

Minister Nara Lokesh Offers Prayers at Tirumala

Tirumala, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Education, IT, Electronics & Communications and RTG Nara Lokesh on Thursday offered prayers at the Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Tirumala and participated in the Tirupavada Seva.

Lokesh entered the temple through the Vaikuntham Queue Complex and was received at the Mahadwar by TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu, TTD Executive Officer Muddada Ravi Chandra, Additional Executive Officer C.H. Venkayya Chowdary, and temple priests.

Following the darshan, Vedic scholars at the Ranganayakula Mandapam blessed the Minister and presented him with Srivari Theertham, prasadam, and a sacred memento of Lord Venkateswara.

Several public representatives accompanied Lokesh during the visit, including MLAs Bojjala Sudheer Reddy, Pulivarthi Nani, Gali Bhanu Prakash and Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy, Sports Au-



thority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP) Chairman Animini Ravi Naidu, Tirupati District TDP President Panabaka Lakshmi, Andhra Pradesh Greening and Beautification Corporation Chairperson Sugunamma, and TUDA Chairman Dollars Divakar Reddy.

The Minister's visit to Tirumala came during his tour of Tirupati district, where he attended official programmes and public engagements before seeking the blessings of Lord Venkateswara.

VBG-RAMG Scheme to Bring ₹1,000 Crore Annually to AP - Pemmasani

Tirupati, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister of State for Rural Development and Communications Dr. Pemmasani Chandrasekhar on Thursday said the newly launched Vikasit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar Aajivika Mission Grammeen (VBG-RAMG) scheme would open new avenues for rural development and bring nearly 11,000 crore annually to Andhra Pradesh.

The scheme was launched at Mukkavaripalli village in Obulavaripalli mandal of Tirupati district by Union Minister for Rural Development and Agriculture Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Konidela Pawan Kalyan.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Pemmasani said Andhra Pradesh had become the venue for a historic initiative aimed



at transforming rural India. He recalled that the country's first MGNREGA job card was issued in Andhra Pradesh and noted the programme's role in reducing migration in drought-prone Rayalaseema.

Highlighting reforms, he said Aadhaar seeding eliminated 4.43 crore fake job cards nationwide, while direct benefit transfers and geo-tagging enhanced transparency. He said the new framework focuses on employment generation, rural infrastructure, water security and income enhancement, with the Centre bearing 60 per cent of the cost and states contributing 40 per cent.

NIDM South Campus Hosts Workshop on Hospital Disaster Management Planning

Kondapavuluru, July 2 | TPN Bureau

A two-day South Zone Workshop on Hospital Disaster Management Planning (HDMP) began at the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) South Campus in Kondapavuluru on Thursday, bringing together disaster management and health officials from southern states.

Inaugurating the workshop, Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) Executive Director Kausar Bano said hospitals serve as critical lifelines during disasters and public health emergencies, making preparedness and resilient healthcare systems essential. She stressed the need to strengthen hospital safety, improve emergency response mechanisms and develop comprehensive disaster management plans to ensure uninterrupted medical services during crises. Kausar Bano said the workshop would enhance coordination among disaster man-



agement authorities and health departments of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry, while promoting the exchange of best practices. She thanked the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) for selecting Andhra Pradesh as the host state and entrusting APSDMA with organizing the event.

Among those present were NDMA Member Krishna S. Vatsa, Union Health Ministry Joint Secretary G.S. Chitra, NIDM South Campus Executive Director Col. P.S. Reddy, APSDMA officials, WHO India representatives, UNICEF representative Prasad and senior officials.

B.C. Janardhan Reddy, K. Rammohan Naidu Discuss AP Aviation Expansion

Amaravati, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Investments and Infrastructure B.C. Janardhan Reddy on Thursday met Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu in New Delhi to discuss the State's aviation infrastructure expansion plans.

The meeting focused on improving air connectivity across Andhra Pradesh under the leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. The Minister said the government aims to set up an airport within a 150-km radius to meet future transport needs and promote regional economic growth.

Both leaders reviewed pending Central approvals for new airports, expansion of regional and interstate flight services, and development of Flight Training Organisation (FTO) clusters to generate employment. They also discussed proposals for seaplane operations, heliports under PPP mode, Regional Connectivity Scheme routes and ver-tiport infrastructure.

Senior officials including Special Chief Secretary M.T. Krishna Babu and Maritime Board CEO Praveen Aditya attended the meeting. Janardhan Reddy said Andhra Pradesh aims to emerge as a major aviation and aerospace hub.

Retirement Age Hike to 62 Years Historic Decision Says AP Power Employees Forum

Vijayawada, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Power Employees Forum Vice President M. Satyanandam has welcomed the State Government's decision to increase the retirement age of employees in the power sector, government undertakings, corporations and societies from 60 to 62 years, calling it a landmark step for employee welfare.

In a statement issued on Thursday, Satyanandam said the Cabinet's decision would provide greater job security and financial stability to thousands of employees and their families. He de-



scribed it as a historic move reflecting the government's commitment to the welfare of its workforce.

On behalf of power sector employees, he thanked Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for taking the initiative. He also expressed gratitude to Education

APCRDA Commissioner Reviews Amaravati Iconic Towers

Amaravati, July 2 | TPN Bureau

APCRDA Commissioner V. Vijaya Rama Raju, along with Additional Commissioner Abhishek Kumar, inspected the ongoing construction of Iconic Towers 1 and 2 at the Amaravati Government Complex (AGC) on Thursday and reviewed the project's progress with contractors and engineering officials.

During the inspection, the officials assessed the status of the iconic towers, which form a key part of the Amaravati Govern-



ment Complex. They held a detailed review meeting with the executing agencies to evaluate construction progress and the implementation schedule.

Vijaya Rama Raju directed contractors and engineering teams to adhere to prescribed

Minister Kollu Ravindra Calls for Rural Infrastructure Push, Targets YSRCP Over MGNREGS

Machilipatnam, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Mines, Geology and Excise Kollu Ravindra on Thursday said strengthening rural infrastructure is essential for village development and urged people to make full use of government welfare and development programmes.

Speaking after inaugurating the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar Aajeevika Mission (VBG Ramji) at Mekavanipalem in Machilipatnam constituency, the Minister inter-



acted with MGNREGS workers and reviewed facilities at the worksite.

Ravindra said the State Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, is implementing the mission to accelerate rural de-

Lokesh Reconnects with Yuva Galam Team in Tirupati

Tirupati, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Education, IT, Electronics & Communications and RTG Nara Lokesh reaffirmed his close bond with the Yuva Galam padayatra team by warmly interacting with party workers who accompanied him during the statewide foot march.

Lokesh visited Tirupati to bless Kamma Corporation Chairman Nadendra Brahmam Chowdary ahead of his wedding. During his visit to the bride's residence, he noticed several Telugu Desam Party (TDP) workers who had participated in the Yuva Galam



padayatra and stopped to greet them personally. Calling each worker by name, Lokesh spent nearly 15 minutes recalling memories from the padayatra. He praised the team for standing by him throughout the journey despite the challenges and said their commitment had contributed to the success

Health Secretary Suresh Kumar Orders 100% Pregnancy Registration, Maternal Death Audits

Amaravati, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Health Secretary Suresh Kumar has directed officials to ensure 100% registration of all pregnant women on the state health portal, stressing that accurate data is essential to safeguard the health of both mothers and newborns. He issued the directions during a review meeting with Health and Family Welfare Commissioner Chakradhar Babu at the department headquarters in Mangalagiri on Thursday.

Suresh Kumar instructed the state's more than 40,000 ASHA workers to ensure complete pregnancy registration and sought explanations for low registration rates in Srikakulam (85.43%), Eluru (87%), and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema (87.36%) districts. He asked officials to replicate the best practices followed in Kurnool (98.16%), West Godavari (97.99%), and Alluri Sitarama Raju (96.90%) districts.



Expressing concern over the high number of Caesarean deliveries, he questioned the reasons behind C-section rates of 80.76% in Konaseema, 75% in Srikakulam, and 72.5% in West Godavari. Officials informed him that Caesarean deliveries account for 62% of births in private hospitals and 42% in gov-

Low Pressure Over Bay May Trigger Heavy Rain in North Coastal Andhra

Vijayawada, July 2 | TPN Bureau

A low-pressure area has formed over the northwest Bay of Bengal adjoining the north Odisha-West Bengal coasts and is likely to intensify further over

the next two to three days, Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority Managing Director Prakhar Jain said on Thursday. The system is expected to bring heavy rainfall at one or two places in North Andhra districts over the next

three days, while other areas may experience thunderstorms accompanied by lightning. Gusty winds with speeds of 40-50 kmph are also likely along the coast, prompting authorities to advise people to remain alert.

Fishermen have been warned against venturing into the sea until conditions improve. On Friday, cloudy weather is expected to prevail, with light to moderate rain accompanied by thunderstorms forecast at isolated places in Srikakulam, Polavaram, Konaseema, West Goda-



Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan Offers Prayers at Tirumala

Tirumala, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan on Thursday evening offered prayers at the Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Tirumala after attending the launch of the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar Aajeevika Mission (VBG Ram G) at Railway Koduru in Tirupati district.

After completing the official programme, Pawan Kalyan travelled directly to Tirumala and participated in the temple rituals. Observing a religious deeksha, he chose to visit the shrine after fulfilling his official commitments and sought the blessings of Lord Venkateswara.

Following the darshan, Vedic scholars at the Sri Ranganayakula Mandapam blessed the Deputy Chief Minister and presented him with Srivari Theertham, prasadam, and a framed photograph of Lord Venkateswara.

He was accompanied by Tirupati MLA Arani Srinivasulu, Andhra Pradesh Police Housing Corporation Chairman Kalyanam Siva Srinivas, Handicrafts Skill Development Corporation Chairman Dr. Pasupuleti Hariprasad, and Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Commissioner Krishna Teja.

The temple visit concluded Pawan Kalyan's official engagements in Tirupati district.

People's Lives Are the True Measure of Development Says Chandrababu

Tirupati, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Thursday said economic growth should be measured by the positive changes it brings to people's lives rather than by statistics alone. Addressing the two-day Economic Intelligence for Governance workshop organised by the Planning Department in Tirupati under the Swarna Andhra-2047 vision, he said society and people had taught him more than economics textbooks.

Naidu said indicators such as Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and Compound An-

nual Growth Rate (CAGR) should be analysed to improve living standards. He highlighted data-driven governance, the creation of a Data Lake integrating information from all departments and the digitisation of health records under the Sanjeevani project.

Referring to beneficiaries Tulasamma and Padmamma from Gudur, he explained how welfare schemes and DWCRA loans transformed their lives. He also stressed the importance of private investments, the P4 initiative and announced that a quantum computer would soon be available in Amaravati.

Minister BC Janardhan Reddy Seeks Power Grid CSR Funds for Banaganapalle Development

Amaravati, July 2 | TPN Bureau

State Minister for Investments and Infrastructure BC Janardhan Reddy met Power Grid Corporation of India Chairman and Managing Director Burra Vamsi Rama Mohan at the corporation's headquarters in Gurugram on Thursday and sought Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funding for infrastructure development in Banaganapalle constituency of Nandyal district.

During the meeting, the minister discussed the high-voltage transmission line project being executed by Power Grid at Nandipadu village in Kolimigundla mandal. He urged the corporation to allocate CSR funds for key development works in the constituency, including 4.95 crore for constructing a retaining wall along the Jurreru stream to prevent recurring floods and protect residential



areas and agricultural lands.

Janardhan Reddy also requested CSR support worth 2 crore to provide advanced medical equipment to the Banaganapalle Government Hospital.

Responding positively, Burra Vamsi Rama Mohan assured the minister of the corporation's support for the proposed projects under its CSR initiative. Janardhan Reddy also assured the state government's full cooperation for Power Grid's expansion plans in Andhra Pradesh and invited the company to undertake more investment projects in the state.

TG Bharat Appeals for Public Participation in Electoral Roll Revision

Kurnool, July 2 | TPN Bureau

State Minister for Industries, Commerce and Food Processing TG Bharat has urged people to cooperate with the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls by providing necessary details to Booth Level Officers (BLOs) within the stipulated timeframe.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the Minister said the SIR exercise is not related to any particular caste or religion and applies uniformly to all voters. He appealed to citizens to actively participate in the process and furnish accurate information to BLOs to ensure the preparation

of an updated and error-free electoral roll.

Bharat emphasized that no community is exempt from the revision process and stressed the importance of completing the exercise within the prescribed deadline. He also directed officials to create awareness among the public about the significance of the electoral roll revision and encourage greater participation in the programme.

The Minister said public cooperation is essential for the successful completion of the Special Intensive Revision process and for maintaining the integrity of the electoral database.

vari and Eluru districts, while other districts may receive light showers.

Prakhar Jain advised people to avoid standing under trees and near large hoardings during thunderstorms and to stay away from snapped electric wires.

YouTuber Prashna Ravan Taken into Custody Again

continued

after allegedly failing to co-operate with the ongoing investigation. Officials said he is expected to be produced before a local court later on Thursday. Ravan had secured bail on Wednesday night in a separate case registered on the complaint of Jana Sena leader Bojja Kumar.

The earlier case stemmed from a public meeting of Dalit Christians held in Eluru on June 28, where Ravan allegedly made derogatory remarks against Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu

Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan.

Based on Bojja Kumar's complaint filed on June 29, police registered a case and arrested Ravan in Hyderabad on Tuesday before bringing him to Pithapuram Police Station. Multiple cases were reportedly booked against him under various provisions of law.

With the registration of the fresh case by the Sarpavaram Police, Ravan's legal troubles have continued despite obtaining bail in the earlier matter. Police said the investigation into both cases is underway.

Naidu to Launch

₹16,350-Crore JSW Steel Plant

departments, paving the way for full-scale construction.

The State Government has simultaneously taken up critical external infrastructure to support the project. A dedicated water supply system is under development, road connectivity to National Highway-67 is being executed, and a 12-kilometre railway line connecting the steel plant to Muddanuru Railway Station is being developed through RITES under the PM Gati Shakti initiative.

The upcoming facility has been designed as a Green Steel Plant, adopting scrap-based Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) technology powered by renewable energy. The technology is expected to significantly reduce carbon emissions while promoting sustainable steel production in line with global environmental standards.

Officials said the project is expected to generate thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities while encouraging the growth of ancillary industries throughout Rayalaseema. The investment is also expected to stimulate economic activity in sectors such as logistics, engineering, transportation and services.

The commencement of construction on July 3 is being viewed as a landmark step in Andhra Pradesh's industrialisation strategy. Beyond establishing a major steel manufacturing facility, the project is expected to strengthen the State's position as one of India's leading steel-producing destinations and accelerate the transformation of Rayalaseema into a major industrial and green manufacturing hub.

YS Jagan Alleges Police Harassment

Drove Kranthi Kumar to Suicide

questioning how such evidence could go missing.

He criticised the government for not registering a case under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and alleged that those responsible were being protected. Assuring the bereaved family that the YSR Congress Party would fight for justice, Jagan said the party would extend legal assistance

and pursue the matter in court if necessary.

Responding to a question on Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan's recent remarks on misuse of freedom of speech, Jagan said he was unaware of the context but maintained that laws should be applied equally to everyone and institutions must function impartially to uphold justice.

Jana Sena Drive Draws Strong Response

Vijayawada, July 02 | TPN Bureau

State Tourism, Culture and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh on Thursday said the Jana Sena Party is committed to identifying dedicated grassroots leaders and strengthening its organisational structure through a transparent selection process.

Speaking during the fourth day of the party's application intake programme at his camp office in Vijayawada, Durgesh said it was his good fortune to have the opportunity to identify sincere party workers who have consistently served the organisation. He personally received applications from Janasainiks and Veera Mahilas aspiring to take up key responsibilities and interacted with them to understand their service to the party.

Separate counters were arranged for applicants from all

YSRCP Questions AP GST Growth Claims

Amaravati, July 02 | TPN Bureau

The YSR Congress Party has challenged the Andhra Pradesh government's claims of strong economic performance based on the latest GST collection figures, alleging that the reported growth is largely the result of a low-base effect rather than genuine economic expansion. In a statement released on Wednesday, the party criticized Andhra Pradesh Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh for highlighting the state's GST growth as evidence of increased development and employment without examining the underlying data.

YSRCP pointed out that while the state's post-IGST settlement SGST collections recorded a 25% year-on-year growth during the first quarter of FY 2026-27, the correspond-

ing period in FY 2025-26 had registered a 7% decline, creating what it described as an "artificial growth" due to the low comparison base. The party further stated that SGST collections increased from 8,568 crore in Q1 FY 2024-25 to 9,978 crore in Q1 FY 2026-27, reflecting a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 7.9% over two years, which it argued was not exceptional. Comparing the figures with its tenure, YSRCP claimed that SGST revenues grew from 20,611 crore in 2018-19 to 31,130 crore in 2023-24, registering a CAGR of 8.6% despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The party accused Lokesh of selectively interpreting financial data for political credit while ignoring the state's broader fiscal performance over the past two years.

VBG Ram G Mission to Boost Rural Growth

continued

implemented with complete transparency using technologies such as geo-tagging and biometric authentication.

Naidu also announced that water from the Galeru-Nagari Project would be supplied to Koduru and groundwater levels would be improved through the Jaladhara initiative. Highlighting Andhra Pradesh's achievements in rural employment, he said the State created a Guinness World Record by conducting Gram Sabhas simultaneously in 13,226 villages. The programme has generated 55.44 crore man-days with an expenditure of 16,695 crore, resulting in the construction of 7,000 kilometres of CC roads, 40,000 cattle shelters, 15,500 water troughs, 1.07 lakh farm ponds, 1,373 kilometres of roads in tribal areas, and horticulture plantations across 1.66 lakh acres. For the current year, the government has set ambitious targets, including 10,000 kilometres of gravel roads, 1,500

kilometres of cement and BT roads, 500 kilometres of magic drains, and horticulture plantations over one lakh acres. The Chief Minister said the present government had restored 93 Centrally Sponsored Schemes, including the Jal Jeevan Mission, and was implementing projects worth 28,000 crore. He thanked the Central Government for its continued support, particularly for the reconstruction of Amaravati, and highlighted major investments coming to Andhra Pradesh, including the Google Data Centre, a fighter aircraft manufacturing unit at Puttaparthi, Hero MotoCorp's facility at Satyavedu, Royal Enfield's manufacturing unit in Tirupati, and a proposed horticulture hub at Madanapalle.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the Central Government had earmarked 7.5 lakh crore under the VBG Ram G Mission to accelerate rural development across the country

and would release 7,700 crore to Andhra Pradesh during the current nine-month period. He said Gram Sabhas would identify and approve development works in every panchayat, ensuring people's participation in rural planning.

The Union Minister handed over sanction letters for 74,212 houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and 422 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. He also announced that the Centre would procure 2,16,250 metric tonnes of Totapuri mangoes under the Market Intervention Scheme, providing major relief to mango farmers in Andhra Pradesh. Union Ministers Pemmasani Chandrasekhar and Kamlesh Paswan, State Ministers Satyakumar Yadav and Anagani Satya Prasad, and Railway Koduru MLA Arava Sridhar were among those present at the programme.

Minister Subhash Slams Jagan Over Capital Remarks

Amaravati, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Minister Vasamsetti Subhash on Thursday launched a sharp attack on YSR Congress Party president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of creating confusion over the state's capital and misleading the public with repeated statements on Amaravati.

Speaking at the State Secretariat in Amaravati, the Minister questioned the purpose of Jagan's press conferences, alleging that the former Chief Minister neither answers questions from journalists nor addresses public concerns. He

said the people of Andhra Pradesh now expect development rather than political rhetoric.

Referring to Jagan's recent remarks on the capital issue, Subhash alleged that the previous YSRCP government failed to develop any of its proposed three capitals while creating uncertainty over the state's future. He also criticized the construction of government buildings at Rushikonda, claiming public funds were misused during the previous regime.

The Minister asserted that the NDA alliance government, under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy

Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, is committed to completing the development of Amaravati and accelerating key projects such as Polavaram.

Subhash further alleged that the previous government discouraged investments and accused the opposition of attempting to obstruct fresh industrial investments through misinformation. He challenged the opposition to help bring investments to the state instead of engaging in what he termed "negative politics," and said the coalition government would continue to focus on Andhra Pradesh's development agenda.

YSRCP Slams Law and Order in Rajamahendravaram

Rajamahendravaram, July 2 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP State Secretary and former corporator Vasamsetti Gangadhara Rao on Wednesday alleged a complete breakdown of law and order in Rajamahendravaram under the Alliance government and criticized the administration over civic issues, hospital management, and development works.

Addressing a press conference, Gangadhara Rao questioned City MLA Adireddy Srinivas over reports of his application for a gun licence, claiming it reflected the deteriorating security situation in the city. He alleged that recent rains exposed the poor drainage system, leaving low-lying areas such as Thummalava and Aryapuram flooded. He blamed civic authorities for failing to prevent waterlogging and demanded criminal action against those responsible.

The YSRCP leader also accused the government of filing false cases against opposition



leaders, citing BC leader Peetha Ramakrishna as an example. He alleged that the ruling coalition was targeting YSRCP leaders through politically motivated cases.

Gangadhara Rao further criticized the functioning of the Government General Hospital, alleging negligence in handling patient deaths and poor maintenance of the premises. He claimed the government was taking credit for edu-

cational improvements achieved under the previous YSRCP administration through the Nadu-Nedu programme.

He also demanded transparency in the utilization of Godavari Pushkaram funds and questioned the delay in completing major infrastructure projects, including the riverfront and Diwan Cheruvu bridge. Several YSRCP leaders attended the press conference.

MGNREGS Workers Neglected, Says YSRCP

Anantapuram, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Former MP Talari Rangaiah has accused the Andhra Pradesh coalition government of failing to protect the interests of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workers, alleging that agricultural labourers across the state are facing severe hardship due to low wages and inadequate employment opportunities.

Addressing the media on Wednesday, Rangaiah said Andhra Pradesh continues to have one of the lowest MGNREGS wage rates in the country, with workers receiving only 308-312 per day after a marginal increase of 5. He claimed that while several states offer wages above 400 per day, nearly 47 lakh job card-holding families in Andhra Pradesh are struggling to sustain their livelihoods.

He further alleged that



around 18 lakh MGNREGS job cards had been removed for political reasons and questioned Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, who also oversees the department, for not reviewing the implementation of the scheme despite promising accountability.

Rangaiah said labourers from Anantapur, western Kur-nool, North Andhra and Prakasam districts are increasingly migrating in search of work due to inadequate em-

ployment and low wages. He announced that he would write to the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee seeking corrective measures to safeguard workers' interests.

The former MP also criticized the coalition government for allegedly failing to improve rural infrastructure and demanded immediate steps to ensure fair wages and better employment opportunities for agricultural labourers across Andhra Pradesh.



Ravikumar Slams Jagan Over Capital Issue

Amaravati, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Minister Gottipati Ravikumar on Thursday criticised YSR Congress Party president and former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy over his remarks on Amaravati, alleging that the former government had failed to develop the capital despite making repeated promises.

Participating in a public grievance redressal programme at the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) central office in Amaravati, the Minister said a large number of people attended the event to submit petitions on various public issues.

Addressing the media, Ravikumar claimed the YSRCP had been reduced to 11 Assembly seats after contesting the elections with the three-capitals proposal. He alleged that if the party continued with what he

termed "misleading politics" on the capital issue, it would face further rejection from the electorate.

The Minister accused Jagan of attempting to obstruct Amaravati's development, alleging that the previous government spent around 450 crore on constructing a government complex at Rushikonda while failing to advance capital infrastructure in Amaravati.

Ravikumar further claimed that Jagan had earlier supported Amaravati as the capital and even sought land there before changing his stand. He said the coalition government, under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, is committed to completing Amaravati's development while simultaneously attracting investments to accelerate Andhra Pradesh's economic growth.

Minister Dola Criticises Jagan Over Capital Remarks

Ongole, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Social Welfare Minister Dr. Dola Sree Bala Veeranjanya Swamy on Thursday launched a sharp attack on YSR Congress Party president and former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy over his recent remarks on the state capital, accusing him of repeatedly changing his stand for political reasons.

Addressing a press conference in Ongole, the Minister alleged that Jagan was shifting his position on the capital issue "like the demon Maricha changing his guise." He questioned the former Chief Minister's reference to "Mavigan" and asked whom he intended to mislead with the new terminology.

Dr. Dola asserted that Amaravati remains the capital of Andhra Pradesh, stating that

Parliament had approved it and that the Central Government had issued a gazette notification recognizing it. He alleged that Jagan had earlier advocated the three-capital proposal and was now introducing new narratives to confuse the public. The Minister further accused the YSRCP chief of following "a politics of deception and betrayal," claiming that his statements on the capital lacked consistency. He said there was no need for the public to pay attention to what he described as contradictory remarks. Reaffirming the coalition government's commitment to Amaravati, Dr. Dola said the state administration would continue focusing on the development of the capital city and would not be distracted by what he termed politically motivated statements from the opposition.



YSRCP Alleges Neglect of MGNREGS Workers

Tadepalli, July 2 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP Panchayat Raj Wing State President Vennapusa Ravindra Reddy on Wednesday accused the Alliance government of failing to protect the interests of MGNREGS workers and alleged that the revised rural employment policy would impose a heavy financial burden on Andhra Pradesh.

Addressing a press conference at the YSRCP central office in Tadepalli, Ravindra Reddy claimed that the state government had misled the public over the Centre's Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajivika Mission-Gramin (VBG-RAM-G) scheme. He alleged that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had failed to secure a substantial wage hike for workers, while Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan had not questioned the Centre

over the issue.

He said the Centre's revised funding pattern from 90:10 to 60:40 would increase the state's financial responsibility and questioned how the government would fund its promise of providing 125 days of employment. According to him, while the Centre would provide 7,707 crore, the state would need to arrange the remaining 15,039 crore.

Ravindra Reddy also criticized the 5 increase in wages for MGNREGS workers in Andhra Pradesh, alleging it was significantly lower than hikes announced in several other states. He further demanded an explanation regarding the alleged diversion of panchayat funds and challenged the Alliance government to an open debate on the implementation of the employment guarantee scheme.



Dhyanachandra Reviews SIR Progress

Vijayawada, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) Commissioner Dhyanachandra on Thursday reviewed the field-level progress of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and directed officials to complete the exercise within the Election Commission's stipulated deadline.

During a visit to the Central Constituency Control Room at the Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium, the Commissioner interacted with Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to assess the challenges in distributing, collecting, mapping, and digitising enumeration forms. He discussed practical solutions and instructed officials to expedite the process.

Dhyanachandra stressed that the success of the revision depends on the efficiency of every BLO and directed Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) to maintain close coordination with field staff and resolve issues immediately.

As of 4 p.m. on Thursday, enumeration forms had been distributed to 97.19% of voters in Vijayawada Central, 97.71% in Vijayawada West, and 97.71% in Vijayawada East. Digitisation had reached 23% in Central, 20.82% in West, and 25.31% in East.

Chief City Planner and AERO K. Sanjay Ratnakumar, Election DTS Suresh Kumar, CDO Jagadeeswari, and Booth Level Officers attended the review meeting.

Vijayawada Division Reviews Hindi Implementation

Vijayawada, July 02 | TPN Bureau

The Vijayawada Division of South Coast Railway (SCoR) on Thursday reviewed the implementation of the Official Language Policy at the Divisional Official Language Implementation Committee (DOLIC) meeting chaired by Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Mohit Sonakiya. The division also released the quarterly official language e-magazine, Vijayarth, during the meeting.

Addressing officials, DRM Mohit Sonakiya stressed that effective implementation of the Official Language Policy is the collective responsibility of all Central Government offices. In view of the proposed inspection by the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language, he directed officers to increase the use of Hindi in official noting, correspondence, and inspection reports.



He appreciated the Rajbhasha Department and various branches for promoting the use of Hindi.

Additional DRM (Infrastructure) P.E. Edwin said the division had surpassed official language targets, recording 87.87% Hindi noting and 88% replies in Hindi correspondence. Senior Rajbhasha Adhikari Hemant Wadekar reviewed quarterly activities, including Hindi workshops, seminars, and employee training programmes. Senior railway officials attended the meeting.

DYFI Seeks More Time for AEE Exam Preparation

Vijayawada, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Democratic Youth Federation of India (DYFI) has urged the Andhra Pradesh government to extend the preparation time and application deadline for the Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) recruitment examinations in APTRANSCO, APGENCO, DISCOMs, and allied departments.

A DYFI delegation, led by State President Y. Ramu and State Secretary G. Ramanna, submitted a representation to APTRANSCO Joint Managing Director Surya Sai Praveen Chand (IAS) at Vidut Soudha on Thursday.

The organisation welcomed the release of the AEE notification after a seven-year gap but expressed concern that candidates have only 53 days to prepare for the examinations scheduled from August 22. DYFI leaders said the revised syllabus and common examination format require additional preparation time, particularly for aspirants from rural areas who have limited access to coaching centres, libraries, and study materials.



The delegation also requested an extension of the application deadline, stating that applicants need additional time to obtain documents such as caste certificates and No Objection Certificates (NOCs).

DYFI urged the authorities to postpone the examination and conduct the entire recruitment process transparently while ensuring equal opportunities for all eligible candidates.

Police Counsel Vendors to Ease Traffic

Vijayawada, July 02 | TPN Bureau

NTR District Police on Thursday conducted a special awareness and enforcement drive under the 'Tactical Urbanism' initiative to improve traffic flow and enhance public safety in Vijayawada.

The drive was carried out under the directions of Police Commissioner S.V. Raja Sekhara Babu, IPS, and the guidance of Traffic DCP Shirin Begum, IPS. Traffic ACP (Zone-1) Ramachandra Rao and Traffic Inspector A. Uma Maheswara Rao supervised the operation.

Police teams inspected the stretch from Radham Centre to R.R. Bangles via Brahmana Veedhi and Canal Road up to Vinay-

aka Temple. Roadside fruit vendors and petty traders occupying public roads were counselled and asked to remove goods obstructing traffic movement.

Auto-rickshaw drivers were advised not to stop indiscriminately on busy roads and were instructed to use designated roadside locations while picking up passengers. Police said similar drives have significantly improved traffic management and public safety in recent days.

Motorists and local residents welcomed the initiative. Police also appealed to traders to avoid road encroachments and cooperate in ensuring smooth traffic movement. Law and Order SI Chakradhar, RSI Sridhar, and other personnel participated in the drive.

Collector Felicitates Double Gold Medallist Dheeraj

NTR District, July 02 | TPN Bureau

NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha on Thursday felicitated international archer Dheeraj Bommadevara for his exceptional performance at the recently concluded Archery World Cup in Antalya, where he secured two gold medals in the individual and mixed team events.

During a felicitation ceremony held at the Collector's camp office, Dr. Lakshmisha congratulated Dheeraj for bringing glory to Vijayawada, NTR district, Andhra Pradesh and the nation through his remarkable achievement. He praised the archer's dedication, discipline and relentless hard work, describing his



success as a matter of pride for the district. The Collector said Dheeraj's accomplishment would inspire young athletes to pursue excellence in sports. He also highlighted the Andhra Pradesh government's commitment to strengthening sports infrastructure and urged aspiring sport-

persons to make the best use of the facilities and opportunities provided.

Renowned archery coach and Volga Archery Academy founder Satyanarayana also attended the event and congratulated Dheeraj on his outstanding international success.

MP Chinni Attends Temple Consecration

Vijayawada, July 02 | TPN Bureau

The consecration ceremony of the idols of Sri Lakshmi Ganapathi and Sri Dakshinamurthy was held with religious fervour at the 120-year-old Shiva temple near Challapalli Bungalow in Governorpet on Thursday. Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath (Chinni) participated in the event and offered special prayers.

Speaking on the occasion, the MP expressed hope that the blessings of the deities would bring health, prosperity, longevity, and happiness to the people



of the Vijayawada Parliamentary constituency. He said the installation of the new idols would enhance the temple's spiritual significance and attract more devotees.

Kesineni Sivanath appreciated the efforts of the temple committee members and donors for supporting the installation of

the idols and preserving the temple's rich heritage. Following the rituals, the temple's chief priest honoured the MP with Vedic blessings and presented him with Teertha-Prasadam, while temple committee members felicitated him.

Among those present were Andhra Pradesh Buildings and Other Construction Workers Advisory Committee Chairman Gottumukkala Raghurama Raju, former corporator Neli-bandla Balaswamy, Executive Officer Yadlapalli Sitaramaiah, temple committee members, donors, local leaders, and devotees.

VMC Intensifies Drinking Water Quality Monitoring

Vijayawada, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) has intensified monitoring of drinking water quality across the city to ensure residents receive safe and hygienic water during the monsoon season.

Municipal Commissioner Dhyanachandra said officials are conducting continuous surveillance of the water supply system by collecting samples from all circles and divisions. Residual Chlorine (RC) tests are being carried out regularly to ensure chlorine levels



remain within the prescribed standards.

He said special precautions are being taken to prevent waterborne diseases, which are more common during the rainy season. Whenever low chlorine levels are detected in any part of the supply net-

work, immediate corrective measures, including additional chlorination, are being undertaken to maintain water quality.

The Commissioner said RC testing is being conducted daily across the city, while selected samples are also being sent to laboratories for detailed analysis wherever necessary. He urged residents to store drinking water in clean containers, avoid wastage, and cooperate with the civic body's efforts to ensure a safe and uninterrupted water supply throughout the monsoon season.

Undavalli Residents Seek Relief from Traffic Gridlock

Undavalli, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Residents of Undavalli have appealed to the authorities to take immediate steps to address the persistent traffic congestion on the village's main road, saying the daily commute has become increasingly difficult.

The road, a crucial link between Vijayawada and Amaravati, has witnessed a significant rise in vehicular traffic over the years. Commuters reportedly spend nearly 15 minutes travelling the short stretch between the Coastal Bank junction and the cremation ground junction due to heavy congestion.

Residents said the problem becomes more severe during peak of-



fice, school, and college hours, when long queues of vehicles cause delays and inconvenience. They pointed out that Undavalli serves as a major gateway to the Amaravati capital region, resulting in a continuous increase in traffic volume.

Expressing concern that the is-

sue has remained unresolved for decades, locals urged officials to widen the existing road and introduce effective traffic management measures. They said improving the road infrastructure is essential to ensure smooth traffic flow and reduce the daily hardships faced by thousands of commuters.

RGUKT Holds Orientation for Freshers

Nuzvid, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (RGUKT), Nuzvid, on Thursday organised a comprehensive orientation programme for newly admitted PUC first-year students for the 2026-27 academic year at the SAC Auditorium.

Campus Director Acharya Gopalaraju encouraged students to focus on personality development along with academics and make the best use of the opportunities available at RGUKT. He noted the increase in the number of girl students admitted this year and urged students to approach the administration with any concerns.

Administrator Dr. Lakshmana Rao explained campus adminis-



tration and student facilities, while Academic Dean Dr. Chiranjeevi briefed students on the academic calendar, attendance rules, examinations, continuous assessment, and course structure.

DSW (Boys) Dr. Rajesh, DSW (Girls) Dr. Durgabhavani, and Chief Warden Suresh outlined student welfare measures, discipline, grievance redressal, wom-

en's safety, hostel regulations, and mess facilities.

The programme concluded with a guided campus tour covering academic blocks, hostels, the library, hospital, bank, post office, administrative offices, and sports facilities. Representatives from the police, bank, and post office also created awareness about the services available on campus.



NTR District Launches Rural Welfare Push

NTR District, July 2 | TPN Bureau

The NTR District administration on Thursday launched key welfare and governance initiatives aimed at boosting rural livelihoods, improving electoral services, and strengthening public grievance redressal.

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha, along with Mylavaram MLA Vasantha Venkata Krishna Prasad, inaugurated the VB-G-Ram-G (Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajivika Mission-Grameen) scheme at Chevuturu in G. Konduru mandal. The initiative increases employment guarantee work from 100 to 125 days and raises daily wages from 307 to 312, while focusing

on creating durable rural infrastructure, improving groundwater recharge, and enhancing village connectivity.

Reviewing the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls at A. Konduru, the Collector said 97.38% of enumeration forms had been distributed and 31.71% digitised. He directed Booth Level Officers to complete the remaining work impartially and in line with Election Commission guidelines.

Dr. Lakshmisha also announced that a Special Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) programme will be held on July 3 at Auto Nagar in Vijayawada East to receive public petitions and ensure prompt resolution of grievances.

AP Raises Retirement Age to 62

Amaravati, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Government has enhanced the retirement age from 60 to 62 years for regular employees working in state government undertakings, corporations, and societies covered under Schedules 9 and 10 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The orders were issued by Finance Department Principal Secretary Piyush Kumar through G.O.Ms. No. 45.

The revised retirement age has been given retrospective effect from January 1, 2022, bringing these employees on par with regular state government staff. The government said employees who retired at the age of 60 will be eligible for re-induction into service, subject to prescribed conditions. Those who continued in service up to



62 years under interim court orders will have their service regularised with all eligible benefits.

Employees rejoining service will not receive salary for the period they remained out of service, though the interval will count for seniority, promotions, and notional annual increments. They must refund retirement benefits already received, including gratuity, computed pension, and earned leave encashment. All concerned organisations have been directed to amend their service rules accordingly.

VMC Clears Budameru Canal Ahead of Monsoon

Vijayawada, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) has intensified efforts to remove water hyacinth and plastic waste from the Budameru canal as part of its monsoon preparedness drive to prevent urban flooding. Municipal Commissioner Dhyanachandra on Thursday inspected a special sanitation operation at Ramakrishnapuram in the 30th Division of Circle-2. The drive utilised long-arm excavators, boats, and trucks to clear accumulated aquatic vegetation and plastic waste obstructing the canal.

The Commissioner said the initiative is aimed at ensuring the free flow of rainwater and preventing waterlogging in vulnerable areas during the monsoon season. He noted that re-



moving water hyacinth and solid waste would improve the canal's drainage capacity and reduce the risk of flooding in low-lying localities.

Dhyanachandra said similar cleaning operations are being undertaken across major canals, drains, and outfall channels in the city. He urged residents not to dump plastic waste or garbage into waterways and stressed that public cooperation is vital to maintaining clean drainage systems and preventing monsoon-related flooding.

Employment Scheme Launched in Tiruvuru

Tiruvuru, July 02 | TPN Bureau

Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajivika Mission (Grameen) (VBG-RAMJI) was launched at Lakshimpuram village in Tiruvuru constituency on Thursday, with Tiruvuru MLA Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao inaugurating the programme.

Addressing the gathering, the MLA urged officials to ensure that employment and welfare schemes of the Central and State governments reach every eligible rural family. He said the revamped scheme, earlier implemented as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), aims to provide employment and stable income to rural households during lean agricultural seasons.

Srinivasa Rao said the guaranteed employment period has been increased from 100 to 125 days, while daily wages have been enhanced from 300 to 312. Besides



creating jobs, the scheme will support the development of roads, Anganwadi buildings, and other community infrastructure.

He said the initiative, implemented under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, would strengthen rural livelihoods and women's self-help groups. RDO Kumar, MPDO Ravi Babu, officials, public representatives, and villagers attended the programme.



Collector Cracks Down on Municipal Staff Over Lapses in Work

Ongole, July 2 | TPN Bureau

A surprise inspection at the Ongole Municipal Corporation office on Wednesday exposed deficiencies in staff performance, prompting sharp criticism from the district administration. During the inspection, various sections of the corporation were reviewed and the functioning of employees was assessed department-wise. Officials examined work progress, file movement and the overall efficiency of service delivery in different wings. Expressing dissatisfaction over the functioning of the staff,

the Collector questioned employees over delays and lack of accountability, asking why they remained in service if they were not prepared to work. He also remarked that government offices should not be treated as places where duties can be neglected without consequence. The staff were directed to improve their performance, ensure timely disposal of work and provide better services to the public. Employees were warned to carry out their responsibilities sincerely or consider opting for voluntary retirement if they were unwilling to perform their duties effectively.

CPI Urges Governments to Supply 14 Essential Commodities Through Ration Shops

Eluru, July 2 | TPN Bureau

The Communist Party of India (CPI) on Thursday demanded that the Centre and the State government strengthen the Public Distribution System and provide 14 essential commodities through ration shops to support poor and middle-class families grappling with rising prices. Speaking at a protest organised by the CPI Eluru Area Committee and the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samakhya (NFIW) near the Collectorate, CPI State Secretariat member Dega Prabhakar said escalating prices of essential commodities were pushing economically weaker sections into hardship. He alleged that while fresh ration cards were not being issued, existing beneficiaries were also facing deletion of cards.

Venigandla Ramu Launches VBG-RAMG Works in Gudivada, Calls Scheme Engine of Rural Economy

Gudivada, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Gudivada MLA Venigandla Ramu on Thursday described the Vikasit Bharat Grameen Rozgar Aajeevika Mission (VBG-RAMG) as more than an employment programme, calling it an engine for strengthening the rural economy. Launching 125 days of employment works under the scheme at Siddhantam village in Gudivada Rural Mandal and Gudlavaluru Mandal headquarters, the MLA performed special prayers and joined labourers in desilting canals by wielding a spade. Addressing workers and farmers, Ramu said the Centre had introduced the new mission to provide greater benefits to labourers and accelerate rural development. He said each worker would receive a daily wage of 307 along with insurance coverage, providing both financial and social security.



The MLA noted that the scheme extends employment opportunities from 100 days to 125 days, reflecting the commitment of the double-engine government towards rural welfare. He said Andhra Pradesh's strong performance in implementing employment programmes had helped the State secure higher allocations from the Centre. Ramu said 19,037 workers in the constituency are benefiting under the mission, including 6,678 in Gudivada Rural, 8,806 in Gudlavaluru and 3,553 in Nandivada mandals. He also called for plantation along canal bunds to promote environmental conservation.

Putta Mahesh Kumar Resolves Ponguturu Farmers' Road Issue in 15 Days

Eluru, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Eluru MP Putta Mahesh Kumar has facilitated the resolution of a long-pending access road issue affecting farmers of Ponguturu village in Polavaram constituency within 15 days of the matter being brought to his notice. Following the construction of a National Highway passing through Ponguturu in Koyyalagudem Mandal, nearly 400 acres of agricultural land were left without proper access roads, while around 200 acres were also facing inundation due to the absence of drainage channels. Despite repeated representations to the highway contractor, the issue remained unresolved. A delegation of farmers led by Kodavati Ramakrishna recently approached the MP seeking intervention. Respond-



ing promptly, Putta Mahesh Kumar assured the farmers that access roads and drainage culverts would be provided to enable smooth movement to their fields. As promised, the required culverts were constructed and a road link was established within a fortnight, allowing farmers to reach their agricultural lands without difficulty. Farmers and residents of Ponguturu expressed gratitude to the MP for addressing their long-pending problem in a short span of time.

Collector Stresses Timely Land Acquisition and Compensation for Development Projects

Visakhapatnam, July 2 | TPN Bureau

District Collector M. Abhishek Kishore has directed revenue officials to ensure timely completion of land acquisition processes and compensation payments for various infrastructure projects, stressing that delays should not hinder development works. Reviewing revenue matters at a conference held at the Collectorate on Thursday, the Collector instructed officials to expedite land acquisition for projects being undertaken by the Railways, National Highways, Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation and Tourism Department. He emphasized that compensation due to farmers and landowners must be disbursed promptly to avoid disruptions in project execution. He also called for speedy disposal of 22-A de-notification applications and asked officials to



focus on clearing pending cases within stipulated timelines. Public grievances received through PGRS and Revenue Clinics should be addressed swiftly to ensure satisfactory resolution, he said. The Collector further directed officials to expedite caste certificate verification, SC and ST compensation cases, court matters, record updation, protection of government lands and regularisation activities under relevant government orders. Joint Collector Gobbilla Vidyadhar, DRO M. Visweshwara Naidu, Visakhapatnam RDO Dilip Chakravarthi and other officials attended the meeting.

Collector Directs Officials to Promote APAIMS App, Prevent Fertiliser Diversion

Eluru, July 2 | TPN Bureau

District Collector K. Vetri Selvi has directed agriculture officials to create awareness among farmers on the APAIMS app and ensure hassle-free distribution of fertilisers during the ongoing kharif season, asserting that there is no shortage of fertiliser stocks in the district. Addressing agriculture and allied department officials through a teleconference from the Collectorate on Thursday, the Collector said adequate fertiliser stocks were available to meet farmers' requirements. She



instructed officials to educate farmers on using the APAIMS app to procure fertilisers based on e-crop data and ensure timely distribution without inconvenience. The Collector asked dealers to display stock positions prominently on notice boards and place indents well in advance to

avoid shortages. She stressed that problems experienced in previous seasons should not recur. To curb illegal transport and hoarding of fertilisers, Vetri Selvi directed officials to establish check posts at district and state border areas and initiate legal action against violators. She warned that strict action would be taken against officials if complaints regarding fertiliser supply are received from farmers. She also instructed officials to facilitate crop loans for eligible tenant farmers and ensure the supply of green manure seeds.

Minister Launches VBG-RAMG Scheme in Prakasam

Prakasam, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Minister Dola Sri Bala Veeranjaneey Swamy on Thursday launched the Vikasit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar Aajeevika Mission Grameen (VBG-RAMG) scheme at Vavilapadu village in Jarugumalli Mandal along with the District Collector. Marking the launch, the Minister joined labourers in digging earth with a spade, symbolising the government's commitment to rural employment and development initiatives.



Addressing the gathering, Dola Sri Bala Veeranjaneey Swamy said the VBG-RAMG scheme would usher in a new era of rural development across the country. He stated that expanding the benefits of development and welfare programmes remains the key objective of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. The Minister said the coalition government's vision is to achieve "Viksit Bharat, Viksit Andhra Pradesh" and noted that both the country and the State are progressing rapidly under the farsighted leadership of Prime Minister Modi and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. He expressed confidence that the scheme would significantly strengthen rural infrastructure, livelihoods and employment opportunities in villages.

Transformer Theft Leaves Chirala Farmers in Distress

Chirala, July 2 | TPN Bureau



The theft of two electricity transformers supplying power to agricultural fields between Pittuvaripalem and Gavinivari-palem villages in Chirala Mandal has left farmers worried over the fate of their crops. Unknown miscreants allegedly stole the transformers during the intervening night, disrupting power supply to farmlands from Thursday morning. As a result, irrigation motors have stopped functioning, preventing farmers from watering their standing ground-

nut crop. Farmers said the prolonged disruption in power supply could severely affect cultivation, warning that the crop may wither due to the prevailing heat if irrigation is not restored immediately. They expressed concern that any further delay in water supply would cause irreparable losses. Demanding immediate intervention from the Electricity Department, farmers urged officials to install new transformers on a war footing and restore power supply at the earliest. They also sought stringent action against those involved in the thefts, alleging a rise in such incidents in agricultural fields. Police, who visited the spot after receiving information about the incident, registered a case based on farmers' complaints and have launched an investigation.

Battula Balaramakrishna Emerges as Key Jana Sena Organiser

East Godavari, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Rajanagaram MLA Battula Balaramakrishna has emerged as a prominent leader in Jana Sena, carving a niche for himself through social service and organisational commitment despite having no political lineage or backing. Entering politics from spiritual, business and social spheres, he earned the confidence of Jana Sena president and Deputy Chief Minister Konidela Pawan Kalyan, with his name featuring in the party's first list of candidates in the previous elections. Balaramakrishna is known for developing a temple complex at Gadarada and organising daily annadanam for devotees, initiatives that have



strengthened his public connect. Apart from focusing on the development of the Rajanagaram constituency, he has been actively involved in party-building activities. He was recently entrusted with responsibilities as Eluru Parliament Observer and a member of the Information Collection Committee. Addressing a meeting of the Jana Sena Party Nirman Sar-

athula Information Collection Committee in Eluru, party leaders said the initiative aims to identify committed leadership at grassroots level and further strengthen the party's organisational structure across the state. Eluru Jana Sena in-charge and Vijayawada RTC Zonal Chairman Reddy Appala-naidu, along with party cadres, accorded a warm welcome to Balaramakrishna at the event. Addressing a meeting of the Jana Sena Party Nirman Sar-



CPI Demands Supply of 14 Essential Commodities Through Ration Shops

Eluru, July 2 | TPN Bureau

The Communist Party of India (CPI) has demanded that the Centre and the State government strengthen the Public Distribution System and supply 14 essential commodities through ration shops to ease the burden on poor and middle-class families. Addressing a protest organised by CPI Eluru Area Committee and the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samakhya (NFIW) near the Collectorate on Thursday, CPI State Secretariat member Dega Prabhakar said rising prices of essential commodities were severely affecting vulnerable sections. He alleged that while new ration

cards were not being issued, existing cards were also being removed. CPI Eluru district secretary Mannava Krishna Chaitanya accused the Centre and State governments of failing to fulfil promises made during the 2024 elections to curb inflation. He said soaring prices of essential commodities, fuel, cooking gas and education were placing an unbearable burden on common people. The CPI leaders demanded that ration shops supply rice along with pulses, edible oils, sugar, spices, cereals, groundnuts and soaps, totalling 14 essential items, warning of intensified agitations if the government failed to respond.

Coalition Government Committed to Resolving Employees' Issues, Says Chintamaneni Prabhakar

Eluru, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Denduluru MLA Chintamaneni Prabhakar has assured government employees that the coalition government remains committed to their welfare and will work towards resolving long-pending issues affecting employees, teachers and police personnel. Speaking at a public grievance programme held at his camp office in Duggirala on Thursday, the MLA received a representation from leaders of AP JAC, AP NGOs Association and various employee unions led by Eluru District JAC chairman Chodagiri Srinivas. The employee representatives urged the government to address pending issues inherited from the previous YSRCP regime, including constitution of the 12th Pay Revision Commission, release of four pending dearness allowances, settle-



ment of surrender leave dues and streamlining of health cards. Prabhakar said government employees have played a vital role in the State's reconstruction and governance. Despite financial challenges, he said, the coalition government under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Konidela Pawan Kalyan and Minister Nara Lokesh is committed to fulfilling promises made to both the public and employees. He assured the employees that their demands would be brought to the attention of the Chief Minister for early resolution.

Chintamaneni Launches VBG-RAMG Scheme in Denduluru Amid Festive Atmosphere

Eluru, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Denduluru MLA Chintamaneni Prabhakar on Thursday launched the Vikasit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar Aajeevika Mission Grameen (VBG-RAMG) scheme at Sanigudem village in Denduluru Mandal, describing it as a major initiative aimed at improving livelihoods and ensuring sustainable employment in rural areas. Participating in the programme in a festive atmosphere, the MLA performed bhoomi puja, joined labourers in manual work, carried baskets of soil and wielded a spade, encouraging workers through his participation. Prabhakar, along with employment guarantee workers, watched the live telecast of the State-level launch programme held in Tirupati, attended by Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief



Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Konidela Pawan Kalyan, on a giant LED screen arranged at the venue. Addressing the gathering, the MLA said the scheme marks a significant step towards achieving the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047". He stated that the initiative would provide better wages, create sustainable livelihood opportunities and enhance skill development among rural workers, particularly women. Coalition leaders, officials, staff members, villagers and employment guarantee workers participated in the programme.

Robotic Surgeries Transform Advanced Healthcare at Yashoda Hospitals

Jangareddygudem, July 2 | TPN Bureau

Robotic-assisted surgeries are ushering in a new era of precision healthcare, with Yashoda Hospitals expanding access to advanced treatment options across multiple specialties. Addressing a media conference in Jangareddygudem, medical experts highlighted the benefits of robotic surgery, including minimal blood loss, reduced infection risk and faster recovery. Senior Neurosurgeon Uma Shankar said robotic technology has significantly improved accuracy in brain and spine surgeries, enabling surgeons to treat tumours and spinal disorders while protecting healthy nerve tissues through advanced

navigation systems. Surgical Gastroenterologist Krishna Choudari noted that robotic procedures are delivering better outcomes in liver, pancreas and intestinal surgeries, particularly in cancer treatment, with patients experiencing less pain and shorter hospital stays. Orthopaedic specialist Rajesh Aitha said robotic-assisted knee and hip replacement surgeries use 3D planning tailored to individual anatomy, ensuring precise implant placement and quicker rehabilitation, often allowing patients to walk the day after surgery. Yashoda Hospitals AGM Naseeruddin, Senior Executive Praveen Abbadhasari and marketing representatives also attended the programme.

Editorial

MONITORING SYSTEM NEEDED ON YOUTUBERS AND PUBLIC SPEECHES

The issue now is how to protect it. Because more and more people are misusing it. Taking shelter behind it, they are speaking recklessly. Ignoring the principle that your freedom should not hurt another person, they say whatever they like. Then, when the other side reacts strongly, files cases, and the matter goes as far as arrests, they call it injustice. It is mainly the social group of those who are arrested that argues this.

Some YouTubers speak however they wish. It is evident that they are speaking from one particular side. Even so, they present their views as if they are the absolute truth. Instead of leaving the judgment to the people, they themselves arrive at conclusions and announce them.

One YouTuber, while saying that tension had arisen over the arrest of the YouTuber Prashna Ravan, claimed that both sides had become ready to clash. According to him, one side consisted of Dalit Christian minorities, while the other side consisted of Jana Sena and coalition supporters. Why should it be presented that way? Wasn't it done deliberately? Could he not have simply said it was a clash between those supporting Prashna Ravan and Jana Sena supporters? Instead, by identifying one side through caste and religion and the other through the name of a political party, doesn't it imply that all those caste and religious groups are opposed to that political party? What kind of journalism is this?

Prashna Ravan's real name is Joseph. His videos had earned him considerable recognition in the past. He used to strongly criticize the BJP and saffron groups. Now he appears to be speaking as though he has aligned himself with YSR Congress circles that oppose the coalition government. Everyone has seen that these people speak against the coalition, against Chandrababu, and against Pawan Kalyan, and whenever they are arrested, YSR Congress supporters come out onto the streets in their support.

Because of these developments, a situation is emerging where even if people who speak honestly are arrested, the public no longer pays attention.

One advocate, while speaking at a Dalit Christian gathering, spoke in a highly offensive manner about the Deputy Speaker. He spoke in a way that could directly create a law-and-order problem and provoke religious tensions.

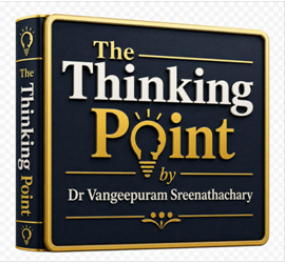
On the other hand, another YouTuber has been posting a series of messages against Ambedkar. By insulting Ambedkar, he is provoking Ambedkar's supporters.

To bring this situation under control, a monitoring system is essential. Otherwise, people will become victims of poisonous strategies that divide society along caste and religious lines for political purposes.

Editor

THE MISSING LESSON: WHY EMOTIONAL MATURITY MATTERS MORE THAN EVER

Dr Vangeepuram Sreenatha Chary, Consultant Psychologist



Everychild learns mathematics. Many learn science. Some master technology. They are taught how to solve equations, write computer programs, analyse data, and prepare for successful careers. Yet one of life's most important subjects is rarely taught in any classroom—how to understand and manage one's own emotions. The consequences of this missing lesson are becoming increasingly visible in our homes, educational institutions, workplaces, and society. Intelligence has advanced rapidly. Emotional maturity has not always kept pace. We have taught generations how to make a living, but not always how to live.

Recent incidents involving broken relationships, violent reactions to rejection, and emotionally driven crimes have once again forced society to confront an uncomfortable truth. These incidents are not merely failures of law and order. They are often failures of emotional understanding. While every individual must remain accountable for his or her actions, such incidents also compel us to ask a deeper question: Are we preparing our young people to face life's emotional challenges with the same seriousness with which we prepare them for academic examinations?

Modern education has achieved remarkable success in expanding knowledge and opportunity. Students today have access to world-class information, digital technologies, and global careers. Yet many struggle with rejection, disappointment, failure, criticism, loneliness, and conflict. They know how to compete, but not always how to cope. They know how to communicate instantly, but not necessarily how to communicate meaningfully. They know how to pursue success, but not always how to preserve emotional balance

while pursuing it.

This concern is supported by global mental-health trends. The World Health Organization has repeatedly warned that depression, anxiety, loneliness and stress are rising concerns among young people across the world. According to the WHO, one in seven adolescents globally experiences a mental health condition. Studies on emotional intelligence also show that self-awareness, empathy, impulse control and relationship skills strongly influence decision-making, mental well-being and social behaviour. These findings remind us that emotional maturity is not a soft skill; it is a survival skill for modern life.

Psychologists often describe emotional maturity as the ability to recognise, understand, and regulate one's emotions while responding to others with empathy, self-control, and responsibility. It is the capacity to disagree without hatred, to experience disappointment without destruction, and to accept rejection without losing one's dignity. Emotional maturity does not eliminate pain; it teaches us how to respond to pain wisely. One of the greatest misconceptions of our time is that intelligence alone guarantees good judgement. History and everyday life repeatedly prove otherwise. Brilliant minds have made disastrous personal decisions, while people with modest academic achievements have demonstrated extraordinary wisdom, compassion, and



resilience. Intelligence enables people to solve problems. Emotional maturity helps them avoid creating unnecessary ones. Emotional maturity is the steering wheel that determines where intelligence will take us.

Technology has transformed the way we live, work, and communicate. Social media connects billions of people within seconds, yet meaningful human connection often remains elusive. Digital platforms reward speed, comparison, and instant reactions, while emotional growth still demands patience, reflection, conversation, and lived experience. No application can teach empathy. No algorithm can replace wisdom. The human heart still learns best through relationships built on trust, respect, and understanding.

India's changing social landscape makes emotional maturity even more important. Smaller families, rapid urbanisation, migration for education and employment, intense academic competition, and increasing digital dependence have changed the way people build relationships. Many young people spend more time interacting through screens than through meaningful conversations. At the same time, mental health challenges, loneliness,

stress, and anxiety are becoming more visible across age groups. These changes call not only for better healthcare but also for stronger emotional education.

Families remain the first school of emotional learning. Children observe how adults handle disagreement, disappointment, anger, forgiveness, and compassion. Schools and colleges can strengthen this foundation by giving greater importance to emotional intelligence, conflict resolution, respectful relationships, ethical decision-making, and mental well-being alongside academic excellence. Employers too have a responsibility to create workplaces where empathy, communication, and psychological well-being are valued as much as technical competence. The media also plays a crucial role. Every tragic incident should become an opportunity not merely to report what happened but to explore why it happened and what society can learn from it. Public discussion must move beyond blame towards understanding, prevention, and responsibility. A mature society is one that learns from its mistakes rather than simply reacting to them. The greatest challenge before us is not a shortage of knowledge but a shortage of

emotional wisdom. A society that teaches children how to solve equations but not emotional conflicts leaves them only half educated. Knowledge helps us earn a living. Emotional maturity teaches us how to live with ourselves and with others. One builds careers. The other builds character. One creates professionals. The other creates responsible human beings. Every truly developed nation must nurture both. As India prepares its young people for the opportunities of the twenty-first century, let us remember that the future will not be shaped by technology alone, nor by economic growth alone. It will also be shaped by the quality of our relationships, the strength of our character, and the wisdom with which we respond to life's inevitable challenges. The future belongs not merely to the most intelligent minds, but to the most emotionally mature hearts. Nations will be remembered not only for the technologies they invent, but also for the character they nurture. Schools will not truly succeed until they educate both the mind and the heart. For in the end, intelligence may open doors—but emotional maturity determines what we do once we walk through them.

Will Pawan Kalyan's Vision Become Reality? Is It Practically Achievable?

Chennu Peddiraju Sr Journalist

A close look at Jana Sena Party president Pawan Kalyan's speech at the party's organizational meeting in Mangalagiri, where he addressed the functioning of the Information Collection Committees for party-building, reveals three central themes. The first is organizational restructuring, the second is his stand on caste politics, and the third is his political attack on the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP). The real question, however, is how far his words align with his actions. Pawan appeared clear and confident while speaking about organizational restructuring. Yet, whether this vision can be translated into reality remains uncertain. His assertion that "I will build the party with those who have stood by me for the last 12 years" and his emphasis on a "Cadre-to-Leadership" model represent a healthy democratic approach. Unlike many political parties where leadership positions are handed down from the top, Jana Sena's proposal to identify grassroots workers and elevate them to leadership positions can certainly be seen as an innovative experiment.

"I Will Never Use Caste as Political Capital" — How Realistic Is This Claim?

Perhaps the most striking statement in Pawan's speech was his declaration that he would never use caste as a po-

litical investment. His belief that history can only be created through the acceptance of all communities is undoubtedly an idealistic and positive message. Yet political reality presents a different picture. Pawan himself has long been identified as a prominent leader of the Kapu community. In the past, he actively championed the cause of Kapu reservations and raised several issues concerning the community. In the same speech, he alleged that there is a deliberate political conspiracy to portray Kapus negatively. This creates an apparent contradiction. On one hand, he rejects caste-based politics; on the other, he makes the political targeting of the Kapu community a major subject of discussion. His supporters describe this as "defensive politics"—arguing that he is merely responding to attempts to malign a community. Critics, however, contend that while claiming to reject caste politics, he continues to keep caste at the center of political discourse.

Pawan strongly criticized the language used by YSRCP leaders and reminded the audience of the personal attacks made against him and his family during the previous government's tenure. His criticism is not without merit. There is widespread agreement that po-



litical discourse in Andhra Pradesh deteriorated significantly during those years. However, his simultaneous advice to Jana Sena leaders—that they should respond in the same language whenever necessary and launch counterat-

tacks—raises an important question. Will such an approach elevate political culture, or merely perpetuate the cycle of hostility? Had he instead urged his party to respond through policy-based criticism rather than personal

attacks, it would have conveyed a much stronger democratic message.

This was undoubtedly one of the strongest and most impactful themes of Pawan's speech. Without rejecting welfare schemes outright, he argued

that equal importance must be given to infrastructure, employment generation, education, and healthcare. Economically, this reflects a balanced developmental approach. More importantly, it attempts to provide direction to the younger

generation rather than merely offering electoral promises. However, this principle will ultimately be tested by the performance of the coalition government currently in power.

The speech clearly suggests that Pawan Kalyan now seeks to transform himself from an agitational leader into the architect of a lasting political institution. Following Jana Sena's success in the 2024 elections, he appears determined to build the party into a permanent political organization rather than one dependent solely on his personal charisma. For that vision to succeed, however, several conditions must be fulfilled. Committee appointments must be genuinely transparent. Merit should outweigh personal loyalty. Internal democracy must become a reality rather than a slogan. Most importantly, leadership beyond caste considerations should be reflected not only in speeches but also in candidate selection and organizational appointments. Only then can Pawan's long-term aspirations stand a realistic chance of being fulfilled. Pawan Kalyan's speech clearly reflects an effort to provide Jana Sena with an ideological foundation and long-term organizational direction. His emphasis on party-building, youth empowerment, and institutional strengthening sends positive political signals. Nevertheless, his assertion that he does not believe in caste politics sits somewhat uneasily alongside his extensive discussion of political conspiracies targeting the Kapu community.



TMC Rebels Claim Two-Thirds Majority, Approach EC

The internal crisis within the Trinamool Congress (TMC) escalated further as a group of rebel MLAs met the Election Commission of India and claimed that they represent a two-thirds majority of the party's legislative strength, strengthening their argument for recognition as the "real TMC".

The delegation, led by senior rebel leader Ritabrata Banerjee, told the Election Commission that a majority of MLAs and other elected representatives are now aligned with their faction. They argued that their numerical strength meets the threshold required under constitutional provisions related to party splits and mergers.

The rebels also claimed that their support extends beyond MLAs to councillors and local body representatives, suggesting a wider organisational backing within the party structure. They urged the Election Commission to take cognisance of their claim and consider recognising their group as the legitimate representative of the party.



Parliament Panel Questions CBSE Accountability Row

A fresh controversy erupted in Parliament after members of a parliamentary panel questioned the role and accountability of the CBSE chairperson during a review meeting focused on education schemes and examination-related issues.

The issue came up during a session of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), where officials from the Ministry of Education and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) were called for briefing. The committee also sought explanations on concerns raised over recent examinations and evaluation processes affecting students nationwide.

According to officials present at the meeting, the Education Ministry raised objections to certain questions directed at the CBSE chairperson. The ministry reportedly argued that CBSE is not directly funded by the central government and therefore questioned whether its top official is obligated to respond to parliamentary scrutiny in this format.

This position triggered strong pushback from opposition members on the panel, who insisted that parliamen-

tary committees function as extensions of Parliament and must have the authority to seek accountability from bodies like CBSE, especially on matters directly impacting millions of students.

The committee chairperson and opposition MPs stressed that issues related to school examinations, evaluation systems, and student welfare fall under public interest and cannot be avoided on technical or procedural grounds. They maintained that the CBSE leadership must answer questions regarding transparency and fairness in the system.

The disagreement led to a heated exchange within the panel, with differing views on the extent of parliamentary oversight over autonomous educational bodies. The ministry has indicated that it may seek legal clarification on the matter before taking a final position.

The episode highlights ongoing friction between parliamentary oversight bodies and education authorities, particularly as scrutiny of examination systems and evaluation processes continues to grow across the country.

Vikram-1 Marks India's First Private Orbital Rocket Mission

India is set to enter a new era in space exploration with the upcoming launch of Vikram-1, the country's first privately developed orbital rocket, under a mission called "Mission Aagamam".

The rocket is being developed by Hyderabad-based space startup Skyroot Aerospace and is scheduled for launch between July 12 and August 4, 2026, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. The mission marks the first attempt by a private Indian company to place a satellite into orbit.

Vikram-1 is a multi-stage orbital launch vehicle designed to carry small satellites into low Earth orbit (LEO). It is built using advanced lightweight materials and compact propulsion systems, making it suitable for cost-effective and rapid satellite launches. The rocket has been fully assembled at the launch site, with final preparations and testing currently underway.

The mission is named "Aagamam," meaning "arrival," symbolising the entry



of India's private sector into orbital-class space missions. Its main goal is not just deployment but also to gather critical flight data on systems such as propulsion, navigation, stage separation, and overall vehicle performance.

This data will help improve future versions of the rocket and support the development of a more regular and commercial launch capability from India's private space industry.

If successful, Vikram-1 will place India

India, Japan Boost Ties With AI, Defence And Energy Deals

India and Japan have significantly strengthened their strategic partnership by unveiling a wide-ranging set of agreements focused on artificial intelligence, defence cooperation, energy security, critical technologies, and economic resilience during high-level summit talks in New Delhi.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi held detailed discussions aimed at expanding the scope of the Special Strategic and Global Partnership between the two countries. The talks reflected a shared priority to build stable supply chains and reduce dependency risks in key sectors such as semiconductors, clean energy, and advanced technologies.

A key outcome of the summit was the launch of a new economic security framework, designed to enhance cooperation in areas like critical minerals, technology supply chains, and industrial resilience. Both sides emphasised the importance of working together to ensure stable access to essential resources amid global geopolitical uncertainty.

The two countries also placed



strong focus on artificial intelligence collaboration, agreeing to deepen joint work in emerging technologies. The partnership is expected to combine India's growing digital ecosystem and talent base with Japan's advanced manufacturing and hardware expertise, creating new opportunities in innovation and tech-driven industries.

In the defence sector, India and Japan moved forward with plans for co-development of military equipment, marking another step in their growing security cooperation. The agreement signals increasing trust between the two nations, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region where strategic dynamics are rapidly evolving.

Economic cooperation also featured prominently, with Ja-

pan reaffirming large-scale investment commitments in India. The two countries are targeting long-term investment flows worth tens of billions of dollars over the coming decade, alongside a broader vision of strengthening trade and industrial linkages.

Energy security and clean energy transition were also key themes of discussion, with both sides agreeing to expand cooperation in sustainable technologies and energy infrastructure development.

Overall, the summit highlighted a clear convergence of interests between India and Japan, with both countries positioning their partnership as a key pillar for regional stability, technological advancement, and economic growth in the years ahead.

Digvijaya Singh Fact-Check Triggers Congress Row, BJP Praises Him

A political controversy has erupted after Congress veteran Digvijaya Singh's recent fact-check-style intervention on a land-related allegation in Madhya Pradesh triggered an internal rift within the Congress while drawing rare praise from the BJP.

The issue began when Singh publicly clarified his position on a land controversy linked to state leadership, stating that he had reviewed documents and found that the claims being circulated were not accurate. His remarks, however, appeared to contradict the Congress state leadership's allegations, leading to embarrassment within the party.

The statement quickly escalated into a political flashpoint. Several Congress leaders reportedly expressed dissatisfaction, arguing that Singh's public comments weakened the party's attack line and created confusion within its ranks. The disagreement has exposed growing friction between the party's central veteran leadership and its state unit.



Interestingly, BJP leaders seized on the situation to target the Congress's internal unity. In a surprising twist, some BJP representatives also praised Singh for "verifying facts" before speaking, suggesting that even a senior Congress leader had indirectly validated their position on the issue.

The unusual crossover praise has added a new dimension to the controversy, with Singh—long a sharp critic of the BJP—now being cited by ruling party leaders as an example of responsible public commentary. Meanwhile, Congress leaders have doubled down on their stance,

insisting that internal matters should be discussed within party forums rather than through public statements.

The episode has once again highlighted the deep internal divisions within the Congress in Madhya Pradesh, as well as the political advantage the BJP often gains from such public disagreements.

As both parties continue to exchange sharp statements, the controversy has turned into a broader debate over party discipline, internal communication, and the political consequences of public fact-checking by senior leaders.

Buxar Exam Papers Seen Floating After Rain



ets, when sudden heavy rainfall led to water accumulation at the premises. Officials clarified that the materials were being moved and loaded into vehicles when the rain began unexpectedly.

Authorities have rejected claims that the question papers or answer sheets were damaged or left carelessly exposed. They stated that all examination bundles were securely handled and

EC Announces By-Polls In 3 States

The Election Commission of India (EC) has announced by-elections to three Assembly constituencies across Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, with polling scheduled for July 30 and counting set for August 3.

The vacancies in these constituencies arose due to a mix of political and administrative reasons, including resignation, disqualification, and the death of sitting MLAs. One of the key seats going to polls is in Bihar, previously represented by a senior BJP leader who recently moved to the Rajya Sabha, prompting the by-election.

In Madhya Pradesh, the seat became vacant after a Congress MLA was disqualified following a court conviction, while in Gujarat, the bypoll has been necessitated by the death of a sitting BJP legislator.

The Election Commission has announced that the nomi-



nation process will begin in early July, followed by scrutiny and withdrawal deadlines before the final contest. The Model Code of Conduct has come into effect in the concerned constituencies, ensuring regulated campaigning and electoral fairness.

These by-polls are expected to be politically significant, especially for the ruling and opposition parties in the respective states, as they will test voter sentiment ahead of upcoming electoral cycles. Major parties are likely to field prominent candidates to retain or capture the seats.



TVK Alliance Confident Of Long-Term Unity

The TVK-led secular alliance has expressed strong confidence in its stability and future, with alliance partners indicating that the grouping is set to evolve into a long-term political partnership ahead of upcoming elections in Tamil Nadu.

A key coordination meeting of the alliance was held in Chennai, where Chief Minister and TVK leader C. Joseph Vijay hosted leaders and legislators from supporting parties. The meeting focused on strengthening cooperation among alliance partners and shaping a common political roadmap for future elections.

Leaders from participating parties described the alliance as more than a short-term electoral arrangement, stating that discussions are underway to build a structured and durable coalition. Key proposals reportedly include the formation of a coordination committee, a shared policy agenda, and a unified identity for the alliance.

Congress and other partner parties attending the meeting expressed optimism about the

alliance's direction, calling it a "positive beginning" and stressing the importance of continued coordination among all stakeholders. They also highlighted that the alliance aims to present a united front in both upcoming state and national-level contests.

Sources within the alliance indicated that the grouping is working to formalise its structure further, especially as it prepares for upcoming electoral battles, including local body elections and future assembly and parliamentary polls.

The alliance, formed after recent political realignments in Tamil Nadu, has quickly gained momentum, with several former partners of rival camps joining the new coalition. Leaders within the bloc say the focus now is on governance stability, ideological alignment, and expanding public support.

While the alliance is still in its early stages, its members are projecting confidence that it will remain intact and grow stronger over time, positioning itself as a major force in Tamil Nadu politics.

First Batch Of Amarnath Pilgrims Arrive Under Tight Security

The first batch of nearly 5,000 Amarnath Yatra pilgrims has reached the Kashmir Valley under what officials described as an unprecedented multi-layered security arrangement, marking the formal start of this year's pilgrimage.

The pilgrims were escorted from Jammu and welcomed by senior security and civil officials after they crossed key entry points into the Valley. The convoy movement was tightly controlled, with coordinated deployment of police, paramilitary forces, and traffic authorities along the entire route.

Authorities have put in place a comprehensive security grid for the pilgrimage, including no-fly zones along the twin routes to the shrine, real-time monitoring



of pilgrim convoys, and watch towers at critical points to maintain surveillance. Security forces are also tracking vehicular movement continuously to ensure the safety of pilgrims throughout the journey.

Officials said this year's arrangements are among the most extensive ever implemented for the Yatra, reflecting heightened focus on preventing any security

lapses during the high-altitude pilgrimage. Advanced surveillance systems and layered checkpoints have been installed across Jammu and Kashmir, especially along the traditional Pahalgam route and the shorter Baltal route.

The 57-day pilgrimage to the Amarnath cave shrine at 3,880 metres is set to continue through the summer, with thousands of

devotees expected to travel in multiple batches. The shrine, located deep in the Himalayas, remains one of the most significant Hindu pilgrimage sites in the country.

In addition to physical security measures, authorities have introduced technology-driven systems such as real-time vehicle tracking and digital identification for service providers, aimed at improving coordination and reducing risk during the trek.

Officials have emphasised that the heightened security deployment is a precautionary measure to ensure a smooth and peaceful pilgrimage experience for devotees, especially given the challenging terrain and large-scale movement of people.



Russia Imports Petrol From India Amid Fuel Crisis

Russia has started importing petrol from India to tackle a growing fuel shortage triggered by repeated Ukrainian drone attacks on its oil refineries and energy infrastructure. The move marks a significant shift in energy trade, with Russia turning to India for refined fuel supplies despite being one of the world's largest crude oil producers.

The fuel crunch has spread across several regions of Russia, leading to rationing, long queues at petrol stations and rising gasoline prices. The shortages have intensified during the peak summer season, when fuel demand is traditionally high due to increased travel and agricultural activity.

According to industry sources, at least 60,000 metric tonnes of gasoline have already been shipped from India to Russia through two tankers. Moscow is reportedly planning to import up to 400,000 metric tonnes of petrol every month from multiple countries, including Belarus, to stabilise domestic supplies.

The shortages have been largely attributed to sustained Ukrainian strikes on Russian

oil refineries, fuel depots and other energy facilities. These attacks have disrupted refining operations, reducing gasoline production and creating supply gaps across the country.

India has emerged as a key energy partner for Russia since the start of the Ukraine conflict, purchasing large volumes of discounted Russian crude oil. Indian refiners process the crude domestically, and some of the refined products are now being exported back to Russia to help address the current supply crisis.

Russian authorities have acknowledged the fuel shortages and introduced measures to ease the crisis, including subsidies, tax changes and increased imports. The government hopes these steps will improve fuel availability and bring stability to domestic markets in the coming weeks.

The development highlights how the prolonged conflict has reshaped global energy flows, with India playing an increasingly important role in international fuel markets while maintaining its strategic energy ties with Russia.



India-Bound Oil Tanker Safely Reaches Odisha After Gunfire

An oil tanker carrying nearly 2 million barrels of Iraqi crude oil has safely reached Paradip Port in Odisha after surviving a gunfire incident while passing through the strategically important Strait of Hormuz. The vessel's successful arrival has brought relief amid heightened tensions in the Middle East and concerns over the security of global shipping routes.

The tanker, MT Sanmar Herald, was transporting Basrah Medium and Basrah Heavy crude oil from Iraq to India when it reportedly came under gunfire near Iranian waters. During the incident, the ship sustained shrapnel damage to its bridge. However, no injuries were reported among the crew, and the vessel remained operational.

To ensure the safety of everyone on board, the crew altered the ship's course after the attack and continued its journey towards the Indian coast without facing any further security threats. The vessel later arrived off the Odisha coast and anchored about 22 kilometres from Paradip Port, where crude oil unloading began

through the port's Single Point Mooring (SPM) system.

According to the Paradip Port Authority, the tanker maintained continuous coordination with the Indian Navy throughout its voyage. The port described the vessel's arrival as a remarkable display of courage and resilience, highlighting the successful completion of a challenging journey through one of the world's most sensitive maritime routes.

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's busiest oil transit routes, with a significant share of global crude exports passing through it every day. Recent geopolitical tensions in the region have increased security risks for commercial shipping, prompting vessels to exercise extra caution while navigating the waterway.

Despite the tense situation, the safe arrival of the MT Sanmar Herald ensures the uninterrupted delivery of crude oil to India and underscores the importance of close coordination between merchant vessels and maritime security agencies during periods of regional instability.

Trump Shifts Focus To ‘Birth Tourism’ Crackdown

After the US Supreme Court rejected his administration's attempt to restrict birthright citizenship, President Donald Trump is reportedly shifting focus to a new strategy aimed at curbing so-called "birth tourism"—the practice of foreign nationals travelling to the United States to give birth so their children receive US citizenship.

The new approach is expected to target pregnant foreign visitors rather than birthright citi-

zenship itself. According to reports, the administration is considering stricter visa enforcement, increased scrutiny of visa applicants suspected of travelling for childbirth, and stronger action against organised birth tourism networks.

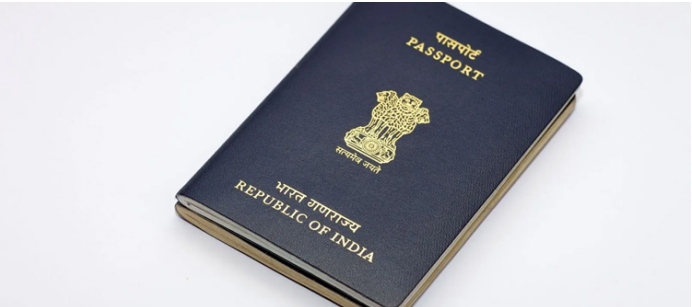
The move comes after the Supreme Court ruled that children born in the United States to parents who are in the country illegally or temporarily remain entitled to American citizenship

Indian Passport Services Cost More In UAE

Indian nationals living in the UAE will now have to pay higher fees for passport-related services, with the revised charges coming into effect from July 1, 2026. The updated fee structure applies to a wide range of services, including fresh passport applications, renewals, Tatkaal services, replacement of lost or damaged passports, and Police Clearance Certificates (PCCs).

The revised rates have been introduced by the Ministry of External Affairs and are being implemented across the Indian Embassy in Abu Dhabi, the Consulate General of India in Dubai, and all Indian Consular Application Centres (ICACs) in the UAE.

Under the new fee structure, applicants seeking fresh passports or renewals will have to pay more than before. Charges for Tatkaal services have also been increased, while the cost of replacing lost or damaged passports has gone up across different categories. Fees for



minors and Police Clearance Certificates have likewise been revised.

The fee revision follows changes to India's passport service rules and is aimed at standardising charges for Indian citizens applying both within the country and abroad. The revised pricing affects millions of Indians residing in the UAE, one of the largest overseas Indian communities in the world.

Alongside the fee hike, passport and consular services in the UAE are also undergoing an operational transition. Al Hind Tours and Travels has

taken over as the new outsourced service provider for passport, visa and other consular services, replacing the previous agencies. During the transition, Indian missions have introduced temporary walk-in arrangements for certain services until the new centres become fully operational.

Officials have advised applicants to check the latest fee structure and updated service guidelines before submitting their applications to avoid inconvenience. The revised charges are now applicable to all eligible passport and related services across the UAE.

What Is ‘Semiquincentennial’? Explained

As the United States prepares to celebrate the 250th anniversary of its Independence on July 4, 2026, one unusual word has taken the internet by surprise: Semiquincentennial. While many people are familiar with terms like centennial (100 years) and bicentennial (200 years), the lengthy and rarely used word has sparked widespread curiosity online.

The term "Semiquincentennial" simply refers to a 250th anniversary. It is derived from Latin, where "semi" means half and "quincentennial" refers to 500 years. Together, the word literally means half of 500 years, or 250 years. It is the official term being used to mark the United States' quarter-millennium celebration.

Although the word is technically correct, many people have found it difficult to pronounce and remember. As a result, alternatives such as "America250" and "Quarter Millennium" have become more popular in public discus-



sions and promotional campaigns surrounding the historic milestone.

The anniversary commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, when the thirteen American colonies formally declared independence from British rule. The 250th anniversary is expected to be one of the biggest national celebrations in U.S. history, featuring cultural events, exhibitions, educational programmes and community activities across the country.

The official celebrations are

being coordinated under the America250 initiative, which was established by the U.S. Congress to oversee commemorative events. Preparations have been underway for several years, with states and cities planning special programmes to honour the nation's history and achievements.

The unusual term has become a talking point on social media, with many users joking about its complexity while others have been searching for its meaning. Despite its tongue-twisting nature, "Semiquincentennial" has now entered mainstream conversation as America counts down to one of its most significant national milestones.

Whether people choose to call it the Semiquincentennial, America250, or simply the 250th anniversary, the occasion marks a landmark chapter in the nation's history and is expected to be celebrated across the United States and beyond.

Couple Arrested After Empire State Proposal

A dramatic marriage proposal high above New York City ended with arrests after a couple illegally climbed to the top of the Empire State Building's antenna spire, one of the most restricted sections of the iconic skyscraper.

The couple, identified as Russian rooftop climbers Angela Nikolau and Ivan Beerkus, scaled the 1,454-foot landmark without safety equipment before unfurling a large black banner carrying a message promoting peace. Their daring stunt quickly drew the attention of authorities and bystanders below.

After displaying the banner, the pair climbed down to a lower platform on the antenna, where Beerkus got down on one knee and proposed to Nikolau. She accepted the proposal, and the couple embraced while suspended hundreds of feet above the ground, with the moment captured on cameras and shared on social media.

The stunt prompted a major response from the New York Police Department, which deployed emergency personnel, drones and helicopters to monitor the situation. Streets around the Empire State Building were temporarily closed as



a precaution while officers ensured the climbers descended safely.

Once they returned to an accessible section of the building, both were taken into custody without incident. Authorities later charged them with offences including burglary, criminal trespass and reckless endangerment. No injuries were reported during the operation.

The Empire State Building's management condemned the unauthorized climb, noting that the landmark offers official proposal packages for couples wishing to celebrate special occasions safely. Officials also praised emergency responders for handling the situ-

ation without harm to the public.

The couple is well known for performing extreme rooftop climbs around the world and previously featured in a documentary showcasing their high-risk adventures. Their latest stunt has reignited debate over security at famous landmarks and the growing trend of thrill-seekers risking their lives for social media content.

Despite the romantic proposal, authorities have stressed that illegally accessing restricted areas of major buildings poses serious safety risks and can endanger both climbers and emergency responders.



India Sends Delegation To Iran Leader's Funeral

India has sent a multi-party delegation to attend the funeral of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, underscoring New Delhi's commitment to maintaining diplomatic ties with Tehran despite Prime Minister Narendra Modi not attending the ceremony.

The delegation includes representatives from different political parties and senior officials, reflecting India's bipartisan approach to foreign policy on significant international occasions. The move is seen as a gesture of respect for Iran while ensuring official representation at the high-profile state event.

Prime Minister Modi did not travel to Iran for the funeral due to prior commitments and scheduling constraints. Instead, the government opted to send a delegation to convey India's condolences and solidarity with the Iranian people during the period of national mourning.

India and Iran share long-standing historical, cultural and strategic ties. The two countries have cooperated on several fronts, including trade, energy, regional connectivity and the development of the

Chabahar Port, which is considered crucial for India's access to Central Asia and Afghanistan.

Diplomatic observers believe India's decision to send a delegation rather than the Prime Minister strikes a balance between maintaining strong bilateral relations and managing domestic as well as international commitments. Such representation at state funerals is a common diplomatic practice and reflects the importance countries place on preserving official ties. The funeral has drawn leaders and representatives from several nations, highlighting Iran's geopolitical significance. India's participation through a multi-party delegation signals its intent to continue engaging with Iran while reaffirming its independent foreign policy approach.

The visit is also expected to provide an opportunity for Indian representatives to interact with Iranian officials and discuss matters of mutual interest. As regional dynamics continue to evolve, New Delhi is expected to maintain close diplomatic engagement with Tehran while safeguarding its strategic interests in West Asia.



US Deportees Caught In Venezuela Earthquake Tragedy

A group of Venezuelan migrants deported from the United States found themselves at the centre of a devastating tragedy after powerful earthquakes struck Venezuela just hours after their arrival. What was meant to be the end of a difficult journey turned into a desperate fight for survival as many of the deportees were caught in one of the country's deadliest natural disasters.

More than 140 Venezuelan deportees had arrived on a flight from the US as part of Washington's ongoing immigration crackdown. After landing, they were taken to temporary accommodation in La Guaira while authorities completed processing procedures. Before many could reunite with their families, twin earthquakes struck the region, causing widespread destruction.

The hotel where many of the deportees were staying collapsed during the quake, leaving scores trapped beneath the rubble. Survivors described scenes of panic as buildings crumbled around them and people desperately searched for loved ones. Several deportees managed to escape, while many others remain missing or are feared dead.

Families who had been eagerly awaiting the return of their relatives were instead left searching hospitals, shelters and disaster sites for information. Many have complained about the lack of communication and the difficulty in identifying survivors, adding to the anguish caused by the disaster.

The earthquakes caused extensive damage across northern Venezuela, destroying buildings, disrupting transport networks and overwhelming rescue teams. Emergency workers continue search-and-rescue operations, hoping to locate survivors trapped beneath collapsed structures.

The incident has drawn international attention because of the tragic timing of the deportation flight. Human rights organisations have called for greater transparency regarding the missing deportees and urged authorities to provide regular updates to affected families.

As rescue efforts continue, the story has become a heart-breaking reminder of how lives already marked by displacement and uncertainty can be further devastated by unforeseen natural disasters.



preme Court's decision preserved the constitutional right to citizenship for children born on American soil, the administra-

tion's reported "Plan B" signals that the issue is likely to remain at the centre of political and legal battles.

₹500 Tip for a ₹15 Order: Blinkit Rider's Emotional Thank-You Video Touches Millions



A heartwarming act of generosity has won the internet after a Blinkit delivery partner shared an emotional video thanking a customer who tipped him 500 on an order worth less than 15. The touching clip has gone viral, attracting over 13 million views and sparking widespread appreciation for both the customer's kindness and the hard work of delivery personnel.

In the viral video, the delivery executive begins by telling viewers that he had just completed a delivery for an order valued at under 15. He then asks them to guess how much the customer tipped him before revealing a 500 note. Clearly overwhelmed by the unexpected gesture, he smiles with gratitude and expresses his heartfelt thanks.

To explain why the tip meant so much, the rider shows his earnings on the delivery app for the day, which totalled only

97. He reveals that the 500 tip is equivalent to nearly two days of his usual income. Holding the note in his hand, he repeatedly thanks the customer, saying the generous gesture made his day and lifted his spirits.

The video quickly struck a chord with social media users, many of whom praised the customer for recognizing the efforts of gig workers. Several commenters pointed out that delivery partners often work long hours in challenging weather conditions while earning modest incomes. They said the customer's generosity served as a reminder of the difference a thoughtful gesture can make. Many viewers also encouraged people to tip delivery workers whenever possible, even if the amount is small. They noted that tips of 20 or 50 can go a long way in supporting workers who spend their days delivering groceries,

food, and other essentials to customers' doorsteps.

The delivery partner, who also creates content on social media, frequently shares videos about his experiences on the job. His posts offer a glimpse into the daily realities of gig workers, highlighting both the challenges they face and the moments of kindness that make their work rewarding.

The viral incident has sparked conversations about empathy, gratitude, and the importance of appreciating those who provide essential services. While the 500 tip may have been a simple act for one customer, it became a powerful reminder that kindness—no matter how unexpected—can have a lasting impact. The story continues to inspire people online, encouraging them to acknowledge the efforts of delivery workers with compassion and generosity whenever they can.

Auto Driver Inspires With Heartwarming Gesture



An autorickshaw driver has won widespread admiration on social media after a video showing him sharing an unexpected tip with complete strangers touched the hearts of viewers. His selfless act has sparked conversations about kindness, generosity and the joy of helping others without expecting anything in return.

The viral clip begins with the driver revealing that a passenger had tipped him 500 after completing a ride. Instead of keeping the entire amount for himself, he decided to spread the happiness by sharing part of the money with people he met during the day.

In the video, the driver approaches several strangers, including roadside vendors and pedestrians, and hands them small amounts of cash. Many recipients appear surprised by the unexpected ges-

ture, while others express gratitude and smile warmly after receiving the money. The driver explains that the generous tip inspired him to pass on the kindness rather than keep it all for himself.

His thoughtful act quickly resonated with social media users, who praised his generosity despite the modest income that autorickshaw drivers typically earn. Many viewers said his willingness to share with others reflected the true meaning of compassion and proved that kindness is not measured by wealth but by one's willingness to help. Several users pointed out that the driver could have easily kept the entire tip for his own needs, making his decision to distribute part of it even more inspiring. Others described the video as a reminder that even small acts of generosity can brighten someone's day and create a ripple effect of

positivity.

The clip has since attracted thousands of reactions and comments, with many calling the driver a role model for demonstrating empathy and selflessness. Some viewers also encouraged others to perform similar acts of kindness, saying that helping even one person can make a meaningful difference.

The heartwarming incident serves as a reminder that generosity often comes from those who understand the value of every rupee. By choosing to share his unexpected windfall with strangers, the autorickshaw driver transformed a simple tip into an inspiring story that continues to resonate with people online. His actions have reinforced the idea that kindness has the power to spread far beyond a single moment, inspiring countless others to pay it forward.

Japanese IIT Student Impressed By Mumbai Metro

A Japanese student studying at IIT Hyderabad has gone viral after sharing her first experience of travelling on the Mumbai Metro. In a video posted on social media, she praised the city's metro network for being clean, comfortable and easy to navigate, earning appreciation from viewers across the internet.

In the video, Hiro documents her journey on Mumbai Metro's Aqua Line, travelling nearly 21 kilometres from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CST) Metro Station to Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC). As a first-time commuter, she shares her observations throughout the trip, offering viewers a fresh perspective on Mumbai's public transport system.

Before beginning her journey, Hiro stops to enjoy a glass of mango lassi before making her way to the metro station. Instead of buying a ticket at the counter, she opts for the self-service ticket vending machine.



chine. She demonstrates how passengers can select their destination, make the payment using an Indian digital wallet and receive a QR code, which is scanned at the entry gates.

As she enters the station, Hiro appreciates the organised atmosphere, pointing out the presence of security personnel and staff. She also highlights the availability of women-only coaches, describing the feature as reassuring and helpful for female passengers.

During the ride, she is im-

pressed by the cleanliness and comfort of the metro. Travelling on a Sunday, she notes that the train was not overcrowded, making the journey pleasant and relaxing. She is also surprised by the affordable fare, revealing that the 21-kilometre trip cost only 50. After reaching Bandra Kurla Complex, Hiro shows how passengers exit the station by depositing their tickets into a collection box, describing the entire process as smooth and convenient.

Reflecting on her experience, Hiro says many people outside India often have misconceptions about the country's public transport. However, based on her travels on metro systems in Mumbai, Bengaluru and Pune, she believes they are modern, clean, efficient and safe. She encourages tourists and first-time visitors to consider using the metro as a convenient way to explore Indian cities. The video has received an overwhelmingly positive response on social media. Many users welcomed Hiro and appreciated her honest review, while others said her experience helps challenge outdated stereotypes about public transport in India. Several commenters also expressed pride in the rapid expansion and improvement of metro networks across the country, saying such positive feedback reflects India's growing urban infrastructure and commitment to modern, commuter-friendly transport.

Paris Heatwave Turns IKEA Into Cooling Shelter

As an intense heatwave continues to sweep across Europe, a viral video from Paris has captured dozens of residents seeking relief inside an IKEA store, where they turned the furniture showroom into a temporary escape from the scorching temperatures outside.

The now-viral clip shows people relaxing on display beds, sofas and armchairs—not to test the furniture, but to cool off in the store's air-conditioned environment. Some are seen lying down for a quick nap, while others scroll through their phones, chat with friends or simply sit quietly, waiting for the heat to subside. A few visitors are also seen using handheld fans to stay comfortable.

The unusual scenes have attracted widespread attention on social media, with many users describing the furniture store as an unofficial



cooling centre during the extreme weather. Some joked that IKEA had become "the coolest place in Paris," while others said the video highlighted how people are finding creative ways to cope with record-breaking temperatures.

The viral footage comes as France battles one of its most severe heatwaves in recent years. Temperatures have remained well above seasonal averages, prompting authori-

ties to issue heat alerts and urge residents to stay indoors, remain hydrated and avoid unnecessary outdoor activities, especially during the hottest hours of the day.

The prolonged heat has disrupted daily life across the country. Several schools have temporarily closed, outdoor events have been scaled back, and hospitals have reported an increase in patients suffering from heat-related illnesses. Emergency services have

also been placed under pressure as officials respond to the growing impact of the extreme weather.

Health authorities say the heatwave has already been linked to a significant rise in heat-related deaths, with older adults among the most vulnerable. The scorching conditions have also increased the risk of wildfires and placed additional strain on electricity and water supplies.

The viral video has become more than just an internet sensation. For many viewers, it serves as a stark reminder of the challenges posed by increasingly frequent and intense heatwaves linked to climate change. As Europe continues to grapple with soaring temperatures, the scenes from the Paris IKEA highlight how ordinary public spaces are becoming vital refuges for people seeking relief from extreme weather.

Techie Eyes Exit Over Manager's 'Ghosting'

A software professional has sparked a discussion on workplace culture after revealing they are considering quitting what they describe as one of the best jobs of their career—not because of the work itself, but due to their manager's repeated lack of communication.

The employee shared their experience on Reddit, explaining that they genuinely enjoy the role and the opportunity to work on cutting-edge projects. However, they said constant delays in approvals, postponed meetings and an unresponsive reporting manager have made it nearly impossible to complete their tasks.

According to the post, the employee had been waiting for nearly a week for essential reviews and approvals. In one instance, the manager reportedly scheduled an urgent late-night meeting, prompting the employee to stay awake in anticipation. Despite the urgency, the manager neither joined the call



nor responded to messages, leaving the employee frustrated and disappointed.

The techie explained that the repeated lack of communication has severely affected productivity and morale. They described the experience as feeling like they were "begging" for permission to do the job they were hired to perform.

The situation has been particularly challenging because the employee said they have ADHD and struggle with uncertainty and disrupted workflows. With project deadlines approaching, the lack of timely

feedback has added to their mental exhaustion and anxiety.

Despite the difficulties, the employee clarified that they have no issues with the work itself or their colleagues. They said they focus on their responsibilities, avoid office politics and simply want to contribute meaningfully to the organisation.

Unable to continue working under such conditions, the employee eventually escalated the issue to the company's leadership. In a message to the organisation's head, they explained

that while they love the job, they would find it difficult to remain in an environment where progress depends on a manager who repeatedly becomes unavailable during critical moments.

The Reddit post quickly gained traction, with many users empathising with the employee's predicament. Several advised waiting for a response from senior leadership before making a final decision, while others shared similar experiences of dealing with unresponsive managers and workplace communication issues.

Many commenters noted that a supportive manager can significantly influence job satisfaction, arguing that even exciting roles can become stressful when communication breaks down. The discussion has reignited conversations about accountability, leadership and the importance of effective workplace communication in maintaining employee well-being.

Foreigner Applauds Indians' Love For Ancestral Homes

A foreign content creator has won hearts online after sharing her admiration for a unique aspect of Indian culture—the tradition of families regularly visiting their ancestral homes. Her heartfelt observations have resonated with social media users, who praised India's deep-rooted connection to family and heritage.

In a viral video, the woman said she was deeply impressed by how many Indians continue to return to their native villages and hometowns, even after moving to cities or settling abroad. She noted that these visits help preserve family bonds and ensure younger generations remain connected to their roots.

According to her, many cultures gradually lose touch with their ancestral homes over time, but Indians make a conscious effort to maintain those connections. She described the



tradition as something she greatly admired, saying it reflects the strong importance Indian families place on relationships, memories and shared history.

She also observed that visits to ancestral homes are more than just family gatherings. They provide an opportunity for children to learn about their heritage, meet relatives across generations and experience the customs and traditions of their native places.

She felt these experiences help keep family history alive in a meaningful way.

The video quickly gained traction on social media, with thousands of viewers appreciating her perspective. Many users agreed with her remarks, saying that returning to one's hometown during festivals, weddings and family celebrations remains an integral part of Indian life.

Several commenters shared personal stories about visiting

their grandparents' villages during school holidays and festivals, recalling how those trips created lifelong memories and strengthened family relationships. Others noted that despite rapid urbanisation, many Indian families continue to preserve these traditions.

The video has sparked conversations about the value of staying connected to one's roots in an increasingly fast-paced world. Many users said the foreigner's observations highlighted a cultural practice that Indians often take for granted but which stands out to visitors from other countries.

Her appreciation has once again brought global attention to India's strong family values and the enduring tradition of maintaining ties with ancestral homes, a practice many believe remains central to the country's cultural identity.



Knight Riders Create History With US Cricket Stadium

The Knight Riders Group, co-owned by Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan, has achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first global cricket franchise to establish its own international cricket stadium. The newly inaugurated Knight Riders Cricket Ground in Los Angeles officially hosted its first Major League Cricket (MLC) match, marking a significant moment for the sport's growth in the United States.

The stadium serves as the home venue of the Los Angeles Knight Riders (LAKR), one of the franchises competing in Major League Cricket. The landmark occasion was celebrated with LAKR taking on Washington Freedom in the venue's inaugural match.

Located in Pomona, California, the state-of-the-art cricket ground is expected to play a crucial role in promoting the sport across North America. Beyond hosting professional matches, the facility is designed to support youth development programmes, community events and cricket training initiatives, helping strengthen the game's presence in the region.

Shah Rukh Khan shared his excitement over the achievement, describing the venue as more than just a cricket stadium.



Karthik Calls India's Toss Call 'Ireland Hangover'

Former India wicketkeeper-batter Dinesh Karthik has suggested that India's approach in the opening T20I against England was influenced by the team's recent struggles in Ireland, referring to it as an "Ireland hangover."

India opted to bat first after winning the toss in the match, a decision that raised eyebrows given the overcast conditions and the usual preference for chasing in such situations. However, according to Karthik, the call may have been shaped by India's previous experience in Ireland, where they struggled while chasing targets in both games and ended up on the losing side.

The former cricketer explained that such recent memories can often influence decision-making in high-pressure matches. In this case, India appeared keen to avoid repeating the same mistakes from the earlier series, where their batting unit found it difficult to handle the pressure of chasing in tricky conditions.

Interestingly, India's innings in the England match began on a shaky note, with early wickets putting them under immediate pressure. However, the middle order responded strongly, helping the team recover and post a competitive total after a difficult start.

The phrase "Ireland hango-

um. He said it is a place built for sports, entertainment, families and lasting memories, reflecting the Knight Riders Group's vision of expanding cricket's global footprint.

The project has also received support from the International Cricket Council (ICC) and cricket administrators, who believe the venue will play an important role in the sport's future in the United States. With cricket set to return to the Olympic Games at Los Angeles 2028, the stadium is expected to contribute significantly to the sport's development ahead of the global event.

The Knight Riders Group has steadily expanded its presence across international T20 leagues through franchises in India, the Caribbean, the UAE and the USA. The opening of its own cricket stadium further strengthens its reputation as one of the most influential brands in franchise cricket.

The historic development has been widely celebrated by cricket fans, who see it as a major step towards popularising the sport in America. It also highlights the growing ambitions of the Knight Riders Group to build world-class cricket infrastructure while taking the game to new audiences across the globe.

Gambhir, Iyer Face Heat Over Vaibhav Snub

India head coach Gautam Gambhir and ODI captain Shreyas Iyer have come under criticism following Team India's defeat to England in the second ODI, with former cricketer Kris Srikkanth questioning the team's decision to leave young batting sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi out of the playing XI.

Speaking on his YouTube channel, Srikkanth said the 15-year-old deserved an opportunity after his impressive performances in domestic cricket and age-group tournaments. He argued that India missed a chance to test the youngster on the international stage.

According to Srikkanth, Suryavanshi's fearless batting approach could have provided the momentum India lacked during the chase. He suggested that the teenager should have been included in the side, especially considering his recent form and growing reputation as one of the country's brightest young talents.

The former India opener also questioned the team management's selection strategy, saying the coaching staff and captain needed to be more proactive in giving promising youngsters exposure at the highest level. He felt India should have looked beyond conventional choices in a series that offers opportunities



to experiment ahead of bigger tournaments.

Srikkanth's comments have triggered widespread debate among cricket fans. While some agreed that Suryavanshi deserved a chance, others defended the team management's decision, arguing that rushing a teenager into international cricket without adequate preparation could do more harm than good.

Vaibhav Suryavanshi has been regarded as one of India's most exciting emerging talents after impressing with his aggressive batting and consistent performances in junior cricket. His rapid rise has made him one of the most closely watched young cricketers in the country.

The selection debate has now become one of the biggest talking points following India's defeat, with many fans eager to see whether the youngster gets an opportunity in the remaining matches of the series. All eyes will now be on the team management's next selection as the discussion over balancing experience and youth continues.

CSK CEO Dismisses Hardik Pandya Trade Rumours

Chennai Super Kings (CSK) have put an end to speculation surrounding a possible move for Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya, with franchise CEO Kasi Viswanathan making it clear that no discussions have taken place regarding a potential trade.

Rumours of Hardik switching franchises gathered pace after reports claimed that several IPL teams were interested in acquiring the star all-rounder ahead of the next season. CSK was among the teams linked with the blockbuster move, triggering widespread discussion among cricket fans.

However, Viswanathan firmly denied the reports, stating that the franchise has not held any talks about bringing Hardik on board. He clarified that CSK will first conduct its season review before making any decisions related to player trades or squad changes.

The CEO added that the review process will take place only after the conclusion of the ongoing Major League Cricket (MLC) season, where the fran-



chise's sister team, Texas Super Kings, is currently competing. Until then, no discussions regarding player acquisitions are expected.

Hardik Pandya has emerged as one of the biggest names in the IPL trade market following Mumbai Indians' disappointing 2026 campaign. Reports have suggested that multiple franchises are monitoring the situation, making him one of the most sought-after players ahead of the next season.

CSK themselves are expected to evaluate their squad after another underwhelming season, leading to speculation over possible

Washington Sundar Opens Up On England Tour Frustration

India all-rounder Washington Sundar has made a candid admission about his previous tour of England, saying he felt he was not utilised effectively despite being part of the squad. His remarks have sparked discussions among cricket fans about his role in the national team and how he has been managed over the years.

Reflecting on his experiences, Sundar said he believed he could have contributed much more had he been given greater opportunities. The off-spinning all-rounder pointed out that he was capable of making an impact with both bat and ball but did not receive enough chances to showcase his abilities during the England tour.

Sundar, who has battled injuries at various stages of his career, stressed that every opportunity at the international level is valuable. He expressed confidence in his abilities and said he always strives to make meaningful contributions whenever he is selected for the Indian team.

The Tamil Nadu cricketer has earned a reputation as a



dependable all-rounder, capable of delivering crucial spells with the ball while also providing stability in the lower middle order. His performances across formats have often highlighted his versatility, making him an important option for the team management.

Despite his frustrations over limited opportunities in the past, Sundar maintained that he remains focused on performing well whenever called upon. He said his priority is to perform rather than dwell on previous disappointments.

Cricket experts believe Sundar's comments reflect the challenges faced by players try-



Samit Dravid Shines With 360-Degree Batting

Samit Dravid, son of former India captain Rahul Dravid, has grabbed the spotlight after producing a stylish batting display in the KSCA T20 Trophy. The youngster's wide range of attacking strokes earned praise from cricket fans, with videos of his innings quickly going viral on social media.

Representing Kalyani Bengaluru Blasters against Hubli Tigers, Samit played an entertaining knock of 32 runs off 23 balls, striking six boundaries. His innings featured an impressive mix of elegant cover drives, back-foot cuts, pull shots and innovative strokeplay, showcasing his ability to score all around the ground.

Cricket enthusiasts were particularly impressed by his "360-degree" batting, a term often used to describe players capable of finding gaps in every part of the field. While Samit's technique reflected the classical style associated with his father, he also displayed the modern attacking approach required in T20 cricket.

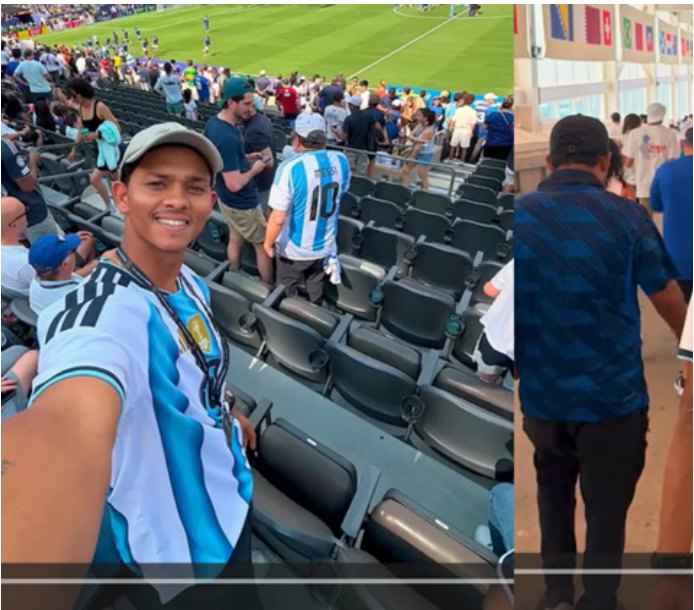
His innings provided Bengaluru Blasters with a solid platform after he stitched together an important partnership with Rohan Patil. The

team eventually posted 203/7 before holding off a spirited chase from Hubli Tigers to register a thrilling two-run victory. Nischith Rao starred with the ball, claiming three wickets to seal the win for Bengaluru.

The victory marked Bengaluru Blasters' sixth win in seven matches, strengthening their position at the top of the points table. Samit's contribution with the bat was widely acknowledged as one of the key factors behind the team's success.

As clips of his innings spread across social media, fans couldn't help but compare his elegant strokeplay to Rahul Dravid's trademark technique. However, many also pointed out that Samit has developed his own identity by blending classical batting with aggressive T20 innovation.

The 20-year-old has been steadily making a name for himself in Karnataka cricket, and performances like this are further enhancing his reputation as one of the state's promising young talents. While comparisons with his legendary father are inevitable, Samit's latest innings suggests he is carving out his own path in the game.



Jaiswal Turns Heads In Messi Jersey

Indian cricketer Yashasvi Jaiswal grabbed attention after he was spotted wearing Lionel Messi's iconic Argentina jersey during a visit to a FIFA World Cup stadium. The stylish appearance quickly went viral on social media, with fans initially assuming he was there to watch an Argentina match.

However, Jaiswal's visit had nothing to do with Argentina's game. The young opener was touring the stadium as part of his time off and chose to wear Messi's famous No. 10 jersey, reflecting his admiration for the football legend. Photos of the cricketer posing at the venue soon began circulating online, drawing reactions from both cricket and football fans.

Many users praised Jaiswal's love for football and appreciated the crossover between two of the world's biggest sports. Some fans joked that the Indian batter was showing support for Messi wherever he goes, while others admired his casual and relaxed look.

Lionel Messi remains one of the most admired athletes globally, and his Argentina jer-

sey has become a symbol for football fans across the world, especially after Argentina's FIFA World Cup triumph. Jaiswal's choice of attire added to the excitement surrounding his stadium visit.

The left-handed batter has often spoken about enjoying different sports during breaks from cricket, and his latest appearance highlighted his interest in football. His visit also gave fans a glimpse of how Indian cricketers unwind during their downtime away from the field.

Jaiswal has been in the spotlight for his consistent performances in international cricket and continues to be regarded as one of India's brightest young talents. While his exploits are usually discussed on the cricket field, this time it was his football-inspired look that became the talking point online.

The viral images once again showcased how athletes from different sports continue to inspire one another, with Jaiswal's tribute to Messi earning widespread appreciation across social media.



Priyanka Saha

RISING STAR

Nagabandham Announces BOGO Ticket Offer

With just days left for its theatrical release, the makers of the pan-India mythological adventure film Nagabandham have announced a special Buy One, Get One (BOGO) ticket offer to attract moviegoers during its opening weekend. The surprise offer has generated excitement among fans and is expected to boost footfalls in theatres. As part of the promotional campaign, audiences purchasing one movie ticket will receive another ticket free under the limited-period offer. The initiative aims to encourage families and groups of friends to enjoy the film on the big screen while making the cinema experience more affordable.

The offer comes at a crucial time as Nagabandham gears up for its worldwide theatrical release on July 3, 2026. The film has already created considerable buzz with its visually impressive teaser, action-packed trailer and popular songs, raising expectations among movie lovers.

Directed by Abhishek Nama, Nagabandham is a mythological fantasy adventure that blends ancient legends, mystery and action. The film stars Virat Karina in the lead role alongside Nabha Natesh and Ishwar



Jailer 2 Release Date Announcement Expected Soon

The makers of Superstar Rajinikanth's much-awaited action entertainer Jailer 2 are all set to make a major announcement regarding the film's theatrical release date, raising excitement among fans eagerly awaiting the sequel.

According to the latest reports, the production house is expected to officially unveil the film's release date tomorrow. The announcement is likely to end months of speculation surrounding the movie's release schedule and give fans clarity on when they can expect to see Rajinikanth return as the iconic Tiger Muthuvel Pandian.

Directed by Nelson Dilipkumar, Jailer 2 is one of the most anticipated South Indian films in recent years. The sequel follows the phenomenal success of Jailer (2023), which emerged as a blockbuster and became one of the highest-grossing films in Rajinikanth's illustrious career.

The film has reportedly wrapped up principal photography and is currently in the post-production stage. With editing, visual effects and other

finishing work progressing steadily, the makers appear ready to officially lock in the release date.

Industry circles are also buzzing about the possibility of Jailer 2 arriving during the festive Dussehra season, potentially setting up a massive box office clash with Chiranjeevi's Vishwambhara. If it happens, the face-off between two of Indian cinema's biggest superstars is expected to be one of the most talked-about cinematic events of the year.

Produced by Sun Pictures, Jailer 2 features music composed by Anirudh Ravichander and promises to deliver the high-octane action, stylish storytelling and larger-than-life entertainment that made the first installment a huge success.

Fans have been eagerly waiting for an official update, and the upcoming announcement is expected to mark the beginning of the film's promotional campaign. With anticipation at an all-time high, movie lovers are now counting down to the official confirmation of Jailer 2's release date.

Lokesh Kanagaraj's DC Locks September 4 Release

The makers of DC, which marks acclaimed filmmaker Lokesh Kanagaraj's acting debut, have officially locked the film's theatrical release date. The much-awaited action drama, co-starring Wamiqa Gabbi, is set to hit cinemas on September 4, 2026, ending months of speculation surrounding its release schedule.

Directed by Arun Matheswaran and produced by Sun Pictures, DC has generated significant buzz ever since its announcement. The film marks a new chapter in Lokesh Kanagaraj's career as he steps in front of the camera after establishing himself as one of Tamil cinema's most successful directors.

The recently released teaser and promotional material have further heightened expectations, showcasing Lokesh in an intense and action-packed avatar. The film also stars Wamiqa Gabbi in the female lead, with Sanjana Krishnamoorthy playing a key role. Music is composed by Anirudh Ravichander, whose energetic score has already received praise from fans.

According to the makers, DC promises a gripping blend of action, romance and drama. The story reportedly offers a fresh take



on the classic tale of Devadas, with Lokesh portraying the character Devadas and Wamiqa Gabbi playing Chandra.

With the release date now confirmed, the team is expected to begin an extensive promotional campaign in the coming weeks. Fans are eagerly waiting for the trailer and soundtrack, which are likely to be unveiled ahead of the film's theatrical debut.

As one of the most anticipated Tamil releases of the year, DC has already created considerable excitement among movie lovers. The combination of Arun Matheswaran's direction, Lokesh Kanagaraj's acting debut and Anirudh's music has raised expectations, making the film one of the biggest releases to watch out for in 2026.



tions by encouraging more families and groups to visit theatres. Similar promotional campaigns have proven successful in the past by increasing advance bookings and attracting a wider audience.

With anticipation continuing to build, the special ticket offer

gives moviegoers another reason to watch Nagabandham during its opening weekend. Fans are now eagerly waiting to see whether the film lives up to the expectations created by its extensive promotional campaign and visually rich presentation.

Pawan Kalyan's New Look Goes Viral

Power Star Pawan Kalyan has once again become the centre of attention, this time with a striking new look that has taken social media by storm. A recently surfaced photograph of the actor-politician has gone viral, with fans showering praise on his refreshed appearance and speculating about its connection to his upcoming film projects.

The viral image features Pawan Kalyan sporting a neatly groomed hairstyle and a stylish, youthful look. His latest appearance has received an overwhelming response from fans, many of whom have described it as one of his most impressive looks in recent years. Within hours of being shared online, the picture was widely circulated across social media platforms, attracting thousands of likes, comments and shares. Fans flooded social media with messages admiring the star's makeover, with many expressing excitement about seeing him back on the big screen. While there has been no official confirmation about the reason behind the transformation, the photograph has sparked speculation that it could be linked to one of his much-awaited films.

Pawan Kalyan has been successfully balancing his responsibilities as the Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh while continuing his acting career. Despite his busy political schedule, every update about the star continues to generate massive interest among his followers.



On the professional front, Pawan Kalyan has several high-profile films in the pipeline, keeping expectations high among movie lovers. Fans are eagerly waiting for official updates on his upcoming releases and promotional activities, making every public appearance a major event. The latest viral picture once again highlights the actor's immense popularity and enduring fan base.

Whether through his political engagements or cinematic ventures, Pawan Kalyan continues to dominate headlines, with even a single photograph creating a buzz across the internet. As anticipation grows around his forthcoming projects, fans are looking forward to seeing more of the star in his stylish new avatar.



Vishwambhara Set For Dussehra Clash With Jailer 2

After months of speculation and multiple delays, the makers of Megastar Chiranjeevi's highly anticipated fantasy drama Vishwambhara have finally announced its theatrical release date. The film is now officially scheduled to hit cinemas on October 16, 2026, coinciding with the festive Dussehra season.

The announcement has reignited excitement among fans who have been eagerly awaiting updates on the big-budget project. With the release date now locked, the makers appear confident about the film's prospects despite facing stiff competition during the festive window.

Interestingly, Vishwambhara is set to clash with Superstar Rajinikanth's much-awaited sequel Jailer 2, which is expected to arrive in theatres a day earlier on October 15, 2026. The rare box office face-off between two of Indian cinema's biggest icons is already generating massive buzz, with trade analysts predicting one of the biggest festival clashes in recent years.

Directed by Vassishtha, Vishwambhara is a socio-fantasy adventure starring Chiranjeevi in the lead role alongside Trisha Krishnan. Actor Kunal Kapoor plays the antagonist, while Ashika Ranganath, Ramya Pasupuleti, Isha Chawla and Ashrita Vemuganti Nanduri feature in key supporting roles.

The film is being produced by UV Creations on a grand scale, with Academy Award-winning composer M. M. Keeravaani handling the music. The makers have reportedly invested significant time in enhancing the film's visual effects, contributing to the delays while raising expectations for a visually rich cinematic experience.

Meanwhile, Jailer 2, directed by Nelson Dilipkumar and headlined by Rajinikanth, is also one of the most awaited releases of the year. With both films arriving during the lucrative Dussehra holiday season, audiences can expect an exciting box office showdown between two of Indian cinema's biggest stars.

Fans of both Chiranjeevi and Rajinikanth have already begun celebrating the announcement on social media, expressing excitement over the festive clash. Industry observers believe the simultaneous release of two major star-driven films could make this one of the biggest box office battles of 2026, drawing huge crowds to theatres across the country.



Fresh Release Date Buzz Surrounds Vijay's Jana Nayagan

Speculation surrounding Thalapathy Vijay's much-awaited film Jana Nayagan has resurfaced, with fresh reports suggesting that the makers are considering either a mid-July or early August theatrical release. Although there has been no official confirmation yet, the latest buzz has reignited excitement among fans eagerly waiting for the actor's final film before his full-time political journey.

Originally planned for a Sankranti 2026 release, Jana Nayagan has reportedly undergone multiple scheduling changes, leaving fans anxious for an official update. The prolonged wait has only increased anticipation, making every report about the film's release a major talking point on social media.

According to industry buzz, the production team is currently evaluating suitable release windows and is expected to announce the final date soon. The decision is believed to depend on the completion of post-production work and other release-related factors before the film is officially locked for theatres.

Directed by H. Vinoth, Jana Nayagan is one of the most anticipated Tamil films in recent years. The film stars Vijay in the lead role alongside Pooja Hegde, while Bobby Deol, Gautham Vasudev Menon, Prakash Raj, Priyamani and Mamitha Baiju play pivotal roles.

The project has generated enormous excitement ever since its announcement, as it is widely expected to be Vijay's final film before he shifts his complete focus to politics. Every update about the movie continues to create a buzz among fans across South India.

With reports pointing towards a possible mid-July or early August release, expectations are running high. Fans are eagerly awaiting an official announcement from the makers, hoping to witness Vijay's grand farewell on the big screen. Until then, speculation surrounding Jana Nayagan is likely to continue dominating entertainment headlines.