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CM Revanth Reddy Pushes Vegetable Cultivation Amid Rainfall Deficit

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday directed officials to take proactive measures to promote the cultivation of irrigated dry crops, particularly vegetables, across Telangana in view of the prevailing El Niño conditions and rainfall deficit. He assured that the State Government is prepared to provide seeds at subsidized rates to encourage farmers to shift towards alternative crops and minimize agricultural losses.

The directions were issued after an expert committee headed by State Planning Board Vice-Chairman G. Chinna Reddy submitted a comprehensive report on the impact of El Niño and deficient rainfall at a review meeting held at Bodhi Pavilion in the Dr MCR Human Resource Development Institute (MCRHRD).

Reviewing the report, the Chief Minister emphasized the need for coordinated efforts between the Agriculture Department and other concerned agencies to support farmers during the current agricultural season. He said vegetable cultivation should be encouraged on a large scale, especially in areas surrounding the centralized kitchens being es-



tablished to provide breakfast and mid-day meals to students in government schools. Such an approach, he noted, would ensure a steady market for farmers while improving the supply of fresh produce for government nutrition programmes.

Revanth Reddy also stressed the importance of creating awareness among farmers about adopting organic cultivation methods for vegetables and other crops. He directed the Agriculture Department to deploy extension officers to educate cultivators on scientific farming practices, crop diversification, and sustainable agriculture. The Chief Minister instructed officials to formulate a system for the direct procurement of vegetables and other produce from farmers,

thereby ensuring better returns and reducing dependence on intermediaries.

The expert committee's report presented a detailed assessment of El Niño conditions, their impact on crop patterns, the decline in cultivated area during the current season, and the need for immediate contingency measures. It recommended encouraging farmers to shift from water-intensive crops to alternatives such as pulses, oilseeds, millets, and vegetables, depending on local conditions. Among its key recommendations, the committee proposed preparing village-specific contingency plans, supplying seeds for alternative crops with a 75 per cent subsidy, and extending fresh crop loans to farmers willing to adopt diversified

cultivation.

The report also recommended that scientists from agricultural universities provide technical guidance to farmers to improve productivity and help them adopt climate-resilient farming practices. Special emphasis was placed on promoting vegetable cultivation in villages surrounding Hyderabad, with arrangements for efficient transportation of produce to Rythu Bazaars to ensure timely marketing.

To strengthen rural livelihoods beyond crop cultivation, the committee suggested providing financial assistance for establishing dairy units in villages. It also proposed forming village-level monitoring teams to oversee the implementation of contingency measures and ensure that government support reaches farmers effectively. Reiterating the government's commitment to protecting farmers from the impact of adverse weather conditions, the Chief Minister directed officials to implement the committee's recommendations in a coordinated and time-bound manner. He said the objective is not only to mitigate the effects of rainfall deficit but also to build a more resilient and diversified agricultural system capable of withstanding future climate challenges.



Governor Attends 'Sapta Tandavam' Cultural Performance

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, accompanied by Smt. Janaki Shukla, attended the classical dance production "Sapta Tandavam" at Ravindra Bharathi in Hyderabad on Thursday. The performance, conceived and choreographed by Padma Shri awardee Dr. G. Padmaja Reddy, celebrated the richness of India's classical dance traditions and cultural heritage.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor described Indian classical dance as a profound expression of spirituality, philosophy, and artistic excellence. He said such performances play a vital role in preserving the country's ancient traditions while inspiring future generations to appreciate India's cultural legacy. The Governor lauded Dr. G. Padmaja Reddy for her sustained efforts in promoting Telangana's artistic heritage through dance. He particularly appreciated her acclaimed pro-

duction "Kakatiyam," inspired by the sculptural magnificence of the Ramappa Temple and the Thousand Pillar Temple, describing it as a fitting tribute to the state's glorious history and architectural heritage.

Shiv Pratap Shukla observed that art and culture serve as powerful mediums for strengthening social harmony, fostering creativity, and preserving India's civilizational values. He said cultural initiatives rooted in traditional art forms help connect younger generations with the nation's rich historical and spiritual traditions. The Governor also commended the artists and organizers for presenting a visually captivating performance that showcased the depth and beauty of Indian classical dance. The event drew an appreciative audience of art lovers, cultural enthusiasts, and dignitaries, reaffirming Hyderabad's status as an important centre for promoting classical arts and cultural excellence.



Deputy CM Bhatti Appears in Court in COVID Protocol Case

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Thursday appeared before the Special Judicial First Class Magistrate Court (Excise Cases) at Nampally in connection with a case registered against him over an alleged violation of COVID-19 protocols during a hospital visit in 2022.

The case relates to Bhatti Vikramarka's visit to the Kothagudem Government Hospital when he was the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader. He had visited Sahithi, the surviv-

ing victim of a tragic family incident in Palvancha, to offer support and express solidarity. The case was registered by the Kothagudem Three-Town Police following a complaint alleging that COVID-19 guidelines were violated during the visit.

Bhatti Vikramarka personally appeared before the court as part of the legal proceedings, drawing attention for complying with the judicial process despite holding the office of Deputy Chief Minister. Congress leaders described his appearance as a demonstration of respect for the judiciary and the rule of law.

P3

Telangana Clears ₹6,000 Crore Employee Arrears in 100 Days

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Government on Thursday announced the release of the third and final installment of 2,000 crore towards pending employee arrears, fulfilling its commitment to disburse 6,000 crore within 100 days.

The latest installment was released by Finance Department Principal Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultanania following the directions of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka. With this, the government has completed the phased release of the promised arrears despite financial constraints.

According to official information, the first installment of 2,000 crore was released on May 29, followed by the second installment on June 30. The third installment of 2,000 crore was sanctioned on Thursday, taking the total amount released over the past 100 days to 6,000 crore.

P3



CM Calls for Five-Year Mission to Transform Government Education

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday urged teachers across Telangana to commit themselves to a five-year mission of delivering quality education and transforming government schools into institutions capable of competing with the best in the world. Addressing teachers who recently visited Finland and Germany under the Teacher International Exposure Visit and Educational Exchange Programme, the Chief Minister said education is the foundation of society, while skills are the pillars that shape a strong future. Interacting with the teachers at the Dr. MCR Human Resource Development Institute (MCRHRD), Revanth Reddy said the government spends an average of 1.08 lakh per student every year and stressed that the expenditure should be viewed as an investment in the state's future. He questioned why many parents still preferred private schools despite such investment and called upon teachers to implement the best educational practices they observed during their overseas visits.

The Chief Minister said the foreign exposure programme was designed to help Telangana build



a world-class education system. He encouraged teachers to share their international experiences with students and prepare them to compete confidently at the global level. Referring to the recently completed socio-economic, educational, employment and caste survey, Revanth Reddy observed that the absence of education, rather than the absence of assets, remained the biggest indicator of backwardness. He said education had enabled many people from modest backgrounds to secure employment and succeed globally. Highlighting recent reforms, the Chief Minister said the government had introduced the breakfast scheme for students, increased diet and cosmetic charges for hostel residents, recruited 11,000 teachers within 55 days, and completed teacher transfers and promotions. He announced that 10 to 15 teachers would be selected every year for international educational exposure, similar

to training opportunities provided to IAS and IPS officers. Revanth Reddy also assured teachers that the government would continue addressing their service-related issues while expecting teachers' unions to actively participate in improving educational standards. He instructed teachers to prepare development plans for every mandal, covering infrastructure requirements, staffing, teaching quality and measures to increase enrolment in government schools. These plans, he said, should be submitted by the end of the month through a dedicated online portal that would also collect suggestions from across the state.

The Chief Minister reiterated that his government was willing to invest whatever resources were necessary to strengthen public education. He noted that teacher salaries were now being credited on the first day of every month and that both breakfast and mid-

day meals were being provided in government schools to improve student welfare. Emphasising the importance of values alongside academics, Revanth Reddy said teachers play a crucial role in nurturing compassion, responsibility and strong human relationships, as students spend much of their formative years in school. He said education should not merely produce degree holders but individuals equipped with practical skills and social values. The Chief Minister stressed that English was only a medium of communication, while employable skills were the real drivers of economic success. Citing countries such as Japan, Germany, South Korea and China, he said their global competitiveness stemmed from skill development rather than language proficiency. He encouraged teachers to motivate students to acquire technical skills and learn foreign languages where beneficial for international employment. He highlighted the government's efforts to modernise Industrial Training Institutes into Advanced Technology Centres (ATCs) in collaboration with the Tata Group and pointed to the establishment of the Young India Skills University as part of Telangana's long-term skill development strategy. He noted that

trainees from the Uttoor ATC had already secured employment with the Tata Group. Revanth Reddy also reflected on the role of education in India's post-independence development, crediting investments in educational institutions and irrigation projects for the country's progress. He said Telangana now aimed to create a generation of globally competitive students by strengthening government schools and expanding skill-based education. Stating that he had personally taken charge of the Education Department to drive meaningful reforms, the Chief Minister said his objective was to create lasting social transformation rather than pursue political gains. He reaffirmed his commitment to making Telangana a national model in public education and invited teachers to actively contribute ideas that would help achieve that vision.

Before the interaction, the Chief Minister viewed a photo exhibition showcasing the experiences of teachers who visited Finland and Germany. Government Advisor K. Keshava Rao, Principal Secretary N. Sridhar, Education Secretary Yogita Rana, MCRHRD Director Shanti Kumar and senior officials attended the programme.

CM Expands Welfare, Rural Development Agenda

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday directed officials to strengthen Telangana's social welfare and rural development programmes by expanding pension coverage, improving village infrastructure, and ensuring uninterrupted drinking water supply across the state. Chairing a high-level review meeting of the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development departments along with Minister Dana-sari Anasuya Seethakka, the Chief Minister instructed officials to immediately identify all eligible persons suffering from Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Anemia and sanction monthly pensions to them. He said the pension scheme would come into effect from August 15, providing



financial relief to affected families.

Revanth Reddy also directed officials to ensure comprehensive pension coverage for all eligible widows, single women, weavers, and toddy tappers. He further ordered that pensions be sanctioned without delay to the spouses of differently-abled beneficiaries following their demise. To improve governance at the grassroots level, the Chief Minister instructed Mandal Parishad Development Officers (MPDOs) to closely monitor development works undertaken

by all departments within their respective mandals. He proposed conducting Mandal Parishad meetings every 45 days with the participation of MPs, MLAs, and MLCs so that Sarpanches can directly present village-level issues before public representatives and officials. Highlighting the need for better infrastructure, Revanth Reddy declared that every village in Telangana must have a blacktop road. He directed officials to prepare plans for constructing panchayat office buildings in every village, with designs based on the

population-wise classification of gram panchayats into A, B, and C categories. He also instructed that panchayat secretaries be made fully accountable for sanitation and civic maintenance. The Chief Minister ordered the immediate release of funds for sanitation and essential services in gram panchayats where elections are yet to be held, ensuring that developmental activities continue without interruption. Reviewing welfare programmes for women, Revanth Reddy instructed officials to maintain high standards in the production of Indiramma sarees to be distributed to one crore women. He suggested involving students from the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) to develop attractive designs while ensuring there is no compromise on quality or colour. In view of

the possible impact of El Niño, the Chief Minister directed the Rural Water Supply, Hyderabad Metro Water, and Irrigation departments to work in coordination to safeguard drinking water availability in villages. He emphasized that drinking water should receive top priority and instructed officials to formulate local water management plans based on available resources. He also directed that wages of personnel engaged in rural drinking water schemes be paid by the fifth of every month without delay. Senior officials from the concerned departments attended the review meeting, where the Chief Minister reiterated the government's commitment to strengthening welfare delivery, improving village infrastructure, and ensuring better public services across Telangana.



Rajanna Sircilla, July 30 | TPN Bureau

MP Seeks Central Support for Sewerage Projects

New Delhi, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Bhuvanagiri Member of Parliament Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy has urged the Central Government to extend financial assistance under the AMRUT 2.0 scheme for major sewerage infrastructure projects in the Hyderabad metropolitan region. The appeal was made during the 22nd meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs held in New Delhi on Thursday.

The meeting, chaired by Committee Chairman Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy, approved the draft report on the "Review of Sewage and Septage Management in Cities under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT & AMRUT 2.0)." Members of the committee discussed measures to strengthen urban sanitation and sewage management across the country. During the deliberations, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy highlighted the urgent need to improve Hyderabad's sewerage infrastructure to address growing urban demands. He informed the committee that the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) has proposed a

55-kilometre Trunk Sewer Main along the Musi River to prevent untreated sewage from entering the river. The project is estimated to cost around 4,000 crore, and he requested that it be included under the AMRUT 2.0 programme for Central funding.

The MP also stressed the importance of implementing a Comprehensive Sewerage Master Plan (CSMP) to expand sewerage facilities to 27 rapidly developing Urban Local Bodies surrounding Hyderabad up to the Outer Ring Road. The proposed plan includes the construction of a 7,444-kilometre sewerage network comprising trunk mains and lateral sewers.

He noted that the Telangana Government has already sought 17,212.69 crore in Central assistance for the project and urged the Union Government to approve it either under AMRUT 2.0 or as a special Central initiative.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy said strengthening sewerage infrastructure would play a vital role in controlling pollution in the Musi River, protecting public health, preserving the environment, and supporting Hyderabad's long-term urban development.

The Telangana Government on Thursday announced a series of initiatives aimed at strengthening public transport, modernising temple infrastructure and promoting the welfare of the handloom sector during multiple programmes held in Rajanna Sircilla district. Ministers Tummala Nageswara Rao, Ponnamp Prabhakar and Adhuri Laxman Kumar participated in the events, highlighting the government's focus on improving civic amenities while preserving the district's cultural and economic significance.

The day's programmes began with the foundation stone laying ceremony for the modernization of the Vemulawada-Thippapur bus station. Addressing the gathering, Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao said the government is upgrading bus stations across Telangana while simultaneously improving infrastructure around major temples to provide better facilities for devotees and visitors.

He noted that the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC), one of the country's largest public transport organisations, has witnessed increased passenger traffic following the successful implementation of the free bus travel scheme for women. According to the Minister, the



government continues to strengthen RTC services by expanding facilities and improving connectivity to important pilgrimage centres.

Referring to the recent rainfall, Tummala Nageswara Rao said Varuna Pujas were conducted in temples across the state following the suggestion of Transport Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar. Expressing satisfaction over the recent showers, he advised farmers to cultivate crops that require limited irrigation wherever suitable, considering prevailing weather conditions.

Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar said the Telangana Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, is fulfilling its commitment to develop the Sri Raja-

rajeshwara Swamy Temple in Vemulawada. He stated that temple development works worth nearly 240 crore are being undertaken in line with assurances made during the Chief Minister's earlier padayatra.

Government Whip and Vemulawada MLA Adi Srinivas thanked Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar for sanctioning 1.62 crore for the modernization of the Vemulawada-Thippapur bus station. He said the upgraded facility would significantly improve services for pilgrims visiting the famous temple town as well as daily commuters.

Adi Srinivas also recalled that there had been attempts in the past to shift the bus station from its present location, but

Sridhar Babu Orders War-Footing Flood Relief Measures

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

In response to heavy rainfall that inundated several residential colonies in Godavarikhani, Peddapalli and the Singareni region over the past two days, IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu on Thursday directed officials to intensify relief and rehabilitation operations on a war footing.

The Minister chaired a high-level review meeting through video conference from Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat. The meeting was attended by the Peddapalli District Collector, Singareni CMD, NTPC Executive Director, Telangana Genco CMD, officials of Ramagundam Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited (RFCL), the Ramagundam Police Commissioner, Government Whip and Peddapalli MLA Chintakunta Venkata Ramana Rao, Ramagundam MLA Makkan Singh Raj Thakur, and other senior officials.

Sridhar Babu instructed authorities to immediately clear blockages in drainage channels to facilitate the quick removal of stagnant floodwater in the Ramagundam industrial area. He also directed Singareni and NTPC officials to extend full support to the district administration and actively participate in relief operations.



Expressing concern over flooding in Veerlapalli village, the Minister ordered officials to identify alternative routes for diverting floodwaters and prevent further inundation of residential areas. He also instructed the District Collector to expedite the distribution of house site pattas so that eligible families could construct Indiramma houses in safer locations.

The Minister asked the Ramagundam Police Commissioner to coordinate closely with municipal and revenue authorities to ensure smooth traffic movement and strengthen disaster response teams across flood-hit areas. Reviewing irrigation conditions, Sridhar Babu noted that nearly 80 percent of the district's 1,021 tanks had reached full capacity, ensuring sufficient

irrigation water for around 2.7 lakh acres. He was informed that storage in the Sripada Yellampalli Project was expected to touch 20 TMC by Thursday evening. Officials were directed to closely monitor reservoir levels and prevent any wastage of water.

The Minister also instructed Singareni and Health Department officials to organize special medical camps in Veerlapalli and the industrial areas of Godavarikhani and Ramagundam to prevent the outbreak of waterborne diseases. He urged all departments to remain alert, work in coordination with local public representatives, and ensure that residents receive timely assistance. Sridhar Babu also appreciated the efforts of the Ramagundam Mayor, Deputy Mayor and corporators for personally supervising flood relief operations on the ground.

Minister Orders Statewide Rain Preparedness Amid Red Alert

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

With the India Meteorological Department forecasting widespread heavy rainfall across Telangana due to a severe depression over Chhattisgarh and active southwest monsoon conditions, Revenue, Disaster Management, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Thursday directed officials to remain on high alert and ensure comprehensive precautionary measures across the state.

Chairing a teleconference with Revenue and Disaster Management officials, the Minister reviewed the rainfall received over the past two days and the weather forecast for the next 48 hours. He instructed



district administrations to coordinate closely with all line departments and remain available in the field to respond swiftly to any emergency. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy directed officials to continuously monitor vulnerable areas,

including streams, rivulets, tanks and reservoirs, and take preventive measures to avoid accidents. He instructed authorities to alert residents living in flood-prone locations and, if required, shift them immediately to safer places or

public representatives had worked to retain it. He highlighted the successful completion of the nearby bridge, which had collapsed multiple times previously, while ensuring fair benefits for displaced landowners. He added that the Vemulawada temple is being developed at a cost of 249.40 crore and that a Varuna Yagam was performed seeking timely rainfall, agricultural prosperity and the welfare of the people.

Later in the day, the ministers inaugurated development, beautification and bus shelter construction works at Ragudu Junction in Sircilla town, being undertaken at a cost of 322.50 lakh. Government Whip Adi Srinivas, MLAs Kavvampalli Satyanarayana and Medipalli Satyam, Kapu Corporation Chairman Bomma Sriram Chakravarthy, District Collector Garima Agrawal and other officials attended the programme.

Speaking at a meeting held at the Integrated District Offices Complex (IDOC), Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar underlined the government's commitment to the welfare of Sircilla's weaving community. He said the Congress has consistently introduced initiatives for handloom workers and that the present government has ensured regular employment for local weavers through the production of quality sarees supplied under welfare

programmes.

The Minister observed that Sircilla sarees have earned a strong reputation for their craftsmanship and quality. To honour the contribution of handloom workers, a statue of a weaver was unveiled at Ragudu Junction. He announced that an annual commemorative programme would be organised at the site every August 7 in recognition of the community's contribution to society.

Recalling his tenure as a Member of Parliament, Ponnamp Prabhakar said he had invited the then Union Textiles Minister to Sircilla to resolve issues affecting the handloom sector. He assured that elected representatives would continue to work for the welfare of weavers and strengthen the district's textile industry.

Describing Rajanna Sircilla as a district that symbolises both spirituality and hard work, the Minister said the government remains committed to supporting weavers, today tappers and other traditional occupational communities while improving infrastructure, tourism and public services across the district. He expressed confidence that the ongoing development initiatives would contribute to sustainable economic growth and enhance the quality of life for residents and pilgrims alike.

Seethakka Reviews Anganwadi Services, Calls for Faster Reforms

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Women and Child Welfare Danasari Seethakka on Thursday reviewed the functioning of the Women and Child Welfare Department at the Secretariat and issued a series of directions aimed at strengthening Anganwadi services across the state. The Minister instructed officials to conduct district-wise review meetings with Anganwadi teachers to gather suggestions and feedback for improving the delivery of services. She said field-level inputs would help the government identify challenges and implement effective reforms.

Seethakka directed officials to immediately identify and address deficiencies in basic infrastructure at Anganwadi centres, including toilets, electricity, and safe drinking water facilities. She stressed that these essential amenities should be available at every centre to ensure a better environment for children and staff.

Reviewing preparations for new uniforms for Anganwadi teachers and helpers, the Minister instructed the department to complete the process and make the uniforms available by the first week of October.



She also directed officials to work towards establishing adoption centres in every district. During the meeting, officials informed the Minister that 17 adoption centres are currently functioning in the state. The Minister reviewed the ongoing recruitment process for Anganwadi teachers and helpers. Officials stated that recruitment notifications had already been issued in 16 districts. Seethakka instructed them to coordinate with District Collectors and expedite the notification process in the remaining districts. To improve child welfare programmes, the Minister ordered a sample survey to assess the nutritional status and growth of children enrolled at Anganwadi centres. She also directed officials to ensure that all funds received from the Central Government are fully utilised for public welfare and that no allocated funds remain unspent.

City Metro Express Services Launched

Karimnagar, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Transport Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar on Thursday launched the City Metro Express bus services at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bus Station in Karimnagar, aiming to strengthen public transportation facilities for city residents and commuters.

The new city bus services were introduced to address the long-pending demand for an efficient local transport system in Karimnagar. Following the launch, Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar, along with MLAs, travelled by city bus from the Karimnagar Bus Station to Vageswari College to mark the commencement of the service.

MLAs Medipalli Satyam and Kavvampalli Satyanarayana, Karimnagar Mayor Kolagani Srinivas, District Collector Chitra Mishra, public representatives, and senior officials participated in the programme. In the first phase, City Metro Express buses will operate on three important routes — Karimnagar to Vageswari College, Karimnagar to Chintakunta, and Karimnagar to Kothapalli Haveli. The services are expected to benefit students, employees, women, elderly passengers, and daily commuters travelling into the city. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar said the launch of city bus services was a significant step towards

improving urban mobility. He stated that buses would connect areas such as Chintakunta, Odyaram and Kothapalli, from where a large number of people travel to Karimnagar for employment and other needs. The services would also support students travelling to educational institutions around Vageswari College.

The Minister said plans were also being considered to extend bus services towards medical education hubs, including Prathima, Chalmada and Manakondur. He added that additional buses and round-the-clock services would be introduced depending on passenger response. Highlighting the expansion of RTC services across Telangana, Ponnamp Prabhakar said buses were being introduced on new routes to ensure connectivity in all regions. He noted that women were benefiting from free travel under the Mahalakshmi scheme and that the corporation had initiated procurement of new buses, recruitment of staff, and clearance of pending dues. The Minister appealed to citizens to utilise the new city bus services and said efforts would continue to ensure that RTC buses reach every village. He added that Telangana RTC currently operates around 35 lakh kilometres daily, serving approximately 65 lakh passengers across the state.

Deputy CM Bhatti Appears in Court in COVID Protocol Case

continued

The case stems from the aftermath of the January 2022 Palvancho tragedy, in which Mee-Seva centre operator Naga Ramakrishna, his wife and one of their twin daughters died after a self-immolation incident linked to allegations surrounding a property dispute. Their other daughter, Sahithi, later succumbed to her injuries while undergoing treatment, triggering widespread public outrage across Telangana.

On January 4, 2022, Bhatti Vikramarka, accompanied by Bhadrachalam MLA Podem Veeraiah and Congress leader Edavelli Krishna, visited the hospital to console the injured girl and her family. Subsequently, police registered a case alleging violations of pandemic-related restrictions.

The matter is currently before the court, and further proceedings will continue in accordance with the judicial process.

Telangana Clears ₹6,000 Crore Employee Arrears in 100 Days

continued

The government stated that employee welfare remains a priority and described the phased payment as a reflection of its commitment to honouring assurances made to employee representatives. It noted that the funds would also help clear long-pending dues of retired government employees.

Officials said all pending commutation arrears of retired employees have now been fully settled through the latest allocation. The Finance Department further stated that the remaining pending liabilities would also be cleared in a phased and systematic manner

in the coming months. The release of the arrears has been welcomed by serving and retired employees across the state. Representatives of employee Joint Action Committees (JACs) appreciated the government's decision to honour its commitment despite challenging financial conditions. They expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka for ensuring the timely release of the promised funds and reiterated that the move would provide significant financial relief to thousands of government employees and pensioners across Telangana.

Kavitha Opposes Govt EV Auto Plan, Backs Drivers

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Rakshana Sena Chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Thursday expressed strong opposition to the government's proposed "last-mile connectivity" initiative, alleging that it threatens the livelihoods of thousands of auto-rickshaw drivers across the state.

Addressing a meeting with auto drivers at the Telangana Rakshana Sena office in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Kavitha assured them of her support and said her organization would stand with drivers against any move that affects their income.

Kavitha alleged that instead of creating opportunities for existing auto drivers, the government was planning to operate electric autos on its own under the name of last-mile connectivity. She said passengers could easily hire autos after reaching their destinations through RTC services, and questioned the need for the government to directly enter the sector.

She claimed that auto drivers were already facing financial difficulties following the introduction of the free bus travel scheme, stating that many were struggling to repay vehicle loans and meet daily expenses. She further alleged that the introduction of a large number of government-operat-



ed EV autos would worsen their problems.

Kavitha demanded that last-mile connectivity services be handed over to existing auto drivers and urged the government to hold discussions with auto unions before taking any decisions. She also reminded the government of earlier promises, including the "One State, One Permit" policy and financial assistance for auto drivers.

She criticized the frequent issuance of traffic challans, saying they were adding to the financial burden on drivers. Kavitha warned that her organization would launch a protest at Indira Park along with auto drivers if their concerns were ignored.

She also opposed plans to introduce EV autos in cities such as Karimnagar, Warangal, and Nizamabad, stating that policies should be framed to benefit all auto drivers across Telangana.

Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar Offers Special Prayers at Temple

Vemulawada, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar offered special prayers at the renowned Sri Bhimeshwara Swamy Temple in Vemulawada on Thursday as part of his district tour. The visit was marked by traditional temple rituals and a warm reception from public representatives and district officials.

Government Whip and Vemulawada MLA Adi Srinivas, District Collector Garima Agrawal, and Superintendent of Police Mahesh B. Githe welcomed the Minister by presenting him with a bouquet upon his arrival. Jagtial MLA Sanjay Kumar also accompanied the dignitaries during the temple visit. Temple priests received the Minister and other guests with the traditional Poorna Kumbham ceremony,

extending customary honours before they entered the temple premises. The dignitaries then participated in special rituals and offered prayers to Lord Bhimeshwara.

Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar and Government Whip Adi Srinivas prayed for timely and abundant rainfall, a prosperous agricultural season, and the well-being, good health, and long life of the people of Telangana. They also sought divine blessings for peace, prosperity, and overall development across the state.

The visit drew the attention of devotees and local residents, while temple authorities expressed gratitude to the Minister and the accompanying officials for participating in the sacred rituals and seeking blessings for the welfare of society.



Jagadish Reddy Alleges Government Neglect of Farmers, Power and Irrigation

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Former Telangana Minister and BRS leader G. Jagadish Reddy on Thursday launched a sharp attack on the Congress government, alleging that its policies on irrigation, agriculture, power supply and education were adversely affecting farmers and the state's development. He made the remarks during a press conference held at Telangana Bhavan.

Jagadish Reddy alleged that the government was mishandling river water management and discouraging farmers from cultivating paddy by citing concerns over future procurement. He claimed that farmers who shifted to fine-variety paddy after the government announced a bonus were now facing uncertainty and alleged that the administration was attempting to avoid fulfilling its procurement commitments.

The former minister also criticised Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy over his comments on the Kaleshwaram project, claiming that earlier official statements had acknowledged the structural condition of the Annaram and Sundilla barrages. He urged the government to operate the Kannepalli lift system and maximise water utilisation from projects such as Jurala and Yellampalli to ensure irrigation supplies across Telangana.

Raising concerns over electricity, Jagadish Reddy alleged that farmers were not receiving adequate power for agriculture and claimed delays in transformer repairs were affecting cultivation. He also questioned the functioning of thermal power stations and alleged inadequate coal supplies to power plants.

The BRS leader further accused the government of neglecting the education sector.

Referring to remarks allegedly made by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy about engineering graduates, he said such comments were disrespectful to students and youth. He also alleged that the Congress government had failed to ensure proper facilities and safety in residential schools.

Jagadish Reddy demanded that the State Assembly be convened for a longer session to facilitate a comprehensive discussion on issues relating to irrigation, agriculture, education and public welfare. He said the BRS would continue to raise concerns affecting farmers and would oppose any policies that, in its view, undermine the interests of the agricultural community.

MLC Takkellapalli Ravinder Rao and BRS leaders Chintala Venkateshwar Rao, Dharmender, Palla Praveen, Tunga Balu, Padala Satish, Ravi Naik and others were present at the press conference.

Vakiti Srihari Calls for Preserving Panduga Sayanna's Legacy

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

State Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Fisheries, and Youth Services & Sports, Vakiti Srihari, on Thursday said the legacy and fighting spirit of Panduga Sayanna, popularly remembered as the "Telangana Robin Hood," should be preserved and passed on to future generations through authentic historical documentation and official recognition.

The Minister chaired a meeting in Hyderabad to discuss the finalisation of the birth and death anniversary dates of Panduga Sayanna. The consultations were attended by authors Bekka Janardhan and Indira Devi, who have written extensively on Sayanna, family members Panduga Narsimulu and Chennaiyaya, former Telangana State Mudiraj Finance Corporation Chairman Borra Gnaneshwar Mudiraj, Panduga Sayanna Seva Samithi President Krishna Mudiraj, Mudiraj Welfare Association leader Prabhakar, retired BC Welfare employee Srinivas, and other stakeholders.

Speaking at the meeting, Vakiti Srihari said it is important that future generations under-



stand Panduga Sayanna's struggle for justice and his contribution to the upliftment of marginalized communities. He stressed that any official recognition should be based on credible historical records and evidence verified by the Archaeology Department.

The Minister instructed officials to begin the process of identifying the authentic birth and death dates of Panduga Sayanna by examining available historical documents and archaeological records.

He also directed that a detailed report be prepared under the leadership of former

Corporation Chairman Borra Gnaneshwar Mudiraj and submitted to the State Government for consideration. Based on the findings, the government will take a final decision and officially announce the commemorative dates.

Vakiti Srihari said the government is committed to honouring Panduga Sayanna's contribution to society and will make every effort to observe his birth and death anniversaries officially while promoting initiatives that preserve his history and inspire future generations.

Ponguleti Highlights Welfare Push Despite Financial Challenges

Bhadradri Kothagudem, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Revenue, Housing, Disaster Management and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Thursday said the Telangana Government is continuing to implement welfare and development programmes despite facing severe financial constraints, alleging that the previous administration had left behind debts of nearly 8 lakh crore.

The Minister was speaking after inaugurating a newly constructed cement concrete (CC) road and a low-level causeway built at a cost of 45 lakh in Mangayya Banjara village of Chandrugonda Mandal in Bhadradri Kothagudem district.

Addressing the gathering, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said the present government is committed to extending wel-



fare benefits to every eligible poor family across the state. He highlighted several flagship initiatives, including the Indiramma Housing Scheme, free electricity, and free bus travel for women, describing them as measures aimed at improving the lives of economically weaker sections.

The Minister said that 4.5 lakh Indiramma houses were sanctioned during the first phase of the housing programme. He added that the government has now approved another 2.5 lakh houses in the second phase, taking the total

number of sanctioned houses to 7 lakh across the state.

He further announced that one lakh Indiramma houses have also been sanctioned for Hyderabad city. Assuring that no deserving beneficiary would be left out, he said the remaining eligible families would receive houses in the third and fourth phases of the scheme. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy emphasized that the selection of beneficiaries is being carried out without any discrimination based on caste, religion, or political affiliation. He appealed to the people to continue supporting what he described as the "Indiramma Praja Government," stating that it is fulfilling the promises made to the people in a transparent and phased manner while balancing welfare commitments with the state's financial responsibilities.



Bandi Sanjay Seeks Probe into Finance Commission Fund Use

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar has called for a comprehensive inquiry into the utilisation of Central Finance Commission funds allocated to Gram Panchayats in Telangana, citing complaints received from several village Sarpanches regarding alleged irregularities.

In separate representations addressed to Union Panchayati Raj Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh and Telangana Panchayati Raj Minister Danasari Seethakka, Bandi Sanjay sought an impartial investigation into claims that officials were allegedly pressuring Sarpanches to utilise 15th Finance Commission funds in ways that did not conform to prescribed guidelines.

The Union Minister stated that the Panchayati Raj system is the cornerstone of rural democracy and stressed that transparency, accountability, and financial discipline must be maintained while spending public funds. He expressed concern that any deviation from established norms could ad-

versely affect village development and weaken the financial autonomy of local self-governing institutions.

Bandi Sanjay referred to complaints submitted by Sarpanches and said he had also provided documents and other material to support his request for an inquiry. He urged both the Union and State governments to examine the allegations thoroughly and determine whether Finance Commission guidelines had been violated.

The issue comes in the wake of a recent clarification issued by Panchayati Raj and Rural Employment Commissioner Divya Devarajan, who stated that earlier allegations regarding the utilisation of Finance Commission funds were not supported by facts.

Maintaining that public confidence in local governance depends on transparent financial management, Bandi Sanjay appealed to the authorities to intervene promptly and ensure that the funds are utilised strictly in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Central Finance Commission.

KTR Demands Apology Over Remarks on Engineers

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) on Thursday criticized Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over his reported remarks describing the potential of Telangana's engineering graduates as a "criminal waste," alleging that the statement was disrespectful to the state's youth.

In a post on the social media platform X, KTR said Telangana's young engineers have earned recognition for their talent and contributions in India and abroad, and questioned why the Chief Minister had made comments that, according to him, undermined their abilities.

The former minister also raised a series of questions directed at the Chief Minister, asking whether he had ever appeared for a competitive examination, attended a job interview, or worked in a professional organization before entering politics.

KTR further alleged that Revanth Reddy's remarks reflected arrogance and failed to acknowledge the hard work of thousands of students and professionals from Telangana. He said the state's youth have built



a strong reputation in the fields of engineering, technology, and innovation, making significant contributions both nationally and internationally.

Continuing his criticism, KTR referred to the Chief Minister's political background and accused him of making personal attacks instead of encouraging educated youth. He claimed that such statements were inappropriate for a person holding the state's highest elected office.

Demanding an immediate clarification, KTR urged the Chief Minister to withdraw the reported remarks and issue an apology to Telangana's engineering graduates and young professionals. He said political differences should not come at the cost of insulting the aspirations and achievements of the state's youth.

Konda Surekha Invites Governor to Lashkar Bonalu Celebrations

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Forests, Environment and Endowments Konda Surekha on Thursday called on Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Raj Bhavan and formally invited him to attend the upcoming Ashada Bonalu, popularly known as the Lashkar Bonalu festivities, to be held in Secunderabad. During the meeting, the chief priest of the Ujjaini Mahankali Temple presented the traditional invitation and read out the ceremonial message to the Governor, inviting him to participate in the annual religious celebrations.

The Minister briefed the Governor about the significance of the Bonalu festival,

one of Telangana's most important cultural and spiritual events, and extended the invitation on behalf of the Endowments Department and temple authorities. Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla appreciated the gesture and interacted with the delegation during the courtesy meeting. Endowments Department Director Hanumantha Rao, Ujjaini Mahankali Temple Executive Officer and Assistant Commissioner Manohar Reddy, along with other officials, accompanied Minister Konda Surekha during the visit. The meeting highlighted the state's preparations for the grand Bonalu celebrations, which attract thousands of devotees every year in Secunderabad and Hyderabad.



Cyber Safety Awareness Drive Held at College

Nacharam, July 30 | TPN Bureau

A Cyber Crime Awareness Programme was conducted at Urban Intermediate College in Nacharam on Thursday to educate students about online safety, legal awareness, and responsible digital behaviour. The initiative aimed to equip students with practical knowledge to identify and prevent cyber fraud while promoting personal safety.

Addressing the gathering, Nacharam Police Station Inspector Dhanunjaya Goud stressed the importance of discipline in student life and encouraged youngsters to use social media responsibly. He urged students to remain alert while using digital platforms and develop into responsible citizens by making informed decisions both online and offline.

During the session, Sub-Inspector Maibelli explained various forms of cyber fraud, including digital arrest scams, fake loan applications, OTP fraud, online financial scams, and social media-related

crimes. He advised students never to share confidential banking details or one-time passwords with strangers and to verify online transactions before making payments.

The officers also created awareness about the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, the harmful effects of drug abuse, road safety rules, and measures to ensure personal safety. Students were encouraged to seek help without hesitation whenever they encountered suspicious online activities or unsafe situations.

Police officials informed participants that victims of cyber fraud should immediately contact the national cybercrime helpline 1930 and report the incident to the nearest police station for prompt action.

The programme was conducted under the supervision of College Principal Ram Mohan and witnessed enthusiastic participation from faculty members and students, who appreciated the informative session on cyber security and public safety.



Dr. Peruka Raju Honoured with SiNaRe Sahithi Puraskaram-2026

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Noted poet, writer, translator and lyricist Dr. Peruka Raju was honoured with the prestigious SiNaRe Sahithi Puraskaram-2026 at a grand cultural programme organized by Kala Seva Samithi, Telangana, to mark the birth anniversary of renowned Jnanpith awardee Dr. C. Narayana Reddy (SiNaRe).

The award ceremony was held at Telangana Saraswata Kala Parishath in Hyderabad, where Dr. Raju was recognised for his outstanding contribution to literature and his writings that promote social awareness, human values and cultural harmony. Organisers praised his efforts in fostering literary and cultural connections across Indian languages through his work as a poet, translator and author.

Coming from a farming and labourer family, Dr. Raju currently serves as a Junior Commissioner Officer in the Indian Army. Along with his literary achievements, he has actively contributed to social service through his voluntary organisation, "My Gift," which sup-

ports underprivileged communities. His guiding philosophy, "Encouragement is My Gift," has inspired several community initiatives.

Accepting the honour, Dr. Peruka Raju said the award represented not only personal recognition but also a tribute to every writer committed to humanity and meaningful literature. He dedicated the honour to authors who use their writings to promote compassion, truth and social responsibility.

As part of the felicitation, the organisers presented him with a bouquet, draped him in a traditional shawl and honoured him with ceremonial headgear before presenting the award.

The event was attended by distinguished guests, literary figures, artists, educationists, film personalities, students and members of Dr. Raju's social organisation. Cultural performances and musical programmes added colour to the celebrations, while admirers, colleagues and well-wishers congratulated Dr. Peruka Raju on receiving the prestigious literary honour.

Residents Seek Probe into Chemical Warehouses

Thulasi Naveen Kumar

Residents of Bowrampet in the Dundigal Circle have voiced concern over the increasing number of chemical warehouses operating in the area, raising questions about environmental safety, regulatory compliance, and public health. Locals have urged the concerned government departments to conduct a comprehensive inspection to determine whether the facilities are functioning within the scope of their approved permissions.

One warehouse, reportedly operating under the name "Nobel Life Science" in Survey No. 189, has become the focus of public attention. Residents have alleged that, apart from storing chemical substances, activities such as chemical mixing may also be taking place on the premises. They have requested authorities to verify these claims through an official inquiry.

People living in the area said Bowrampet, once known for its agricultural fields and green surroundings, is witnessing a gradual increase in chemical storage units. They fear that if proper monitoring is not carried out, the locality could face



pollution-related issues similar to those experienced in established industrial zones.

Residents have also questioned whether the warehouse has obtained all mandatory approvals, including fire safety clearances and environmental permissions. Concerns have been expressed over the storage of chemical drums in large quantities and whether adequate emergency exits and safety measures are in place in case of an accident.

The locality, situated close to the Outer Ring Road, has witnessed rapid residential and educational development in recent years. Citizens believe that any industrial activity involving hazardous materials

should be subject to strict safety and environmental standards to protect nearby residents. Local residents have called for a joint inspection by officials from the Fire Services Department, Telangana Pollution Control Board, Industries Department, Revenue Department, Police, and local civic authorities. They have urged the authorities to examine permits, verify compliance with safety norms, and clarify whether the warehouse operations conform to applicable regulations. Residents said such an inspection would help address public concerns and ensure transparency while safeguarding the environment and public safety.

BJP Leader N.V.S. Prabhakar Criticizes Rahul Gandhi

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Senior BJP leader and former Uppal MLA N.V.S. Prabhakar on Thursday launched a sharp attack on Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, alleging that his recent speech in Parliament was inappropriate and unbecoming of the constitutional position he holds.

Addressing a press conference in Hyderabad along with BJP State official spokesperson Dr. Palnati Venkat Reddy, Prabhakar claimed that Rahul Gandhi's remarks in the Lok Sabha had lowered the dignity of Parliament. He alleged that the Congress leader failed to raise substantive issues during the debate and instead resorted to comments that, according to

him, did not reflect the seriousness expected from the Leader of the Opposition.

Prabhakar also referred to Rahul Gandhi's previous legal cases and criticized the Congress leadership over issues including the National Herald matter. He further alleged that Congress had failed to fulfil promises made to unemployed youth and students, including commitments related to employment and fee reimbursement. The former MLA accused the Congress of delaying the Telangana statehood process and alleged that the party's actions had adversely affected students and young people during the movement. He also criticized the Congress over alleged examination paper leaks during its previous governments.

Raising questions over Rahul Gandhi's foreign visits, Prabhakar demanded that the Congress leader clarify issues related to his overseas travel and respond to the citizenship-related controversy that has been raised in public discourse.

The BJP leader further alleged that Rahul Gandhi had made remarks that undermined the dignity of constitutional institutions and questioned his conduct in public life. The press conference was attended by BJP State official spokesperson Dr. Palnati Venkat Reddy and other party leaders. The Congress had not responded to Prabhakar's allegations at the time of filing this report.

GHMC Commissioner Reviews Progress of Special Intensive Revision

Hyderabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

District Election Officer (DEO) and GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan, IAS, on Thursday reviewed the progress of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls during a meeting with all 15 Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) of Hyderabad district.

During the review, the DEO directed officials to maintain strict accuracy and transparency throughout the revision process. He instructed that no Enumeration Form should be digitized unless it carries the signature of the elector, emphasizing that this measure is essential to ensure the authenticity and credibility of electoral records.

Karnan also directed the EROs to ensure that every eligible voter is included in the electoral rolls and that no qualified elector is left out during the revision exercise. He stressed the importance of thorough field verification and timely completion of all pend-



ing tasks.

The Commissioner further instructed officials to identify polling stations with more than 1,100 electors for rationalization in order to improve voter convenience and ensure smooth polling arrangements. He also directed the EROs to verify that every polling station is equipped with essential basic amenities, including drinking water, electricity, ramps, seating arrangements, and other facilities required for voters.

Officials were asked to close-

ly monitor the progress of the revision and resolve any issues promptly to ensure the preparation of accurate and inclusive electoral rolls.

The review meeting was attended by B. Santosh Santosh, IAS, Additional Commissioner (Election), Arvind Kumar Dwivedi, CEO of Secunderabad Cantonment, K. Chandrakala, Zonal Commissioner, Shamshabad, and Electoral Registration Officers representing all 15 Assembly constituencies in Hyderabad district.

accidental disability or death, free skill development programmes, and periodic health check-ups.

Ramesh Reddy encouraged workers to make full use of the welfare schemes provided by the government and to remain aware of their legal rights and entitlements. He stressed that social security measures are essential for improving the quality of life and financial stability of construction workers and their families.



Railway Unions Demand Restoration of 74 Workshop Posts

Lalaguda, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Railway employee unions jointly staged a protest at the Lalaguda Railway Workshop on Wednesday, demanding the immediate restoration of 74 posts that were recently reallocated from the workshop. The unions also submitted a representation to the General Manager of South Central Railway, urging the administration to reverse the decision without delay.

The protest was organized by the South Central Railway Employees Sangh, Mazdoor Union, SC/ST/OBC Employees Association, and the IRTSA Supervisors Union. A large number of employees and union representatives participated, expressing concern over the impact of the staff reduction on workshop operations.

Addressing the gathering, SCREC Zonal Working President Adam Santosh Kumar said the removal of 74 sanctioned posts would weaken the workshop's functioning and increase the workload on the ex-

isting workforce. He stated that the decision could adversely affect employee welfare, service conditions, and the efficient execution of maintenance activities.

He appealed to the Union Ministry of Railways to reconsider the move and restore all the posts to the Lalaguda Railway Workshop in the interest of both employees and railway operations.

Union leaders warned that they would intensify their agitation if the authorities failed to respond positively. They said the workers had successfully united in the past to resolve important issues, including bonus-related demands, and were prepared to continue their struggle until the reallocated posts were restored.

Among those present were MG Arun Kumar, M. Naresh, Adam Chandrasekhar, J. Chandrakala, Ravikanth, Buchi Reddy, Balakrishna Reddy, Mahipal Reddy, Arvind, Rajender, and several office-bearers and members of various railway unions.



Lightning Strike Damages House

Ghatkesar, July 30 | TPN Bureau

A lightning strike during heavy rainfall created panic in Gandhinagar (Balajinagar) of Ghatkesar on Thursday evening, damaging a house and several electrical appliances. Fortunately, no injuries or loss of life were reported, preventing what residents described as a potential major disaster.

According to local residents, the lightning struck a tall palm tree located in the residential locality. The powerful impact spread to the nearby house of Rajender Rao, causing partial damage to the building and triggering an electrical surge.

The incident destroyed ceiling fans, switchboards, an inverter, and other household electrical equipment. Family

members inside the house were left shaken by the loud explosion, while neighbours rushed out of their homes after hearing the thunderous sound.

The incident caused temporary panic throughout the neighbourhood, with residents fearing further damage as rain and lightning continued in the area. However, everyone expressed relief after confirming that no one had been injured.

Following the incident, local residents appealed to civic authorities to inspect and remove or trim tall palm trees standing close to residential buildings. They said such trees pose a serious risk during thunderstorms and urged officials to take preventive measures to avoid similar incidents in the future.

Police and Labour Department Hold Welfare Drive for Construction Workers

Cyberabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

A large-scale awareness seminar and registration drive for construction workers was organised on Thursday evening at SAS iTowers in Khajaguda. The programme was jointly conducted by the Raidurgam Police Station un-

der the Cyberabad Commissionerate and the Telangana Labour Department to promote awareness about welfare schemes available to workers in the construction sector.

Cyberabad Police Commissioner M. Ramesh Reddy, IPS, attended the event as the chief guest and distributed Build-

ing and Other Construction Workers (BOCW) identity cards to around 256 eligible construction workers from different states employed in the region.

Addressing the gathering, the Commissioner highlighted the importance of registering with the Telangana Build-

ing and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board to access various social security and welfare benefits. He said registered workers are eligible for facilities such as ESI and EPF, accident and health insurance, financial assistance for marriage and maternity, compensation in cases of

accidental disability or death, free skill development programmes, and periodic health check-ups.

Ramesh Reddy encouraged workers to make full use of the welfare schemes provided by the government and to remain aware of their legal rights and entitlements. He stressed that social security measures are essential for improving the quality of life and financial stability of construction workers and their families.

The event also served as an awareness platform where officials explained the registration process and the benefits available under the welfare board. Workers were urged to complete their registration to ensure they receive the support offered through various government initiatives.

Among those present were Kukatapally Zone DCP Reethi Raj, IPS, GHMC Serilingampally Zonal Commissioner Narayan Amit, IAS, Additional DCP M. Sudarshan, Mad-

hapur ACP Ch. Sridhar, Assistant Labour Officers Vinila and Renuka, the Raidurgam SHO, police personnel, and Labour Department officials.

Representatives of leading construction companies, builders, contractors, and a large number of construction workers from the Raidurgam area also participated in the programme, which focused on improving awareness and extending welfare benefits to workers in the construction industry.



Jagga Reddy Says Four Chief Ministers Contributed to Park

Sangareddy, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Congress leader Jagga Reddy on Thursday said the development of Rajiv Park in Sangareddy reflects the contributions of four Chief Ministers over different phases, adding that the renovated park will soon be inaugurated by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.

During a visit to inspect the ongoing beautification works, Jagga Reddy reviewed the progress of development activities and interacted with municipal officials regarding the remaining works. He examined the newly installed outdoor fitness equipment, inspected the restoration of the park's fountain, and suggested measures to further improve visitor facilities.

Addressing the media, Jagga Reddy recalled that the project was originally sanctioned during the tenure of former Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy. He said former Chief Minister K. Rosaiah laid the foundation stone, while former Chief Minister N. Kiran Kumar Reddy inaugurated the park after its initial completion.

He alleged that the park de-

teriorated during the decade-long rule of the previous BRS government and had become neglected and unusable. According to him, the present state government has taken up its restoration with renewed focus.

Jagga Reddy said the first phase of redevelopment has been completed at a cost of 3 crore with the support of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Municipal Administration Secretary T.K. Sridevi. He added that a second phase, estimated at 6 crore, has also been planned to further enhance the park's infrastructure and recreational facilities.

Expressing confidence that the upgraded park would become a major public attraction, he said Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is expected to formally inaugurate the renovated facility in the near future.

TPCC General Secretary Topaji Ananth Kishan, leaders Bongula Ravi and Koonna Santhosh, Municipal Vice Chairman Shafi Hafeez, Town President Kiran Goud, councillors Mahesh and Nawaz, Srihari, and municipal officials were present during the inspection.



Dispute Erupts Over Demolition of Shops

Godavarikhani, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed at Tilaknagar Centre in Godavarikhani on Thursday after officials from Singareni Collieries demolished a series of under-construction shops, triggering protests from affected traders and local leaders.

The dispute stems from a junction development project under which the municipal corporation had earlier cleared several roadside shops. As part of the same initiative, Ramagundam MLA Makkan Singh Raj Thakur reportedly facilitated the removal of two Singareni staff quarters to improve the junction. Following requests from displaced shopkeepers, the then Singareni CMD had reportedly responded positively to a proposal for constructing replacement shop units. However, with no budget being sanctioned, some affected families began constructing shops on their own. On Thursday morning, a special team from Singareni's Estates Department, accompanied by security personnel, used an excavator to demolish the structures, stating that they had been built

without authorization.

The demolition was interrupted after City Congress President Bonthala Rajesh and Corporator Mustafa reached the spot and objected, claiming the construction was being carried out on land belonging to the affected individuals. Following resistance from locals, the Singareni team temporarily withdrew.

MLA Raj Thakur later visited the site and expressed displeasure over the incident. The affected families lodged a complaint at the Godavarikhani One-Town Police Station, alleging that their shops were demolished without justification. Later in the day, Singareni officials again visited the location to install signboards but were prevented from doing so by the protesters. BRS leaders, including Kaushika Hari, also condemned the demolition and demanded justice for the displaced traders.

Meanwhile, Singareni management maintained that the drive was aimed at removing unauthorized constructions on its land and asserted that similar action would continue to safeguard government and Singareni properties.

Chief Secretary Calls for High Alert Amid Heavy Rains

Rajanna Sircilla, July 30 | TPN Bureau

State Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Thursday directed district administrations to remain on high alert as heavy rains continued to affect several parts of Telangana. He instructed officials to ensure co-ordinated action among all departments so that citizens do not face unnecessary hardship during the ongoing weather conditions.

The directions were issued during a video conference with District Collectors to review the rain and flood situation across the state. Director General of Police (DGP) C.V. Anand also participated in the review, while Rajanna Sircilla District Collector Garima Agrawal joined the meeting from the Integrated Collectorate.

During the review, the Chief Secretary instructed that district control rooms function round the clock and that officials remain stationed at their headquarters to respond promptly to emergencies. He reviewed rainfall intensity, reservoir storage levels, the condition of roads and bridges, and the relief measures being implemented in affected districts.

Sanjay Jaju said National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams have been kept on standby wherever required and directed officials to respond immediately to distress calls from the public. He also instructed authorities to issue public warnings in villages through local announcements, intensify sanitation drives, and ensure the Health Department remains fully prepared to tack-

le any emergency.

The Chief Secretary further directed officials to prevent people, cattle herders, and fishermen from entering low-lying areas, rivers, tanks, and other water bodies during the period of heavy rainfall.

DGP C.V. Anand assured that the Police Department is working in close coordination with all government departments to safeguard lives and property and would extend all necessary assistance during the ongoing rains.

Additional Collector Gaddam Nagesh, DRO Jayashree, ZP CEO Venkata Madhava Rao, Probationary Deputy Collector Nikitha, DRDO Lakshminarayana, CPO Srinivasachari, municipal commissioners, and officials from various departments attended the review meeting.



SP Reviews Flood Situation, Issues Safety Alert

Adilabad, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Amid heavy rains and rising water levels across Adilabad district, District Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan (IPS) personally inspected flood-affected areas and reviewed precautionary measures being taken by the police and other departments.

The SP visited several critical locations, including National Highway-353B near Tarnam village in Jainath Mandal, Sunkidi and Mattadi Vagu project areas in Talamadugu Mandal, Gerjam in Ichoda Mandal, and Kuntala Waterfalls in Neredigonda Mandal. He interacted with officials and assessed the prevailing situation.

At Tarnam village, where rainwater accumulation on the highway caused inconvenience to commuters and stranded vehicles, SP Akhil Mahajan directed officials to regulate traffic and ensure safe movement of vehicles. He instructed au-

thorities to implement diversions wherever required to prevent accidents and public hardship.

The SP directed police personnel and Gram Panchayat staff to maintain strict monitoring of streams, rivulets, culverts, bridges, underpasses, and low-lying areas. Warning boards should be installed at vulnerable locations, and people must be prevented from crossing bridges and culverts where water is flowing, he instructed. Speaking on the occasion, Akhil Mahajan said the district police force has been placed on high alert following rainfall warnings issued by the Meteorological Department. He informed that the District Disaster Response Force (DDRF) team, equipped with modern rescue equipment, is available round-the-clock to respond to emergencies.

The SP advised people to avoid unnecessary travel during heavy rains and warned against visiting waterfalls, rivers, streams, reservoirs, and

ponds. He particularly urged youngsters not to take risks for recreational activities during the rainy season.

Farmers were advised to remain cautious near electrical equipment, poles, and damaged power lines. People were also cautioned against taking shelter under trees or near weak structures during storms.

Motorists were instructed to drive carefully, as water-covered roads and potholes could increase the risk of accidents. Parents were advised to ensure children stay away from dangerous water bodies and flood-prone areas.

The SP appealed to citizens to immediately contact Dial-100 or the nearest police station during emergencies.

Uttnoor ASP Ruthvik Sai Kotte (IPS), Adilabad DSP L. Jeevan Reddy, Jainath CI G. Shrawan, Ichoda Rural CI Ch. Ramesh, Ichoda SHO K. Narish Kumar, SI P. Gautam, and other police officials participated in the inspections.

Operation Kavach Marks One Year with Strong Crime Control Record

Kamareddy, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Kamareddy Police on Thursday marked the successful completion of one year of 'Operation Kavach', a special initiative launched to strengthen crime prevention and enhance public safety across the district.

Under the leadership of Superintendent of Police M. Rajesh Chandra, IPS, the operation has produced notable results in tackling organized crime, particularly cases involving large-scale ganja trafficking, illegal transportation, and property thefts.

According to official data, police personnel inspected more than 5.16 lakh vehicles

over the past year as part of intensive enforcement drives conducted across the district. The sustained campaign also led to the registration of 3,572 drunk driving cases, reflecting the department's efforts to improve road safety and discourage traffic violations.

Police officials stated that regular vehicle checks, surveillance, and coordinated operations have played a key role in preventing criminal activities and maintaining law and order. The initiative has also strengthened monitoring at strategic locations, enabling the police to detect and prevent illegal activities more effectively.

Superintendent of Police M.

Rajesh Chandra said the primary objective of Operation Kavach is to ensure the safety and security of the public. He appreciated the dedication and commitment of the district police personnel, noting that their consistent efforts have helped make the initiative a success.

Reiterating the department's motto, "Your safety is our responsibility," the SP said the Kamareddy Police would continue to intensify enforcement measures, enhance public confidence, and take firm action against those involved in criminal activities to ensure a safe and secure environment for all residents.



CPI Demands Action Against Kangana Ranaut

Peddakothapalli (Nagarkurnool District), July 30 | TPN Bureau

CPI State Secretariat member M. Balanarasimha on Thursday demanded the immediate arrest of BJP MP Kangana Ranaut, alleging that she had made derogatory remarks about the large-scale student and youth movement in Delhi over the NEET paper leak issue. He also called for the cancellation of her membership in Parliament.

Addressing a meeting of CPI workers from the Kollapur Assembly constituency at the party office in Peddakothapalli, Balanarasimha strongly criticized the BJP-led Central Government on a range of issues. He alleged that the party, which came to power invoking the name of Lord Rama, had misused funds intended for the Ram Temple and demanded that it apologize to the people if it had any sincerity.

He also announced that the CPI would organize a paday-

atra across the Kollapur constituency from August 6 to August 14 to raise public awareness on issues affecting the region.

Speaking at the meeting, CPI District Secretary SMD Fayaz said the proposed march would highlight what the party described as the failures of the Central Government while also drawing attention to the State Government's alleged delay in implementing the "six guarantees" promised during the Assembly elections.

Earlier, party leaders and workers paid floral tributes to the portrait of late CPI Mandal Secretary Bolleddula Srinivasulu and observed a minute's silence in his memory.

Among those present at the meeting were CPI District Council members Thummala Shivudu, Bandi Lakshminipathi, Bijja Srinivasulu, Kurmayya, and Tanniru Mallayya, along with former Mandal Secretary Swami, Assistant Secretary Lakshminarayana, and several party workers.

Yugandhar Yadav Named to Mazdoor Union Zonal Committee

Warangal, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Yugandhar Yadav, Branch Secretary of the South Central Railway Mazdoor Union in Warangal, has been appointed as a member of the union's Zonal Working Committee in recognition of his long-standing service to the organization.

Yadav has served as the Warangal Branch Secretary for the past six years and was previously a Working Committee member for 14 years. Union leaders acknowledged his commitment to safeguarding employees' interests and strengthening the organization's activities over the years.

The appointment was announced by Mazdoor Union General Secretary Shankar Rao, Zonal President Srinivas, and Secunderabad Divisional Secretary Ravinder, who appreciated Yadav's dedication and contribution to the union.

Following the announce-



ment, union leaders and members congratulated him on his new responsibility and expressed confidence that he would continue to work for the welfare of railway employees. Among those who conveyed their best wishes were Ramesh, Vamsi, Krishna, Suresh, Srinivas, Satish, Mahesh, Rakesh, Kanakaiah, Raju, and several other union members.

Additional Collector Pulls Up School Staff Over Learning Standards

Mahabubnagar, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Mahabubnagar Additional Collector Madhusudan Naik expressed concern over the academic standards at the Zilla Parishad High School in Midjil mandal during a surprise inspection on Thursday, directing teachers to strengthen students' basic learning skills.

While interacting with Class 10 students, the Additional Collector assessed their English proficiency and found that several students were unable to correctly spell the word "umbrella." He immediately called the English teacher and sought an explanation, stressing the need to improve classroom instruction and learning outcomes. To encourage the students, Madhusudan Naik personally conducted a half-hour session on spelling and word pronunciation. He told the students that he would revisit the school and even write a slip test along with them to motivate them to perform better. Recalling that he had studied in a government school, he

urged the students to make full use of the educational facilities being provided and work hard towards their future.

During his inspection of the school's kitchen, the Additional Collector found spoiled vegetables and expressed serious concern over food quality. He questioned the staff over the use of such produce, warning that serving unhealthy food could adversely affect students' health.

He also expressed dissatisfaction with the cleanliness of the school campus and instructed Panchayat Secretary Sayanna and APO Haimavathi to ensure proper sanitation and regular maintenance of the premises. The inspection was attended by Sarpanch Edla Shankar, MPDO Lakshman Rathod, MPO Rajashekhar Reddy, AE Mahesh, and members of the teaching staff. The Additional Collector directed officials to address the identified shortcomings promptly and improve both academic standards and campus hygiene.



Alliance Government Focused on Public Welfare: Somireddy

Muthukur, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Sarvepalli MLA and former Minister Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy said the Alliance government’s primary objective was to work for the welfare and development of people. During his tour of Brahmavaram and Doruvulapalem villages, he laid the foundation stone for a digital lab at Doruvulapalem High School, funded with 43 lakh from Bunge’s CSR funds, and inaugurated a computer lab and digital library in Brahmavaram built at a cost of 38 lakh. Somireddy thanked Bunge and Sehgal Foundation

for providing solar units and farming equipment worth 1.40 crore to farmers. He said 2.93 crore was spent under JJM and 49 lakh on cement roads and health clinics in Brahmavaram Panchayat. He highlighted benefits under Annadatha Sukhibhava, NTR Bharosa and Thaliki Vandanam.

Criticising the YSRCP government, he alleged that development was neglected and no teacher posts were filled during Jagan’s tenure. He praised the Alliance government for conducting DSC recruitment and filling 16,000 posts, and appreciated Nara Lokesh for attracting investments.

Villagers Perform Donkey Wedding Ritual Seeking Rain In Kurnool

Halaharvi, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Anxiety has gripped villagers in Gulam village of Halaharvi Mandal in Kurnool district as crops are withering due to inadequate rainfall and the sowing season is nearing its end.

Seeking divine intervention for rains, villagers performed traditional rituals, including a symbolic wedding of donkeys. The ceremony was organised with decorated donkeys, followed by a procession through the village streets accompanied by traditional music, drum beats and fireworks.

As part of the ritual, villagers performed ‘Ganga Puja’ in the Vedavati River early in the morning.



Later, the donkeys were decorated and the wedding ceremony was conducted according to local customs.

The procession began from the Vedavati River and passed through various streets of the village, attracting the participation of several villagers. Residents expressed hope that the traditional ritual would bring rainfall and provide relief to farmers facing crop losses due to dry conditions.

Free Cancer Screening Camp Held



Tirupati, July 30 | TPN Bureau

A free cancer screening and awareness camp was conducted at the Rajiv Nagar Jeevakona-3 Urban PHC under the auspices of Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS). The camp benefited residents of the Rajiv Nagar Jeevakona-7 and 8 secretariat areas through the ‘Pink Bus’ mobile screening unit. Doctors explained cancer symptoms, early detection and preventive measures using visual aids.

The programme was organised in accordance with State Government directives and in coordination with the District Medical and Health Department. The Pink Bus provided oral cancer

screening for men and women, mammograms for breast cancer screening and Pap smear tests for cervical cancer screening among women.

The camp was held under the directives of SVIMS Director-cum-Vice Chancellor Dr. RV Kumar, guidance of Community Medicine Department Head Dr. Anju D. Ade, and supervision of Nodal Officers Dr. Bhavani and Dr. Siva Santhosh. AP State SC Finance Corporation Director P. Kumari, Urban PHC Medical Officer Dr. Swetha, Pink Bus Medical Officers Dr. Padmavathi, Dr. Haritha, Dr. Lavanya and Dr. Meghana, ANMs Kusuma and Amrutha, and ASHA workers participated.

Seven Red Sanders Logs Seized, Three Arrested

Tirupati, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Task Force police seized seven red sanders logs being illegally transported in a car in the Proddatur area of Kadapa district and arrested three smugglers. A car used for transportation and a motorcycle deployed as a pilot vehicle were also seized.

Acting on the operational plan of Task Force Head L. Subbarayudu, under the leadership of Task Force SP P. Srinivas, supervision of ASP J. Kulasekhar and guidance of DSP MD Sharif, a team led by RSI C. Vinod Kumar conducted checks near Basapuram.

During vehicle inspections in the Pathuru forest area of Khajipet section early Thurs-



day, police spotted a motorcycle and car approaching from Nagapatnam. The occupants attempted to flee but were apprehended. Seven logs were found in the car.

The accused, from Kadapa and Tirupati districts, were taken to the Task Force station. DSP V. Srinivasulu Reddy and ACF J. Srinivas questioned them. CI Khader Basha registered a case and is investigating.

Grand Pushpayagam Held at Appalayagunta Temple

Tirupati, July 30 | TPN Bureau

The grand Pushpayagam festival was celebrated at Sri Prasanna Venkateswara Swamy temple in Appalayagunta on Thursday, following Agama traditions. The festival was performed to atone for any inadvertent lapses by priests, officials, attendants or devotees during the annual Brahmotsavam held from June 25 to July 3.

Between 11 am and noon, Snapanam Tirumanjanam was per-



formed for Sri Prasanna Venkateswara Swamy along with Sridevi and Bhudevi using milk, curd, honey, sandalwood paste and coconut water. Flowers arranged for the Pushpayagam were taken in a ceremonial procession around the

temple and Mada streets before the deity was seated on the Sarvabhupala Vahanam.

From 3 pm to 5 pm, nearly 2.5 tonnes of flowers were offered amid Vedic chants and devotional music. Pushparchana was performed using 18 varieties of flowers and six types of sacred leaves. Deputy EO Harindranath, AEO Devarajulu, Superintendent Srivani, Kankana Bhattacharya Acharyulu, Temple Inspector Venugopal, priests, officials and devotees participated.

Adoni MLA Seeks 19.75 Crore For Ramjala Tank Conservation

Adoni, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Adoni MLA Dr. Parthasarathi submitted a representation to State Education Minister Nara Lokesh seeking support and financial assistance for various development works in Adoni constituency of Kurnool district.

The MLA requested sanction of 19.75 crore for the conservation of Ramjala tank and augmentation of water resources to meet the requirements of the growing urban population. He also highlighted the need to complete AMRUT 2.0 works and sought 42 crore to ad-



dress drinking water issues in rural areas. Dr. Parthasarathi urged the Minister to allocate 300 crore for urban road expansion and 26 crore for road construction works. He also sought attention towards improving educational infrastructure and strengthening government hospitals to overcome the backwardness of the region.

The MLA requested construction of an underpass at the Nalla railway gate to ease transportation issues and sought establishment of industries to generate employment opportunities and reduce migration from the constituency.

Dr. Parthasarathi informed that Minister Nara Lokesh responded positively to the proposals and assured support for the development initiatives. The MLA expressed hope that the requested projects would help improve infrastructure and living standards in Adoni.

APSPDCL Speeds Up Rooftop Solar Bill Settlements

Tirupati, July 30 | TPN Bureau

APSPDCL Chairman & Managing Director Siva Sankar Lotheti said the bill settlement process for grid-connected rooftop solar consumers has been expedited to ensure transparent and prompt services. He said APSPDCL has introduced monthly billing

and settlement of surplus power supplied to the grid, replacing the earlier quarterly system.

A total of 36,963 consumers across Nellore, Tirupati, Chittoor, Annamayya, Kadapa, Kurnool, Nandyal, Anantapur and Sri Sathya Sai districts have installed rooftop solar systems with a combined capacity of 128 MW. The data

shows 14,786 services generated payments of 83.88 lakh in June, while 17,086 services received 68.40 lakh in July. Lotheti directed field officials to ensure consumers face no inconvenience. Consumers can approach AAO or AEE offices for billing queries and contact 1912, 1800 425 155333 or WhatsApp 91333 31912 for electricity-related issues.

Awareness Needed to Prevent Human Trafficking

Chittoor, July 30 | TPN Bureau

District Legal Services Authority Chairman and Senior Civil Judge M.S. Bharti stressed the need for collective efforts to eradicate trafficking of women and children. She was speaking at an awareness programme organised at NPS Savithamma Degree College on World Anti-Human Trafficking Day by the District Legal Services Authority, ICDS and police departments.

ICDS Project Director Venkateshwari, Mahila Police Station DSP Srinivas Rao, College Principal, Vice Principal Usha, ROPS NGO founder Dhana Sekharan and District Mission Coordinator Nirmala participated.



ed in the programme.

M.S. Bharti said trafficking, sexual exploitation, prostitution, child trafficking, forced begging, forced marriages and illegal organ trade continue despite technological advancement. She urged students and the public to remain vigilant against job-related fraud and social-media deception and immediately inform police about suspicious activities. She said strict legal provisions under the BNS, POCSO Act and

other laws provide punishment for such offences and urged students to contact the 1098 Child Helpline in emergencies.

Venkateshwari and Srinivas Rao cautioned youth against trusting strangers and social-media contacts. Srinivas Rao advised women to use security applications such as Shakti. The college principal urged responsible social-media use. A wall magazine against human trafficking was also unveiled.

Document Writers Hold Pen-Down Protest

Nayudupeta, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Document writers staged a pen-down protest on Thursday demanding immediate cancellation of G.O. No. 396 issued by the State Government concerning private organisations under the P3 system in Andhra Pradesh registration offices. The protest was organised by the Document Writers



Welfare Association as part of its indefinite agitation launched on July 20. Association members said the pen-down protest would con-

tinue until their issues were resolved. The programme is being held from July 20 to 31, and they appealed to everyone to extend support. Document writers and assistants, including Sangam Naik, Kalahasti Srinivas, K. Bhaskar, Suman, K. Gopi, Shaik Aziz, G. Suman, G. Vijayabhaskar, D. Uday Kumar Reddy, C.H. Ashok, C.H. Gopi, P. Srinivasulu and P. Mallikarjun Rao, participated.

TDP Campaign Highlights Welfare Schemes

Tirupati, July 30 | TPN Bureau

TDP Tirupati in-charge JB Srinivas said the Alliance government has brought welfare schemes closer to people and earned their appreciation. As part of the campaign highlighting the government’s welfare achievements, an enthusiastic door-to-door programme was held in the 30th Division on Thursday.

Srinivas, along with Parliamentary President Panabaka Lakshmi, Yadav Nidhi Corporation President Narasimha Yadav



and Urban Development Finance and Infrastructure Corporation Director Vuka Vijay Kumar, visited households and distributed campaign leaflets. They interacted with beneficiaries, enquired about welfare benefits and sought details of local

problems.

AP Nai Brahmin Corporation Chairman Rudrakoti Sadasiwam, Cluster In-charge Dampuri Bhaskar Yadav, Tatayyagunta Devasthanam Chairman Mahesh Yadav, 30th Ward President Munikrishna, General Secretary Govindachari, Manyam Srinivasulu, Rajayya and Amudala Tulasi participated. Residents complained about ganja and alcohol consumption near IS Mahal at night. Srinivas urged police to intensify surveillance and take strict legal action against offenders.

Father Dies by Suicide Over Son’s Health

Chandragiri, July 30 | TPN Bureau

A 48-year-old man allegedly died by suicide at his residence in Chandragiri, reportedly distressed over his only son’s prolonged health problems. According to Chandragiri SI Muralimohan, Jagadeesh Babu, a resident of the MG Brothers area, worked as a lab technician at a

private university, while his wife, P. Dhanalakshmi, was an assistant professor at the same institution.

Their son, P. Mallikarjuna, reportedly developed health and mental health problems after his first year of Intermediate education, and the family had sought treatment at several hospitals. On Wednesday, Dhanalakshmi took their son to a Dargah in Nellore.

While alone at home, Jagadeesh Babu reportedly died by suicide. Before the incident, he had reportedly video-called his wife to enquire about their son. When she could not reach him later, neighbours alerted police. Police found him dead and shifted the body to SV Medical College, Tirupati, for post-mortem. A case has been registered and an investigation is underway.



Alliance Government Accelerating Development Panabaka Lakshmi

Naidupeta, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Tirupati District TDP President and TTD Board Member Panabaka Lakshmi said the State has witnessed development across all sectors since the Alliance government, led by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, assumed office. Speaking during the ‘Two Years of Trust – Development and Welfare’ programme in Naidupeta, she said the previous government neglected development, while the Alliance government was ensuring welfare benefits reached people. She highlighted efforts to bring

industries and generate employment.

MLA Nelavala Vijaya Sri, who participated in the ‘Inti Intiki TDP’ campaign, assured residents that all local issues would be resolved. She, along with Panabaka Lakshmi, visited households in LA Sagaram, Lothuvanigunta and Beedi Colony, explaining government welfare and development schemes. Former MLA Nelavala Subramanyam, TDP Town President Shaik Rafi, Katta Ramana Reddy, Pasala Ganga Prasad, Revathi, Avadhanam Sudhir, Nanabala Subba Rao and others participated.

MLA Reviews Development Works in Villages

Kovur, July 30 | TPN Bureau

Kovur MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy said she returned to the people after delivering development and welfare works during the past two years. She participated in the ‘Two Years of Trust – Development & Welfare’ door-to-door campaign in Jangamvaridoruvu and Pothurajudibba villages of Indukurupeta Mandal. She visited the local primary school, interacted with teachers and students, and distributed school bags and uniforms.

During the campaign, she announced that 42 houses had been sanctioned for Jangamvaridoruvu and assured residents that issues concerning RTC bus services, drains, the



cremation-ground access road and link roads would be resolved. Development works worth 42.62 lakh, including electrical infrastructure and CC roads, were undertaken in the panchayat. She said beneficiaries were happy with schemes such as Talliki Vandanam, Stree Shakti free bus travel and Deepam-2 free gas cylinders. She later toured Pothurajudibba and explained the Alliance government’s Super Six schemes.

Red Sanders Smuggler Gets Five-Year Jail Term

Tirupati, July 30 | TPN Bureau

The RSASTF ADJ Court sentenced red sanders smuggler Annamalai Murugesan to five years in prison and imposed a fine of 6 lakh for illegally transporting red sanders logs. RSASTF ADJ Court Judge Narasimhamurthy delivered the verdict in Crime No. 49/2017.

Murugesan, a resident of Pativelavu village in Pattanagilayam Taluk, Salem district, Tamil Nadu, was arrested for smuggling red sanders logs from the Bhimavaram Forest Beat in the Pullayya Gari Gutta area of Chittoor East Forest Division.

He was produced before the court after a Non-Bailable War-



rant was issued for failing to appear earlier. RSASTF Head L. Subbarayudu formulated a special action plan, while Task Force SP P. Srinivas and ASP J. Kulasekhar supervised efforts to secure convictions in pending cases. Special Public Prosecutor Aluguri Amara Narayana presented the evidence. Following the court order, Murugesan was lodged in Nellore Central Jail. P. Srinivas said the verdict would deter forest offences.

Minimum Wage Struggle Will Continue: Kandarpu Murli

Tirupati, July 30 | TPN Bureau

CITU State Vice President Kandarpu Murli said the fight for a minimum wage of 26,000 for workers and outsourcing employees was only the beginning. CITU organised a protest at the District Collectorate on Thursday as part of a 40-day campaign demanding wage revision and implementation of “equal pay for equal work.” Police stopped hundreds of workers during their rally, leading to a scuffle with CITU leaders.

Murli alleged that contract and outsourcing workers had faced exploitation for two decades without wage revisions and demanded implementation of the Supreme Court order on equal pay. He also sought regularisation of contract workers and criticised the government for implementing labour codes.



CITU District President S. Jayachandra, T. Subramaniam, CPI(M) Tirupati District Secretary Vandavasi Nagaraju, Contract Outsourcing JAC Chairman Nag Venkatesh, AP State President Gandikota Chinababu, CITU District Vice President G. Balasubramaniam and others participated. Workers demanded timely wages, better protection and improved working conditions.

Editorial

Justice Should Never Become a Political Tool

Politics has undergone a significant transformation over the years. Unfortunately, many of the values that once defined public life—ethics, decency, and human relations—have gradually given way to political expediency. Today, political gain has become the overriding priority for almost every major party. The approach to any issue often depends not on the facts of the case, but on whether a party is in power or in the opposition. Such a trend is unhealthy for democracy and weakens public confidence in the justice system.

The recent remarks of former Chief Minister Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy regarding the case involving former Minister Sidiri Appala Raju appear to reflect this political mindset. A similar pattern was witnessed during the custodial death case of Sai Krishna, where political reactions overshadowed the need for an impartial investigation. Instead of allowing the law to take its own course, leaders from different political parties sought to derive political advantage from the incidents.

The ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP) is also not beyond criticism. Its response to sensitive cases has often been viewed through the prism of political benefit rather than objective governance. This tendency is not confined to a single party; it has become a disturbing feature of contemporary politics. Every incident is quickly converted into a political weapon, leaving justice to take a back seat.

Criminal cases, custodial deaths, and allegations against public representatives must be investigated solely based on evidence and the rule of law. Political affiliations should neither shield the guilty nor target the innocent. Governments, opposition parties, and law enforcement agencies must demonstrate equal commitment to justice, irrespective of who is involved.

If political bias continues to influence legal proceedings, the credibility of the justice system will gradually erode. Democracy can survive political competition, but it cannot survive if justice itself becomes a casualty of partisan politics.

Editor

The Trust Economy: The Wealth Money Cannot Buy

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"Pay me tomorrow," the neighbourhood grocer says with a smile. There is no identity proof, no signed agreement, no guarantee—only a relationship built over years. A teacher hands over examination papers believing that her students will resist the temptation to cheat. Millions of Indians complete digital payments within seconds, confident that their money will reach the right person. Such moments seem ordinary, yet they rest on one of the greatest forms of wealth any society can possess—trust. Roads, technology, and financial capital can accelerate growth, but none can replace the invisible foundation on which every successful economy rests. Trust is not merely a moral virtue; it is an economic force that quietly shapes the prosperity of families, businesses, institutions, and nations alike.

The Currency We Cannot See

Money is the currency we can count. Trust is the currency we cannot see, yet we use it every day. Every purchase made without suspicion, every contract honoured, and every online payment completed with confidence quietly add value to an economy. Economists call this social capital—the confidence that enables people, businesses, and institutions to cooperate with fewer barriers and lower costs. Across the world, societies with higher levels of public trust generally enjoy stronger institutions, faster innovation, and more sustainable economic growth. Simply put, money fuels an economy, but trust determines how efficiently it runs.

When Trust Becomes Wealth

Trust begins long before money changes hands. It begins when parents keep their promises, teachers grade fairly, doctors put patients before profit, and shopkeepers earn loyalty through honesty.

These everyday acts create the confidence that allows people to cooperate, invest, and innovate. That confidence has real economic value. Businesses flourish when customers trust the products and services they buy, banks thrive because depositors believe their savings are secure, and India's digital payments revolution—with billions of UPI transactions every month—rests as much on public confidence as on technology. Investors, too, look beyond incentives. They seek transparent institutions, predictable policies, and the assurance that agreements will be honoured.

History shows that prosperous societies are built on more than natural resources or financial capital. Nobel laureate Kenneth Arrow described trust as a "lubricant" of economic systems because it reduces friction in human interactions. Ironically, trust becomes most visible only after it disappears. We notice electricity only during a power cut; we recognise the value of trust only after fraud, corruption, or betrayal reminds us how costly distrust can be. The strongest economies are built twice—first through trust between people, and then through transactions between markets.

The Hidden Cost of Distrust
Trust is built one promise at a time, yet it can be destroyed by a single betrayal. Corruption weakens faith in institutions. Fraud makes people hesitate before embracing digital transactions. Broken promises damage relationships far beyond their financial value. Distrust quietly imposes costs that rarely appear in budgets or balance sheets. It leads to longer contracts, excessive verification, costly litigation, delayed investments, and growing bureaucracy. More damaging still, it erodes confidence—the invisible force that



keeps societies moving forward.

The social cost is equally profound. As trust declines, communities become fragmented, public debate grows cynical, and cooperation gives way to suspicion. Innovation suffers because people spend more time protecting themselves than creating value. Even the best policies cannot succeed unless citizens believe in the fairness and credibility of the institutions that implement them.

Rebuilding trust, therefore, is not simply an economic necessity; it is a national imperative. Every honest transaction, transparent decision, fulfilled promise, and fair act strengthens the invisible foundation on which prosperous societies are built.

Trust Begins With Us

It is tempting to believe that trust is the responsibility of governments, courts, or businesses alone. In reality, it is built through millions of everyday choices made by ordinary people. Parents who keep

their promises, teachers who reward honesty, employers who treat workers fairly, journalists who verify facts, officials who act impartially, and citizens who obey rules even when no one is watching all help create a culture of trust.

Institutions become trustworthy because people choose to be. Laws may discourage wrongdoing, but they cannot create integrity. Technology can speed up transactions, but it cannot replace character. Trust grows when honesty becomes a habit and integrity becomes culture.

In a diverse democracy like India, trust is more than a personal virtue—it is a shared national asset. Every promise kept, every fair decision, every honest day's work, and every act of civic responsibility strengthens both democracy and economic prosperity. The future of a nation depends not only on the wealth it creates, but also on the confidence its people inspire in one another.

Trust Is the Future

India's future will be shaped not only by the pace of its economic growth but also by the quality of trust that binds its people, institutions, and markets. Roads, technology, and financial capital can accelerate development, but only trust can sustain it. As India moves towards becoming a global economic power, strengthening trust through integrity, transparency, accountability, and responsible citizenship will be as important as building infrastructure. Every civilisation is remembered for what it built. Every great nation is remembered for what its people believed in. The greatest wealth any nation can possess is not measured in currency or GDP, but in the confidence its people place in one another.

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

Reimagining Education Through the Lens of Panchakoshas

Swathi Dev

Researcher in Indian Knowledge System

When we talk about education today, the conversation often revolves around grades, skills, and jobs. But in India, education has always meant more than information or career preparation. The Taaittiriya Upanishad offers a timeless vision of human development through the Panchakoshas—five sheaths or layers of existence. This framework reminds us that true learning is about nurturing the whole person: body, energy, mind, intellect, and spirit.

Body First: Annamaya Kosha

The outermost layer is the Annamaya Kosha, the physical body sustained by food. A hungry or sick child cannot focus in class, no matter how brilliant the teacher. Nutrition, healthcare, sports, and yoga are not extras but essentials. Mid-day meals, playgrounds, and wellness programs are part of education because they strengthen the foundation for learning.

Breath and Energy: Pran-

amaya Kosha

Next comes the Pranamaya Kosha, the vital energy sheath. It governs breath, vitality, and action. When prana flows smoothly, students are alert and disciplined. Practices like pranayama, Surya Namaskar, dance, and theatre help regulate this energy. By weaving movement and rhythm into the school day, we nurture focus and enthusiasm alongside academics.

Mind and Emotions: Manomaya Kosha

The third sheath, Manomaya Kosha, is the mental body—the seat of emotions, imagination, and sensory experiences. A restless or anxious mind struggles to absorb knowledge. That's why education must also care for emotional well-being. Music, art, storytelling, counselling, and healthy friendships help children feel safe and inspired. Emotional intelligence is not a luxury; it is as vital as exam scores.

Intellect and Values: Vijnanamaya Kosha

The fourth sheath is the Vij-

nanamaya Kosha, the intellectual body centred on buddhi (intellect). This is where reasoning, judgement, and critical thinking reside. It is the domain of academics and inquiry. Yet intellect without values can be dangerous. Education must therefore balance sharp thinking with ethical reflection. Discussions, debates, and value-based learning help students develop wisdom, not just knowledge.

Joy and Purpose: Anandamaya Kosha

At the core lies the Anandamaya Kosha, the bliss sheath. It is linked to joy, peace, creativity, and meaning. When students find purpose in learning, education becomes fulfilling rather than stressful. Meditation, gratitude, service, and stories of inspiring lives nurture this inner dimension. A child who experiences joy in learning is already touching the essence of self-realization.

A Timeless Framework for Today

The Panchakosha model shows that education must move from the outer to the inner: Body -Energy -Mind -Intellect -Bliss. Each layer supports the next. We cannot expect critical thinking if emotional needs are ignored, nor emotional balance if physical



health is neglected. Holistic development is not optional—it is essential. This vision resonates strongly with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which calls for multidisciplinary, holistic education. Physical health, emotional well-being,

creativity, ethics, and intellectual growth are all part of its agenda. The Panchakoshas provide a philosophical foundation for this modern vision, reminding us that ancient wisdom still guides contemporary challenges.

Reflection

The purpose of education is not just to produce graduates or skilled workers. It is to nurture healthy, energetic, emotionally balanced, intellectually sharp, and spiritually aware human beings. That is

the true meaning of Vidya—knowledge that liberates and leads to Ananda. In a world often defined by competition and stress, the Panchakoshas offer a gentle reminder: education is about developing the whole person, not just the mind.

Parliament Session Storm: Key Bills Amid Opposition Uproar

Opposition Walkout in Rajya Sabha Over Paper Leak Row

The ninth day of the Monsoon Session of Parliament witnessed intense political exchanges as the government pushed forward with key legislative business while the Opposition continued to raise concerns over several issues.

A major focus of the proceedings was the proposed legislation related to increasing the sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court. The government is seeking parliamentary approval for amendments to the law governing the number of judges in the apex court. The move comes after an earlier ordinance aimed at increasing the court's judicial strength.

The session also remained dominated by the controversy surrounding examination paper leaks and student protests. The government defended the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, stating that stronger measures are needed to protect the future of students and



ensure transparency in competitive examinations.

Opposition parties, however, criticised the government's handling of the paper leak issue and demanded accountability over recent incidents affecting students. The debate saw sharp political exchanges, with both sides accusing each other of avoiding responsibility.

The proceedings were also affected by repeated disruptions, with protests and sloganeering creating hurdles for smooth functioning of both Houses. The government urged

the Opposition to participate in debates, while Opposition leaders insisted on discussions over issues they described as matters of public concern.

The Monsoon Session has so far reflected deep political divisions, with the ruling alliance focusing on legislative reforms and the Opposition pressing the government on governance-related issues. As more important bills are scheduled for discussion, further confrontations between the two sides are expected in the coming days.

The Rajya Sabha witnessed heated exchanges and an Opposition walkout as political tensions escalated over the paper leak controversy and demands for accountability from the government. Opposition parties targeted the Centre over the handling of student protests and sought answers from Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

The Opposition members raised concerns over alleged police action during protests linked to examination irregularities and demanded a statement from the government. They accused the administration of ignoring students' concerns and failing to address the larger issue of repeated paper leaks affecting competitive examinations.

The ruling party defended its position, maintaining that the government is committed to ensuring transparency in examinations and taking strict action against those involved in unfair practices. Leaders from the treasury benches argued that legislative measures are being introduced to strengthen the examination system and protect students' interests.



During the proceedings, Opposition members staged a walkout after their demand for Amit Shah's response was not accepted. The protest reflected the growing political divide between the government and Opposition parties over the issue.

Despite the disruption, the Rajya Sabha continued with its scheduled business. The government moved ahead with legislative discussions, while Opposition leaders continued to

press for debate on issues they described as important matters of public concern.

The paper leak controversy has become one of the major flashpoints of the Monsoon Session, with student concerns, examination reforms and government accountability dominating political discussions inside and outside Parliament. Both sides are expected to continue their confrontation as the session progresses.



Supreme Court Seeks Records on RAF, Pellet Gun Use

The Supreme Court has sought detailed records from the Centre regarding the deployment of the Rapid Action Force (RAF) and the use of pellet guns during protests held at Jantar Mantar. The court's move came while hearing concerns over police action and crowd-control measures adopted during demonstrations.

A bench of the Supreme Court asked the government to provide information related to the deployment of security forces, the use of equipment and the guidelines followed while dealing with protesters. The court stressed the importance of maintaining a balance between ensuring public order and protecting citizens' rights.

The matter gained attention following allegations regarding the use of force during protests. Questions were raised over whether the actions taken by security personnel were proportionate and whether proper procedures were followed while managing gatherings.

The Centre has been asked to

submit relevant details, including records related to RAF deployment, instructions issued to security personnel and circumstances that led to the use of pellet guns during the protests.

The Supreme Court has previously highlighted the importance of accountability and transparency in police actions. The latest proceedings reflect the judiciary's focus on ensuring that law enforcement agencies follow established norms while handling public demonstrations. The hearing comes amid wider debates over the right to peaceful protest, public safety and the role of security forces in maintaining law and order. The court's intervention is expected to bring more clarity on the measures adopted during the demonstrations.

The case has once again brought attention to the challenges faced by authorities in managing large-scale protests while ensuring that citizens' democratic rights are protected and unnecessary use of force is avoided.

Assam Flood Fury: Death Toll Climbs, More Rain Threat Looms

Assam continues to battle one of its worst flood crises as heavy rainfall and rising river levels have caused widespread destruction across several districts. The flood situation has become more severe, with the death toll rising to 78 and thousands of families struggling to recover from the devastation.

Large parts of the state have been submerged, affecting lakhs of people and forcing many residents to leave their homes. Roads, agricultural fields and essential infrastructure have suffered major damage, while rescue and relief operations continue in flood-hit areas.

The Brahmaputra and several other rivers have crossed danger levels in many locations, leading to severe waterlogging and flooding. In some areas, rising waters entered villages within a short span of time, leaving residents with little time to move to safer places.

Authorities have deployed disaster response teams, including the National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force and other emergency agencies, to carry out evacuation and relief operations. Temporary relief camps have been set up to provide food, shelter and medical assistance to affected people.

Officials and experts have



pointed to multiple factors behind the scale of the disaster, including intense rainfall, overflowing rivers, geographical conditions and environmental changes. Experts warn that increasing frequency of extreme rainfall events could make such floods more challenging in the future. The India Meteorological Department has predicted more rainfall in parts of the region, raising concerns that the flood situation could worsen further. Authorities are closely monitoring river levels and advising people in vulnerable areas to remain alert.

The floods have severely impacted agriculture, livestock and local livelihoods. Many families who lost homes and belongings are now dependent on relief support as restoration work begins in affected regions.

The Assam flood crisis has once again highlighted the growing challenges posed by extreme weather events and the urgent need for stronger disaster preparedness, climate adaptation measures and long-term flood management strategies.

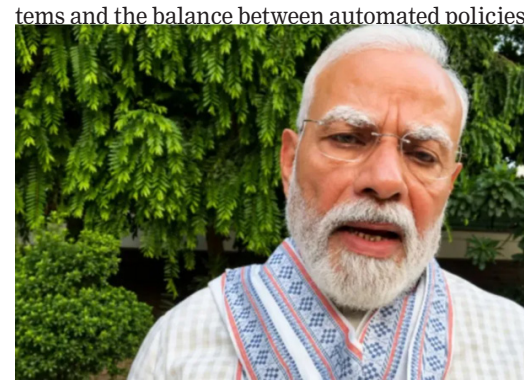
Meta Row: Centre Seeks Answers Over PM Modi Post Removal

A controversy has erupted between the Indian government and social media giant Meta after a Facebook post by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was briefly removed from the platform. The Centre has sought an explanation from Meta, raising concerns over content moderation policies and the handling of high-profile accounts.

The post, which featured a video message from Prime Minister Modi addressing the youth and discussing measures against examination paper leaks, was temporarily unavailable on Facebook before being restored. Meta later said the removal happened due to an error and that the content had been reinstated.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology sought clarification from Meta's senior leadership over the incident. Government officials questioned the circumstances behind the removal and called for greater transparency from digital platforms while handling content shared by public figures.

Meta maintained that the action was not intentional and resulted from a technical issue. The company expressed regret over the incident and assured that steps would be taken to avoid similar occurrences in the future. The incident has sparked a wider debate over the power of global technology platforms, content moderation sys-



tems and the balance between automated policies and public interest communication. Critics argue that errors involving influential accounts highlight the need for stronger accountability mechanisms, while technology companies maintain that automated systems are necessary to manage billions of posts worldwide.

The government and Meta are expected to continue discussions on platform policies, oversight mechanisms and safeguards for important public communications. The episode has once again brought attention to the growing influence of social media platforms in shaping political and public conversations.

Uddhav Targets Remarks on Gen Z, Mughals and Shivaji

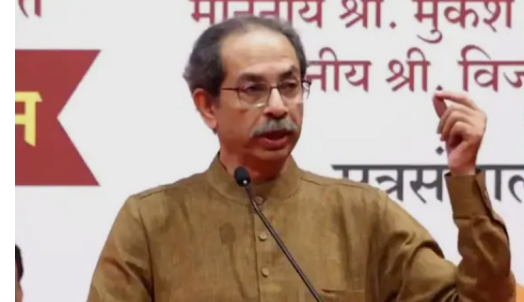
Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray has criticised controversial remarks made during recent political debates, drawing attention to comments allegedly comparing Gen Z protesters to "cockroaches" and references made about historical figures like Mughal rulers and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Addressing the issue, Uddhav Thackeray questioned the language being used in public discourse and said that such statements were disrespectful towards young people and historical personalities. He highlighted the need for responsible communication, especially when discussing sensitive social and political issues.

The remarks over Gen Z came amid a wider controversy surrounding protests and criticism of the younger generation's political activism. The use of derogatory comparisons triggered reactions from opposition leaders, who accused certain groups of attempting to insult students and youth voices.

Thackeray also referred to historical narratives involving Mughal rulers and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, arguing that history should not be distorted for political gains. He stressed that leaders must maintain dignity while discussing figures who hold importance for millions of people.

The Shiv Sena (UBT) chief's comments added another layer to the ongoing political debate, with parties



ties exchanging accusations over the use of language and historical references in public life.

The controversy comes at a time when youth-led movements and social media-driven campaigns have become increasingly influential in shaping political discussions. Leaders across parties have been responding to the growing role of Gen Z in public debates and protests.

Uddhav Thackeray's remarks are expected to intensify the political conversation, with the issue likely to remain a talking point among opposition parties and the ruling establishment. The debate has once again highlighted the challenges of balancing political criticism with respect for social groups and historical icons.

Odisha Flood Alert: Mahanadi Swells, Authorities On High Alert

Odisha has stepped up flood preparedness as rising water levels in the Mahanadi river system have triggered concerns in several districts. Authorities are closely monitoring the situation and have alerted administrations in vulnerable areas to take precautionary measures.

Heavy rainfall in the upper catchment areas has increased the inflow into rivers, raising concerns over possible flooding in low-lying regions. The Water Resources Department is keeping a close watch on river levels and dam operations to manage the situation effectively.

The Mahanadi river, one of Odisha's most important waterways, plays a crucial role in the state's flood management system. Officials are monitoring the flow of water released from reservoirs and assessing the impact on downstream areas.

District administrations have been asked to remain prepared for emergency situations, including evacuation and relief operations if water levels rise further. Disaster response teams are being kept ready in vulnerable locations to deal with any flood-related challenges.

Weather officials have warned of continued heavy rainfall in parts of Odisha due to active monsoon conditions, increasing the possibility



of waterlogging and flash floods in some areas.

Authorities have advised people living near riverbanks and flood-prone zones to remain alert and follow official instructions. Emergency control rooms are monitoring developments and coordinating with district officials.

The situation has once again highlighted Odisha's vulnerability to monsoon floods and the importance of early warning systems, river management and disaster preparedness measures.

With rainfall activity expected to continue, officials are maintaining a close watch on the Mahanadi basin to prevent major disruptions and ensure timely response in case of worsening conditions.

PM Modi Holds Key Security Meet With Top Ministers

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a high-level meeting with senior Union ministers and key officials in Parliament amid discussions on national security, defence preparedness and important strategic issues. The meeting was attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Home Minister Amit Shah and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval among others.

The discussions focused on the evolving global security environment and India's preparedness to deal with emerging challenges. Senior officials briefed the Prime Minister on various security-related developments and measures being taken to safeguard national interests.

The presence of top leaders from the defence, foreign affairs and security establishments highlighted the importance of the meeting. Issues related to geopolitical developments, border security and strategic planning are believed to have been discussed during the interaction.

The meeting comes at a time when global conflicts and regional tensions have increased concerns over national security. The government has been closely monitoring international de-



velopments and assessing their possible impact on India's economic, energy and security interests.

NSA Ajit Doval and other senior officials have been playing a key role in coordinating India's response to various security challenges and strengthening strategic partnerships with other countries.

The high-level meeting also reflects the government's focus on maintaining coordination between different ministries and security agencies. Such reviews are aimed at ensuring a unified approach while addressing complex domestic and international challenges.

As Parliament's Monsoon Session continues, the meeting underlined the government's priority towards national security and strategic preparedness amid a rapidly changing global scenario.

Kerala Vigilance Drops Probe Against CM Satheesan



The Kerala Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau has reportedly decided to drop its probe against Congress leader and Leader of Opposition V D Satheesan over allegations linked to the 2018 flood rehabilitation initiative. The development comes after a prolonged political and legal controversy surrounding the case.

The case was related to the "Punarjani" housing project, an initiative aimed at helping victims affected by the devastating 2018 Kerala floods. Allegations were raised that foreign funds collected for rehabilitation activities had violated regulations, leading to a Vigilance inquiry. Satheesan had denied any wrongdoing and maintained that the allegations were politically motivated.

The issue had triggered a political battle between the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) and the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF). Opposition leaders had accused the Kerala government of targeting Satheesan, while the government maintained that the investigation was based on complaints and legal procedures.

Satheesan had earlier stated

that he was ready to cooperate with any investigation and claimed that all documents related to the rehabilitation project were transparent. He argued that the allegations were aimed at damaging his political image.

The Vigilance probe had become a major political issue in Kerala, with both sides using the matter to attack each other. The Congress had accused the ruling establishment of misusing investigative agencies, while the government insisted that accountability and transparency were necessary in matters involving public funds.

The decision to close the probe is expected to provide temporary relief to Satheesan and the Congress leadership. However, the issue may continue to remain a topic of political debate, especially with parties gearing up for future electoral battles in the state.

The controversy highlights the continuing political friction in Kerala, where allegations of corruption, investigations and governance issues frequently become major points of confrontation between the ruling and opposition fronts.

Bismil's Revolutionary Poem Echoes in PoK Protests

The iconic revolutionary poem “Sarfarooshi Ki Tamanna” has once again become a powerful symbol of protest, with its verses echoing during demonstrations in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). Protesters have been using the historic poem as a voice of resistance amid growing anger over political, economic and social issues.

The famous lines, associated with India's freedom struggle, have gained renewed attention as demonstrators gathered in different parts of PoK. The poem, originally written by poet Bismil Azimabadi and later popularised by revolutionary Ram Prasad Bismil, has remained a symbol of courage, sacrifice and defiance for generations. Videos from the protests showed crowds raising slogans and reciting verses

from the legendary composition, turning the century-old poetry into a modern protest anthem. The use of the poem highlights how revolutionary literature continues to inspire movements beyond its original historical context.

“Sarfarooshi Ki Tamanna” became widely associated with India's independence movement after revolutionaries used it as a source of inspiration against British rule. Over the years, its powerful message of sacrifice and determination has been adopted by various social and political movements.

The appearance of the poem in PoK protests has drawn attention because of its historical connection with the Indian freedom movement. Protesters have used the verses to express frustration and demand greater attention to their concerns.



freedom fighters, “Sarfarooshi Ki Tamanna” continues to represent resistance, courage and the desire for change.



Israel Strikes Gaza Mosque, Claims Hamas Weapons Site

Israel has carried out an airstrike on a mosque in Gaza, claiming that the religious site was being used by Hamas for storing weapons and military activities. The Israeli military released a video of the operation, alleging that the mosque was being used as a base linked to Hamas operations.

over damage to places of worship and civilian infrastructure, while Israel maintains that its operations are aimed at eliminating Hamas' military capabilities.

According to Israeli forces, the targeted location was being used to hide weapons and support militant activities. The military claimed that facilities connected to Hamas, including weapons storage areas and underground structures, were present at the site.

The Israel-Hamas conflict has continued to trigger widespread international concern, with humanitarian groups repeatedly calling for the protection of civilians and essential infrastructure during military operations. The latest development comes amid ongoing tensions in Gaza, where both sides continue to exchange accusations over the use of civilian areas during the conflict. Israel says targeting such locations is necessary to prevent further attacks, while Palestinian authorities and Hamas have rejected claims that civilian sites are being used for military purposes.

The strike has once again highlighted the complex challenges of urban warfare, where military operations often take place in densely populated areas and raise questions about civilian safety, international law and the protection of religious sites.

The Israeli military has previously accused Hamas of using civilian infrastructure, including religious buildings, for military purposes. Israel says such locations become legitimate military targets if they are used for storing weapons or carrying out attacks.



Sexual Torture Allegations Emerge as War Weapon in Ukraine

The Russia-Ukraine war has brought renewed attention to allegations of sexual violence being used as a tool of warfare, with survivors and investigators describing cases of torture, abuse and humiliation allegedly carried out during the conflict.

Reports based on survivor testimonies and investigations have documented allegations of sexual violence against Ukrainian civilians and prisoners of war. The reported abuses include rape, forced nudity, genital mutilation, electric shocks and other forms of physical and psychological torture.

Human rights experts say sexual violence in conflicts is often used not only as an act of physical abuse but also as a method to intimidate, punish and break the psychological strength of victims. In Ukraine, several former detainees have described experiences of severe mistreatment while being held in captivity.

According to international investigators, hundreds of cases of conflict-related sexual violence have been documented in Ukraine since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion. However, experts warn that the actual number of victims could be higher because many survivors hesitate to report such crimes due to fear, stigma and trauma.

eBay Pays \$55 Million Over Harassment Lawsuit

Online marketplace giant eBay and several former executives have agreed to pay around \$55.7 million to settle a lawsuit filed by a Massachusetts couple who accused the company of orchestrating a harassment and cyberstalking campaign against them.



The case involved David and Ina Steiner, founders of EcommerceBytes, an online publication covering the e-commerce industry. The couple alleged that they were targeted after publishing critical reports about eBay, leading to a disturbing campaign of intimidation and threats.

According to court records, the harassment campaign in 2019 involved threatening online messages, surveillance attempts and the delivery of disturbing items to their home, including live insects, a funeral wreath and a bloody pig mask. The couple claimed the actions were intended to silence their reporting and create fear.

The settlement includes compensation for the Steiners along with contributions from former eBay executives. Former CEO Devin Wenig, former senior vice president Wendy Jones and former communications executive Steve Wymer are among those involved in the agreement.

The controversy previously led to criminal proceedings against several former eBay employees. Multiple individuals were charged for their roles in the harassment campaign, with some pleading guilty and receiving legal punishment.

eBay has acknowledged that the conduct involved in the case was unacceptable and said the company has taken steps to strengthen internal policies and prevent similar incidents in the future. The settlement brings an end to the civil lawsuit that had continued for several years.

The case has raised broader concerns about corporate accountability, freedom of the press and the potential misuse of power against critics. Legal experts say the settlement highlights the importance of protecting independent reporting and ensuring that companies are held responsible for misconduct by employees or executives.



US Launches Fresh Strikes on Iran After Jordan Attack

The United States has launched a fresh wave of airstrikes against Iran, escalating tensions in the Middle East after a deadly attack on a US military base in Jordan. The strikes came after Washington warned that it would respond strongly to attacks targeting its forces in the region.

US officials said the latest military action was aimed at weakening Iran's military capabilities and targeting facilities linked to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. The operation followed an Iranian missile attack on a US base in Jordan that killed American service members and intensified the ongoing conflict between Washington and Tehran.

Former US President Donald Trump had earlier warned that Iran would face a severe response if American forces were attacked. Following the Jordan incident, the US military carried out retaliatory strikes, signalling a tougher approach against Tehran.

The latest escalation has raised fears of a wider regional conflict. The exchange of strikes between the two countries has already affected several parts of the Middle East, with concerns growing over the security of key energy routes and the possibility of further military involvement by regional powers.

Iran has vowed to respond to US actions, warning that continued attacks could lead to further retaliation. The situation remains highly volatile as both sides continue military operations while diplomatic efforts to prevent a broader war face major challenges.

The conflict has drawn global attention due to its potential impact on international security, oil markets and regional stability. Countries across the world are closely monitoring developments as fears of a prolonged confrontation between the US and Iran continue to rise.



Curfew Imposed in Nepal District After Communal Violence

Authorities in Nepal have imposed a curfew in a district near the India border after communal violence left one person dead and several others injured. The situation turned tense following clashes between groups, prompting security forces to step in and restore order.

The violence reportedly broke out after tensions escalated between communities, leading to clashes in parts of the district. Local administration imposed restrictions on public movement to prevent further unrest and maintain law and order.

Security personnel have been deployed in sensitive areas, with authorities monitoring the situation closely. Officials have appealed to residents to remain calm and avoid spreading rumours or provocative messages that could worsen tensions.

The district administration said the curfew would remain in place until the situation returns to normal. Police and security agencies are investigating the circumstances that led to the clashes and are taking steps to identify those responsible for the violence.

The incident has raised concerns in Nepal, particularly in border areas where communities from different backgrounds live together. Authorities are focusing on preventing further escalation and ensuring peace between different groups.

Political leaders and local representatives have urged people to maintain harmony and cooperate with law enforcement agencies. They stressed the importance of dialogue and peaceful resolution of disputes instead of resorting to violence.

Nepal has witnessed occasional tensions in some regions due to social, political and communal issues. The latest incident has once again highlighted the challenges faced by authorities in maintaining stability in sensitive areas.

Officials said additional security measures will continue until complete normalcy is restored. The government has assured that strict action will be taken against those found involved in provoking violence or disturbing public peace.



Vedanta Aluminium Profit Jumps 34% in Q1

Vedanta Aluminium Metal reported a strong financial performance in the first quarter of FY27, posting a 34% quarter-on-quarter rise in net profit to Rs 5,629 crore, driven by higher aluminium prices, improved operational efficiency and healthy demand.

The company's revenue from operations increased 12% sequentially to Rs 18,594 crore, reflecting strong sales volumes and favourable market conditions. Growth in aluminium prices, coupled with cost optimisation initiatives, helped the company deliver robust earnings during the quarter.

Operating performance also remained impressive, with EBITDA rising 17% quarter-on-quarter to Rs 7,171 crore. The EBITDA margin improved to 38.6%, highlighting the company's focus on operational excellence and disciplined cost management.

Vedanta Aluminium stated that strong demand across key sectors, including infrastructure, automotive, construction and electrical industries, supported higher sales during the quarter. The company also benefited from favourable global aluminium prices.

The results mark the company's first quarterly earnings

after its demerger and separate listing, making the performance particularly significant for investors. The strong numbers underline Vedanta Aluminium's position as one of India's leading aluminium producers.

Adding to the positive sentiment, the company's board approved an interim dividend of Rs 8 per equity share, rewarding shareholders following the strong quarterly performance. The dividend announcement further boosted investor confidence.

Management expressed optimism about future growth, citing continued investments in capacity expansion, operational efficiency and sustainable production practices. It also expects domestic demand for aluminium to remain strong, supported by increased infrastructure spending and manufacturing growth.

With solid earnings, improving margins and a shareholder-friendly dividend announcement, Vedanta Aluminium has started FY27 on a strong note. The company now aims to maintain this momentum by capitalising on favourable market conditions and strengthening its leadership in the aluminium sector.



New Closing Auction System to Transform Stock Trading

India's stock markets are set for a major operational change as exchanges introduce the Closing Auction Session (CAS) from Monday. The new mechanism will replace the existing Volume Weighted Average Price (VWAP) system for determining the closing price of Category I stocks, marking one of the biggest changes to the country's equity market structure.

Under the new framework, the closing price of eligible stocks will be determined through a dedicated auction session instead of calculating it based on the average price of trades during the last 30 minutes of the trading session.

The Closing Auction Session will run for 20 minutes, beginning immediately after the regular trading session. During this period, market participants can place buy and sell orders, allowing the exchange to discover a single equilibrium price based on actual demand and supply.

The new system is expected to improve price discovery, reduce the possibility of last-minute price manipulation and bring India's market practices in line with major global

exchanges. It is also expected to provide more accurate closing prices for benchmark indices, mutual funds and exchange-traded funds.

The transition is likely to have a significant impact on brokers, arbitrage funds and institutional investors, who will need to adjust their trading strategies and systems to accommodate the new closing process. Market participants are preparing for changes in execution patterns, particularly during the final minutes of the trading day.

While the Closing Auction Session will initially apply only to eligible Category I stocks, all other securities in the cash segment will continue to use the existing VWAP-based closing price mechanism until further phases of implementation.

Market experts believe the new framework will enhance transparency, improve liquidity during market close and create a more efficient price discovery process. Although traders may take some time to adapt to the revised mechanism, the long-term benefits are expected to outweigh the initial operational challenges.

Auto Stocks Drive Market Rally Amid Volatility

Indian equity markets ended Thursday's volatile trading session on a positive note, with benchmark indices posting moderate gains led by strong buying in automobile stocks. Despite mixed global cues and cautious investor sentiment, the markets managed to extend their recovery.

The BSE Sensex climbed 273 points to close at 77,928, while the NSE Nifty 50 advanced 67 points to settle above the 24,300 mark. The benchmark indices swung between gains and losses during the session before ending firmly in positive territory.

The automobile sector emerged as the biggest winner of the day after encouraging quarterly earnings from several companies boosted investor confidence. Stocks such as Mahindra & Mahindra and Balakrishna Industries recorded strong gains, helping the Nifty Auto index outperform other sectoral indices.

Banking and financial stocks also supported the market, while information technology shares traded with a positive bias. However, weakness in select mid-cap and small-cap stocks limited the broader market's upside, keeping overall gains in check.

Global factors continued to influence investor sentiment. The US Federal Reserve's decision to



keep interest rates unchanged, along with concerns over inflation and elevated crude oil prices, prompted traders to remain cautious. Rising geopolitical tensions also contributed to the volatile trading environment.

On the currency front, the Indian rupee ended 4 paise lower at 95.68 against the US dollar, snapping its three-session gaining streak. The decline reflected continued demand for the greenback amid global uncertainty.

Market experts believe investors are now closely tracking corporate earnings, global central bank decisions and crude oil movements for fresh direction. While the domestic market has shown resilience, analysts expect volatility to persist in the near term as global macroeconomic developments continue to influence trading sentiment.

IT Stocks Set for Best Monthly Rally in Six Years

India's information technology (IT) sector is staging a remarkable comeback, with IT stocks heading for their best monthly performance in six years after a strong five-day rally. The sharp rebound comes as investor sentiment improves following months of concerns over the impact of artificial intelligence on the software industry.

The Nifty IT index has witnessed strong buying interest throughout July, recovering from heavy losses suffered earlier this year. Investors are now reassessing fears that AI would severely disrupt traditional IT services, with many believing those concerns had been exaggerated.

Leading IT companies such as TCS, Infosys, HCLTech, Wipro and Tech Mahindra have attracted renewed investor interest after reporting resilient earnings and expressing confidence about long-term demand for digital transformation and AI-driven services.

Market experts believe the recent rally has been supported by improving global technology sentiment, attractive valuations and expectations that enterprise spending on



technology will remain healthy. Strong quarterly earnings from several global technology companies have also boosted confidence in the sector.

Another factor driving the recovery is the growing belief that AI will complement rather than replace the business models of major IT firms. Instead of reducing demand, companies are increasingly investing in AI solutions, creating fresh opportunities for software service providers.

Analysts say investors who had previously exited IT stocks due to AI-related fears are now returning to the sector, resulting in strong buying momentum. Short covering and renewed institutional inflows

Thangamayil Jewellery Shares Hit Lower Circuit Again



Shares of Thangamayil Jewellery remained under heavy selling pressure, hitting the 10% lower circuit for the second consecutive trading session after investors reacted negatively to the company's first-quarter earnings and cautious business outlook.

Although the jewellery retailer reported strong year-on-year growth in revenue and profit, the stock declined sharply as management issued a weak outlook for the current quarter, raising concerns over near-term demand.

For the June quarter, the company posted a net profit of Rs 85 crore, while revenue from operations rose to around Rs 2,666 crore. However, on a sequential basis, net profit declined by 41% and revenue fell 6%, reflecting weaker business momentum compared with the previous quarter.

The company attributed the slowdown to a sharp increase in gold import duty, depreciation of the Indian rupee and uncertainty in global markets. These factors prompted many customers to postpone jewellery purchases in anticipation of lower gold prices, resulting in softer demand.

Management also indicated that sales remained subdued during the early weeks of the second quarter, signalling that the demand environment has not improved significantly. This cautious guidance overshadowed the company's otherwise healthy financial performance and triggered heavy selling by investors.

Analysts believe the stock's decline reflects investor concerns about future growth rather than the quarterly earnings alone. The weak outlook for the ongoing quarter has raised questions about the pace of recovery in jewellery demand, especially amid rising costs and geopolitical uncertainties.

Despite the recent correction, Thangamayil Jewellery has delivered impressive returns over the long term and remains one of the prominent players in the organised jewellery retail sector. Investors are now closely watching demand trends during the upcoming festive and wedding seasons, which are expected to play a crucial role in determining the company's performance in the second half of the financial year.



SML Mahindra Shares Hit 20% Upper Circuit Again

Shares of SML Mahindra continued their dream run in the stock market, hitting the 20% upper circuit for the second consecutive trading session after the company announced a major restructuring deal with Mahindra & Mahindra.

The rally was triggered after Mahindra & Mahindra decided to transfer its Truck and Bus Division to SML Mahindra in a Rs 525 crore slump sale. The move is aimed at consolidating the Mahindra Group's commercial vehicle business under a single entity, creating a stronger and more focused company in the truck and bus segment.

Following the announcement, investor sentiment turned overwhelmingly positive, with heavy buying pushing the stock to its upper circuit limit for a second straight day. Market participants believe the acquisition will significantly strengthen SML Mahindra's product portfolio, operational scale and market presence.

The restructuring will also involve the transfer of assets, employees, licences and liabilities related to Mahindra's truck and bus business to SML Mahindra. The integration is expected to simplify the

group's commercial vehicle operations while improving efficiency and competitiveness.

Industry analysts believe the deal could help SML Mahindra expand its footprint in India's commercial vehicle market by combining Mahindra's existing strengths with SML Mahindra's established presence in the light and medium commercial vehicle segment.

The acquisition is also expected to provide long-term growth opportunities through a wider product range, improved distribution network and better economies of scale. Investors are optimistic that these synergies could boost the company's revenue and profitability in the coming years.

Although the transaction is subject to regulatory approvals and customary closing conditions, the market has welcomed the development as a strategically important move for the Mahindra Group.

The sharp rally in SML Mahindra shares reflects growing investor confidence that the merger of commercial vehicle operations will create a stronger player in the industry, positioning the company for sustained growth in the highly competitive truck and bus market.



Hyundai Motor India Q1 Profit Falls 35%

Hyundai Motor India reported a challenging start to FY27, with its consolidated net profit declining 35% year-on-year to Rs 889 crore in the first quarter. The automaker attributed the weaker performance to temporary production disruptions, higher operating costs and a sharp decline in export volumes.

The company's revenue from operations slipped marginally to around Rs 16,335 crore, reflecting pressure on overall sales despite steady domestic demand. While local vehicle sales showed resilience, exports witnessed a significant decline, weighing on the company's overall financial performance.

Hyundai said production at its Chennai facility was affected during the quarter due to a fire at one of its key supplier's plants. Although operations returned to normal by the end of June, the disruption impacted vehicle availability and overall production volumes during the quarter.

Higher raw material costs, particularly for steel and other commodities, also put pressure on margins. Despite imple-

menting selective price hikes, the company was unable to fully offset the increase in input costs, resulting in lower profitability. Rising logistics expenses and global uncertainties further added to the challenges.

Domestic demand remained relatively healthy, supported by continued interest in SUVs and premium models. However, weaker overseas demand and lower export shipments offset the gains from the Indian market, leading to a subdued overall performance.

Looking ahead, Hyundai Motor India expects production to stabilise following the resolution of supply-chain issues. The company is also banking on upcoming product launches, festive-season demand and continued focus on premium vehicles and electric mobility to drive growth in the coming quarters.

Despite the disappointing quarterly results, Hyundai remains optimistic about the long-term outlook of the Indian passenger vehicle market and plans to strengthen its portfolio through new models, technological innovation and enhanced customer offerings.

Ajinkya Rahane Retires from All Cricket

Veteran Indian batter Ajinkya Rahane has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, bringing the curtain down on an illustrious career that spanned more than a decade. The 38-year-old confirmed his decision through an emotional social media message, saying the time had come for him to move on. Rahane represented India in 85 Tests, 90 ODIs and 20 T20Is, scoring 8,414 international runs and 15 centuries across formats. Widely regarded as one of India's most dependable batters in overseas conditions, he earned immense respect for his calm temperament and ability to perform under pressure. One of the defining moments of

Rahane's career came during India's historic 2020-21 Test series in Australia. After Virat Kohli returned home following the first Test, Rahane took over the captaincy and led an injury-hit Indian side to a memorable 2-1 series victory, considered one of the greatest achievements in Indian cricket history. In Test cricket, Rahane scored 5,077 runs, including 12 centuries and 26 half-centuries. He also contributed 2,962 runs in ODIs with three centuries and represented India in 20 T20 Internationals. Beyond his batting, he was admired for his leadership, humility and team-first attitude. Rahane's retirement marks the

end of an era for Indian cricket. Throughout his career, he played several match-winning knocks in challenging overseas conditions, particularly in Australia, England, New Zealand and South Africa, earning a reputation as one of India's finest touring batters. Tributes have poured in from former teammates, cricketers and fans, all praising Rahane's contribution to Indian cricket and his exemplary sportsmanship. While he steps away from competitive cricket, his legacy as a dependable batter and inspirational leader will remain one of the highlights of Indian cricket's modern era.



Rahane's Unique Captaincy Record Stands Unmatched

Ajinkya Rahane signed off from international cricket with a remarkable captaincy record that even some of India's greatest leaders, including MS Dhoni, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, could not achieve. Rahane remains the only Indian captain to retire unbeaten in both Tests and One-Day Internationals. Whenever he led India in these two formats, the team never suffered a defeat, making his leadership record one of the rarest in Indian cricket. In Test cricket, Rahane captained India in six matches, registering four victories and two draws. His finest achievement came during the historic 2020-21 Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Australia. After India suffered a crushing defeat in the first Test and Virat Kohli returned home, Rahane took charge and inspired an injury-hit Indian side to a memorable 2-1 series victory, one of the greatest overseas triumphs in the country's cricket history. Rahane also led India in three One-Day Internationals, winning all three matches to maintain his flawless record as captain. While his opportuni-



ties to lead were limited, he made the most of every chance and never ended on the losing side in either format. Although legendary captains like MS Dhoni, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma have guided India to numerous memorable victories and major ICC titles, each of them experienced defeats during their captaincy tenures. Rahane's unbeaten record, therefore, remains a unique milestone in Indian cricket. Known for his calm temperament, tactical awareness and composed leadership, Rahane

earned widespread respect from teammates and fans alike. His ability to stay composed under pressure was evident during India's famous triumph in Australia, a series that cemented his place among the country's most respected leaders. As Rahane bids farewell to international cricket, this extraordinary unbeaten captaincy record stands as one of the defining achievements of his career and a milestone that may remain unmatched for years to come.

Pujara's Emotional Tribute to Ajinkya Rahane

Former India batter Cheteshwar Pujara penned an emotional tribute to his long-time teammate Ajinkya Rahane after the latter announced his retirement from international cricket. Taking to social media, Pujara reflected on their years together in the Indian dressing room, describing it as an honour to have shared countless memories with one of India's most dependable cricketers. He praised Rahane's dedication, humility and unwavering commitment to the team throughout his career. Pujara highlighted Rahane's calm personality and selfless attitude, saying he always put the team's interests ahead of personal milestones. He also



recalled the many memorable partnerships they built together in Test cricket, especially during challenging overseas tours. The veteran batter paid spe-

cial tribute to Rahane's leadership during India's historic 2020-21 Border-Gavaskar Trophy triumph in Australia. According to Pujara, Rahane's composed captaincy and in-

spiring performances played a crucial role in one of the greatest victories in Indian cricket history. Pujara concluded his message by wishing Rahane success in the next phase of his life and thanked him for being a wonderful teammate, friend and leader. His heartfelt words resonated with cricket fans, many of whom remembered the duo's invaluable contributions to India's Test success over the past decade. Rahane's retirement has sparked an outpouring of tributes from former teammates, fans and cricket experts, with Pujara's emotional message standing out as one of the most touching farewells to the veteran batter.

Hockey India Defends Saffron Jersey Decision

Hockey India has clarified its decision to introduce saffron jerseys for the Indian men's and women's teams at the 2026 FIH Hockey World Cup after the move sparked widespread debate and criticism. The governing body said the decision was based primarily on technical considerations rather than any other factor. According to Hockey India, the traditional blue jersey blended with the blue synthetic hockey turf used in international competitions, affecting on-field visibility for players. The federation explained that the new jersey colour was finalised after detailed consultations with players, coaches and support staff. Improving visual clarity during high-speed matches was identified as a key reason for the change. Hockey India also highlighted the symbolic significance of saffron, describing it as a colour that represents courage, sacrifice and victory. The jersey design retains elements inspired by the Indian tricolour, including blue accents reflecting the Ashoka Chakra, along



with patterns celebrating India's cultural heritage. The announcement, however, triggered mixed reactions from fans and former players. Several critics questioned replacing India's iconic blue jersey, arguing that the colour has long been associated with the country's sporting identity. Former India captain Viren Rasquinha was among those who expressed disappointment, saying the blue jersey has been an integral part of Indian hockey's legacy. Despite the criticism, Hockey India maintained that the

decision was taken purely to enhance player performance and visibility during the World Cup, while also reflecting national pride through the new design. The Indian men's and women's teams are expected to wear the saffron jerseys during the FIH Hockey World Cup, scheduled to be held in Belgium and the Netherlands next month. Hockey India remains confident that the focus will soon shift from the jersey colour to the teams' performances on the world stage.

Stephen Fleming Named England Test Head Coach

England have appointed former New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming as the new head coach of their Test team, marking the beginning of a new chapter for English cricket. Fleming succeeds Brendon McCullum in the red-ball role and is expected to officially take charge after England's upcoming Test series against Pakistan. Until then, Marcus Trescothick will serve as the interim coach. One of the most respected coaches in world cricket, Fleming built an outstanding reputation during his long stint with Chennai Super Kings in the Indian Premier League. Under his guidance, CSK won multiple IPL titles and became one of the most successful franchises in T20 cricket. The England and Wales Cricket Board believes Fleming's vast coaching experience, tactical knowledge and calm leadership style make him the ideal candidate to revive England's Test fortunes after a difficult period. Fleming ex-

pressed his excitement about taking on the new challenge, saying he is looking forward to working with the England players and building on the foundations already laid in recent years. He also emphasized his ambition to help England become a consistent force in Test cricket. England are currently rebuilding following a disappointing run in the World Test Championship. The team hopes Fleming's appointment will bring greater stability, improved performances and renewed confidence ahead of future international assignments. With years of experience as both an international captain and a highly successful franchise coach, Fleming is expected to bring fresh ideas, strong tactical planning and a winning mindset to England's Test setup. Cricket fans will now be watching closely to see whether he can replicate the success he enjoyed with Chennai Super Kings on the international stage.



Sikandar Raza Joins Dambulla Sixers for LPL

Zimbabwe captain and star all-rounder Sikandar Raza has joined the Dambulla Sixers as a replacement player for the remainder of the Lanka Premier League (LPL) 2026, giving the franchise a major boost ahead of the business end of the tournament. Raza replaces South African batter Marques Ackerman, who has been ruled out due to injury. One of the most experienced T20 all-rounders in world cricket, Raza arrives with an outstanding record of more than 7,500 runs and over 250 wickets across hundreds of T20 matches, making him a valuable addition to the Dambulla squad. The Dambulla Sixers are currently fighting for a place in the knockout stage, and the management hopes Raza's vast experience in franchise cricket around the world will strengthen both their batting and bowling departments. Tournament officials said player replacements are a nor-

mal part of a competition featuring international stars, adding that the quality of the replacement pool ensures the standard of the league remains high throughout the season. The LPL also announced several other squad changes. Colombo KAPS brought in Ashen Bandara as a replacement for the injured Kusal Mendis, while Bangladesh pacer Hasan Mahmud returned home for national duty and was replaced by fellow Bangladeshi Ripon Mondol. Meanwhile, Kandy Royals signed Kavija Gamage to replace the injured Vishen Halambage, while Afghanistan pacer Fazalhaq Farooqi will leave Dambulla after the team's next match to join his national side. With experienced international players continuing to join the tournament, the Lanka Premier League is expected to witness an exciting finish as franchises battle for a place in the playoffs.

Sports Fraternity Pays Tribute to Ajinkya Rahane

Ajinkya Rahane's retirement from international cricket has triggered an emotional wave of tributes from across the sporting world, with several celebrated athletes and former cricketers saluting his remarkable career and contribution to Indian cricket. Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu praised Rahane for his calmness, resilience and ability to deliver under pressure. She described his career as an inspiring journey built on courage and determination, recalling his memorable

performances in difficult overseas conditions. She also hailed his century at Lord's in 2014 as one of the defining moments of his career. Former India opener Viren Sehwag lauded Rahane's immense contribution to Indian cricket, especially in Test matches. He appreciated Rahane's quiet leadership, consistency and match-winning performances, wishing him success in the next phase of his life. Former opener Shikhar Dhawan also shared a heart-

felt message, thanking Rahane for the unforgettable memories they created together while representing India. Dhawan praised his humility, professionalism and unwavering commitment to the team, saying he would always be remembered as one of India's finest ambassadors of the game. Messages also poured in from several current and former cricketers, teammates and fans, many highlighting Rahane's composed nature, selfless attitude and ability to rise

to the occasion in challenging situations. His leadership during India's historic 2020-21 Test series victory in Australia was repeatedly remembered as one of the greatest achievements in Indian cricket. Rahane's retirement marks the end of a memorable international career spanning more than a decade. Known for his elegant batting, dependable performances overseas and calm leadership, he leaves behind a legacy that has earned admiration across the cricketing world and beyond.

Amit Shah Hails India's Historic CWG 2026 Success

Union Home Minister Amit Shah congratulated Indian athletes Dilip Mahadu Gavit, Mohammed Basil Morssingnakathi and Murali Sreesankar for their outstanding performances at the Commonwealth Games 2026. Shah praised para-athletes Dilip Gavit and Mohammed Basil for creating history by securing a memorable gold and silver medal finish in the men's T47 100m event. Gavit clinched the gold medal with a Commonwealth Games re-

cord timing of 10.71 seconds, while Basil claimed silver after clocking 10.83 seconds, helping India achieve a historic one-two finish. The Home Minister described their achievement as a proud moment for the nation and appreciated their speed, determination and sporting spirit. He said their success had inspired millions of Indians and showcased the growing strength of India's para-athletics movement. Shah also congratulated long jumper Murali Sree-

shankar for winning the silver medal in the men's long jump event. Sreesankar recorded a best effort of 8.09 metres to secure his second consecutive Commonwealth Games silver medal, adding another major milestone to his career. Sreesankar's achievement is considered special as he became the first Indian men's long jumper to win two Commonwealth Games medals. His consistent performances have strengthened India's presence in global athletics.



Mahesh, Priyanka, Nick Enjoy Special Movie Night

Superstar Mahesh Babu, global star Priyanka Chopra, and international singer Nick Jonas were recently spotted together during a special movie outing at AMB Cinemas in Hyderabad. The trio's appearance quickly became the talk of social media, with fans delighted to see the stars enjoying a relaxed evening away from their busy schedules.

A photo shared by AMB Cinemas captured Mahesh Babu, Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas smiling together, instantly going viral online. Fans flooded social media with comments, praising the rare get-together and expressing curiosity about which film the celebrities had watched during their visit.

The outing comes at a time when Mahesh Babu and Priyanka Chopra are actively shooting for SS Rajamouli's ambitious action-adventure film Varanasi. The much-awaited project also stars Prithviraj Sukumaran in a pivotal role and is one of the biggest Indian films currently un-

der production.

Priyanka Chopra is currently in Hyderabad for the latest shooting schedule of the film and is accompanied by her husband Nick Jonas and their daughter, Malti Marie. Despite her packed work commitments, the actress has been spending quality time with her family, making the movie night a perfect break from filming.

Mahesh Babu, who owns AMB Cinemas, appeared relaxed as he welcomed his co-star and her husband for the evening. The outing reflected the strong camaraderie among the team members and added to the excitement surrounding their upcoming collaboration.

The pictures have generated tremendous buzz among fans, with many calling it one of the most memorable celebrity moments of the week. The sight of a Telugu superstar, a global Bollywood icon and an international music sensation enjoying a casual evening together has only increased anticipation for SS Rajamouli's highly awaited film.

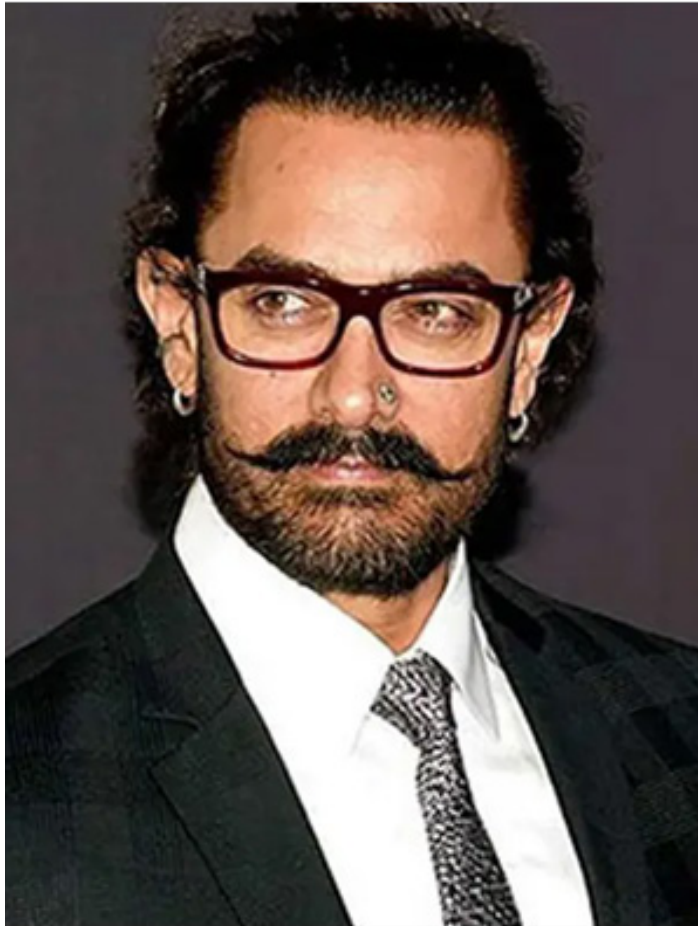
Aamir Khan's Absence Fuels Batwara 1947 Buzz

The trailer launch of Batwara 1947 created a huge buzz, but it wasn't just the film that grabbed attention. Producer Aamir Khan's absence from the high-profile event became a major talking point, sparking widespread speculation among fans and the media.

Batwara 1947, directed by Rajkumar Santoshi, stars Sunny Deol, Preity Zinta and Shabana Azmi in pivotal roles. As the film is backed by Aamir Khan Productions, many expected the Bollywood superstar to attend the trailer launch alongside the cast. However, Aamir's absence surprised everyone. While the makers have not issued any official statement explaining why he skipped the event, social media has been flooded with theories and speculation. Some reports suggest that Aamir may have chosen to stay away to avoid questions related to ongoing student pro-

tests and activist Sonam Wangchuk. Others believe he could have missed the event due to prior professional commitments. So far, none of these claims have been officially confirmed.

Despite Aamir's absence, the trailer launch received an overwhelming response. The film's grand visuals, emotional storytelling and powerful performances by Sunny Deol, Preity Zinta and Shabana Azmi have generated strong anticipation ahead of its theatrical release. With Batwara 1947 set against the backdrop of India's Partition, the film is one of the most awaited releases of the year. While the trailer has impressed audiences, Aamir Khan's unexpected absence has added another layer of curiosity, leaving fans waiting to see if the actor or the production team will address the speculation.



Kriti Sanon Wants to Romance Jr NTR

Bollywood actress Kriti Sanon has once again expressed her admiration for Telugu cinema, revealing that she would love to share screen space with Jr NTR in the future. Her statement has delighted fans, especially as the actress began her career in Tollywood before becoming one of Bollywood's biggest stars.

During a recent media interaction while promoting her latest project, Kriti was asked which Telugu actor she would like to work with. Without hesitation, she named Jr NTR, saying she has always admired his screen presence, acting talent and electrifying performances.

Kriti made her acting debut opposite Mahesh Babu in 1: Nenokkadine in 2014 before shifting her focus to Hindi cinema. Over the years, she has delivered several successful films and even won the National Film Award for her performance in Mimi. Despite her Bollywood success, she has often spoken fondly about returning to Telugu cinema if the right opportunity comes along.

Her latest comments have sparked excitement among fans, many of whom believe Kriti and Jr NTR would make a fresh and exciting on-screen pair. Social media was flooded with posts supporting the idea, with several users urging filmmakers to bring the duo together in a big-budget pan-Indian project.



Jr NTR, meanwhile, is currently occupied with multiple high-profile films and remains one of the most sought-after stars in Indian cinema. His growing popularity across the country has made him a favourite choice for filmmakers looking to mount large-scale projects.

Although no collaboration between Kriti Sanon and Jr NTR has been officially announced, the actress's candid wish has already generated considerable buzz in film circles. Fans are now hoping that directors and producers will take note and turn the dream pairing into reality.

Naga Vamsi's Big Project with Rishab Shetty Put on Hold

Producer Naga Vamsi's much-anticipated collaboration with Kannada star Rishab Shetty is reportedly not moving forward as initially planned. The project, which had generated considerable buzz among movie lovers, has now been delayed due to scheduling issues.

Rishab Shetty is currently occupied with the shooting of Jai Hanuman, directed by Prasanth Varma. The ambitious mythological film is taking longer than expected to complete. Once that project wraps up, Rishab is expected to begin work on The Pride of Bharat: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, leaving little room in his schedule for any new commitments. Because of these prior commitments, the proposed film with Naga Vamsi is unlikely to begin production anytime soon. Industry insiders believe the project has ef-



fectively been put on hold, although neither the producer nor the actor has made an official announcement regarding its cancellation. The news has disappointed fans who were eager to see Rishab Shetty collaborate with one of Telugu cinema's leading production houses. Given the success of Rishab's recent films and Naga Vamsi's track record of back-

ing high-profile projects, expectations surrounding the combination were quite high. For now, both Rishab Shetty and Naga Vamsi remain focused on their respective commitments. While the collaboration may not happen in the immediate future, fans continue to hope that the project will eventually materialise once both sides find suitable dates.

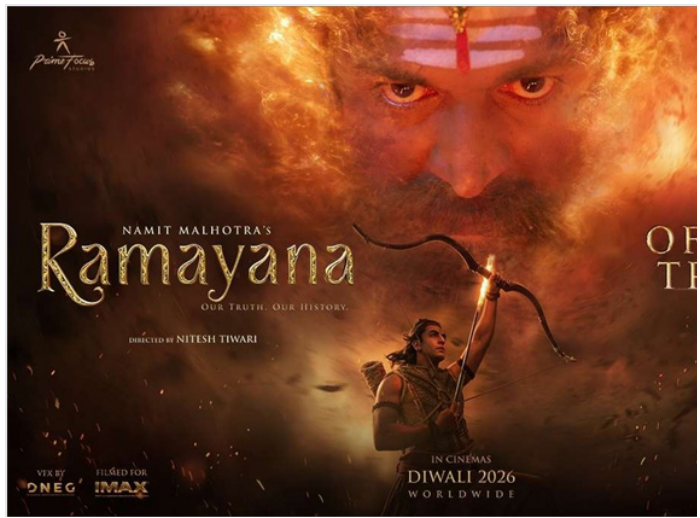
Ramayana Trailer Wows with Grand Visual Spectacle

The much-awaited trailer of Ramayana has finally been unveiled, and it has lived up to the massive expectations surrounding the film. Mounted on an extraordinary scale, the trailer offers a breathtaking cinematic experience filled with stunning visuals, emotional depth and spectacular action sequences.

Ranbir Kapoor impresses as Lord Rama with a calm, composed and powerful screen presence. Sai Pallavi brings grace and dignity to the role of Sita, while Yash steals the spotlight with his fierce and commanding portrayal of Ravana. His intense appearance and powerful aura have already become one of the biggest talking points among fans.

The trailer showcases world-class visual effects, massive battle sequences and grand production design that rival international fantasy films. Every frame reflects the enormous effort and budget invested in bringing the epic to life, making it one of the most visually ambitious Indian films ever made.

The background score by A.R. Rahman and Hans Zimmer adds tremendous emotional weight and grandeur to the



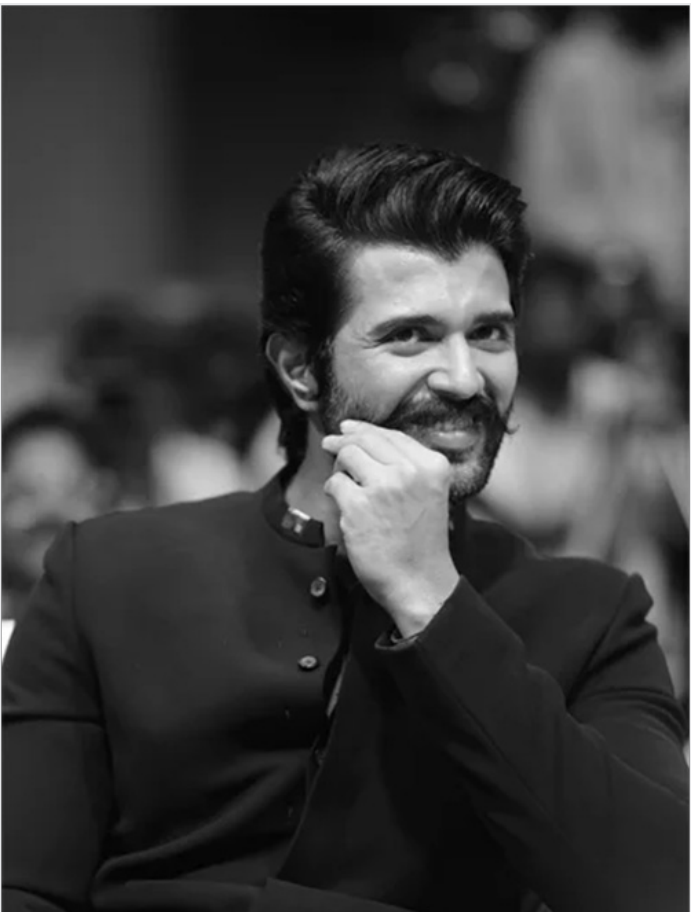
visuals. The music perfectly complements the mythological setting, elevating the trailer's impact and making several moments truly goosebump-inducing.

Director Nitesh Tiwari appears to have focused on presenting the timeless epic with authenticity while maintaining a modern cinematic appeal. The trailer successfully balances emotion, action and spirituality without overwhelming the audience.

The chemistry between the lead characters, the majestic presentation of Ayodhya and

Lanka, and the carefully designed action sequences have further increased anticipation for the film. The makers have also paid close attention to the visual detailing of costumes, sets and character designs.

Overall, the trailer promises a visually magnificent retelling of the Ramayana that blends cutting-edge technology with one of India's greatest epics. If the film delivers on the promise shown in the trailer, it has every chance of becoming a landmark achievement in Indian cinema and a major box-office phenomenon.



Vijay Deverakonda Completes 10 Years as Lead Hero

Tollywood star Vijay Deverakonda has completed a remarkable decade as a lead actor, marking a major milestone in his cinematic journey. It was on this day in 2016 that Pelli Choopulu released, introducing Vijay as a solo lead and paving the way for one of the most inspiring success stories in Telugu cinema.

Although Vijay had already earned recognition with Yevade Subramanyam, it was Pelli Choopulu that transformed him into a household name. The romantic entertainer became a blockbuster, winning both critical acclaim and audience appreciation, giving a strong launch to his career as a leading man.

Over the past ten years, Vijay has delivered several memorable films, including Arjun Reddy, Geetha Govindam, Taxiwaala, Kushi and Kingdom. His bold choice of scripts and natural acting style have helped him carve out a unique identity in the industry. He also made a special appearance as Arjuna in Kalki 2898 AD, further expanding his reach among audiences.

What makes Vijay's journey even more inspiring is that he entered the film industry without any film background. Through determination, hard work and perseverance, he rose from a struggling actor to

become one of Telugu cinema's biggest stars. His career has witnessed blockbuster successes, setbacks, criticism and immense fan support, making his journey one of resilience and growth.

Beyond acting, Vijay has also established himself as an entrepreneur with his clothing brand, Rowdy Wear. Through The Deverakonda Foundation, he has been actively supporting underprivileged families and promoting educational initiatives. Recently, the foundation awarded scholarships to 180 deserving students from economically weaker sections in Mahabubnagar district, reflecting his commitment to social causes.

Vijay's upcoming lineup is equally promising. He is currently working on Rowdy Janardhana, directed by Ravi Kiran Kola and produced by Dil Raju and Shirish. He is also part of Ranabaali, directed by Rahul Sankrityan, besides another prestigious project with Hi Nanna director Shouryuv.

As Vijay Deverakonda celebrates ten successful years as a lead actor, fans are looking forward to seeing him scale even greater heights in Indian cinema. His journey continues to inspire aspiring actors who dream of making it big through talent, dedication and perseverance.



Suriya Eyes Third Release of 2026

Tamil star Suriya could become one of the busiest actors of 2026, with reports suggesting that he may have a third theatrical release before the end of the year.

According to the latest buzz from Kollywood, Suriya's upcoming film directed by Jithu Madhavan of Aavesham fame has already completed shooting. The makers are reportedly planning to release the film during the Diwali 2026 festive season, although an official announcement is still awaited.

If the plan goes ahead, the Jithu Madhavan project will mark Suriya's third release of the year. The actor has already lined up Karuppu, directed by RJ Balaji, while another much-awaited project is also expected to arrive before the end of

2026.

The collaboration with Jithu Madhavan has generated significant excitement among fans, as the filmmaker earned widespread acclaim for his unique storytelling and blockbuster success with Aavesham. Movie lovers are eager to see what the director has planned for Suriya in this fresh collaboration.

Suriya is aiming for a strong comeback after a series of mixed box-office performances. With multiple films in different genres lined up, 2026 could prove to be one of the biggest years of his career. If all the scheduled releases hit theatres as planned, fans will get to see the versatile actor on the big screen three times in a single year.

