



BUZZ POINTS



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BJP Sits on the Fence in Ravana Row

ARN Mahesh

The issue surrounding Prashna Ravana has heated politics in the state. Social media, meanwhile, is blazing like a funeral pyre. Almost every reel and every video is either in support of Joseph or against him, and either in support of or against Pawan Kalyan. Even Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu alleged that all these campaigns, including those involving Rawat, are sponsored by the YSRCP. Yet, despite all this, BJP leaders in the state have remained silent. Even Minister Satya Kumar attacked Jagan over the capital issue but chose not to say a word on this matter. Why?

The BJP had behaved in a similar manner earlier during the Tirumala Laddu controversy. In every episode that runs against Jagan, the BJP has refrained from coming to the forefront directly. The same appears to be happening in the Prashna Ravana episode. Although the Tirumala Laddu issue concerned the faith of Lord Venkateswara's devotees, the BJP did not involve itself seriously. Now too, even though Prashna Ravana's videos are viewed as being against Hindutva, BJP leaders have not responded so far. On the other hand, despite knowing that Ravana's language and manner



of speaking were inappropriate, the Left has embraced him simply because he made videos against the BJP. Without bothering about his language, the Left parties openly and unconditionally extended their support to him. Even then, BJP leaders have not stepped beyond their doorstep.

There could be two reasons for this. One, the BJP may have left the responsibility of playing its role to Pawan Kalyan. Or two, it may indicate that the BJP is still unwilling to abandon Jagan as a political option. Beginning with Sanatana Dharma, Pawan Kalyan has been aggressively carrying forward the BJP's ideological agenda. Despite facing allegations that this has affected his

political consistency, he has paid little attention to them. Moreover, it is the BJP that has most frequently invoked stringent provisions such as anti-terror laws in the past. Therefore, if such a serious legal provision has now been invoked in Andhra Pradesh, it is difficult to believe that Pawan acted without the BJP's advice. This would suggest that while directing Pawan Kalyan on one hand and simultaneously keeping Jagan as a political option on the other, Narendra Modi and Amit Shah are moving their pieces with the sole objective of capturing power in Andhra Pradesh. Alternatively, one may conclude that the BJP is conducting a larger political jayna, in which it is merely

playing the role of the priest while preparing a leader like Pawan Kalyan for the future.

This is the discussion taking place now. After all, when videos perceived to be against Hindutva are circulating, it is naturally BJP leaders who are expected to react. Then why are they maintaining silence? More importantly, why are they still not speaking even after the situation in the state has escalated to this extent? It would indicate that they have certainly received instructions from the party high command. In fact, even during the Tirumala Laddu controversy, some BJP leaders informally admitted that they had been asked to keep quiet and were restrained from speaking. From the north-eastern states onward, the BJP has consistently followed one formula. It identifies and adopts an influential regional leader and uses that leader as the vehicle to capture power. Himanta Biswa Sarma in Assam is one example. Suvenudhikari in West Bengal is another. Likewise, in Andhra Pradesh, the BJP appears to be relying on Pawan Kalyan. Pawan Kalyan, too, seems to be well aligned with the BJP. Perhaps that is why BJP leaders have been left with no role to play in the Prashna Ravana episode.



AP Leads the Way in Building an AI-Powered Governance Model

Harshitha Vipparla

The state is emerging as a frontrunner in AI-driven governance by integrating citizen services, data analytics, grievance management, and welfare delivery into a unified digital ecosystem. The state's objective is to move beyond digitalisation and create an intelligent administration that enables faster decision-making and efficient public service delivery.

RTGS Minister Nara Lokesh said artificial intelligence was becoming the core of Andhra Pradesh's governance system. "AI is not just another technology for Andhra Pradesh; it is becoming the core of our governance operating system. Our goal is to make the government faster, smarter, more transparent and citizen-centric through the responsible use of emerging technologies," he said.

The state's WhatsApp-first citizen service platform Mana Mitra has emerged as a key pillar of this transformation. Launched in January 2025, the platform now provides 1,126 government services across 35 departments, benefiting 58.2 lakh citizens and recording more than 3.42 crore service sessions.

Artificial intelligence has also been integrated into the Public Grievance Redressal System (AI4GRS), enabling citizens to submit complaints through text, images, and voice. Since June 2024, the system has received over 17.6 lakh grievances, while AI tools assist in grievance routing, analytics, response assessment, and improving resolution mechanisms. The AWARE (Advanced Warning and Advisory for Resilient Ecosystem) plat-

form is helping departments shift from reactive administration to predictive governance. With 61 live statewide use cases, the platform combines weather, agriculture, public health, disaster management, and environmental intelligence to provide real-time alerts.

The State Data Lake has integrated 55 databases across 41 departments and autonomous organisations, enabling evidence-based policymaking. AI analysis through the platform has identified 17,547 pension anomalies with an estimated annual savings potential of Rs 84.22 crore, removed 1.61 lakh deceased beneficiaries from Rice Cards, flagged nearly 96,000 ineligible beneficiaries under the Jagjeevan Jyothi scheme, and detected 1.28 lakh duplicate housing sanctions for review.

Under the AI Acceleration Project, 98 AI use cases have been identified across government departments, with 29 already operational. These include applications in public health, agriculture, taxation, policing, and citizen services.

Platforms such as RTGS Lens, Revenue One, and the AI-powered Single Search Bar are supporting officials with real-time information. RTGS Lens has integrated 506 workflows across 28 departments, while Revenue One is being used by more than 19,000 revenue officials. The government's future roadmap includes expanding AI applications, launching AP One as a unified citizen platform, scaling the State Data Lake, and implementing the Family Benefit Management System for targeted welfare delivery.

SIPB Clears 11 Projects Worth Rs 9,076 Crore to Create 10,531 Jobs

Amaravati, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The 19th State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) meeting, chaired by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu at the Secretariat on Tuesday, approved 11 investment proposals worth Rs 9,076.11 crore, which are expected to generate 10,531 employment opportunities across the state.

The Chief Minister directed officials to accelerate industrialisation to create additional income opportunities for farming families and help them emerge as entrepreneurs. Stressing the need to strengthen the rural economy, Chandrababu called for promoting ethanol production by leveraging the growing demand for biofuels. He said increasing ethanol blending with petrol to 40% would provide significant benefits to maize farmers.



The Chief Minister instructed officials to prepare a comprehensive policy covering ethanol, methane, and aviation fuel. He reiterated that wealth creation and a circular economy were key pillars of the government's development strategy and stressed the need to expand food processing industries on a large scale.

Highlighting tourism potential, Naidu proposed the estab-

lishment of 100 Experience Centres at major tourist destinations, including Thimmamma Marrimanu. He directed officials to develop destinations such as Polavaram, Dindi, Gandikota, Kambham Cheruvu, and Lambasingi into world-class attractions. He said the Jindal Group had shown interest in establishing a resort near Lambasingi and Araku.

The Chief Minister also called for promoting traditional handicrafts and cultural heritage products such as Etikoppaka, Kondapalli, Dharmavaram, Mangalagiri, Uppada, and Ponduru. He directed officials to expedite the Suryalanka Master Plan, Kangundi Fort development in Kuppam, and an Elephant Safari project in Chittoor district.

He noted that hotel infrastructure in the state was expanding rapidly. While Andhra Pradesh had 4,390 hotel rooms in 2024, approvals granted in the last two years for 9,364 additional rooms would increase the total capacity to 13,753 rooms.

The Chief Minister directed officials to attract investments in solar cell manufacturing and position Andhra Pradesh as a leader in renewable energy. He also called for complet-

ing the remaining 38 MSME Parks, integrating them with railway terminals, and developing a Logistics University and Skill Development Centres.

The approved projects include Akshat Greentech Pvt. Ltd.'s solar cell and module manufacturing unit in Anapalli district with an investment of Rs 1,600 crore, Berry Alloys Ltd.'s plant at Bobbili Growth Centre worth Rs 1,200 crore, Adani Foundation's project in Visakhapatnam with Rs 2,200 crore investment, and Mondelez India Foods Pvt. Ltd.'s food processing unit at Sri City with Rs 1,801 crore investment.

Ministers K Atchannaidu, Payyavula Keshav, Anagani Satya Prasad, P Narayana, Gotipati Ravi Kumar, Kandula Durgesh, and Chief Secretary G Sai Prasad participated in the meeting.



Lokesh Courts Global Tech Giants to Invest in Andhra Pradesh

Seoul (South Korea), July 7 | TPN Bureau

State Minister for Education, IT, and Electronics Nara Lokesh held a series of high-level meetings in Seoul with global industry leaders, pitching Andhra Pradesh as a premier destination for invest-

ments in semiconductors, electric vehicles, electronics manufacturing, and advanced technologies.

During his meeting with Hyundai Mobis leadership, including Executive Vice President Youngbin Kim,

Pawan Kalyan Calls for Global Recognition of AP Handicrafts

Amaravati, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Forest and Environment Pawan Kalyan stressed the need to protect traditional handicrafts, empower artisans, and connect local art forms with global markets through technology and innovation. Addressing an interaction with artisans in Vijayawada on Tuesday, he said handicrafts represent India's cultural identity and losing them would mean losing the nation's roots.

Pawan Kalyan said every artisan deserves respect and assured that the government would work towards their health, financial security, and better market opportunities. "India's roots are deeply embedded in the handicrafts sector. The day these are lost, India's culture, traditions, and heritage will vanish," he said.

He visited handicraft stalls, examined the products, and interacted with artisans to understand their challenges. Describing artisans as members of his own family, he said

Andhra Pradesh's traditional crafts such as Kondapalli toys, Etikoppaka and lac toys, Srikalahasti and Machilipatnam Kalamkari, Narsapur lace products, and Bobbili Veena represent the state's identity and heritage.

The Deputy Chief Minister said more than 2 lakh artisans in Andhra Pradesh are preserving centuries-old traditions through their skills. He highlighted that the state has over 45 handicraft clusters, district-specific skills in 36 areas, 11 art forms with Geographical

Indication (GI) recognition, and several national award-winning crafts.

Calling for a shift from "Vocal for Local" to "Local to Global," Pawan Kalyan said handicrafts should be integrated with e-commerce platforms and international markets. He emphasised that sharing the stories behind every artwork would increase its value and bring greater recognition to artisans.

He also highlighted the importance of converting waste materials into



White Gut Threatens Shrimp Farmers' Livelihoods

Raju Chebolu @ Rajamahendravaram

The aquaculture sector, a backbone of the state's coastal economy, is facing a major crisis as shrimp farmers struggle with the spread of 'White Gut' disease. The disease has emerged as a serious threat at a crucial stage when shrimp crops are nearing harvest after farmers have invested heavily in seed, feed, and maintenance. With affected shrimp failing to achieve expected growth, farmers fear severe financial losses.

'White Gut' is considered

one of the most dangerous bacterial or parasitic diseases affecting shrimp farming. The disease damages the shrimp's digestive system, causing the gut to turn white, while faecal matter floats on the water surface in the form of white threads. Infected shrimp reduce feed intake significantly, resulting in poor growth, weakness, and eventual mortality in ponds.

Farmers are already burdened by increasing operational costs, including feed, electricity, and pond maintenance. The spread of the disease has created a situation where even

initial investments are at risk. As shrimp from infected ponds fail to reach market size, farmers are forced into distress sales at lower prices to minimise losses. They are also raising concerns over the availability of quality seed and alleged misleading reports from some private laboratories.

Speaking with True Point, Billa Satyanarayana, an aqua farmer from Mandapeta Mandal in East Godavari district, said poor-quality seed was a major challenge. "Some companies are selling substandard shrimp seed through 'Buy One Get One Free' (+1+1) offers.

Trusting these offers, we stocked the seed, but within a month, 'White Gut' symptoms appeared. Feed costs have increased sharply, yet shrimp growth remains poor. Hatcheries must be strictly monitored, and laboratory testing should be made reliable," he said.

Mupparaju Brahmaji, an aqua farmer from Torredu in Rajahmundry Rural, told True Point that farmers were struggling due to conflicting laboratory reports. "White Gut disease is appearing in several ponds in our region. Despite spending heavily on biosecurity measures, there has been



no improvement. Different private laboratories provide dif-

ferent reports, leaving farmers confused about treatment.

Field-level testing and affordable medicines are the need of the hour," he said.

Speaking with True Point, Mudunuri Venkata Prasad Raju, an aqua farmer from Bhimavaram, stressed the need for continuous monitoring. "We dry ponds after every harvest, apply lime, and follow all pre-cautionary measures. However, pathogens spread through neighbouring ponds and water sources. Research institutions should monitor major aquaculture centres and find a permanent solution," he said.

Meanwhile, responding to the issue, Minister for

World Bank Lauds AP's Education Reforms

New Delhi, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The World Bank Group on Tuesday inaugurated a three-day workshop titled "Strengthening Client Capacity for Impact (SCCI)" in New Delhi, aimed at enhancing the implementation capacity of World Bank-supported projects across India.

Samagra Shiksha State Project Director B. Srinivasa Rao participated in the workshop along with SALT Project Coordinator Dr. V. Satish Reddy, representing Andhra Pradesh.

During the event, Srinivasa Rao presented the progress achieved by Andhra Pradesh in school education through initiatives implemented under Samagra Shiksha with World Bank assistance. World Bank representatives commended the state's efforts in improving learning outcomes, upgrading



school infrastructure, promoting digital education and strengthening teacher capacity.

The World Bank also praised Andhra Pradesh's Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation (SALT) programme, describing it as a successful example of a grassroots-level Program-for-results initiative. Officials noted that Andhra Pradesh has emerged as one of the country's leading models for educational transformation.

The workshop, being held from July 7 to 9, includes sessions on project management, procurement, financial systems, monitoring and evaluation.

Additional Passport Slots Announced

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The Regional Passport Office, Vijayawada, under the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, has announced additional passport appointment slots to facilitate early processing for applicants.

As part of the initiative, the Passport Seva Kendra (PSK) in Vijayawada will provide 900 additional appointment slots, while PSK Tirupati will cater to another 500 slots on July 11, 2026 (Saturday). The special arrangement has been made to

help applicants secure appointments at an earlier date and reduce waiting periods.

Existing applicants have been advised that they can reschedule their current appointments to avail themselves of the newly opened slots. Fresh applicants can also book appointments through the Passport Seva portal.

The Regional Passport Office urged applicants to make use of the additional appointments and complete the booking process through the official website, passportindia.gov.in, to ensure timely passport services.

Ramprasad Receives Public Grievances at TDP Headquarters

Amaravati, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy received public grievances during the Praja Vedika programme held at the TDP central office on Tuesday.

People submitted representations highlighting issues and complaints, including allegations related to the functioning of the previous YSRCP government. The minister personally reviewed the petitions and interacted with officials over the phone to facilitate immediate resolution of several problems raised by the petitioners.

Ramprasad Reddy assured complainants that their concerns would be addressed promptly through coordination with the concerned departments and officials.

Andhra Pradesh Trade Promotion Corporation (APTTC) Chairman Vajja Baburao and Andhra Pradesh Haj Committee Chairman Shaik Hasan Basha participated in the programme. The Praja Vedika initiative continues to serve as a platform for citizens to directly present their grievances and seek redressal from ministers and public representatives.

SADAREM Booking Begins July 8

Amaravati, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The AP government will commence SADAREM slot bookings for the July-September quarter from July 8, introducing blockchain technology to secure the database of persons with disabilities and strengthen transparency in certification services.

The Health Department officials informed that blockchain technology would prevent unauthorised modifications to disability records and help detect tampering attempts immediately. According to them, the state has been divided into six geographical zones to enable applicants to

undergo assessments in nearby districts, reducing travel time and expenses.

Under the revised system, disability assessment tests will begin on July 13 at designated hospitals. Applicants dissatisfied with the initial assessment outcome can avail themselves of only two appeal opportunities.

All services, including slot booking, assessments and certificate downloads, will remain free of cost. Authorities cautioned applicants against approaching middlemen and announced that a 104 help desk would soon be launched to address technical issues and provide assistance related to SADAREM services.

AP Waqf Board Seeks Stronger District Oversight

Amaravati, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Waqf Board has urged the state government to appoint Joint Collectors as District Waqf Officers to strengthen the protection and administration of Waqf properties across the state.

AP Waqf Board Chairman Abdul Aziz said the proposal aims to improve the safeguarding of Waqf assets, prevent encroachments and expedite legal proceedings related to disputed properties. At present, District Revenue Officers function as District Waqf Officers, while District Minority Welfare Officers serve as Additional District Waqf Officers.

The board has proposed

amending existing government orders to designate Joint Collectors as District Waqf Officers and District Revenue Officers as Additional District Waqf Officers.

Abdul Aziz said thousands of acres of Waqf land are facing issues such as encroachments, legal disputes and unauthorised constructions. He noted that placing Joint Collectors in charge would enhance coordination among revenue, police, registration and municipal departments, ensuring quicker action in protecting Waqf properties and removing encroachments.

The board has formally submitted its proposal to the government and expressed hope for a positive response soon.

Vijayawada Junction Gets 168-Bed Sleeping Pod Facility

Sravani Badugu

Rail passengers travelling through Vijayawada Junction can now access a modern Sleeping Pod facility, offering safe, hygienic and affordable short-duration accommodation during long waiting hours, overnight train connections and transit breaks.

Introduced by the Vijayawada Division of South Coast Railway, the facility is located on Platform No. 1 and has 168 sleeping pods, including 14 exclusively for women. Three family cabins have also been provided for passengers travelling with families.

Each pod is equipped with central air conditioning, comfortable bedding, personal lockers, high-speed Wi-Fi, charging points, and proper lighting. Passengers can also avail hot water, packaged food, drinking water and beverages on payment. The tariff has been fixed at 200 for up to three hours and 400 for up to 12 hours. Bookings can be made at the facility or in advance through designated contact numbers. Passengers



must carry valid journey tickets and government-issued identity proof during check-in.

This is the first Sleeping Pod facility in Vijayawada Division and the third in South Coast Railway after Guntur and Visakhapatnam. Developed under the Non-Fare Revenue (NFR) initiative, the project is expected to generate around 3.55 crore over five years through an annual licence fee of 71 lakh. Divisional Railway Man-

ager Mohit Sonakiya said the facility aims to provide clean, safe and convenient accommodation within the station premises. Senior Divisional Commercial Manager B. Prashanth Kumar said the initiative would improve passenger convenience by offering quality services at affordable tariffs.

The facility is another step by South Coast Railway towards enhancing passenger amenities and making rail travel more comfortable.

Anitha Orders Special Control Rooms Amid El Niño Concerns

Amaravati, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister Vangalapudi Anitha on Tuesday reviewed the impact of the southwest monsoon and El Niño conditions with senior officials and directed authorities to take effective measures to minimise disaster-related losses.

Stressing that preventing any loss of life remains the government's primary objective, Anitha instructed officials to establish special control rooms at the state and district levels for continuous monitoring. She noted that Rayalaseema districts are likely to



face the maximum impact of El Niño, with severe rainfall deficiency expected in Sri Sathya Sai, Anantapur and Annamayya districts. Moderate drought conditions are anticipated in Kurnool, Nandyal, Chittoor, Kadapa,

AP Health Panel Studies Tamil Nadu Drug Supply Model

Chennai, July 7 | TPN Bureau

A special committee constituted by the Andhra Pradesh Health Department has begun a study tour in Tamil Nadu to examine the drug procurement, storage and distribution system followed in government hospitals.

The nine-member committee was formed under the directions of Health Minister Satyakumar Yadav and is headed by Director of Medical Education Dr. Vishnuvardhan. The team visited Chennai on Tuesday and held discussions with officials on strengthening medicine supply mechanisms and inventory management in Andhra Pradesh.

The committee met Rajiv Gandhi Government Hospital Dean



Dr. Shantaraman and studied the procedures adopted for medicine procurement, storage, distribution and patient services. The team also inspected drug storage facilities at the hospital.

Later, the members visited the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation, where Managing Director Krishnan Unni explained medicine and medical equipment procurement processes, supply chain management

AP Set to Become India's First AI-Driven Tourism State

Amaravati, July 7 | TPN Bureau

AP is poised to emerge as India's first artificial intelligence-powered tourism state with the rollout of NIVU AI services across more than 100 tourist destinations, Minister Kandula Durgesh announced on Tuesday.

The AP Tourism Authority (APTA) signed a three-year strategic agreement with Explurger at the Secretariat to deploy the NIVU AI platform, which will provide multilingual assistance to tourists at major pilgrimage



centres, beaches, forts and heritage sites. The agreement was signed in the presence of Special Chief Secretary Ajay Jain, APTA Managing Director Amrapali Kata and APTA CEO A.A.L. Padmavathi.

AP Targets One Lakh Youth Under Digital Skilling Mission

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The AP Department of Youth Services on Tuesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the IT-ITeS Sector Skills Council of Nasscom to implement the "Digitally Skilled and Industry-Ready Youth - Mission 1 Lakh Youth" programme across the state during the 2026-27 financial year.

The partnership aims to pro-

vide skill development training in emerging technologies through structured programmes under FutureSkills Prime, a digital skilling initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in collaboration with Nasscom. On the occasion, officials unveiled the poster for the AI Ascend Programme developed by Accenture, which includes courses in Artificial Intelligence, cybersecurity and other emerging technologies.

The initiative is open to Indian nationals aged 17 years and above and offers industry-recognised certifications through online learning pathways. Eligible participants can also receive performance-based incentives of up to 14,500 for completing global certifications, deep-skilling courses and internships.

Officials said the programme would be implemented up to the village level to skill one lakh youth across Andhra Pradesh during 2026-27.

Bogapuram Airport Gets Aerodrome Licence, Set for Inauguration

Bogapuram, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The Bogapuram International Airport project has achieved 100 per cent completion with the grant of the aerodrome licence, Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu announced on Tuesday. He said the airport inauguration would be held soon after finalising a date convenient for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with the Chief Minister's Office already approaching the Prime Minister's Office regarding the launch.

Inspecting the airport facilities, Ram Mohan Naidu said the project, developed jointly by the Centre, Andhra Pradesh government and GMR, was completed six months ahead of the scheduled December 2026 deadline. He added that full-fledged flight operations would begin within a week of inauguration.

The airport has been designed to handle four crore passengers annually and features a 78,000-square-foot terminal inspired by the shape of a flying fish. The minister said the facility would transform North Andhra's economy by improving connectivity, promoting cargo exports in aquaculture and pharmaceuticals, and supporting aviation-related sectors such as Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) and EduCity facilities.

Meanwhile, Ram Mohan Naidu also laid the foundation stones for four parks in Srikakulam city, stating that the district



would be developed into a model city with improved green spaces and modern recreational facilities.

The parks at Goonapalem, HUDCO Colony, RK Nagar, and Official Colony will be developed with 2 crore from the Airport Authority's CSR funds. Each park will have walking tracks, children's play areas, gyms, skating tracks, volleyball courts and badminton courts, and the projects are expected to be completed within three months.

The minister said parks provide essential spaces for urban residents to connect with nature and are being developed in line with Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's vision of Swarna Andhra and Swachh Andhra.

He interacted with residents and instructed contractors to include facilities based on local requirements. He appreciated MLA Gondu Shankar, Collector Swapnil Dinakar Pundkar, Joint Collector Farman Ahmed Khan and officials for their support.

The allocations include 40 lakh for Goonapalem Park, 55 lakh for HUDCO Colony, 45 lakh for RK Nagar and 60 lakh for Official Colony Park.

Delay in PRC Hurting Employees, Says APJAC Amaravati

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The APJAC Amaravati has called upon the Andhra Pradesh government to immediately appoint a Pay Revision Commission (PRC) Commissioner, announce interim relief and address several pending demands of government employees, pensioners, contract workers and outsourcing staff.

The demands were raised during an awareness meeting organised by APJAC Amaravati at the Revenue Divisional Office in Vijayawada under the chairmanship of NTR district president Battina Ramakrishna. Speaking on the occasion, Ramakrishna said government employees have been facing financial hardship due to delays in appointing a PRC Commissioner, implementing a



new PRC and releasing pending dearness allowance arrears. He alleged that despite the coalition government completing two years in office, employees' issues remain unresolved.

The association also sought restoration of additional quantum of pension for retirees, two years of child care leave for women employees on par with central government staff, regularisation of contract employees and extension of welfare schemes and salary hikes for outsourcing workers. A memorandum outlining the demands was submitted to RDO Vennela Srinu.

Govt Plans Major Push for Neera and Palm Products Says Ravindra

Rampachodavaram (Polavaram), July 7 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh government has launched a special initiative to promote palm-based products, with a focus on neera and palm jaggery, to enhance the livelihoods of toddy tappers across the state, Mines, Geology and Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra said on Tuesday.

Addressing the "Neera Promotion and Palm Products Development" programme at the Pandri-mamidi Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Rampachodavaram mandal, the minister said the welfare and economic progress of toddy tappers remain a key priority of the government. He announced that pro-



posals would be sent to the Centre for the establishment of a Palm Board. Kollu Ravindra said the government is encouraging value-added palm products and plans to create a unique brand identity for neera, similar to the recognition earned by Araku Coffee. Officials also announced surveys of palm trees and pilot projects to expand neera production, while promoting awareness about its nutritional and health benefits.

₹1,049 Crore Tribal Development Works Under Progress says Sandhyarani

Amaravati, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Tribal Welfare and Women and Child Welfare Minister Gummididi Sandhyarani on Tuesday reviewed the progress of development works being executed by the Tribal Engineering Department across Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) regions in the state.

The minister assessed the utilisation of funds sanctioned under PM JANMAN, DA GUGA, Article-275, MGNREGS and SASCI schemes, and sought details from officials on expenditure and the status of ongoing projects.

Reviewing ITDA-wise develop-

ment activities, Sandhyarani directed officials to expedite fund utilisation and ensure timely completion of works with high quality standards. She said development projects worth 1,049 crore are currently underway in tribal areas, including 257 crore in Araku, 163 crore in Seethampeta, 154 crore in Parvathipuram, 134 crore in Paderu, 112 crore in Rampachodavaram, 44 crore in Srisailem, 34 crore in Chintoor and 19 crore in Nellore.

The minister instructed officials to focus on pending works and submit regular progress reports to ensure effective implementation of projects.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu was using diversionary tactics and attempting to frame YCP leaders in false cases. Reiterating that the YSRCP would continue to question the government's functioning, Kakani said the party would legally and politically challenge what he described as attempts to suppress the opposition.



AP BJP Minority Morcha Chief Meets Union Minister Kiren Rijiju

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh BJP Minority Morcha President Syed Basha met Union Minister for Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju and submitted a memorandum highlighting key issues related to the welfare and economic empowerment of minority communities in the state.

During the meeting, Syed Basha urged the Union Minister to facilitate the revival of loan schemes offered through the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMD-FC) by the Andhra Pradesh State Minority Finance Corporation. He also requested intervention for the revalidation of the state government's guarantee, which is essential for implementing the

schemes.

The memorandum proposed an action plan worth approximately 345 crore to provide self-employment assistance, business loans, microfinance, and educational loans to nearly 11,200 minority beneficiaries across Andhra Pradesh. He said the initiative would significantly benefit minority youth, women, unemployed individuals, and small entrepreneurs by improving access to financial support.

Syed Basha expressed confidence that the Union Government would take a positive decision on the proposals, stating that the implementation of these schemes would strengthen the economic development and self-reliance of minority communities in Andhra Pradesh.

Residents Seek Speed Breakers

Tiruvuru, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Residents of Tiruvuru in NTR district have urged municipal authorities to immediately install speed breakers on the road connecting the RTC bus stand to the bypass near Surya Restaurant, citing growing concerns over road safety.

According to locals, the recently laid cement road has significantly improved traffic movement, but vehicles, including RTC buses, cars and two-wheelers, are now travelling at high speeds, increasing the risk of accidents. The sharp bend leading towards Seethamahalakshmi Road has emerged as a particularly dangerous point for motorists and pedestrians.

Residents said a motorist was

recently injured after being involved in a collision with a Manuguru depot RTC bus at the same turning, raising fears of more serious accidents if preventive measures are not taken immediately.

They pointed out that commuters had earlier faced difficulties due to potholes on the old road, but the improved road surface has now resulted in reckless speeding. To prevent accidents, locals have demanded the installation of speed breakers at three key locations along the stretch.

The residents appealed to municipal officials to inspect the road without delay and take immediate steps to install speed breakers, ensuring the safety of motorists, pedestrians and school-children using the busy route.



Delegation Lauds Andhra Pradesh's Natural Farming Model

Guntur, July 7 | TPN Bureau

A Kenyan delegation has praised Andhra Pradesh's Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) programme, describing it as a globally relevant model for climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture. After visiting Natural Farming sites in Guntur district, the delegation said the state's approach to biodiversity conservation, soil health restoration, ecological pest management, and women's participation offers valuable lessons for countries such as Kenya.

The delegation visited Natural Farming fields at Bommuvanipalem in Kollipara Mandal and the National Seed Conservation Centre at Bhumi Bharathi Farmer Producer Company in Attota village. District Project Manager Rajakumari briefed the visitors on the implementation and impact of the APCNF programme.

During the visit, the team toured the "Any Time Money" model farm of Natural Farming practitioner D. Bheemara-

ju, where they observed a diversified farming system with more than 20 crops. The visitors appreciated the presence of beneficial insects and healthy soil microorganisms that naturally support crop growth. The delegation also inspected an A-Grade banana farm cultivated without chemical fertilisers or pesticides. They noted how trap crops such as marigold and castor effectively controlled pests while maintaining healthier soil and higher moisture levels compared to nearby conventional farms.

The visitors interacted with members of the Hepsu Self-Help Group to understand the role of women in promoting Natural Farming and strengthening rural livelihoods, nutrition, and family welfare.

Describing Andhra Pradesh's Natural Farming initiative as an inspiring model, the delegation said its success in sustainable agriculture and climate resilience could be replicated in Kenya and other countries facing similar environmental and agricultural challenges.

VMC Chief Stresses Field Verification of Voter Data

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Commissioner Dhyana-chandra has directed electoral officials to ensure that no action is taken on cases involving shifted, deceased or absent voters without thorough field verification during the ongoing Special Integrated Revision (SIR-2026) of electoral rolls.

During an inspection of the revision process at Kuddus Nagar in the West Constituency and Ramakrishnapuram in the Vijayawada Central Constituency on Tuesday, the Commissioner instructed Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) to personally visit the field along with Booth Level



Officers (BLOs) to verify every case before recommending deletion or modification of voter records.

He said all elimination forms submitted by BLOs should be scrutinized and confirmed only after establishing whether the voter has passed away, permanently shifted residence or no longer

lives at the registered address. Stressing the need for accuracy and transparency, Dhyana-chandra urged officials to discharge their responsibilities with utmost diligence.

To speed up the revision process, the Commissioner said three additional AERO staff members and one district-level officer have been assigned to assist each AERO. He also directed AEROs to review the performance of BLOs with low enumeration form collection, identify operational issues through special meetings and take immediate corrective measures.

West Constituency ERO A. Ravindra Rao, AEROs N. Srinivas, K. Lakshmi and other officials participated in the inspection.

CPM, CITU Protest Eviction of Besant Road Hawkers

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed on Besant Road in Vijayawada on Tuesday after municipal officials removed hawkers' carts during an enforcement drive, triggering protests by hawkers and leaders of the CPM and CITU.

The protesters staged a road sit-in, alleging that officials had arbitrarily removed vendors despite many possessing identity cards or having applied for them. A protest rally was also taken out from Raghavayya Park to Thummidu Brothers.

Addressing the gathering, CPM State Secretariat member Ch.



Babu Rao and CITU District Vice-President Donepudi Kashinath demanded an immediate halt to the eviction of hawkers and urged authorities to protect their livelihoods. They alleged that officials had failed to issue identity cards despite collecting fees from vendors and later cited the absence of those cards as grounds for

eviction.

The leaders said the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 must be implemented in letter and spirit. They argued that no vendor should be evicted without completing surveys, Town Vending Committee procedures and the issuance of identity cards.

They also urged the Vijayawada Municipal Commissioner to hold discussions with hawkers and resolve the issue amicably. Warning of intensified protests, the leaders said CPM and CITU would launch large-scale agitations, including a siege of the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation office, if the eviction drive continued.

Para Kabaddi Players Asked to Aim for Medals

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Para Kabaddi Association of Andhra Pradesh President Velagapudi Ujwal Nagendra Kumar on Tuesday urged players to showcase their talent and return with medals while announcing the Andhra Pradesh team for the National Men's Para Kabaddi Championship.

The state team selection trials were conducted at the Thotapalli Hill School sports ground in Tiruvuru for the championship scheduled to be held at Jaipur Skit University in Rajasthan from July 10 to 12. Addressing the selected play-



ers after introducing the team, Velagapudi Ujwal Nagendra Kumar expressed confidence that the Andhra Pradesh contingent would perform well at the national-level tournament. He encouraged the athletes to display discipline, determination and sportsmanship while representing the state and strive to bring

laurels by winning medals.

The association president said participation in national competitions provides an excellent platform for para athletes to demonstrate their abilities and gain recognition. He wished the team success and urged the players to give their best in every match.

Coaches, officials and sports enthusiasts attended the selection programme and congratulated the selected athletes. The players assured the association that they would put in their best efforts to achieve notable performances and make Andhra Pradesh proud at the prestigious national championship.

NTR District Completes 59.47% Voter Form Digitisation

NTR District, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls is progressing smoothly across NTR district, with 59.47% of voter enumeration forms digitised so far, District Collector G. Lakshminsha said on Tuesday.

During an inspection of voter help desks in Chittinagar under the Vijayawada West Assembly constituency, the Collector reviewed the mapping of electoral rolls, distribution and

collection of enumeration forms, and the digitisation process. He instructed Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to ensure strict adherence to the Election Commission of India's guidelines and maintain transparency throughout the exercise.

The Collector said help desks are assisting voters by clarifying doubts and helping them fill out enumeration forms wherever required.

According to official figures, 10,18,936 forms have been digitised in the district. Tiruvuru

recorded the highest progress at 74.58%, followed by Mylavaram (68.14%), Nandigama (65.75%), Jaggayyapeta (61.60%), Vijayawada East (52%), Vijayawada Central (50.23%), and Vijayawada West (48.59%).

Lakshminsha said field officials are working impartially and with commitment to complete the SIR process in accordance with the Election Commission's rules, ensuring that no eligible voter is left out of the electoral roll.

AP Promotes Scientific Rainfed Cotton Cultivation for Kharif 2026

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Department of Agriculture has launched a statewide campaign to promote scientific rainfed cotton cultivation during the Kharif 2026 season, aiming to improve productivity and enhance farmers' resilience to changing weather conditions.

Officials said nearly 20-25 lakh acres of cotton are cultivated in the state, with about

86% of the crop grown under rainfed conditions. Farmers have been advised to complete sowing by the first fortnight of July for better yields and efficient moisture utilisation.

To support cultivation, the government will distribute 1,92,144 mini kits covering 75,000 hectares at a cost of 20.10 crore, benefiting nearly 75,000 farmers. The department has urged growers to adopt scientific practices such as proper spacing, bal-

anced fertiliser application, moisture conservation, and integrated pest management.

Farmers have also been encouraged to use pheromone traps, bird perches, and biopesticides to control pests naturally while reducing chemical use. The initiative is expected to increase cotton productivity, lower cultivation costs, and promote sustainable, climate-resilient agriculture across Andhra Pradesh.



Enumeration Form Mandatory for Voter List Inclusion: TDP Leader Sai Prasad

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

TDP 19th Division President Bhagam Sai Prasad urged residents to complete and submit their voter enumeration forms before July 24, stating that only those who submit the forms will be included in the electoral roll. Speaking at a voter awareness drive held in Labbipet, Brindavan Colony, and Fakir Gudem on Tuesday, he emphasized that public participation is essential for the successful completion of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Sai Prasad said awareness campaigns are being conducted door-to-door to clear misconceptions about the voter registration

process. He advised every family to verify whether their names are already on the voter list and ensure the required forms are submitted on time. He informed residents that identity documents such as an Aadhaar card, ration card, driving licence, passport, or pension passbook can be used to complete the registration process. Sai Prasad also interacted with Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and offered suggestions to ensure smooth implementation of the exercise.

He announced that voter enumeration has been completed at Booths 101, 102, 103, 123, 124, and 125 in the 19th Division. Local officials and BLOs participated in the awareness programme.



Early Detection Key to Beating Oral Cancer: Dr. Manasa

Vijayawada, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Early detection can lead to complete cure in many cases of oral cancer, said renowned dental surgeon Dr. G. Devi Manasa while stressing the importance of awareness, regular screening and preventive care.

Speaking at a health awareness seminar on "Oral Cancer" held at Vasavya Nursing Home on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Dr. Samaram, Dr. Manasa said oral cancer is among the most common cancers in India and can affect the lips, tongue, gums, inner cheeks, roof and floor of the mouth.

She warned that tobacco use in any form, including cigarettes, bidis, gutka, zarda, khaini and pan masala, significantly

increases the risk of oral cancer, while alcohol consumption further compounds the danger. Poor oral hygiene, repeated injuries inside the mouth, ill-fitting dentures, nutritional deficiencies and certain viral infections are also major risk factors, she said.

Dr. Manasa advised people not to ignore mouth ulcers that persist for more than two weeks or symptoms such as red or white patches, lumps, difficulty in chewing or swallowing, restricted mouth opening or neck swelling. She recommended regular dental check-ups, quitting tobacco and alcohol, maintaining oral hygiene and conducting monthly self-examinations to ensure early diagnosis and timely treatment, which greatly improves recovery chances.



Rajeev Ranjan Reviews BC Welfare

NTR District, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Dedicated Commission Chairman and retired IAS officer Rajeev Ranjan Mishra said the commission would prepare a scientific and evidence-based report on the social, economic, and political status of Backward Classes (BCs) in Andhra Pradesh. Speaking during his visit to NTR district on Tuesday, he said the report would be based on field-level representations, stakeholder consultations, and empirical analysis.

At a review meeting held at the Collectorate with District Collector G. Lakshminsha and officials from BC Welfare, Education, Planning, and other departments, the commission assessed the socio-economic conditions of BC communities, opportunities for higher education, skill development, and the implementation of welfare

schemes.

The commission also reviewed political representation of BCs in local bodies and examined the impact of reservation policies. Officials briefed the chairman on initiatives to support Kondapalli toy artisans, including the establishment of an experience centre, and explained the progress of the Unified Family Survey conducted in the district.

Representatives of BC associations, social organisations, and community groups submitted memorandums seeking changes in BC group classifications, inclusion of certain communities in the Central OBC list, reservation status for specific gram panchayats, and greater political representation in local body elections.

Senior district officials and representatives from various departments attended the meeting.



Passbooks Issued Under Mee Bhoomi Mee Hakku

Eluru, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Denduluru MLA Chintamaneni Prabhakar distributed newly issued Pattadar Passbooks bearing the State emblem to farmers from various villages in Eluru Rural mandal at a programme held at the Eluru Rural Mandal Parishad office under the "Mee Bhoomi Mee Hakku" initiative.

Addressing the gathering, the MLA alleged that farmers faced severe hardships during the previous YSRCP regime and claimed that even payments for paddy procurement were not made on

time. He criticised the practice of printing leaders' photographs on passbooks and housing documents, stating that such measures had been rejected by the public.

Chintamaneni Prabhakar said the coalition government was undertaking resurvey works to resolve land-related disputes and ensure greater transparency in land records. He noted that the newly issued Pattadar Passbooks carry only the official State emblem and are being distributed to farmers as part of efforts to provide them with clear and dispute-free land ownership documents.



Eluru Police Crack Down on Noise Pollution

Eluru, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Eluru Police have intensified action against noise pollution and traffic violations in the city, seizing modified silencers, speaker systems and unauthorised lighting equipment during a special enforcement drive.

District SP K. Pratap Shiva Kishore said the operation was conducted under the supervision of Eluru DSP D. Sravan Kumar by Traffic Police Station Inspector S. Lakshmana Rao and his team. Police targeted vehicles fitted with modified silencers and other accessories contributing to excessive noise levels and inconvenience to residents.

During the drive, officials seized around 50 motorcycle silencers, 15 speaker boxes and 225 LED lights installed in violation of traffic regulations.

The SP warned motorists and traders against using or selling unauthorised accessories, including modified silencers, high-decibel speakers and decorative lights without permission. He said strict cases would be registered under traffic rules and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita against violators. Police also cautioned shop owners against illegal sales, stating that stringent action would be taken to curb noise pollution and ensure public safety.



Missing Father of Three Girls Traced

Eluru, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Eluru District SP K. Pratap Shiva Kishore has commended Women Police Station Inspector M. Subba Rao and members of the Shakti team for tracing the father of three minor girls from Kukunoor mandal who had been living without parental care.

The girls — Shaik Mahalakshmi (7), Shaik Lavanya (5) and Shaik Amulya (3) of Kivvaka village — lost their mother two years ago, while their father, Shaik Venkanna, reportedly left them about nine months later. Since then, the children have been under the care of their aunt Bellamkonda Ku-

mari and her husband Mutha-yya, besides receiving temporary shelter and protection under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.

After interacting with the girls at Balasadanam in Denduluru, the SP directed officials to trace their father and restore parental responsibility. Acting on the instructions, Inspector M. Subba Rao, with support from Kukunoor police and the Shakti team, traced Shaik Venkanna to Maharashtra and informed him about the children's condition.

The SP said safeguarding children's welfare and rights remains a collective social responsibility.

Renaming Move of J.C. Bose Building at Bapatla Ag College Triggers Row

Sreeja Rachabathuni

The recent removal of Prof. Jagadish Chandra Bose's name from a prominent building at Agricultural College, Bapatla, has sparked widespread concern among alumni and academicians, raising larger questions about preserving India's scientific heritage. For generations, the "J.C. Bose Life Science Building" stood not just as infrastructure, but as a symbol of intellectual inspiration rooted in the legacy of one of India's greatest scientists.

Prof. J.C. Bose, a pioneer in plant physiology and wireless communication, transformed global understanding of plant life through his groundbreaking research. His name on the building served as a daily reminder to students of scientific curiosity, innovation, and perseverance. Alumni now feel that removing this name has diluted that symbolic connection.

The original structure, built in the late 1960s, was replaced in 2015 under a NABARD-funded modernization initiative. However, the newly constructed facility was renamed "College Annex Building," omitting Bose's



name entirely. This decision has not gone down well with the college's vast alumni network, which includes over 16,000 graduates across sectors.

"We are not opposing development. We are only asking that history and legacy be respected," said one senior alumnus BVS Kumar, Vijayawada. Another noted, "For us, the J.C. Bose Building was where we learned, grew, and dreamed. Removing the name feels like erasing a part of our identity."

Alumni associations have made repeated representations to the Vice-Chancellor of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, urging restoration of the original name. Despite these appeals, no action has

been taken so far, deepening disappointment.

Many believe this is not merely an emotional issue but a matter of institutional responsibility. "Educational institutions must uphold the legacy of great scientists. These names inspire future generations," Kumar remarked.

Restoring the name "J.C. Bose Life Science Building" would be a meaningful step toward honoring India's scientific pioneers while reaffirming the university's commitment to its own heritage. As the voices of alumni grow stronger, the hope remains that the administration will act to preserve a legacy that continues to inspire far beyond the campus.



SIR Process to Be Fast-Track, Collector Directs Officials

Visakhapatnam, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Visweshwara Naidu attended the meeting.

District Collector M. Abhishikh Kishore has directed officials to conduct the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process on a war footing over the next week to ensure its completion within the stipulated timeline.

After a video conference with the Chief Electoral Officer, the Collector reviewed the progress with Electoral Registration Officers, Additional EROs, Assistant Electoral Registration Officers and Special Officers at the Collectorate. GVMC Commissioner Ketan Garg, Joint Collector Gobbilla Vidhyadhari and DRO M.

The Collector instructed officials to organise special campaigns on July 11 and 12 for door-to-door distribution and collection of Enumeration Forms (EFs). He called for extensive awareness campaigns through hoardings, cinema slides, social media, mainstream media and auto announcements until July 14.

Officials were asked to focus on central government offices, public institutions, gated communities and prominent residential areas. Special SIR help desks will be set up on Wednesday at the Collectorate and GVMC offices to assist voters and expedite the process.



Police Promote Helmet Use Through Awareness Drive

Eluru, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Eluru Rural Police conducted a unique helmet awareness drive near Ashram Hospital in Eluru to promote road safety and encourage two-wheeler riders to adopt safe riding practices.

The initiative was carried out under the supervision of Rural SI Venkateswara Rao, with CI Ramakrishna stressing that protecting lives remains the primary objective of the campaign.

Instead of imposing fines on riders travelling without helmets, police persuaded them to

purchase helmets on the spot and wear them immediately. Officers also educated motorists about the risks associated with riding without helmets, including severe head injuries and loss of life in road accidents.

Police urged commuters to strictly follow traffic regulations and make helmet usage a regular habit for safer travel. The awareness programme received appreciation from local residents, who welcomed the innovative approach adopted by the police to improve compliance with road safety norms and reduce accidents.



Bapatla Police Return 196 Mobile Phones

Bapatla, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Bapatla district police returned 196 recovered mobile phones worth Rs.39.20 lakh to their owners during the sixth phase of the mobile recovery and distribution programme held at the district police headquarters on Tuesday.

District SP B. Umamaheshwar said a special team was constituted at the district headquarters to trace lost and stolen mobile phones using advanced technology. He stated that the police department has so far recovered 1,321 mobile phones in six phases, with a total value of Rs.2.64 crore, achieving a recovery rate of 71

per cent of the phones reported lost in the district.

The SP said the dedicated team, in coordination with local police and authorities from other districts and states, has been effectively tracing and recovering devices. He urged the public to utilise the CEIR portal to report lost or stolen phones and advised people against purchasing second-hand mobiles from unknown persons without verifying ownership documents.

Several police officers, including DSPs Sheikh Abdul Aziz, C.H. Chandramouli, MD Moin, P. Jagadeesh Naik and P. Krishnamraju, attended the programme.

Polavaram Set for 2027 Completion

Eluru/Polavaram, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister Dr. Nimmala Ramanaidu on Tuesday said the State government is committed to completing the Polavaram project by the 2027 Godavari Pushkaralu and dedicating it to the nation through Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Reviewing the project works at Polavaram, the Minister said Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is expected to visit the project site in the second week



of July to assess the progress. He stated that the coalition government had restored momentum to the project and constructed a new diaphragm wall for Rs. 990 crore within 440 days.

Farmers Upset Over Delay in Transformer Installation

East Godavari, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Farmers and nursery operators of Venkayyammappeta village in Kadiyam mandal have expressed anger over the delay in installing an additional transformer, alleging a lack of coordination among electricity department officials.

The village, known for its nursery activity, is dependent on a 16 KV transformer located near the Secretariat building. However, inadequate load capacity has resulted in frequent tripping and prolonged power outages, severely



affecting households and nurseries.

Farmers submitted a representation to the Kadiyam electricity department JEE on May 23, seeking an additional transformer. Although officials assured them that the issue would be resolved, no action has been taken even af-

ter 35 days.

Conflicting statements by officials have further fuelled resentment. Divisional Engineer Nataraj said the transformer had already been sanctioned and would be installed within two days, while Assistant Divisional Engineer Sanyasi Rao cited a one-week timeframe. In-charge AE Satya Prasad attributed the delay to staff being engaged in electricity bill collections and said the work may take another 10 days.

Villagers have urged higher authorities to intervene immediately and resolve the issue without further delay.

₹ 10 Lakh Insurance Cheque Handed Over to Home Guard Family

Eluru, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Eluru District SP K. Pratap Shiva Kishore on Tuesday handed over a Rs.10 lakh insurance cheque to the family of Home Guard R.V. Ramana at the District Police Headquarters.

The cheque, sanctioned through the General Insurance Public Sector Association, was presented to R.V. Ramana's wife R. Padmavathi. Ramana, Home Guard No. 207 of the erstwhile West Godavari district, was covered under the insurance scheme.

Speaking on the occasion, the SP said the support extend-



ed by the government and insurance schemes for the welfare of police families provides crucial assistance during difficult times. He recalled the services rendered by R.V. Ramana and expressed his condolences to the bereaved

family. The programme was attended by District Police Headquarters B Section Superintendent Nageswara Rao, section staff member Sunaina, family members of R.V. Ramana and police personnel.

Ensure Transparency in Free Sand Policy says Minister

East Godavari, July 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister Kollu Ravindra directed officials to take measures to ensure that the benefits of the free sand policy reach people more transparently and efficiently.

The Minister held a review meeting at the Collectorate on Tuesday with mining, police and revenue officials, along with representatives of boatmen associations and transport operators, on sand collection, supply and prevention of illegal activities in East Godavari district.



Officials briefed the Minister on sand ramps, desilting points, mining activities in sand-cost pattas, stock availability during the monsoon season and measures taken to prevent inter-state transportation of sand. Kollu Ravindra said the government was implementing the free sand policy with a pub-

lic welfare approach despite an estimated revenue loss of nearly Rs.200 crore. He noted that more than 50 per cent of the state's sand supply comes from East Godavari district and stressed the need to resolve local issues without causing inconvenience to people.

The Minister said CCTV surveillance has been installed at weighbridges to prevent irregularities and instructed officials to maintain adequate stock points during the rainy season. He also directed authorities to streamline transportation and improve loading capacity to reduce vehicle waiting time.

Editorial

A Stronger Voter List
A Stronger Democracy

"The ballot is stronger than the bullet." — Abraham Lincoln
The strength of democracy depends on the trust people place in the electoral process. A vote is not just a right; it is a responsibility. Ensuring that every vote belongs to a genuine and eligible citizen is essential to protecting the integrity of democracy.

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter identity records undertaken by the Election Commission of India has triggered political debate across the country. The purpose of this exercise is to update electoral rolls, remove duplicate and fake entries, correct errors, and ensure that only eligible citizens participate in elections.

In a country with a population of over 140 crore people, maintaining accurate voter records is a continuous necessity. Concerns over fake voter IDs, duplicate registrations, and the possibility of illegal immigrants, including Rohingyas, obtaining identity documents have highlighted the importance of a reliable voter database. A genuine electoral roll is essential not only for free and fair elections but also for national security.

The Election Commission of India has the constitutional responsibility of conducting elections and maintaining accurate electoral rolls. Regular revision of voter lists is a crucial part of this duty. A transparent verification process can remove errors while ensuring that no eligible citizen loses the right to vote.

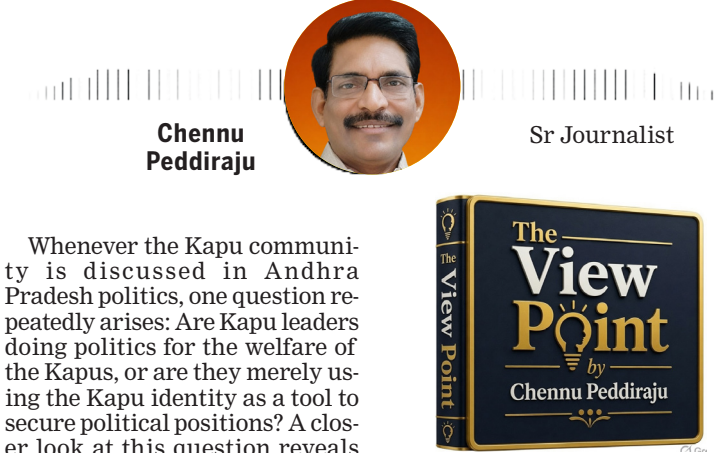
Opposition parties have questioned the timing and process of SIR, alleging that it could exclude genuine voters and may have political motives. Their concerns regarding transparency and protecting citizens' voting rights must be addressed. At the same time, political parties also have a responsibility to support measures that prevent fake voting and strengthen democracy.

The responsibility does not rest only with authorities. Every citizen must verify and update their voter details. In Andhra Pradesh, the last date for SIR-related voter updates is July 14, 2026, while Telangana citizens have time until July 24, 2026, to complete the process.

An updated voter identity is not merely a document; it is a safeguard of democratic participation. Preventing fake voters is not against democracy; it protects democracy.

The debate should focus not on opposing voter verification, but on ensuring that it is conducted transparently and efficiently. A clean electoral roll ensures that every genuine citizen's voice counts.

Protecting the voter list is a collective national responsibility. A stronger voter database is the foundation of a stronger democracy. Editor



Whenever the Kapu community is discussed in Andhra Pradesh politics, one question repeatedly arises: Are Kapu leaders doing politics for the welfare of the Kapus, or are they merely using the Kapu identity as a tool to secure political positions? A closer look at this question reveals some interesting realities.

The Kapus are one of the most influential social groups in Andhra Pradesh in terms of population. Although they have played a significant role in the state's politics since Independence, there remains a strong feeling within the community that they have not received their due share in the centres of political power. Many leaders have turned this sentiment into a political opportunity.

A review of the history of Kapu movements shows that large-scale agitations were organised around issues such as social justice, reservations, and political representation. In particular, the movements led by Mudragada Padmanabham gave a new direction to Kapu politics. These struggles brought Kapu issues into the mainstream political discourse of the state.

However, the extent to which the political gains from those movements have actually benefited the Kapu community remains a matter of debate. Today, Kapu leaders are present in all major political parties. They serve as ministers, legislators, and holders of important positions in the ruling coalition, while prominent Kapu leaders are also visible in opposition parties. Yet, it is

difficult to say that there is a unified voice consistently advocating for the concerns of the Kapu community. This is where the true meaning of the term "Kapu Card" becomes evident.

During elections, political parties extensively discuss the Kapu vote bank. Slogans centred on Kapu leadership, Kapu self-respect, and Kapu representation dominate political campaigns. However, once elections are over, the same enthusiasm often fades.

Leaders who secure positions become confined within party structures, and their willingness to raise community-related issues appears to diminish.

Another major source of dissatisfaction within the Kapu community is the imbalance in political representation. According to estimates frequently cited by political analysts, the Kamma community constitutes around 4 per cent of Andhra Pradesh's population and the Reddy community around 5 per cent. Yet, members of these communities occupy more than 35 and 32 seats respectively in the present legislature.

In contrast, the Kapu community, which is estimated to constitute around 20 per cent of the state's population, has only about



18 MLAs in the Assembly. This situation has prompted a section of the Kapu community to ask: "If we are larger in numbers, why are we smaller in power?"

Consequently, the demand is no longer limited to securing positions for individual Kapu leaders.

This is not a problem confined to any one political party. Whether in government or opposition, a similar pattern can be observed across the political spectrum. Kapu leaders are advancing individually. They are obtaining positions and consolidating their political careers.

But the larger question remains: Is this personal growth translating into collective progress for the community?

At the same time, there is another argument. If a leader speaks only about the interests of the Kapu community, he may remain a community leader but may never evolve into a state-level leader. Supporters of many Kapu politicians argue that this

is why they prefer to avoid caste-based politics. There is some merit in this argument.

However, complete silence on issues affecting the community after attaining political office cannot be justified either. When leaders utilise Kapu identity as a political asset, the expectations of the community naturally rise. Those expectations create a responsibility that cannot be ignored. Therefore, the real challenge before the Kapu community today is not the lack of leaders. There are many Kapu leaders. The real question is how many of them consistently speak for the community and recognise a responsibility that extends beyond political office. The Kapu Card continues to be a relevant factor in Andhra Pradesh politics. But will it remain merely a political instrument for securing positions? Or will it evolve into a tool capable of delivering long-term political and social gains for the Kapu community?

The answer does not lie solely

with political leaders. It ultimately rests with the Kapu community that elects them.

The issue before the community today is not a shortage of positions. There is a Deputy Chief Minister; there are ministers, and there are legislators. The real questions are these: Does the community enjoy political representation proportionate to its population? What role do Kapus play in the key centres of decision-making? Have leaders who rose politically on the strength of Kapu identity succeeded in expanding the community's political share and influence?

Hence, these are questions that deserve serious reflection. If the Kapu Card serves only as a means for individuals to secure political office, it represents a personal victory. But if it helps the community gain a greater share in political power, decision-making authority, and representation, only then can it be considered a true social victory.

Video Games From Pixels to Virtual Worlds



"Video games are not just about pressing buttons; they are about imagination, creativity, challenges, and connecting people across the world."

National Video Game Day is celebrated annually on 08 July to enjoy and appreciate this wonderful digital platform in all their forms, called Video Game. From the arcade classics of the 1980s to today's sprawling open worlds, and to recognise the artistry, skill and community that surround the medium. This is a day built for playing, so the best way to mark it is to pick up a controller.
National Video Game Day-2026

The National Video Game Day can be celebrated in many ways like replay a childhood favourite video, host a game night, try a brand new title, visit a retro arcade, explore indie games, watch a stream, beat a game you never finished, and introduce someone new to gaming. Video games play a vital

role in. entertainment, culture and even sport. It honours the developers, artists who craft them, and players whose skill turns into a serious pursuit. It is enjoyed by casual mobile players and dedicated enthusiasts alike, and it is not tied to any single platform or genre.

History of Video Games

Video game history traced back to 1940 when Dr Edward Uhler unveiled the first video gaming machine. Later Frank Cifaldi, who found that it is first appeared on 08 July 1991 in Chase's Calendar of Events. By 1997 they renamed to observe National Video Games Day on 13 September and also differently on 08 July as National Video Game Day. Beyond the fun, the day highlights how games have become a genuine culture force, shaping storytelling, music, art and competitive sport. On this day video games across globe celebrated by hosting gaming marathons, revisiting childhood classics, special promotions on gaming platforms. Because gaming has evolved into a massive digital



community, fans can also discover and observe new titles together as they release throughout the year.

Whether this be spending time on your own exploring the

rich world of a single player game or chatting with friends while you have fun together,

there is no wrong way to go about celebrating the day. Just make sure that you remember

to take breaks for the sake of your eyes and back.

Video Games From Entertainment to Education

- Video games have transformed from simple entertainment tools into platforms for education, skill development, creativity, and social interaction.
- Many educational games help children improve problem-solving abilities, logical thinking, memory, and decision-making skills.
- Simulation games are used in fields such as aviation, medicine, engineering, and defence training.

The Evolution of Video Games

- The journey of video games began with simple pixel-based games and has now reached realistic 3D environments powered

- by artificial intelligence and advanced graphics.
- Early arcade games like Pong and Space Invaders created the foundation for the gaming industry.
- Home gaming consoles changed the way people played games, bringing gaming experiences from arcades into living rooms.
- Modern games offer massive open worlds, online multiplayer experiences, virtual reality, and interactive storytelling.

Interesting Facts About Video Games

- The global video game industry has become larger than the film and music industries combined in terms of revenue.
- The first commercially successful video game arcade machine was Pong, released in

1972 by Atari.

- Minecraft is one of the best-selling video games of all time, allowing players to build and explore virtual worlds.
- Competitive gaming, known as esports, has developed into a professional sport with international tournaments and millions of viewers.
- Professional gamers, streamers, and game creators have created new career opportunities in the digital world.

Benefits of Playing Video Games

- Improves hand-eye coordination and reaction speed.
- Enhances strategic thinking and planning skills.
- Encourages teamwork and communica-

tion through multiplayer games.

- Helps develop creativity through designing, building, and storytelling-based games.
- Provides relaxation and stress relief when played in moderation.

Responsible Gaming Tips

- Maintain a healthy balance between gaming, studies, work, exercise, and social activities.
- Take regular breaks to protect eyes and avoid physical strain.
- Choose age-appropriate games.
- Avoid excessive screen time and maintain proper posture while playing.
- Parents should encourage children to enjoy games responsibly and safely.

Video Games in India

- India has witnessed rapid growth in the gaming sector due to affordable smartphones and improved internet connectivity.
- Mobile gaming has become highly popular among Indian youth.
- Indian game developers are creating games inspired by Indian history, mythology, culture, and local stories.
- Esports and gaming content creation are emerging as career options for young Indians.

(On the occasion of "World Video Game Day" on July 8)

Hill Station Lonavala Records Historic Rainfall

Maharashtra's popular hill station Lonavala has witnessed unprecedented rainfall, breaking previous records as the southwest monsoon intensified across the Western Ghats. The region experienced extremely heavy showers, leading to waterlogging, disruptions, and concerns over landslides in several areas.

According to weather data, Lonavala recorded around 620 mm of rainfall in a single day, while the total rainfall over a 48-hour period touched nearly 1,290 mm. This marked one of the highest two-day rainfall figures recorded in the region, highlighting the intensity of the current monsoon spell.

Several parts of Maharashtra, including Mumbai, Pune, Raigad, Palghar, Thane, and Nashik districts, also received heavy rainfall over the past few days. Many locations recorded significant rainfall, affecting normal life, traffic movement, and local infrastructure.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) attributed the intense rainfall activity to a low-pressure system that developed over the Bay of Bengal and moved towards central India. Although the system has started weakening, weather officials warned that heavy rains could continue in parts of Maharashtra and neighbouring states.

The impact of the rainfall

Vijay's Karur Visit After Supreme Court Setback to DMK

Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) chief and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay is set to make his first visit to Karur after taking charge, drawing significant political attention. The visit comes after the Supreme Court declined to intervene in a plea seeking restrictions on Vijay's public appearances and statements connected to the Karur stampede case.

Karur became the centre of political controversy after a tragic stampede at a TVK event resulted in the deaths of several people. The incident triggered widespread debate over crowd management, political rallies, and responsibility for ensuring public safety. An investigation into the circumstances surrounding the tragedy is still underway.

The DMK had approached the Supreme Court seeking restrictions on Vijay and TVK leaders, arguing that public statements and interactions with victims' families could influence the ongoing investigation. However, the court questioned the demand for limiting the activities of a political leader and refused to impose such restrictions.

Following the court's decision, Vijay is preparing to visit Karur, where he is expected to meet families affected by the tragedy. The visit holds emo-

Centre Denies E-25 Petrol Launch Reports

The Central government has rejected reports claiming that India is planning to introduce E-25 petrol, calling the information completely false. Officials clarified that no final decision has been taken to increase ethanol blending beyond the existing E-20 petrol level.

The clarification came after reports suggested that petrol containing 25% ethanol could soon be introduced in the country. The government said that while studies and testing related to higher ethanol blends are being carried out, there is currently no approved plan or fixed timeline for launching E-25 fuel.

Officials explained that India has adopted a gradual approach towards ethanol blending in petrol. The transition to E-20 fuel was implemented in phases after discussions with automobile manufacturers, fuel companies, and other stakeholders.

The government said any move to increase ethanol content in petrol will depend on detailed assessments related to vehicle compatibility, engine performance, fuel efficiency, and long-term impact on automobiles. Testing is being conducted to understand how different vehicle models respond



was particularly visible in hilly regions. Several roads were affected due to water accumulation, while incidents of landslides and damage to infrastructure were reported in some areas. Connectivity on important routes, including the Mumbai-Pune corridor, faced disruptions due to safety concerns. Weather experts said the unusual rainfall pattern in Lonavala reflects the changing nature of monsoon activity in the Western Ghats. The region, known for its scenic landscapes and waterfalls, often receives heavy monsoon showers, but the recent spell stood out due to its intensity and short duration.

Authorities have advised residents and tourists to remain cautious, especially in landslide-prone and low-lying areas. With more rainfall expected in parts of Maharashtra, disaster management teams are monitoring vulnerable locations to prevent major incidents.



tional as well as political importance, as opposition parties had earlier criticised him over the delay in meeting the victims' families.

The Supreme Court observed that Vijay is not an accused in the case and stated that legal proceedings should not become a means to settle political differences. The court's decision has provided relief to Vijay and his party, while giving fresh momentum to the political debate in Tamil Nadu.

The Karur visit is expected to intensify the ongoing political contest between the ruling TVK and opposition parties. While Vijay's supporters describe the visit as an effort to express solidarity with affected families, critics continue to question the timing and political implications of the move.

With the investigation continuing, Vijay's Karur visit is likely to become a major talking point in Tamil Nadu's political landscape.



to higher ethanol blends.

Ethanol blending is part of India's strategy to reduce dependence on imported crude oil, cut fuel costs, support farmers, and promote cleaner energy alternatives. The current E-20 petrol contains up to 20% ethanol mixed with petrol and is already available across the country. However, concerns have been raised among vehicle owners, especially those using older vehicles, about the possible impact of higher ethanol blends on engine components and mileage. The government has maintained that future decisions will be taken only after ensuring safety and technical feasibility.

The Centre has advised people not to rely on unverified information and reiterated that any increase in ethanol blending will happen only after scientific evaluation, stakeholder consultations, and necessary approvals.

Ahmedabad Blasts Case Gujarat HC Upholds Death Sentences

The Gujarat High Court has upheld the death sentences awarded to 38 convicts in the 2008 Ahmedabad serial blasts case, rejecting their appeals against the trial court's judgment. The court also confirmed life imprisonment for 11 other convicts involved in the case.

The decision comes nearly 18 years after the deadly terror attack that shook Ahmedabad on July 26, 2008. A series of coordinated bomb blasts across the city claimed the lives of 56 people and left more than 200 others injured. The attacks targeted multiple locations, creating widespread panic and fear.

A division bench of the Gujarat High Court reviewed the appeals filed by the convicts and upheld the verdict delivered by the special court. The trial court had earlier found the accused guilty and awarded capital punishment to 38 people, while 11 others were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The Ahmedabad blasts case was one of the biggest terror-related trials in India. The investigation involved extensive evidence collection, multiple agencies and years of legal proceedings. The accused were linked by investigators to the banned terror organisation Indian Mujahideen, which was alleged to have carried out the coordinated attacks.

Wayanad Tunnel Landslide Raises Questions Over Safety Lapses

A massive landslide at a tunnel construction site in Kerala's Wayanad district has raised serious concerns over safety lapses and alleged negligence. Authorities have pointed out that an earlier warning to stop work and clear accumulated soil from the site was reportedly not followed, leading to questions over whether proper safety measures were ignored.

The incident took place near Kalladi, close to the Meenakshi Bridge area, where work on the Anakkampoyil-Meppadi twin tunnel project was underway. The landslide caused a portion of the construction area to collapse, trapping several workers. Rescue teams rushed to the spot, with reports of casualties, injuries, and missing workers following the disaster.

Kerala officials said that the district administration had earlier instructed authorities to temporarily suspend construction activities until excess soil generated during tunnelling work was removed. However, the instructions were allegedly not implemented, and work continued at the site.

The incident has been de-



scribed by officials as a possible man-made disaster, raising concerns about whether negligence in handling construction debris and soil accumulation contributed to the collapse. An investigation is now underway to determine the exact reasons behind the landslide and identify any lapses.

The twin tunnel project, designed to connect Anakkampoyil in Kozhikode with Meppadi in Wayanad, is one of Kerala's major infrastructure projects. The tunnel is expected to improve connectivity between the two districts and reduce travel time significantly once completed.

The tragedy has also renewed



debate over large-scale construction activities in the ecologically sensitive Western Ghats. Environmental experts have repeatedly warned that the fragile terrain of the region requires strict monitoring and careful planning, especially during heavy monsoon conditions.

As rescue operations continue, authorities are focusing on finding missing workers and assessing the damage. The incident has highlighted the need for stronger safety practices, better coordination between agencies, and strict compliance with environmental and construction guidelines in landslide-prone areas.

The tragedy has also renewed

Delhi HC Restores Cockroach Janta Party's X Account

The Delhi High Court has allowed the restoration of the X account of the satirical political platform Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) after the Centre informed the court that it had no objection to unblocking the handle. The decision came after CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke challenged the blocking order.

The account was blocked earlier following concerns raised over certain posts linked to the platform during the NEET examination period. Authorities had argued that some content could create confusion among students and parents appearing for the exam. However, during the court proceedings, it was stated that the examination period had ended and the earlier concerns were no longer applicable.



After hearing arguments from both sides, the Delhi High Court directed that the social media account be restored. The court observed that the circumstances surrounding the restriction had changed and allowed the platform to regain access to its handle.

The Cockroach Janta Party is known for its satirical take on political and social issues and has gained attention through its online content. Founded by Abhijeet Dipke,

were made without permission and later circulated widely on social media platforms.

Meta, which operates platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, stated that online intermediaries cannot continuously monitor all content uploaded by users. Google also argued that screening every video uploaded on platforms like YouTube to identify possible violations is not technically feasible.

The companies maintained that they act as intermediaries and can take action when specific illegal or objectionable content is brought to their notice. They argued

the death penalty still have further legal options available under the judicial system.

The verdict has brought renewed focus on the country's fight against terrorism and the challenges involved in prosecuting large-scale terror cases. For families of the victims, the judgment marks an important step in their long wait for justice.

The Ahmedabad serial blasts case remains a major chapter in India's counter-terror history, highlighting the importance of security preparedness, investigation capabilities and the judicial process in dealing with serious national security threats.



Flash Floods Hit J&K's Thathri, Roads Blocked

Flash floods triggered by heavy rainfall caused widespread damage in Thathri area of Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district, affecting normal life and damaging several houses and buildings. The sudden rise in water levels led to debris flow, road blockages and disruption of transportation in the region.

The heavy rains resulted in flash floods and landslides, with mud, stones and debris spilling onto roads and nearby settlements. Several structures suffered damage, while authorities began assessing the extent of losses caused by the extreme weather event.

A key highway passing through the region was blocked due to debris accumulation, leaving commuters stranded and disrupting connectivity. Emergency teams and local authorities were deployed to clear the roads and restore movement as quickly as possible.

Residents in affected areas were advised to remain cautious as weather conditions continued to remain unstable. Authorities monitored vulnerable locations and took precautionary measures to prevent further

damage. The hilly regions of Jammu and Kashmir are particularly vulnerable to flash floods and landslides due to steep terrain, heavy rainfall and changing weather patterns. Such incidents frequently impact roads, bridges and residential areas, causing major challenges for rescue and relief operations.

Officials have urged people living in flood-prone and landslide-prone areas to follow safety guidelines and avoid unnecessary travel during severe weather conditions. Relief teams are also working to assist families affected by the floods. The incident comes amid increasing concerns over extreme weather events in the Himalayan region. Environmental experts have pointed out that intense rainfall over short periods can trigger sudden floods and landslides, posing risks to lives and infrastructure.

Authorities are continuing rescue and restoration efforts in Thathri while keeping a close watch on weather forecasts. The priority remains clearing blocked roads, assessing damage and ensuring the safety of residents in affected areas.



MP First State to Reconstitute Waqf Board Under New Law

Madhya Pradesh has become the first state in the country to reconstitute its Waqf Board under the provisions of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, by including two Hindu members in the panel. The decision by the Mohan Yadav-led government has triggered a political debate, with opposition parties questioning the move.

The newly formed 10-member Madhya Pradesh Waqf Board is headed by Sanwar Patel. Along with Muslim representatives, the board now includes Hindu members Manoj Malpani and Animesh Bhargava. The state government said the inclusion was aimed at implementing the amended law and ensuring greater transparency and accountability in the management of Waqf properties.

The move marks a significant change in the structure of Waqf Boards, which have traditionally been dominated by Muslim representatives. The Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 introduced provisions allowing non-Muslim members to be part of state Waqf Boards. Supporters of the amendment argue that broader representation will improve oversight and help in bet-

ter administration of Waqf assets.

However, the decision has faced criticism from opposition leaders. Congress leaders questioned the inclusion of Hindu members and argued that the matter is already under legal scrutiny. They accused the BJP government of using the issue for political gains and creating unnecessary controversy.

The BJP defended the decision, stating that Waqf Boards primarily deal with property management, welfare activities, and charitable institutions. Party leaders said the presence of members from different communities would help bring more transparency and efficient functioning.

The development has once again brought the Waqf Amendment Act into the spotlight, with supporters describing it as a reform measure while critics continue to raise concerns over government involvement in religious institutions.

The issue is likely to remain a major political and legal debate, as different parties continue to present contrasting views on the changes introduced in the Waqf administration system.



ings, digital platform accountability, and the balance between online freedom and legal restrictions.

The case has sparked a broader debate on the role of technology companies in regulating user-generated content. While authorities stress the need to prevent misuse of digital platforms, companies argue that excessive monitoring could affect free expression and place unrealistic responsibilities on intermediaries.



Damascus Explosions During Macron’s Syria Visit Spark Security Concerns

French President Emmanuel Macron’s visit to Syria was overshadowed by explosions near the Four Seasons Hotel in Damascus, where he had stayed during his trip. The blasts triggered fresh concerns over security conditions in Syria at a time when the country is undergoing a major political transition.

The explosions occurred in central Damascus while Macron was away from the hotel for official meetings with Syrian leadership. Officials said the French president was safe and his scheduled engagements continued without disruption.

The blasts reportedly caused injuries, with security personnel and civilians among those affected. Emergency teams rushed to the area as authorities launched an investigation to determine the cause of the explosions and identify those responsible.

The incident took place during Macron’s significant diplomatic visit to Syria, which was aimed at discussing the country’s future, reconstruction efforts and international cooperation. The visit was closely watched as France seeks to engage with Syria’s new political leadership and play a role in regional diplomacy.

During his meetings, Macron stressed the importance of stability, security and the rebuilding of Syria. Discussions fo-

cused on strengthening diplomatic relations, supporting economic recovery and encouraging a peaceful political transition.

The explosions highlighted the continuing security challenges facing Syria after years of conflict and instability. Although the country has entered a new phase of international engagement, threats from extremist groups, internal tensions and security concerns remain major obstacles.

Damascus has been working to restore normalcy and rebuild its institutions after years of war. However, incidents like these demonstrate the fragile security environment and the challenges involved in attracting foreign investment and international partnerships. Macron’s visit was considered an important step in France’s efforts to establish stronger ties with Syria and participate in discussions about reconstruction and regional stability. Despite the security scare, the diplomatic meetings continued as planned.

The blasts near the hotel have once again drawn attention to Syria’s ongoing security situation. While the incident did not affect Macron’s visit, it serves as a reminder of the complex challenges facing the country as it moves toward a new political and diplomatic future.



China Storms Kill 8, Typhoon Bavi Triggers Fresh Alert

China is facing a severe weather situation as powerful storms have killed at least eight people, while authorities remain on high alert with Typhoon Bavi approaching the region. The extreme weather has triggered warnings of heavy rainfall, strong winds, flooding and possible damage in several parts of the country.

The deadly storms hit Hubei province, where violent winds and thunderstorms caused widespread destruction. Several cities experienced severe weather conditions, with strong gusts damaging buildings, overturning vehicles and disrupting normal life. Rescue teams were deployed to affected areas to assist people and assess the damage.

Authorities have warned that more extreme weather could impact different regions in the coming days. Heavy rainfall is expected in several provinces, increasing the risk of floods, landslides and damage to agricultural areas.

The approaching Typhoon Bavi has added to concerns. Weather agencies are closely monitoring the storm system as it moves through the region, with forecasts indicating the possibility of strong winds, heavy rain and coastal disturbances.

The latest storms come during a period of increasing extreme weather events across

China. Several regions have already witnessed flooding, storm damage and disruptions to transport networks and daily activities.

Emergency teams have been placed on standby in vulnerable areas to carry out rescue operations and provide support to affected communities. Local authorities are strengthening disaster management measures, including monitoring rivers, inspecting infrastructure and issuing safety warnings.

Weather experts say changing climate patterns are contributing to more frequent and intense extreme weather events around the world. Stronger storms, unpredictable rainfall patterns and rising risks of flooding have become major challenges for governments and disaster response agencies.

The arrival of Typhoon Bavi has increased pressure on Chinese authorities, who are already dealing with the impact of recent storms. Residents in high-risk areas have been advised to remain cautious and follow official safety instructions.

With more rainfall and strong winds expected in several regions, China continues to remain on alert. Authorities are closely tracking the movement of Typhoon Bavi and preparing emergency measures to reduce the impact on people and infrastructure.

India-Indonesia Defence Ties Set for Missile Boost

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Indonesia visit is expected to give a major boost to India’s defence cooperation with Jakarta, with discussions focusing on key military deals. India is looking to expand exports of its indigenous defence systems, including Astra air-to-air missiles and additional BrahMos missile batteries, as part of its efforts to strengthen strategic ties in the Indo-Pacific region.



The proposed defence agreements come at a time when both India and Indonesia are working to enhance maritime security and deepen military cooperation. Indonesia is considering the acquisition of India’s Astra missile system, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The missile is designed for beyond-visual-range air combat and can be integrated with advanced fighter aircraft.

Another major focus area is the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile system. Indonesia has shown interest in expanding its BrahMos capabilities with additional missile batteries, which would enhance its defence preparedness. The deal is also significant for India’s growing ambitions in the global defence export market.

The BrahMos missile, jointly developed by India and Russia, is known for its high speed, precision strike capability and

versatility across different platforms. Indonesia’s interest in the system reflects the increasing demand for advanced defence technologies among countries looking to strengthen their security capabilities.

The potential missile deals are expected to further strengthen India’s position as a reliable defence partner in Southeast Asia. New Delhi has been actively promoting indigenous defence manufacturing and exports under its self-reliance initiative, with platforms such as BrahMos emerging as major success stories.

Apart from defence cooperation, India and Indonesia are also looking to expand collaboration in areas such as critical minerals, digital technology, maritime security and infrastructure development. Both nations share common interests in maintaining stability and secure trade routes in the Indo-Pacific region.

Indonesia’s strategic location, especially its proximity to important maritime routes, makes it a key partner for India’s regional security objectives. Stronger defence ties between the two countries could play an important role in enhancing cooperation and ensuring regional balance.

India has been steadily increasing its defence exports in recent years, and major international deals involving systems like BrahMos and Astra could open new opportunities in Southeast Asia and other friendly nations.

Modi’s Indonesia visit is therefore being viewed as an important milestone in bilateral relations, with defence cooperation emerging as one of the central pillars. The proposed missile agreements could strengthen India’s global defence footprint while deepening its strategic partnership with Indonesia.

Indus Waters Row: Pakistan Warns India Amid Rising Tensions

Tensions between India and Pakistan have once again escalated over the Indus Waters Treaty, with Pakistan issuing strong statements against any move that could impact its share of river waters. The dispute has gained renewed attention amid continuing diplomatic differences between the two neighbouring countries.

Pakistan’s political leadership has warned that protecting its water interests remains a top priority. Leaders in Islamabad have accused India of attempting to use water as a strategic tool and said any action affecting Pakistan’s access to river waters would have serious consequences.

The controversy is linked to the Indus Waters Treaty, a water-sharing agreement signed in 1960 with the involvement of the World Bank. Under the agreement, the eastern rivers — Ravi, Beas and Sutlej — were allocated mainly to India, while the western rivers — Indus, Jhelum and Chenab — were largely assigned to Pakistan.

India has maintained that its position on the treaty is linked to broader security concerns, particularly issues related to cross-border terrorism. Pakistan, however, has strongly opposed any move that could affect the existing water-sharing arrangement and has called for the protection of its water rights.



The issue is particularly sensitive for Pakistan because its agriculture sector depends heavily on the Indus river system. Millions of acres of farmland rely on irrigation from these rivers, making water availability a crucial economic and national security concern for the country.

Pakistan’s military and political leaders have reiterated that they will defend what they describe as their legitimate share of water resources. Strong statements from Islamabad have increased tensions, turning the water dispute into a larger diplomatic and strategic issue.

India, meanwhile, has continued to maintain that its decisions are based on national security considerations and that discussions on the treaty cannot be separated from concerns over terrorism and regional stability.

The latest developments have emerged during the mon-

soon season, a period when river flows, water management and flood control become especially important for both nations. Any disagreement over water resources during this period has the potential to increase public and political tensions. Experts believe water security will become an increasingly important challenge in South Asia due to climate change, rising populations and growing agricultural demand.

The Indus Waters Treaty, which has remained in place despite multiple conflicts between India and Pakistan, is now facing one of its biggest challenges.

The ongoing dispute highlights how water resources have moved beyond environmental and economic concerns to become a major factor influencing regional diplomacy and national security. The issue is expected to remain a key point of discussion in India-Pakistan relations in the coming months.

Bangladesh NCP Rally Hit by Blast, Three Injured in Savar

A blast at a political rally organised by the National Citizen Party (NCP) in Bangladesh’s Savar area near Dhaka left at least three people injured, triggering panic among supporters and raising fresh concerns over political tensions in the country.

The explosion occurred during an NCP programme at the Eidgah Ground near Savar Thana Stand. Party leaders said the blast took place while senior members were present at the venue. The injured were immediately shifted to nearby hospitals for medical treatment.

The rally was part of the NCP’s political campaign linked to the anniversary of the student-led protest movement that played a major role in the political changes that led to the removal of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina’s government. The newly formed party has been organising programmes across Bangla-

desh to strengthen its political presence.

NCP leaders strongly condemned the incident and alleged that the rally was targeted. They demanded a detailed investigation and strict action against those responsible for the explosion. Authorities have begun examining the circumstances surrounding the blast and are collecting information as part of the investigation.

The incident comes at a time when Bangladesh is experiencing political uncertainty following major changes in its political landscape. The emergence of new political groups, disagreements among parties and debates over the country’s future direction have increased tensions.

The National Citizen Party emerged from the student movement that challenged Sheikh Hasina’s administration and has attempted to establish itself as a new political

force in Bangladesh. The party has been highlighting issues related to governance, reforms and political change while seeking wider public support.

Security arrangements around political gatherings have become a major concern in Bangladesh, with authorities facing challenges in maintaining law and order during rallies, protests and public events.

The blast at the Savar rally has once again drawn attention to the fragile political environment in Bangladesh. As investigations continue, the incident is expected to intensify discussions over security, political violence and stability in the country.

The coming days will be closely watched as authorities work to identify the cause of the explosion and determine whether it was an isolated incident or part of a larger security threat.



Qom Turns Black and Red as Iran Mourns Khamenei’s Death

Iran’s holy city of Qom witnessed massive gatherings as thousands of people took to the streets following the death of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The city was filled with mourners dressed in black, carrying Iranian flags and red banners as funeral ceremonies were held to pay tribute to the country’s long-time leader.

Visuals from Qom showed huge crowds gathered around the Jamkaran Mosque, one of Iran’s most important religious sites. People participated in prayers, mourning rituals and remembrance ceremonies, turning the area into a sea of black and red.

The funeral events have become a major national moment in Iran, with large gatherings reported across several cities. Supporters of Khamenei gathered to express grief and pay their respects, while Iranian authorities highlighted the turnout as a symbol of public support and national unity.

The presence of red flags during the mourning ceremonies drew global attention. In Shia tradition, red is often associated with sacrifice, remembrance and resistance. Many mourners carried these symbols while expressing their emotions following the death of the Supreme Leader.

The mourning period comes at a crucial time for Iran, which faces political uncertainty and regional challenges. The death

of the Supreme Leader marks a significant moment in the country’s political system, with attention now turning toward the process of leadership transition and the future direction of the nation.

Across Tehran and other major cities, thousands participated in funeral processions, carrying flags and raising slogans. While supporters described the gatherings as a display of loyalty and unity, analysts believe the event also reflects the complex political and social environment within Iran.

Qom holds special importance in Iran’s religious and political landscape. Known as a major centre of Shia scholarship, the city has played a key role in shaping Iran’s religious movements and political developments for decades.

The massive gatherings in Qom highlight the deep connection between religion, culture and politics in Iranian society. As the country moves through the mourning period, the focus is expected to shift toward the leadership transition, domestic stability and Iran’s future approach to regional and international issues.

The scenes from Qom represent one of the most significant public mourning events in recent Iranian history, reflecting the emotional and political importance of Ayatollah Khamenei’s passing for his supporters and the nation as a whole.



Zelenskyy Seeks NATO Air Defence Support Amid Russia Intensifies Attacks

Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is seeking urgent support from NATO allies as Russia continues to intensify missile and drone attacks across Ukraine. Kyiv has called for additional air defence systems to protect civilians, military facilities and critical infrastructure from repeated strikes.

The demand comes after a series of heavy Russian attacks on Ukrainian cities, including the capital Kyiv, causing casualties and damage to several locations. Ukrainian officials say the recent strikes have highlighted gaps in their air defence capabilities, especially in countering advanced ballistic missiles.

Zelenskyy is expected to push for stronger military assistance from NATO partners, with air defence systems remaining one of Ukraine’s top priorities. Kyiv believes advanced missile defence platforms are essential to reduce the impact of Russian attacks and safeguard major urban centres.

Ukraine has been able to intercept several drones and cruise missiles during previous attacks, but officials say ballistic missiles remain a major challenge due to their speed and advanced technology. The shortage of interceptor missiles has become a growing concern for Ukrainian forces.

The Ukrainian leadership has repeatedly urged Western allies to speed up military as-

sistance, arguing that stronger air defences can help prevent civilian casualties and protect key infrastructure. Zelenskyy has stressed that timely support from partners could play a crucial role in strengthening Ukraine’s ability to withstand Russian offensives.

Meanwhile, Russia has continued its military operations, using missiles and drones to target various locations across Ukraine. The intensified attacks have increased pressure on Kyiv and its allies to strengthen Ukraine’s defensive capabilities. Apart from seeking defensive weapons, Ukraine has also highlighted the importance of expanding its own long-range strike capabilities. Kyiv believes a combination of stronger air defence systems and advanced military technology is necessary to counter Russia’s battlefield advantage.

The issue of air defence support has become a major focus in discussions between Ukraine and NATO members. The alliance’s response could influence Ukraine’s ability to defend its cities and maintain resistance against ongoing Russian military pressure.

As the war continues, Ukraine’s demand for additional air defence systems remains one of the key issues shaping its diplomatic efforts with Western nations. The outcome of these discussions is expected to have a significant impact on the future course of the conflict.



NSE IPO Likely to Open in September

The long-awaited National Stock Exchange (NSE) initial public offering (IPO) is expected to move a step closer, with market sources indicating that the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is likely to grant its final approval by next month. If the regulatory clearance comes as expected, the IPO could hit the primary market in September.

The proposed public issue is expected to be one of the largest IPOs in India's capital market history, with an estimated size of around 30,000 crore. The offering will primarily be an Offer for Sale (OFS), allowing existing shareholders to partially exit their investments. No fresh shares are expected to be issued by the exchange.

The listing of NSE has been awaited for several years after the IPO process faced multiple regulatory hurdles. However, most of the major issues have now been addressed, paving the way for the exchange to move closer to its public market debut.

Sources said SEBI's internal review process is in its final stages, and the regulator is expected to issue its approval soon. Once the approval is received, NSE will complete the remaining procedural formalities before announcing the is-

sue dates.

The IPO is expected to provide long-awaited liquidity to thousands of existing shareholders, including financial institutions, insurance companies and other early investors. It is also likely to improve price discovery for NSE's unlisted shares, which have seen strong investor interest in the private market.

India's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI), is expected to be among the biggest shareholders participating in the Offer for Sale. Other institutional investors may also pare a portion of their holdings through the public issue.

Market experts believe the NSE listing could become one of the biggest events in the Indian equity market this year. Strong investor participation is expected given the exchange's dominant position in the country's equity and derivatives markets, robust financial performance and consistent profitability.

The proposed IPO is also expected to deepen India's capital markets by bringing one of the country's most valuable financial institutions to the stock exchanges. Investors are now closely watching SEBI's final decision, which could pave the way for the much-awaited listing in September.



Trent Shares Crash 13% After Weak Q1 Update

Shares of Tata Group retail company Trent Ltd witnessed a sharp decline of nearly 13%, marking their biggest single-day fall in more than a year after the company's first-quarter business update disappointed investors. The weak performance raised concerns over slowing growth momentum despite the company's continued expansion across its retail brands.

Trent became one of the biggest losers in the benchmark index as investors reacted negatively to lower-than-expected revenue growth during the June quarter. The sharp selling pressure erased a significant portion of the stock's recent gains.

The company reported standalone revenue of 5,666 crore for the quarter, registering around 19% year-on-year growth. However, the performance fell short of market expectations, with analysts expecting a stronger pace of growth. The gap between expectations and actual numbers triggered heavy selling in the stock.

Trent continued expanding its retail presence through brands such as Zudio and Westside, adding more stores across markets. However, analysts raised concerns that rapid expansion could impact store productivity in the short term. The decline in revenue generation per square foot indicated pressure on sales efficiency as the company increased its retail footprint.

Market experts believe the correction in Trent shares re-

flects concerns over high valuations and short-term growth challenges rather than a major weakness in the company's long-term business outlook. The company's strong brand portfolio, especially the fast-growing Zudio chain, remains a key strength.

Analysts are now focusing on factors such as same-store sales growth, consumer demand trends, profitability and the pace of store expansion. While Trent's retail strategy continues to attract investor interest, expectations have increased significantly due to the stock's strong performance in recent years.

Brokerages have turned cautious following the weak quarterly update. Some analysts believe existing investors can continue holding the stock, while others suggest waiting for more clarity on growth recovery before making fresh investments.

The company's upcoming quarterly results will be closely watched for signs of improvement in sales momentum and operational efficiency. Investors will also track the performance of Zudio and Westside stores, along with the impact of expansion plans on margins.

Despite the near-term pressure, Trent's long-term growth story remains supported by its strong retail brands, increasing customer base and aggressive expansion strategy. However, the company will need to deliver stronger growth numbers to regain investor confidence and justify its premium valuation.

Sensex, Nifty Snap Four-Day Winning Streak

Indian benchmark equity indices ended marginally lower on Tuesday, snapping their four-session winning streak as investors booked profits in the second half of the trading session. Despite a positive start backed by supportive global cues, the market failed to hold on to early gains due to broad-based selling across key sectors.

The BSE Sensex declined 104.35 points, or 0.13%, to settle at 78,180.72, while the NSE Nifty 50 slipped 31.65 points, or 0.13%, to close at 24,398.70. Both indices traded in positive territory for most of the day before late selling dragged them into the red.

Among sectoral indices, Nifty IT emerged as the top performer, rising over 2% on optimism ahead of the corporate earnings season and strong buying in technology stocks. However, sectors such as Metal, Energy, Pharma and Media witnessed selling pressure, with metal stocks leading the decline.

Stock-specific action remained mixed throughout the session. HCL Technologies was among the major gainers after attracting strong investor interest, while Trent tumbled more



than 12% following weaker-than-expected quarterly business updates, making it the biggest loser of the day.

The broader market also witnessed profit booking after a strong rally over the past four sessions. Analysts believe investors preferred to lock in gains ahead of the upcoming earnings season, even though the overall market sentiment continues to remain positive.

From a technical perspective, market experts noted that the Nifty was unable to sustain above the crucial 24,500 level, which triggered selling in the latter half of the session. Immediate resistance is seen around the 24,530-24,550 range, while 24,300 is expected to provide strong support. A decisive move

above resistance could revive bullish momentum, whereas a break below support may lead to further short-term weakness. Meanwhile, the Indian rupee appreciated by 43 paise against the US dollar to close at 94.97, lending some support to investor confidence. Foreign institutional investor activity, quarterly corporate earnings, monsoon progress and global market trends are expected to remain the key drivers of market direction in the coming days. Despite Tuesday's decline, analysts maintain that the broader trend remains constructive, with stock-specific opportunities likely to emerge as companies begin announcing their quarterly financial results.

Nomura Bets on LG Electronics, Dixon, Nykaa and CarTrade

Global brokerage firm Nomura has identified LG Electronics India, Dixon Technologies, Nykaa and CarTrade as its top stock picks ahead of the June quarter earnings season. While the brokerage expects healthy revenue growth across the consumer durables sector, it has cautioned that higher input costs and increased promotional spending could continue to weigh on profit margins.

Nomura expects consumer durable companies to report strong revenue growth in the first quarter of FY27, driven by an extended summer season, price hikes and a favourable base effect. Demand for air conditioners and other cooling products remained robust due to delayed monsoon conditions, boosting overall sales during the quarter.

The brokerage expects the air-conditioner industry to post strong double-digit retail sales growth. Companies have also benefited from cumulative price increases implemented between March and June, which are expected to support revenue growth. However, rising raw material costs and aggressive marketing campaigns may restrict



margin expansion despite higher sales.

Among consumer durable companies, LG Electronics India remains Nomura's preferred pick. The brokerage believes the company is well positioned to benefit from strong consumer demand, effective pricing strategies and solid operational execution.

In the electronics manufacturing services (EMS) segment, Dixon Technologies is expected to deliver sequential improvement in mobile phone production. Nomura believes export-linked incentives and regulatory approvals related to the company's joint venture with Vivo could become key growth drivers in the second half of FY27.

The brokerage is also optimistic about Nykaa, expecting another strong quarter supported by consistent growth in its

Beauty & Personal Care business and accelerating momentum in its fashion division. Continued expansion of its retail network and digital presence is expected to support long-term growth.

For the digital classifieds space, CarTrade is expected to maintain healthy growth. Nomura believes the company's initiatives under the OLX platform could further strengthen its business performance in the coming quarters.

Overall, the brokerage expects companies under its consumer durables coverage to report around 21% revenue growth and 25% EBITDA growth during the June quarter. Despite healthy top-line performance, profitability may remain under pressure because of elevated input costs and higher promotional expenses.

Nomura believes LG Electronics India, Dixon Technologies and Nykaa are well positioned to outperform market expectations this quarter. However, it has maintained a 'Neutral' view on Voltas and Keynes Technology, citing slower growth prospects in certain business segments.

Nomura Favors HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, Kotak as Loan Growth Stays Strong

Global brokerage firm Nomura has maintained a positive outlook on Indian private sector banks, naming HDFC Bank, Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank among its top picks as loan growth remained resilient during the June quarter of FY27. The brokerage believes credit demand continues to remain healthy, although performance differences among banks are becoming more visible.

Nomura's assessment of the latest business updates from banks indicates that most lenders witnessed steady loan growth during the quarter. The brokerage expects the sector to benefit from improving economic activity, stable credit demand and stronger balance sheets.

HDFC Bank emerged as one of the strongest performers, reporting healthy growth in its loan book during the quarter. The bank also witnessed improvement in deposits, reflecting steady expansion of its balance sheet and strong customer base. Nomura believes HDFC Bank remains well positioned due to its scale, operational strength and improving growth momentum.

Axis Bank also delivered strong performance, with significant year-on-year growth in advances. The bank's deposit growth remained stable, supporting its lending expansion. Analysts believe Axis Bank's



improving asset quality and consistent business performance could support its long-term growth outlook.

For Kotak Mahindra Bank, loan growth remained steady, though slightly lower compared with some private sector peers. The brokerage continues to track the bank's deposit trends, lending momentum and ability to improve profitability in a competitive banking environment.

Among mid-sized lenders, some banks showed strong credit growth momentum, while others continued their recovery journey after facing challenges in previous quarters. Nomura highlighted that differences in growth rates and business strategies are becoming key factors influencing investor preference within the banking sector.

The brokerage has retained a positive view on several private banks, including HDFC Bank,

Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IndusInd Bank and IDFC First Bank. Analysts believe these lenders have the potential to benefit from improving loan demand, stable asset quality and better operational efficiency. However, investors will continue to monitor key factors such as net interest margins, funding costs, deposit mobilisation and profitability trends. While loan growth remains encouraging, maintaining healthy margins will be crucial for banks in the coming quarters.

With the quarterly earnings season approaching, banking stocks are expected to remain in focus as markets evaluate whether strong business updates translate into improved financial results. Analysts believe private banks with strong balance sheets and sustainable growth strategies are likely to attract investor interest in the medium term.



Nomura Reaffirms 'Buy' on Nykaa, Sees Strong Q1 Growth

Brokerage firm Nomura has reiterated its 'Buy' rating on Nykaa, expressing confidence that the beauty and fashion retailer is likely to post strong revenue growth in the first quarter of FY27. The brokerage has maintained its target price of 317, citing healthy demand across both the beauty and fashion segments.

According to Nomura, Nykaa's Beauty & Personal Care (BPC) business is expected to continue its strong momentum during the June quarter. The brokerage estimates the segment's net sales value (NSV) to grow by around 29%, while revenue is likely to increase by nearly 27% year-on-year. Strong consumer demand, an expanding product portfolio and the company's omnichannel strategy are expected to support this growth.

Nykaa also expanded its offline presence by opening 11 new stores during the quarter, taking its total retail network to 324 stores across the country. Existing stores have also continued to deliver healthy double-digit growth, reflecting sustained customer demand.

The company's fashion business is expected to be the biggest growth driver. Nomura estimates fashion NSV growth of nearly 55%, with revenue likely to increase by around 50% compared to the same period last year. The sharp improvement is attributed to a

wider brand portfolio, higher marketing investments, better execution and the positive response to Nykaa's partnership with global sportswear brand Nike.

Overall, Nomura expects Nykaa's consolidated revenue to grow by nearly 30% year-on-year in the June quarter, exceeding its earlier projections. The brokerage also believes the company's operating performance will improve, with EBITDA margins expected to expand to around 8.5% due to better cost efficiencies and higher operating leverage.

Analysts believe Nykaa is entering a phase of sustained profitable growth, supported by rising consumer spending, expanding retail operations and improved execution across business segments. The company's focus on premium brands, digital commerce and offline expansion continues to strengthen its market position.

Nomura also expects limited impact from inflation on consumer demand and believes Nykaa is well placed to maintain its growth momentum over the coming quarters. With improving profitability, strong revenue visibility and continued business expansion, the brokerage remains optimistic about the company's long-term growth prospects and expects further upgrades to earnings estimates in the future.



AI Stocks Tumble as Global Tech Sell-Off Hits Indian Markets

Artificial intelligence-related stocks in India witnessed sharp declines on Tuesday as a global technology sell-off triggered concerns over high valuations and the sustainability of the AI-driven market rally. Shares of companies linked to the AI and data centre ecosystem, including Netweb Technologies, Aero-flex Industries, E2E Networks and Black Box, declined up to 10% during the session.

The fall came as investors across global markets reduced exposure to technology stocks amid concerns that several AI-focused companies have seen their valuations rise faster than their earnings growth. Weak sentiment in global technology markets also impacted Indian companies connected to artificial intelligence, cloud computing and data centre infrastructure.

AI-focused stocks had attracted significant investor interest over the past year due to expectations of strong growth in artificial intelligence adoption. However, the recent selling pressure indicates that investors are becoming more cautious and are closely evaluating whether these companies can convert AI opportunities into sustainable revenue and profitability.

Netweb Technologies, which operates in the high-performance computing and AI infrastructure space, witnessed heavy selling pressure along with other companies linked to the AI ecosystem. The decline reflected broader con-

cerns around expensive valuations and the need for stronger earnings visibility.

Globally, technology and semiconductor companies also faced pressure as investors reassessed the pace of AI-driven growth. Concerns over rising investments, increasing competition and high capital expenditure requirements have led market participants to adopt a more cautious approach toward the sector.

Analysts believe that while the long-term outlook for artificial intelligence remains positive, companies will need to demonstrate consistent financial performance to justify premium valuations. The growing demand for data centres, advanced computing solutions and cloud infrastructure continues to support the sector, but short-term volatility is expected to remain.

The recent correction has highlighted the importance of earnings growth, business fundamentals and realistic valuations in AI-related companies. Investors are now closely watching upcoming quarterly results and global technology trends to understand whether the AI sector can regain momentum or enter a phase of consolidation.

Despite the near-term pressure, experts believe artificial intelligence will remain a major growth theme over the coming years, driven by increasing adoption across industries and rising demand for advanced digital infrastructure.

PS6 at Rs 1.3 Lakh Is It Reality or Just Rumour?

Rumours surrounding Sony's next-generation gaming console, the PlayStation 6 (PS6), have sparked widespread discussion online, with several reports claiming the console could carry a price tag of around \$1,500, or nearly Rs 1.3 lakh in India. The speculation has left gaming enthusiasts both excited and concerned about the potential cost of Sony's upcoming flagship console.

However, it is important to note that Sony has not officially announced either the PlayStation 6 or its pricing. The figures currently circulating are based on industry speculation and analyst predictions rather than any confirmation from the company.

The reports suggesting a higher price stem largely from expectations that the PS6 will feature cutting-edge technology. Industry experts believe the console could include a significantly more powerful processor, next-generation graphics hardware, advanced ray trac-



ing capabilities, AI-powered gaming features, faster SSD storage, and improved performance designed to support increasingly demanding game titles. These upgrades are expected to drive manufacturing costs higher than previous PlayStation models. Another factor behind the speculation is the rising cost of electronic components worldwide. Inflation, higher semiconductor prices, increasing production expenses, and global supply chain challenges have all con-

tributed to more expensive consumer electronics in recent years. Analysts believe these economic factors could influence the final retail price of Sony's next gaming console.

Despite the speculation, many gaming analysts remain sceptical that Sony would launch the PS6 at such a premium price. Historically, PlayStation consoles have been priced to appeal to a broad consumer base, helping Sony maintain its dominance in the gaming market. A price of

\$1,500 could significantly reduce its mass-market appeal and make it difficult to compete with rival gaming platforms.

Some experts believe the reported figure may instead refer to a special edition or a premium bundle that includes additional accessories, rather than the standard PlayStation 6 console. Others suggest that the rumours may simply be exaggerated estimates based on expected hardware improvements. For now, the Rs 1.3 lakh price tag remains pure speculation. Sony has yet to reveal official details about the PlayStation 6, including its specifications, launch timeline, or pricing. Until the company makes a formal announcement, gamers are advised to treat these reports with caution.

The excitement surrounding the PlayStation 6 continues to grow, but whether it will truly become Sony's most expensive console ever remains to be seen.

A Smartphone, A Dream and a Wimbledon Moment

Indian content creator Vijay Kumar, popularly known as @vijay3guy on Instagram, has captured hearts after attending the prestigious Wimbledon Championships, marking a remarkable milestone in a journey that began in a small village in Uttar Pradesh's Sonbhadra district. His visit to one of the world's most iconic sporting events has become a symbol of how passion, consistency, and authentic storytelling can transform lives.

Vijay recently shared pictures and videos from Wimbledon on social media, thanking his followers for supporting him throughout his journey. His posts quickly went viral, with thousands of fans celebrating his achievement and praising his rise from humble beginnings to international recognition.

Unlike many creators who chase viral trends, Vijay built his online presence by creating relatable, family-friendly comedy videos inspired by everyday Indian life. His content revolves around village culture, middle-class families, school memories, friendships, festivals, cricket, and the amusing moments of daily life. This simple yet authentic approach



helped him connect with millions of viewers across the country.

Today, Vijay enjoys a loyal community of nearly 3.9 million Instagram followers, making him one of India's most popular digital creators. His videos are known for their clean humour and realistic storytelling, proving that originality and authenticity continue to resonate strongly with audiences. Social media users were quick to applaud his achievement. Many described his Wimbledon visit as an example of how talent and perseverance can open doors to opportunities once considered impossible. Several users pointed out that Vijay started with nothing more than a smartphone and a dream, yet his dedication eventually earned him a place at one

of the world's biggest sporting events. His appearance at Wimbledon also reflects the growing influence of Indian digital creators on the global stage. International sporting events are increasingly collaborating with content creators to engage younger audiences, and Vijay's invitation highlights the expanding reach and impact of India's creator economy.

Vijay Kumar's journey serves as an inspiring reminder that success in the digital age is not determined by where someone begins, but by creativity, persistence, and the ability to connect with people. From producing comedy videos in a small village to walking the historic grounds of Wimbledon, his story continues to motivate aspiring creators across the country.

Mumbai Landlady Rejects Tenant Over Numerology Number

A bizarre rental experience in Mumbai has gone viral after an influencer claimed that her friend was denied a flat because of her numerology number. The incident has sparked widespread debate on social media, with many questioning the unusual criteria some landlords use while selecting tenants.

The story was shared by artist and influencer Vagmita Singh, who said she accompanied a friend to inspect a rental apartment in Mumbai. According to Singh, the meeting started normally until the landlady asked her friend, "What's your number?" Assuming she was being asked for her phone number, the prospective tenant shared her contact details.

However, the landlady clarified that she was asking for her numerology number, which is calculated using a person's date of birth. After working out the number, the landlady reportedly said the friend's numerology number was 7, while the house was associated with the number 4. She then claimed the two numbers were incompatible and refused to rent out the apartment.

Recalling the incident, Vagmita expressed disbelief and later shared the experience through a video on Instagram. The clip quickly went viral, at-



tracting thousands of views and comments from users who shared their own unusual experiences while searching for rental homes.

Many people found the incident amusing, while others pointed out that Mumbai's rental market is often known for strict and unconventional conditions. Prospective tenants have previously reported being rejected based on factors such as dietary preferences, marital status, profession, religion, or whether they own

pets. The alleged use of numerology as a deciding factor has added another unusual example to the city's competitive housing market.

Some social media users who believe in numerology argued that the landlady may have misunderstood the compatibility of the numbers, claiming that 4 and 7 can actually be considered a favourable combination. Others dismissed the entire concept as superstition, saying rental decisions should be based on

practical factors rather than personal beliefs. The incident has once again highlighted the challenges many people face while searching for rental accommodation in major cities. Although the influencer's account has gained significant attention online, it remains an unverified personal experience. Nevertheless, the story has reignited conversations about arbitrary screening practices and the need for a more transparent and fair rental process.

'Made in India' Medicines Leave US Visitor Surprised

A social media post by an Indian senior citizen has gone viral after he shared his expensive medical experience in the United States, highlighting the sharp contrast between healthcare costs in the US and India.

The man, who was staying in Seattle, Washington, with his wife for two months, explained that they had carried medicines from India for his wife's respiratory illness. However, after their supply ran out, they had to consult a local doctor to obtain a fresh prescription.

What followed came as a major shock. According to his post, the doctor's consultation alone cost around Rs 23,000, while the prescribed medicines added another Rs 42,000, taking the total medical expense to more than Rs 65,000.

The experience became even more surprising when the medicines were not immediately available at the pharmacy. The couple reportedly had to wait



four to five days for the medicines to arrive. When they finally received them, they noticed that the medicines had been manufactured by Indian pharmaceutical company Cipla and carried the label "Made in India."

Reflecting on the experience, the senior citizen said the incident made him appreciate India's healthcare system even more. He pointed out that medi-

cines in India are generally available quickly, doctor consultations are significantly more affordable, and diagnostic services are easily accessible.

Beyond healthcare, he also praised India's digital infrastructure and everyday conveniences. He highlighted features such as affordable mobile data, UPI-based digital payments, doorstep delivery of groceries,

easy access to specialist doctors, home-based diagnostic tests, and the strong sense of community among neighbours. His post struck a chord with thousands of social media users, many of whom agreed that India offers affordable healthcare compared to several developed countries. Others, however, pointed out that healthcare costs in the United States can vary greatly depending on a person's health insurance coverage, hospital network, and treatment requirements.

The viral post has once again sparked discussions about the affordability and accessibility of healthcare across countries. While the US is known for its advanced medical facilities, the senior citizen's experience has reminded many that India's combination of relatively low treatment costs and easy access to medicines remains one of its biggest strengths.

Norway's 'Viking Row' Symbolises National Pride

Norway's remarkable FIFA World Cup campaign has inspired celebrations across the country, with the Norwegian Army, Navy, and Air Force joining the now-famous "Viking Row" celebration. A video featuring military personnel performing the synchronized rowing motion in full uniform has gone viral on social media, drawing praise from viewers worldwide.

The video shows soldiers rowing in unison across open fields, sailors performing the routine aboard naval vessels, and Air Force personnel joining the celebration at military bases and on aircraft. Dressed in camouflage uniforms, the troops imitate rowing an ancient Viking longship while chanting together, creating a powerful display of national pride and unity.

The "Viking Row" has become one of the defining symbols of Norway's World Cup journey. Inspired by the country's Viking heritage, the celebration involves participants sitting together and mimicking the rowing of a Viking ship while chanting in rhythm. What began as a football fan tradition has now spread



across the nation, with schools, public institutions, government officials, members of the royal family, and now the armed forces taking part.

The military's participation came after Norway produced one of the biggest upsets of the tournament by defeating five-time world champions Brazil 2-1 in the Round of 16. The historic victory secured Norway's first-ever place in the FIFA World Cup quarter-finals, triggering nationwide celebrations. Star striker Erling Haaland played a crucial role in the memorable win, adding to the excitement among Norwegian fans.

The video has received widespread appreciation online, with many users calling it an inspiring example of patriotism, teamwork, and national spirit. Others praised the armed forces for embracing the celebration and showcasing Norway's cultural heritage in a unique and entertaining way.

The "Viking Row" has now evolved into more than just a football celebration. It has become a symbol of unity, resilience, and national pride, bringing together people from all walks of life as Norway continues its inspiring journey on football's biggest stage.



Ronaldo Defends Legacy After Portugal’s World Cup Exit

Cristiano Ronaldo has responded emotionally following Portugal’s exit from the FIFA World Cup, reminding critics of the impact he has had on the national team over the course of his legendary career.

Speaking after Portugal’s campaign came to an end, Ronaldo said he remains proud of everything he has achieved with the national side. He stressed that before his arrival, Portugal had struggled to win major international trophies, but during his era, the team transformed into one of Europe’s most successful football nations.

The veteran forward pointed to Portugal’s triumphs in UEFA Euro 2016 and the UEFA Nations League as historic milestones that changed the country’s footballing legacy. Ronaldo said those achievements reflected years of dedication, hard work, and belief from the entire squad.

While expressing disappointment over the World Cup exit, the five-time Ballon d’Or winner insisted that one disappointing tournament should not overshadow everything the team has accomplished over the years. He emphasized that football is full of ups and downs and that setbacks are part of every athlete’s

journey.

Ronaldo also thanked Portuguese fans for their unwavering support throughout the tournament. He acknowledged their passion and admitted that the defeat was painful, but urged supporters to continue believing in the national team and its future.

The 41-year-old reiterated his commitment to Portuguese football and said he remains proud to have represented his country for more than two decades. He added that wearing the national jersey has always been the greatest honor of his career. His remarks quickly sparked discussions across the football world, with many fans praising Ronaldo for highlighting Portugal’s remarkable rise in international football during his time with the team. Others viewed his comments as a reminder of the lasting legacy he has built as one of the greatest players in the history of the sport.

Although Portugal’s World Cup dream has ended, Ronaldo’s contribution to the national team remains unmatched. With numerous records, unforgettable performances, and major international trophies to his name, he leaves behind a legacy that has forever transformed Portuguese football.



The Secret Behind VfL Bochum’s Remarkable Youth Academy Success

While Europe’s biggest football clubs spend millions to sign the world’s brightest young talents, German club VfL Bochum has earned widespread admiration for developing hometown players through a unique and community-driven approach.

Unlike many elite clubs that rely heavily on expensive transfers, Bochum has built its reputation by investing in youth development, patience, and long-term planning. The club focuses on identifying talented youngsters at an early age and helping them grow both as footballers and as individuals.

One of the academy’s biggest strengths is its emphasis on education, discipline, and personal development alongside football training. Coaches work closely with players to improve not only their technical and tactical skills but also their mental strength, character, and decision-making abilities.

The academy also maintains strong relationships with local schools, families, and grassroots football clubs, creating a supportive environment where young players can develop without excessive pressure. This close connection to the local community has become a key factor behind the club’s continued success in producing talented footballers.

Bochum believes that suc-

cess cannot simply be bought with money. Instead, the club prioritizes building a strong culture where young players are given time to learn, make mistakes, and gradually progress into professional football.

Several academy graduates have gone on to play in the Bundesliga and other top European leagues, highlighting the effectiveness of the club’s development model. Even when larger clubs attempt to lure away promising youngsters, Bochum’s commitment to player welfare and long-term growth continues to attract aspiring footballers.

Club officials believe that trust, consistency, and a clear development pathway are more valuable than financial power when it comes to nurturing future stars. Their philosophy has become an example for many smaller clubs seeking sustainable success in modern football.

As European football becomes increasingly driven by massive transfer fees and commercial interests, VfL Bochum’s youth academy stands out as proof that investing in people, patience, and local talent can still produce outstanding results. The club’s approach continues to demonstrate that strong values and quality coaching can compete with even the wealthiest football institutions.

Suryakumar Slams Fake Quote, Backs Team India and Encourages Vaibhav

India’s T20 captain Suryakumar Yadav has strongly dismissed a fake statement circulating on social media, clarifying that he neither made nor authorized the viral quote. The star batter urged fans not to believe or share unverified information, taking a firm stand against the spread of misinformation.

Suryakumar’s clarification came after he was left out of India’s squad for the upcoming three-match T20I series against Zimbabwe. Despite not being selected, the Mumbai batter expressed complete support for the Indian team and wished the players success in the series.

In a message shared on social media, Suryakumar said he was happy for the team and confident that the players would continue to perform well. He added that Team India would always have his full support, regardless of whether he was part of the squad.

The 35-year-old also had a special message for teenage



battling sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who recently earned his maiden call-up to the senior Indian team. Congratulating the youngster, Suryakumar described it as the beginning of an exciting journey and encouraged him to enjoy every moment while continuing to make the country proud.

Suryakumar’s positive message won praise from fans, who appreciated his sportsmanship despite his omission from the national side. His support for

the team and words of encouragement for the young opener were widely seen as a reflection of his leadership and professionalism.

By addressing the fake quote directly, Suryakumar also highlighted the growing problem of misinformation on social media. He urged fans to verify information before sharing it and reiterated that any official statements from him would only be communicated through his verified social media accounts.

Mohammed Siraj Pens Emotional Tribute to Cristiano Ronaldo

Indian pacer Mohammed Siraj shared an emotional tribute to football legend Cristiano Ronaldo after Portugal’s FIFA World Cup 2026 campaign came to an end, marking the iconic forward’s final appearance at the tournament.

Portugal’s exit brought the curtain down on Ronaldo’s remarkable World Cup journey, prompting an outpouring of messages from fans and athletes around the world. Among them was Siraj, who took to social media to express his admiration for one of his biggest sporting inspirations.

In his heartfelt message, Siraj said that Ronaldo would always remain his inspiration and that one match could never define the greatness of a player who has inspired millions across the globe. He thanked the Portuguese superstar for setting an example through his dedication, discipline, and relentless pursuit of excellence.

Siraj’s admiration for Ronaldo is no secret. The Indian fast bowler has often celebrated his



wickets with Ronaldo’s iconic “Siu” celebration and has repeatedly spoken about how the football legend’s work ethic and winning mentality have motivated him throughout his cricketing journey.

On earlier occasions, Siraj had also revealed that he used a wallpaper featuring Ronaldo with the word “Believe” on his phone before important international matches, saying it served as a constant source of confidence and motivation.

Ronaldo’s farewell to the FIFA World Cup has sparked emotional reactions from sporting personalities across

the world. Widely regarded as one of the greatest footballers in history, the Portuguese captain leaves behind an extraordinary legacy built on record-breaking achievements, unforgettable performances, and major international trophies.

Siraj’s tribute resonated with sports fans, highlighting Ronaldo’s influence beyond football. His message reflected the sentiments of millions who believe that, despite Portugal’s disappointing World Cup exit, Cristiano Ronaldo’s legacy as one of the greatest athletes of all time remains firmly intact.

Djokovic, Sinner Eye Blockbuster Wimbledon Semi-Final Clash

Tennis fans could be in for one of the biggest matches of the year as Novak Djokovic and Jannik Sinner stand just one victory away from setting up a blockbuster Wimbledon semi-final at Wimbledon 2026.

Seven-time Wimbledon champion Djokovic will first have to overcome his quarter-final challenge as he continues his pursuit of a record-equalling eighth Wimbledon title and a historic 25th Grand Slam singles crown. The Serbian legend has once again showcased his experience, consistency, and determination throughout the tournament, making him one of the favorites for the title.

Meanwhile, world No. 1 and defending champion Jannik Sinner will look to continue his impressive run when he takes the court in his quarter-final. The Italian star has been in outstanding form and is aiming to defend his Wimbledon crown with another dominant performance.

If both players win their respective quarter-final matches, fans will be treated to a highly anticipated



semi-final clash between two of the biggest names in men’s tennis. Their growing rivalry has become one of the sport’s most exciting storylines, with Sinner representing the new generation while Djokovic continues to prove that he remains a formidable force despite his long and successful career.

For Djokovic, another Wimbledon title would further cement his place in tennis history by bringing him closer to another major milestone. For Sinner, a successful title defense would reinforce his status as the world’s top-ranked player and one of the game’s brightest

stars.

The potential meeting has already generated tremendous excitement among tennis fans, who are eager to witness a battle between Djokovic’s unmatched experience and Sinner’s youthful brilliance. With both players in excellent form, the possible semi-final promises to be one of the standout matches of the tournament.

As Wimbledon heads into its decisive stages, all eyes will be on Djokovic and Sinner as they bid to keep their title dreams alive and set up a thrilling showdown on Centre Court.

Former Afghanistan Pacer Shapoor Zadran Dies at 38

Former Afghanistan fast bowler Shapoor Zadran, one of the pioneers of Afghanistan’s rise in international cricket, has passed away at the age of 38 after a prolonged illness. His death has left the cricketing world in mourning, with tributes pouring in from players, fans, and cricket boards across the globe.

Zadran had been battling Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH), a rare and life-threatening immune system disorder. He had been undergoing treatment in the Delhi-NCR region but sadly succumbed to the illness just a day before his 39th birthday.

The Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) expressed deep sorrow over his passing, describing him as one of the key figures who helped lay the foundation for Afghanistan’s success in international cricket. The board praised his dedication, passion, and

invaluable contribution to the growth of the sport in the country.

A left-arm fast bowler known for his aggression and fighting spirit, Zadran represented Afghanistan in 80 international matches, including 44 One-Day Internationals and 36 T20 Internationals. He played a vital role during Afghanistan’s remarkable journey from an emerging cricket nation to a respected force on the global stage.

One of the most memorable moments of his career came during the 2015 ICC Cricket World Cup, when he scored the winning runs against Scotland to secure Afghanistan’s first-ever victory in a Cricket World Cup. That historic triumph remains one of the greatest milestones in the nation’s cricketing history.

Beyond his achievements on the field, Zadran inspired an entire generation of Afghan cricketers through his determination, resilience, and commitment to the game. His contributions played a major role in shaping the future of cricket in Afghanistan.

His untimely passing is a huge loss to the global cricket fraternity. While Shapoor Zadran is no longer with us, his legacy will continue to inspire future generations, and his contributions to Afghanistan’s cricket journey will always be remembered.



BCCI Defends Sanju Samson’s Zimbabwe Snub Amid Criticism

The exclusion of Sanju Samson from India’s squad for the upcoming T20I series against Zimbabwe has sparked widespread debate among cricket fans, with many questioning the selectors’ decision despite the wicketkeeper-batter’s strong performances in recent months.

According to reports, those criticizing the BCCI have been urged to “do their homework” before drawing conclusions. Sources close to the selection process have clarified that Samson’s absence should not be viewed as a punishment or an indication that he has fallen out of the team’s plans.

The selectors are believed to have opted for workload management while also using the Zimbabwe series as an opportunity to test India’s bench strength and provide valuable exposure to emerging players. With a packed international calendar ahead, the team management is focused on maintaining a balanced rotation policy.

Samson, who played an important role in India’s recent T20 World Cup campaign, continues to be regarded as a key player in the team’s long-term

plans. Reports suggest that his omission is purely a strategic decision aimed at managing player workloads and giving opportunities to other talented cricketers.

The Zimbabwe tour has also opened the door for several young players to showcase their abilities at the international level. The selectors believe such series offer the perfect platform to assess fresh talent while preparing a stronger and deeper squad for future challenges.

Despite the clarification, the decision has continued to divide opinion among fans and cricket experts. Many believe Samson deserved another chance based on his recent performances, while others support the selectors’ approach of experimenting with new players and building depth in the squad.

For now, the BCCI remains confident in its selection strategy, emphasizing that the decision was taken with a long-term vision rather than as a reflection of Samson’s form or ability. The focus remains on creating a competitive squad capable of delivering consistent success across all formats of the game.



Lukaku’s ‘Trump Dance’ Celebration Goes Viral After Belgium’s World Cup Win

Belgium striker Romelu Lukaku grabbed attention both on and off the field after unveiling a unique goal celebration inspired by US President Donald Trump during the FIFA World Cup 2026.

Following his goal in Belgium’s victory over the United States, Lukaku celebrated by recreating a dance that has become popularly associated with Donald Trump. The unusual celebration immediately went viral on social media, with videos and clips spreading rapidly across various platforms.

The celebration sparked mixed reactions among football fans. While many found the moment entertaining and praised Lukaku’s sense of humor, others debated whether political references should be part of sporting celebrations.

Lukaku, however, appeared to treat the gesture as a lighthearted moment rather than a political statement. The Belgian striker remained focused on the team’s performance,

helping Belgium secure an important victory and progress further in the tournament.

The viral celebration quickly became one of the biggest talking points of the World Cup, generating millions of views online. Fans created memes, reaction videos, and humorous posts, making Lukaku’s dance one of the tournament’s most memorable off-field moments.

Despite the social media buzz surrounding the celebration, Belgium’s impressive performance remained the primary focus. Lukaku once again demonstrated his value to the national team with a crucial goal and another influential display in attack.

As the FIFA World Cup progresses, Lukaku’s celebration is likely to remain one of the standout viral moments of the tournament, proving that football can create unforgettable memories both through outstanding performances and unique celebrations.

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As the FIFA World Cup progresses, Lukaku’s celebration is likely to remain one of the standout viral moments of the tournament, proving that football can create unforgettable memories both through outstanding performances and unique celebrations.



Prabhas to Shoot High-Octane Interval Sequence for ‘Fauzi’

Prabhas is gearing up for one of the most crucial shooting schedules of his upcoming period action drama Fauzi, directed by Hanu Raghavapudi. The actor is set to begin filming the movie's much-awaited interval action sequence from July 10 at a specially erected set on the outskirts of Hyderabad. According to reports, the interval episode has been designed as a grand, high-voltage action block and is expected to be one of the biggest highlights of the film. The sequence will feature intense stunt choreography, large-scale visuals, and a powerful performance from Prabhas, making it a key moment in the narrative. The makers have reportedly constructed an elaborate set to film this crucial portion, with production expected to continue for several days. The action episode is said to play a significant role in elevating the film's emotional and dramatic impact. Directed by Hanu Raghavapudi,



di, Fauzi is a period war drama set against the backdrop of pre-Independence India. Prabhas plays the role of a courageous soldier in what is expected to be a powerful and emotionally driven story. The film also stars Imanvi as the female lead, while veteran actors Mithun Chakraborty, Jaya Prada, and Anupam Kher play important roles. Music for the film is composed by Vishal Chandrasekhar, with the project being produced on a grand scale by Mythri Movie Makers. The film has generated immense anticipation among fans, who are eagerly awaiting the first teaser and official promotional material. With the interval sequence now set to go on floors, Fauzi has entered one of its most important phases of production. Fans are excited to see Prabhas in a never-before-seen avatar, and expectations are high that the film will deliver a visually spectacular and emotionally engaging cinematic experience.

Chiranjeevi Performs Risky Stunts for Mega158

Megastar Chiranjeevi is once again proving that age is no barrier when it comes to delivering high-octane action. The veteran actor is currently shooting for his upcoming film Mega158, directed by Bobby Kolli, and has reportedly performed several risky stunt sequences without relying on body doubles. According to the film's team, the latest action schedule is progressing at a brisk pace, with Chiranjeevi actively participating in physically demanding sequences. Despite being one of the senior-most stars in Indian cinema, the actor has impressed the crew with his energy, dedication, and commitment to performing challenging action scenes. The ongoing schedule features large-scale stunt sequences that are expected to be among the biggest highlights of the film. The makers are aiming to deliver a visually grand action entertainer with top-notch production values and stylish action choreography. Mega158, tentatively referred to as #ChiruBobby2, marks Chiranjeevi's second collaboration with director Bobby Kolli after the blockbuster Waltair Veerayya. Their previous film was a major commercial success, creating high expectations for this latest project.

Produced by KVN Productions, the movie is being made on a lavish budget with a strong focus on action and mass entertainment. The current schedule is progressing smoothly, and the production team is working to complete key action episodes that will play a crucial role in the film. Although the official title and storyline are yet to be revealed, the film has already generated significant excitement among fans. Chiranjeevi's willingness to perform risky stunt sequences has further increased anticipation, with audiences eagerly waiting for the first teaser and other promotional material.



With shooting moving ahead as planned, Mega158 is shaping up to be one of the most awaited Telugu films. Backed by an experienced team and led by Chiranjeevi's unmatched screen presence, the film promises a powerful mix of action, entertainment, and commercial appeal.

Venkatesh Joins the Sets of Anil Ravipudi’s ‘VenkyAnil5’

Victory Venkatesh has officially joined the shooting of director Anil Ravipudi's much-awaited entertainer, tentatively titled VenkyAnil5. The latest shooting schedule is currently underway, with the actor participating in key sequences alongside Nandamuri Kalyan Ram, who had already begun filming earlier. The film marks another exciting collaboration between Venkatesh and Anil Ravipudi after delivering successful entertainers in the past. Their hit combination has created high expectations among fans, making the project one of the most anticipated Telugu films currently in production. The makers recently shared a behind-the-scenes picture featuring Venkatesh, Anil Ravipudi, and Kalyan Ram, confirming that the senior actor has joined the ongoing schedule. The team is currently filming important scenes involving both lead actors. VenkyAnil5 is a multi-starrer that brings together Venkatesh and Kalyan Ram on screen for the first time. The fresh combination has already generated considerable buzz, with movie lovers eager to see the chemistry between the two stars.

The film also features Keerthy Suresh and Krithi Shetty as the female leads. Music is being composed by G.V. Prakash Kumar, whose inclusion has added to the excitement surrounding the project. Although the official title and storyline have not yet been revealed, the movie is expected to be a complete commercial entertainer, blending comedy, family emotions, action, and Anil Ravipudi's trademark style of storytelling. Produced on a grand scale, the film is progressing smoothly, with the makers expected to announce the official title, first-



look posters, and teaser in the coming months. With Venkatesh now joining the sets and filming moving ahead at a steady pace, anticipation for VenkyAnil5 continues to grow. Fans are eagerly looking forward to seeing the fresh pairing of Venkatesh and Kalyan Ram in what promises to be an entertaining big-screen spectacle.

Allu Arjun’s AA23 Title Teaser Promises a Massive Surprise

The excitement surrounding Allu Arjun's much-awaited film AA23 continues to grow, with the latest reports suggesting that the movie's title teaser is shaping up to be a spectacular treat for fans. Directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, the film has already created immense buzz as one of the biggest collaborations in Indian cinema. According to industry reports, the director has completed shooting enough footage for the title teaser, which is expected to showcase Allu Arjun in a powerful and never-before-seen avatar. The teaser is reportedly being crafted on a grand scale to unveil the film's official title while setting the tone for its intense action-packed narrative. Fans can expect Lokesh Kanagaraj's signature filmmaking style, featuring stylish visuals, gripping action, and a powerful background score. Although the makers have not yet announced the teaser release date, preparations are said to be progressing at a brisk pace. The title teaser is expected to mark the beginning of the film's promotional campaign and further increase anticipation among audiences.



AA23 marks the first-ever collaboration between Allu Arjun and Lokesh Kanagaraj, making it one of the most awaited pan-India projects. The film is being produced by Sun Pictures, with Anirudh Ravichander composing the music. This powerful combination has already generated tremendous excitement among movie

lovers. While the makers have kept the storyline under wraps, the film is expected to be a high-octane action entertainer featuring Lokesh Kanagaraj's trademark cinematic style and Allu Arjun's dynamic screen presence. With the title teaser reportedly nearing completion, AA23 is steadily building momentum as one of the biggest upcoming Indian films. Fans are now eagerly waiting for the official announcement and the first glimpse, which is expected to offer an exciting introduction to the film's world.

Nani Gives Green Signal to VenkyAtluri’s Next Film ‘Maa Inti Bangaaram’ Inches Closer to the ₹100 Crore Milestone



Natural Star Nani has reportedly given the green signal to director Venky Atluri's next project, paving the way for an exciting new collaboration in Telugu cinema. The development has created significant buzz, as both Nani and Venky Atluri are currently enjoying successful phases in their careers. According to industry reports, Venky Atluri recently narrated the final version of the script to Nani. Impressed with the story and its narration, the actor is said to have immediately approved the project. Although the collaboration has not yet been officially announced, the film is expected to move into pre-production after both complete their ongoing commitments. Nani is currently occupied with multiple films, while Venky Atluri is busy directing his upcoming project starring Tamil actor Suriya. Once they wrap up their existing schedules, work on the new film is expected to begin. The project is likely to be produced by Sithara Entertainments, a production house that has previously backed several successful films. While the makers have kept the storyline and genre under wraps, the film is expected to feature Venky Atluri's signature style of combining emotional storytelling with commercial entertainment. This will mark the first-ever collaboration between Nani and Venky Atluri, making it one of the most anticipated combinations in Tollywood. Fans are already looking forward to seeing the duo work together, considering Nani's reputation for selecting unique scripts and Venky Atluri's ability to deliver engaging entertainers. An official announcement regarding the title, cast, technical crew, and shooting schedule is expected in the coming months. With two talented names joining forces, the project has already generated high expectations and is shaping up to be one of the most awaited Telugu films in the near future.

Samantha Ruth Prabhu's latest blockbuster Maa Inti Bangaaram continues its impressive run at the box office, maintaining strong momentum even in its third week of release. The film has emerged as one of the biggest commercial successes of the year and is now just a step away from entering the prestigious 100 crore worldwide gross club. According to the makers, the film has collected 96.5 crore worldwide in just 18 days, putting it within touching distance of the coveted 100 crore mark. Despite the arrival of new releases, the movie has continued to attract audiences, driven by positive word-of-mouth and strong repeat viewership. If it crosses the 100 crore milestone, Maa Inti Bangaaram is expected to become the highest-grossing female-led Telugu film, marking a major achievement for Samantha Ruth Prabhu. The actress has earned widespread appreciation for her performance, which has been cited as one of the key reasons behind the film's outstanding box-office success. Directed by Nandini Reddy and created by Raj Nidimoru, the film is produced by Samantha Ruth Prabhu under her production banner. The cast also includes Gulshan Devaiah, Diganth Manchale, Gautami, and Sreemukhi in important roles, while the music has been composed by Santhosh Narayanan. The film's sustained performance beyond its opening weekend has been particularly noteworthy. It has continued to register steady collections even on weekdays, reflecting its strong appeal among audiences across different regions. Trade circles expect the movie to cross the 100 crore milestone within the next few days if the current momentum continues. With its impressive theatrical performance and record-

breaking collections, Maa Inti Bangaaram has established itself as one of the biggest hits of Samantha's career. The film's success also highlights the growing commercial potential of women-led films in Telugu cinema and reinforces Samantha's position as one of the industry's leading stars.



‘Ramayana’ Fans Get Two Exciting Updates

Fans eagerly awaiting Nitesh Tiwari's epic mythological film Ramayana have received two major updates, adding to the excitement surrounding one of the most anticipated Indian films. The first big update is that the film's post-production work is progressing at full speed. The makers are focusing extensively on visual effects, CGI, sound design, and technical enhancements to deliver a world-class cinematic experience. The movie is being mounted on a massive scale and is being designed for IMAX and Dolby Cinema formats, reflecting the team's ambition to create a grand visual spectacle. The second exciting update is that the film's official trailer is expected to be released on July 18, 2026. The trailer was previously showcased at CinemaCon, where it reportedly received an overwhelming response. It is now set to be released for audiences worldwide, offering fans their first detailed look at the epic. Directed by Nitesh Tiwari, the film features an impressive star cast. Ranbir Kapoor plays Lord Rama, Sai Pallavi portrays Sita, Yash takes on the role of Ravana while also serving as one of the film's co-producers, Sunny Deol appears as Lord Hanuman, and Ravi Dubey plays Lakshmana. Produced by Namit Malhotra under Prime Focus

Studios in association with Monster Mind Creations, the film is one of the most ambitious projects ever undertaken in Indian cinema. The makers are investing heavily in cutting-edge visual effects and advanced filmmaking technology to bring the timeless epic to life on the big screen. The first installment of the two-part saga is scheduled for a Diwali 2026 theatrical release, while the second part is expected to arrive during Diwali 2027. With post-production progressing rapidly and the trailer launch just around the corner, anticipation for Ramayana continues to grow among movie lovers across the globe.