affects electricity generation at thermal power stations. He directed Singareni to supply only high-quality coal to Telangana Genco and other consumers to enhance plant efficiency and reduce operational disruptions.Highlighting the changing dynamics of the coal sector, the Deputy Chief Minister observed that Singareni now faces competition from private companies and imported coal. He said the company must adopt a long-term strategy spanning at least a decade, noting that acquiring new coal blocks, completing land acquisition, obtaining forest clearances, and commencing production typically takes seven to eight years.He said the government had already resolved pending issues relating to land acquisition and forest clearances for the Tadicherla-II and Naini coal blocks and assured full support for Singareni's participation in future coal block auctions across the country.Looking beyond conventional mining, Bhatti Vikramarka urged Singareni to diversify into renewable energy, particularly solar power, in view of the global transition towards clean energy. He also encouraged the company to explore opportunities in critical and rare earth minerals required for semiconductor and advanced technology manufacturing.Reaffirming the state's commitment, the Deputy Chief Minister said the government would provide all necessary support to strengthen Singareni's financial position, modernise its operations, and transform it into a globally competitive enterprise while preserving its historic legacy in Telangana.

# Uttam Accuses Centre of Ignoring Youth

Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Irrigation and Food & Civil Supplies Minister Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Thursday accused the BJP-led Central government of suppressing the voices of students and youth instead of addressing their concerns, while asserting that senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is emerging as a credible national alternative by championing issues affecting young people.

In a press statement issued in Hyderabad, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the country was passing through a critical political phase marked by rising unemployment, repeated examination paper leaks, uncertainty over educational opportunities, and growing frustration among the youth. He alleged that the Centre had failed to understand these concerns or provide meaningful solutions.

"The widening disconnect between the BJP government

and the youth is becoming increasingly evident across the country," the minister said. He claimed that instead of engaging with students and listening to their grievances, the government had resorted to arrests, intimidation, and the suppression of peaceful protests.

"Questioning is not a crime in a democracy. The real threat to democracy is the refusal to answer people's questions and the attempt to silence them," Uttam Kumar Reddy said. He maintained that every citizen has the constitutional right to seek accountability from those in power and warned that governments attempting to rule through fear would ultimately face the people's verdict. The minister praised Rahul Gandhi for standing alongside students and youth during what he described as a challenging period. According to him, Gandhi has consistently raised issues relating to unemployment, education, constitutional



rights, and democratic values, earning the confidence of a growing section of the public.

"There is a clear difference between leadership that stands among the people and leadership that remains distant while trying to cling to power. The country's youth

understand that difference," he remarked.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said Rahul Gandhi's politics were rooted in justice, equality, constitutional values, and inclusive governance rather than division. He asserted that Gandhi was increasingly being viewed not only as the

Leader of the Opposition but also as a credible alternative for the country's future leadership.

Highlighting the Congress government's performance in Telangana, the minister said the administration led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had prioritised public welfare, employment generation, farmers' welfare, and social justice. He maintained that resolving people's problems remained central to the Congress party's political philosophy.

Appealing directly to students and young citizens, Uttam Kumar Reddy urged them to continue pursuing their rights through peaceful and democratic means. He assured them that the Congress party would continue to stand by their aspirations and expressed confidence that the country would witness a new political direction under Rahul Gandhi's leadership, founded on constitutional values, transparency, and inclusive development.

# KTR to Mark Birthday with Service, Protest

Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has decided to forgo his birthday celebrations and observe the occasion in a simple manner in view of the alleged attacks on students and youth in New Delhi, as well as the hardships faced by farmers due to inadequate rainfall.

In a press statement issued on Wednesday, KTR said he would not celebrate his 50th birthday amid what he described as a difficult period for both the state and the country. Instead of festivities, he announced that he would participate in a protest programme organised by the BRS student wing (BRSV) to express solidarity with students and youth in Delhi and to condemn the reported

crackdown on them.

KTR said the prevailing situation did not warrant celebrations, particularly when students were facing challenges and farmers across Telangana were struggling because of delayed and insufficient monsoon rains. He noted that the agricultural community was experiencing uncertainty due to the lack of timely rainfall, making it inappropriate to hold birthday events.

Appealing directly to party workers, supporters, and well-wishers, the BRS leader requested that they refrain from organising cake-cutting ceremonies, erecting flex banners and hoardings, presenting flower bouquets, or publishing congratulatory advertisements in newspapers.

He urged them instead to



channel the money that would otherwise be spent on celebrations toward public welfare and humanitarian activities. According to KTR, even small contributions could make a meaningful difference in the lives of people

facing hardship.

The BRS Working President encouraged party cadres to undertake service initiatives such as assisting the poor, supporting those in distress, and contributing to community welfare programmes. He

said that observing his birthday through acts of service would be a more meaningful tribute than traditional celebrations.KTR also appealed to party leaders at all levels to inspire volunteers and supporters to participate in charitable activities across the state, ensuring that the occasion reflects the party's commitment to social responsibility and public service.The decision comes as the BRS continues to voice support for student issues while highlighting concerns over the difficulties being faced by farmers during the current agricultural season. KTR reiterated that his birthday should be remembered not as a day of celebration but as an opportunity to extend help to those in need and strengthen the spirit of service within society.

# Congress MP Joins Protest Over Exam Leaks



New Delhi, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Congress MPs staged a protest within the Parliament premises on Thursday over the recurring issue of examination paper leaks and the concerns of unemployed youth across the country. Pedd apalli MP Gaddam Vamsi Krishna participated in the demonstration along with fellow Congress parliamentarians, expressing solidarity with students and job aspirants. Addressing the media during the protest, Vamsi Krishna said the Congress party remained committed to safeguarding the interests of young people and would continue to support their demand for fair, transparent, and leak-free recruitment and examination

processes.He criticized the BJP-led Central government, alleging that despite being in power for more than a decade, it had failed to fulfill its promises of creating large-scale employment opportunities. According to him, repeated examination paper leaks and delays in recruitment have left millions of unemployed youth frustrated and uncertain about their future. The MP said that while students and job aspirants were protesting on the streets seeking justice, the Congress was raising their concerns forcefully inside Parliament. He stressed that issues affecting students, particularly those in Telangana, should be resolved with fairness and sensitivity rather than being

politicized.

Vamsi Krishna also objected to the filing of cases against protesting students, stating that democratic protests should be addressed through dialogue instead of punitive measures.

He further appealed to film personalities and social media influencers to act responsibly while commenting on issues affecting the youth, urging them to use their public platforms to support constructive dialogue. Reaffirming the party's stand, the MP declared that the Congress would continue its campaign in support of unemployed youth and students until their demands for justice and accountability were addressed.

Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau

Telangana BJP State President N. Ramchander Rao on Thursday accused the Congress, Left parties, and what he described as foreign-backed disruptive elements of conspiring to create unrest in the country by mobilising students and youth against the Narendra Modi-led NDA government.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP state office in Hyderabad, Ramchander Rao alleged that certain ultra-left and soft-left groups, along with members of student organisations, were attempting to foment instability through newly formed platforms. He further claimed that such activities were receiving financial and strategic support from foreign entities, alleging they were aimed at undermining national security and public order.

Speaking on the NEET examination paper leak controversy, Ramchander Rao said the Centre had acted swiftly after the incident by arresting those allegedly involved and conducting a re-examination to ensure fairness for students. He maintained that the Modi government had strengthened the legal framework by introducing the Prevention of Unfair Means in Public Examinations Act, 2024, prescribing stringent penalties for examination malpractices. He added that reforms were also being implemented to strengthen the National Testing Agency (NTA).The BJP leader also criticised the Congress for demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, alleging that examination paper leaks had occurred frequently during previous Congress-led governments without similar accountability. He cited employment and education statistics to defend the NDA government's performance, claiming that employment opportunities, higher education infrastructure, and recruitment drives had expanded significantly over the past decade.Ramchander Rao urged the Telangana government to refrain from supporting what he termed anti-national elements and asserted that the country's youth would support Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a "New India." He expressed confidence that young people would reject attempts to create political instability and instead contribute to national development and economic progress.



# BRS Seeks Bullet Train Stop

**New Delhi, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

A Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) delegation led by Rajya Sabha MP Vaddiraju Ravichandra on Thursday urged Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to include Zaheerabad railway station in the proposed Hyderabad-Mumbai High-Speed Rail Corridor and provide a scheduled stop for the bullet train, citing the region's rapidly expanding industrial and economic significance.

The delegation, comprising MLAs Chinta Prabhakar and K. Manik Rao along with former Medak District Cooperative Marketing Society (DCMS) Chairman M. Shivakumar, met the Railway Minister at his chamber in the Parliament complex and submitted a detailed memorandum outlining the demand.

The BRS leaders appreciated the Centre's efforts to modernise India's transport infrastructure through high-speed rail, industrial corridors, logistics networks, and manufacturing initiatives.

They described the Hyderabad-Mumbai bullet train project as a transformative national infrastructure programme capable of boosting economic integration, industrial growth, and regional connectivity.

In their representation, the delegation requested that Zaheerabad be included in the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the proposed corridor, arguing that the town has emerged as one of India's fastest-growing industrial centres and deserves to be connected by high-speed rail. The memorandum highlighted that the Government of India has approved a 12,656-acre National Investment and Manufacturing Zone (NIMZ) at Zaheerabad, with nearly 8,000 acres already acquired and handed over for development. It also pointed out that the Centre has sanctioned an Industrial Smart City in the region, expected to become a major hub for manufacturing, logistics, exports, and industrial innovation.

The delegation informed the Railway Minister that thou-



sands of farmers had voluntarily parted with their land to facilitate these national projects and said the inclusion of Zaheerabad in the bullet train network would recognise their contribution while strengthening the long-term benefits of industrial development.

The BRS leaders also highlighted Zaheerabad's strategic location on National Highway-65, linking Hyderabad and Mumbai, and serving as a gateway connecting Telangana, Karnataka, and Maharashtra. They noted

that a proposed dry port and the town's identification as a priority industrial node under the Hyderabad-Nagpur Industrial Corridor further enhance its importance as a logistics and manufacturing destination.

According to the memorandum, the convergence of the NIMZ, Industrial Smart City, dry port, and industrial corridor projects is expected to generate more than three lakh direct and indirect employment opportunities while attracting significant domestic and foreign invest-

ments.

The delegation informed the Railway Minister that major industries, including Mahindra Group, Allana Group, Piramal Group, Rockwool, Alf Engineering, and MG Automotive, are already operating in Zaheerabad. They also noted that land has been allotted and foundation stones laid for Hyundai Motor India and VEM Technologies' defence manufacturing unit within the NIMZ.

The BRS leaders argued that a bullet train stop at Zaheerabad would facilitate faster movement of investors, entrepreneurs, skilled professionals, and business delegations, besides strengthening exports, logistics, and industrial competitiveness. They expressed confidence that connecting Zaheerabad to the Hyderabad-Mumbai High-Speed Rail Corridor would accelerate the region's transformation into a nationally significant manufacturing and logistics hub while contributing substantially to India's economic growth.

## Ponnam Pushes Voter Revision

**Husnabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Wednesday called upon party workers and election volunteers to intensify the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, urging them to ensure that every eligible citizen is included in the voters' list.



Stressing that no genuine voter should be left out, he appealed to the public to actively participate in the enumeration process and verify their details before the deadline. The Minister was speaking at a review meeting on the voter revision exercise held at the Husnabad MLA camp office with Booth Level Agents (BLA-2s), BLA supervisors, and senior Congress leaders. The meeting focused on reviewing the progress of the enumeration drive and identifying measures to complete the remaining work within the stipulated timeframe. As part of the programme, Ponnam Prabhakar personally filled out his voter enumeration form and submitted it to the Booth Level Officer (BLO), setting an example for citizens to participate in the revision exercise. He appealed to all eligible voters to verify their information and complete the mandatory enumeration process without delay. The Minister informed the gathering that more than 80 percent of the voter revision work in Husnabad town had already been completed. He appreciated the efforts of party workers and election volunteers while directing them to accelerate the remaining work and make Husnabad a model constituency in Telangana for the successful implementation of the voter revision programme. Highlighting that August 3 is the final date for completing the Special Intensive Revision process, Ponnam Prabhakar instructed BLAs and supervisors to identify families that have migrated from the constituency. They were asked to ascertain their present place of residence, determine where they wish to register as voters, and extend all necessary assistance to complete the required formalities.

He also directed party functionaries to ensure that not a single eligible voter is removed from the electoral rolls due to incomplete verification. Every ward member, he said, should identify households where enumeration has not yet been completed and coordinate with Booth Level Agents to visit those homes and finish the process promptly. Describing voting as one of the most valuable rights in a democratic system, the Minister urged Congress workers to treat the voter revision exercise as a public service rather than a routine organisational activity. He said accurate electoral rolls would strengthen democracy and ensure fair representation. Ponnam Prabhakar appealed to citizens to cooperate with Booth Level Officers during house-to-house visits and provide accurate information so that the electoral database remains updated and error-free. The meeting was attended by SIR PCC Coordinator Sowjanya Goud, Husnabad Municipal Chairperson Dandi Lakshmi, Vice Chairperson Chittari Padma, Town Congress President Venkataramana, councillors, Booth Level Agents, BLA supervisors, and other senior party leaders.

## BJP Launches Campaign Over Fee Dues

**Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

The Telangana unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday launched a statewide campaign titled "Fee Arrears - BJP Fight" to demand the immediate release of pending fee reimbursement dues for students across the state.



The campaign was formally launched with the release of a poster by BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao. BJP Legislature Party Leader Eleti Maheshwar Reddy, State General Secretary Dr. N. Gautam Rao, State Vice-President Jayashree, BJP Yuva Morcha State President Ganesh Kunde, and other party leaders attended the event. Addressing the gathering, Ramchander Rao accused the Congress government of neglecting students by delaying the release of fee reimbursement arrears. He alleged that around 25 lakh students were facing uncertainty in pursuing their education due to the pending dues and said the issue had become a matter of students' rights.

The BJP leader also criticised the state government over unemployment, claiming Telangana currently has the highest unemployment rate in South India. He alleged that promises made during the Assembly elections, including a job calendar, unemployment allowance, and employment generation initiatives, remained unfulfilled. Ramchander Rao said the poster launch marked the beginning of a sustained statewide agitation led by the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM). He announced that BJP leaders, legislators, MPs, and party workers would conduct phased protests in colleges and universities to mobilise students and press the government to clear the pending fee reimbursement dues. He further claimed that despite observations made by the High Court on the issue, the government had failed to respond adequately. Urging students to participate peacefully, he said the BJP would continue its movement until the arrears were released and the promises made to students and youth were fulfilled.

## NSUI Calls for Statewide Education Bandh

**Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

The National Students' Union of India (NSUI) Telangana has called for a statewide bandh of schools, colleges, and universities on July 24, urging students and educational institutions to join a peaceful protest against the alleged NEET-2026 paper leak, the reported police action against students in Delhi, and what it described as failures in the Central government's education policy. Addressing the media on Thursday, NSUI Telangana State President Yadavalli Venkataswamy said the bandh would be organised jointly with student organisations including SFI, AISEF, PDSU, AIFDS, AISB, and AIPSU. He appealed to students, parents, teachers, public and private educational institutions, and civil society groups to extend their support to the protest. Venkataswamy said the agitation was being held in solidarity with the nationwide movement for students' rights and stressed that democratic protests should be met with dialogue rather than force. He demanded the immediate resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, a Supreme Court-monitored inquiry into the alleged NEET-2026 question paper leak, and stringent action against those found responsible. He also called for the dissolution of the National Testing Agency (NTA) and the establishment of a transparent examination system to restore public confidence. The NSUI leader further demanded action against those responsible for the alleged lathi-charge on students in Delhi and urged the Centre to protect students' constitutional right to peaceful protest. Calling upon NSUI leaders and activists across the state to coordinate with other student organisations, Venkataswamy urged them to ensure the bandh remained peaceful and successful. He asserted that suppressing students' voices would not resolve their concerns and called on the Central government to address their demands without delay.

# Ponnam Reviews PV Knowledge Centre

**Hanumakonda, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Thursday inspected the nearly completed PV Vignana Kendram under construction at Vangara, the native village of former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna P.V. Narasimha Rao, in Bheemadevarapalli mandal of Hanumakonda district.

Reviewing the final phase of construction, the minister directed officials to complete the remaining works at the earliest while maintaining



high quality standards so that the centre is ready for inauguration soon.

During the inspection, Ponnam Prabhakar visited key facilities, including the

photo gallery, science museum, amphitheatre, auditorium, and meditation hall. He also interacted with members of P.V. Narasimha Rao's family regarding the exhibits planned for the photo gallery, which will feature photographs, rare memorabilia, milestones from the former Prime Minister's political career, and his contributions to the nation's economic and political reforms.

The minister suggested that the knowledge centre should be developed as a landmark institution reflecting the vision, leadership, and lega-

cy of P.V. Narasimha Rao so that future generations can better understand his role in shaping modern India.

Ponnam Prabhakar also reviewed the landscaping works around the complex and noted that extensive plantation and garden development had created a serene environment for visitors.

P.V. Narasimha Rao's sons, Prabhakar Rao and Rajeshwar Rao, Sarpanches from Bheemadevarapalli mandal, public representatives, officials, and other local leaders were present during the inspection.

# BRS Announces NEET Protest



**Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on Thursday announced a protest in support of students over the alleged NEET examination irregularities, with Working

President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) set to participate after cancelling his birthday celebrations.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, former MLA Balka Suman said the protest, organised by

the BRS student wing (BRSV) at Dharna Chowk, aims to express solidarity with students protesting across the country. He urged the Central Government to take strict action against those responsible for the alleged NEET

paper leak, withdraw cases filed against students, ensure the safety of activist Sonam Wangchuk, and seek the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. Balka Suman also criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, alleging that he had failed to raise the NEET issue and was attempting to divert attention from the state government's shortcomings by targeting KTR. BRSV President Gellu Srinivas Yadav alleged that students protesting over the NEET issue had faced police action and said the party

would continue to fight for transparency in recruitment and examinations. He also criticised the state government over the closure of Dharna Chowk and alleged that unemployed youth had faced police action during protests in Hyderabad.

BRS leader Mutha Jayasimha said KTR's decision to cancel his birthday celebrations reflected his solidarity with students and youth. He expressed confidence that large numbers of students and young people would participate in the protest programme.

# BRS Alleges Confusion Over Voter Revision

**Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on Thursday accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of creating confusion over the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and alleged that the state government had failed to effectively monitor the voter verification exercise.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, BRS MLC L. Ramana said the party was committed to ensuring that only genuine voters remained on the electoral rolls and that there



should be no duplicate or ineligible entries. He claimed that BRS Booth Level Agents (BLAs) were actively participating in the SIR process to help ensure the accuracy of voter lists.

Ramana alleged that the extension of the SIR exercise in Telangana was possible

because of pressure exerted by BRS leaders. He maintained that the party had played a significant role in facilitating the voter revision process and ensuring its smooth implementation across the state. Criticising the Chief Minister, the BRS leader alleged that Revanth

Reddy had neither conducted review meetings nor issued adequate directions regarding the SIR exercise. He further claimed that the Chief Minister's remarks had unfairly targeted Booth Level Officers (BLOs), many of whom are Anganwadi workers and helpers entrusted with election-related duties. The MLC said government employees involved in the revision exercise deserved support rather than criticism. He also alleged that promises made to Anganwadi workers before the elections, including salary enhancements, had

not been fulfilled. Ramana urged the Election Commission to ensure that every eligible citizen retained the right to vote while preventing duplicate entries in the electoral rolls. Referring to reports of suspected duplicate entries in Kodangal, he alleged that the findings highlighted irregularities that required thorough scrutiny. The BRS leader concluded by condemning what he described as the Chief Minister's "irresponsible remarks" and reiterated the party's demand for a transparent and fair voter revision process.

## Commissioner Assures Action on Green Hills Civic Issues

**Kutbullapur, July 23 | Point News**

Residents of Green Hills Housing Colony highlighted long-pending civic infrastructure issues before Cyberabad Municipal Commissioner Dr. G. Sruthi during the 'One Ward - Every Day' programme held in the 29th Division on Thursday. The initiative, aimed at bringing the administration closer to the public, saw the Commissioner inspect sanitation, civic ameni-

ties, and the progress of ongoing development works in the ward. She also interacted directly with local residents to hear their grievances and assess the issues affecting the area. A delegation from Green Hills Housing Colony, led by its President Amarnath, submitted a representation outlining several unresolved problems. The residents raised concerns over damaged roads, inadequate drainage facilities, rainwater stagnation during the

monsoon, and the lack of essential internal infrastructure. They urged the Commissioner to prioritize the pending development works and ensure their early completion. After receiving the memorandum, Dr. Sruthi assured the residents that the concerns would be addressed on priority. She said officials from the engineering and drainage departments would conduct a detailed field inspection and prepare an action plan to resolve the

issues in a phased manner. The Commissioner also instructed officials to respond promptly to public grievances and avoid negligence in matters affecting residents' daily lives. Residents welcomed the Commissioner's assurance and expressed hope that the visit would result in tangible improvements. At the same time, they appealed for the works to begin without delay, noting that similar assurances had been made in the past but

were not fully implemented. Officials said the 'One Ward - Every Day' programme has been designed to enable direct interaction between the administration and citizens, helping authorities identify local issues firsthand and expedite solutions. Residents expressed optimism that the Commissioner's intervention would lead to lasting improvements in Green Hills Housing Colony's civic infrastructure.

# BRS Leader Predicts KCR's Return

## BRS Calls for Youth Protest on KTR's Birthday

**Vikarabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

Former Vikarabad MLA Dr. Methuku Anand on Wednesday claimed that people across Telangana were looking forward to the return of Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), while criticising the Congress government over its governance and public welfare programmes. Dr. Anand made the remarks while participating in a series of social service activities organised in Vikarabad a day ahead of KTR's 50th birthday. The programmes were conducted under the leadership of former Vikarabad town president Gopal and focused on educational assistance and community welfare. As part of the celebrations, notebooks, pens and writing slates were distributed to students at the Ramayyaguda



Government School in Vikarabad. The organisers also conducted an Anna Prasadam programme at the Government Hospital, serving meals to patients and their attendants. A cake-cutting ceremony was also held in the hospital premises in the presence of patients and their family members.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Anand alleged that public dissatisfaction with the Congress government under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was growing and claimed that people had already decided to express their verdict in the next elections. He further alleged that citizens from different sections of

society were unhappy with the Chief Minister's style of functioning and public remarks. According to the former MLA, people who had expected the present government to introduce welfare measures beyond those implemented during the BRS regime were now disappointed, as they believed several existing schemes had either slowed down or lost momentum.

Referring to the condition of public institutions in Vikarabad, Dr. Anand alleged that government hospitals were facing shortages of essential resources, affecting service delivery. He also claimed that buildings at the Ramayyaguda Government School had become dilapidated and unsafe, creating fear among students due to the reported presence of snakes on the premises. The former legislator contrasted the current situation

with the BRS government's Pattana Pragathi programme, claiming that urban development initiatives had been implemented more effectively during the previous administration. He alleged that the present government had failed to continue such efforts with the same commitment. Dr. Anand also urged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to focus more on governance and addressing public issues rather than criticising former Chief Minister KCR. He said the government's priority should be improving public services, strengthening welfare programmes and responding to the concerns of citizens. The programmes concluded with BRS leaders reiterating their commitment to public service activities and community outreach while observing KTR's birthday through charitable initiatives rather than large-scale celebrations.

**Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on Thursday announced that its Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) would forgo birthday celebrations on July 24 and instead participate in a protest at Indira Park in support of students and youth, while demanding accountability over alleged examination irregularities and recent developments in New Delhi. Addressing a press conference at the BRS Legislature Party office, MLC Dr. Dasoju Sravan said KTR's 50th birthday would be observed through public causes rather than celebrations. He urged youth from across Telangana to participate in large numbers in the protest organised by the BRS student wing (BRSV).

According to Dr. Sravan, the demonstration is intended to express solidarity with students and youth and protest against what the party described as the use of force against protesters in Delhi. He said KTR had decided to stay away from birthday festivities to stand with students and unemployed youth. The BRS leader said the time had come for students and youth to unite on issues related to the NEET examination and other recruitment concerns. He claimed that KTR had consistently supported unemployed youth over the past two years and had led several movements on matters including GO 29, Group-I recruitment, and the withdrawal of GO 46. Dr. Sravan criticised both the Central and State governments over examination-related controversies. He alleged that the Congress government lacked the moral authority to protest over the NEET issue while, according to him, recruitment irregularities had occurred in Telangana.

He demanded the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over the alleged NEET examination paper leak and also called for Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to accept responsibility for the alleged irregularities in the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC) Group-I examinations.

Questioning the Congress leadership, Dr. Sravan asked why Rahul Gandhi had demanded the resignation of the Union Education Minister but had not made a similar demand regarding the Telangana government. He also criticised attempts to link KTR with the NEET paper leak controversy, calling such allegations baseless.

Speaking at the same press meet, MLC Shambhipur Raju said KTR's birthday had traditionally been marked by service activities and announced that party workers would undertake large-scale plantation drives across Telangana on Friday.

He confirmed that the BRS student wing would organise the protest at Indira Park at 10 a.m., with KTR participating in the programme. Shambhipur Raju also dismissed speculation regarding senior leader Malla Reddy's political future, stating that the former minister had reaffirmed his commitment to the BRS and would continue participating in party programmes.

BRS Legislature Party Whip K.P. Vivekananda also attended the press conference.

# Congress Condemns Rahul Gandhi's Arrest

**Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

Congress leaders and workers staged a protest at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar statue in Mettuguda on Wednesday, condemning the arrest of senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and alleging that the action was aimed at suppressing voices speaking on behalf of students. The demonstration was led by Secunderabad District Congress spokesperson K.S. Shilpachari. Party leaders and activists held placards highlighting student-related issues and paid floral tributes to the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar before addressing

the gathering. Speaking at the protest, Shilpachari demanded the immediate resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, holding him morally responsible for repeated examination paper leak incidents across the country. He alleged that the recurring leaks had placed the future of crores of students at risk and called for accountability from the Central Government. He criticized the arrest of Rahul Gandhi, claiming that the Congress leader was participating in a democratic protest to seek justice for students affected by examination



irregularities. According to Shilpachari, detaining a leader who was raising concerns over student welfare was inconsistent with democratic values and the constitutional right to peaceful

protest. The Congress leader further alleged that several paper leak incidents had occurred across the country during the BJP's tenure at the Centre, creating uncertainty among students and job aspi-

rants. He urged the Union Government to focus on ensuring transparent and credible examination systems instead of targeting opposition leaders.

Expressing confidence in the Congress party's prospects, Shilpachari said the people would deliver their verdict in the upcoming elections and support a government committed to protecting students' interests and strengthening democratic institutions. The protest concluded with participants reiterating their demand for accountability over examination paper leaks and justice for affected students.

# BRSV Marks KTR's 50th Birthday with Helmet Distribution

**Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi Vidyarthi (BRSV) celebrated the 50th birthday of BRS Working President and former Minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) by organizing a "Gift a Smile" programme at the Osmania University Arts College campus on Wednesday. The event was held under the leadership of BRSV State Secretary Jangayya. As part of the celebrations, 50 helmets were distributed to promote road safety awareness. Participants also cut a birth-



day cake and planted saplings, symbolizing wishes for KTR's long life and good health. Addressing the gathering, Jangayya said the helmet dis-

tribution drive was intended to encourage people to wear helmets and prioritize road safety. "If you are safe, your family is safe too," he said,

urging youngsters to adopt responsible driving habits. He also praised KTR's contributions during his tenure as Telangana's IT Minister, stating that he played a key role in placing Hyderabad and Telangana on the global investment map. Jangayya said KTR's efforts had attracted several leading national and international companies to the state, creating employment opportunities for thousands of young people. Expressing confidence in KTR's leadership, he hoped the BRS leader would continue to work for the welfare of

the people and achieve greater milestones in public life.

Several BRSV leaders, students, and party workers participated in the programme. Among those present were BRSV state leaders Srikanth Mudiraj, Jaira Rakesh, Pawan Devansh, Praveen, Shekhar, Bobbili Mahesh, Sarath Goud, Pradeep, and others.

The event concluded with participants reiterating the importance of road safety and environmental conservation while extending birthday wishes to KTR.

# Congress Demands Action Over NEET Leak



**Adilabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

Congress Party District Official Spokesperson Pasula Chanti on Thursday demanded that the alleged NEET paper leak issue be discussed in both Houses of Parliament and called for the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. He said the party would continue its protests until action is taken on the matter and accountability is ensured. Speaking at a protest held near the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar statue at the Boath mandal headquarters, Chanti addressed students and youth participating in a human chain programme organised in response to the calls given by the All India Congress Committee (AICC) and Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC). He alleged that the BJP-led Central government had failed to reassure students about their future and criticised it for not allowing a discussion on the alleged examination paper leak issue in Parliament. According to him, the Congress was compelled to stage protests because students' concerns were not being addressed through democratic forums. Chanti also demanded action against police personnel involved in the reported lathi-charge on protesting students at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi. He alleged that attempts were being made to disrupt peaceful demonstrations and claimed that the student movement should not be weakened through intimidation. Stating that the future of the country depends on its youth and education system, he warned that recurring examination irregularities had eroded students' confidence. He said the Congress would intensify its agitation until Parliament debates the issue and those responsible are held accountable. Several Congress leaders and local representatives, including Boath Mandal President Merugu Bojanna, Agricultural Market Committee Chairman Mallepula Satyanarayana, DCC Secretary Elma Vinay Reddy, SC Cell State Vice-President Kurume Mahender, farmer leaders, student representatives, and party workers, participated in the protest.

# 'Global Wisdom' Magazine Launched at University

**Hyderabad, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

The George Reddy PDSU Telangana State Committee launched its journal, Global Wisdom, at a well-attended event held at the Arts College, Osmania University, on Wednesday. The programme was presided over by State President and Editor Dr. S. Nageswara Rao and witnessed participation from students, academicians, researchers, intellectuals, and social activists.

Delivering the keynote address, Justice Chandra Kumar called on governments to remain accountable to the aspirations of young people



and avoid policies that undermine their future. He stressed that a democratic government must address the concerns of students and youth with sincerity. Expressing concern

over challenges in the education and employment sectors, he urged authorities to take immediate corrective measures to protect the future of the country's youth.

Justice Chandra Kumar also criticized environmental degradation in the name of development, alleging that natural resources were increasingly being handed over to corporate interests. He appealed to young people to stay vigilant against growing environmental, food, and soil pollution.

Several distinguished speakers, including Professors Konda Nageshwar, Ram Shepherd, Vamsidhar, Venkatadas, Kasim, and social activist Ramulu, described Global Wisdom as a platform for promoting progressive, democratic, and

egalitarian ideas. They encouraged students and young writers to use the magazine to express creative thoughts and strengthen critical thinking.

The speakers also called for transparency in the education system, demanded strict action against examination paper leaks, and urged student organisations to remain united in addressing issues affecting education. PDSU leaders, student union representatives, and members of various campus organisations attended the event and extended their support to the magazine's editorial team.

# Youth Declared Brain Dead After Road Accident in Abroad

**Nirmal, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

A 26-year-old man from Telangana's Nirmal district has been declared brain dead after sustaining critical injuries in a road accident in the United States, leaving his family and friends in deep shock. The victim, Nithyanand Reddy Gannu, hailed from Narsapur village in Nirmal district. The accident occurred on July 18 in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he was rushed to a hospital with severe injuries. Nithyanand had completed his Master's degree in Information Systems from

Indiana Tech in 2024 and had recently begun building his professional career in the United States. According to a fundraiser launched by one of his friends, doctors made extensive efforts to save him following the accident. However, his condition deteriorated after he developed a rare medical complication known as cerebral fat embolism, a condition in which fat particles enter the bloodstream and block blood vessels in the brain. Despite intensive medical treatment, doctors declared him brain dead, although he continues to remain on life



support.

The online fundraiser, created to support his medical expenses and assist his family during the crisis, has received an overwhelming response. According to the latest updates, more than \$63,000 has been raised through public contributions. The tragic incident has saddened the Narsapur community, with relatives, friends, and well-wishers praying for strength for Nithyanand's family during this difficult time.

**Kothagudem, July 23 | TPN Bureau**

The Kothagudem District Advocates' Association staged a protest on Thursday condemning the police action against students demonstrating over the alleged NEET examination paper leak in Delhi. A general body meeting of the association was held under the chairmanship of its President, Kiran Kumar. During the meeting, members unanimously passed a resolution condemning the police action and decided to organize a protest rally. Wearing black badges as a mark of protest, advo-



cates marched from the District Court to the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar statue at the Post Office Centre. The participants raised slogans expressing solidarity with the students and demanding accountability over the alleged examination irregu-

larities. Addressing the gathering, District Advocates' Association General Secretary Mahesh Gadipelli criticized the police action against students who, he said, were holding a peaceful demonstration over the alleged NEET paper leak.



Editorial

When Protest Turns Against the Press: A Threat To Ground Journalism

A democratic protest derives its strength from public participation, but it also depends on the freedom of journalists to report events without fear. The recent allegations of attacks on journalists during the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) protests in Delhi raise serious concerns about the safety of ground reporters, particularly women journalists.

Several journalists covering the agitation at Jantar Mantar alleged that they were heckled, threatened and physically targeted while performing their duties. Times Now reporter Dev Kotak and Times Now Navbharat reporter Jyoti Mishra were among those who alleged attacks during the protests. Such incidents, if proven, raise a fundamental question: can a democratic movement demand accountability while preventing the media from documenting it?

At the same time, it is important not to generalise the actions of a few individuals to an entire protest movement. CJP leaders have denied involvement in violence and stated that attacks on journalists are unacceptable. A fair assessment requires an impartial investigation and accountability for those responsible.

The growing hostility towards journalists has deeper roots. In recent years, the rise of aggressive studio debates and opinion-driven television formats has created a perception gap between media organisations and sections of the public. While exact data linking studio journalism to attacks is difficult to establish, press freedom groups have repeatedly highlighted that journalists, especially women reporters, face increased online abuse, threats and harassment.

This trend directly affects ground journalism. A reporter covering a protest, conflict or public issue must be able to ask questions, record events and present facts without fear. If journalists avoid sensitive locations due to safety concerns, society loses independent information and misinformation gains space.

The responsibility also lies with protesters, especially students. A movement demanding justice for examination-related issues loses public sympathy when violence, personal attacks or unrelated slogans overshadow the original cause. Peaceful expression, evidence-based arguments and respect for the media strengthen a movement.

Journalists are not opponents of protests; they are witnesses to history. Protecting reporters is not about supporting one side of a debate — it is about protecting democracy's right to know.

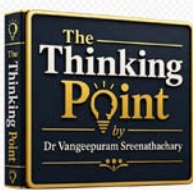
Editor

India's Demographic Dividend: A Historic Opportunity

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History occasionally gives nations a window of opportunity that appears only once in a century. India is living through such a moment today. For India, that opportunity is neither hidden beneath its soil nor confined to its technological prowess. It resides in its people—more specifically, in the energy, aspirations, and potential of its young population.

As the world's most populous nation, with more than 1.4 billion people and one of the youngest major populations globally, India stands at a defining moment. The question is no longer whether India possesses a demographic dividend, but whether it can transform that dividend into enduring prosperity.

A demographic dividend refers to the economic growth potential that arises when a country's working-age population grows larger than its dependent population. It is not an automatic reward of population growth but the outcome of wise investments in education, healthcare, nutrition, skills, employment, and governance. Demography creates the opportunity; public policy and economic leadership determine whether that opportunity is realised.

India's demographic profile is remarkable. Nearly two-thirds of its population belongs to the working-age group, and the country's median age is about 29 years—significantly younger than that of Japan, Europe, China, or the United States. By 2030, India is expected to have more than one billion people of working age, while many advanced economies will be grappling with ageing populations and shrinking labour forces.

This youthful population offers enormous possibilities. A larger workforce can enhance productivity, stimulate consumption, expand the tax base, encourage entrepreneurship, and strengthen innovation. India's thriving start-

up ecosystem, growing digital economy, expanding manufacturing sector, and global services industry already demonstrate what supported by opportunity. As businesses around the world search for skilled professionals, India has the potential to become not only the world's largest talent reservoir but also one of its most influential knowledge economies.

Yet optimism alone cannot guarantee success. History offers several examples of countries that possessed favourable demographic conditions but failed to convert them into sustained economic growth. As businesses around the world search for skilled professionals, India has the potential to become not only the world's largest talent reservoir but also one of its most influential knowledge economies.

Universities, technical institutions, and industry must work together to prepare graduates not merely for today's jobs but for occupations that may not yet exist. Another untapped opportunity lies in women's economic participation. No country can fully realise its demographic dividend while half of its human capital remains underutilised.

Although female labour-force participation has shown improvement in recent years, it continues to lag behind many other major economies. Greater access to quality education, safer workplaces, affordable childcare, flexible employment, equal opportunities, and supportive social norms would not only advance gender equality but also significantly strengthen India's economic growth.

India must also recognise that its demographic transition is not uniform. States in southern India are ageing faster, while several northern and central states continue to have relatively younger populations. This diversity calls for region-specific policies rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. States with younger populations require accelerated investments in



education, healthcare, skill development, and employment generation, while ageing states must prepare for new workforce and social security challenges.

The demographic dividend is also closely linked to health. A productive workforce depends upon proper nutrition, preventive healthcare, mental well-being, and access to quality medical services.

Healthy children become capable learners; capable learners become skilled workers; skilled workers become productive citizens. Human capital begins long before an individual enters the workforce.

The next two decades will therefore be decisive. India's demographic window will not remain open indefinitely. As fertility rates decline and life expectancy increases, today's youthful population will gradually age. Countries such as Japan and South Korea illustrate how rapidly demographic profiles can change. India still enjoys a valuable advantage, but that advantage must be translated into productive human capital before the window narrows further.

Governments alone cannot shoulder this responsibility. Industry must invest in skill development and innovation. Educational institutions must nurture curiosity rather than rote learning.

Families must encourage life-

long learning and adaptability. Young people themselves must recognise that employability is no longer a one-time achievement but a lifelong process of acquiring new knowledge and competencies.

India's aspiration of becoming a developed nation by 2047 will depend not merely on economic policies or technological breakthroughs but on the quality of its human capital.

Roads, ports, factories, and digital infrastructure are essential, but they derive their true value from the people who build, operate, and improve them.

India's greatest wealth does not lie beneath its soil or within its markets; it lives in the aspirations of its young people.

Whether that wealth becomes a demographic dividend or a demographic disappointment will depend not on numbers alone, but on the choices the nation makes today. Demography may offer India a historic opportunity. Vision, investment, and collective action alone can transform that opportunity into lasting national progress.

(The Author is a Consultant Psychologist, Academic & Research Mentor, and Guinness, Asia, Limca, and India Book Records Holder)

From Smartphones to Super Studios: The New Age of Content Creation

Pranav Peyyala



Development Analyst

There was a time, not long ago, when making a professional video meant hiring a small army. A camera crew. A graphic designer. An editor hunched over expensive software. An animation studio, if you were ambitious, and a marketing budget, if you wanted anyone actually to see the result. Polished content was a privilege of companies and professionals. Everyone else made do with shaky phone footage and good intentions.

That era has quietly ended. Today, a college student in Hyderabad with a smartphone and a handful of AI tools can produce work that would have required a full agency a decade ago. The studio has shrunk to fit inside a pocket. What happens to creativity when the tools of production belong to everyone? The answer is more interesting and more hopeful than most predictions suggest.

The Great Levelling

Consider what a single creator can now do in an afternoon. Generate images in any style imaginable. Draft and refine a script. Produce background music that once needed a composer. Edit a reel, design a

thumbnail, animate a graphic, add subtitles, and translate the whole thing into six languages before dinner. Voice cloning, used ethically and with consent, lets a creator narrate in languages she cannot speak. The production bottleneck that defined the creative economy for a century has largely dissolved.

This is not a small shift. It is the creative equivalent of what UPI did to payments: a capability once locked behind institutions was handed directly to individuals.

Social Media Pours Fuel on the Fire

The platforms have accelerated everything. Short-form video rewards speed. Algorithms reward experimentation. Audiences reward personality. A creator can post an idea in the morning, read the response by evening, and publish an improved version the next day. AI compresses this loop further, letting one person test ten ideas in the time it once took to produce one. The winners are no longer those with the biggest budgets, but those who learn fastest from their own audience.

When Everyone Has the



Same Tools, What Wins?

Here is the paradox at the heart of this revolution, and it is the most important sentence in this article: as AI lowers the cost of production, it raises the value of everything AI cannot produce. When polished visuals are available to all, polish stops being a differentiator. What remains scarce? An original idea. A personal experience nobody else has lived. Humour that lands. Research that

goes deeper than a search result. A narrative that knows exactly when to pause. And above all, trust, the audience's belief that a real person, with a real perspective, stands behind the work.

AI can generate visuals. Only humans generate meaning. The technology makes a video; it does not make a viewer care. That remains stubbornly, wonderfully human work.

The Rise of the One-Person

Studio

The result is a new species of creator: the solo professional who writes the idea while AI illustrates it, edits it, captions it, voices it, and translates it. One person now commands the capability that once required a payroll.

Financial educators, science explainers, regional-language storytellers, cooking channels run from small-town kitchens, India's creator economy, al-

ready among the largest in the world, is full of people who are essentially creative directors of their own invisible studios. The job title of the future may well be exactly that: not editor or designer, but director of one's own AI-assisted team.

The Honest Fine Print

A fair account must acknowledge the shadows. Deep-fakes challenge our ability to trust what we see. Copyright questions around AI training

remain genuinely unsettled, and courts worldwide are still working through them. Misinformation can now be manufactured at industrial speed. And when everyone can publish everything, oversaturation becomes its own problem: attention grows scarcer as content grows infinite. These challenges are real, but notice what they have in common. Every one of them makes authenticity more valuable, not less. In a sea of synthetic content, the verified human voice becomes the premium product. The problems of the AI age, ironically, reward exactly the qualities machines lack.

What Comes Next

The horizon is stranger still. Content personalised for each viewer. Interactive stories where audiences shape the ending. AI agents quietly manage a creator's entire workflow. Real-time publishing in twenty languages at once. Immersive, mixed-reality storytelling that surrounds rather than plays.

Through all of it, one prediction feels safe. The tools will keep getting cheaper, faster, and more astonishing. And the human at the centre, the one with something true to say, will keep getting more valuable. The smartphone became a studio. The next step is for every storyteller to realise that the most powerful piece of equipment was never the camera at all. It was always the point of view behind it.



# US Republicans Push for Higher Defence Spending

Republican lawmakers in the US House of Representatives have unveiled a proposal to significantly increase defence spending, citing growing security concerns in the Middle East and the need to strengthen America's military preparedness amid rising tensions with Iran.

The proposal seeks additional funding for military operations, weapons modernization, missile defence systems, and naval capabilities.

Lawmakers backing the plan argue that the United States must be prepared to respond effectively to emerging global threats and maintain its strategic advantage in an increasingly unstable geopolitical environment.

Supporters of the proposal say recent developments involving Iran have highlighted the importance of investing in national security. They believe strengthening the country's armed forces is

essential to protecting American interests, supporting allies, and deterring potential adversaries from escalating conflicts.

The spending plan also includes investments in advanced defence technologies, cybersecurity, intelligence capabilities, and improvements to military infrastructure. Republican leaders argue that these measures are necessary to ensure the armed forces remain capable of addressing

both conventional and modern security challenges.

However, the proposal has sparked debate in Washington. Critics have questioned whether such a large increase in defence spending is financially sustainable, particularly at a time when the United States is facing mounting fiscal pressures. Some lawmakers have called for a more balanced approach, emphasizing investments in domestic priorities

alongside national security.

The proposal is expected to face extensive discussions in Congress before any final budget decisions are made. Both the House and the Senate will need to negotiate the overall federal spending package, and changes to the defence allocation remain possible during the legislative process.

The renewed push for higher military spending reflects the



growing impact of geopolitical developments on US policymaking. As tensions in the Middle East continue to influence Washington's strategic priorities, defence funding is likely to remain one of the key issues in the ongoing budget negotiations.

# Trump Warns Iran Amid Rising Tensions

Tensions between the United States and Iran remain high, with fresh political and military developments raising concerns about stability in the Middle East. Former US President Donald Trump has issued a strong warning, stating that any threat to American interests or its allies would be met with a decisive response.

The latest developments come amid increasing attacks by Iran-backed Houthi rebels in the Red Sea region, which have disrupted commercial shipping and heightened fears of a broader regional conflict. The United States and its allies continue to closely monitor the situation, while strengthening security measures to safeguard vital maritime trade routes.

Saudi Arabia has also been keeping a close watch on the



evolving crisis. As one of the world's leading oil producers, the kingdom is concerned that any escalation could disrupt energy supplies and trigger volatility in global crude oil prices.

Analysts believe prolonged tensions could have a significant impact on international energy markets and the global economy.

The United States has reiterated

its commitment to protecting its military personnel and strategic interests in the region. American officials have maintained that they are prepared to respond if US forces or allied assets come under attack.

Meanwhile, diplomatic efforts to reduce tensions continue behind the scenes, with several countries urging restraint from all sides to prevent the con-

flict from expanding further. International leaders have stressed the importance of dialogue and diplomacy in avoiding a wider military confrontation.

Global markets are also closely tracking the situation, as any disruption in oil production or shipping through key maritime routes could affect fuel prices and international trade. Investors remain cautious amid uncertainty over how the crisis will evolve.

While no major military escalation has been confirmed, the situation remains highly sensitive. Governments across the world continue to monitor developments closely, hoping diplomatic efforts will succeed in preventing further instability in the strategically important Middle East region.

# Mexican Tourist Dies Fleeing ICE Encounter

A 28-year-old Mexican man on a tourist visa died in Florida after he was reportedly struck by a truck while fleeing an encounter with US immigration officials. The incident has triggered fresh debate over immigration enforcement methods in the United States.

The victim was identified as Juan Jairo Coronilla Durán, a Mexican national who was reportedly visiting the US for tourism purposes. According to reports, he had travelled to spend time with family and friends before the tragic incident occurred in Florida.

The incident took place at a gas station in St. Augustine, Florida, where immigration officials, including officers associated with the US Immigration



and Customs Enforcement (ICE), approached a vehicle carrying Coronilla Durán and other individuals.

Authorities said that after the encounter, some occupants of the vehicle fled on foot. During the escape, Coronilla Durán reportedly crossed a busy road and was hit by a semi-truck. Emergency responders rushed him for medical assistance, but he could not survive his injuries.

An investigation has been launched to determine the complete circumstances surrounding the incident. Officials are examining why the group was approached by immigration officers and what exactly led to the decision to flee.

The death has drawn widespread attention amid ongoing discussions in the United States over immigration enforcement practices. Rights groups have raised concerns about the methods used during immigration operations, while authorities have maintained that officers must carry out their duties while following established procedures.

The victim's family and supporters have expressed shock over the incident and called for a detailed investigation. Mexican

officials have also sought clarity over the circumstances that led to the death of a Mexican citizen on US soil.

The case has raised questions about how immigration officers interact with individuals who may have legal permission to remain in the country. While reports indicate that Coronilla Durán was travelling on a tourist visa, further details about the encounter are still being investigated.

As authorities continue their inquiry, the incident has become another point of discussion in the broader debate over immigration policies, enforcement procedures, and the balance between national security measures and individual rights in the United States.

# Nawaz Sharif Eyes PoK PM Post

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has expressed his desire to become the Prime Minister of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), triggering fresh political discussions in Pakistan ahead of elections in the region.

Addressing an election rally in Muzaffarabad, Nawaz Sharif said that if his party Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) performs well in the elections, he would request Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to appoint him as the head of the PoK government.

He said that taking up the responsibility would allow him to directly focus on the development of the region.

Nawaz Sharif described PoK as a region close to him and referred to his family's historical connection with Kashmir while explaining his interest in the area. His



remarks came during a campaign event where he appeared alongside his daughter and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz.

The statement has sparked political reactions across Pakistan, with opposition parties questioning the timing and practicality of the proposal. Critics have linked the announcement to the upcoming electoral contest in PoK, where political parties are competing for influence amid con-

cerns over economic challenges, governance issues, and public dissatisfaction.

Nawaz Sharif, a three-time former Prime Minister of Pakistan, continues to remain one of the country's most influential political figures. Although he is no longer holding the top executive post, he remains a key strategist for the PML-N and plays a major role in shaping the party's political direction.

The announcement has added a new angle to PoK politics, where elections are expected to attract significant attention. Political observers believe Nawaz Sharif's statement could be aimed at strengthening the PML-N's position in the region and connecting with voters through promises of development and better governance.

However, questions remain over the legal and political possibility of such a move. The final outcome would depend on election results, constitutional provisions, and political negotiations within Pakistan.

Nawaz Sharif's remarks have once again highlighted the political importance of PoK and sparked a wider debate over leadership, governance, and the future direction of the region.

# Five Soldiers Killed in Thailand Attack

A deadly attack in Thailand's southern Narathiwat province has left five paramilitary soldiers dead and several civilians injured, raising fresh concerns over security challenges in the region.

According to officials, armed attackers targeted a security checkpoint in the area before fleeing the scene. The assailants reportedly opened fire and used explosive devices during the attack, creating panic among local residents.

Officials said several civilians, including a child, were also injured in the incident. Security forces immediately reached the spot and launched search operations to identify those behind the attack.

Reports suggest that the attackers were heavily armed and arrived at the location in a vehicle



before carrying out the assault. After the attack, they reportedly took weapons and other equipment from the security personnel and escaped. The vehicle used in the incident was later found abandoned.

Thai authorities have launched a detailed investigation and intensified security operations in the region. Security agencies are collecting evidence from the at-

tack site and conducting searches in surrounding areas to trace the suspects.

The incident took place in Thailand's deep south, an area that has faced decades of unrest due to conflicts involving separatist groups and government forces. Provinces such as Narathiwat, Pattani, and Yala have witnessed several violent incidents over the years.

The Thai government has strongly condemned the attack and assured that strict action will be taken against those responsible. Authorities have also increased security measures in sensitive areas to prevent further violence.

The latest incident has once again highlighted the ongoing security challenges in Thailand's southern provinces. While efforts have been made to bring stability to the region through dialogue and security measures, occasional attacks continue to raise concerns among local communities.

Investigations are currently underway, and authorities are focusing on identifying the attackers, understanding the motive behind the assault, and strengthening security arrangements to protect civilians and security personnel in the future.

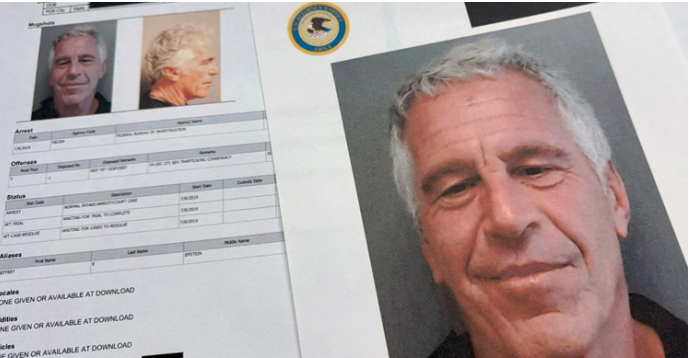
# Epstein Associate Daniel Siad Found Dead

French model scout Daniel Siad, who was linked to convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, has been found dead at his home near Paris while facing scrutiny over allegations connected to Epstein's network. French authorities have launched an investigation to determine the circumstances surrounding his death.

Siad, 69, was reportedly under investigation by French prosecutors over allegations related to sexual crimes and possible connections to activities associated with Epstein. His name gained attention after appearing in documents connected to the wider Epstein case, which has continued to draw global scrutiny.

Siad worked in the modelling some women of helping introduce them to Epstein by promising modelling opportunities. Allegations against him included claims of sexual abuse and exploitation. However, Siad had denied any wrongdoing and maintained that his association with Epstein was professional.

The development has added another chapter to the long-run-



ning investigation into Epstein's international network. Epstein, a wealthy American financier, was arrested in 2019 on federal sex trafficking charges but died in custody before facing trial. Since then, authorities in multiple countries have continued examining the activities of individuals who were allegedly connected to him.

French investigators are continuing their probe into allegations involving people linked to Epstein. Officials have indicated that the investigation will proceed despite Siad's death, with authorities examining available evidence and statements from alleged victims.

Siad's death has also drawn attention due to the earlier death of another Epstein associate, French modelling agent Jean-Luc Brunel, who died in prison in 2022 while facing allegations related to sexual offences and trafficking.

The Epstein case remains one of the most widely discussed criminal investigations involving allegations of exploitation, abuse, and the involvement of influential individuals. The latest development in France has once again renewed global focus on the network surrounding Epstein and the ongoing efforts to uncover the full extent of the allegations.

# Nepal PM to Meet India, China Envoys

Nepal Prime Minister Balendra "Balen" Shah is set to break his self-imposed diplomatic practice of avoiding one-on-one meetings with foreign ambassadors, as he prepares to hold separate discussions with the representatives of India and China. The move is being seen as an important shift in Nepal's diplomatic approach.

Since taking charge as Nepal's prime minister, Balen Shah has followed a policy of avoiding individual meetings with foreign diplomats. Instead, he preferred collective interactions with ambassadors, maintaining that Nepal should follow a balanced approach in its relations with different countries.

However, after completing the initial phase of his government, Shah has decided to engage directly with the envoys of Nepal's two most important neighbours — India and China. He is expected to hold separate meetings with the Indian and Chinese ambassadors, highlighting the importance of maintaining strong communication with both countries.

The decision is being viewed as an attempt to strengthen Nepal's balanced foreign policy. India and China play a crucial role



in Nepal's economy, trade, connectivity, infrastructure development, and regional cooperation. Kathmandu has traditionally maintained a careful balance between the two Asian powers due to its strategic location.

Balen Shah's earlier diplomatic approach had attracted considerable attention after he avoided several requests for individual meetings with foreign representatives. His style was seen as an effort to establish a different model of governance and diplomacy.

The upcoming discussions come at a time when Nepal is focusing on economic growth, attracting investments, improving infrastructure, and strengthen-

ing international partnerships. Direct engagement with India and China could help Kathmandu address key issues related to trade, development projects, and regional cooperation.

The move also signals a possible adjustment in Shah's foreign policy strategy. While continuing to emphasize Nepal's independent diplomatic identity, the prime minister appears to be recognizing the importance of regular dialogue with neighbouring countries.

The separate meetings with Indian and Chinese representatives are expected to be closely watched as they may provide indications about the future direction of Nepal's foreign relations under Balen Shah's leadership.

# Sri Lankan Navy Arrests Indian Fishermen

The Sri Lankan Navy has arrested a group of Indian fishermen and seized their fishing trawler, alleging that they had entered Sri Lankan waters and engaged in illegal fishing activities. The incident has once again brought the long-standing fishing dispute between India and Sri Lanka into focus.

According to Sri Lankan authorities, the fishermen were intercepted during a naval operation near Talaimannar, a coastal area in northern Sri Lanka. The Navy alleged that they had crossed the International Maritime Boundary Line and were fishing inside Sri Lankan territorial waters.

The arrested fishermen and the seized trawler were handed over to fisheries officials for further legal proceedings. Authorities said that an investigation would be conducted and further action would be taken according to Sri Lankan laws.

The issue of fishermen crossing maritime boundaries has remained a major concern between India and Sri Lanka for several years. The Palk Strait, which separates Tamil Nadu from Sri Lanka, has traditionally been a fish-



ing zone for communities from both countries. Due to the narrow maritime boundary, fishermen often face allegations of accidentally or deliberately entering each other's waters.

Sri Lankan authorities have frequently accused Indian trawlers of using fishing methods that harm marine resources and affect the livelihood of local fishermen. India, on the other hand, has repeatedly raised concerns over the detention of Indian fishermen and sought their early release through diplomatic channels.

The latest arrests are likely to revive discussions between the two countries on finding a permanent solution to the fishermen issue. Both nations have previously held talks to address

concerns related to maritime boundaries, fishing rights, and the welfare of coastal communities.

Fishermen groups on both sides have often demanded greater cooperation and practical solutions to prevent repeated arrests and conflicts. They have called for measures that protect the livelihood of fishermen while ensuring the sustainable use of marine resources.

The recurring incidents highlight the complexity of the fishing dispute between India and Sri Lanka. The issue remains closely connected to bilateral relations, coastal security, and the economic interests of thousands of fishing families dependent on the waters around the Palk Strait.



# Dubai Economy Shows Strong Comeback

Dubai has staged a remarkable economic comeback, with businesses once again focusing on expansion and investment after a brief period of uncertainty caused by geopolitical tensions in the Gulf region.

Earlier this year, concerns surrounding the conflict involving the United States and Iran affected business sentiment across the emirate. Many companies postponed expansion plans, investors adopted a cautious approach, and businesses shifted their attention from growth to risk management. Consumer confidence also weakened temporarily, leading to reduced discretionary spending in several sectors.

However, the situation has improved significantly over the past few months. Shopping malls, restaurants, hotels, and commercial centers are witnessing increased activity, while businesses have resumed projects that were previously put on hold. Corporate leaders are once again prioritizing long-term growth, investments, and expansion strategies.

Business executives believe the recent challenges have made companies better prepared to handle future uncertainties. Many organizations have strengthened their contingency planning, diversified supply chains, and improved risk management practices to ensure greater resilience in the face of geopolitical disruptions.



# Aastha Spintex Rewards Shareholders

Recently listed textile company Aastha Spintex has announced a 1:1 bonus share issue along with a final dividend, giving investors multiple reasons to celebrate. Following the announcement, the company's shares gained around 2%, reflecting positive sentiment in the market.

The company's board approved the issuance of one bonus share for every one existing equity share held by shareholders. The bonus shares will be issued by capitalising the company's free reserves, while the record date to determine eligible shareholders will be announced separately.

In addition to the bonus issue, the board has also recommended a final dividend for shareholders, subject to the necessary approvals. The move underlines the company's commitment to rewarding investors soon after its successful stock market listing.

Along with these shareholder-friendly initiatives, Aastha Spintex has also revealed plans to expand its business operations. The company aims to enter the

grey fabric segment and strengthen its presence in value-added textile products under its own brand. This strategy is expected to enhance operational efficiency, diversify its product portfolio, and improve profit margins.

The expansion plans will be supported by increased manufacturing capacity, allowing the company to strengthen its position across the textile value chain and cater to a broader customer base.

Aastha Spintex recently made its stock market debut after receiving a strong response from investors during its initial public offering. Since its listing, the company has remained in the spotlight because of its growth strategy and investor-focused decisions.

Market experts believe the combination of a bonus issue, dividend announcement, and expansion plans has boosted investor confidence. Going forward, the company's ability to successfully execute its expansion strategy and deliver sustained financial growth will be closely monitored by investors and market analysts.

# Markets Weak Amid Global Uncertainty

Indian benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower for the fourth consecutive trading session, as escalating tensions in West Asia and rising crude oil prices continued to dampen investor sentiment.

The BSE Sensex closed nearly 350 points lower, while the NSE Nifty slipped below the 23,900 mark. Selling pressure was witnessed across several sectors, including banking, IT, automobile, and oil-related stocks, dragging the broader market lower.

The key factor behind the decline was the sharp increase in global crude oil prices following geopolitical developments in West Asia. Since India imports a major share of its crude oil requirements, higher oil prices have raised concerns over inflation, increased import costs, and pressure on the country's economic growth. These factors prompted investors to adopt a cautious approach.

Foreign institutional investors also remained on the sidelines amid global uncertainty, while mixed cues from international markets added to the



negative sentiment. Investors preferred to wait for greater clarity on geopolitical developments and upcoming corporate earnings before making fresh investments.

The weakness was not limited to frontline indices, as the broader market also witnessed selling. Mid-cap and small-cap stocks came under pressure, with most sectoral indices ending the day in negative territory, reflecting widespread caution among investors.

Market experts believe volatility is likely to continue in the coming sessions as traders closely monitor developments in West Asia and movements in crude oil prices. Any further escalation in geopolitical tensions could keep markets under pressure and affect investor confidence. Despite the recent correction, analysts continue to advise long-term investors to stay focused on fundamentally strong companies rather than reacting to short-term market fluctuations. They believe upcoming quarterly earnings, global economic data, and geopolitical developments will play a crucial role in determining the market's next direction.

With uncertainty still prevailing in global markets, investors are expected to remain cautious until there is greater clarity on both the international situation and domestic economic indicators.

# Qatar Supply Worries Hit Petronet

Shares of Petronet LNG came under selling pressure, declining nearly 4% after reports suggested that QatarEnergy is likely to extend its force majeure on liquefied natural gas (LNG) shipments until mid-October. The development has raised fresh concerns over the stability of LNG supplies and their impact on India's energy sector.

If the extension is officially confirmed, it could lead to continued disruptions in LNG deliveries to several buyers across Asia and Europe. Since Qatar is one of India's largest LNG suppliers, the reports have sparked concerns among investors about Petronet LNG's business operations and future supply availability.

Following the news, Petronet LNG shares witnessed significant selling as investors reacted to the possibility of prolonged supply disruptions. Market participants fear that delays in LNG shipments could affect the company's import volumes, increase procurement costs, and impact its overall business performance in the coming months.



The uncertainty is linked to ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, which have affected maritime movement through the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical energy shipping routes. Any prolonged disruption in this region could tighten global LNG supplies and push international gas prices higher.

Market experts believe the situation remains uncertain, and the overall impact will depend on the duration of the supply disruption. If LNG exports from Qatar continue to face delays, Indian energy companies may need to explore alternative sources to ensure uninterrupted fuel supplies. Investors are now closely monitoring official updates from QatarEnergy and developments in the Middle East. Greater clarity on LNG shipments and the duration of the force majeure will be crucial in determining the near-term outlook for Petronet LNG as well as the broader energy sector.

Despite the short-term pressure on the stock, analysts believe the company's long-term prospects will depend on how quickly global supply chains stabilize and geopolitical tensions ease. Until then, volatility in energy markets is expected to keep investor sentiment cautious.

# Nomura Raises IHCL Target Price

Global brokerage Nomura has reiterated its 'Buy' rating on Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL) and increased its target price from 800 to 880, expressing confidence in the company's long-term growth prospects.

The brokerage believes Indian Hotels is well-positioned to outperform its own FY27 revenue growth guidance, supported by strong demand in the hospitality sector and the continued recovery in travel and tourism.

According to Nomura, domestic leisure travel remains robust, while corporate travel and business events are also contributing to healthy occupancy levels across the company's hotel portfolio. The brokerage expects these positive trends to drive higher revenues in the coming

quarters.

Indian Hotels recently reported a strong set of quarterly results, with healthy growth in revenue and profit. The company also continued its expansion strategy by adding new hotel properties and strengthening its asset-light business model, which is expected to support profitability over the long term.

Nomura believes the company's diversified portfolio, premium hotel brands, and consistent expansion plans provide a strong foundation for sustained earnings growth. It also expects operational efficiencies and higher occupancy levels to contribute to improving margins.

The brokerage noted that the hospitality industry continues to benefit from rising domestic tourism, increasing

demand for premium accommodation, and steady growth in corporate travel. These factors are likely to keep the sector on a strong growth trajectory over the next few years.

Following the positive outlook, Indian Hotels remains one of Nomura's preferred picks in the hospitality space. The revised target price reflects the brokerage's confidence that the company can continue delivering strong financial performance while exceeding its own revenue growth expectations.

Market participants will now closely monitor the company's future earnings, expansion plans, and occupancy trends to assess whether it can maintain its growth momentum and achieve the optimistic projections outlined by the brokerage.



# SEBI Plans Easier Margin Rules

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is reportedly considering a significant change in the way upfront margins are collected for cash market trades. If approved, the move could reduce the amount investors need to block before buying shares, making equity investing more flexible and efficient.

According to reports, SEBI is evaluating a proposal to replace the existing 20% upfront margin requirement with a risk-based margin system linked to the actual risk assessed by clearing corporations. Under the proposed framework, margin requirements would vary depending on the level of risk associated with individual trades instead of applying a uniform rule to all transactions.

The proposal is expected to improve liquidity in the cash market by reducing the capital tied up during share purchases. Market participants believe the revised system could encourage greater participation from retail investors while also boosting trading volumes, particularly in highly liquid stocks.

The move is seen as part of SEBI's broader efforts to strengthen the cash equity market. In recent months, the

market regulator has introduced several measures aimed at improving market efficiency, enhancing investor protection, and promoting balanced participation across different market segments.

Industry experts believe that aligning margin requirements with actual trading risk would create a more efficient and investor-friendly trading environment without compromising market safety. They also point out that the proposal is still under discussion and could undergo changes before a final decision is announced.

If implemented, the new margin framework is expected to benefit both investors and brokerage firms by improving the utilization of funds and making cash market investments more accessible. At the same time, SEBI is likely to retain adequate safeguards to ensure market stability and protect investors from excessive financial risk.

The proposal reflects the regulator's continued focus on modernizing India's capital markets while striking a balance between ease of investing and prudent risk management. Market participants will now be closely watching for SEBI's final decision on the proposed changes.



# Weak Outlook Hits Bandhan Bank

Shares of Bandhan Bank remained under heavy selling pressure, extending their loss for the second consecutive trading session. The stock has declined nearly 20% in just two days, despite the bank reporting a rise in first-quarter profit, as investors reacted negatively to its revised business outlook.

The sharp fall came after the bank lowered its financial guidance for the current financial year. The management adopted a more cautious stance, citing uncertainty in the economic environment, rising operating costs, and increasing competition in the banking sector.

Although Bandhan Bank reported healthy growth in its quarterly net profit, investors focused more on the reduced profitability projections than on the earnings performance. The revised guidance raised concerns about the bank's ability to sustain earnings growth, improve margins, and maintain strong financial performance in the coming quarters.

The steep decline in the share price reflects weakening investor confidence, with many market participants choosing to book profits after the management's conservative outlook. Analysts believe

the downgrade in future expectations had a much greater impact on market sentiment than the positive quarterly results.

Brokerage firms have expressed mixed opinions on the stock. Some analysts believe the recent correction could present a long-term investment opportunity if the bank successfully executes its growth strategy and improves profitability. Others remain cautious due to concerns over operating expenses, asset quality, and the challenging business environment.

Market experts expect the stock to remain volatile in the near term as investors closely monitor the bank's upcoming earnings, loan growth, asset quality, and progress in achieving its revised financial targets. Any improvement in these areas could help rebuild investor confidence and support a recovery in the share price.

The market reaction highlights that strong quarterly earnings alone may not be enough to satisfy investors when future growth expectations are lowered. Going forward, Bandhan Bank's ability to deliver consistent financial performance and meet its revised guidance will play a crucial role in restoring confidence among shareholders.

# Shikhar Dhawan Backs NEET Students

Former India cricketer Shikhar Dhawan has sparked a massive discussion on social media after sharing an emotional message for students amid the ongoing protests over the alleged NEET paper leak. His appeal, calling for patience and understanding, has resonated with thousands of people across the country.

Addressing the concerns of students, Dhawan said that the dreams and aspirations of the

youth must be respected and understood. He acknowledged the frustration and uncertainty many students are experiencing and emphasized that their voices deserve to be heard.

At the same time, the former opener urged students to remain patient and maintain faith in the country's institutions. He expressed confidence that every challenge can be overcome through dialogue, determination, and collective efforts, add-

ing that India has always found ways to emerge stronger during difficult times.

Dhawan stressed that young people are the nation's future and that protecting their hopes and ambitions should remain a top priority. He encouraged students not to lose confidence despite the current situation and reminded them that perseverance and resilience are essential qualities for success.

His remarks came at a time

when protests over the alleged NEET paper leak continue to intensify in several parts of the country. Students and activists have been demanding accountability, transparency, and stronger measures to ensure the integrity of competitive examinations.

The cricketer's message quickly gained traction online, with many users praising his balanced approach and words of encouragement. Supporters appreciated his effort to motivate

students while also calling for calm during a tense period. Others felt his statement reflected the concerns of millions of young aspirants whose careers are linked to competitive examinations.

Dhawan's appeal has added another prominent voice to the growing national conversation surrounding the issue. As debates over examination reforms and student welfare continue, his message has served as a remind-



er that the aspirations of young people must remain at the center of the discussion.

The viral post has once again highlighted how sports person-

alities often use their influence to speak on important social issues, inspiring hope and encouraging constructive dialogue during challenging times.

# Lovlina Assures India First CWG Medal

India has opened its medal account at the 2026 Commonwealth Games even before the official opening ceremony, thanks to star boxer Lovlina Borgohain. In a remarkable development, the Olympic bronze medallist has already assured the country of at least a bronze medal without stepping into the ring for her opening bout.

Competing in the women's 75kg boxing category, Lovlina received a direct entry into the semifinals after being awarded a bye in the quarterfinal stage. Under the boxing competition format, all semifinalists are guaranteed at least a bronze medal, as there is no playoff for third place. As a result, India secured its first medal of the Games before the competition officially gathered full momentum.

The achievement has provid-



ed an early boost to the Indian contingent, which is aiming for another successful campaign at the Commonwealth Games. Lovlina will now have the opportunity to fight for a place in the final and upgrade her assured bronze to either a silver or a gold medal.

The Assam-born boxer has established herself as one of

India's most dependable athletes on the international stage. She won a bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics and later clinched a gold medal at the World Championships, earning recognition as one of the country's finest boxers.

With her place in the semifinals confirmed, all eyes will now be on Lovlina as she looks

to continue her impressive form and bring home an even bigger prize. Her early success has also boosted the confidence of the Indian contingent ahead of the official inauguration of the Games.

India has traditionally performed well in boxing at the Commonwealth Games, and Lovlina's assured medal continues that rich legacy. Her achievement once again highlights the country's growing strength in the sport and raises hopes of a strong overall medal tally.

As the Games progress, Indian fans will be eagerly watching Lovlina's semifinal bout, hoping she can convert her guaranteed podium finish into a gold-medal triumph and inspire her teammates to deliver more medal-winning performances.

# Spain Captain Rodri Set for Back Surgery

Spain captain and Manchester City midfielder Rodri is reportedly set to undergo back surgery, raising concerns over his availability for the upcoming football season and Spain's preparations for major international competitions.

According to reports, Rodri has been struggling with persistent back discomfort for some time. After undergoing detailed medical evaluations, doctors are said to have recommended surgery as the best long-term solution to address the issue and prevent further complications.

The decision is expected to keep the midfield star out of action for a significant period, although neither Manchester City nor the Spanish national team has officially confirmed the exact duration of his recovery. The club's medical



staff will closely monitor his rehabilitation before deciding when he can return to competitive football.

Rodri has been one of the most influential midfielders in world football over the past few seasons. His ability to con-

trol the tempo of the game, break up opposition attacks, and contribute with crucial goals has made him an indispensable player for both Manchester City and Spain.

His possible absence would be a major setback for Man-

chester City, as manager Pep Guardiola has relied heavily on Rodri's consistency and leadership in midfield. Spain could also face a significant challenge if the recovery period extends into key international fixtures.

The 29-year-old has played a vital role in several of his team's biggest successes, earning praise for his composure, tactical intelligence, and consistency. His performances have established him as one of the finest defensive midfielders in modern football.

Fans across the world will now be hoping the surgery is successful and that Rodri makes a full recovery. An official update regarding the operation and his expected return is likely to be announced once the procedure is completed and his rehabilitation plan is finalized.

# Viral Petition Seeks Argentina World Cup Ban

A massive online petition demanding a ban on Argentina from future FIFA World Cup tournaments has gone viral, attracting millions of signatures and coming close to setting a Guinness World Record for one of the most-signed online petitions.

The petition has generated widespread debate among football fans across the globe. Supporters of the campaign have cited various grievances related to Argentina's recent performances, refereeing decisions, and controversies surrounding international competitions. However, many football followers have strongly opposed the demand, arguing that such a move has no sporting or legal basis.

As the petition gained momentum on social media, it quickly became one of the most talked-about topics in the football world. Fans from different countries joined the discussion, with opinions sharply divided over whether the campaign was a genuine protest or simply an emotional reaction driven by sporting rivalries.

Despite the growing number of signatures, the petition has no official authority to influence FIFA's decisions. FIFA has not issued any state-



ment regarding the campaign, and there is no indication that the world governing body is considering any action against Argentina based on the online movement.

Argentina remains one of the most successful football nations in history, having won multiple FIFA World Cup titles and producing legendary players across generations. The national team continues to enjoy a massive

global fan base, making any controversy involving the country a major talking point in international football.

The viral petition has once again highlighted the power of social media in shaping global conversations around sports. While online campaigns can attract enormous public attention, they do not have the authority to alter FIFA regulations or tournament participation without

substantial evidence and formal disciplinary proceedings.

For now, the petition remains a symbolic expression of fan sentiment rather than a legitimate challenge to Argentina's place in international football. With no official action from FIFA, Argentina is expected to continue participating in future World Cup competitions as usual.

# Chen Yufei Ends Sindhu's Campaign



Indian badminton star PV Sindhu bowed out of the China Open after suffering a hard-fought defeat to China's Chen Yufei in the second round. The match turned out to be an intense contest, but the home favourite held her nerve in the decisive moments to end Sindhu's campaign.

Sindhu started the match with confidence and displayed flashes of the form that recently helped her clinch the Japan Open title. She matched Chen point for point for long periods, producing powerful smashes, sharp net play, and excellent court coverage.

The encounter stretched to three games, with both players exchanging momentum throughout the match. Sindhu fought back strongly on several occasions, but Chen Yufei's consistency and ability to con-

vert crucial points ultimately made the difference.

Despite the defeat, Sindhu's performance offered several positives. Her aggressive style of play and improved movement reflected the confidence she has regained following her recent success on the international circuit. The match also demonstrated that she is steadily returning to her best form after a challenging phase.

The loss marked the end of India's challenge in the women's singles category at the tournament, but Sindhu once again showcased the fighting spirit and determination that have made her one of the country's most successful badminton players.

The China Open is regarded as one of the toughest tournaments on the BWF World Tour, featuring several of the world's

top-ranked players. Every match is highly competitive, making deep runs difficult even for the best athletes.

With the China Open now behind her, Sindhu is expected to shift her focus to the upcoming BWF World Championships, where she will look to build on her recent performances and challenge for another major title. Her encouraging displays in recent tournaments have strengthened hopes that she can continue her resurgence on the global stage.

Although her campaign in China ended earlier than expected, Sindhu's spirited performance against a world-class opponent has reinforced the belief that she remains one of India's strongest medal contenders in international badminton.

# Abhinav Bindra Urges Unity on NEET Row

Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra has shared a powerful message amid the ongoing protests over the alleged NEET-UG paper leak, urging the nation to treat education as a collective responsibility rather than a political issue. His remarks have resonated with students, parents, and social media users across the country.

Taking to social media, Bindra said that "some issues belong to all of us," emphasizing that the future of young students should rise above political differences. He stressed that education is the foundation of the nation's progress and called for everyone to come together to protect the aspirations of millions of students. The shooting legend appealed to all stakeholders to work collectively towards

strengthening the country's education system. Without directly blaming any individual or institution, he highlighted the need for constructive dialogue, accountability, and meaningful reforms that would restore students' confidence in competitive examinations.

Bindra's comments come at a time when protests over the alleged NEET-UG paper leak have intensified in several parts of the country. Students have been demanding greater transparency, accountability, and stronger measures to ensure the integrity and fairness of national-level entrance examinations.

His balanced and thoughtful approach has been widely appreciated online. Many social media users praised him for focusing on the welfare of students in-

stead of entering political debates, saying his message reflected the concerns of millions of young aspirants and their families. Abhinav Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medallist, has often spoken about issues related to sports, education, and youth development. His latest statement has once again highlighted the influential role public figures can play in encouraging meaningful discussions on matters that shape the future of the country's younger generation.

As the debate surrounding examination reforms continues, Bindra's message has served as a reminder that ensuring a fair, transparent, and trustworthy education system is a shared responsibility that extends beyond politics and institutions.



Vijay's Last Film Is a Mixed Bag



Thalapathy Vijay's much-awaited farewell film Jana Nayakudu has finally hit the big screens amid massive expectations. Directed by H. Vinoth, the political action drama marks Vijay's final outing as an actor before dedicating himself fully to politics. While the film delivers several fan-pleasing moments and showcases Vijay in top form, it struggles to maintain the same momentum with its story and screenplay.

Vijay carries the film effortlessly with his charismatic screen presence, stylish action sequences, and emotionally charged performance. His larger-than-life introduction, powerful dialogues, and mass elevation scenes are designed to satisfy his fan base, and they succeed in creating whistle-worthy moments throughout the film.

Pooja Hegde plays the female lead and delivers a decent performance, while Bobby Deol portrays the antagonist with conviction. Mamitha Baiju and the supporting cast perform their roles effectively, adding emotional depth to the narrative whenever required.

Director H. Vinoth attempts to blend commercial entertainment with political messaging. While the intention is appreciable, the execution isn't consistently engaging. The first half offers a few entertaining moments and sets up the conflict reasonably well, but the second half becomes predictable, relying heavily on familiar commercial film tropes.

Mahendragiri Vaarahi Locks September 11 Release

Actor Sumanth's much-awaited spiritual mystery thriller Mahendragiri Vaarahi is finally gearing up for its theatrical release. After months of anticipation and post-production work, the makers have officially locked September 11 as the film's release date, raising excitement among movie lovers.

Directed by Santhosh Jagarlapudi, the film blends mythology, suspense, and supernatural elements. Set against the mysterious backdrop of Mahendragiri, the story revolves around intriguing incidents connected to Goddess Varahi, promising a unique cinematic experience.

The film features Sumanth in the lead role alongside Aishwarya Raiesh, Malayika Nair, and Meenakshi Goswami, who play pivotal roles. The combination of a talented cast and an unusual storyline has already generated considerable curiosity among audiences.



Vishal's Magudham Joins Independence Day Race

The upcoming Independence Day weekend is shaping up to be an exciting one for Tamil cinema, with another major box-office clash reportedly on the cards. After Suriya's Viswanath & Sons and Kevin-Nayanthara's Hi confirmed their release plans, actor Vishal is now expected to join the race with his latest film.



According to industry buzz, Vishal's upcoming action entertainer Magudham is likely to release during the same holiday weekend, setting the stage for a three-way box-office battle. While an official announcement is still awaited, reports suggest that the makers are keen on capitalizing on the extended holiday season.

Kalyan Ram in Talks with Parasuram

Director Parasuram, who won acclaim with Geetha Govindam, is reportedly gearing up for his next project after The Family Star. According to the latest buzz in Tollywood, the filmmaker is planning to join hands with Nandamuri Kalyan Ram for an exciting new film.



Reports suggest that Parasuram has already narrated a story idea to Kalyan Ram. The actor is said to have liked the basic concept, following which the director has started working on the complete script.

Mouni Roy Teams Up with Suresh Krissna

Actress Mouni Roy, who was recently seen in Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai, has signed an exciting new project with veteran filmmaker Suresh Krissna, the acclaimed director behind blockbuster films like Baasha.



The collaboration has already created a buzz in the industry, as it brings together one of Indian cinema's most experienced directors and one of Bollywood's popular actresses. The upcoming film is expected to mark Suresh Krissna's return to the Hindi romance genre after a long gap.

Mani Ratnam's Next Goes on Floors in Kolkata

Acclaimed filmmaker Mani Ratnam is gearing up to begin work on his next project following Thug Life. The much-awaited film stars Vijay Sethupathi in the lead role, while Sai Pallavi has been cast as the female lead. The project has already generated tremendous excitement among movie lovers.



According to the latest update, the film's regular shooting is set to begin in Kolkata, where the makers have planned the first schedule. Several important sequences will be filmed in the city before the team moves on to other locations.

The Odyssey Crosses ₹100 Crore in India

Christopher Nolan's epic action-adventure film The Odyssey continues its sensational run at the Indian box office, maintaining an impressive hold even after its blockbuster opening weekend. The film has once again proved Nolan's immense popularity among Indian audiences, with collections remaining remarkably steady despite the arrival of new releases.



Starring Matt Damon in the lead role, The Odyssey has been drawing packed houses across premium formats, particularly IMAX screens. The film's stunning visuals, grand scale, and immersive storytelling have played a major role in attracting audiences, helping it sustain strong occupancy throughout the week.

Aamir Khan Exits Ashneer Grover Biopic

Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan has reportedly stepped away from the much-discussed biopic based on entrepreneur and former BharatPe co-founder Ashneer Grover. The news has created a buzz in the film industry, as the project was considered one of the most anticipated biographical dramas in development.



According to industry reports, Aamir Khan decided to exit the project due to creative differences regarding the script. The actor, who is known for carefully selecting his films, is believed to have felt that the screenplay required further refinement before moving forward.