



BUZZ POINTS

CM Reviews Temple Development Plans



PAGE 02

Targets Global Aerospace Hub Status



PAGE 02

Ponnam Challenges BJP Over Development Claims



PAGE 03

Mittal Discusses Investments and Education Reforms with CM

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Enterprises Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal on Monday met Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at the MCRHRD Bodhi Pavilion as part of a courtesy call and discussed investment opportunities, digital infrastructure, and education sector reforms in the state. Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao also participated in the meeting, during which the Chief Minister briefed Mittal on the initiatives being undertaken by the Telangana government to strengthen public education and skill development. Revanth Reddy explained that a comprehensive trans-

formation of government schools is underway with the aim of improving quality education and providing better opportunities for students. He highlighted the government's plans to establish a Skill University to enhance employment-oriented skills among unemployed youth. The Chief Minister also informed Mittal about the initiative to transform Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) into Advanced Technology Centres (ATCs) and strengthen polytechnic colleges to meet the changing requirements of industries. During the discussions, Revanth Reddy urged the Bharti Group to expedite the launch of the Chandanvelli

Data Center project. He suggested exploring the possibility of developing a larger integrated data centre and artificial intelligence infrastructure campus in Telangana to support future digital growth. The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of expanding Airtel's digital, cloud, cybersecurity, and AI-related operations in Hyderabad. He also suggested appointing a senior executive from the company to coordinate regularly with the Telangana government to address issues and explore new investment opportunities. Sunil Bharti Mittal expressed positive views on Telangana's growth potential and announced that the



Bharti Foundation would provide scholarships to students studying in govern-

ment schools and Advanced Technology Centres. He said the company considers

Hyderabad as a second headquarters for Airtel and expressed confidence in expanding operations in the city. Mittal assured that the company would take steps to further increase data centre capacity in the state. He also showed interest in expanding fiber connectivity across Telangana, highlighting the importance of stronger digital networks for economic development. The meeting focused on strengthening collaboration between the Telangana government and the Bharti Group in areas including technology, education, digital infrastructure, and investment, with both sides expressing interest in future cooperation.

sites, high-risk areas, temporary settlements, and labour colonies in urban regions where children may be missed during regular immunization activities. According to the Health

P3

PM Reviews Reforms, Governance Roadmap

New Delhi, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting with secretaries from all central ministries, focusing on policy reforms, administrative efficiency, and the government's long-term vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. The meeting discussed key areas including deregulation, ease of doing business, ease of living, and promotion of Aatmanirbharta. The interaction with top bureaucrats was aimed at reviewing the progress of major governance initiatives and improving the implementation of government programmes during the second half of the financial year. Officials discussed measures to strengthen public service delivery, simplify regulations, and improve the overall governance system.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Modi emphasized the need for a whole-of-government approach and urged departments to move beyond isolated functioning. He stressed the importance of coordination between ministries and reducing unnecessary delays in decision-making processes. According to sources, the Prime Minister directed officials to accelerate file movement, remove administrative bottlenecks, and introduce structural reforms to make governance more efficient. He highlighted that the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 is a long-term mission and requires consistent efforts from all government departments. Modi also encouraged greater use of the PM GatiShakti platform for integrated planning and better coordination among min-



istries. He asked officials to focus on the real impact of government schemes on citizens and ensure that policy decisions translate into visible improvements in people's

lives. Secretaries from various ministries presented updates on ongoing initiatives, reform measures, implementation challenges, and future strategies. They explained steps being taken to align their departments with the government's objectives of improving efficiency and achieving development targets. The meeting also focused on increasing productivity, reducing bureaucratic hurdles, simplifying compliance procedures, and strengthening India's economic competitiveness. Officials reviewed sector-wise performance and discussed ways to improve outcomes through faster execution and better coordination. The meeting marked Prime Minister Modi's second major interaction with senior bureaucrats in less than

two months. It followed a similar review exercise held on May 21, when the Prime Minister met the Union Council of Ministers and central secretaries to prepare policy roadmaps aligned with the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. The earlier meeting had focused on assessing the performance of ministries and improving areas requiring attention. Ministers were also advised to maintain stronger public engagement and communicate the impact of government initiatives. Tuesday's meeting was attended by Cabinet Secretary T.V. Somanathan, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister P.K. Mishra, Principal Secretary Shaktikanta Das, Secretary of the Department of Military Affairs, and other senior officials from key ministries and departments.

Revanth Reddy Highlights Farmer Welfare Initiatives



Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday said the Congress government's primary objective is to transform agriculture into a celebration and ensure farmers live with dignity. Addressing the 'Rythu Bharosa' funds release programme, he greeted farmers across Telangana and said his government has been working continuously for their welfare since assuming office on December 7, 2023. The Chief Minister alleged that Telangana was left with a heavy debt burden by the previous BRS government. He said the state's debt stood at ₹69,000 crore at the time of Telangana's formation in 2014, but increased to ₹8.11 lakh crore by the time his government took charge. Revanth Reddy criticized the previous administration, alleging that pending bills, employee salaries, and welfare payments created financial difficulties for the state. He said his government ensured that employees receive salaries on the first of every month despite financial challenges. Highlighting his government's achievements, the Chief Minister said farm loans worth ₹20,000 crore were waived for 25.35 lakh farmers. He said ₹7,000 crore was released under Rythu Bharosa immediately after coming to power and that the government has so far deposited ₹27,000 crore into farmers' accounts under the scheme. Including the latest release, the total disbursement under Rythu Bharosa has reached ₹36,000 crore, he added. Revanth Reddy said the Congress government has spent around ₹1.75 lakh crore for farmers over 30 months, including ₹30,000 crore towards free electricity, ₹4,000 crore as a bonus for fine-quality paddy, and ₹3,500 crore

under Rythu Bima. He challenged the opposition to hold a special Assembly session to debate farmer-related issues and compare the achievements of the previous ten-year rule with the Congress government's performance in two and a half years. The Chief Minister also criticized the Kaleshwaram irrigation project, alleging that despite huge expenditure, it failed to provide expected benefits. He said Telangana farmers produced significant quantities of grain even without water from the project in recent years. Revanth Reddy targeted both BRS and BJP, questioning their election promises and claims. He alleged that the previous government failed to fulfill commitments related to farmer loans, Dalit welfare, and irrigation. Speaking about welfare initiatives, he highlighted free RTC bus travel for women, saying the government has supported RTC with ₹11,000 crore. He said women's self-help groups were being encouraged to operate buses, establish solar power projects, and run petrol outlets. The Chief Minister said the government provided 70,000 jobs in 30 months and is working to fill vacancies across departments. He also defended projects including the Musi development programme, Metro expansion, and Regional Ring Road. Urging farmers to adapt to changing climate conditions, Revanth Reddy advised cultivation based on rainfall patterns and encouraged farmers to grow fine-quality paddy varieties. He said the government would release ₹9,000 crore under Rythu Bharosa within nine days. He concluded by saying the government belongs to farmers, women, and the unemployed, and appealed to farmers to support and safeguard the administration.

CM Launches HDFC-Funded Development Works



Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday inaugurated various development works taken up with the support of HDFC Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds at the MCRHRD Bodhi Pavilion. The programme was attended by newly appointed Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, Rajya Sabha member Vem Narendar Reddy, Bhupalpally MLA Gandra Satyanarayana Rao, CMO OSD Vemula Srinivasulu, Telangana State Trade Promotion Corporation (TSTPC) Chairman Aita Prakash Reddy, and senior officials from HDFC Bank. As part of the initiatives, the Chief Minister flagged off two ambulances aimed at improving healthcare accessibility. He also virtually inaugurated an MRI machine at the Government General Hospital in Bhupalpally, strengthening diagnostic facilities for patients in the district. Addressing the gathering, Revanth Reddy emphasized the importance of providing greater financial support to women's self-help groups (SHGs). He urged banks to sanction loans more liberally to encourage women-led enterprises and economic empowerment.

The Chief Minister said the state government is working with women's self-help groups to establish logistics parks, godowns, and rice mills. He stated that these projects require substantial financial assistance and called for adequate loan support from banking institutions. Highlighting the credibility of women's groups, Revanth Reddy said SHGs have maintained an excellent record in repaying loans and have demonstrated financial discipline. He noted that supporting such groups would help create more livelihood opportunities and strengthen rural economic development. The Chief Minister said the government is focusing on creating infrastructure and employment opportunities through collaborative efforts involving financial institutions, self-help groups, and various departments. The development works supported through HDFC Bank's CSR funds are expected to contribute to improvements in healthcare and public infrastructure. The state government emphasized that partnerships with organizations would continue to play an important role in accelerating welfare and development initiatives across Telangana.

Rythu Bharosa Aims at Farmer Welfare: Bhatti

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Monday said farmer welfare remains the top priority of the Congress government and urged farmers to reject what he described as false propaganda being spread by BRS leaders K.T. Rama Rao and Harish Rao. Addressing farmers at the 'Rythu Bharosa' funds release programme held at Shilpakala Vedika in Hyderabad, Bhatti Vikramarka said the government was committed to strengthening agriculture and fulfilling promises made to the farming community. The Deputy Chief Minister alleged that the previous BRS government, despite ruling the state for ten years, failed to provide adequate support to farmers and left Telangana with a heavy debt burden. He said former ministers Harish Rao and KTR were misleading people through baseless allegations against the Congress government. Presenting details of farmer-related expenditure, Bhatti Vikramarka said the BRS government spent ₹2,88,670 crore on farmers during its ten-year tenure, averaging around ₹2,532 crore per month. In comparison, he claimed that the Congress government spent ₹1,56,496 crore on farmer welfare within two and a half years, amounting to nearly ₹5,217 crore per month. He said the current govern-



ment's spending on farmers was almost double compared to the previous administration and reflected its commitment towards agricultural development. Bhatti Vikramarka said the Congress government inherited a debt burden of around ₹8 lakh crore from the previous rulers. He stated that in the last two and a half years, ₹2,08,557 crore had been spent towards interest payments and repayment obligations to banks. Despite these financial challenges, the Deputy Chief Minister said the government had continued implementing welfare programmes for farmers without compromising on its commitments. He highlighted ini-

tiatives including the Rythu Bharosa scheme, farm loan waiver, and bonus payments for fine-quality paddy. He assured farmers that the Rythu Bharosa scheme would continue uninterrupted as long as the Congress government remains in power. He said the government would honour its promises and work towards improving the lives of farmers. Bhatti Vikramarka appealed to the farming community to stay cautious against what he called misleading campaigns and focus on agricultural progress. He said the government's objective was to make farming a source of pride and prosperity for farmers across Telangana.

Women Empowerment, Voter Awareness Drive Highlighted

Gangipalli, June 30 | TPN Bureau

State Minister for Labour and Mines Vivek Venkataswamy stated that the Congress government is taking steps to support women's economic empowerment and improve livelihood opportunities across the state. He said initiatives under the 'Mahila Shakti' scheme are aimed at strengthening women financially and encouraging their participation in economic activities. The Minister made the remarks while inaugurating

a Village Organization building and an 'Indiramma' house at Gangipalli village on Tuesday along with District Collector Kumar Deepak. He said the Village Organization building was constructed with ₹15 lakh allocated from the 2022-23 District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) funds. Vivek Venkataswamy highlighted that women members of self-help groups are being supported through bank-linked, interest-free loans to help them establish and expand income-generating activities. He said the govern-

ment is committed to creating opportunities for women to become financially independent. Collector Kumar Deepak stated that officials are working in coordination to ensure that government welfare schemes reach eligible beneficiaries without delays. He emphasized the importance of effective implementation at the grassroots level. During the programme, school bags were distributed to students of government schools under the initiative of the Visakha Charitable Trust. Several officials and

public representatives, including Tahsildar Vanaja Reddy, MPDO Satyanarayana, and Mandal Party President Vishwambhar Reddy, attended the event. Later, Minister Vivek Venkataswamy urged citizens to actively participate in the voter registration process and protect their right to vote. Addressing Booth Level Agents (BLA-2s) at a meeting held at a private function hall in the mandal headquarters, he said every eligible citizen should be ensured an opportunity to get registered in the electoral rolls.

The Minister said the government is working continuously to strengthen the democratic process by ensuring that eligible voters are included in the voter list. He called upon party representatives and officials to spread awareness among people and assist them in completing the registration process. District President Raghunadh Reddy, Mandal President Vishwambhar Reddy, Vice-President Srinivas Reddy, Satyanarayana Reddy, Sarpanch Fayaz, and others participated in the programme.

Rythu Bharosa Funds Released for Farmers, Says Minister

Husnabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnab Prabhakar on Monday announced that the state government has started releasing the 'Rythu Bharosa' financial assistance into farmers' bank accounts as part of its commitment to supporting the agricultural community. Addressing a media conference in Husnabad, the minister said the Congress-led 'Praja Palana' government has ensured faster and transparent disbursement of farmer support funds compared to the previous administration. He stated that while the earlier 'Rythu Bandhu' scheme involved long delays in releasing payments, the present government has streamlined the process. Prabhakar said that during the 2018-19 Kharif season, ₹4,000 was provided under 'Rythu Bandhu' for the first time, but subsequent disbursements witnessed

delays. He claimed that in several seasons, the process took months to complete, citing official records of previous years. According to the minister, ₹73,000 crore was distributed to farmers over a decade under the earlier scheme, while the present government has provided ₹27,000 crore in support to the farming community within 30 months. He added that in 2025, the government completed fund disbursement within nine days and would follow the same timeline this year. The minister said the latest support covers farmers cultivating up to two acres and assured that the government would continue strengthening agricultural welfare measures. He highlighted initiatives such as bonuses for fine-quality paddy, distribution of farming equipment, uninterrupted power supply, availability of seeds, and smooth grain procurement. On fertilizer availability,



Prabhakar said the state government has adequate stocks in Husnabad and that fertilizers have been supplied to outlets from 6 AM. He urged Agricultural Extension Officers to create awareness among farmers about urea usage through Rythu

Vedikas. The minister also criticized the Centre over fertilizer supply issues and asked BJP MPs from Telangana to raise farmers' concerns with the Union government. Speaking about voter list revision, Prabhakar said the

Congress party would ensure that no eligible voter is excluded. He alleged that opposition votes were removed in some states earlier and appealed to Booth Level Agents to remain alert during the revision process.

Targets Global Aerospace Hub Status

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies Capt. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday invited global aerospace companies to establish manufacturing facilities in Hyderabad, highlighting the state's growing potential as a major aerospace and defence hub. He announced that the government would develop three new aviation facilities at Warangal, Adilabad, and Kothagudem to support industrial growth. Addressing the inaugural session of Aeromart Hyderabad 2026, Uttam Kumar Reddy said Telangana has emerged as one of the world's promising aerospace manufacturing destinations due to strong policy support, advanced infrastructure, skilled manpower, and an investor-friendly environment. The event witnessed participation from aerospace leaders, international delegates, Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), defence companies, procurement heads, MSMEs, and representatives from over 25 countries. The minister said Telangana is becoming a centre for global aerospace collaboration. Sharing his experience as a



former Indian Air Force fighter pilot, Uttam Kumar Reddy said aerospace manufacturing demands the highest levels of precision and quality. He said his experience flying aircraft such as MiG-21, MiG-23, and Mirage-2000 helped him understand the importance of engineering excellence in the sector. The minister said Telangana has attracted investments from aerospace companies from countries including the US, UK, France, Spain, Italy,

Japan, Israel, and Canada. He highlighted that products manufactured in the state, including helicopter cabins, aircraft fuselage components, fighter aircraft wings, aero-engine parts, and MRO systems, are now part of globally advanced aviation platforms. He mentioned recent investments such as ITP Aero's manufacturing facility in Hyderabad and FTG Aerospace's facility at GMR Aerospace Park, describing them as signs of

increasing international confidence in Telangana's aerospace ecosystem. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the state has built a strong industrial network with aerospace Special Economic Zones, precision engineering parks, and supporting infrastructure. More than 1,500 MSMEs are supplying components to aerospace, defence, and space industries, he added. He also highlighted initiatives such as Young India Skills University and the

transformation of ITIs into Advanced Technology Centres to create a skilled workforce for emerging aerospace technologies. The minister said Telangana's aerospace and defence sector has recorded around 30 per cent annual growth in recent years, while exports increased by 103 per cent last year, surpassing pharmaceuticals as a leading export sector. On new aviation infrastructure, Uttam Kumar Reddy said groundwork for the Warangal airfield is expected to begin soon, while the Adilabad facility would function as a combined civil and military aviation station. Discussions are also underway with the Centre regarding approval for the proposed Kothagudem airport. He said these facilities would provide opportunities for MRO services and aviation industries by offering lower operational costs compared to major metropolitan airports. Inviting international companies to invest in Telangana, the minister assured that the state government would provide continuous support and work as a partner in industrial development. He urged global firms to collaborate with local MSMEs and strengthen Telangana's role in global aerospace supply chains.

Sanjay Jaju Takes Charge as Chief Secretary

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Senior IAS officer Sanjay Jaju assumed charge as the Chief Secretary to the Government of Telangana at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat on Tuesday. Sanjay Jaju, a 1992-batch IAS officer, took over the top administrative position from K. Ramakrishna Rao, IAS, who retired from service on Tuesday after serving as the Chief Secretary. The Telangana government had issued orders on June 26 appointing Sanjay Jaju as the

new Chief Secretary. Following the appointment, Jaju formally assumed responsibilities at the Secretariat in the presence of senior officials. On the occasion, Special Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, Secretaries to the Government, Heads of Departments, Secretariat officials, and staff congratulated Sanjay Jaju on taking charge and extended their best wishes for his new role. Officials also bid a warm farewell to outgoing Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, acknowledging his serv-



ices during his tenure. Both Sanjay Jaju and K. Ramakrishna Rao were presented with bouquets as part of the formal proceedings. The appointment marks a change in the state's top administrative leadership, with Sanjay Jaju now taking charge of coordinating government departments and overseeing administrative affairs in Telangana.

CM Reviews Temple Development Plans



Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday reviewed the ongoing and future development plans of the Yadagirigutta temple at the Bodhi Pavilion of MCRHRD. The meeting focused on temple expansion, land allocation policies, guest house construction, tourism development, and infrastructure improvements. The review meeting was attended by Rajya Sabha member Vem Narendar Reddy, MPs Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy and Kunduru Raghuvir Reddy, Government Whip Beerla Ilaiah, MLA Kumbam Anil Kumar Reddy, Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary (Endowments) Shailaja Ramaier, Commissioner (Endowments) M. Hanumantha Rao, Principal Secretary (Finance) Sandeep Kumar Sultania, CMO Secretary Manik Raj, CMO OSD Vemula Srinivasulu, along with senior officials from Yadadri district and the temple administration. During the meeting, the Chief Minister directed officials to allocate land to the Hare Rama Hare Krishna Foundation in Yadagirigutta at market value. He also stressed the need to formulate a comprehensive policy for allotting lands to various Mathas (monasteries) and caste-based associations. Revanth Reddy instructed officials to ensure that ownership rights of all lands allocated for development activities remain with the temple administration. He suggested

studying the land allocation system followed at Tirumala and adopting suitable practices for Yadagirigutta. The Chief Minister also reviewed plans for guest house construction on the hillock. He asked officials to prepare a list of organizations and individuals who have shown interest in constructing guest houses and directed that permissions be issued in a phased manner. He emphasized adopting the Tirumala model for guest house development to ensure systematic growth and better facilities for devotees. Officials were instructed to immediately sanction funds required for land acquisition related to temple development works. The Chief Minister also directed that the report submitted by the engineers' committee regarding the Yadagirigutta temple construction should be examined carefully and a detailed report submitted within a week. Highlighting the importance of tourism promotion, Revanth Reddy called for the establishment of a tourism circuit around Yadagirigutta under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. He said coordinated efforts between the government and private stakeholders would help improve facilities and attract more visitors. The Chief Minister stressed that development works at Yadagirigutta should be carried out with long-term planning, ensuring that the temple's spiritual significance, heritage value, and future requirements are protected.

RS.9,000 Crore Rythu Bharosa Funds Released for Farmers

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Minister Ponnab Prabhakar said the Telangana government is committed to farmer welfare while speaking from the Rythu Vedika on the occasion of the release of Rythu Bharosa funds for the Vanakalam (monsoon) crop season. The Minister conveyed greetings to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, Agriculture Commission Chairman Kodanda Reddy, Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy, public representatives, and farmers on the release of ₹9,000 crore under the scheme. He said the Rythu Bharosa programme was launched with the objective of supporting farmers and noted that the scheme began at a significant time with the start of Eruvaka Purnima. The original programme scheduled in Madhira, Khammam, was shifted to Shilpakala Vedika due to rainfall. Ponnab Prabhakar stated that since the Praja Palana government came to power, ₹27,000 crore has been deposited into farmers' accounts under Rythu Bharosa. He added that the government is also supporting farmers through bonuses

for fine-variety paddy, seed supply, and other welfare initiatives. Highlighting agricultural development measures, the Minister said Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, who himself is a farmer, has been guiding initiatives for the farming community. He mentioned the inauguration of a palm oil factory at Narmetta in Siddipet district and said efforts are being made to encourage oil palm cultivation in the Husnabad region. He also spoke about farmer support initiatives in his area, stating that five individuals, including local youth and Rythu Vedika representatives, were trained to operate the urea mobile application. The app is helping address farmers' concerns and create awareness about fertilizer-related issues. The Minister expressed confidence that the government would continue implementing farmer-focused programmes under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, and Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka. He also requested Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao to take steps regarding the Gauravelli project for the benefit of farmers in the region.

Ponnam Challenges BJP Over Development Claims

Elkathurthy, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Monday launched a strong attack on BJP leaders over their remarks on Warangal's development, central funds, airport construction, and fertilizer supply issues. He demanded that the BJP explain its contribution to the state's progress and answer questions raised by the people.

Addressing a press conference in Elkathurthy, Prabhakar said BJP leaders should provide facts instead of making political statements. He criticized the comments of the newly elected BJP national president, alleging that the remarks were made without proper understanding of the ground situation.

The minister questioned why the Warangal airport project remained incomplete despite the BJP and BRS being in power for nearly a decade. He said airport approvals and sanctions come under the responsibility of the Central Government, while the state

government had already provided the required land. He claimed that the Congress government accelerated efforts to move the airport project forward.

Highlighting urban development initiatives, Prabhakar said the state government is allocating major funds under the Urban Challenge Fund. He explained that the funding model includes 25 per cent support from the state government, 25 per cent from the Centre, and the remaining 50 per cent through bank loans, for which the state government carries responsibility. He said underground drainage works worth ₹5,000 crore are being taken up in Hanamkonda and Kazipet areas as part of efforts to improve urban infrastructure. Responding to allegations over Smart City funds, the minister asked why the BJP did not act during its decade-long rule at the Centre if there were any irregularities.

Prabhakar also criticized Union Minister of State Bandi Sanjay's remarks on securing the Mayor's post without a majority in the cor-



poration. He questioned how anyone could become Mayor or Chairman without elected representatives supporting them.

The minister said Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is focusing on transforming Warangal into a major development centre after Hyderabad. He listed projects including the airport, underground drainage, Smart City works, dump yard management, and expansion of educational institutions as key initiatives of the government.

On fertilizer availability, Prabhakar said the Centre is responsible for manufacturing and supplying fertilizers to states, while Telangana handles distribution to farmers. He alleged that the state has been facing unfair treatment from the Centre regarding fertilizer allocation and financial support.

The minister claimed that Telangana contributes significantly to the national economy but receives a smaller share in return. He said that despite repeated visits by the Chief Minister and ministers

to Delhi seeking funds, the Centre has not provided a satisfactory response.

Prabhakar accused BJP leaders of making statements that disrespect the Telangana movement and challenged BJP leaders, including Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, Bandi Sanjay, and the party's national leadership, to an open debate on Warangal's development.

He said the BJP should explain its achievements for Telangana instead of only making claims about coming to power in the future.

BJP Targets State Government Over Development Issues

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao on Tuesday accused the state government of shifting responsibility to the Centre and Union ministers on issues that fall under the state's jurisdiction. He said the Congress government had developed a practice of blaming the Centre for projects related to the state, citing the Hyderabad Metro Rail expansion and contributions towards MMTS services.

Addressing the BJP state office bearers' meeting chaired by party national president Nitin Nabin, Rao said the party was not against the cleaning of the Musi river but opposed large-

scale proposals such as the proposed Gandhi Sarovar if they involved massive expenditure and displacement of people.

He alleged that the Congress government began its rule with demolition activities and warned that people would respond democratically against those who take decisions affecting public interests. Rao also claimed that the Congress, BRS and MIM were following similar political approaches and had collectively affected Telangana's progress.

The BJP leader highlighted the Centre's contribution to Telangana's development under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. He referred to projects such

as AIIMS and national highways, stating that allegations of the Centre ignoring the state were incorrect.

Rao accused the state government of failing on multiple fronts, alleging corruption, nepotism and administrative shortcomings. He claimed that youth, farmers, women, government employees and pensioners were unhappy with the present administration.

Recalling his completion of one year as BJP state president, Rao called upon party workers to work together as "Team BJP" and strengthen public outreach ahead of upcoming elections. He expressed confidence that with the support of the Central government, the BJP



would work towards transforming Telangana into a model state. The BJP president's remarks came amid continuing political

exchanges between the ruling Congress and opposition parties over development projects, funding issues and governance in Telangana.

Harish Rao Targets Congress Over Farmer Issues

Jadcherla, June 30 | TPN Bureau

BRS Deputy Floor Leader and former Minister T. Harish Rao on Monday launched a sharp attack on the Congress government during the party membership enrollment drive and SIR awareness programme held at Vasavi Function Hall in Jadcherla. He alleged that the Revanth Reddy government had failed to fulfill its election promises and was neglecting farmers and various sections of society.

Addressing party workers and supporters, Harish Rao said the enthusiasm among people in the Palamuru region indicated that the BRS would return to power. He criticized Chief Minister Revanth Reddy over the implementation of farmer welfare schemes, particularly 'Rythu Bharosa', 'Rythu Bandhu', and loan waiver promises.

Harish Rao alleged that the government had failed to

release pending farmer support funds and questioned when the outstanding amount would be paid. He claimed that nearly ₹30,000 crore in dues were pending under farmer assistance schemes and demanded a clear timeline for payments. He accused the Congress government of reducing the promised farmer assistance amount and changing the eligibility criteria after coming to power. He also alleged that promises regarding crop bonuses were altered after the elections, with benefits being restricted to selected varieties. The former minister criticized the government's crop procurement policy and questioned its decision to depend on the Centre's procurement targets. He asked how farmers would benefit if the state procures only limited quantities of paddy.

Harish Rao also raised concerns over agricultural power supply, alleging that



the 24-hour free electricity system introduced during the BRS government had been weakened. He said initiatives like Rythu DISCOM could affect uninterrupted power supply to farmers.

Highlighting BRS welfare schemes, he said the previous government provided continuous support through Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima,

including during difficult periods such as the COVID-19 pandemic. He alleged that pending insurance benefits were affecting thousands of farming families.

The BRS leader also spoke about irrigation projects in the Palamuru region, claiming that schemes such as Kalwakurthy, Nettekpadu, and Bheema helped provide

water to several lakh acres and reduce migration. He questioned the Congress government over irrigation progress in the region.

Harish Rao criticized the government over fee reimbursement delays, pensions, and support for SC, ST, and BC communities. He alleged that funds were being allocated for major projects while educational and welfare needs were being ignored.

Referring to the Sigachi industrial incident at Pashamylaram, he demanded that the government fulfill its compensation promise to affected families.

Calling upon BRS workers to strengthen the party at the grassroots level, Harish Rao urged them to highlight what he described as the government's failures and unfulfilled promises. He expressed confidence that BRS would win all seats in the Palamuru region and return to power in Telangana.

Pulse Polio Drive Crosses Target

continued

Commissionerate, the third day of the campaign concentrated on extensive house-to-house visits to identify and vaccinate children who were not covered earlier. Mobile teams and transit teams continued operations in notified and non-notified slums, vulnerable areas, and childcare homes.

On Tuesday, health teams visited 32,79,974 houses and administered polio drops to 88,524 children. Of these, 81,171 children were vaccinated through household visits, while 7,353 children were covered outside homes.

The campaign recorded strong participation from health workers across the state. On the first day, 39,22,142 children received polio drops, followed by 1,42,519 children on the second day. With the addition of 88,524 children vaccinated on the third day, the total coverage reached 41,53,185.

Officials said the continued efforts are aimed at achieving complete immunization coverage and protecting every child against polio. The extended drive will focus on reaching children in difficult-to-access locations and ensuring that the benefits of vaccination reach all sections of society.

Sigachi Victims Will Get Full Justice: Vivek



Godavarikhani, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Labour, Employment, Training, Factories, Mines and Geology Minister Dr. G. Vivek Venkataswamy on Tuesday said the Telangana government would not allow the Sigachi industrial accident case to be diluted until complete justice is delivered to the victims and their families.

Addressing a media conference in Godavarikhani, Peddapalli district, the minister strongly criticized former minister Harish Rao's remarks on the incident, alleging that they were politically motivated and aimed at misleading the public.

Vivek Venkataswamy said the Congress government acted with responsibility and compassion immediately after the tragic accident, which claimed 54 lives. He stated that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy personally visited the hospital to meet the injured workers and directed officials to provide the best possible medical care.

The minister said the Chief Minister, along with Ministers D. Sridhar Babu and Damodar Rajanarasimha, visited the accident site, reviewed the situation, and ensured immediate relief measures for the affected families.

According to Vivek, the government continuously pursued the issue with Sigachi management, resulting in compensation of nearly ₹50 lakh being provided to the families of the deceased workers. He added that criminal cases were registered against the company and that the chairman and managing director were arrested as part of legal action.

"The government has clearly informed the High Court that complete justice must be ensured for the victims. We will not let Sigachi off the hook until every bereaved family receives full compensation," the minister said.

Responding to criticism from BRS leaders, Vivek Venkataswamy questioned the previous government's response to major incidents during its tenure. He asked why former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao did not visit the victims of the Kondagattu RTC bus accident, which claimed several lives, and raised questions over the handling of issues related to intermediate results during the BRS regime.

The minister reiterated that the present government is committed to protecting the interests of workers and their families. He said all possible legal measures are being taken and assured that the government would continue its efforts until justice is achieved for those affected by the Sigachi tragedy. He emphasized that accountability and support for victims remain the government's priority and rejected what he termed as attempts to politicize the issue.

BJP Aims to Become Telangana's Political Alternative: DK Aruna

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

BJP MP D.K. Aruna stated that the Bharatiya Janata Party is emerging as the only alternative to both the Congress and BRS in Telangana and claimed that a new phase of BJP's political growth in the state has begun.

Speaking to the media after the conclusion of a three-day visit by BJP state co-in-charge Nitin Nabin, Aruna said extensive discussions were held on political developments, party strengthening, and future strategies. She said the BJP national leadership has directed all leaders and workers to work together with the single objective of bringing the party to power in Telangana.

Aruna emphasized that internal differences should be set aside and that unity among leaders and cadre would be crucial for achieving the party's goal. She said the party's focus is now completely on strengthening its presence across the state and preparing for future elections.

Highlighting the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, she said the BJP would reach out to people with the message that "Telangana needs Modi's governance." She added that the party has prepared a detailed plan to connect with people at the village, mandal, and district levels by explaining the development initiatives and support provided by the Central government.

Targeting the Congress government, Aruna alleged that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had failed to fulfill promises made to the people during elections. She said the BJP would expose what she described as the government's failures and take the issue to the public.

Aruna claimed that people in Telangana are looking towards the BJP as a credible alternative to both the previous BRS government and the present Congress administration. She expressed confidence that the party would become a strong political force in the state in the coming days.



Niranjan Reddy Questions Delay in Rythu Bharosa Payments

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Former Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy on Monday questioned the Telangana government over delays in releasing pending 'Rythu Bharosa' payments and demanded that the benefits be extended to all eligible farmers. In a statement, he alleged that the government has failed to clear dues amounting to nearly ₹30,000 crore owed to farmers.

Niranjan Reddy recalled that during the previous BRS government, 'Rythu Bandhu' payments were deposited into farmers' accounts around the Mrigashira Karti season, allowing farmers to know in advance when the assistance would be credited. He said the acreage-based

support system helped farmers plan their agricultural activities. He alleged that the Congress government came to power promising ₹15,000 per acre annually under 'Rythu Bharosa' for tenant farmers, landowners, and farm labourers, but later reduced the amount to ₹12,000 per acre. He accused the government of repeatedly changing its approach towards implementing the scheme. The former minister claimed that since assuming power, the government has defaulted on 'Rythu Bharosa' payments three times. He alleged that the payment process was initially taken up village-wise, creating confusion, and was later shifted to an acreage-based system before being stopped midway. He further alleged that dur-

ing the last Yasangi (Rabi) season, the government restricted financial assistance to farmers owning up to two acres despite earlier assurances of support for all farmers.

Niranjan Reddy questioned the need for government programmes and public meetings over the scheme, stating that funds could instead be directly transferred into farmers' bank accounts. He also criticized the government's approach towards crop procurement and alleged that it had failed to take full responsibility for purchasing agricultural produce.

The former minister also raised concerns over the availability of urea and criticized the government's urea distribution system.



He alleged that the Congress government was attempting to divert farmers' attention from its failures through publicity programmes in the name of 'Rythu Bharosa'. Demanding immediate action, Niranjan Reddy urged the government to release all pending 'Rythu Bharosa' dues and ensure that every eligible farmer receives the promised support. He said agricultural welfare schemes should be implemented without delays and political uncertainty.

Hyderabad Hosts First Global SREDay Conference

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad successfully hosted the first-ever Global SREDay Conference, bringing together technology professionals, industry leaders, and innovators for a day focused on knowledge sharing, collaboration, and emerging technology trends. Organized by the SREHyderabad LinkedIn community, the event witnessed participation from more than 550 delegates, including Site Reliability Engineers, DevOps profes-



sionals, Cloud Architects, Platform Engineers, Software Engineers, AI practitioners, students, researchers, and technology experts. Over 20 industry speakers from major technology hubs including Hyderabad,

Bengaluru, Pune, Delhi, and Chennai shared their expertise on topics such as Site Reliability Engineering, cloud technologies, automation, observability, artificial intelligence, and leadership practices.

The conference also received international participation, with one of the co-founders of the global SREDay movement attending the event from London. The programme featured two parallel technical tracks, offering participants opportunities to learn about the latest developments in technology and engage in interactive discussions. A leadership panel discussion was another major attraction, where senior technology executives spoke about digital transformation, AI adop-

tion, engineering excellence, and building reliable technology platforms. The event was hosted at Tech Mahindra, with Grafana Labs and NIIT StackRoute as principal sponsors. The conference was also streamed live on YouTube, attracting over 300 online viewers. With strong industry participation and community collaboration, SREDay Hyderabad 2026 further highlighted Hyderabad's growing reputation as a major global technology destination.

Police Reunite Missing Woman with Family

Kutbullapur, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Petbasheerabad Police have earned appreciation for their compassionate response in helping a missing woman reunite with her family. The incident took place under the limits of Petbasheerabad Police Station after locals alerted authorities about a woman found wandering in the Aparna Pamur area.



On June 21 at around 12 noon, residents noticed the woman appearing to be mentally disturbed and immediately informed the police through Dial-100. Responding quickly, Petbasheerabad police reached the spot and brought her to the police station. During questioning, the woman was unable to provide any details about herself. Police then searched nearby areas, including KV Reddy Nagar and Gundlapochampally, to trace her identity and family members but could not find any information. Showing concern and humanity, the police admitted her to Matrushri Orphanage in Shameerpet on the same evening and arranged medical assistance. After receiving treatment and care, the woman revealed her details. She was identified as Pinky Bai Gosai, 30, wife of Babbulu, 35, from Gandhinagar, Tandur, in Vikarabad district. Police learned that she had gone missing from her home on June 16. They immediately contacted her husband and arranged for him to reach the orphanage. The woman was safely reunited with her family. Local residents appreciated the efforts of Petbasheerabad Police for their timely action and humane approach.

Food Safety Team Flags Hygiene Violations

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

The food safety team of Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) found several hygiene violations during inspections at two restaurants located in GSM Mall, Madinaguda, on Tuesday. During the inspection at Barbeque Nation, the officials observed cockroach infestation in the fruit storage area and near refrigerators. They also found unclean vegetable crates and water bubble containers. The team noted that food testing records, packaging material details, and pest control records were not available. Officials further found that chopping boards were in poor condition. Brownies and kulfi varieties, including paan, malai, and kesar pista flavours, were found without proper labels and were discarded immediately. In another inspection at a Chinese Wok restaurant in the same mall, the food safety officials found that cooked rice was being assigned a shelf life of 36 hours without any supporting laboratory validation. The inspection team reported that food testing records, packaging material details, and annual medical fitness certificates of food handlers were unavailable. Incoming eggs were not cleaned before use, and one food handler was found with untrimmed nails. Officials also observed that water taps near the rice and noodles preparation area were not maintained properly. The FSSAI licence was not displayed prominently at the premises. Following the findings, the food safety team recommended issuing improvement notices to both eateries and instructed the management to take immediate corrective measures to ensure compliance with food safety and hygiene standards.

Speeding Bolero Claims Woman's Life in Accident

Kutbullapur, June 30 | TPN Bureau

A tragic road accident in Bahadurpally claimed the life of a woman and left her son seriously injured after a speeding vehicle collided with their scooter on Monday. The accident occurred near Ruchi Cafe close to the Ramalayam area, creating panic among local residents. According to police, Gummadi Udayalatha, a resident of Bollaram, was travelling with her son Vedanth Reddy on a Vespa scooter while taking him to Mahindra University. When they reached Bahadurpally, a speeding Bolero vehicle allegedly hit their scooter. The impact was severe, damaging the scooter and affecting nearby vehicles. Locals immediately responded and shifted the injured mother and son to SV Super Speciality Hospital for treatment. However, doctors declared Udayalatha dead on arrival. Her son Vedanth Reddy is currently receiving medical care at the hospital. Police conducted a preliminary investigation and suspected that negligent and rash driving by the Bolero driver led to the accident. A case has been registered, and further investigation is underway to determine the exact circumstances behind the collision. The incident has once again raised concerns over speeding and road safety violations on the city outskirts. Local residents have urged authorities to take stricter measures to prevent such accidents.



Court Quashes Case Against Bandi Sanjay

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar received relief on Monday after the Nampally Special Court for Public Representatives quashed a case registered against him during the Huzurabad by-election.

The case was filed by Huzurabad police following remarks made by Bandi Sanjay during the election campaign. He had alleged that the then ruling BRS party was involved in distributing money to influence voters, claiming that amounts up to ₹25,000 per vote were being offered. Bandi Sanjay had further



alleged that while voters were receiving only ₹5,000, the remaining amount was being taken by BRS workers. Following these statements, police registered a case against him under IPC Sections 188, 171C, and

505(2), along with Section 123(3A) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. The matter was later taken up by the Nampally Special Court for Public Representatives. After hearing the arguments and reviewing the case, the court issued orders quashing the charges against the Union Minister. The development comes as a legal relief for Bandi Sanjay, who had faced the case over his statements made during the high-profile Huzurabad by-election campaign. The court's decision brings an end to the proceedings related to the case.

Explosion Damages House

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

An explosion at the residence of a retired bank employee created panic among residents of Bapunagar in Saroornagar on Tuesday. However, no injuries were reported in the incident.

The explosion occurred at the house of retired bank employee Devender, causing damage to household items,

particularly those in the kitchen. The kitchen articles were completely damaged due to the impact of the blast.

According to reports, two LPG cylinders kept inside the house did not explode, preventing a more serious mishap.

After receiving information about the incident, Saroornagar police reached the spot and began an inves-

tigation to determine the exact cause of the explosion. Officials are examining various possibilities behind the incident.

The clues team was also deployed to the location to collect evidence and gather details that could help establish the reason for the blast. Police are continuing their probe and further details are expected after the completion of the investigation.

BRS Leader Opposes Proposed Dumping Yard

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

BRS leader Kyama Mallesh on Tuesday opposed the proposed dumping yard project in Ibrahimpatnam constituency, alleging that the decision was taken without consulting local residents.

Addressing the issue at Telangana Bhavan, Mallesh claimed that 494 acres of valuable land had been allocated for the dumping yard in the name of a town and alleged that the project was linked with a Japanese company. He questioned the need for establishing such a facility in the area and said the decision could create problems for people living nearby.

He alleged that setting up a dumping yard within the proposed Regional Ring



Road (Triple R) area would increase pollution and affect the environment. He also raised concerns that during rains, waste water from the dumping yard could enter the Musi river system.

Mallesh suggested that the government should consider setting up IT companies or other development projects instead of a dumping yard on the 494 acres of land.

He said BRS was not against the Musi development proj-

ect but insisted that it should be implemented without causing inconvenience to residents. He warned that if the dumping yard project moves forward without addressing public concerns, BRS would launch a protest on behalf of the people. He also questioned the silence of local elected representatives and said the party would continue its fight to stop the proposed facility.

Court Clears Raja Singh in 2022 Case

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Goshamahal BJP MLA T. Raja Singh received relief on Monday after the Special Court for Public Representatives in Hyderabad dismissed a case registered against him over alleged controversial remarks made in 2022.

The court examined the arguments presented by both sides along with the available evidence before reaching its decision. After reviewing the matter in detail, the court concluded that the allegations against



Raja Singh were not proven. Following the proceedings,

the court delivered its final verdict and acquitted the MLA of all charges in the case. The decision provides legal relief to Raja Singh, who had faced proceedings related to the remarks made three years ago. The court's order brings an end to the case after examining the claims and evidence placed before it.

Seethakka Bids Farewell to Retiring Officer



Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Women and Child Welfare Minister Seethakka on Monday felicitated Anita Ramachandran, Secretary of the Women and Child Welfare Department, on the occasion of her retirement.

The minister appreciated Anita Ramachandran's dedicated services towards the development of the department and acknowledged her efforts in strengthening welfare initiatives for women and children. Seethakka conveyed her heart-

felt wishes and expressed hope that Anita Ramachandran would lead a healthy, peaceful, and fulfilling life after retirement.

"Happy retirement... I hope this new chapter of your life brings even more happiness and fulfillment. All the best," Seethakka said while extending her greetings.

The felicitation programme highlighted the contributions made by the retiring official during her tenure and her role in advancing programmes related to women and child welfare in the state.

Nitin Nabin Congratulates BJP Leaders



Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

BJP National President Nitin Nabin on Monday congratulated Karimnagar Mayor Kolagani Srinivas and Deputy Mayor Sunil Rao at Aushapur near Hyderabad following the party's success in securing the Mayor's post in the Telangana municipal elections.

Nitin Nabin expressed happiness over the BJP's achievement and felicitated the Mayor and Deputy Mayor by presenting them with shawls. He appreciated their efforts and said that leadership positions and electoral victories come naturally when leaders remain connected with people and continuously work for their issues.

During the interaction, BJP national general secretary Sunil Bansal informed Nitin Nabin that Karimnagar was

the only place in Telangana where the BJP secured the Mayor's position.

Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar introduced Karimnagar Mayor Kolagani Srinivas and Deputy Mayor Sunil Rao to Sunil Bansal and Rajya Sabha member Rekha Sharma.

The meeting was attended by senior BJP leaders and focused on the party's recent municipal success in the state. Party leaders said the victory reflected the growing support for the BJP at the local level and highlighted the importance of strengthening grassroots engagement.

The felicitation programme concluded with leaders congratulating the Karimnagar representatives and expressing confidence in expanding the party's presence across Telangana.

Demand to Ease Online Voter Registration Rules

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

The TPCC Election Commission Coordination Committee has urged the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Telangana, Sri Sudarshan Reddy, IAS, to remove mandatory e-Sign and Aadhaar linking requirements in the online voter registration and mapping process.

Committee Chairman Pulipati Rajesh Kumar stated that several Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), migrant workers, and other voters are facing difficulties while completing the online enumeration process due to the current requirement of Aadhaar-based e-Sign verification. He said that as per Election Commission of India guidelines and legal provisions, submission or linking of Aadhaar for voter registration is voluntary and should not be treated as compulsory. He

argued that making Aadhaar mandatory in the online process creates unnecessary barriers for eligible citizens. Rajesh Kumar pointed out that many NRIs and migrant workers possess valid Indian passports and other documents proving their identity, age, and residence but may not have active Aadhaar cards or mobile numbers linked for OTP verification while staying abroad.

He said such technical restrictions are preventing eligible citizens from exercising their voting rights. He requested authorities to allow voters to upload passports and other self-attested documents as alternatives to Aadhaar-based verification.

The committee appealed for a more flexible and accessible online registration system to ensure that no eligible voter is excluded.

GHMC Commissioner Honours Retiring Employees

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan on Monday felicitated employees who are retiring at the end of June 2026, recognizing their dedicated service and contributions towards civic administration in Hyderabad. A total of 35 employees from various departments, includ-

ing Engineering, Public Health, Urban Community Development, Revenue, Sanitation, Parks, Town Planning, and Administration, are retiring on June 30, 2026, after years of service to the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation. Speaking during the felicitation programme,

Commissioner Karnan appreciated the commitment, sincerity, and efforts of the retiring employees in strengthening municipal services and improving facilities for citizens.

He expressed gratitude for their valuable contributions and said their dedication had played an important role in the functioning of the civic

body. The Commissioner wished the employees a healthy, peaceful, and prosperous retired life.

Karnan also encouraged the retirees to continue contributing to society through their experience and knowledge. He said their years of public service would remain an inspiration for others working in the administra-



tion. The event concluded with officials and colleagues extending their best wishes to the retiring employees and acknowledging their role in the development of Hyderabad's civic infrastructure and public services.

RS.2.10 Crore Road Project Launched

Siddipet, June 30 | TPN Bureau

State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnampal Prabhakar laid the foundation stone for a BT (Black Top) road connecting Panjagutta Thanda and Raj Thanda in Dubba Thanda Gram Panchayat limits of Akkannapeta mandal in Husnabad constituency on Tuesday.

The road project is being taken up at an estimated cost of ₹2.10 crore. Speaking at the event, the Minister said improved road connectivity plays a key role in the devel-



opment of Thandas (tribal hamlets). He stated that the new road would provide better transportation facilities

and help residents access essential services, including education, healthcare, and agricultural needs. He direct-

ed officials to ensure that the construction work is carried out with quality standards and completed within the

scheduled timeframe.

Later, Minister Ponnampal Prabhakar participated in the Special Summary Revision (SSR) programme for electoral rolls. He instructed officials to conduct a door-to-door verification drive to ensure that all eligible voters are included in the voter list. He emphasized the importance of maintaining accurate electoral records and completing the revision process effectively. Officials and local representatives participated in the foundation stone laying programme and SSR-related activities.

Minister Srihari Attends Peddamma Thalli Festival



Atmakur, June 30 | TPN Bureau

State Minister for Sports, Dairy Development, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, and Youth Services Vakiti Srihari participated in the Peddamma Thalli festival celebrations held in Atmakur town under the Makthal constituency on Tuesday.

On his arrival at the temple, priests welcomed the minister with a traditional Poorna Kumbham. Srihari participated in special prayers conducted at the Peddamma Thalli temple and sought the blessings of the deity. Following the rituals, Vedic scholars blessed the minister.

Temple Committee Chairperson Sridhar Goud felicitated Vakiti Srihari on the occasion by presenting him with a shawl.

Speaking during the festival, the minister expressed his wish that Goddess Peddamma Thalli bless the

people of Makthal constituency and the entire state with prosperity and happiness. He prayed for timely rains, agricultural growth, and overall well-being of the region.

Srihari also extended festival greetings to the residents of Atmakur and conveyed his best wishes to the devotees who participated in the celebrations.

Several local leaders and public representatives joined the minister during the prayers, including Atmakur Municipal Chairperson Nagamani, Vice-Chairperson Nallagonda Srinivasulu, Market Committee Chairman Rahmatullah, Congress Mandal President Parameshwar, and leaders Tulasi Raj Yadav and Mahesh Kumar. The festival witnessed participation from devotees and local representatives, with traditional rituals and celebrations marking the occasion.

Commissioner Srujana Reviews Development Works

Quthbullapur, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Municipal Corporation Commissioner Dr. G. Srujana IAS on Tuesday inspected development works and civic issues in Dundigal as part of the "One Ward Every Day" programme aimed at resolving public grievances through direct field visits.

The Commissioner visited Ward No. 296 under Dundigal Circle-59 and reviewed roads, street lighting, sanitation, and other infrastructure-related concerns. During the inspection, she issued immediate instructions to officials for addressing pending issues.

Dr. Srujana directed officials to take up CC road works in KVR Colony and prioritize the construction of a new

road connecting Naguluru village. She also instructed authorities to speed up the process of issuing house numbers and processing tax reductions in Dundigal village.

She ordered the installation of street lights from IARE College to the Ambekar statue to improve public safety. The Commissioner also reviewed sanitation conditions in Shambhipur village and directed officials to strengthen garbage collection and removal activities.

Focusing on children's facilities, Dr. Srujana instructed officials to identify vacant government lands and develop playgrounds for children. She also directed immediate action to remove encroachments affecting the SC road in Dundigal SC Basti.



Regarding civic infrastructure, she advised the engineering department to prepare proposals for new CC roads in required areas. She also ordered the construction of a compound wall around the cemetery located in Gaggilapur survey number 214.

After the field visit, the Commissioner held a review meeting with officials and instructed them to resolve

public complaints within the prescribed SLA timelines. She warned that delays in development works, house number approvals, and tax-related services would not be tolerated.

With the rainy season approaching, Dr. Srujana directed officials to take preventive measures and implement action plans effectively. She also ordered faster inspections and maintenance of vacant plots.

The inspection was attended by Deputy Commissioner Dr. S. Venkata Mani Karan, Library Corporation Chairperson B. Srinivas Reddy, Deputy Engineer Papamma, SWM Deputy Engineer Anvesh Reddy, ACP Srinivas, AMC Lakshmaiah, Assistant Engineers B. Surender Naik, Ashok Kumar, and other officials.

Major Ganja Racket Busted

Bhadrachalam, June 30 | TPN Bureau

A major cannabis trafficking network was busted in Bhadrachalam district after the Eagle Force and local police jointly intercepted a vehicle carrying a huge quantity of ganja on Tuesday. The operation was carried out during intensive vehicle

checks near the ITC West Gate at Sarapaka. Police stopped a lorry suspected of transporting contraband from the forests of Odisha through Andhra Pradesh towards Uttar Pradesh. According to officials, the smugglers had created a specially designed secret compartment inside the lorry to hide and transport the

cannabis in an attempt to avoid detection. However, the police team carefully inspected the vehicle and discovered the hidden consignment.

During the search, police seized around 525 kilograms of ganja. The estimated market value of the seized cannabis is around ₹2.62 crore.

Three accused per-

sons were arrested during the operation. Police also seized the lorry used for transportation along with a Pulsar motorcycle that was allegedly being used as an escort vehicle to monitor the movement of the consignment. In addition, five mobile phones and ₹10,570 cash were recovered from the accused.

The seized items

have been taken into custody as part of the investigation. Officials said efforts are underway to trace and arrest other individuals involved in the trafficking network.

The police are continuing further investigation to identify the full chain behind the illegal transportation of the narcotics.

Two Drivers Injured in Bus-Tanker Collision

Nalgonda, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Two drivers were seriously injured after a private bus travelling from Bhimavaram to Hyderabad collided with a cement tanker near Muthyalamma Gudem in Kattangur mandal of Nalgonda district on Tuesday.

According to Kattangur police, the accident occurred after the tyre of the travel bus suddenly burst, causing the driver to lose control of the vehicle. The bus reportedly crossed the divider and rammed into the cement tanker coming from the opposite direction.

The impact severely damaged the front portion of the bus. Both the bus driver and the tanker driver were trapped inside their cabins following the collision. Police personnel and local residents immediately rushed to the spot and rescued the injured drivers before shifting them to a nearby hospital for treatment. Around 40 passengers travelling in the bus escaped with minor injuries. Officials made arrangements for the passengers to continue their journey to Hyderabad.

The accident caused a brief disruption to traffic movement on the national highway. Police took steps to clear the vehicles and restore normal traffic flow.

Kattangur police registered a case in connection with the accident and launched an investigation to determine the exact circumstances that led to the collision.

ACB Catches Irrigation

AEE Taking RS.2 Lakh Bribe

Hyderabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) officials caught an Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) of the Irrigation Department red-handed while allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹2 lakh in Bhadrachalam district. According to ACB officials, Latchubukta Srinivas Rao, working as AEE in the Irrigation Department, demanded and accepted the bribe from a complainant in exchange for granting official permission to excavate and transport soil from Donthikunta Tank. The officials said the transaction took place at the office of the Deputy Executive Engineer, Irrigation Sub-Division-I, in Aswaraopeta. The complainant had sought permission to remove soil from the tank area for filling pits in agricultural land located adjacent to his uncle's agricultural property in Aswaraopeta village. Following a complaint, ACB sleuths laid a trap and caught Rao while accepting the alleged bribe amount. The tainted money of ₹2 lakh was recovered from his possession. ACB officials stated that the officer had allegedly misused his official position and acted improperly to obtain an undue advantage. The accused was taken into custody and produced before the Special Court for ACB cases in Warangal for further legal proceedings. The ACB has withheld the identity and details of the complainant for security reasons. Further investigation into the case is underway.

RS 125.83 Crore Rythu Bharosa Funds Released

Sangareddy, June 30 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government's first installment of financial assistance under the 'Rythu Bharosa' scheme for the Vanakalam (Kharif) season was released on Tuesday, benefiting thousands of farmers across Sangareddy district. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy released the funds at an event held in Hyderabad. In Sangareddy, TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jagga Reddy said farmer welfare remains a priority of the state government and welcomed the release of assistance at the beginning of the Kharif cultivation season.

She said the financial support would help farmers meet cultivation-related expenses and strengthen agricultural activities. District Collector Prateek Jain said arrangements were completed for the smooth transfer of



will be directly credited into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. Speaking at the programme, Nirmala Jagga Reddy said farmer welfare remains a priority of the state government and welcomed the release of assistance at the beginning of the Kharif cultivation season.

She said the financial support would help farmers meet cultivation-related expenses and strengthen agricultural activities. District Collector Prateek Jain said arrangements were completed for the smooth transfer of

funds to eligible farmers. He stated that more than 2.42 lakh farmers in the district would receive the assistance directly through the account transfer system and advised farmers to utilize the funds effectively.

The event was attended by CDC Chairman Ram Reddy, ATMA Committee Chairman Prabhhu, Sangareddy Municipal Chairperson Koona Vanitha Santhosh, agriculture department officials, district-level officers, local representatives, and a large number of farmers.

Invitation Presented for Anjaneya Swamy Dhwaja Sthambham Ceremony

Devarakonda, June 30 | TPN Bureau

Temple committee members presented the invitation for the Sri Anjaneya Swamy Dhwaja Sthambham (flagstaff) consecration ceremony to BRS Devarakonda constituency leader Vadthya Ramesh. The invitation was handed over in connection with the ceremony of the newly constructed Sri Anjaneya Swamy temple at Osmankunta Gram Panchayat limits in Chandampet mandal. Temple committee members invited Vadthya Ramesh to participate in the auspicious event and seek the blessings



of Lord Anjaneya Swamy. Osmankunta villagers, including Lotavath Bhima Naik, Kethavath Ramesh, temple priest Lotavath Dasru, Kethavath Boora, and others,

participated in the programme. The event was conducted in a devotional atmosphere with local residents and temple representatives present.



Nizamabad, June 30 | TPN Bureau

A governing body meeting of the Nizamabad Municipal Corporation was held on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Mayor Umarani, with TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud attending the proceedings.

The meeting discussed various issues related to city development, public grievances, and the improvement of civic services. Key topics included basic amenities, sanitation management, drinking water supply, drainage systems, and other infrastructure-related concerns. Addressing officials and public representatives, Mahesh Kumar Goud emphasized the need for coordinated

efforts to ensure better services for the residents of Nizamabad. He suggested that officials and elected representatives work together effectively to address public issues and speed up development activities.

The meeting also focused on reviewing ongoing works and identifying areas requiring immediate attention to improve the quality of civic facilities in the city.

Corporators, municipal corporation officials, and other public representatives participated in the meeting. The discussions aimed at strengthening municipal administration and ensuring timely resolution of problems faced by citizens.

Gold Rumours Spark Rush for Farm Land

Warangal, June 30 | TPN Bureau

A six-acre agricultural land parcel in Kopakulapadu village of Chennaraopet mandal in Warangal district has become the centre of attention after reports of ancient gold ornaments being found in the soil triggered excitement among locals. Unlike the usual demand for farmland based on crop yield, farmers are now showing interest in leasing this particular land due to rumours that hidden treasure may exist beneath it. Several farmers are reportedly approaching the landowner, hoping to secure the lease and benefit from what they believe could be a rare discovery. The land, purchased by a resident of Chennaraopet about ten years ago, is currently being cultivated by a farmer from Eerya Thanda, who grows cotton on the plot. After rainfall on June 24, female agricultural workers were engaged in weeding operations. During the work, they reportedly found old gold ornaments buried in the field. The discovery initially remained private, but the news soon spread across the village. After questioning the workers, the landowner reportedly received the recovered items and approached the police, informing them

about the incident. Villagers say this is not the first time valuable items have allegedly been found in the area. They believe the region has historical links to the Kakatiya period and claim that idols and other ancient objects were discovered during earlier farming activities. Local residents also recall that a previous owner allegedly found gold while cultivating the same land in 1991. They further claim that a farm worker later discovered old gold coins from the area, strengthening the belief that the land may contain hidden wealth. Following the recent discovery, the matter reached the police after the son of a former owner filed a complaint. He reportedly claimed that the valuables belonged to his ancestors and sought legal action regarding their recovery. Meanwhile, curiosity surrounding the land has grown rapidly, with people from nearby villages visiting the area. Some locals are reportedly searching the fields during night hours with flashlights, hoping to find more hidden treasures. Authorities are expected to verify the claims and investigate the facts behind the reported discovery.

Editorial

Nobody Can Escape From Corruption, Even God

The reports of alleged irregularities and corruption linked to the administration of the Lord Sri Rama Temple in Ayodhya have come as a shock to millions of devotees across India. Ayodhya is not just another place of worship; it is a symbol of faith, cultural identity, and national sentiment. Naturally, any allegation concerning its administration attracts widespread attention and concern.

The inauguration of the Ram Temple was celebrated as a historic occasion, watched by people across the country and around the world. It represented the culmination of decades of legal, political, and social developments. Therefore, expectations of transparency, accountability, and efficient administration have always been exceptionally high. However, the emergence of these allegations has raised uncomfortable questions. Many people feel that those in positions of authority have been slow to acknowledge the seriousness of the issue, creating an impression that accountability is being avoided.

The allegations involving several staff members and reports of administrative irregularities raise serious questions about governance. While investigations are underway and those accused are entitled to due process, the controversy underlines a larger truth: no institution, however sacred, is immune to the risks of corruption or administrative failure. Faith in a temple should never become a reason to overlook the need for transparency and accountability.

The temple trust has defended its functioning while authorities continue to examine the allegations. The concern expressed by the Uttar Pradesh government itself reflects the seriousness of the matter. The credibility of any religious institution depends not only on its spiritual significance but also on the integrity, honesty, and accountability of those entrusted with its management.

This episode serves as a reminder that corruption is not confined to government offices or commercial establishments. Wherever money, power, and administration exist, the possibility of misuse also exists. Strong oversight, transparent financial management, and independent audits are essential to protect institutions from abuse.

Faith belongs to the devotees, but accountability belongs to those who manage institutions. No individual or institution should be considered beyond scrutiny. Only impartial investigations, transparency, and timely corrective action can preserve public trust and ensure that places of worship remain symbols of devotion rather than subjects of controversy.

Editor

“The Naidu Effect”

Is Indian democracy finally maturing in its pursuit of a Viksit Bharat?

Ram Kamal



Social Engineer

The recent evidence certainly suggests so. For the first time in years, the routine political boycotts by opposition Chief Ministers at the NITI Aayog meetings were notably absent, signalling that India has shifted into a higher gear of development. The era of the "boycott brigade", where leaders often prioritized political posturing over policy, is steadily giving way to a new pragmatism.

Today, a new wave of political leadership and emerging voices, starting from Revanth Reddy and D.K. Shivakumar to V.D. Satheesan and Vijay, are recognizing that their survival hinges on the economic advancement of their states rather than petty partisan disputes. The political landscape has evolved into a strict mandate of perform or perish. Leaders now understand that failing to prioritize tangible development will invite devastating electoral defeat, making economic progress the ultimate, non-negotiable imperative for every political party.

India is experiencing a high-velocity paradigm shift where economic imperatives are finally beginning to override regional political egos. As highlighted in the recent dialogue, this transformation is best encapsulated by the rise of competitive federalism, a system where states aggressively vie against one another for investments, industries, and infrastructure

projects. Perhaps the most striking symbol of this evolving maturity was witnessed at the recent NITI Aayog Governing Council meeting, as said above. In the past, regional politics often meant prioritizing identity, caste, or ideological rhetoric over economic deliverables. Today, however, the Indian electorate, particularly the aspirational youth, demands tangible outcomes: jobs, robust startup ecosystems, and world-class infrastructure. This bottom-up pressure has forced state leadership to pivot.

Leaders across party lines, whether it is D.K. Shivakumar in Karnataka, Revanth Reddy in Telangana, V.D. Satheesan of Kerala, Vijay of Tamil Nadu or N. Chandrababu Naidu in Andhra Pradesh, are all actively eyeing the same investment pools. If one state secures a major multinational manufacturing plant or a semiconductor hub, neighbouring states immediately feel the pressure to improve their own ease of doing business. The realization has dawned that sitting out of the economic race out of political stubbornness only harms the state's residents, leading to voter disenchantment. We can call these phenomena the 'Naidu Effect', which opens the eyes of sister States to reform their State and not perish like the South Indian rebels.

State leaders have recognized that the Centre holds crucial



policy levers and capital expenditure allocations. By participating in these apex dialogues, states ensure they have a voice in national policy and a hand in the allocation of resources. Boycotting merely isolates a state from the nation's broader developmental trajectory. This unprecedented attendance underscores that while political differences remain, they are increasingly being compartmentalized. When it comes to the economy, now the state leadership is ready to put down the political sword and pick up the developmental

Flow. How does this cut-throat competition among states translate into cooperation for a Viksit Bharat? The answer lies in the organic nature of holistic development and the visible development shopping done by

Chandrababu Naidu for Andhra Pradesh.

While states compete fiercely for capital, their individual successes compound to build a resilient national economy. When a state upgrades its power grid or logistical infrastructure to win a manufacturing contract, it inadvertently strengthens the national supply chain. Furthermore, complex modern industries like deep-tech AI, drone ecosystems, and defence manufacturing require multi-state supply chains and uniform national policies.

Competitive federalism to cooperative federalism

This creates a natural bridge between the two. States realize that to sustain their local growth, they must cooperate with the Centre on macroeconomic policies, taxation frame-

works, and national infrastructure corridors. The competition drives efficiency and innovation at the grassroots, while federal cooperation ensures these local successes are scaled nationally. Ultimately, India's youth are no longer swayed by empty rhetoric; they are driven by the pursuit of better livelihoods, technological advancement, and global connectivity. The transition we are witnessing, where Chief Ministers choose NITI Aayog boardrooms over protest stages, is the foundation of an organic Viksit Bharat.

Tailpiece: Our democracy is now maturing. Winston Churchill failed in his forecast: "Power will go to the hands of rascals, rogues, freebooters; all Indian leaders will be of low calibre & men of straw."

Education on the Edge: Bridging Aspiration and Inequality

M.S. Reddy



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The educational journey of students from poor and middle-class backgrounds is shaped by a blend of aspiration, anxiety, and persistent barriers. For many, education is not merely a pathway to knowledge but the only viable route to economic mobility and social advancement. Yet, this journey is fraught with structural and financial challenges that demand urgent attention.

Mounting Financial Pressures

The rising cost of higher education—especially in professional fields such as engineering and medicine—has placed an unbearable burden on families. Tuition fees, hostel expenses, and associated costs often force households into debt, with some even compelled to sell assets. While education is seen as an investment in the future, the immediate financial strain continues to deter many deserving students from pursuing their ambitions.

The Changing Role of State Support

Government initiatives like fee reimbursement schemes once played a transformative role in enabling access to higher education for economically weaker sections. These schemes opened doors to professional courses and triggered significant social mobility. However, recent modifications, funding gaps, and implementation challenges have diluted their impact, raising concerns about equitable access.

Education Without Employment

A growing disconnect between education and employment has deepened the crisis. Many graduates from modest backgrounds find themselves unemployed or underemployed, unable to repay educational loans or support their families. Rising inflation and limited job opportunities exacerbate this situation, pushing vulnerable families into a cycle of debt and despair.

Institutional Gaps and Gender Progress

Despite systemic shortcomings, higher education institutions have made efforts to include marginalized

groups. Notably, female enrollment has seen encouraging growth, reflecting a gradual shift in societal attitudes. However, infrastructural deficiencies—such as inadequate faculty, poor hostel facilities, and lack of basic amenities—continue to undermine the quality of education, particularly in government institutions.

Awareness and Social Barriers

In several cases, lack of awareness among parents and adverse socioeconomic conditions prevent children from accessing education. Child labour remains a harsh reality, with many students dropping out to support family incomes. Gender bias also persists, with some families still reluctant to educate girls, opting instead for early marriages. These social constraints significantly limit educational opportunities.

Decline of Government Schools

Government schools, which serve as the backbone of education for poor and middle-class families, are witnessing a steady decline in enrollment. Inadequate infrastructure, teacher shortages, lack of sanitation, and concerns over safety contribute to this trend. While schemes like midday meals address basic needs, they are insufficient to tackle the deeper issues of educational poverty.

The Digital Divide

Access to technology has become a critical factor in modern education. Students from disadvantaged backgrounds often lack access to digital devices, reliable internet, and trained educators. This digital divide not only hampers learning but

also widens the gap between privileged and underprivileged students, particularly in an increasingly online learning environment.

Medium and Quality of Instruction

Confusion over the medium of instruction and inconsistent teaching standards further complicate the learning process. Whether in regional languages or English, the absence of quality pedagogy affects comprehension and outcomes, leaving students ill-prepared for competitive environments.

The Way Forward

Addressing these challenges requires a multi-pronged approach. Financial discipline at the household level, combined with policy support, can make higher education more attainable. Vocational and skill-based courses aligned with market demands can enhance employability and ensure quicker financial stability. Governments must strengthen fee reimbursement schemes, improve infrastructure, and ensure effective monitoring of educational institutions.

Equally important is raising awareness about educational rights, such as the provision for 25% reservation in private schools for disadvantaged students. Bridging the gap between policy and implementation is essential to ensure that benefits reach the intended beneficiaries.

The link between poverty and education remains one of the most pressing challenges of our time. Without targeted interventions, millions of talented students risk being left behind. Educationists, policymakers, and society at large must collaborate to create an inclusive system that nurtures potential, reduces inequality, and empowers the next generation. Only then can education truly serve as the great equalizer it is meant to be.



Shortage of Sustained Efforts Causes Definitive Failures

Pokkuluri Subba Rao



Veteran Journalist

India does not suffer from a shortage of ideas. It suffers from a shortage of follow-through. Policy after policy is announced with conviction, often backed by sound intent and substantial resources. Yet, the distance between announcement and execution remains India's most persistent governance deficit. That distance is measured not in ambition, but in consistency.

Inconsistency

The Indian state has, over decades, demonstrated an ability to design expansive programmes—from welfare delivery to infrastructure expansion. But design is only the first step. Outcomes depend on whether implementation is steady, predictable, and sustained across time and geography. Too often, it is not. Schemes begin with urgency and fade into unevenness. Monitoring weakens, priorities shift, and accountability diffuses.

Take welfare delivery. Flagship programmes in employment, food security, and healthcare have shown that when execution is consistent at the last mile, the results are tangible. Leagues reduce, beneficiaries gain confidence, and systems stabilise. Conversely, irregular implementation—delayed payments, patchy coverage, bureaucratic discretion—erodes both impact and trust. In governance, inconsistency is not a minor lapse; it is a structural flaw. Uneven Enforcement of

Economic policy

Economic policy tells a similar story. Investors seek more than incentives—they seek predictability. A stable regulatory environment, even if conservative, is preferable to frequent shifts that introduce uncertainty. Retro-spective changes, abrupt reversals, or uneven enforcement send a clear signal: risk is not just market-driven, but policy-driven. Consistency, in this context, becomes an economic asset—one that lowers friction and encourages long-term commitment.

Frequent Delays – Escalation of Costs

Infrastructure offers perhaps the most visible evidence. India's highways, rail networks, and urban projects do not advance on announcements alone. They require sustained execution—year after year, allocation after allocation. Where there is continuity in planning and oversight, projects move. Where momentum is interrupted, delays multiply and costs escalate. The difference is rarely vision; it is persistence.

Consistency is core value

This pattern extends beyond the state. In education, the preference for last-minute preparation continues to undermine deep learning. In business, the temptation of quick returns often displaces the discipline required to build



endurable enterprises. Yet, the most successful institutions—public or private—are those that have internalised consistency as a core value. They deliver not occasionally, but reliably.

Sport underscores the point with clarity. Victories are celebrated, but they are only the visible tip of a long process. Champions are produced through daily training, structured systems, and sustained investment. Sporadic attention yields sporadic success. Consistent effort yields excellence. Why does consistency matter so much? First, it builds credibility. Governments that implement policies steadily earn public trust; businesses that deliver reliably retain customers. Second, it compounds outcomes. Incremental gains, when repeated, produce transformative results. Third, it strengthens resilience. Systems anchored in routine and discipline are better equipped to absorb shocks.

Flexibility and Steadiness

It is important, however, to distinguish consistency from rigidity. Effective governance demands the ability to adapt—to correct course when necessary. But adaptation without continuity leads to drift. The challenge is to combine

flexibility with steadiness: to refine methods without abandoning direction.

India's scale and diversity are often cited as reasons for uneven outcomes. While complexity is real, inconsistency is not inevitable. It is a function of institutional design and administrative will. Clear timelines, measurable benchmarks, and continuous evaluation are not optional—they are essential.

Rebalancing priorities needed

For too long, India's public narrative has privileged the dramatic over the durable. Announcements dominate headlines; execution rarely does. This imbalance has consequences. It creates cycles of expectation and disappointment, ambition and under-delivery. If India is to translate potential into performance, it must rebalance its priorities—from spectacle to systems, from intent to implementation. The journey from announcement to execution cannot be episodic; it must be continuous. Success, whether of a nation or an institution, is not an event. It is a pattern of behaviour sustained over time. Until consistency becomes that pattern, India's story will remain one of verbosity—impressive in scope, but incomplete in delivery.

Centre Forms Prasoon Joshi-Led Panel to Strengthen Indian Film Industry

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) has constituted a high-level study group under the chairmanship of Prasara Bharati Chairman Prasoon Joshi to recommend measures for strengthening India's film industry and enhancing its global competitiveness. The decision was taken during a high-level review meeting chaired by Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. The panel has been asked to submit its recommendations to the ministry within three months.

The study group, comprising industry experts and technology partners, will examine the opportunities and challenges facing Indian cinema. Its mandate includes identifying ways to make Indian films more competitive in international markets, encouraging the adoption of emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and virtual production, and recommending strategies to help filmmakers leverage these innovations.

Another key focus area for the committee will be improving access to institutional finance for filmmakers. The panel will study the difficulties producers face in raising funds for film production and distribution and explore alternative financing models that can support both mainstream and independent cinema. It will also engage with state governments and industry stakeholders to identify best practices and propose a comprehensive policy



framework for the long-term growth of the sector.

Alongside the formation of the study group, the Centre has also introduced Model State Cinema Regulations and circulated them to all states for adoption. Since the regulation of cinemas and theatres falls under the State List, different states currently follow varying approval processes, which the Centre believes have slowed the expansion of cinema infrastructure, particularly in smaller towns and rural areas. The model regulations aim to simplify permissions and promote the establishment of more cinema halls across the country.

The government believes these initiatives will modernise India's film ecosystem by encouraging technological innovation, improving access to finance and creating a more uniform regulatory framework. Officials expect the reforms to strengthen film production, distribution and exhibition while helping Indian cinema expand its global reach and contribute more significantly to the country's creative economy.



Supreme Court Declines Immediate Bail to Asaram in Jodhpur Rape Case

The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to grant immediate interim bail to self-styled godman Asaram in the 2013 Jodhpur rape case, where he is serving a life sentence. The 90-year-old had sought bail on medical grounds, citing age-related health issues while challenging the Rajasthan High Court's order upholding his conviction.

A bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and Sheel Nagu issued a notice to the Rajasthan government on Asaram's appeal and directed it to file its response within three weeks. The court said it would consider the bail plea only after hearing the state's stand or if there is clear evidence of a serious deterioration in his medical condition.

The Rajasthan High Court

had earlier upheld Asaram's conviction and life sentence for the rape of a minor girl, while directing him to surrender after cancelling the interim medical bail granted to him. He subsequently approached the Supreme Court seeking relief.

During the hearing, the apex court observed that it was not inclined to grant immediate bail without examining the facts presented by the state government. However, it clarified that Asaram could approach the court again if his health condition worsens significantly before the next hearing.

With the Supreme Court agreeing to hear his appeal, the legal challenge to his conviction will continue. Until then, Asaram will remain in judicial custody as the court considers the case on its merits.

Kerala Private Bus Operators Announce Indefinite Protest Over Free Travel Scheme

Private bus operators in Kerala have announced an indefinite protest from July 20, alleging that the state's free travel scheme for women on Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) buses has severely affected their earnings and threatened the survival of private bus services. The agitation, led by the Private Bus Operators Federation, will be held in front of the State Secretariat in Thiruvananthapuram.

The controversy centres around the 'Priyadarshini' scheme, introduced under the state government's Indira

Guarantee Scheme, which offers free travel for women on 3,125 ordinary KSRTC buses. According to the Transport Department, the initiative has encouraged an additional five lakh women to use state-run bus services. However, private operators claim that the scheme has resulted in a sharp decline in passenger numbers and revenue.

Bus operators have also raised concerns over worsening financial conditions. In Palakkad, drivers and conductors alleged that their daily wages have been reduced to around

PM Modi Holds High-Level Review Meeting With Top Bureaucrats, Focus on Governance Reforms

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting with the secretaries of all Central ministries, underscoring the government's continued focus on governance reforms, policy implementation and administrative efficiency. The meeting, held shortly after the Prime Minister returned from his official visit to Seychelles, marked his second major interaction with the country's top bureaucracy in less than two months.

Although the government did not immediately disclose the details of the discussions, officials indicated that the meeting was expected to review ongoing reform initiatives aimed at improving the ease of doing business and ease of living. The Prime Minister is also believed to have assessed the progress of key developmental programmes and policy measures being implemented by various ministries.

The review comes as the Centre continues to push its long-term vision of 'Viksit Bharat @2047', which seeks to transform India into a devel-



oped nation by the centenary of its Independence. Secretaries from different ministries were expected to brief the Prime Minister on the implementation of reforms, regulatory simplification and developmental initiatives under their respective departments.

This was the second such comprehensive meeting after a similar interaction held on May 21, when Prime Minister Modi brought together Union ministers and senior bureaucrats to prepare regulatory roadmaps for accelerating economic growth and improving governance. During that meeting, he had stressed the need for faster decision-making, better inter-ministerial coordination and efficient execution of government policies.

The latest review reflects the government's emphasis on monitoring policy implementation at the highest level and ensuring that ministries remain aligned with national development goals. Such interactions are seen as an important mechanism for identifying bottlenecks, improving coordination across departments and speeding up the execution of flagship programmes.

With governance reforms and administrative efficiency remaining central to the government's agenda, the meeting is expected to provide fresh momentum to ongoing initiatives aimed at strengthening public service delivery, attracting investment and advancing India's long-term economic and developmental objectives.

Courts Must Safeguard Constitutional Supremacy, Says CJI Surya Kant

Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant has said that courts must remain vigilant guardians of constitutional supremacy, stressing that an independent judiciary is essential for protecting democracy, the rule of law and citizens' fundamental rights. He made the remarks while addressing an international judicial conference in Sweden attended by judges and legal experts from around the world.

Justice Surya Kant said constitutional courts have the responsibility of ensuring that all organs of the State function within the framework of the Constitution. He noted that judicial independence is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy and that courts must uphold constitutional values without fear or favour.

Highlighting the challenges faced by modern legal systems, the CJI observed that rapid



technological advancements, globalization and evolving social expectations have made constitutional adjudication more complex. He said courts must strike a balance between adapting to changing times and remaining faithful to the Constitution's core principles.

Justice Surya Kant also emphasized the importance of judicial integrity, transparency and accountability. He called for greater collaboration among judiciaries across the

world to exchange best practices and strengthen justice delivery systems.

The CJI said that constitutional courts play a vital role in preserving democratic institutions and ensuring that government actions remain within constitutional limits. He added that safeguarding constitutional supremacy is essential to maintaining public trust in the judiciary and protecting the rights and freedoms of every citizen.

General Dhiraj Seth Assumes Charge as India's 31st Army Chief

General Dhiraj Seth on Tuesday took charge as the 31st Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), succeeding General Upendra Dwivedi, who retired after more than four decades of distinguished service in the Indian Army. Before assuming the top post, General Seth served as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff and has held several key operational and strategic appointments during his nearly 40-year military career.

An alumnus of the National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasla, General Seth was commissioned into the Armoured Corps in December 1986. He is the first officer from

the Armoured Corps to become Army Chief since General Shankar Roy Chowdhary in 1997. Over the years, he has commanded formations at every level, including the Southern Command and South Western Command, and has extensive experience in conventional operations, counter-insurgency and capability development.

General Seth assumes leadership of the 1.3-million-strong Indian Army at a time when the force is undergoing rapid modernisation, with a strong focus on self-reliance, technology-driven warfare, integrated theatre commands and en-

hanced border preparedness. Defence officials believe his operational expertise and emphasis on future-ready military capabilities will help drive the Army's ongoing transformation.

After taking charge, General Seth paid tribute at the National War Memorial, while outgoing Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi expressed confidence in his successor's leadership. The change of command marks a significant transition as the Army continues to strengthen its operational readiness and adapt to evolving security challenges.



Rajnath Singh Unveils DFP-2026 to Fast-Track DRDO Projects and Boost Defence Innovation

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the Delegation of Financial Powers to DRDO (DFP-2026), a major reform aimed at improving the efficiency, accountability and timely execution of strategic research and development (R&D) projects undertaken by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The new framework is expected to streamline financial decision-making and accelerate the development of indigenous defence technologies.

According to the Ministry of Defence, DFP-2026 significantly enhances financial and functional powers at various levels within the Department of Defence R&D. The revised framework is designed to reduce procedural delays, enabling DRDO to execute critical defence projects more efficiently while ensuring greater accountability in the utilisation of financial resources.

Speaking at the launch, Rajnath Singh said the reform would facilitate the faster production and induction of advanced defence systems, platforms and technologies into the Armed Forces. He also noted that the framework would strengthen collaboration between DRDO, industry and academic institutions, reinforcing the government's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat by promoting self-reliance in defence technology and enhancing India's overall defence preparedness.

The revised financial frame-

work introduces dedicated provisions for trial campaigns, testing and evaluation activities, along with the authority to sanction pre-project R&D initiatives. It also clearly defines financial powers related to grants for Extra-Mural Research Projects, Defence Innovation Accelerator-Centres of Excellence (DIA-CoEs) and Technology Development Fund (TDF) projects, ensuring smoother implementation of innovation-driven programmes.

The reform comes at a time when DRDO is working on several high-priority projects, including the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), Project Kusha, the Agni missile series and the Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control System. Officials believe the enhanced financial autonomy under DFP-2026 will help speed up these programmes and improve coordination across research, development and production stages.

Senior defence officials, including Chief of Defence Staff General N.S. Raja Subramani, Defence Secretary and DRDO Chairman Rajesh Kumar Singh, and other top ministry officials attended the launch event. The government believes the new framework will strengthen India's defence innovation ecosystem, reduce project timelines and accelerate the delivery of cutting-edge technologies to the armed forces, further enhancing the country's strategic capabilities.



11-Year-Old Dies After Tree Crashes Onto School Bus in Mumbai's Chembur

An 11-year-old student lost his life and four others were injured after a large tree collapsed onto a school bus in Mumbai's Chembur area on Tuesday afternoon. The accident occurred on Road No. 11 while the bus, carrying 12 students, was on its way to school. Heavy rains and strong winds are suspected to have caused the tree to fall.

According to officials, the impact crushed the front portion of the bus. The conductor, local residents and emergency responders quickly launched a rescue operation and evacuated the children before the Mumbai Fire Brigade reached the spot. Five injured students were rushed to Zen Hospital for treatment. Doctors declared 11-year-old Vihan Shrivastav dead due to critical injuries, while the remaining four children are

reported to be in stable condition.

The incident has triggered concerns over public safety during the monsoon season. Residents alleged that they had repeatedly urged the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to trim or remove ageing trees in the area, warning that a similar incident had occurred earlier. They claimed no preventive action was taken despite repeated complaints.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast heavy rainfall and thunderstorms in Mumbai and its suburbs, prompting authorities to advise residents to remain cautious. Officials are investigating the incident while civic authorities are expected to review the condition of old trees across vulnerable areas to prevent similar tragedies during the ongoing monsoon.

Bangladesh's Strategic Shift Towards China Raises Security Concerns for India

RAVI PODILI

Bangladesh, a nation whose independence was achieved with India's decisive support in 1971, is increasingly moving closer to China and Pakistan, triggering fresh strategic and security concerns in New Delhi. Since the fall of the government led by Sheikh Hasina in 2024 and the formation of an interim administration after she sought refuge in India, Dhaka's foreign policy has undergone a significant shift, with a noticeable rise in moves perceived as unfriendly towards India.

The recent visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman to China has further intensified these concerns. During the visit, Bangladesh and China signed 17 agree-

ments, many of which are viewed by Indian strategic observers as having potential implications for India's regional security. One of the major developments was the revival of the proposed Bangladesh-Myanmar-China Economic Corridor, a project that could enhance China's strategic presence in South Asia.

Chinese President Xi Jinping reportedly placed special emphasis on expanding China's role in Bangladesh's maritime infrastructure. China has announced plans to modernize the strategically important Chittagong Port while discussions were also held to develop Mongla Port into a major regional hub.

A particularly significant development is Bangladesh's decision to cancel an earlier agreement with India

concerning land adjacent to Mongla Port. In 2015, during Sheikh Hasina's tenure, nearly 110 acres near the port had been allotted to an Indian developer for establishing an Indian Economic Zone. However, the interim government led by Younis Ahmed reportedly revoked the agreement last October, citing delays in project implementation, and has now allocated the same land to China.

Indian analysts view this as part of China's broader regional maritime strategy. Beijing has already secured a significant presence at Pakistan's Gwadar Port and Sri Lanka's Hambantota Port. With its expanding role in Chittagong and now Mongla, China is strengthening its influence across the northern Indian Ocean.

Mongla Port's proximity to India is of particular concern. Located just about 188 kilometres from Kolkata Port, it could potentially provide China with greater access to monitor maritime activities along India's eastern coastline and the Bay of Bengal. Security experts believe enhanced Chinese infrastructure in Bangladesh may increase surveillance capabilities over India's eastern naval operations and the northeastern region.

Further concerns have emerged over reports that Bangladesh is considering Chinese participation in the Teesta River project in northern Bangladesh. The project lies close to the strategically vital Siliguri Corridor, often referred to as India's "Chicken's Neck," which connects

the northeastern states with the rest of the country. Any significant Chinese presence near this corridor is viewed as a matter of strategic sensitivity. As China's footprint grows in Bangladesh, India may need to devote additional military and surveillance resources along its eastern frontier and the Bay of Bengal, complementing its existing focus on the borders with China and Pakistan.

However, India has also strengthened its own strategic posture in the region. In response to China's expanding maritime influence, New Delhi has developed strategic partnerships around the Indian Ocean, including operational access to Myanmar's Sittwe Port, Oman's Duqm Port, and Indonesia's Sabang Port. Simultaneously, India continues to



upgrade the Andaman and Nicobar Islands into a major military and maritime hub. Defence analysts believe that while the emerging China-Pakistan-Bangladesh alignment presents new geopolitical challenges,

India remains focused on countering these developments through strengthened border security, maritime partnerships, diplomatic engagement, and advanced defence capabilities.

Israel Says Troops Will Stay in Southern Lebanon Until Hezbollah Is Disarmed



outlines a process under which the Lebanese state would gradually assume full control over southern Lebanon while working toward the disarmament of Hezbollah. It also envisages the eventual withdrawal of Israeli forces once security conditions are met and the Lebanese Armed Forces establish effective control in the region.

However, the proposal has faced strong opposition from Hezbollah. The group's leadership has categorically rejected any plan requiring it to surrender its weapons, arguing that its armed wing remains essential for defending Lebanon against Israeli military action. Hezbollah

has also accused the Lebanese government of compromising national sovereignty by considering the agreement.

The differing positions have raised concerns among analysts, who warn that implementing the agreement could prove extremely difficult. Many believe the Lebanese government lacks the political authority and military capacity to force Hezbollah to disarm, making the conditions for an Israeli withdrawal challenging to fulfil. Some experts have cautioned that the arrangement could result in a prolonged Israeli military presence in southern Lebanon rather than bringing a lasting resolution to the conflict.

Meanwhile, diplomatic efforts continue to prevent renewed fighting along the Israel-Lebanon border. Senior US military and diplomatic officials have held separate meetings with Lebanese leaders and Israeli representatives in an effort to advance the framework and reduce regional tensions. Both sides have expressed support for avoiding further escalation, although major differences remain over the future of Hezbollah and the timetable for Israeli troop withdrawal.

The proposed framework marks one of the most significant diplomatic initiatives between Israel and Lebanon in decades. Yet with Israel insisting on Hezbollah's disarmament before any withdrawal and Hezbollah firmly rejecting that demand, the path to implementation remains uncertain. For now, Israeli forces are expected to remain in southern Lebanon while negotiations continue, leaving the region in a fragile state despite ongoing international mediation efforts.

What Is a Heat Dome? Understanding the Weather Phenomenon Driving Extreme Temperatures Worldwide

As record-breaking temperatures continue to affect several parts of the world, meteorologists are drawing attention to a weather phenomenon known as a heat dome, which is responsible for many prolonged and intense heatwaves. Experts say these events are becoming more frequent and severe as global temperatures rise due to climate change.

A heat dome forms when a strong, slow-moving high-pressure system settles over a region and traps hot air near the Earth's surface. The high-pressure system acts like a lid, preventing the hot air from escaping. As the trapped air is compressed, temperatures continue to rise, often resulting in several days of unusually hot and dry weather. Clear skies associated with the system also allow more sunlight to reach the ground, further increasing surface temperatures.

Climate scientists explain that while heat domes are naturally occurring weather events, global warming has



made them more dangerous. Rising average temperatures mean that when a heat dome develops, it starts with a warmer baseline, making heatwaves more intense and longer-lasting. Research indicates that human-driven climate change has increased both the frequency and severity of extreme heat events across many regions of the world. The impact of heat domes extends far beyond uncomfortable temperatures. Extended periods of extreme heat can trigger droughts, increase the risk of wildfires, strain electricity grids and reduce agricultural productivity. Human health is also significantly

affected, particularly among older adults, children, outdoor workers and people with existing medical conditions. High nighttime temperatures are especially dangerous because they prevent the body from recovering after extremely hot days. During the first half of 2026, several regions, including parts of the United States, Europe and India, experienced unusually intense heat linked to heat dome conditions. In Europe, temperatures climbed close to 40 degrees Celsius in multiple countries, prompting health alerts, school closures and emergency measures. Similar conditions have also contributed to

prolonged heatwaves in North America and parts of Asia. Experts recommend taking extra precautions during heat dome events. Staying hydrated, avoiding outdoor activities during the hottest hours of the day, wearing lightweight clothing and seeking air-conditioned or shaded environments can significantly reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses. Authorities also encourage people to regularly check on elderly relatives, neighbours and other vulnerable individuals during prolonged periods of extreme heat.

Scientists warn that unless global greenhouse gas emissions are reduced, heat domes and the extreme heat they produce are likely to become increasingly common in the years ahead. While weather forecasting has improved, limiting the long-term impact of these events will require broader efforts to address climate change, strengthen public health systems and improve urban planning to better withstand rising temperatures.

Bangladesh Measles Outbreak Crosses 1 Lakh Suspected Cases, Death Toll Climbs to 716



across the country. Of these, over 80,000 have recovered and been discharged, while thousands continue to receive treatment. Hospitals in several regions have struggled to cope with the surge in patients, particularly young children. Health officials say the outbreak has affected 58 of Bangladesh's 64 districts, making it one of the largest nationwide disease outbreaks in recent years. Dhaka has recorded the highest number of suspected infections, followed by Rajshahi, Chattogram and Khulna. Many cases have been reported from densely populated urban settlements, where overcrowding and gaps in vaccination coverage have

accelerated transmission. Children under the age of five remain the worst affected. According to health authorities, they account for nearly 79% of reported infections, with most severe cases occurring among children who had not received the recommended measles vaccinations. Infants below nine months, who are often too young for routine immunisation, have also been particularly vulnerable during the outbreak. To contain the spread, the Bangladeshi government launched a nationwide measles-rubella (MR) vaccination campaign in April, targeting young children in high-risk districts. Authorities have also intensified dis-

ease surveillance, expanded testing and strengthened hospital preparedness to improve case detection and treatment. The World Health Organization (WHO) has classified the situation as a high national public health risk, citing widespread transmission and immunity gaps among children. Measles is a highly contagious viral disease that spreads through respiratory droplets and can lead to serious complications, including pneumonia, encephalitis and death, especially among young children. Health experts stress that vaccination remains the most effective protection against the disease and continue to urge parents to ensure their children receive both recommended doses of the measles vaccine.

As Bangladesh races to contain the outbreak, public health officials warn that sustained vaccination efforts, improved surveillance and community awareness will be critical to preventing further infections and reducing the rising death toll.

UAE Launches First Passenger Train Service as Etihad Rail Connects Abu Dhabi and Fujairah



The United Arab Emirates has marked a major milestone in its transportation history with the launch of its first inter-emirate passenger train service, operated by Etihad Rail. The inaugural service between Abu Dhabi and Fujairah has generated tremendous public interest, with more than 10,000 tickets sold even before the official launch, reflecting strong demand for the country's long-awaited national railway network.

The first scheduled train departed Fujairah Station at 5:34 am and arrived at Mohamed bin Zayed City Station in Abu Dhabi in approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes. Running at speeds of up to 200 kmph, the service significantly reduces travel time between the two emirates while offering passengers a comfortable alternative to road transport.

During the introductory phase, three daily services will operate in each direction. Ticket prices begin at AED 55 for Comfort Class and AED 120 for Premium Class. Passengers can book tickets through the Etihad Rail mobile application and the company's official website. The trains are equipped with modern amenities, including complimentary Wi-Fi, charging ports, spacious seating, overhead luggage storage and dedicated areas for larger baggage, making the journey convenient for both business and leisure travellers.

The launch represents the first phase of the UAE's ambitious passenger rail project. In the coming months, the network will expand further with the opening of stations in

Dubai and Al Dhaid on September 30, followed by stations in the Al Dhafra region later this year. The final phase, including the Sharjah station, is expected to be completed by March 2027, ultimately connecting 11 cities and regions across the UAE.

Officials say the railway is designed to transform domestic travel by offering a faster, safer and more environmentally friendly mode of transportation. The service is expected to benefit daily commuters, tourists and business travellers while easing road congestion and supporting the country's sustainability goals. The stations have also been integrated with local public transport networks, allowing passengers to seamlessly connect with buses, taxis and other mobility services upon arrival.

Each of the 13 passenger

trains can accommodate up to 400 travellers, with the fleet designed to deliver a modern travel experience. The scenic route between Abu Dhabi and Fujairah passes through desert landscapes and mountain terrain, offering passengers views rarely seen from the country's highways.

The launch of Etihad Rail's passenger service is considered one of the UAE's most significant infrastructure achievements in recent years. Beyond improving connectivity between emirates, the project is expected to boost tourism, encourage economic growth and strengthen regional mobility. With additional routes set to become operational over the coming months, the national railway network is poised to redefine travel across the UAE and establish rail as a key component of the country's future transport system.

Sensex Falls 249 Points, Nifty Slips Below 23,900 as IT Stocks Lead Market Decline

Indian equity markets ended lower on Tuesday, with benchmark indices coming under pressure amid heavy selling in information technology (IT) stocks on the monthly derivatives expiry day. The BSE Sensex declined around 250 points to close at 76,478.67, while the NSE Nifty50 slipped 80.5 points to settle at 23,865.75, ending below the crucial 23,900 mark.

The markets started the session on a positive note, supported by encouraging global cues. However, gains proved short-lived as investors booked profits in IT shares, dragging the benchmarks into negative territory. Weak sentiment in the technology sector was largely driven by con-

cerns that higher interest rates in the United States could weigh on corporate technology spending, affecting Indian IT companies that derive a significant share of their revenue from overseas clients.

Among the sectoral indices, Nifty IT emerged as the worst performer, with heavyweights such as Infosys, TCS, HCLTech and Wipro witnessing significant selling pressure. Auto stocks also remained under pressure after the Delhi government's new Electric Vehicle Policy 2026-30 sparked concerns over the future demand outlook for conventional two-wheelers. Eicher Motors was among the notable losers, as investors worried about Royal



Enfield's relatively limited presence in the electric motorcycle segment.

Despite Tuesday's decline, market experts noted that the overall performance during

June remained positive. The Sensex gained over 2% during the month, while the Nifty

also posted healthy gains, supported by easing crude oil prices, measures announced by the Reserve Bank of India to strengthen the rupee and improve foreign capital inflows, and resilience in banking and financial stocks.

Analysts believe investors are now closely watching several key factors that could determine the market's near-term direction. These include the start of the first-quarter earnings season, global interest rate expectations, foreign institutional investor (FII) activity, monsoon progress and international crude oil prices. With monthly expiry-related volatility behind them, attention is expected to shift toward corporate earnings and mac-

roeconomic indicators.

The Indian rupee also weakened for the second straight session, ending 13 paise lower at 94.66 against the US dollar, reflecting cautious investor sentiment amid global uncertainties.

While Tuesday's session ended on a subdued note, market participants remain optimistic about the medium-term outlook. Analysts believe strong domestic fundamentals, continued policy support and improving corporate earnings could help Indian equities regain momentum in the coming weeks, though investors are likely to remain selective amid global economic uncertainties and sector-specific headwinds.

Calcutta Stock Exchange Shares Rally on Revival Buzz, But Experts Urge Investors to Stay Cautious



Shares of the Calcutta Stock Exchange (CSE) traded in the unlisted market have witnessed a sharp rally after the West Bengal government announced plans to revive the century-old bourse. While the development has sparked optimism among investors, market experts remain cautious, warning that significant regulatory, technological and commercial challenges must be overcome before any revival becomes a reality.

The renewed interest in CSE followed the state government's announcement during the recent budget presentation, where it expressed its intention to bring the exchange back into active operation. The proposal has fuelled buying activity in the unlisted market, with CSE shares rising from around 1,500 on June 21 to nearly 1,800

by June 30. Some trading platforms have even quoted prices close to 2,000 per share, although transaction volumes remain relatively low.

The Calcutta Stock Exchange, one of India's oldest stock exchanges, has not conducted equity trading since April 2013 after regulatory action by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). In February 2025, the exchange applied for voluntary exit, and SEBI initiated the process by appointing a valuer. However, no final decision has yet been taken on the application. Following the state's revival proposal, CSE is now expected to withdraw its exit request.

Despite the surge in investor interest, analysts believe reviving the exchange will be a difficult task. Any proposal would require SEBI's approval and

substantial investments in modern trading infrastructure, technology and regulatory compliance. Experts also point out that attracting meaningful trading volumes would be a major challenge, given the overwhelming dominance of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) in India's equity markets.

Another concern is the exchange's commercial viability. Market participants argue that simply reopening the platform may not be enough unless CSE can develop a unique business model that differentiates it from larger competitors. Without sufficient liquidity and investor participation, sustaining operations could prove difficult despite government backing.

While the exchange's report-

ed book value per share is above 3,000, experts caution that investors should not rely solely on this figure when valuing the stock. Unlisted shares often experience sharp price swings due to limited trading activity, making them inherently risky investments. The recent rally, they say, appears to be driven more by optimism than by any confirmed operational progress.

For now, the proposed revival remains at an early stage. The future of the Calcutta Stock Exchange will largely depend on regulatory approvals, successful infrastructure upgrades and its ability to attract participants in an increasingly competitive market. Until concrete steps are taken, analysts advise investors to remain cautious despite the recent surge in unlisted share prices.

India's Economic Growth Moderates, but Strong Domestic Demand Keeps Recovery on Track: HSBC

India's economic growth is showing signs of moderation after a period of robust expansion, but strong domestic demand continues to support the country's overall growth trajectory, according to a recent report by HSBC. The global financial services firm believes that while certain sectors are witnessing a slowdown, resilient consumer spending, government investment and healthy domestic activity are likely to keep the economy on a stable growth path.

HSBC's latest assessment indicates that the pace of economic expansion has eased compared to previous quarters, reflecting weaker external demand and a gradual cooling in manufacturing activity. However, the report highlights that India's domestic economy remains relatively insulated from global uncertainties due to its large consumer base and sustained public spending on infrastructure and development projects.

One of the key factors supporting the economy is resilient domestic consumption. Strong household spending, particularly in urban areas, has continued to drive demand for goods and services despite inflationary pressures. The report also points to healthy activity in the services sector, including financial services, hospitality and retail, which has played a crucial role in maintaining economic momentum.

Government capital expenditure has emerged as another major growth driver. Continued investments in roads, railways, airports and other infra-



structure projects have generated employment opportunities while supporting demand for industries such as cement, steel and construction. HSBC noted that these investments are helping offset weaker global trade and export-related challenges.

The report also observed that inflation has gradually eased compared to previous highs, providing some relief to consumers and businesses. Although food prices remain volatile due to weather-related factors, overall inflation has stayed within a manageable range, allowing the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) greater flexibility in balancing growth and price stability. Lower inflation is expected to improve purchasing power and support consumption in the coming months.

At the same time, HSBC cautioned that global risks continue to pose challenges for the Indian economy. Slower growth in advanced economies, geopolitical tensions and uncertainty surrounding international trade could impact exports and private investment. Neverthe-

less, India's relatively strong domestic fundamentals are expected to cushion the impact of these external headwinds.

Looking ahead, HSBC remains optimistic about India's medium-term prospects. The report suggests that sustained reforms, rising private consumption, improving rural demand and continued infrastructure spending will help maintain economic expansion even if the pace of growth moderates slightly. Analysts believe that India's structural strengths—including its young workforce, expanding digital economy and growing manufacturing base—will continue to support long-term development.

While the economy may no longer be growing at the rapid pace seen earlier, HSBC's outlook indicates that India's growth story remains intact. Strong domestic demand, policy support and resilient economic fundamentals are expected to help the country navigate global uncertainties and maintain its position as one of the world's fastest-growing major economies.

Mann Fleet Partners Files IPO Papers, Plans to Use Funds for Debt Repayment and Business Expansion

New Delhi-based mobility solutions provider Mann Fleet Partners has filed its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to raise capital through an initial public offering (IPO). The company intends to use a significant portion of the proceeds to reduce its debt while also strengthening its operations and supporting future growth.

The proposed IPO consists of a fresh issue of 60.12 lakh equity shares along with an offer for sale (OFS) of 19.1 lakh shares by existing shareholders. While the fresh issue will bring new capital into the company, the OFS will allow some existing investors to partially reduce their holdings. According to the draft documents, the promoter group, led by the Mann family, currently owns 96.61% of the company's equity, with public shareholders holding the remaining stake.

Mann Fleet Partners plans to utilise the net proceeds from the fresh issue primarily for the prepayment or repayment of outstanding borrowings. The company believes reducing its debt burden will strengthen its balance sheet, lower finance costs and improve its financial flexibility as it expands its operations. The remaining funds will be



used for general corporate purposes, including business development and operational requirements.

Established as a provider of premium mobility solutions, Mann Fleet Partners offers a wide range of transportation services to corporate clients, government departments, embassies, travel agencies and event management companies. The company operates a fleet of more than 364 owned vehicles, catering to corporate travel, chauffeur-driven rentals, airport transfers and large-scale event transportation. It also serves international clients through a vendor network spanning cities such as London, New York, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Colombo and Jeddah.

Over the years, the company

has built a reputation for handling transportation requirements for high-profile events and VIP delegations. Its client base includes multinational corporations, government organisations and diplomatic missions, giving it a diversified revenue stream and a strong presence in the organised mobility segment.

The IPO comes at a time when India's organised mobility and corporate travel industry is witnessing steady growth, driven by increasing business travel, tourism and demand for professional transportation services. Industry experts believe companies with established fleets, technology-driven operations and long-term corporate relationships are well positioned to

benefit from this trend. However, investors are also expected to closely evaluate the company's financial performance, debt levels and future growth strategy before making investment decisions.

The IPO's issue price, opening date and listing schedule are yet to be announced. Once approved by SEBI, Mann Fleet Partners is expected to proceed with the public offering, giving investors an opportunity to participate in the growth of one of India's established corporate mobility service providers. With debt reduction and operational strengthening at the core of its fundraising plan, the company hopes the IPO will provide a solid foundation for its next phase of expansion.

India's Flex-Fuel Push May Have Limited Impact as EV Adoption Accelerates, Says Bernstein

India's ambitious plan to expand the use of flex-fuel vehicles may deliver only modest economic benefits as electric vehicles (EVs) continue to gain momentum, according to a report by global brokerage Bernstein. While the country is expected to make further progress in ethanol blending, the report argues that investing heavily in a nationwide flex-fuel ecosystem may not provide returns proportionate to the cost involved.

India achieved its target of 20% ethanol blending in petrol ahead of schedule and is now expected to increase the blending ratio to between 25% and 27% by 2030. Bernstein believes this goal is technically achievable, particularly for newer vehicles. However, it questions whether expanding to high-ethanol fuels such as E85 through large-scale flex-fuel infrastructure is economically justified at a time when EVs are becoming increasingly competitive.

According to the brokerage, even under an optimistic scenario, higher ethanol blending and flex-fuel vehicles together would reduce India's crude oil imports by only about 4-5% by the end of the decade. More importantly, flex-fuel passenger vehicles themselves are expected to contribute just 1-1.5 percentage points of those savings, with the majority coming from higher ethanol blending and the growing adoption of



EVs, hybrid vehicles and CNG-powered models.

Bernstein also highlighted the rapid improvements in electric mobility. Falling battery prices, expanding charging infrastructure and lower running costs are making EVs increasingly attractive to consumers. As the total cost of EV ownership moves closer to that of petrol-powered vehicles, the brokerage believes many of the objectives of the flex-fuel programme—such as reducing oil imports and lowering emissions—can be achieved more efficiently through electric mobility.

The report also points to practical challenges in expanding ethanol use. More than 80% of vehicles currently on Indian roads were originally designed for E10 fuel and may not perform optimally with higher ethanol blends. In addition, India's ethanol production depends heavily on sugarcane, molasses and maize, making supply vulnerable to poor monsoons and fluctuations in agri-

cultural output. Bernstein noted that during a weak monsoon in 2023, India even had to import maize, raising concerns about the long-term sustainability of ethanol production.

Drawing comparisons with global markets, the brokerage observed that countries such as the United States, China and Thailand have faced challenges in scaling flex-fuel programmes due to infrastructure limitations and changing market dynamics. Brazil remains a notable exception, but Bernstein believes India's conditions differ significantly because EV technology is now advancing much faster than when Brazil built its ethanol ecosystem.

Despite its reservations, Bernstein does not oppose India's ethanol programme. Instead, it recommends that policymakers continue strengthening the existing blending initiative while remaining cautious about committing large investments to a nationwide flex-fuel network. The brokerage suggests that such investments would become more attractive only if crude oil prices remain consistently high, second-generation biofuels become commercially viable or the pace of EV adoption slows considerably. Until then, Bernstein believes electric vehicles are likely to play a bigger role than flex-fuel technology in shaping India's future transportation landscape.

From ₹45 Lakh Salary to Startup Setback: Founder's Honest Story Highlights the Cost of Chasing Entrepreneurial Dreams

Leaving a secure, high-paying job to build a successful startup is a dream shared by many young professionals. However, one entrepreneur's candid account of failure has gone viral on social media, reminding aspiring founders that the startup journey can be as unforgiving as it is rewarding.

The tech professional, a graduate from a premier Tier-1 college, revealed that they resigned from a lucrative job paying over 45 lakh per annum to pursue entrepreneurship. Driven by the ambition to build something meaningful, the individual launched two startups. Despite months of effort, dedication, and risk-taking, both ventures failed, wiping out personal savings and leaving the founder back at square one.

In the emotional post shared on Reddit, the founder admitted that the financial losses were painful, but the biggest setback was the loss of self-confidence. They explained that the repeated failures gradually eroded their belief in



their own abilities, making it difficult to even consider applying for jobs again.

The entrepreneur confessed that preparing for interviews has become mentally challenging, with self-doubt constantly raising the question of why any company would hire someone whose startups did not succeed. According to the founder, this fear has become a significant obstacle in rebuilding

their professional career.

The story resonated with thousands of social media users, many of whom shared similar experiences of failed ventures, career breaks, and financial setbacks. Several commenters encouraged the founder not to view the startup failures as wasted years but as valuable learning experiences that demonstrate resilience, leadership, and problem-solving skills.

Others pointed out that failure is an inherent part of entrepreneurship, noting that a majority of startups do not survive despite hard work and innovative ideas. Many reassured the entrepreneur that employers increasingly value candidates who have taken calculated risks, managed teams, and learned from setbacks.

The viral post has sparked wider discussions about the realities behind startup culture, where success stories often receive attention while failures remain largely invisible. The founder's honesty has been praised for presenting a more balanced picture of entrepreneurship—one that includes uncertainty, emotional struggles, and the courage to start over.

The story serves as a reminder that while entrepreneurship offers immense opportunities, it also demands resilience. Failure, though painful, can become a stepping stone toward future success when viewed as a lesson rather than the end of the journey.

American Couple Reveals Five Surprising Reasons They Fell in Love With Life in India

An American couple has captured social media's attention after sharing five unexpected aspects of life in India that completely changed their perception of the country. Sam and Karis, who have been travelling across India with their children, posted a viral Instagram video describing how the country's culture, traditions and sense of community made a lasting impression on their family.

One of the biggest surprises for the couple was India's welcoming attitude towards children. Before arriving, they had heard concerns that travelling with kids might be difficult. Instead, they discovered that children are warmly embraced wherever they go. According to the couple, their kids were treated with affection and allowed to simply enjoy being children, rather than being expected to behave quietly in public spaces. They described this acceptance as one of the most heartwarming parts of their stay.

Another unexpected experience was driving on Indian roads. While many foreign visitors find Indian traffic intimidating, Sam said he actually enjoys driving in the country. He described every journey as an adventure, adding that the constantly changing road con-



ditions make each trip exciting rather than stressful.

The couple also grew to appreciate India's strong sense of community. In many Western countries, dropping by someone's home without prior notice is often considered impolite. In India, however, neighbours casually visiting each other reflects close social bonds. Sam and Karis said they have come to value these spontaneous interactions, which make everyday life feel more connected and welcoming.

Festivals and celebrations also stood out during their stay. Whether it was a major religious festival or a small family gathering, they admired how Indians find reasons to celebrate throughout the year. They said these occasions bring people together through music, dance, food and laughter, creating unforgettable memories for both adults and

children.

The final surprise was India's monsoon season. Instead of viewing the rains as an inconvenience, the couple said they learned to appreciate the slower pace of life that comes with the season. They felt the monsoon encouraged people to pause, spend more time with family and adapt naturally to the rhythm of nature.

Their post received an overwhelmingly positive response online, with many Indians thanking them for highlighting these often-overlooked aspects of everyday life. Several users agreed that India's warmth, hospitality and vibrant culture are experiences that visitors can truly appreciate only after living in the country. The couple's story offers a refreshing reminder that meaningful travel often lies in embracing local traditions and discovering joy in everyday experiences.

Bangladesh-Born Techie Walks Away From ₹9.4 Crore Google Paycheck to Build His Own AI Startup

Choosing entrepreneurship over a highly paid corporate career is never an easy decision, but a Bangladesh-born technology professional has done exactly that. After earning nearly 9.4 crore (around \$1 million) annually at Google, Yousuf Imran decided to leave the tech giant and launch his own artificial intelligence startup, betting on the future of AI innovation.

Imran's journey began when his family moved from Bangladesh to New York during his childhood. Growing up in an immigrant household, he developed a strong work ethic

that eventually helped him build a successful career in Silicon Valley. Before joining Google in 2020, he spent nearly two decades in enterprise sales and technology, gaining expertise in helping businesses adopt advanced AI and machine learning solutions.

Although Google offered financial security and industry-leading opportunities, Imran said he increasingly felt that the rapid growth of artificial intelligence presented a once-in-a-generation opportunity to build something of his own. He admitted experiencing a fear of missing out as AI startups

transformed the technology landscape, motivating him to take the entrepreneurial leap.

Rather than resigning impulsively, Imran spent months preparing for the transition. He reportedly saved around \$200,000 to fund his new venture for two years and kept an additional \$150,000 aside to cover personal expenses, including his mortgage. This financial cushion allowed him to focus on developing products without the immediate pressure of generating revenue.

His startup, Mangosteen Studio, is focused on building AI-

powered sales tools designed to improve productivity for account executives and sales teams. Imran believes his years of experience in enterprise sales provide him with a competitive advantage, enabling him to solve real-world business problems using artificial intelligence rather than simply following industry trends. The former Google executive also revealed that repeated layoffs across the technology sector reinforced his belief that even prestigious jobs offer limited long-term security. Instead of relying on corporate stability, he chose to

invest in his own skills, experience and vision for the future.

Reflecting on his decision, Imran acknowledged that leaving Google meant giving up a substantial salary and access to cutting-edge technology resources. However, he believes the opportunity to create, innovate and retain ownership of his work outweighs the financial risks. His story has inspired many aspiring entrepreneurs, serving as a reminder that careful planning, industry expertise and confidence can make even the biggest career risks worth taking.



'Toxic' CEO Sparks Outrage After Allegedly Forcing 14-Hour Workdays and Publicly Humiliating Employees

A startup founder has come under intense criticism after a former employee shared disturbing allegations about the company's work culture, describing it as "toxic" and emotionally draining. The viral account claims the CEO routinely humiliated staff, demanded extremely long working hours and created an atmosphere of fear through constant threats and public criticism.

According to the employee's post, workers were expected to put in up to 14 hours a day, often without regard for their personal lives or well-being. Missing deadlines or failing to meet expectations reportedly resulted in public reprimands during meetings, leaving many employees anxious and demoralised. The former staff member alleged that criticism

was delivered harshly rather than constructively, making everyday work increasingly stressful.

The post further claimed that the CEO frequently threatened employees with termination if they failed to meet demanding performance targets. This constant pressure allegedly created a workplace where staff members feared making even minor mistakes. Rather than encouraging collaboration or innovation, the environment was described as one driven by intimidation and unrealistic expectations.

In addition to the long working hours, the employee alleged that taking leave or requesting a better work-life balance was often discouraged. Workers reportedly felt compelled to remain available

beyond office hours, contributing to exhaustion and burnout. The former employee said the relentless workload eventually affected both mental health and overall job satisfaction. The social media post quickly gained traction, prompting widespread discussion about toxic leadership and workplace culture in startups. Many users shared similar experiences from their own careers, saying that excessive working hours, public humiliation and fear-based management are more common than many people realise. Several commenters argued that no salary or career opportunity is worth sacrificing one's mental health and dignity.

Others stressed that strong leadership should inspire employees rather than intimidate them. They pointed out that

high-performing organisations are built on trust, respect and open communication, not fear or constant pressure. Many also encouraged workers facing similar situations to document inappropriate behaviour, seek professional support and consider healthier workplaces if conditions fail to improve.

Although the allegations have not been independently verified, the viral post has reignited conversations about employee well-being and corporate accountability. It serves as a reminder that productivity cannot be sustained through intimidation alone and that healthy workplace cultures are increasingly becoming a priority for both employees and employers in today's competitive job market.



US-Based Techie Earning ₹2 Crore Plans Early Retirement in Mexico at 38, Prioritises Financial Freedom Over Corporate Success



For many professionals, earning a multi-crore salary is the ultimate career milestone. But for Carlos Santana Roldán, a software engineer based in California, financial independence—not a bigger paycheck—is the real goal. Despite earning nearly 2 crore (\$200,000) annually, the 38-year-old plans to retire within the next few years and return to his home country, Mexico.

Roldán's career began modestly in Mexico, where he worked as a software engineer for companies serving US clients. During the early years of his career, he earned between \$800 and \$1,500 a month. Seeking better opportunities and higher pay, he moved to the United States in 2013, where his career progressed steadily through several technology companies.

His biggest financial breakthrough came while working at Snap. Thanks to the rapid

rise in the company's stock price, his annual compensation peaked at around \$420,000 (approximately 4 crore) in 2021. However, Roldán says the impressive income never changed his long-term priorities. Instead of spending lavishly, he invested most of his earnings in real estate projects back home in Mexico.

Over the past five years, he has built holiday rental cabins in Mexico and even developed custom booking software to manage the business. These investments now generate passive income, giving him confidence that he can eventually step away from full-time employment without compromising his lifestyle.

Roldán admits that working in the US offered tremendous earning potential, but it also exposed him to layoffs, visa-related uncertainties and the pressures of the corporate world. These experiences encouraged him to focus on

building financial security outside traditional employment. According to him, true wealth lies in having the freedom to choose how you spend your time rather than relying on a monthly salary.

Today, most of his investments remain in Mexico, where he hopes to spend the next phase of his life with his family. His immediate goal is to complete one more holiday rental property before leaving software engineering for good.

Roldán's journey has resonated with professionals worldwide, especially those pursuing the Financial Independence, Retire Early (FIRE) movement. His story highlights that high earnings alone do not guarantee happiness; disciplined investing, long-term planning and creating multiple income streams can offer something even more valuable—financial freedom and the ability to retire on one's own terms.

