

Fisheries Graduates to Get More Opportunities

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

State Fisheries Minister Vakiti Srihari on Wednesday assured students who completed their Bachelor of Fisheries Science (BFSc) and other fisheries-related courses that the government would support them by creating more opportunities in the sector. He said their services would be effectively utilized to increase fish production and strengthen the fisheries industry in Telangana.

A group of BFSc graduates met the Minister at the Secretariat and submitted their concerns. Responding immediately, Srihari called Fisheries Managing Director Nikhila and discussed the issues raised by the students. He directed officials to prepare a detailed report on how fisheries graduates can be



involved in improving production and generating employment.

The Minister said Telangana has produced more than 500 BFSc graduates, 200 Master of Fisheries Science (MFSc) graduates, and around 50 PhD holders in fisheries. He

added that over 60 students from the state have completed fisheries education at Peberu Fisheries College and other institutions across the country.

Srihari said nearly 70 students graduate from fisheries courses every year. Since it is not possible to provide government employment to every graduate in the Fisheries Department, the government is exploring ways to help them become entrepreneurs and create employment opportunities for others. He suggested that each graduate could potentially support livelihood opportunities for around ten people through activities linked to fish production. The Minister said major reforms have already been introduced in departments including Sports, Dairy

Development, Animal Husbandry, and Youth Services, and similar transformation is now being planned in the Fisheries Department.

Highlighting the need to improve fish seed production in Telangana, Srihari said the state requires around 85 crore fishlings every year for distribution in reservoirs and tanks. However, only about 15 crore fishlings are currently produced within the state, forcing authorities to procure the remaining 70 crore from neighbouring states.

He stressed the importance of achieving self-reliance in fish seed production and said opportunities should be provided to fisheries graduates to increase local production. This, he said, would ensure that funds spent on fish seed

procurement benefit local youth and the state economy. The Minister said Telangana currently produces nearly five lakh metric tonnes of fish annually and expressed confidence that production could be increased further by providing proper incentives and support. He also mentioned that the inclusion of fish curry in the mid-day meal scheme would create additional demand and directed officials to prepare plans for utilizing the expertise of young fisheries graduates.

During the meeting, Fisheries MD Nikhila brought the issue of vacant regular and outsourced posts in the department to the Minister's notice. Srihari instructed her to submit complete details of the vacancies for further action.

Revanth Directs Officials to Boost Revenue Mobilisation

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday reviewed the state government's revenue mobilisation strategy with senior officials at the MCRHRD Institute and issued key directions to improve revenue collection and financial management in Telangana.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Ministers Uttam Kumar Reddy and Jupally Krishna Rao, Chief Secretary Sanjai Jaju, government advisors Ramakrishna Rao, and other senior officials from various departments.

During the review, the Chief Minister stressed that serious attention should be given to revenue mobilisation to achieve the targets set in accordance with the state budget. He directed officials to strengthen efforts to increase revenue generation and ensure better financial discipline across departments.

Revanth Reddy instructed major agencies, including HMDA and TGIC, to focus on improving revenue mobilisation. He also emphasized the need to prevent revenue leakages in key departments such as Commercial Taxes, Excise, Mining, and other revenue-generating sectors.

The Chief Minister suggested establishing a dedicated "chasing cell" to continuously monitor and follow up on revenue mobilisation efforts. He said departments must improve their operational capabilities and work with greater efficiency to meet the expected performance standards.

Discussing the use of technology in governance, Revanth Reddy directed officials to explore the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for linking beneficiary databases with the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system. He said technology should be



effectively used to ensure transparency and improve the delivery of government schemes.

The Chief Minister also reviewed the upcoming budget preparation process and instructed officials to frame the budget based on practical realities rather than unrealistic estimates. He said priority should be given to completing pending projects and ongoing works while ensuring proper allocation of resources.

He highlighted that land acquisition should be treated as a priority area, as delays in the process often affect the progress of development projects. Officials were asked to focus on resolving land-related issues to speed up implementation.

Revanth Reddy assured that the government would extend all necessary support to departments to improve their functioning and achieve targets. However, he warned that negligence in revenue enhancement and fund mobilisation efforts would not be acceptable.

The Chief Minister directed all departments to adopt a proactive approach and work towards strengthening the state's financial position through effective planning, improved revenue collection, and better utilisation of available resources.

Three New Airports Planned to Boost Air Connectivity

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has announced plans to establish three new airports in the state as part of efforts to improve air connectivity and reduce the dependence on Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at Shamshabad for travelers from different regions.

The government has confirmed that the foundation stone for the Warangal-Mamnoon Airport is expected to be laid next month. Along with Warangal, plans are also underway to develop airports in Adilabad and Kothagudem, expanding aviation infrastructure across Telangana.

At present, Shamshabad airport remains the only major airport serving passengers in the state, requiring people from distant districts to travel long distances for air travel. The proposed airports are aimed at making flight services more accessible to people in various parts of



Telangana.

The Centre has already given approval for the development of the Adilabad Airport. Officials said the project will make use of the existing Air Force airstrip along with additional land acquired for the facility. The airport is planned as a dual-use facility, catering to both defence and civilian aviation requirements.

The state government is also

working towards establishing an airport at Kothagudem. While approval from the Centre is still awaited, discussions are underway and officials are hopeful of receiving the required clearances soon.

Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies Uttam Kumar Reddy made key announcements regarding the airport projects while participating as the chief guest at the

'Aeromart 2026' conference held in Hyderabad. He stated that the foundation stone for the Warangal-Mamnoon Airport would be laid next month.

The Minister said the Adilabad airport proposal has received approval from the Centre and that the Detailed Project Report (DPR) has already been prepared. He added that the airport would serve both civil-

ian and military purposes. Speaking about Kothagudem Airport, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government is pursuing necessary approvals and expects progress soon.

He also highlighted Telangana's growth in the aerospace and defence sectors, stating that the state is encouraging industries through various incentives. He said more than 1,500 MSMEs are operating in Telangana and contributing to manufacturing components for space, defence, and aviation industries.

The Minister said products carrying the "Made in Telangana" identity are now becoming part of fighter aircraft and helicopters across the world, reflecting the state's industrial capabilities. The proposed airport projects are expected to strengthen regional connectivity, support economic growth, and create new opportunities in tourism, trade, and industrial development across Telangana.

Revanth Hails Doctors and CAs for Public Service

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday extended greetings to doctors and Chartered Accountants on the occasion of National Doctors' Day and Chartered Accountants Day, appreciating their valuable contributions to society and the nation.

On National Doctors' Day, the Chief Minister conveyed his heartfelt wishes to the medical fraternity and praised doctors for their selfless service, sacrifices, and dedication towards public health. He said doctors continue to bring hope and healing to countless lives despite facing

several challenges in their profession.

In a message, Revanth Reddy stated that the spirit of doctors' service would continue to inspire society for generations. He acknowledged the commitment of healthcare professionals who work tirelessly to protect people's health and provide medical support during critical situations.

The Chief Minister said the medical community plays a vital role in strengthening the healthcare system and expressed appreciation for their compassion, responsibility, and commitment to humanity.

On Chartered Accountants

Day, Revanth Reddy also extended his greetings to Chartered Accountants and recognized their role in strengthening the country's economy through transparency, accountability, and ethical financial practices.

He said Chartered Accountants serve as trusted advisors to businesses and investors and play an important role in supporting the implementation of government financial and economic policies. Their expertise, he noted, contributes to building a strong financial system and promoting sustainable development.

Appreciating the dedication, discipline, and integrity of



Chartered Accountants, the Chief Minister said their services are essential for effective financial management and economic progress. He expressed confidence that the profession would continue to contribute significantly to India's growth and national development.

Revanth Reddy said both doctors and Chartered Accountants represent important pillars of society, with doctors safeguarding public health and CAs supporting economic stability and growth. He wished members of both professions continued success in their respective fields.

Ponnam Urges Vigilance Over Voter List Revision

Armoor, July 01 | TPN Bureau

State Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Tuesday urged people to remain alert during the ongoing voter list revision process across Telangana, stating that every eligible citizen's vote must be protected. Addressing a media conference in Armoor, the Minister said the Congress party is committed to safeguarding democratic rights and ensuring that no genuine voter is removed from the electoral rolls.

Ponnam said the Election Commission's Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are carrying out the revision process, while the Congress party has appointed Booth Level Agents (BLAs) to coordinate with officials and assist people. He said the BLAs are visiting households to create awareness and prevent eligible voters from losing their voting rights.

The Minister claimed that in states such as Bihar and West Bengal, where Special Summary Revision (SSR) of electoral rolls was conducted,



a large number of names were removed, which he alleged affected election results. He accused the BJP-led Central government of targeting voters opposed to it and expressed concerns that similar issues could arise in Telangana.

Calling upon democratic activists and political leaders to stay watchful, Ponnam said all voters should cooper-

ate with the verification process. He advised citizens to keep two photographs ready and provide required details when BLOs visit their homes. He added that enumeration forms are already being distributed door-to-door.

Referring to earlier voter revision exercises, Ponnam said that during the 2002 revision process, efforts were

made by both the Election Commission and the government to ensure that eligible voters were not excluded. However, he alleged that the Election Commission is now facing several criticisms and questioned public perceptions regarding its functioning. The Minister also criticized the BJP over its political approach in Telangana, ask-

ing the party to explain its contribution to the state during its 12 years in power at the Centre. He said that when the BJP national president visits Telangana, he should highlight the party's achievements instead of only criticizing the Congress government.

Ponnam alleged that several promises made during the Telangana bifurcation process remain unfulfilled and questioned the BJP's stand on issues related to the state's development. He also claimed that the party's earlier opposition to Telangana's formation had affected its political presence in the state.

Targeting the BJP's electoral performance, the Minister said the party should examine its results in local body elections before making major claims. He alleged that the BJP benefited from support provided by the BRS in parliamentary elections and advised leaders to maintain political decorum while making state-

More Indiramma Houses Sought for Tribal Areas



Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

A delegation of Adivasi and tribal public representatives led by Minister Seethakka met Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy at the Secretariat on Wednesday and requested the sanction of additional 'Indiramma' houses for tribal areas under the Integrated Tribal

Development Agency (ITDA) jurisdiction in the second phase of the housing scheme. The representatives submitted a memorandum highlighting the importance of extending housing support to Agency areas and stated that the 'Indiramma' housing scheme is bringing significant changes to the lives of Adivasi families. They urged the government to provide special priority to tribal regions while allocating houses in the next phase.

Minister Seethakka, along with MLAs Koram Kanakaiah, Tellam Venkatrao, and Vedma Boju Patel, thanked Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy for sanctioning 1,500 'Indiramma' houses to Agency constituencies under ITDA jurisdiction during the first phase. They said the decision has helped thousands of tribal families move closer to realizing their dream of owning permanent homes.

The representatives pointed out that many Adivasi families in remote Agency areas are still living in thatched

houses and temporary shelters. They said geographical difficulties, economic challenges, and lack of infrastructure have made it difficult for these families to construct permanent houses on their own.

They requested that the government consider the unique conditions of tribal regions and allocate a larger share of houses to ITDA areas compared to general areas during the second phase of the scheme.

The delegation emphasized that providing housing facilities in tribal regions would not only improve living conditions but also contribute to the overall development and welfare of Adivasi communities. They said permanent housing would provide security and stability to families living in vulnerable conditions.

While appreciating the state government's initiatives for tribal welfare, the representatives appealed to Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy to positively consider their request and sanction additional houses for Agency areas.

The Housing Minister responded positively to the representation and assured that the government would examine the request. The meeting was attended by Adivasi and tribal public representatives who stressed the need for continued focus on housing and development in remote tribal regions.

Laxman Kumar Challenges Opposition Over Welfare Schools Row

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Welfare Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar on Wednesday challenged opposition leaders to come forward for an open debate over allegations related to welfare residential schools, stating that the truth should be decided before the people. Reacting to repeated criticism over the functioning of welfare residential institutions, the Minister accused opposition leaders of trying to mislead the public through baseless allegations. He said that if former Ministers Harish Rao and KTR come forward for a discussion, three Ministers from the



Congress government would also participate in the debate. Laxman Kumar said that if former IPS officer and oppo-

sition leader R.S. Praveen Kumar attends the discussion alone, Congress spokespersons would be suffi-

cient to respond to his allegations with facts and evidence. He asserted that the Congress government was ready to face questions and clarify every issue before the people. The Minister said the government does not believe in making promises and stepping back, adding that evidence and facts should determine the truth rather than accusations.

"We are not the type to make a promise and then back down. Our culture is not to run away from discussions," he said, challenging opponents to prove their claims. The Minister invited opposition leaders for a public debate at the Martyrs' Memorial (Amaraveerula

Shthupam) in Hyderabad on July 2 at 11 AM. He said the discussion would provide an opportunity to place facts before the people and allow citizens to judge whose arguments are based on truth. Laxman Kumar maintained that the government was committed to the welfare of students and would continue working to strengthen residential education institutions in the state.

He reiterated that allegations should be supported by evidence and said the Congress government was prepared to answer questions related to public welfare programmes.

Japan PM Arrives in India for Key Talks

continued

are expected to discuss ways to expand economic cooperation, increase investment partnerships, enhance defence and security collaboration, and strengthen people-to-people connections between the two nations.

The India-Japan relationship has developed significantly over the years, with both countries working together in areas such as infrastructure development, manufacturing, clean energy, digital technology, and strategic security cooperation. As per the MEA schedule, Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Hyderabad House on Thursday. The discussions are expected to focus on future cooperation and strengthening the partnership between the two countries.

Officials said the annual summit reflects the commitment of both nations to further deepen their long-standing strategic relationship. The visit is also expected to provide momentum to ongoing collaborations and explore new opportunities in emerging sectors.

The three-day visit will conclude after a series of high-level meetings and interactions aimed at enhancing mutual cooperation between India and Japan.

Power Network to Get Digital Mapping Upgrade

continued

connected to every transformer. Once the process is completed, the system will provide details about the exact power supply route for each consumer, including the EHT substation, 33 kV feeder, 11 kV feeder, and distribution transformer supplying electricity to that connection. Officials said the new system will significantly benefit consumers by helping identify the exact location of faults whenever complaints are registered through the 1912 call centre, TGSPDCL mobile application, WhatsApp service, or web portal. The digital platform is expected to reduce the time required for fault detection and power restoration. It will also help provide consumers with clearer information regarding outage reasons and expected restoration timelines. For TGSPDCL, the mapped network will improve outage monitoring, reduce operational expenses, support better load management, and enable more scientific planning of power infrastructure. The digital infrastructure will also create a foundation for advanced technologies such as smart grid integration, artificial intelligence-based outage management, and predictive maintenance systems. Officials said the initiative is part of TGSPDCL's modernization efforts to improve reliability, efficiency, and customer service in the electricity distribution sector. The digital transformation is expected to help the utility respond more effectively to future power demands and strengthen the overall supply network.

Kavitha Promises Free Education, Healthcare



Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Rakshana Sena President Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Tuesday said there is a need to change the political agenda of the state and announced that her party would provide free education and free healthcare if it comes to power. Addressing political issues in the state, Kavitha criticized Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, alleging that the government was focusing on returning to power without fully implementing promises made during elections. She questioned the government's priorities, asking how it could cite a lack of funds for fee reimbursement while considering an expenditure of ₹1 lakh crore on the Musi project. Kavitha said that even after twelve years of Telangana's formation, the expected improvement in the lives of poor and weaker sections has not taken place. She stated that the Telangana Rakshana Sena was formed with the aim of working towards improving the living standards of common people. She promised that if her party gets an opportunity to govern, it would ensure free education and healthcare facilities for citizens. She said such measures would reduce the financial burden on poor families and create better opportunities for future generations. Kavitha emphasized that her party's objective is to bring a change in the state's development priorities and focus on public welfare. She appealed to party leaders and workers to work with dedication and commitment to strengthen the organization at the grassroots level. She said hard work and consistent efforts are essential for achieving political and social goals. Kavitha reiterated that the Telangana Rakshana Sena would continue to raise issues concerning people's welfare and work towards bringing changes in governance.

Ponnam Questions BJP's Contribution

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Wednesday questioned the BJP's contribution to Telangana during its 12 years in power at the Centre and demanded that the party explain its achievements in the state before seeking votes in future elections. Reacting to the visit of BJP National President Nitin Nabin, the Minister said BJP leaders should first explain what they have done for Telangana and then approach people for electoral support. He alleged that after being in power for more than a decade, the BJP has limited itself to criticizing the Congress government instead of addressing issues related to the state's development. Ponnam said the BJP had made several promises to Telangana and questioned the status of those commitments. He advised BJP leaders to maintain political dignity and focus on explaining their work rather than only targeting the state government. "If criticizing the state government is the only agenda, the Central government must answer for the assurances it gave to Telangana," the Minister said. He also questioned the BJP's electoral strength in the state and asked party leaders to review their performance in local body elections, including the number of corporators and sarpanches won. Targeting the BRS, Ponnam alleged that the party indirectly helped the BJP in parliamentary elections through political understanding. He claimed that the BJP's claims of having a strong presence on the ground did not match the actual situation.



Harish Rao Targets Congress Over Farmer Issues

Karimnagar, July 01 | TPN Bureau

BRS Deputy Floor Leader and former Minister T. Harish Rao on Wednesday launched a strong attack on the Congress government, alleging that it failed to fulfil promises made to farmers and people of Telangana. Addressing a large party workers' meeting at Konda Satya Lakshmi Gardens in Karimnagar, he said the government's own statements indicate fear of political defeat. The meeting was attended by Karimnagar MLA and former Minister Gangula Kamalakara, former Minister Koppula Eshwar, former MLAs Rasamayi Balakishan and Sunke Ravishankar, former ZP Chairperson Tula Uma, and several party leaders and workers. Harish Rao said there is a strong connection



between Karimnagar and the BRS movement, recalling that the district played an important role during the Telangana agitation. He said the region witnessed major milestones, including the Simha Garjana rally and KCR's fast-unto-death movement. Criticising Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Harish Rao alleged that the Congress government had

failed to implement key promises made to farmers, including commitments related to Rythu Bandhu and loan waivers. He questioned the government's performance on farmer welfare and claimed that agricultural communities were facing difficulties due to various issues. He alleged that farmers were struggling for fertilizers and basic support, com-

paring the current situation with the previous BRS government's initiatives. He also criticized the government over irrigation issues and demanded that the Kannepalli motors be immediately switched on to supply water to various projects and protect standing crops. Harish Rao said the Kaleshwaram project was developed during the previous government with the aim of addressing drought conditions and supporting farmers. He alleged that the current government was delaying water utilization due to political reasons.

The BRS leader also focused on the ongoing voter registration process and asked party workers to remain alert. He alleged that there could be attempts to remove opposition voters and instructed booth-level agents

to ensure that eligible voters complete the necessary procedures.

He advised party workers to coordinate with Booth Level Officers and help people submit enrollment forms. He said youth who will turn 18 by October 1 should be encouraged to register as voters before the deadline. Harish Rao said the party has established support systems, including constituency-level officers and call centres, to assist booth agents. He urged workers to dedicate time to voter registration activities and ensure that no eligible voter is left out.

He described booth agents as the foundation of the party's organizational structure and said their efforts would play a crucial role in strengthening the BRS at the grassroots level.

BJP Challenges Revanth for Open Debate

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao on Wednesday launched a sharp attack on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, alleging that the Congress government was facing pressure following the visit of BJP National President Nitin Nabin to the state. Ramchander Rao claimed that the successful three-day visit of the BJP national leader and the response received from party workers and people had created fear within the Congress. He alleged that the Chief Minister was reacting out of frustration as issues related to corruption and the alleged

"RR Tax" were being highlighted by the BJP. The BJP leader criticized Revanth Reddy's remarks on Nitin Nabin and said the Chief Minister's comments reflected political insecurity. He stated that the BJP was strengthening its organization in Telangana and that people were responding positively to the party's message. Ramchander Rao challenged the Chief Minister to participate in an open debate near the Secretariat on two issues - the development work carried out by the Narendra Modi-led Central government for Telangana and the alleged failures of the Congress government in the state. He said the BJP was ready to



place two chairs outside the Secretariat for the debate and even arrange umbrellas if required due to weather conditions. He asked the Chief Minister to come forward instead of making allegations through statements. The BJP president also highlighted the participation of party workers in recent orga-

nizational programmes. He claimed that thousands of booth presidents, district-level leaders, and delegates participated in BJP meetings held across Hyderabad and other parts of Telangana. He said the response to BJP programmes showed growing support for the party and questioned how Congress

leaders could ignore the turnout at such events. He added that the BJP was prepared for future public meetings of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Telangana. Ramchander Rao alleged that both Congress and BRS were unable to accept the BJP's growing organizational strength. He urged the Chief Minister to focus on development issues and accept the challenge for a public discussion.

He further stated that the BJP would continue to raise issues concerning governance and demanded that the Congress government answer questions raised by the opposition.

KTR Challenges Revanth to Debate Over Governance



Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao on Wednesday launched a strong attack on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, accusing the Congress government of failing in governance and alleging that the state's financial challenges were due to corruption and mismanagement. Addressing a press conference in Hyderabad, KTR criticized the Chief Minister's repeated remarks about Telangana's financial situation and said that if the state was facing any difficulties, the responsibility lay with the alleged actions of the ruling government, including the Chief Minister, his family members, ministers, and Congress leaders. KTR challenged Revanth Reddy to participate in an open public debate on issues including the Congress government's administrative performance, farmers' problems, and the overall gover-

nance situation in the state. He said the Chief Minister could decide the venue, time, and subject of the discussion, and he would be ready to attend.

He further stated that if he failed to prove his allegations against the Congress government with facts, evidence, and data during the debate, he would quit politics permanently.

Reacting to Revanth Reddy's visits to New Delhi, KTR questioned why the Chief Minister had travelled to the national capital 72 times in 30 months while claiming that Telangana was not receiving proper attention from the Centre. He asked the Chief Minister to explain the purpose of those visits and whom he was meeting regarding state issues.

KTR said that instead of repeatedly visiting Delhi, the Chief Minister should stay in Telangana and focus on administration and fulfilling promises made to people. He urged Revanth Reddy to dedicate the remaining period of the government's term to governance and development. The BRS leader claimed that Telangana had witnessed significant progress under former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's leadership and rejected the narrative that the state was financially weak.

Congress Hits Back at BJP, BRS Criticism

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

The Congress party on Tuesday launched a sharp attack on the BJP and BRS, accusing both parties of spreading misinformation against the state government. Party leaders said the people of Telangana continue to support the Congress and rejected claims made by opposition parties. Congress leaders alleged that former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, after being accorded the status of Leader of the Opposition, remained con-



fined to his farmhouse instead of actively raising public issues. Targeting opposition criticism, they said the Congress government has provided 70,000 jobs since coming to power and is focusing on fulfilling its commit-

Jagga Reddy Questions BJP Silence Over Temple Theft

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Congress Working President Jagga Reddy on Wednesday criticized the BJP leadership over the reported theft incident at the Ayodhya Ram Temple and questioned the silence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the issue. Addressing the media at Gandhi Bhavan, Jagga Reddy said devotees visit the temple with great faith and offer donations through the hundi (offering box). He alleged that the incident has affected the sentiments of devotees and demanded accountability from both the Uttar Pradesh and Central governments. Jagga Reddy said Congress



leader Rahul Gandhi responded immediately by forming a committee of Members of Parliament and visiting Ayodhya to assess the situation. He questioned why senior BJP leaders had not made any statement regarding the incident. The Congress leader alleged that the BJP had built

its political campaign around the name of Lord Ram for decades and said maintaining the security and administration of the temple was also the responsibility of those in power. He asked whether the temple was being used only for political purposes.

"Building the temple is not the only responsibility; ensuring its protection and proper functioning is equally important," Jagga Reddy said, adding that devotees deserved answers from the authorities. He also criticized BJP Telangana president Ramchander Rao for allegedly downplaying the matter and questioned whether a theft at a place of such religious importance could be treated as a minor issue.

Fake Cop Arrested for Extorting Money from Hostel Residents

Kutbullahpur, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Petbasheerabad police have arrested a young man for allegedly impersonating a police constable, wearing a khaki uniform, threatening girls at a hostel, and extorting money from them. The accused reportedly created fear among hostel residents by falsely claiming that he could book cases against them.

Police said the accused was identified as Pandi Yadagiri alias Anil Kumar. During the investigation, officials seized cash, a fake police uniform, a toy gun, a motorcycle, and other items allegedly used in the offence.

The case was registered based on a complaint lodged by Guduru Vijay Kumar, owner of Monida Sri Girls'



Hostel located in the Suchitra area. According to the complaint, the accused entered the hostel premises at night dressed as a police constable and threatened the women inmates. He allegedly warned them that he would implicate them in prostitution-related cases if they failed to cooperate. The

accused reportedly collected mobile phones from the hostel residents, took photographs, and demanded money by threatening to initiate legal action. Police said he extorted ₹2,000 from the victims. During the inquiry, police found that Yadagiri had earlier worked as a casual labourer with the

Mahankali Traffic Police. After observing police procedures, he allegedly purchased a khaki uniform and started posing as a traffic police constable. Investigators said he had also been collecting money from motorists on the Petbasheerabad-Medchal road while pretending to be a traffic officer. Police recovered ₹2,000 cash, a police uniform, nameplate, belt, jacket, Redmi mobile phone, Pulsar motorcycle, pouch, and a toy gun from the accused. Officials said the toy weapon was used by him to intimidate people and create the impression that he was a genuine police officer. The operation was carried out under the direction of Quthbullapur Zone DCP Koti Reddy and with the supervi-

sion of ACP Shankar Reddy. Petbasheerabad police officials said they acted quickly after receiving the complaint and successfully traced and arrested the accused. Police have advised citizens to remain cautious about individuals claiming to be government officials or police personnel. Officials clarified that every police officer carries an official identity card and urged people to verify credentials whenever they have doubts. The police also appealed to the public to immediately report suspicious activities by contacting Dial 100 or approaching the nearest police station. They emphasized that cooperation from citizens plays an important role in preventing fraud and crimes involving impersonation.

Revanth Praises Osmania Hospital Team for Record Surgery



Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday congratulated doctors and staff of Osmania General Hospital for successfully performing five simultaneous surgeries on a patient during a continuous 36-hour medical procedure. The Chief Minister appreciated the medical team for achieving a rare national record by carrying out simultaneous transplantation of the stomach, duodenum, pancreas, small intestine, and large intestine on a 30-year-old engineer from Sircilla.

Revanth Reddy said the achievement reflects the dedication, expertise, and commitment of the doctors and healthcare staff at Osmania General Hospital. He praised the team for accomplishing the complex procedure on the occasion of National Doctors' Day. The Chief Minister stated that such medical advancements bring pride to Telangana and set an example for the healthcare sector. He lauded the doctors and supporting staff for their tireless efforts and exceptional service in saving lives. He added that the success of the surgery demonstrates the capabilities of government hospitals and the importance of strengthening public healthcare facilities. Revanth Reddy conveyed his best wishes to the entire medical team for their remarkable achievement and encouraged them to continue providing advanced medical services to people.

Mahesh Kumar Goud Invited to Bonalu Festival

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Lal Darwaza Simhavahini Sri Mahankali Temple Committee Chairman G. Arvind Kumar

Goud invited TPCC President and MLC Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud to participate in the Lal Darwaza Bonalu festival celebrations to be held in Delhi. The three-day festival, which showcases Telangana's rich culture, traditions, and devotion, is scheduled to begin on the 20th of this month in the national capital. As part of the invitation, Arvind Kumar Goud along with temple committee representatives met Mahesh Kumar Goud at his residence in Narsingi on Wednesday. During the meeting, Arvind Kumar Goud honoured Mahesh Kumar Goud with a shawl and formally presented the invitation for the festival. He requested his presence at the celebrations and briefed him about the arrangements being made for the event. Responding to the invitation, Mahesh Kumar Goud assured the temple committee chairman and members that he would attend the Bonalu celebrations in Delhi. The meeting was attended by former temple committee chairmen K. Venkatesh and A. Badrinath Goud, committee member A. Bharat Kumar, and Congress leader D.L. Narasimha Goud. The organizers said the Delhi Bonalu festival aims to take Telangana's traditional celebrations to a wider audience while preserving the cultural and spiritual significance associated with the historic Lal Darwaza Mahankali Temple. The event is expected to witness participation from devotees and members of the Telangana community living in the national capital.



Hygiene Violations Found at Zepto Store

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

A team from H-FAST, led by SI V. Akhil, detected serious hygiene violations at a Zepto store in Mallepally during an inspection conducted on Wednesday. The officials reportedly found signs of cockroach and rodent infestation inside the store, raising concerns over food safety and maintenance standards at the outlet. The findings have prompted authorities to take further action against the establishment. Following the inspection, the case was handed over to Food Safety Officer Sameena Begum of HMC for necessary action under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. Officials said further proceedings would be initiated based on the violations identified during the inspection. The authorities are expected to examine the conditions at the outlet and take appropriate legal measures as per food safety regulations. The inspection highlights the importance of maintaining proper hygiene standards at food storage and delivery facilities to ensure consumer safety.

MP Chamala, MLA Samelu Attend Events

Podichedu, July 01 | TPN Bureau

A series of spiritual, social harmony, and farmer welfare programmes were held in Podichedu village under Tungaturthi constituency on Tuesday. Bhongir MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy and Tungaturthi MLA Mandula Samelu attended the programmes as chief guests and participated in various activities. The leaders jointly inaugurated the newly constructed Ayyappa Swamy Sannidhanam in the village. During the inauguration, they performed special prayers at the temple and extended their greetings to devotees. They appreciated the efforts of the local community in completing the temple construction and preserving spiritual traditions. Later, the MP and MLA inaugurated the newly built Asar Khana, also known as Peerla Kottam, in the village. Speaking on the occasion, they said such structures represent the spirit of religious harmony and unity among different sections of



society. They expressed hope that the new building would become a platform for strengthening communal harmony and social bonding. The public representatives also participated in an awareness conference on oil palm cultivation organized for farmers in the village. They encouraged farmers to explore oil palm cultivation as a profitable alternative to traditional crops and explained the benefits of adopting modern agricultural practices. They advised farmers to make effective use of government subsidies, technical guidance, and support schemes available for oil palm cultivation. The leaders

said promoting alternative crops would help improve farmers' income and contribute to agricultural development in the region. Local public representatives, agriculture department officials, temple committee members, farmers, and villagers participated in the programmes in large numbers. The events highlighted the importance of preserving cultural traditions, promoting religious harmony, and encouraging sustainable agricultural practices among farmers in the constituency. The leaders assured that development and welfare initiatives would continue to receive priority in the region.

Ajith Reddy Takes Charge as HMRL Additional MD

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

B. Ajith Reddy on Wednesday assumed charge as the Additional Managing Director of Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL). He took charge at Metro Rail Bhawan in Rasoolpura. Following his appointment, HMRL Joint Managing Director Shivendra Pratap met Ajith Reddy and congratulated him on assuming the new responsibility. During the occasion, the newly appointed Additional MD held discussions with senior officials of HMRL and reviewed the latest status of Hyderabad Metro Rail's



Phase-1 and Phase-2 projects. He enquired about the ongoing works, progress, and key developments related to the metro expansion plans. The meeting was attended by senior HMRL officials, including Chief Project Manager B. Ananda Mohan, General Managers M. Vishnuvardhan Reddy, D.

Suryaprakasam, and Srinath Reddy, along with Chief Engineer Y. Sayapareddy. Ajith Reddy said he would focus on strengthening metro rail development and ensuring effective coordination among departments for smooth implementation of ongoing and upcoming projects. Officials briefed him on various aspects of metro operations, infrastructure development, and project execution. The HMRL team expressed confidence that his experience and leadership would contribute to the future growth of Hyderabad's metro network.

ABVP Protests Alleged Issues

Kompally, July 01 | TPN Bureau

The Sri Chaitanya K-5 school in Kompally witnessed a protest by Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) activists on Wednesday, with the student organization raising several allegations against the school management over infrastructure, hostel facilities, and student safety. ABVP leaders accused the management of treating education as a commercial activity and alleged that students' interests were being neglected. During the protest, they demanded immediate action from education authorities.

ABVP Kukatpally Vibhag Convener Nagesh alleged that students from multiple branches, including K-2 and K-4, were being accommodated on a single campus for classes. He claimed that due to a shortage of classrooms, some areas meant for other purposes, including washrooms, were allegedly being used for conducting classes. The organization also raised concerns over hostel facilities, alleging that the school was operating a hostel without proper permissions. ABVP leaders claimed that



parents were being charged high fees while basic facilities, sanitation, and safety measures were not being adequately maintained. Demanding strict action, ABVP leaders urged the Mandal Educational Officer to immediately inspect the school premises and take necessary steps against the management. They said action, including sealing the institution if violations were confirmed, should be considered. The protest led to police intervention after the situation became tense. Petbasheerabad police

detained ABVP activists who were protesting outside the school and shifted them to the police station. Medchal District Convener Mrutyunjaya, along with activists Vivek, Chandu, Karthik, Mahesh, and others, participated in the protest. Police officials monitored the situation and took steps to maintain law and order. The allegations raised by ABVP are expected to be examined by the concerned education authorities. Further action will depend on the findings of any official inspection.

Eagle Team Catches Hash Oil Seller



Manikonda (Hyderabad), July 01 | TPN Bureau

The Anti-Narcotics Wing's Eagle Team conducted surprise raids in Manikonda on Wednesday and caught an individual allegedly selling hash oil (liquid ganja) at a private hotel in the Hyderabad IT corridor. Acting on specific information, the Eagle Team carried out a sudden inspection at the hotel premises. During the operation, officials noticed a person moving suspiciously and detained him for questioning. A search conducted by the team led to the seizure of around 9 grams of liquid hash oil from his possession. The accused and the seized substance were later handed over to the Narsingi police for further investigation. Police have registered a case and launched an inquiry to determine the accused's role in the illegal activity and whether

he was directly involved in drug sales or working as a supplier.

Narsingi police officials are questioning the suspect to trace the source of the hash oil and identify others involved in the network. Investigators are also looking into whether the substance was being supplied to individuals within the IT corridor and whether more people are connected to the operation. Officials said efforts are being made to identify the wider network behind the drug supply chain. They added that surveillance has been increased in the city to prevent the spread of narcotics and take strict action against those involved in illegal drug activities. The Eagle Team and local police have urged citizens to report suspicious activities related to drug trafficking to help curb the menace.

Thieves Target Grocery Store in Midnight Burglary



Kutbullahpur, July 01 | TPN Bureau

A midnight burglary at a grocery store under the Jeedimetla police station limits has created concern among local traders. Unknown thieves broke open the shutter locks of the shop near the Jeedimetla substation and escaped with cash and cigarette stocks. According to police, the burglars entered the store late at night after forcing open the shutter. They allegedly stole around ₹30,000 in cash kept at the shop along with cigarette stocks worth nearly ₹50,000 before fleeing from the spot. The theft came to light on Tuesday morning when the shop owner arrived and noticed that the shutter had been opened and the premises had been disturbed. Shocked by the incident, the owner immediately informed

the Jeedimetla police. Police personnel reached the location and conducted an inspection of the shop. They collected details regarding the stolen items and began efforts to trace the culprits. Officials said CCTV cameras installed near the shop captured the movements of the suspects during the burglary. Based on the CCTV footage, police are analyzing the visuals to identify the individuals involved in the crime. Investigators are also gathering further evidence and checking whether the same suspects were involved in any previous theft cases in the surrounding areas. Jeedimetla police have registered a case and launched an investigation. Officials said further action will be taken after identifying the accused and completing the inquiry.

Doctors Honoured on Doctor's Day at Gandhi Hospital

Secunderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Doctor's Day celebrations were held grandly at Gandhi Hospital in Secunderabad on Wednesday, with doctors and healthcare staff being felicitated for their dedicated services to patients. Former Padmarao Nagar Division Corporation Yesuri Savitri Mahesh, along with local leaders, honoured Gandhi Hospital Superintendent Dr. Vani, Heads of Departments (HODs), and senior doctors by presenting bouquets and draping them with shawls. The leaders conveyed their greetings on Doctor's Day and appreciated the efforts of doctors in providing medical care and support to people.

Speaking on the occasion, Gandhi Hospital Superintendent Dr. Vani said that such recognition and appreciation motivate doctors to continue serving society with greater commitment. She stated that these honours increase the sense of responsibility among medical professionals and encourage them to work with renewed dedication.

Dr. Vani said doctors from all departments, nursing officers, hospital staff, and paramedical personnel would work together to further improve the reputation and services of Gandhi Hospital. She expressed confidence that collective efforts would help the hospital achieve greater progress in the future. She also extended Doctor's Day greetings to doctors across Telangana and appreciated their contribution to public healthcare. The event was attended by senior BRS leaders Srikanth Reddy, Mahender Kumar, Rambabu, Sudhakar, and Sriramulu, along with doctors, nursing staff, and paramedical personnel of Gandhi Hospital. The celebrations highlighted the crucial role of doctors and healthcare workers in serving society and acknowledged their continuous efforts in protecting public health.



Activist Ramachandra Rao Honoured on Birthday

Nacharam, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Leaders of Dalit organizations in Nacharam celebrated the birthday of activist Tekulapalli Ramachandra Rao at the Ambedkar Crossroads on Tuesday. The event was organized in recognition of his contribution to social movements and public causes. During the celebrations, the leaders honoured Ramachandra Rao by presenting him with a shawl and conveyed their birthday wishes. Speaking on the occasion, they highlighted his role and contributions during the Telangana movement and appreciated his continued involvement in social



activities. The leaders said that the efforts of activists like Ramachandra Rao played an important role in raising public awareness and strengthening movements for people's rights. The programme was attended by several community leaders and activists, including M.C. Keshavulu, Vemula Marayya, Mallikarjuna Goud, Vemula Haribabu, M. Chidurala Yaka swamy, Rebel Raj, Shatam Ramesh, Ravi Bhupathi, Ashok, and others. The gathering concluded with leaders expressing their appreciation for Ramachandra Rao's services and wishing him continued success in his social endeavours.

BRS Slams Trust Board Appointments

Yadadri, July 01 | TPN Bureau

BRS state leader Tunga Balu on Tuesday criticized the Congress government over the recent appointments to the Yadadri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple Trust Board, alleging that local representatives and residents were ignored in the process. Tunga Balu said it was unfortunate that despite the presence of Congress ministers and several MLAs connected with the Yadadri region, no representative from Yadadri district was included in the Trust Board of the prominent temple. Recalling the development of Yadadri during the previous BRS government, he said several farmers had voluntarily given up their valuable lands for the temple's expansion and development. He stated that many local families sacrificed their homes and livelihoods with the hope that they would have a role in the growth of the temple. The BRS leader said priority should have been given to people who understand local traditions, customs, and the needs of the region. He alleged that political considerations and personal interests influenced the appointments, with preference being given to wealthy individuals and those close to the ruling party. Tunga Balu said former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao had worked beyond political interests with the vision of developing Yadadri into a world-renowned spiritual destination. He alleged that the present government was using the temple administration for political gains. He accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of favouring corporate interests and businessmen while neglecting the expectations of local people who contributed to the temple's development. Demanding immediate representation for local public representatives and residents on the Yadadri Trust Board, Tunga Balu warned that the BRS would support a large democratic movement by locals if their concerns were not addressed.

NRI Projects Chairman Ravi Celebrates Birthday with Service Activities

Uppal, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Grand birthday celebrations were organized for Namburi Ravi, Chairman of NRI Projects, at Uppal on Tuesday, with various social service activities marking the occasion. The NRI Projects marketing team made elaborate arrangements for the celebrations. As part of the programme, a free health camp and a blood donation drive were conducted, in which several NRI Projects employees actively participated by donating blood.



The organization also carried out food distribution programmes at orphanages in different locations as part of the birthday celebrations. Employees and representatives gathered at the NRI Projects office in Uppal to extend their wishes to Chairman Namburi Ravi, who later cut the birthday cake. Speaking after the celebrations, Namburi Ravi said birthdays should not be limited to receiving wishes and cutting cakes but should also focus on contributing to society. He appreciated the efforts

of the NRI Projects team in organizing blood donation camps and food distribution activities. He stated that NRI Projects is not only focused on business but also works towards building public trust and maintaining social responsibility. A large number of marketing team members and other staff participated in the celebrations and conveyed their greetings to the Chairman. The event highlighted the organization's emphasis on combining celebrations with community service initiatives.

Ponnam Participates in Yellamma Temple Ceremony



Nizamabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

State Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, MP Suresh Shetkar, and MLA Pocharam Srinivas Reddy participated in the idol consecration ceremony of Sri Santhana Renuka Yellamma at Etthonda village in Kotagiri mandal of Banswada constituency on Tuesday. The leaders offered special prayers to the Goddess during the religious programme and participated in the rituals associated with the installation of the idol. The consecration ceremony was performed with the prayer "Sarve Jana Sukhino Bhavantu," wishing for the welfare and happiness of all people. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar said prayers were offered for timely rains, prosperous agriculture, growth of livestock, and the overall happiness and prosperity of people across Telangana. He stated that the government is committed to the development of temples located in rural areas and is taking steps to improve facilities and support traditional religious centres. The Minister also appealed to people to actively participate in the month-long Ashada Bonalu festival celebrations in Hyderabad and contribute to making the event a grand success. The programme was attended by local leaders, devotees, and villagers who took part in the special prayers and celebrations. The event reflected the cultural and spiritual importance of Sri Santhana Renuka Yellamma temple among devotees in the region.

Swetha Reddy Takes Charge as CP

Warangal, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Senior IPS officer N. Swetha Reddy on Wednesday assumed charge as the Commissioner of Police, Warangal Commissionerate, and said maintaining law and order and ensuring public safety would be her top priorities. Swetha Reddy took over from Sun Preet Singh, who has been transferred as Joint Commissioner of Traffic, Cyberabad, as part of a recent reshuffle of IPS officers in Telangana. The new Commissioner arrived at the



Commissionerate office in the morning and was welcomed with a ceremonial guard of honor by armed police personnel. She later formally assumed charge of

the office. Deputy Commissioners of Police, Assistant Commissioners, inspectors, and other police personnel met the new Commissioner and extended their greetings. They presented saplings and notebooks as a gesture of welcome. Speaking after taking charge, Swetha Reddy said the police department would focus on protecting citizens, maintaining peace, preventing crimes, and delivering efficient policing services. She emphasized the need for better coordination among officers and personnel to

strengthen the policing system. The Commissioner stated that efforts would be made to improve public confidence in the police department through transparent, effective, and people-friendly policing initiatives. She said the department would work with commitment to address public concerns and ensure a safe environment across the Warangal Commissionerate limits. The police officials expressed confidence in her leadership and guidance for improving law and order management in the region.

Loose Traffic Signal Raises Safety Concerns

Kutbullapur, July 01 | TPN Bureau

A traffic signal on the main road opposite Malla Reddy Hospital under the Suraram traffic police station limits has become a safety concern for motorists and pedestrians after it started hanging dangerously from the pole. According to local residents, recent rains and strong winds caused the components attached to the signal pole to loosen, leaving the signal structure swaying in



the wind. The unstable condition of the signal has created fear among commuters using the busy road every day. Locals said the signal could

fall at any time, posing a serious threat to road users. The area witnesses heavy traffic movement throughout the day, and any collapse of the signal could lead to injuries or disruption of traffic. Residents expressed particular concern over the risk to ambulances travelling towards Malla Reddy Hospital, along with two-wheeler riders and pedestrians passing through the route. They said immediate repairs are necessary to pre-

vent any untoward incident. Motorists have appealed to the concerned authorities to inspect the damaged traffic signal, carry out repairs, and ensure proper safety arrangements at the earliest. They urged officials not to wait for an accident to happen before taking action. The public also requested regular maintenance checks of traffic infrastructure, especially during the monsoon season, to avoid similar hazards on busy roads.

Electric Bus Gutted in Fire at Depot

Karimnagar, July 01 | TPN Bureau

An electric bus belonging to the Karimnagar-II Depot was completely gutted after catching fire on Wednesday morning. No passengers were present on the bus at the time of the incident, preventing any casualties. According to officials, the fire broke out while the bus was reportedly leaving the depot. Preliminary information suggests that a short circuit in the battery compartment may have triggered the blaze. However, the exact cause will be confirmed after a detailed investigation and final report. RTC officials immediately rushed to the spot after receiving information about the incident. As a safety measure, other buses parked inside the depot were shifted to a safer location to prevent any further damage. Firefighters also reached the scene and started operations to control the flames. Thick



smoke continued to emerge from the damaged electric bus, and RTC officials said the battery system would discharge automatically after the smoke reduced. An RTC official stated that the department responded promptly and took necessary precautionary measures. Meanwhile, the operation of electric buses has been temporarily suspended following the incident. The incident has raised fresh concerns over the safety of electric buses, as it comes shortly after another similar

Infant's Body Found in Park

Mailardevpally, July 01 | TPN Bureau A tragic incident occurred under the Mailardevpally police station limits in Ranga Reddy district on Wednesday after the body of a five-month-old infant was found abandoned in a local park. According to police, local residents noticed the infant's body in the park during the morning hours and immediately informed the authorities. Mailardevpally police reached the spot, took custody of the body, and shifted it to a nearby hospital for a post-mortem examination. Police have registered a case and launched an investigation into the incident. As part of the probe, officials are examining CCTV footage from the surrounding areas to gather clues and identify the responsible.

Congress Slams KTR Over Debate Challenge

Hyderabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Government Whip Dr. Balmoor Venkat on Wednesday criticised BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), stating that his statements were only "empty rhetoric" and lacked substance. Addressing a press conference at Gandhi Bhavan, he said KTR should raise issues on the Assembly floor instead of issuing challenges outside. Dr. Venkat said if BRS president K. Chandrashekar Rao was ready to attend the Assembly and discuss public issues, he was prepared to debate KTR anywhere. He alleged that the BRS leadership was unable to accept the performance of the Congress government's "Praja Palana" and the implementation of welfare programmes. He said the government's commitment to farmers was reflected through the release of Rythu Bharosa funds and alleged that the opposition was unable to digest these initiatives. The Government Whip said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had already challenged the Leader of the Opposition for a discussion on public issues in the Assembly, but there had been no response.

Teacher Arrested for Extortion Bid Using RTI Threat



Adilabad, July 01 | TPN Bureau

Boath police have arrested and remanded a government teacher for allegedly harassing an Anganwadi teacher and demanding ₹50,000 by threatening to misuse provisions of the Right to Information (RTI) Act. According to police, the accused was identified as Rathod Raju, a government teacher from Ghanpur village in Sonala mandal, who is currently working in Jannaram mandal. Police said he allegedly targeted Rathod Vimala, an Anganwadi teacher from the same village, over her employment-related matters. In her complaint, Vimala alleged that Raju threatened to collect her personal and job-related details through the RTI Act and use them to create problems for her employment. She stated that he demanded ₹50,000 from her in exchange for not taking any action against her. After informing her family members about the alleged harassment, Vimala's son Srinivas approached Boath Police Station and lodged a complaint. Based on the complaint, police registered a case and initiated an investigation. Boath Circle Inspector D. Guruswamy said that during the inquiry, police gathered details regarding the allegations and arrested Rathod Raju. The accused was later produced before a court, which ordered his judicial remand. The CI warned that strict action would be taken against government employees who misuse their position, legal provisions, or official authority to threaten people and demand money. He also appealed to citizens who may have faced similar issues involving the accused to approach district police authorities and report the matter. Police officials said such complaints would be investigated and necessary legal action would be initiated.

Editorial

Prices of e-Vehicles Should Be Slashed

Electric vehicles (EVs) are no longer a futuristic concept; they are becoming an essential part of India's strategy to reduce pollution and dependence on fossil fuels. Both the Union and State Governments have been encouraging the adoption of electric mobility through subsidies, policy incentives, and infrastructure development. Yet, one major obstacle continues to stand in the way of mass adoption—the high price of electric vehicles.

Despite limited charging infrastructure in many parts of the country, people are showing a willingness to shift towards electric scooters and cars. This reflects growing public awareness about environmental protection and the long-term benefits of EVs. However, affordability remains the biggest challenge. For many middle-class and low-income families, the cost of purchasing an electric vehicle is still beyond their reach.

The Delhi Government's decision to gradually phase out non-electric scooters and auto-rickshaws is a bold step towards tackling the city's severe air pollution. While the objective is commendable, such policies must also consider the financial realities of ordinary citizens. Setting deadlines without ensuring affordable alternatives may place an unfair burden on those who depend on these vehicles for their livelihood.

If governments are serious about accelerating the transition to clean mobility, reducing vehicle prices should become a top priority. Greater subsidies, tax concessions, low-interest financing, and incentives for manufacturers can help bring down costs. Public investment in charging infrastructure must also go hand in hand with promoting EV ownership.

Governments have often extended substantial financial support to industries in the name of economic growth. Extending similar support to ordinary citizens for purchasing electric vehicles would be an investment in cleaner cities, better public health, and a sustainable future.

India's vision for widespread electric mobility, as envisaged by policymakers, can become a reality only when electric vehicles are not merely environmentally friendly but also financially accessible to every household.

Editor

From Loneliness to Social Connection: A Path to Healthier Societies

Prof. Madhusudhan Reddy Burra



Education Expert 9949700037

Health, according to the WHO, is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not just the absence of disease or infirmity. The recent report released by the “WHO Commission on Social Connection” speaks about in-depth issues related to social health and its importance. Social health is a key part of our overall well-being. At the heart of social health lies social connection—how we relate to and interact with others—which has a profound impact on our health. This report is based on careful research, expert advice, and real-life experiences and examples.

Importance of Social Health
Humans are social by nature. Mankind survived and thrived by working together. Our brains are wired to connect with others. From the moment we are born and throughout our lifetime, social interactions shape our brain and, subsequently, our mental health. Social health matters as much as our physical and mental health. All three are interlinked. Without good social health, it is hard to enjoy good health. Social disconnection is gradually increasing as technology burgeons. Due to social disconnection, 1 in 6 persons feels lonely globally. Social disconnection increases the risk of death due to heart problems, stroke, depression, and anxiety. Loneliness is leading to 8.71 lakh deaths annually across the globe. The COVID-19 lockdowns and other social restrictions kept people apart, and many felt lonely and isolated. Currently, the digital AI era is rapidly and pro-

foundly changing our lifestyles, enhancing the scope of social disconnection.

Social Connection Means...

Social connection is about the many ways we relate to and interact with others. It includes family, friends, classmates, coworkers, neighbours—even people we chat with online. Social connection has three dimensions: structure (social human networks, talking, spending time), function (practical help, emotional support, and information you give and receive), and quality (how your relationships make you feel). We can connect with people in both online and offline modes.

Social Disconnection: Loneliness and Social Isolation

Social disconnection results when a person does not have enough social contact, does not feel supported by the relationships they have, or when the relationships are strained or negative. Loneliness is a painful feeling that occurs when the relationships you have do not match what you want or need. You may feel lonely even when surrounded by people. You may have friends but not feel understood or supported. Life after a breakup, moving to new places, or losing loved ones are occasions when individuals may feel lonely. If loneliness lasts for a long time, it may lead to serious health problems. Social isolation is more about numbers—having very few relationships or not meeting people frequently. Someone who lives alone and rarely



talks to others might be socially isolated. A person can be isolated but not feel lonely—some people like being alone. However, social isolation can harm physical and mental health, especially in the long run.

Impact of Social Disconnection, Loneliness, and Social Isolation

Loneliness is common everywhere, among all age groups, and affects males and females equally. Young people between 13 and 29 years of age feel the loneliest. Globally, around 17–21 % feel lonely, with higher levels among teenagers. This may be because teenagers seek stronger social connections. People in poorer countries with low income are more likely to feel lonely (24 %) than those in richer countries (11 %). Poverty may limit movement and opportunities to meet others, making it harder to maintain relationships. Social isolation is another challenge to overall health. Up to

1 in 3 adults are isolated, and 1 in 4 teenagers are socially isolated. People with disabilities, refugees, migrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, indigenous groups, and ethnic minorities are more prone to loneliness and/or social isolation. The impacts include effects on mortality, physical and mental health, brain development, education, work, and the economy.

Causes of Loneliness and Social Isolation

The reasons for loneliness and isolation differ from person to person and may arise from personal life, lifestyle, relationships, neighbourhoods, and government policies. Health, education, income, personality, type of work, communities, life transitions, and digital technology all play a role. Higher education and income groups often have better chances of maintaining relationships. Long-term health issues may lead to loneliness. Having few relatives and friends

can also contribute. Some individuals are shy or anxious, making communication difficult. Safe and supportive communities enhance social health. Moving to new places or losing a job can lead to loneliness. The impact of digital technology is mixed. While it may help some cope, excessive screen time or negative online experiences can worsen loneliness. Young people's mental health is particularly affected.

In short, staying socially connected is not just good for individuals—it is vital for society. Let us advocate, campaign, network, and collaborate to reduce loneliness and isolation by strengthening social connections. Awareness through social media, television programs, public events, and campaigns can help. Local, national, and global efforts, along with supportive government policies, can significantly improve social connection through community and relationship-based strategies.

Fee Regulation in Education: Reform or Repetition?

Sikharam Narahari



President, The Parents Association of Andhra Pradesh (PAAP)

The Andhra Pradesh government's proposed move to introduce fresh regulations on fees in private schools and intermediate colleges raises a familiar yet critical question: will this initiative genuinely ease the financial burden on parents, or will it become another well-intentioned policy that falters in implementation?

For over two decades, the state has witnessed a steady expansion of private educational institutions, while the establishment of new government institutions—from KG to PG—has remained negligible. This vacuum has effectively handed over the responsibility of education to private players, leaving parents with limited choices and mounting financial pressure. Despite significant public expenditure on schemes such as Amma Vodi and Thalli Deevana, concerns about affordability and quality continue to persist.

Historically, attempts to regulate school fees have not yielded the desired results. The District Fee Regulatory Committee (DFRC), constituted in 2009, was tasked with approving fee structures for schools. However, weak enforcement and legal challenges rendered it largely ineffective. Schools continued to hike fees arbitrarily,

often disregarding stipulated norms. Later, the Andhra Pradesh School Education Regulatory and Monitoring Commission (APSERMC) attempted to impose caps on fees in 2021, but its efforts were struck down by the High Court, which emphasized the need to curb profiteering rather than impose rigid fee controls.

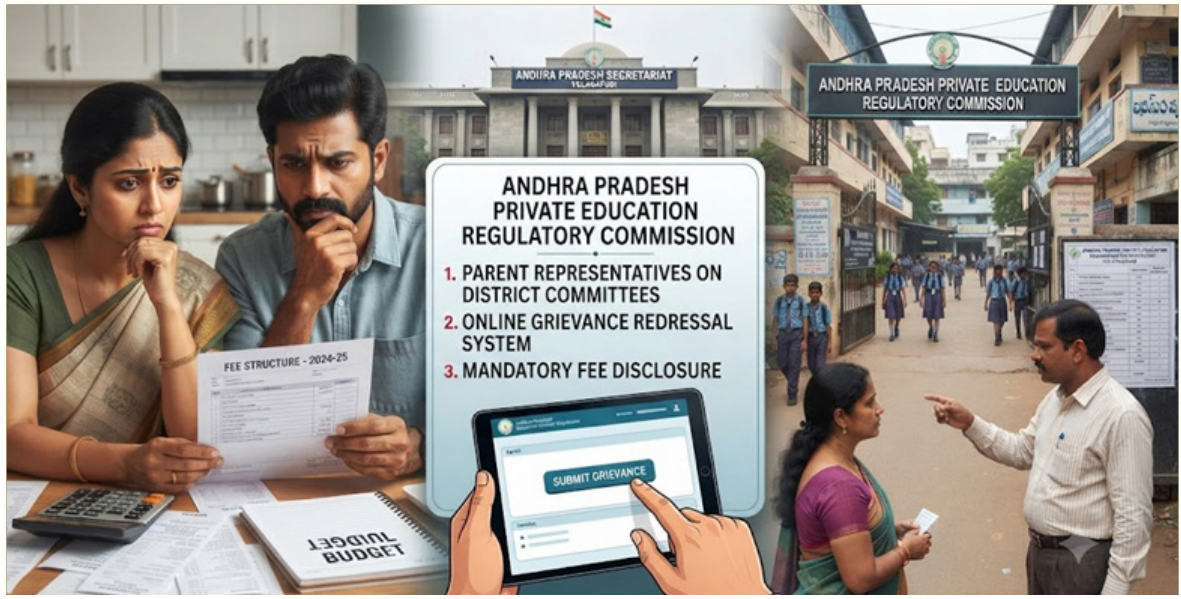
The new policy appears to acknowledge these past shortcomings. Its proposal to include parent representatives in district-level committees is a welcome step, potentially giving parents a stronger voice in decision-making. Similarly, the introduction of an online grievance redressal system could empower parents to report issues such as hidden charges, forced purchases, and unjustified fee hikes.

Transparency measures—such as mandating schools to declare fee structures in advance—are also promising. Drawing lessons from other states like Telangana and Tamil Nadu indicates a willingness to adopt best practices. If implemented effectively, these steps could offer some degree of financial relief and accountability. However, the key challenge remains unchanged: enforcement. Previous regulatory frameworks failed not because of a lack of policy, but due to inadequate implementation. Without strict monitoring and timely action, even the most well-designed system risks becoming ineffective.

There is also a need for balance. While curbing excessive fees is essential, overregulation could inadvertently impact the functioning of quality institutions. Education, by its very nature, involves costs, and policies must ensure that regulation does not stifle innovation or sustainability in the sector. The High Court's earlier observation—that decisions should involve consultation with school management—remains relevant and must be carefully considered.

At the heart of the issue lies the role of parents, which has historically been minimal. The new policy offers an opportunity to change that dynamic. But for this shift to be meaningful, parents must actively engage, raise concerns, and utilize the mechanisms provided.

Ultimately, the success of this policy will depend not on its intent, but on its execution. Regulation on paper alone cannot bring relief. It requires consistent enforcement, stakeholder cooperation, and a genuine commitment to safeguarding both affordability and quality in education. The government must ensure that this reform does not become another chapter in a cycle of unfulfilled promises. For parents and students alike, the stakes are too high to allow history to repeat itself.



Democratizing Technology
Confronting the Reality of Techno-Casteism in India

Dr Nagam Kumaraswami



Assistant Professor Palamuru niversity

Over the past three decades, public movements and civic responses in India have undergone a profound transformation. From the nationwide outrage following the Nirbhaya incident to the Shaheen Bagh protests, the year-long farmers' agitation, and recent youth-led digital mobilizations, social media has emerged as a powerful platform for public expression. At a time when mainstream media is often perceived as constrained by corporate and political interests, digital platforms such as Facebook, X, and Instagram have enabled citizens to organize, protest, and amplify their voices. However, beneath this apparent democratization lies a troubling reality: digital spaces in India are far from equal and are increasingly shaped by existing social hierarchies, particularly caste.

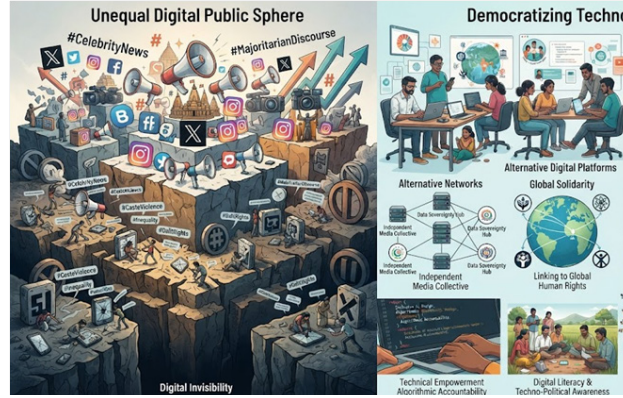
While social media appears inclusive, its functioning reflects deep-rooted inequalities. Issues concerning dominant social groups often gain rapid visibility and traction, while atrocities against marginalized communities—particularly SC, ST, BC, and minority groups—receive limited attention. Incidents of caste-based violence or discrimination rarely achieve the same digital momentum as other issues, revealing an imbalance in

whose voices are heard and amplified. This disparity highlights what can be termed “techno-casteism”—the extension of caste-based dominance into digital ecosystems.

Theoretical frameworks help explain this phenomenon. Philosopher Jürgen Habermas envisioned the “public sphere” as a space for rational and equal participation. In contrast, India's digital public sphere is shaped by unequal access to cultural capital, economic resources, and technological influence. Similarly, Herbert Marcuse's critique of the “culture industry” is relevant in understanding how media and technology, while appearing liberating, often reinforce dominant ideologies. In the Indian context, algorithms, content moderation systems, and platform policies may unintentionally—or systematically—reflect caste and social biases, marginalizing already underrepresented voices.

This raises a critical question: how can technology be democratized in such a context?

First, there is a need to build alternative digital platforms and knowledge systems. Marginalized communities must move beyond reliance on mainstream platforms and invest in independent digital publications, data repositories, and communication



networks. Documenting caste-based discrimination through credible, evidence-based research can strengthen advocacy and counter invisibility.

Second, the struggle must extend to the global arena. Linking caste discrimination with international human rights frameworks can generate global awareness and accountability. Producing content in widely accessible languages and connecting local struggles with global movements against inequality can put pressure on technology companies to recognize and address caste-based biases within their systems.

Third, technical empowerment is essential. Marginalized communities must not remain passive users of technology but actively participate in its creation and governance. Encouraging representation in fields such as artificial intelligence, data science, and software development is critical. Inclusive approaches to AI and algorithm design can help challenge embedded biases and create more equitable digital systems.

Equally important is fostering digital solidarity. Collective responses across marginalized groups can amplify issues that would otherwise remain overlooked. An incident affecting one community must be seen as a shared concern, triggering broader digital engagement and sustained advocacy. Expanding digital literacy in rural and underserved areas, along with promoting techno-political awareness, can further strengthen this collective capacity.

Ultimately, technology is not neutral; it reflects the values and power structures of those who design and control it. Addressing techno-casteism requires both structural reform and social awareness. The principles of “Educate, Agitate, Organize” remain as relevant in the digital age as they were in earlier struggles for equality.

Only through conscious effort, inclusive participation, and sustained resistance can digital spaces evolve into truly democratic platforms. Until then, the promise of technology as an equalizer will remain incomplete.

The case has intensified the political confrontation between the ruling TVK and the opposition DMK, with investigators expected to continue questioning the arrested individuals to determine whether a wider conspiracy existed.

Trump Sets New Deadline for Iran Nuclear Deal

US President Donald Trump has intensified pressure on Iran by setting a fresh deadline for reaching a new nuclear agreement, signalling that Washington is prepared to adopt a tougher approach if diplomatic efforts fail. The move comes amid heightened tensions in the Middle East, with concerns over Iran's nuclear programme and the security of key global shipping routes continuing to dominate international discussions.

Speaking about the issue, Trump stressed that the United States remains open to negotiations but expects Iran to engage seriously in efforts to curb its nuclear activities. He warned that if a deal is not reached within the specified timeframe, the US could consider stronger measures, although he did not elaborate on the exact steps that might follow.

The renewed push for a nuclear



clear agreement comes after months of uncertainty over diplomatic efforts between Washington and Tehran. While both sides have expressed interest in avoiding a wider conflict, deep differences over uranium enrichment, sanctions relief and regional security continue to hinder progress.

One of the major concerns surrounding the standoff is the Strait of Hormuz, a strategically

important waterway through which a significant share of the world's oil supply passes. Any escalation in tensions or disruption to shipping in the region could have far-reaching consequences for global energy markets and international trade.

The Trump administration has maintained that preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons remains a top foreign

policy priority. At the same time, US officials have indicated that diplomacy remains the preferred path, provided Iran demonstrates a willingness to comply with international commitments.

Iran, however, has consistently maintained that its nuclear programme is intended for peaceful purposes. Tehran has repeatedly argued that it will not negotiate under pressure and has called for the removal of sanctions as part of any future agreement.

With the new deadline now in place, global attention is focused on whether renewed diplomatic engagement can break the prolonged deadlock. As both nations weigh their next moves, the coming weeks are expected to be critical in determining whether negotiations can produce a breakthrough or whether tensions in the region will escalate further.

Netanyahu's Goal Against Iran Remains Elusive



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has repeatedly declared that his government is committed to achieving "total victory" against Iran and the network of armed groups it supports across the Middle East. However, despite military successes and intensified operations, analysts believe that eliminating the Iranian threat remains a highly complex and long-term challenge.

Israel has significantly expanded its military campaign in recent years, targeting Iranian military infrastructure, weapons facilities and allied militias operating in countries such as Syria and Lebanon. The government argues that these operations are necessary to prevent Iran from strengthening its regional influence and advancing its nuclear ambitions.

While Israeli forces have carried out a series of precision strikes that have weakened some of Iran's military capabilities, experts note that Tehran continues to possess extensive resources, regional

alliances and strategic influence. This has made it difficult for Israel to achieve the decisive outcome envisioned by Netanyahu.

Iran's support for groups such as Hezbollah in Lebanon and other allied organisations across the region remains a major security concern for Israel. Even if military operations reduce the capabilities of these groups, analysts argue that rebuilding networks and restoring influence could take relatively little time, making any victory temporary rather than permanent.

The conflict has also placed increasing pressure on Israel's economy, military and diplomatic relations. Extended military operations require significant financial resources and manpower, while the humanitarian impact of regional conflicts has drawn growing international scrutiny. Many global leaders continue to call for diplomatic efforts to prevent a broader regional war.

Netanyahu, however, has maintained that Israel cannot

afford to ease pressure on Iran, insisting that national security remains the government's highest priority. His administration believes that sustained military action is essential to preventing future threats and ensuring the country's long-term safety.

At the same time, observers argue that a lasting solution is unlikely to come through military action alone. They believe that diplomacy, regional cooperation and international engagement will ultimately be necessary to address the underlying political and security challenges that have fueled tensions for decades.

As the conflict continues to evolve, Israel's campaign against Iran remains one of the defining issues in Middle Eastern geopolitics. Whether Netanyahu's goal of "total victory" can ever be fully achieved remains uncertain, but the pursuit of that objective is expected to continue shaping Israel's security policies and regional strategy for years to come.

US Finalises Alien Registration Rule

The United States has officially finalised its alien registration rule, introducing new compliance requirements for certain non-citizens living in the country. Issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the regulation is aimed at strengthening immigration enforcement by ensuring that foreign nationals who are required to register with the government do so and keep their records up to date.

Under the new rule, most foreign nationals who have already completed the standard immigration process, including many H-1B visa holders, international students and lawful permanent residents, are not required to register again because they are already considered registered through their



visa issuance and entry records.

However, the regulation introduces new obligations for certain groups. Children who were previously registered before turning 14 must apply for re-registration and submit biometric information, including fingerprints, within 30 days of their 14th birthday. In addition, all registered non-citizens aged

18 and above are required to carry proof of registration at all times while residing in the United States.

The DHS estimates that between 2.2 million and 3.2 million people could ultimately be affected by the rule. Many of them are individuals who entered the country without formal inspection or whose information was never fully captured

in the federal immigration system. Authorities believe the updated registration framework will improve record-keeping and help immigration agencies monitor compliance more effectively. Failure to comply with the registration requirements could lead to serious consequences, including fines, imprisonment or other legal penalties. The government has stated that enforcing the rule will remain a priority as part of its broader immigration strategy.

The finalisation of the regulation marks another step in the US government's efforts to tighten immigration oversight while clarifying which categories of immigrants must meet additional registration and documentation requirements.

New Tools May Boost Trump Deportations

US President Donald Trump is reportedly preparing to accelerate deportations using new legal and technological tools after facing a setback in his effort to end birthright citizenship. While the court ruling limited one aspect of his immigration agenda, recent legal developments have opened up alternative ways for the administration to pursue its broader goal of increasing deportations.

According to reports, the administration is planning a more targeted approach rather than conducting large-scale immigration raids in major cities. Officials are expected to rely heavily on data analysis, digital records and advanced targeting systems to identify individuals who may be eligible for deportation. The strategy is aimed at making enforcement operations more efficient while avoiding the public backlash



often associated with high-profile raids.

A major boost to the administration's plans came after a federal appeals court allowed the expanded use of expedited removal, a process that enables immigration authorities to deport certain undocumented immigrants without a full court hearing. Under the policy, individuals who cannot prove they have lived in the United States continuously for more than two

years could face swift removal from the country.

The administration is also expected to make greater use of government databases and digital information to locate people living in the country without legal status. Officials believe that technology-driven enforcement can help immigration agencies identify potential targets more quickly and carry out deportations with fewer personnel.

Immigration advocates, however, have raised concerns that expanded use of expedited removal and data-based enforcement could increase the risk of wrongful deportations and reduce due process protections for affected individuals. Civil rights groups argue that rapid deportation procedures may not provide enough opportunity for people to prove their legal status or challenge removal orders.

Despite the legal setback on birthright citizenship, the latest developments indicate that immigration enforcement remains a central priority for the Trump administration. With new legal authority and technology-driven strategies at its disposal, the administration appears determined to intensify deportation efforts in the coming months, even as court challenges and political debate over immigration policy continue.

China Launches 350 kmph Bullet Train

China has expanded its high-speed rail network with the launch of a new 350 kmph bullet train connecting Xi'an in Shaanxi Province with Shiyang in Hubei Province. The new railway, which passes through the rugged Qinling Mountains, is expected to significantly improve connectivity between central and western China while reducing travel time by more than six hours.

The service officially began with the departure of the first high-speed train from the newly inaugurated Xi'an East Railway Station. Covering a distance of about 257 kilometres, the new rail corridor is designed to operate at speeds of up to 350 kmph, making it one of the fastest railway lines in the country.

One of the biggest benefits of the project is the dramatic reduction in travel time. The journey between Xi'an and Shiyang, which previously took more than six hours, can now be completed in around one hour. The railway also connects with the existing Wuhan-Shiyang high-speed line, reducing travel time between Xi'an and Wuhan to just 2 hours and



41 minutes.

Constructing the railway through the Qinling Mountains posed significant engineering challenges due to the region's mountainous terrain. The successful completion of the project highlights China's continued investment in advanced railway infrastructure and its expertise in building high-speed transport systems across difficult landscapes.

The new corridor is expected

to boost tourism, trade and economic cooperation between Shaanxi and Hubei provinces. Faster connectivity will improve the movement of people and goods, strengthen regional integration and create new opportunities for businesses and local industries. Authorities also expect the railway to support long-term economic development by encouraging investment and increasing access to key urban

centres.

China already operates the world's largest high-speed rail network, and the latest addition reinforces its commitment to expanding modern transportation infrastructure. The Xi'an-Shiyang railway is expected to play an important role in enhancing mobility, promoting regional growth and making travel faster, safer and more convenient for millions of passengers.

Pakistan Seeks Support on Indus Issue

Pakistan has stepped up its diplomatic campaign over the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), warning that undermining the decades-old agreement could have serious consequences for the international rules-based order. At an international conference held in Islamabad, senior Pakistani leaders urged the global community to intervene, describing the treaty as a cornerstone of regional peace and stability.

Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar said the Indus Waters Treaty is far more than a water-sharing arrangement, calling it a symbol of peaceful cooperation between two nuclear-armed neighbours. He argued that using water as a political tool would set a dangerous precedent and weaken confidence in international

agreements.

Pakistan Peoples Party chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also addressed the conference, asserting that the Indus River is the country's lifeline and warning that any attempt to reduce or divert Pakistan's allocated water would be viewed as a serious threat to national security. He maintained that Pakistan would continue to defend its water rights through diplomatic and legal means while calling for adherence to international law.

Another strong statement came from Pakistan's Climate Change Minister Musadik Malik, who argued that the future of the Indus Waters Treaty would determine the credibility of post-World War II international agreements. He warned that if such a long-standing treaty could be sus-

pended, confidence in other global accords would also be undermined.

India suspended its participation in the 1960 World Bank-brokered treaty following the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack, stating that the agreement would remain in abeyance until Pakistan takes credible and irreversible steps to end cross-border terrorism. The move marked one of the sharpest downturns in bilateral relations in recent years.

As diplomatic tensions continue, the future of the Indus Waters Treaty remains uncertain. The dispute has become a key flashpoint in India-Pakistan relations, with both countries standing firm on their respective positions while the international community closely monitors developments.



Sensex Rebounds 444 Points, Nifty Reclaims 24,000

Indian benchmark equity indices bounced back strongly on Wednesday, snapping a two-day losing streak as broad-based buying across key sectors lifted investor sentiment. The BSE Sensex surged 444 points, while the Nifty 50 reclaimed the crucial 24,000 mark, ending the session on a positive note despite continued weakness in information technology stocks.

The market opened on a firm note, supported by encouraging global cues and sustained buying interest in domestic equities. Buying momentum gathered pace through the day, helping the Nifty touch an intraday high of nearly 24,050 before closing close to that level. The recovery came after two consecutive sessions of losses

and reflected renewed optimism among investors.

Auto, FMCG, realty and financial stocks emerged as the biggest gainers, providing the primary support to the benchmark indices. Strong monthly automobile sales boosted investor confidence in auto stocks, while heavyweight consumer goods companies also witnessed healthy buying. Realty shares joined the rally, adding to the market's overall strength.

However, the gains were partially capped by continued selling pressure in the IT sector. Technology stocks remained under pressure following weaker-than-expected quarterly guidance from KPIT Technologies, which dampened sentiment across the sector. Investors



tors also remained cautious about the outlook for export-oriented IT companies amid global economic uncertainties. Market breadth remained

positive throughout the session, with advancing stocks comfortably outnumbering declining ones. More than 160 companies on the BSE touched fresh 52-week highs, indicating that buying interest extended beyond frontline stocks and into the broader market. The strong participation across sectors suggested improving investor confidence after recent volatility.

Analysts attributed the day's rally to a combination of supportive global market trends, encouraging domestic data and sector-specific buying. Positive cues from international markets, robust automobile sales numbers and strength in FMCG stocks helped offset concerns surrounding the IT sec-

tor. The rebound also reflected value buying after the recent correction in benchmark indices. Going forward, market participants are expected to keep a close watch on upcoming corporate earnings, global economic developments, foreign institutional investor activity and macroeconomic indicators. While the recovery has improved near-term sentiment, analysts believe sustained momentum will depend on earnings growth and global market stability.

The strong finish has nevertheless provided relief to investors, with both the Sensex and Nifty ending the day on a positive note and setting the stage for the remainder of the week's trading sessions.

Ashok Leyland Shares Jump 5% After June Vehicle Sales Rise 25%

Shares of commercial vehicle manufacturer Ashok Leyland rallied as much as 5% on Wednesday after the company reported a strong 25% year-on-year increase in total vehicle sales for June, boosting investor confidence and driving buying interest in the stock. The impressive sales performance reinforced optimism about sustained demand in the commercial vehicle segment and lifted the company's market sentiment.

During the trading session, Ashok Leyland's stock climbed to an intraday high of 165.75 on the National Stock Exchange. Although some profit booking at higher levels trimmed the gains later in the day, the stock still ended the session with a healthy increase, reflecting investors' positive response to the company's latest sales numbers.

The company reported total vehicle sales of 19,194 units in June, compared with 15,333 units sold during the same month last year. The robust growth was driven by improved demand across several commercial vehicle categories, highlighting the company's strong market position and



consistent operational performance.

Ashok Leyland has been witnessing healthy demand in both medium and heavy commercial vehicles, supported by increased infrastructure activity, logistics demand and replacement purchases. The latest sales figures indicate that

the commercial vehicle industry continues to recover steadily, benefiting manufacturers with strong product portfolios and extensive dealer networks.

The company's performance also contributed to the broader strength seen in auto stocks, which remained among the

top-performing sectors during the trading session. Investors were encouraged by positive monthly sales updates from several automobile manufacturers, resulting in buying across the sector. Ashok Leyland emerged as one of the biggest gainers following its better-than-expected sales growth.

Market analysts believe that continued government spending on infrastructure, improving freight movement and stable economic activity are likely to support demand for commercial vehicles in the coming months. They also expect fleet replacement demand and higher construction activity to remain key growth drivers for companies such as Ashok Leyland.

Investors will now closely watch the company's upcoming quarterly financial results to assess whether the strong sales momentum translates into higher revenues and profitability. For now, the healthy June sales performance has strengthened confidence in Ashok Leyland's growth outlook and reaffirmed its position as one of India's leading commercial vehicle manufacturers.

SEBI Bars 221 Entities in Major Pump-and-Dump Crackdown

In one of its biggest enforcement actions against stock market manipulation, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has barred 221 entities from accessing the securities market for periods ranging from one to seven years. The regulator also imposed a 10 crore penalty on alleged mastermind Hanif Shekh for orchestrating a large-scale pump-and-dump operation that misled thousands of retail investors.

According to SEBI's detailed order, the accused entities artificially inflated the prices and trading volumes of select stocks through synchronized and manipulative trades. Once the share prices were driven higher, they allegedly lured unsuspecting investors by circulating bulk SMS messages and promotional recommendations, encouraging them to purchase the stocks at inflated prices.

After attracting retail investors, the operators allegedly sold their holdings at the elevated prices, earning substantial illegal profits while leaving late entrants with heavy losses as the stock prices eventually crashed. This fraudulent practice, commonly known as a "pump-and-dump" scheme, is considered one of the most harmful forms of market manipulation.

SEBI's investigation found



that the proceeds generated from the scheme were routed through multiple conduit entities in an attempt to conceal the identity of the ultimate beneficiaries. The regulator said the complex network of transactions was designed to disguise the flow of illicit gains and make it difficult to trace those responsible for the manipulation.

Besides imposing a 10 crore monetary penalty on Hanif Shekh, SEBI directed all 221 entities to stay away from the securities market for varying periods depending on their level of involvement in the scheme. The regulator stated that such stringent action was necessary to protect investors and maintain confidence in India's capital markets.

The order underscores SEBI's increasing focus on curbing fraudulent trading practices, particularly those targeting small investors through misleading recom-

mendations circulated via text messages and other communication channels. The regulator has repeatedly warned investors against acting on unsolicited stock tips and has urged them to rely only on registered investment advisers before making investment decisions.

Market experts believe the latest crackdown sends a strong message that manipulative practices will invite severe regulatory action. They also noted that stricter surveillance systems and data analytics have enabled SEBI to detect complex trading patterns more effectively than in the past.

The action is expected to strengthen investor confidence by reinforcing the regulator's commitment to ensuring fair and transparent markets. It also serves as a reminder for retail investors to exercise caution and verify the credibility of investment recommendations before investing in the stock market.

Jio BlackRock to Launch Two Global Funds

Jio BlackRock Asset Management is preparing to expand its global investment offerings by launching its first two outbound funds from Gujarat's GIFT City within the next two months. The move marks a significant milestone for the joint venture between Jio Financial Services and global investment giant BlackRock as it strengthens its presence in international investing and offers Indian investors greater access to overseas markets.

According to the company's Chief Investment Officer, Rishi Kohli, the first two funds will focus on global equities and emerging markets. The products are currently in the advanced stages of regulatory filings after the company secured the necessary approvals to operate from GIFT City. The initiative is aimed at providing investors with diversified international investment opportunities beyond domestic markets.

Kohli revealed that the fund house evaluated nearly ten investment products from BlackRock's extensive global portfolio before narrowing the list to the first two offerings. The selection was based on feedback received from family offices, wealth managers and distribution partners, who expressed strong demand for global investment products that go beyond traditional index-based exposure.

The company believes outbound investment products represent an attractive opportunity as Indian investors increasingly seek geographical diversification. While many investors currently invest in popular global indices such as the S&P 500 and Nasdaq, Jio BlackRock intends to offer ac-



tively managed global investment strategies that provide exposure to a broader range of international markets.

Following the launch of the outbound funds, Jio BlackRock also plans to introduce inbound investment products through GIFT City. These offerings are expected to be rolled out around six months later and will allow overseas investors to access Indian investment opportunities through the international financial services hub.

GIFT City has emerged as India's gateway for cross-border financial services, ena-

bling asset management companies to launch products catering to both domestic and international investors under a globally competitive regulatory framework. Jio BlackRock's expansion into the hub reflects its broader strategy of building a comprehensive investment platform with access to global markets.

The latest announcement comes as the asset management company continues to expand its product portfolio following its entry into the Indian mutual fund industry. By combining Jio Financial Services' digital reach with Black-

Rock's global investment expertise, the company aims to offer a wide range of investment solutions for retail as well as institutional investors.

With regulatory approvals in place and product filings progressing, the launch of the two global funds is expected to take place within the next two months. The move is likely to strengthen Jio BlackRock's position in the rapidly evolving asset management industry while providing Indian investors with easier access to international investment opportunities.

Advit Jewels Hits Lower Circuit After Strong Listing

The stock market witnessed contrasting performances from two newly listed companies on Wednesday, as Advit Jewels slipped into the lower circuit after a stellar debut, while Waterways Leisure Tourism, the operator of Cordelia Cruises, extended its losses following a weak market listing. The sharp moves have prompted market experts to advise investors to remain cautious before taking fresh positions in either stock.

Advit Jewels made an impressive debut on the exchanges, listing at 187 on the BSE and 188.90 on the NSE, representing premiums of 35.5% and 36.9%, respectively, over its IPO issue price of 138. The strong listing reflected robust investor demand, following the IPO's overwhelming subscription of more than 212 times.

However, the initial enthusiasm was short-lived. Soon after listing, investors rushed to book profits, dragging the stock to its 5% lower circuit at 179.46. Analysts noted that such volatility is common in newly listed stocks, especially after a sharp listing premium, as early investors seek to lock in gains.

Despite the decline, market experts remain optimistic about Advit Jewels' long-term prospects. The company has reported strong financial growth over the past two years, nearly tripling its revenue while maintaining healthy



EBITDA margins of around 29-30%. It has also delivered a robust return on net worth, factors that supported its premium valuation during the IPO. However, analysts caution that the company is still relatively small, with limited geographical diversification, making the stock susceptible to near-term volatility. Investors who received IPO allotments may continue to hold for the medium term, while fresh investors are advised to wait for a few quarterly results before making significant investments. In contrast, Waterways Leisure Tourism, which operates the Cordelia Cruises brand, had a disappointing stock market debut. The shares listed at 690 on the BSE and 681 on the NSE, both significantly below the IPO issue price of 808. Selling pressure continued after listing, extending the stock's losses as inves-

tors remained concerned about the company's valuation and near-term growth prospects. Analysts believe the divergent performances highlight the importance of evaluating individual company fundamentals rather than relying solely on IPO hype. While Advit Jewels benefited from strong financials and investor enthusiasm, Cordelia's weaker listing reflects concerns over pricing and future earnings potential.

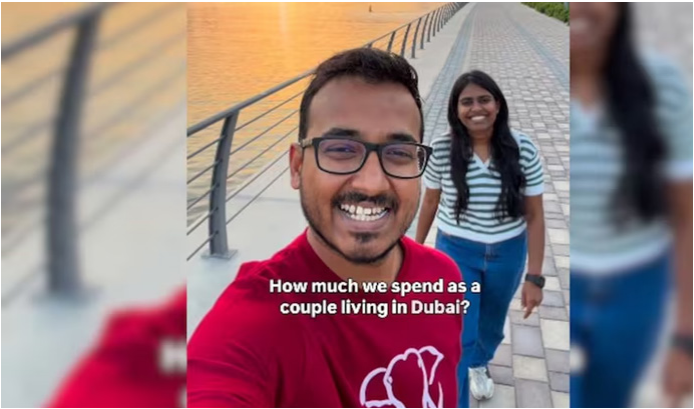
For traders, experts recommend avoiding impulsive decisions immediately after listing. Existing investors in Advit Jewels may consider partial profit booking or holding with a long-term perspective, while those interested in Cordelia are advised to wait until the stock stabilises and establishes a clear trading trend before taking fresh exposure.

₹3.6 Lakh a Month: The Cost of Living in Dubai

An Indian couple living in Dubai has gone viral after sharing a detailed breakdown of their monthly expenses, revealing that they spend between 13,000 and 14,000 UAE dirhams (approximately 3.34 lakh to 3.6 lakh) every month. Interestingly, the total does not include travel, luxury shopping, or other lifestyle indulgences, prompting many social media users to call it a realistic picture of life in the UAE.

The couple, who regularly post videos about their life in Dubai, explained that their biggest monthly expense is a 6,000-dirham EMI, which accounts for nearly half of their overall budget. Apart from loan repayments, they spend around 1,500 dirhams every month on household utilities, including electricity, water, internet and other essential services.

Food is another major expense. Since they rarely cook at home, their grocery bill is relatively low at around 500 dirhams a month. However, frequent dining out signifi-



cantly increases their food budget, with restaurant bills touching nearly 1,500 dirhams every month. Their spending pattern highlights how convenience and eating out can substantially raise the cost of living in Dubai.

Transportation also takes up a sizeable portion of their monthly expenses. The husband spends nearly 1,700 dirhams on his car, covering fuel, parking charges and Salik toll fees. Meanwhile, the wife, who commutes regularly between Dubai and Abu Dhabi for work,

spends between 1,700 and 2,000 dirhams each month on travel.

In addition to these recurring expenses, the couple pays 250 dirhams every week for domestic cleaning services. They also allocate another 1,000 dirhams every month for miscellaneous expenses, which include everyday purchases and other unavoidable costs.

Adding all these expenses together, the couple estimated that their fixed monthly expenditure comes to around 13,000 to 14,000 dirhams, or

roughly 3.6 lakh. They clarified that this figure does not include vacations, shopping, entertainment or other discretionary spending, meaning their actual monthly expenses could be even higher depending on their lifestyle and personal choices. The video has sparked widespread discussion on social media, with many viewers appreciating the couple's honesty in sharing the financial realities of living in Dubai. Several users commented that the expense breakdown appeared far more realistic than the commonly circulated claims suggesting that people can comfortably live in the city on much smaller budgets. Others noted that households with children would likely face even higher costs due to school fees and additional family-related expenses.

The viral post has once again highlighted the high cost of living in Dubai while reminding aspiring expatriates that careful financial planning is essential before making the move.

Microsoft Employee's Honest Post Goes Viral



A Microsoft employee's candid post about being laid off has gone viral, offering an unusual perspective on job losses in the tech industry. Instead of expressing anger or disappointment, the employee said they felt relieved, explaining that the uncertainty surrounding possible layoffs had been far more exhausting than the layoff itself.

The post, shared on the anonymous workplace platform Blind, surfaced as Microsoft reportedly prepares another round of workforce reductions. The employee revealed that they had already sensed what was coming after noticing several changes at work. According to the post, they had been quietly reassigned from projects, received less feedback from their manager and felt increasingly sidelined, making it clear that their role was at risk.

The employee wrote that while losing a job is never enjoyable, months of speculation and anxiety had taken a much greater emotional toll. They said they were relieved because the uncertainty was finally ending. The constant rumours, organisational restructuring and discussions about improving efficiency

had created a stressful work environment, with employees frequently wondering whether they would be the next to lose their jobs.

The post struck a chord with many professionals, especially those working in the technology sector, where layoffs have become increasingly common over the past few years. Several users praised the employee for expressing feelings that many workers experience but rarely admit publicly. Others shared similar stories of living through prolonged uncertainty before eventually receiving layoff notices.

According to reports, Microsoft is expected to cut a small percentage of its global workforce as part of its continued

focus on cost management and increased investment in artificial intelligence. While the latest round of layoffs is expected to affect fewer employees than previous cuts, it reflects the broader restructuring taking place across the technology industry.

The employee concluded the post by saying that although they might feel differently once the layoff actually happens, they currently view it as an opportunity for a fresh start. Their message has resonated widely online, highlighting the emotional burden of prolonged workplace uncertainty and sparking conversations about the mental health challenges employees face during periods of corporate restructuring.

How a ₹23,000 Salary Led to ₹3 Lakh Debt



A 27-year-old man has gone viral after revealing how reckless spending on parties, spa visits and credit cards left him trapped in more than 3 lakh of debt, despite earning only 23,000 a month. His candid confession on social media has sparked widespread discussion about financial discipline and the dangers of overspending.

In a post titled "Fell in a debt trap because of my foolishness," the man admitted that poor financial decisions and an extravagant lifestyle pushed him into a severe debt crisis. He shared that he had accumulated liabilities through multiple personal loans and maxed-out credit cards, making it increasingly difficult to manage his monthly finances.

The man explained that after paying rent and other household expenses, he is left with enough money to contribute only about 4,000 a month towards loan repayments. He had also applied for a fresh personal loan of 3 lakh in the hope of consolidating his existing debt into a single, longer-term repayment plan. However, all his loan applications were rejected.

He further revealed that nearly 80 per cent of his outstanding credit card dues had already been converted into Equated Monthly Instalments (EMIs). Even then, keeping up with the repayments has become nearly impossible on his current salary. As a result, his credit score has started declining due to high credit utilisation, making it even harder to secure financial assistance.

Calling himself a "27-year-old fool," the man admitted that the money had been spent entirely on parties and spa visits, leaving him with little to show for the debt he had accumulated. He added that he is the sole earning member of his family, making the financial burden even more stressful.

The post attracted hundreds of responses from social media users, many of whom offered practical financial advice. Some suggested negotiating loan settlements with lenders, while others warned against damaging his credit history through defaults. Several users encouraged him to adopt a frugal lifestyle, increase his income by switching jobs or taking up additional work, and systematically repay the debt over the next few years.

The viral post has become a cautionary tale about the risks of uncontrolled spending and excessive reliance on credit. It also highlights the importance of budgeting, responsible borrowing and maintaining financial discipline, especially for young professionals at the beginning of their careers.

Mexico's 'Batman' Vigilante Sparks Debate Over Street Justice



A mysterious masked vigilante has captured global attention after a series of incidents in Mexico earned the individual the nickname "Batman of Lagos de Moreno." The unidentified figure has sparked a heated debate over whether the actions represent a fight against crime or a dangerous case of vigilante justice.

The incidents occurred in Lagos de Moreno, a municipality in the Mexican state of Jalisco, where several men accused of stealing motorcycles were found bound to street poles with heavy-duty duct tape. In many cases, the alleged stolen motorcycles were left beside them, while the suspects' faces were marked with the Spanish word "ratero," meaning "thief." Some also had mustaches and cat whiskers drawn on their faces, adding to the bizarre nature of the incidents.

Photographs of the restrained men quickly spread

across social media, where users began referring to the unknown vigilante as the "Batman of Lagos de Moreno." While many online praised the figure for taking action against rising crime, others expressed concern over individuals taking the law into their own hands.

Authorities, however, have made it clear that they do not support such acts. Police in

Jalisco are investigating the incidents and have classified the tied-up men as victims of assault, regardless of the allegations against them. Officials say there is currently no legal evidence proving the men committed the thefts they were accused of, and they have launched a search to identify those responsible for the attacks. Investigators believe the same individual or group may

be behind at least five similar incidents reported over a span of about ten days. Authorities have reportedly identified two vehicles that could be linked to the case, although no arrests have been made so far. The story has reignited discussions about vigilantism in Mexico, where frustration over crime and public dissatisfaction with law enforcement have occasionally led citizens to take justice into their own hands. While some residents view the masked figure as a symbol of resistance against criminals, legal experts warn that bypassing the justice system can lead to abuse, mistaken identities and further violence.

As the mystery surrounding the so-called "Batman" deepens, the case continues to divide public opinion, raising a difficult question: when faith in the justice system weakens, does vigilantism become a solution—or simply another crime?

From Janitor to CEO: Indian-Origin Man Defies the Odds



An Indian-origin entrepreneur has inspired thousands online after sharing his remarkable journey from working as a janitor in Canada to becoming the CEO of a successful technology company. His story has resonated widely, highlighting the power of perseverance in the face of rejection and discrimination.

The entrepreneur, Sarbjot Johal, recalled arriving in Canada with big dreams but facing repeated setbacks because of his strong Indian accent. During job interviews, he was allegedly told that his accent would make it difficult for him to find employment. The repeated rejections left him discouraged, but instead of giving up, he accepted a janitor's job to support himself while continuing to pursue better opportunities.

Despite the challenges, Johal refused to let criticism define his future. He spent years improving his communication skills, expanding his professional network and gaining valuable experience in the technology sector. His determination eventually led him to establish ReplyWise, an artificial intelligence-powered customer support platform that helps businesses automate responses and improve customer service.

Reflecting on his journey, Johal said that the biggest lesson he learned was the impor-

ance of persistence. He believes that success rarely comes overnight and that resilience is often the deciding factor between failure and achievement. His message encouraged people facing rejection to keep moving forward instead of allowing temporary setbacks to determine their future.

The story quickly gained traction on social media, where users praised Johal's determination and positive outlook. Many described his

experience as a reminder that immigrants often face additional hurdles while trying to build careers in new countries. Others appreciated his decision to openly discuss the discrimination he encountered, saying it highlighted the importance of creating more inclusive workplaces.

Several commenters also pointed out that language or accent should never be viewed as a measure of a person's talent or potential. They praised Johal for proving that

hard work, continuous learning and self-belief can overcome prejudice and open doors to success.

Johal's journey from cleaning offices to leading a technology company has become a powerful example of resilience. His story serves as a reminder that setbacks can become stepping stones when met with determination, and that refusing to give up can ultimately transform even the most difficult beginnings into extraordinary success.

Rare Miyazaki Mangoes Stolen from Orchard, Loss Runs into Lakhs

Hazaribagh, July 1 | TPN Bureau



In a bizarre and rare incident, nine premium Miyazaki mangoes, considered among the world's most expensive fruits, were stolen from a private orchard in Barkagaon area of Jharkhand's Hazaribagh district. The fruit grower has estimated the loss to be worth several lakh rupees.

The orchard owner, Praveen Kumar, said the theft took place during the night when unidentified persons entered his farm and plucked the mangoes. The stolen fruit weighed around 1.5 kg in total. According to him, the market value of the rare variety could go up to nearly Rs 4 lakh, depending on quality and demand.

Praveen Kumar had procured two Miyazaki mango saplings from West Bengal about a year ago at a cost of Rs 2,400. After careful nurturing and continuous monitoring, the trees bore fruit for the first time this season. "I had been taking care of the plants every day. But when I checked in the morning, nine mangoes were missing," he said, expressing shock over the incident.

Miyazaki mangoes, originally from Japan, are known for their deep red to purplish colour, exceptional sweetness and rich aroma. Often referred to as the "Egg of the Sun," this variety is cultivated under highly controlled conditions, including regulated temperature and sunlight exposure. Farmers typically use protective coverings and reflective techniques to enhance fruit quality.

Globally, Miyazaki mangoes are treated as luxury produce, sometimes fetching extremely

high prices in international markets and auctions. While domestically grown varieties may be priced lower, they still command significant value due to their rarity.

The unusual theft has drawn attention in the region, highlighting how even agricultural produce is now being targeted due to its high market value. Local authorities are yet to confirm whether a formal complaint has been registered, but the incident has left growers concerned about the security of high-value crops.

Seven IPL Franchises Reportedly Keen on Hardik Pandya

Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya has reportedly become one of the most sought-after players ahead of the next Indian Premier League (IPL) season, with as many as seven franchises expressing interest in acquiring the star all-rounder if he becomes available. According to reports, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) have emerged as the frontrunners in the race, adding a fresh twist to one of the biggest transfer speculations in IPL history.

Hardik returned to Mumbai Indians before the 2024 season in a high-profile trade from Gujarat Titans and was immediately appointed captain, replacing Rohit Sharma. The move generated intense debate among fans and experts, with the all-rounder facing criticism throughout the season. Despite the difficult start, Hardik gradually regained his form and

leadership credentials through impressive performances for both Mumbai Indians and the Indian national team.

Recent reports suggest that several franchises are closely monitoring Hardik's situation, believing that his experience, leadership qualities and match-winning abilities make him one of the most valuable players in the league. Franchises are reportedly preparing to make significant offers should Mumbai Indians decide to part ways with their captain.

Among the interested teams, Chennai Super Kings are believed to be leading the race. The five-time champions are reportedly exploring long-term leadership options as they prepare for life after MS Dhoni. Hardik's ability to contribute with both bat and ball, along with his captaincy experience, makes him an attractive candi-

date to guide CSK into its next era.

Apart from Chennai, several other IPL franchises are also said to be interested in securing Hardik's services. His versatility as a pace-bowling all-rounder, combined with his ability to perform under pressure in high-stakes matches, has made him one of the league's most coveted players. Teams looking to strengthen both their leadership group and overall squad see Hardik as a game-changing acquisition. However, there has been no official confirmation from Mumbai Indians, Hardik Pandya or the IPL governing authorities regarding any potential transfer discussions. As things stand, Hardik remains under contract with Mumbai Indians, and any move would depend on future trade negotiations and franchise decisions.

The speculation has generated significant excitement among cricket fans, with social media buzzing over the possibility of Hardik wearing a different jersey next season. While many Mumbai Indians supporters hope the franchise retains its captain, others are eager to see how the transfer market unfolds in the coming months.

With the IPL known for producing dramatic player movements and blockbuster trades, Hardik Pandya's future is likely to remain one of the biggest talking points until the next trading window officially opens. Until then, fans can only wait for an official announcement to determine whether one of the league's premier all-rounders will continue with Mumbai Indians or begin a new chapter with another franchise.



Ishan Kishan Becomes ICC's No. 1 T20I Batter

Indian wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan has climbed to the top of the ICC Men's T20I batting rankings, replacing his teammate Abhishek Sharma to become the world's No. 1 batter in the shortest format. The latest rankings mark another significant milestone in Kishan's career, rewarding his consistent performances in recent T20 internationals.

Kishan's rise to the top comes after an impressive run with the bat, during which he has produced a series of impactful innings. His aggressive approach at the top of the order, coupled with his ability to score quickly while maintain-

ing consistency, has helped him accumulate crucial ranking points and edge past Abhishek Sharma in the latest ICC update.

Abhishek Sharma, who had held the No. 1 position, slipped to second despite continuing to enjoy an excellent run in international cricket. The presence of two Indian batters at the top of the rankings highlights the country's growing dominance in the T20 format and reflects the depth of talent available in India's batting line-up.

Kishan has emerged as one of India's most reliable performers in white-ball cricket. Known for his fearless stroke



play and attacking intent, the left-handed batter has repeatedly provided explosive starts and has also shown the ability to anchor an innings when required. His versatility has made him a key player in India's T20 setup.

The latest rankings are expected to boost Kishan's confidence as India prepares for a packed international calendar. Securing the No. 1 position is not only a personal achievement but also recognition of his hard work and consistency against top-quality international bowling attacks.

Indian cricket continues to enjoy a strong presence in the

ICC rankings across formats, with several players occupying top positions in batting, bowling and all-rounder categories. Kishan's achievement further strengthens India's reputation as one of the leading teams in T20 cricket.

Fans celebrated the announcement on social media, congratulating the 27-year-old on reaching the summit of the rankings. Many also praised the healthy competition between Kishan and Abhishek Sharma, saying it reflects the impressive depth of India's batting resources.

With international cricket becoming increasingly com-

petitive, maintaining the No. 1 ranking will be a fresh challenge for Kishan. Every series and every innings will carry added significance as rival batters look to close the gap.

For now, however, Ishan Kishan can celebrate a memorable achievement. Rising to the top of the ICC T20I batting rankings is a testament to his consistent performances, fearless approach and ability to deliver when it matters most. As India looks ahead to upcoming tournaments, fans will hope the left-hander continues his outstanding form and cements his place among the world's elite T20 batters.

Kerala Cricket Association Revokes S Sreesanth's 3 Year Ban



Former India fast bowler S Sreesanth has received a major relief after the Kerala Cricket Association (KCA) decided to revoke the three-year ban imposed on him. The decision was taken during a Special General Body meeting after Sreesanth submitted an unconditional apology expressing regret over his remarks against the state cricket body.

The ban was originally imposed after the KCA accused Sreesanth of making statements through television interviews and social media that allegedly brought disrepute to the association. The former

pacer had challenged the disciplinary action in the Thiruvananthapuram Munsiff Court, but his petition was dismissed. Following the legal setback, he tendered an unconditional apology, paving the way for a reconciliation with the association.

After reviewing the apology, members of the KCA unanimously agreed to lift the suspension. The association stated that Sreesanth had expressed genuine regret for his comments and, considering the circumstances, it decided to revoke the disciplinary action. However, the KCA also issued a

clear warning that any similar conduct in the future would invite strict action.

The decision allows Sreesanth to resume his involvement in cricket-related activities under the KCA's jurisdiction. One of the immediate outcomes is that he can continue his role as co-owner of the Aries Kollam Sailors franchise in the Kerala Cricket League (KCL), a position that had come under uncertainty following the suspension.

Sreesanth remains one of India's most recognizable fast bowlers, having represented the country in all three for-

ats. He played a crucial role in India's victorious campaigns in the 2007 ICC T20 World Cup and the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup, earning a reputation for his aggressive bowling and passionate on-field celebrations.

Over the years, however, his career has also been marked by several controversies. In 2013, he was handed a life ban by the BCCI over the IPL spot-fixing scandal. Although he was later acquitted in the criminal case, the cricket ban remained in place before eventually being reduced to seven years. He returned to domestic cricket in 2021 before announcing his re-

tirement from the game in 2022.

The latest decision by the Kerala Cricket Association marks another significant chapter in Sreesanth's turbulent cricket journey. While the lifting of the ban restores his standing with the state association, the KCA has made it clear that maintaining professional conduct will remain a key expectation going forward. The development has been welcomed by many cricket fans, who view it as an opportunity for the former India pacer to continue contributing to the sport in administrative and mentoring roles.

Jacob Duffy Returns for West Indies Series

New Zealand have received a significant boost ahead of their upcoming One-Day International (ODI) series against the West Indies with the return of pace bowler Jacob Duffy to the national squad. The experienced seamer, who missed the recent Test tour of England due to a family commitment, has been recalled as the Black Caps announced a 16-member squad for the five-match series.

Duffy's return strengthens New Zealand's pace attack at a crucial stage of the season. The fast bowler has been a consistent performer in white-ball

cricket and is expected to play an important role with both the new ball and during the death overs. His experience will add depth to the bowling unit as New Zealand look to continue their impressive record in the 50-over format.

Another notable inclusion in the squad is Matt Fisher, who has earned his maiden ODI call-up after producing impressive performances in domestic cricket. The young pacer has been rewarded for his consistency and now has an opportunity to make his international debut. His selection reflects New Zealand's continued em-



phasis on developing emerging talent while maintaining a balanced squad.

The squad largely retains its experienced core, with the selectors opting for continuity ahead of the series. The team management believes the combination of seasoned campaigners and promising youngsters provides the ideal balance as the Black Caps prepare for a challenging contest against the West Indies.

The ODI series is expected to play a key role in New Zealand's preparations for future ICC tournaments. Team management will be keen to assess

player combinations, strengthen bench depth and give younger cricketers valuable international exposure while maintaining a competitive edge.

For Duffy, the recall marks an important opportunity to re-establish himself in New Zealand's white-ball plans after his brief absence from international cricket. His return comes at a time when competition for places in the pace department remains intense, making every performance crucial.

Cricket fans have welcomed the squad announcement, par-

ticularly Duffy's comeback and Fisher's maiden selection. Many believe the blend of experience and youth gives New Zealand a strong chance of performing well against the West Indies.

With the ODI series fast approaching, the Black Caps will be aiming to start on a positive note and build momentum. Duffy's return and Fisher's inclusion have added fresh excitement to the squad, while the selectors remain confident that the team possesses the depth and quality needed to deliver strong performances throughout the series.

Julian Quinones Emerges as a Key Figure Ahead of World Cup 2026

Julian Quinones' journey from the streets of Colombia to becoming one of Mexico's most important footballers is a story of perseverance, ambition and adaptation. As Mexico prepares to co-host the 2026 FIFA World Cup, the Colombian-born forward has emerged as a crucial player for El Tri, carrying the hopes of a nation eager to make a deep run in the tournament.

Born in Nariño, Colombia, Quinones moved to Mexico as a teenager in search of better opportunities in professional football. He joined the youth setup of Tigres UANL and gradually worked his way through the ranks, showcasing his pace,

strength and goal-scoring ability. Over the years, he established himself as one of the most dangerous forwards in Liga MX, earning admiration from fans and recognition from football experts across the country.

Quinones enjoyed successful spells with clubs such as Lobos BUAP, Tigres UANL, Atlas and Club América. His performances were instrumental in helping Atlas secure back-to-back Liga MX titles, ending a decades-long wait for championship success. The forward's ability to score crucial goals and create opportunities for teammates made him one of

the league's standout performers.

After spending several years in Mexico and becoming a naturalized citizen, Quinones became eligible to represent the Mexican national team. The decision marked a significant turning point in his career. Although born in Colombia, he embraced the opportunity to wear the Mexican jersey and quickly became an important part of the national setup.

His inclusion initially sparked debate among some supporters, but Quinones soon silenced critics with his performances on the pitch. His versatility allows him to play across

the front line, while his physical presence and attacking instincts provide Mexico with an additional dimension in attack. Coaches have praised his work ethic, adaptability and commitment to the team.

With the 2026 World Cup approaching, Quinones is expected to play a key role in Mexico's plans. The tournament, which will be jointly hosted by Mexico, the United States and Canada, presents a unique opportunity for the Mexican national team to shine on home soil. Expectations are high, and experienced players like Quinones are likely to be central to the team's ambitions.



Beyond football, Quinones' story represents the broader themes of migration, opportunity and belonging. His rise from a young Colombian prospect to a Mexican international highlights how sport can transcend borders and create new identities.

As Mexico continues its preparations for the biggest tournament in world football, Julian Quinones stands as one of the team's most compelling figures. His remarkable journey and consistent performances have transformed him into a symbol of determination and an important player in Mexico's quest for World Cup success.

Train Episode to Be Major Highlight in Aadarsha Kutumbam

The excitement surrounding Venkatesh and Trivikram Srinivas' upcoming family entertainer Aadarsha Kutumbam continues to grow, with the latest industry buzz suggesting that a specially designed train sequence will be one of the film's biggest highlights. The project has already generated immense curiosity among movie lovers as it marks the first-ever collaboration between Venkatesh and Trivikram as actor and director.

According to reports from industry circles, Trivikram has conceived an elaborate episode set aboard a moving train, which is expected to seamlessly blend comedy, family emotions and engaging drama. Known for his witty writing and entertaining storytelling, the director has reportedly designed the sequence to keep audiences thoroughly entertained while also serving as an important turning point in the narrative.

Sources indicate that the train episode will occupy a significant portion of the film's runtime rather than being a brief action or comedy sequence. It is said to feature a series of humorous incidents, emotional interactions and cleverly written dialogues that reflect Trivikram's trademark style. The episode has reportedly been crafted to bring out Venkatesh's impeccable comic timing, an aspect that has



earned him immense popularity among family audiences over the years.

The production team is believed to have invested considerable effort and resources into executing the sequence on a

grand scale. From the train setup to the screenplay and performances, every detail has reportedly been planned with precision to ensure that the episode becomes one of the most memorable portions of

the film. Industry insiders believe the sequence could emerge as a major talking point after the movie's theatrical release.

Aadarsha Kutumbam is one of the most eagerly awaited Telugu films because it brings together two celebrated names in the industry. Although Trivikram has previously written blockbuster films featuring Venkatesh, this project marks their first collaboration with Trivikram at the helm as director. The unique combination has significantly raised expectations among fans and trade circles alike.

The film features Srinidhi Shetty as the female lead, while Nara Rohit, Satya, Yogi Babu and several other prominent actors play key supporting roles. Produced by Haarika & Hassine Creations, the family entertainer is being mounted on a lavish budget with high production values.

While the makers have not officially confirmed the reports regarding the train sequence, the ongoing buzz has only added to the anticipation surrounding the film. Fans are now eagerly waiting for more updates, confident that Trivikram's storytelling and Venkatesh's entertaining performance will make Aadarsha Kutumbam one of the most talked-about releases when it finally arrives in theatres.



Rajamouli Reveals Only 80 Days of Shoot Left for Varanasi

SS Rajamouli has shared an exciting update on his much-anticipated film Varanasi, starring Mahesh Babu in the lead role. The ace filmmaker revealed that the ambitious project is in its final leg of production, with only 80 days of shooting remaining before filming is officially wrapped up.

Speaking about the film's progress, Rajamouli said that a major portion of the shoot has already been completed. The team has successfully finished several large-scale action sequences, and the remaining schedule will primarily focus on filming key connecting scenes and completing the narrative. According to the director, the production is moving as planned and is expected to conclude within the next 80 days.

The update has thrilled Mahesh Babu's fans, who have been eagerly waiting for fresh news about the film. Ever since the project was announced, Varanasi has been one of the most talked-about Indian films, thanks to the first-ever collaboration between Mahesh Babu and Rajamouli. Expectations are exceptionally high following the global success of RRR, with audiences anticipating another cinematic spectacle

from the acclaimed filmmaker.

The film stars Priyanka Chopra Jonas as the female lead, marking her return to Indian cinema after a long gap. Malayalam star Prithviraj Sukumaran plays a pivotal role, while veteran actor Prakash Raj is also part of the impressive ensemble cast. Backed by producer K.L. Narayana, the film features music composed by M.M. Keeravaani and is being mounted on a massive scale for a worldwide audience. Rajamouli has previously revealed that Varanasi will combine mythology, adventure, fantasy and cutting-edge visual effects to deliver a unique cinematic experience. Designed for IMAX and other premium formats, the film promises breathtaking visuals while retaining an emotional core centered on the relationship between a father and son.

With the production entering its final phase, anticipation for the film continues to soar. Fans are now looking forward to the completion of filming and the launch of the movie's promotional campaign. Varanasi is scheduled for a grand theatrical release on April 7, 2027, and is expected to be one of the biggest Indian releases of the year.

'Ladies' Glimpse of Toxic Showcases Power-Packed Female Cast

The makers of Yash's much-awaited pan-Indian action drama Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups have unveiled a brand-new promotional glimpse titled "Ladies & Ladies," putting the spotlight on the film's formidable female cast. Featuring Nayanthara, Kiara Advani, Rukmini Vasanth, Tara Sutar and Huma Qureshi, the video has generated tremendous excitement among fans ahead of the film's release.

Unlike previous promotional material that primarily focused on Yash's character, the latest glimpse shifts attention to the women who are expected to play pivotal roles in the story. Each actress is introduced with a striking screen pres-

ence, hinting at characters who are stylish, fearless and influential within the film's gritty world. The teaser suggests that these women will be much more than supporting characters, with each one seemingly carrying a distinct identity and purpose. Nayanthara commands attention with a powerful and intense appearance, while Kiara Advani impresses with her glamorous yet mysterious avatar. Rukmini Vasanth and Tara Sutar also leave a strong impact with stylish introductions, and Huma Qureshi rounds out the ensemble with a commanding presence. The teaser combines elegant visuals with glimpses of action, making it clear that the female characters

will have significant roles in the narrative.

Directed by Geetu Mohandas, Toxic is one of the most anticipated Indian films in production. Set against the backdrop of a dark and dangerous underworld, the film promises a unique blend of action, drama and emotion. Yash headlines the project, marking his return to the big screen after the phenomenal success of the KGF franchise. The film is being mounted on a grand scale and is expected to offer a visually rich cinematic experience. The newly released glimpse has received an overwhelmingly positive response on social media, with fans praising the film's stylish presentation, lav-

ish production values and the impressive lineup of leading actresses. Many viewers have described the teaser as refreshing for giving equal importance to the female characters, while others have appreciated the mystery surrounding their roles.

With every new promotional update, Toxic continues to build massive anticipation among audiences across the country. While the latest glimpse offers only a brief introduction to its leading ladies, it successfully raises curiosity about how these powerful characters fit into Yash's action-packed world. Fans are now eagerly awaiting the film's next trailer and more details about its intriguing storyline.



Priyanka Sharma

RISE STAR

Climax Twist Expected to Be the Biggest Strength of Rao Bahadur

Satyadev's upcoming psychological drama Rao Bahadur is steadily building strong anticipation ahead of its theatrical release, with industry buzz suggesting that the film's climax twist could emerge as its biggest talking point. Directed by acclaimed filmmaker Venkatesh Maha, the movie has already attracted attention for its intriguing promotional material, unique narrative and the confidence displayed by everyone associated with the project.

According to reports, one of the film's major highlights will be a powerful climax that completely changes the audience's perception of the story. Throughout the film, Satyadev's character is said to exhibit unusual behaviour, leaving viewers constantly questioning his motives and mental state. While subtle clues are reportedly scattered across the narrative, the true reason behind his actions is said to remain hidden until the final moments.

Sources indicate that the climax revelation is both shocking and emotionally charged, offering a fresh perspective on the protagonist and tying together the film's psychological



elements in an impactful manner. If the reports prove accurate, the ending could become one of the most discussed aspects of Rao Bahadur after its release, adding to the film's appeal among audiences who enjoy suspense-driven storytelling.

Directed by Venkatesh Maha, Rao Bahadur is being promoted as a psychological drama with a distinctive narrative style. The film stars Satyadev in the title role, alongside Deepa Thomas and Vikas Mupala in pivotal roles. Presented by Mahesh Babu's GMB Entertainment and produced by A+S Movies, SriChakraas Entertainment and Mahayana Motion Pictures, the film has generated considerable curiosity ever since its teaser and trailer were unveiled.

Adding to the excitement, Rao Bahadur recently received glowing praise from superstar Mahesh Babu and filmmaker Sukumar after special screenings. Both lauded Venkatesh Maha's vision and Satyadev's performance, further raising expectations for the psychological drama. Their endorsements have significantly boosted the film's pre-release buzz among moviegoers.

With its intriguing premise, strong performances and a reportedly unforgettable climax, Rao Bahadur has emerged as one of the most awaited Telugu releases. Whether the much-talked-about twist lives up to the hype will only be known once the film reaches theatres, but the growing buzz suggests audiences are in for a gripping cinematic experience.

Triptii Dimri Calls Spirit a 'Special Experience',

Prabhas' highly anticipated action drama Spirit is steadily becoming one of the most talked-about Indian films in production, and the latest comments from leading lady Triptii Dimri have only added to the growing excitement. The actress recently opened up about the project, describing it as a "special experience" while choosing to keep the film's key details under wraps.

In a recent interview, Triptii expressed her enthusiasm about working on the film and said she is thrilled to be part of the ambitious project. Although she refrained from revealing any plot details, the actress hinted that the film is shaping up exceptionally well. She added that it is still too early to discuss the story but expressed confidence that audiences would enjoy what the team is creating.

Spirit marks Triptii's second collaboration with director Sandeep Reddy Vanga after the blockbuster Animal. Their previous partnership earned widespread acclaim, and fans are eager to see what the actress brings to this high-octane action entertainer alongside Prabhas. The film also marks the first-ever collaboration between Prabhas and Vanga, making it one of the most awaited releases in Indian



cinema.

Prabhas will reportedly be seen playing a fierce police officer, a role that promises intense action and powerful drama. Directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, the film is expected to feature the filmmaker's trademark blend of emotion, violence and compelling character arcs. Recent reports also suggest that the team has been filming an important college-based romantic sequence featuring Prabhas and Triptii, further increasing curiosity about the film's narrative.

Apart from Prabhas and Triptii Dimri, Spirit boasts an impressive supporting cast that includes Vivek Oberoi as the primary antagonist, along with Prakash Raj and veteran actress Kanchana in pivotal roles. The film is jointly produced

by T-Series and Bhadrakali Pictures, with Harshavardhan Rameshwar composing the music.

Ever since its announcement, Spirit has remained one of the most anticipated pan-Indian projects. Fans have been eagerly following every update, from the first-look poster to reports from the film's shooting schedules. With Triptii Dimri now calling the project a "special experience," expectations have risen even higher.

While the makers continue to keep the storyline under wraps, the combination of Prabhas, Sandeep Reddy Vanga and Triptii Dimri has already generated massive buzz. Scheduled for a theatrical release on March 5, 2027, Spirit is expected to be one of the biggest cinematic events of the year.