



BUZZ POINTS

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Revanth Reddy Reviews Tourism Projects, Pushes Eco-Tourism Development

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday held a high-level review meeting with officials of the Tourism Department and directed them to accelerate the implementation of key tourism projects across Telangana, with a special focus on eco-tourism, heritage conservation, and investment promotion. The review meeting was held at the Bodhi Pavilion of the MCRHRD Institute and was attended by the Chief Minister's Advisor K. Ramakrishna Rao, Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, Special Chief Secretary (Tourism) Vani Prasad, and senior officials from various departments. During the meeting, the Chief Minister instructed officials to work in coordination with the Forest Department to develop eco-tourism destinations on forest lands located within Hyderabad's urban limits. He emphasized that forest areas falling under the proposed Bharat Future City should be transformed into world-class tourism destinations. Revanth Reddy suggested developing eco-parks in the city on the lines of the Gurranguda Eco Park and



called for the expansion of green tourism initiatives to enhance Hyderabad's appeal as a tourism destination. He also directed officials to upgrade several iconic locations, including Taramati Baradari, and develop Durgam Cheruvu into a major tourist hub with improved infrastructure and visitor facilities. In addition, he instructed the moderniza-

tion of the Manjira and Dilkusha Guest Houses to enhance accommodation standards for tourists. The Chief Minister asked officials to develop Vikarabad under the proposed Tourism Hub Development programme, with particular emphasis on the Sri Veerabhadra Swamy Temple. He also directed the constitution of a governing

body for the temple on the lines of the management structure at Yadagirigutta. To strengthen eco-tourism, Revanth Reddy instructed officials to develop projects in the CORE (City Outer Ring Road Environs) area by adopting the urban forest model. He also called for the appointment of dedicated officers to ensure timely implementation of these initiatives. Highlighting Hyderabad's rich heritage, the Chief Minister directed officials to prepare plans for developing historic bridges such as Puranapul into tourist attractions. He suggested that traffic could be diverted through alternate routes, if necessary, to improve visitor access and enhance the heritage experience. Reviewing investment opportunities in the tourism sector, Revanth Reddy instructed officials to begin preparations for the proposed Global Investment Summit scheduled for December. He also directed the formation of high-level inter-departmental committees to ensure effective coordination and facilitate investments aimed at boosting Telangana's tourism infrastructure and economic growth.

Governor Stresses Selfless Service as Highest Form of Worship

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Monday emphasized that selfless service to humanity is the noblest path to realizing the Divine, stating that true spirituality extends far beyond rituals and is rooted in humility, compassion, and freedom from ego. The Governor made these remarks while interacting with a 108-member delegation of devotees led by Pujya Shri Ajay Bhaji Ji, Founder of Rashtra Mandir Vishva Ramayan Ashram (Triveni Seva Mission), at Lok Bhavan in Hyderabad. During the interaction, Governor Shukla highlighted

the importance of serving society with dedication and sincerity. He said that while religious practices have their place, genuine spiritual growth is achieved through acts of kindness, selfless service, and unwavering commitment to the welfare of others. "Service to humanity is the highest form of worship," the Governor said, encouraging the devotees to continue contributing to society through charitable and humanitarian activities. The Governor also spoke about the spiritual significance of Srisailem, describing it as one of India's most revered pilgrimage centres. He noted that the temple



town is home to the sacred Sri Mallikarjuna Jyotirlinga and the Bhramaramba Shakti Peetha, making it a unique confluence of Shaivite and Shakti traditions. He said Srisailem offers devotees an opportunity to experience inner peace, spiritual fulfillment, and

divine blessings, and expressed his desire to visit the holy shrine of Sri Mallikarjuna Swamy in the near future. The devotees briefed the Governor about the spiritual and social service activities being undertaken by the Rashtra Mandir Vishva Ramayan Ashram

and its Triveni Seva Mission. The interaction also focused on the role of faith-based organizations in promoting values of compassion, harmony, and community service. Governor Shukla appreciated the organization's efforts in fostering spiritual awareness alongside humanitarian initiatives and encouraged its members to continue working for the welfare of society. The meeting concluded with an exchange of greetings, with the Governor extending his best wishes to the delegation for its continued service to humanity and promotion of India's rich spiritual and cultural heritage.

Telangana Releases RS.7,490.72 Crore Under Rythu Bharosa in Six Days

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has created a record by releasing ₹7,490.72 crore under the Rythu Bharosa scheme within just six days, benefiting 68.37 lakh farmers. Agriculture, Marketing, Cooperation, Handloom and Textiles Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao announced on Monday. In a press release, the Minister said the Congress government had fulfilled its commitment to farmers by ensuring the timely and direct transfer of financial assistance into beneficiaries' bank accounts. The State government launched the Rythu Bharosa fund disbursement programme on June 30, and within six days deposited ₹7,490.72 crore directly into the accounts of eligible farmers. According to the Minister, the initiative has so far covered 68.37 lakh farmers cultivating 124.85 lakh acres of agricultural land across Telangana. On Monday, the government released financial assistance to farmers owning 6 to 7 acres of cultivable land under the scheme. The Minister said the latest installment marks another milestone in the phased implementation of Rythu Bharosa, extending support to a wider section of the farming community. Tummala Nageswara Rao stated that during the



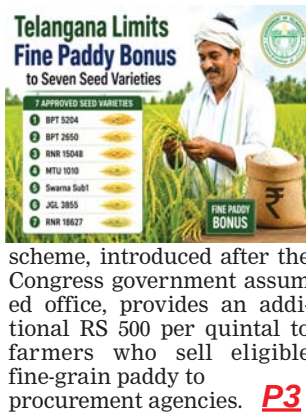
previous five phases, the government had already credited Rythu Bharosa assistance to farmers owning up to 6 acres of cultivable land. With the latest release, all eligible farmers possessing 6 to 7 acres have now also received the benefit. "The State government is committed to ensuring that every eligible farmer receives financial assistance without delay. The funds are being transferred directly into farmers' bank accounts in a transparent and efficient manner," the Minister said. He noted that the large-scale disbursement reflects the government's commitment to strengthening the agricultural sector and providing timely financial support during the cultivation season. The assistance, he said, would help farmers meet agricultural input costs and reduce financial stress

while encouraging uninterrupted farming activities. The Minister reiterated that the Rythu Bharosa scheme remains one of the flagship initiatives of the Telangana government aimed at supporting farmers and enhancing agricultural productivity. He added that the phased release of funds has been planned to ensure smooth implementation while reaching every eligible beneficiary across the State. According to official figures released by the Agriculture Department, the government has so far transferred ₹7,490.72 crore to 68.37 lakh farmers, covering 124.85 lakh acres under cultivation. The Minister said the government would continue to monitor the implementation of the scheme to ensure that the remaining eligible beneficiaries, if any, receive assistance promptly. He reaffirmed that the government remains committed to the welfare of Telangana's farming community and will continue implementing farmer-centric initiatives to strengthen rural livelihoods and agricultural development.

Telangana Limits Fine Paddy Bonus to Seven Seed Varieties

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has introduced major changes to its ₹500 per quintal bonus scheme for fine-grain paddy, restricting the incentive to farmers cultivating only seven notified seed varieties during the 2026 Vanakalam (monsoon) season. The revised guidelines also make online seed registration mandatory to ensure transparency in the disbursement of the bonus. The fine-grain paddy bonus



scheme, introduced after the Congress government assumed office, provides an additional ₹500 per quintal to farmers who sell eligible fine-grain paddy to procurement agencies. P3

DGP Unveils Anti-Drug Action Plan

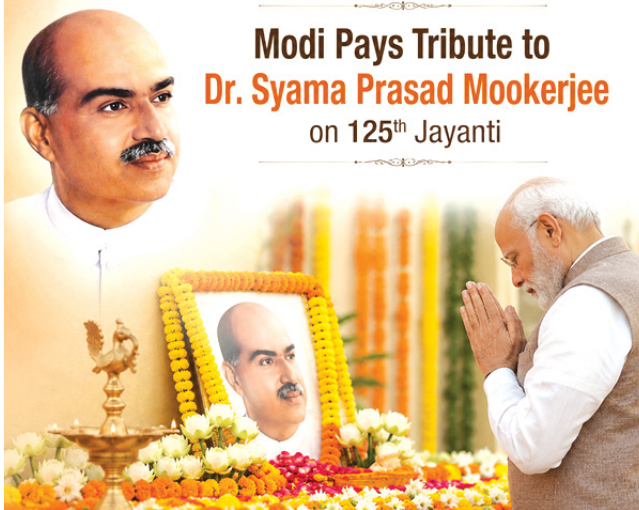
Manuguru, July 06 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) CV Anand on Monday announced that the state police are preparing a comprehensive action plan to curb the trafficking and cultivation of ganja (cannabis), while calling upon every police officer to actively participate in the fight against narcotics. The DGP made the remarks after inaugurating a new police station in Manuguru of Bhadrachalam district. Addressing police personnel and officials, he stressed that the menace of drugs poses a serious threat to society, particularly to the younger generation, and requires a coordi-



nated and uncompromising response from law enforcement agencies. Issuing a stern warning, CV P3

Modi Pays Tribute to Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on 125th Jayanti



New Delhi, July 06 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday paid rich tributes to Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on the occasion of his 125th birth anniversary, describing him as one of India's greatest nation-builders whose life was marked by scholarship, courage, and an unwavering commitment to national service. In a message shared on the occasion, the Prime Minister said Dr. Mookerjee dedicated his life to the cause of India's unity, dignity, and progress. He noted that the veteran leader's contributions extended across several fields, leaving a lasting impact on the nation's development. Modi described Dr. Mookerjee as an outstanding thinker and educationist who championed innovation and futuristic learning. He also highlighted his tenure as the country's Industries Minister, during which he laid the foundations for industrial self-reliance while ensuring the growth of traditional industries and livelihoods. Recalling his humanitarian work, the Prime Minister

praised Dr. Mookerjee's efforts during the Bengal Famine, stating that his compassion and commitment to helping those in distress reflected his deep concern for society. The Prime Minister further said that Dr. Mookerjee's steadfast commitment to preserving India's unity and integrity continues to inspire generations of Indians. He emphasized that the late leader's ideals remain relevant in the country's ongoing journey towards building a Viksit Bharat (Developed India). "As we move forward in our journey towards a Viksit Bharat, his vision continues to illuminate our path," Modi said, reaffirming the government's commitment to nation-building inspired by Dr. Mookerjee's principles. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, founder of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, is remembered for his contributions to education, industry, and national integration. His birth anniversary was observed across the country with leaders and party workers paying floral tributes and recalling his role in shaping modern India.

Modi Embarks on Three-Nation Diplomatic Tour



New Delhi, July 06 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday departed on a six-day diplomatic tour of Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand, aimed at strengthening India's strategic partnerships and expanding cooperation across the Indo-Pacific region. Scheduled from July 6 to July 11, the visit will include high-level bilateral meetings, interactions with the Indian diaspora, and engagements with leading business figures. Before leaving, Prime Minister Modi said the three-nation visit would reinforce India's Act East Policy and SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) vision. He emphasized that the tour reflects India's commitment to promoting a free, open, inclusive, and rules-based Indo-Pacific while deepening cooperation with key regional partners. The Prime Minister's first destination is Indonesia, where he will stay from July 6 to 8 at the invitation of President Prabowo Subianto. This marks Modi's fourth visit to the Southeast Asian nation as Prime Minister. During his stay in Jakarta, the two leaders are expected to review the progress of bilateral relations and discuss ways to expand cooperation in trade, investment, defence, maritime security, connectivity, and regional affairs. Apart from official meetings, Prime Minister Modi will address members of the Indian diaspora and visit the historic Prambanan Temple complex in Yogyakarta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that reflects the deep cultural

links between India and Indonesia. Following the Indonesia visit, Modi will travel to Melbourne, Australia, from July 8 to 10. He is scheduled to hold bilateral talks with Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and pay a courtesy call on Governor-General Sam Mostyn. Discussions are expected to focus on strengthening cooperation in trade, investment, critical minerals, defence, education, clean energy, and Indo-Pacific security. The Prime Minister will also participate in the India-Australia CEO Forum, interact with prominent business leaders from both countries, and address the Indian community during his visit. The final leg of the tour will take Prime Minister Modi to New Zealand on July 10 and 11, at the invitation of Prime Minister Christopher Luxon. The visit is significant as Modi will become the first Indian Prime Minister to visit New Zealand in nearly four decades. In Auckland, the two leaders will hold comprehensive discussions on trade, investment, defence cooperation, education, agriculture, and people-to-people ties. They will also review the progress made in bilateral relations over the past two years. During the visit, Modi is expected to meet leading business and sports personalities before addressing a large gathering of the Indian diaspora. The three-nation tour is expected to further strengthen India's diplomatic engagement, enhance economic partnerships, and deepen strategic cooperation with important partners in the Indo-Pacific region.

RS.6,000 Crore Rural Road Works Finalized, Says Minister Seethakka

Mulugu, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Rural Water Supply, Women and Child Welfare Danasari Anasuya (Seethakka) on Monday said the State government has finalized tenders for rural road development works worth nearly ₹6,000 crore, marking a major step towards strengthening rural infrastructure.

Chairing a review meeting at the Mulugu Collectorate with District Collector Borkhade Hemant Sahadeorao and senior officials, the Minister reviewed the progress of various developmental initiatives, including the Medaram Sammakka-Saralamma Temple development, sanitation, Integrated District Offices Complex (IDOC) works, land resurvey, mon-



soon preparedness, and arrangements for Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's proposed visit to the district. Seethakka said proposals are being prepared for the Chief Minister to inaugurate and lay foundation stones for several key projects, including Panchayat Raj roads near the Gattamma Temple, a new

Collectorate building, Medical College, Nursing College, Kendriya Vidyalaya, the Potlapur Lift Irrigation Scheme, and embankment works. She directed officials to prepare a common foundation plaque incorporating all major projects. The Minister reiterated the government's commitment to

the comprehensive development of the Medaram Sammakka-Saralamma Temple, directing officials to prepare a detailed master plan covering land acquisition, road widening, queue management systems, guest houses, hospital facilities, cottages, parking areas, sanitation infrastructure, and the beautification of the Jampanna stream, while preserving the area's ecological balance.

She instructed officials to expedite the 10,600-acre land resurvey at Ramachandrapuram and accelerate the implementation of the Potlapur Lift Irrigation Scheme and the Ramappa-Laknavaram pipeline project. She also stressed the need to ensure an adequate supply of urea to farmers during the ongoing cultiva-

tion season.

Reviewing monsoon preparedness, Seethakka directed officials to strengthen flood response mechanisms by deploying special emergency teams, monitoring drinking water quality, repairing pipeline leakages, cleaning water storage tanks regularly, and ensuring uninterrupted water supply.

The Health Department was instructed to identify vulnerable residents in flood-prone villages and relocate them, if necessary, as a precautionary measure. The Minister also directed officials to complete all pending works at the Medaram temple before the Chief Minister's visit and stated that contractors' pending bills would be cleared after the release of Rythu Bharosa assistance and government employees' salaries.

RS.13 Crore Road Project Set to Boost Regional Development



Hanumakonda, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Transport and BC Welfare Ponnambhakam Prabhakar on Monday said that Elkhathurthy Mandal in Hanumakonda district is set to witness accelerated development, with improved infrastructure and better public amenities paving the way for sustained progress.

The Minister was speaking after laying the foundation stone for the construction of a Black Top (BT) road from Madipalli to Elkhathurthy Junction. The road project, being executed by the Kakatiya Urban Development Authority (KUDA) at an estimated cost of ₹13 crore, aims to strengthen road connectivity and improve transportation facilities in the region.

The foundation stone was unveiled in the presence of KUDA Chairman Inagala Venkatram Reddy, KUDA Vice-Chairperson and Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai, and KUDA Chief Planning Officer Ajith Reddy with shawls in recognition of their contribution to the project. Later, the Minister, accompanied by Collector Chahat Bajpai and senior officials, inspected the main road connecting Elkhathurthy and Damera.

He instructed officials to take immediate steps to remove obstacles affecting public movement and ensure uninterrupted traffic flow. Earlier in the day, the Minister paid floral tributes to the portrait of former Deputy Prime Minister and freedom fighter Babu Jagjivan Ram on the occasion of his death anniversary.

KUDA Chairman Inagala Venkatram Reddy, local public representatives, officials, and members of the public also participated in the commemorative programme. Among those present were Elkhathurthy Sarpanch Lavanya, Market Committee Chairman Santaji, Deputy Sarpanch Raju, Hanuma kon da RDO Venkatesh, KUDA CPO Ajith Reddy, Executive Engineer Bhim Rao, Tahsildar Prasad Rao, sarpanches from various villages, and other government officials.

approval. Emphasizing the importance of timely execution, Ponnambhakam Prabhakar directed officials to complete the road works at the earliest while maintaining quality standards. He also appealed to public representatives and local residents to extend their full cooperation for the smooth implementation of the project.

Speaking on the occasion, KUDA Chairman Inagala Venkatram Reddy said the BT road would provide seamless connectivity between villages, improve transportation infrastructure, and contribute to the overall socio-economic development of the area. As part of the programme, Minister Ponnambhakam Prabhakar felicitated KUDA Chairman Inagala Venkatram Reddy, Collector Chahat Bajpai, and KUDA Chief Planning Officer Ajith Reddy with shawls in recognition of their contribution to the project.

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Ponnambhakam Prabhakar Targets BJP Over Ayodhya Temple Fund Allegations, Urges Voter List Vigilance

Husnabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnambhakam Prabhakar launched a sharp attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) during a media conference in Husnabad on Sunday, alleging that the party had exploited the faith of millions of devotees for political purposes and demanding answers over alleged irregularities related to donations collected for the Ram Janmabhoomi temple in Ayodhya.

Addressing reporters, the Minister said that it was former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who had laid the foundation for the construction of the Ram Janmabhoomi temple in Ayodhya. He stated that people from across India, particularly Hindu devotees, had contributed generously to the temple through donations made with deep faith and devotion.

Ponnambhakam Prabhakar alleged that corruption involving crores of rupees had taken place in connection with the Ram Mandir project and claimed that the people of Ayodhya themselves had recognized these irregularities at an early stage. He accused the BJP of seeking votes in the name of Lord Rama and distributing sacred akshinthalu (consecrated rice grains) during elections while allegedly misusing the donations collected for the temple.

"The BJP must answer these allegations and apologize to the people of the country," he said, accusing the party of using religion for electoral gains while engaging in financial misconduct. He further questioned why members of the Ayodhya Trust, whom he described as being close to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, had remained



silent on the issue.

The Minister alleged that temples offering boxes and donations collected nationwide in the name of Lord Rama had been misappropriated. Stressing that neither he nor the Congress party opposed Lord Rama, Ponnambhakam Prabhakar said he had actively participated in Sri Rama Kalyanam celebrations and recalled initiating a free meal programme at the Illanthakunta Ramalayam during his tenure as a Member of Parliament, which continues to this day.

Calling the alleged misuse of Ram Janmabhoomi funds an insult to the sentiments of Hindus, he said senior BJP leaders should respond and publicly acknowledge any wrongdoing if irregularities had occurred.

The Minister also criticized Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, alleging that the BJP leader repeatedly targeted the AIMIM for political mileage and depended on such rhetoric during elections.

Shifting focus to electoral preparations in Telangana,

Ponnambhakam Prabhakar emphasized the importance of the ongoing voter list revision process, describing it as a cornerstone of democracy. He said enumeration forms had reached households across the state and urged Booth Level Agents (BLAs) to work closely with Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to ensure that no eligible voter was left out of the electoral rolls.

He informed that he had personally toured seven mandals to supervise the training of Congress workers and noted that a review meeting on the voter revision exercise had recently been conducted under the leadership of the Deputy Chief Minister for the Hyderabad and Secunderabad parliamentary constituencies. He called upon party workers and election officials to ensure the voter list revision process is completed efficiently and transparently.

IMD Warns of Gusty Winds, Week-Long Rain Spell

Hyderabad, July 06 | TPN Bureau

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast strong winds and widespread rainfall across Telangana over the next week, warning that several districts could experience gusts of 50-60 kmph during the next two days.

According to the IMD's Hyderabad Meteorological Centre, strong surface winds are likely to affect Adilabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Nizamabad, Jagtial, Rajanna Sircilla, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Bhadradi Kothagudem, and Khammam districts. Residents in these areas have been advised to remain cautious as gusty winds may

cause minor damage to weak structures, uproot trees, and disrupt normal life.

The weather department has also predicted light to moderate rainfall accompanied by thunderstorms across Telangana over the next seven days. Rainfall activity is expected to continue from July 6 to July 13, bringing intermittent showers to several parts of the state.

On July 6 and 7, light to moderate rain or thundershowers are likely at a few places, while isolated rainfall is expected across many districts on the remaining days of the forecast period. Meteorologists said the prevailing weather conditions are favourable for continued monsoon activity across Telangana.

Apart from the districts



expected to witness stronger winds, the remaining parts of the state are likely to experience surface winds of 40-50 kmph over the next two days. From July 8 onwards, gusty winds of 40-50 kmph are expected at isolated locations across all districts.

The IMD has cautioned that the combination of rainfall

and strong winds could lead to waterlogging in low-lying areas, traffic congestion, slippery roads, and poor visibility, particularly during heavy showers. There is also a possibility of tree branches breaking, temporary damage to weak structures, and interruptions to electricity and water supply in some places.

Authorities have advised district administrations to remain alert and take precautionary measures wherever necessary. Citizens have been urged to avoid sheltering

under trees during thunderstorms, drive carefully on rain-soaked roads, and secure loose objects that may be blown away by strong winds.

Farmers have also been advised to monitor local weather updates and take appropriate precautions to protect standing crops and harvested produce from heavy rain and gusty winds.

With the southwest monsoon remaining active over the region, the IMD said weather conditions will continue to be monitored closely, and updated forecasts or warnings will be issued if required. Residents are advised to follow official weather bulletins and exercise caution during periods of intense rainfall and thunderstorms.

Modern Techniques Can Boost Mango Farmers' Income: Minister

Jagtial, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Welfare Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar on Monday urged farmers to adopt modern technology and scientific cultivation practices to enhance productivity and increase income from mango orchards. The Minister was addressing a district-level mango workshop organised by the Department of Horticulture and Sericulture at Sriramulapalli village in Gollapalli mandal of Jagtial district. Speaking on the occasion, Adhuri Laxman Kumar encouraged farmers to diversify beyond traditional agriculture by giving greater importance to horticulture crops. He said scientific farming methods suited to changing climatic conditions could help farmers achieve better yields while reducing cultivation



costs. The Minister observed that horticulture crops such as mango provide sustainable and long-term income to farmers and have significant market potential. He stressed that adopting improved cultivation techniques, quality planting material, and efficient water management practices would enhance profitability. He said the Telangana government is implementing several

schemes to promote horticulture by providing technical guidance, quality saplings, irrigation support, and other assistance to farmers. He urged growers to make full use of these government initiatives to improve productivity and strengthen their livelihoods. Adhuri Laxman Kumar reiterated that increasing farmers' income remains a key priority of the State government and said greater emphasis is being placed on the expansion of horticulture cultivation across Telangana. The workshop was attended by Jagtial District Collector B. Satyaprasad, horticulture department officials, agricultural scientists, and a large number of mango farmers, who discussed modern cultivation practices and strategies to improve orchard management and fruit quality.

Ponguleti Challenges KCR to Assembly Debate

Siddipet/Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Monday challenged former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) to attend the Assembly and explain the issues surrounding the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. He said the State government was prepared to convene a special session of the Assembly if KCR proposed a suitable date for a debate.

Speaking at a programme in Mulugu mandal of Siddipet district, where he, along with Minister Dr. G. Vivek Venkatswamy and Dubbak MLA Kotha Prabhakar Reddy, distributed sanction letters for the second phase of Indiramma Houses and title deeds for double-bedroom houses, Ponguleti accused the previous BRS government of being respon-



sible for the alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram project.

The Minister said KCR had once described Kaleshwaram as the "Eighth Wonder" and should now explain to the people why parts of the project suffered structural damage despite massive public expenditure. He maintained that the Congress govern-

ment had no role in the construction of the project and alleged that the BRS leadership alone must answer questions regarding its execution. Ponguleti further challenged KCR to participate in an open Assembly discussion on both the Kaleshwaram project and the implementation of the Indiramma Housing Scheme, stating that the government was ready to debate the issues before the people of Telangana.

Highlighting the government's housing initiatives, the Minister said nearly 32,000 families living in thatched houses had been identified and would be given priority under the upcoming phases of the Indiramma housing programme. He alleged that the previous BRS government had failed to complete several housing projects and claimed that many partially constructed houses had been left abandoned across the State. He said the present govern-

ment was completing pending housing projects in districts including Medak and Hyderabad and issuing house ownership documents in the names of women to promote women's empowerment.

According to the Minister, housewarming ceremonies have already been conducted for 1.3 lakh houses completed under the first phase of the Indiramma Housing Scheme, while another 70,000 to 75,000 houses have reached the slab stage. Ponguleti said the second phase of the scheme, launched under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, envisages the construction of 2.5 lakh houses, with 2,000 houses to be sanctioned in every Assembly constituency. He added that financial assistance would be provided both for new houses and for completing previously unfinished homes, irrespective of the beneficiaries' caste, religion, or political affiliation.

Bandi Sanjay Pays Tribute to Syama Prasad Mukherjee

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Monday paid rich tributes to Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee on the occasion of his birth anniversary, describing him as a visionary leader whose sacrifice for national unity continues to inspire generations of patriots.

After garlanding Mukherjee's portrait, Bandi Sanjay addressed the media and said patriotism is not merely expressed through slogans but is demonstrated through sacrifice and unwavering commitment to the nation. He said Mukherjee's death while campaigning for the complete integration of



Jammu and Kashmir with India remains one of the greatest sacrifices in the country's history.

"Many have spoken for the country, but only a few have laid down their lives for it. Syama Prasad Mukherjee will always be remembered among those who made the ultimate sacrifice for national unity," the Union Minister said.

Bandi Sanjay stated that Mukherjee believed the nation should always come before politics and dedicated his life to protecting India's unity and integrity. He recalled Mukherjee's opposition to the permit system for entering Jammu and Kashmir and his slogan, "Ek Desh Mein Do Vidhan, Do Pradhan, Do Nishan-Nahi Chalega," which opposed separate constitutional and administrative arrangements for the region.

The Union Minister alleged that Mukherjee was arrested during his movement against the permit system and later died under suspicious circumstances while in custody. He claimed that the subsequent removal of the permit requirement reflected the impact of Mukherjee's struggle. Highlighting the BJP's ideological commitment to Mukherjee's vision, Bandi Sanjay said the governments led by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Prime Minister Narendra Modi had worked towards fulfilling many of his aspirations. He cited the abrogation of Article 370, the Make in India and Startup India initiatives, and efforts to promote national self-reliance as

measures aligned with Mukherjee's ideals. The Minister also said the Modi government has ensured that welfare benefits are transferred directly to beneficiaries, eliminating middlemen and improving transparency in the delivery of government schemes. Describing Mukherjee as a statesman who transformed politics into an instrument of national service, Bandi Sanjay said the greatest tribute to the Jana Sangh founder is the continued implementation of his vision for a strong, united, and self-reliant India. He urged party workers and citizens to draw inspiration from Mukherjee's life and remain committed to the ideals of national unity and public service.

Telangana Limits Fine Paddy Bonus to Seven Seed Varieties

continued

The incentive is credited directly into the beneficiaries' bank accounts. Under the revised guidelines, however, the bonus will be available only for paddy cultivated using the seven varieties identified by the State government. The eligible varieties are RNR-15048, BPT-5204, KNM-1638, HMT Sona, Jai Sriram, WGL-44, and KNM-7715. To streamline implementation, the government has introduced a digital registration system for seed purchases. Seed dealers have been instructed to upload details of every sale through the dedicated online portal. The portal, designed specifically for the scheme, allows dealers to register seed sales and maintain records of eligible farmers. According to the guidelines, dealers must upload details including the farmer's name, father's name, seed variety, seed company, lot number, packet size, and date of purchase within the timeline prescribed by the government. The online system is applicable only to seeds sold during the 2026 Vanakalam season. The government has clarified that only farmers whose details are entered into the digital database will be eligible to receive the ₹500 per quintal bonus. Special provisions have also been made for farmers who cultivate paddy using seeds preserved from previous harvests instead of purchasing them from registered dealers. Such farmers have been advised to approach the Agricultural Extension Officer (AEO) in their respective mandals to register their crop details. Alternatively, they can submit the required information through the Agriculture Department's mobile application. Officials said the revised mechanism has been introduced to eliminate irregularities, improve transparency, and ensure that the incentive reaches genuine beneficiaries cultivating notified fine-grain varieties. The government has urged seed dealers to complete the online registration process within the stipulated deadline and advised farmers to verify that their seed purchase details are properly recorded. Farmers have also been encouraged to complete their registrations well before procurement begins to avoid delays in receiving the bonus amount.

DGP Unveils Anti-Drug Action Plan

continued

Anand said that individuals involved in the cultivation of ganja would be dealt with even more stringently than terrorists. He emphasized that the state government and police department are committed to eliminating the drug network and ensuring that Telangana remains free from narcotics-related crimes. The DGP urged all police personnel to remain vigilant and work with dedication to protect society from the growing threat of drug abuse. He instructed senior officers to implement strict preventive measures to stop young people from falling victim to addiction and to intensify intelligence gathering and enforcement against drug traffickers. Apart from the anti-drug campaign, CV Anand highlighted the importance of maintaining law and order while ensuring that policing remains people-friendly. He advised officers to discharge their duties professionally and avoid causing unnecessary inconvenience to the public. He also stressed the need to improve public service delivery by adopting modern technologies. Referring to the growing role of artificial intelligence (AI), the DGP said the technology could be effectively utilized to enhance policing, improve crime detection, streamline investigations, and provide faster and more efficient services to citizens. Reviewing the state's security situation, the DGP noted that Maoist activities in Telangana have been brought completely under control, marking a significant achievement for the police department. He said that with the decline of extremist activities, the department's focus should now shift towards tackling emerging challenges such as narcotics trafficking, cybercrime, and road safety. CV Anand called upon officers to strengthen community policing, build public confidence, and work closely with local communities to prevent crime. He said the police department must continue adapting to new challenges while ensuring the safety and security of every citizen. Senior police officials, district authorities, and local public representatives attended the inauguration ceremony of the new police station. The DGP expressed confidence that the upgraded infrastructure would enhance policing and improve public access to law enforcement services in the region.

KTR Accuses Congress of Neglecting Farmers, Assures Support to Hamali Workers

Mallapur, July 6 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) on Monday launched a sharp attack on the Congress government, alleging that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was neglecting the interests of farmers and deliberately refusing to utilize the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme despite the availability of water.

Addressing a meeting of Hamali (head-load) workers in Mallapur, KTR claimed that Telangana's farmers were facing severe hardship due to the government's failure to operate pumps at the Kannepalli Pump House. He alleged that while adequate water was available, the government was allowing it to flow wastefully instead of supplying it for irrigation.

KTR alleged that the Congress government was avoiding water release to farmers to escape the financial burden of providing irrigation, fertilizers, crop procurement, and bonus payments. He claimed that standing crops were suffering due to the delay and accused the government of ignoring farmers' welfare.

The BRS leader further alleged that land prices had declined after the Congress came to power and claimed that the present administration was attempting to tarnish the image of the previous BRS government. Referring to legal cases against BRS leaders, he said the party was not intimidated and would continue to fight for the interests of the people. Turning to the welfare of



Hamali workers, KTR recalled that during the BRS government's tenure, the wage rates for head-load workers were increased from ₹8 to ₹26, describing it as a 250 per cent hike. He said wage revisions, which were once carried out every five years, were undertaken every two

years under the leadership of former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). He assured the workers that the BRS would continue to stand by them and address issues relating to wages, health security, and welfare. "The Pink Flag will continue to fly high, and we will take

responsibility for resolving every issue faced by Hamali workers," he said. KTR also praised the agricultural growth witnessed during the BRS government's tenure, stating that farmers and labourers prospered together. He said the party's bond with the people remained intact despite being in the Opposition and expressed confidence that the BRS would regain power in the next Assembly elections. Several Hamali union representatives and BRS leaders attended the meeting, where KTR thanked the workers for their continued support and appealed to them to remain united. He reiterated that the party would continue to fight for the welfare of farmers, labourers, and all sections of society.

Ramchander Rao Pays Tribute to Mukherjee, Targets Congress and BRS

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao on Monday paid rich tributes to Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee on his birth anniversary and launched a sharp attack on both the Congress government and the BRS over the Kaleshwaram project, while also alleging selective action by HYDRAA against illegal constructions.

The birth anniversary celebrations of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder were held at the BJP State office in Nampally, where Ramchander Rao garlanded Mukherjee's portrait in the presence of senior party leaders and workers.

Addressing the media, Ramchander Rao alleged that both the Congress and the BRS were indulging in "political drama" over the



Kaleshwaram project. He claimed the previous BRS government had treated the irrigation project like an "ATM" and accused the present government of failing to take stringent action despite reports highlighting safety concerns and alleged irregularities. He questioned why the government had not initiated comprehensive repairs to the

project and demanded accountability for the expenditure of public funds. He also alleged that action had been limited to a few officials without addressing the alleged corruption behind the project. The BJP leader also criticized the functioning of HYDRAA, alleging that it was acting selectively by demolishing structures

belonging to the poor while failing to act against alleged illegal constructions linked to the AIMIM. Referring to the Fatima educational institutions, he claimed authorities had acknowledged regulatory violations and urged the government to implement court directions without discrimination. Warning of statewide protests if impartial action was not taken, Ramchander Rao said the BJP would oppose what he described as the Congress government's biased approach. Later, speaking at the "Gen Z Giri Students Conclave", Ramchander Rao urged students to study the life and sacrifices of Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee and other national leaders. He said the younger generation should understand India's history, the sacrifices made during the freedom struggle, and the

importance of national unity. He said students should not view engineering and medicine as the only successful career paths, encouraging them to pursue professions based on their interests and abilities. Sharing his own educational journey through arts and law, he said every stream of education deserves equal respect. Ramchander Rao highlighted Mukherjee's role in advocating the integration of Jammu and Kashmir with India and said the abrogation of Article 370 reflected his long-standing vision of "One Nation, One Constitution." Stressing the importance of patriotism, he called upon students to adopt the principle of "Nation First" and contribute to the country's progress irrespective of their chosen profession.

Harish Rao Demands Withdrawal of Dump Yard GO

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Former Telangana Minister and BRS MLA Harish Rao has strongly opposed the State government's decision to establish a dump yard in Siddapur village of Kothur Mandal in Ranga Reddy district, demanding the immediate withdrawal of the Government Order (GO) related to the project. He warned that the Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) would launch a large-scale agitation if the decision is not reversed.

The remarks came after farmers and residents from Siddapur and surrounding villages met Harish Rao in Hyderabad on Sunday and submitted a representation expressing their concerns over the proposed dump yard. The delegation alleged that the project would severely impact agriculture, public health, and the environment, and appealed to the senior BRS leader to fight on their behalf.

Responding to their concerns, Harish Rao criticized the Congress government for issuing GO No. 641, which provides for the establishment of a dump yard over 86 acres in Siddapur village. He described the decision as "highly condemnable" and alleged that the government had failed to consider its long-term consequences on the lives of farmers and villagers.

According to Harish Rao, the proposed site is located amid fertile agricultural lands and close to residential areas, making it unsuitable for a waste disposal facility. He claimed that nearly 20 villages in the region would be adversely



affected if the project proceeds. He said the farmers of Siddapur and nearby villages depend largely on agriculture for their livelihood, particularly vegetable cultivation that supplies produce to Hyderabad. He further alleged that the proposed dump yard is located adjacent to Gutta Cheruvu, a key water source used for irrigation, and warned that contamination of the water body could threaten both agriculture and drinking water availability in the region.

Harish Rao also expressed concern over the proximity of the site to the well-known Jahangir Peer Dargah, stating that pollution generated by the dump yard could affect devotees visiting the religious shrine as well as local residents.

Highlighting the previous BRS government's development plans, Harish Rao said that the land, comprising around 334 acres in survey numbers 252, 278, and 361, had earlier been identified for the establishment of an Information Technology (IT) Park. He said the proposed IT park was intended to generate employment opportunities for local youth and promote economic development in the area.

Niranjan Reddy Demands Rollback of App-Based Urea Booking

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Former Telangana Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy on Monday criticized the Congress government over the implementation of the app-based urea distribution system, alleging that farmers across the State are facing severe difficulties in obtaining fertilizers during the ongoing agricultural season. In a statement, Niranjan Reddy described the government as being "blind to the plight of farmers" and claimed that cultivators who should be engaged in agricultural work are instead spending time trying to book urea through a mobile application. He alleged that farmers are being forced to wait for fertilizer bookings instead of working in their fields and claimed that many are unable to secure urea through the app-based system. According to him, the government has failed to ensure adequate fertilizer availability while claiming success in introducing a digital booking mechanism. The former Minister criticized the govern-



ment's assertion that the app would curb irregularities and black marketing in fertilizer distribution. He alleged that the claim reflected administrative failure rather than effective governance and questioned the role of the government machinery in preventing the diversion of urea into the black market. Niranjan Reddy further alleged that the government was not providing irrigation water, electricity, and fertilizers to farmers on time, thereby affecting agricultural operations. He claimed that delays in supplying essential farm inputs could reduce the area under cultivation and, consequently, crop production. He also alleged that reduced agricultural output would lessen the government's procurement responsibilities, accusing the administration of neglecting farmers' interests.

Drawing a comparison with the previous BRS government, he claimed that farmers had received better support during the tenure of former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao. The former Agriculture Minister said several farmers had expressed dissatisfaction with the app-based booking system and were demanding its withdrawal. He urged the government to discontinue the digital booking mechanism, ensure adequate urea stocks at fertilizer outlets, and restore the previous method of fertilizer distribution to facilitate timely access for cultivators. Niranjan Reddy called on the State government to take immediate steps to resolve the shortage and ensure that farmers receive fertilizers without delays during the crucial cultivation season.

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Senior BRS leaders, including former Ministers Jagadish Reddy and Gangula Kamalakara, along with former MP B. Vinod Kumar, on Monday launched a fresh attack on the Telangana government over its handling of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme, alleging that it was deliberately delaying water lifting from the Kannepalli Pump House despite the availability of adequate storage capacity. Addressing a press conference, Jagadish Reddy claimed that 150 TMC of water could be stored by operating the motors at the Kannepalli Pump House. He alleged that the State government was misleading Telangana farmers and refusing to utilize the irrigation infrastructure despite its readiness. The former Minister asserted that BRS president and former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) could successfully operate the system if entrusted with the responsibility. He claimed KCR was prepared to provide an undertaking accepting responsibility if any technical issues arose during the operation, while accusing the Congress government of staging a "political drama" instead of addressing farmers' concerns. Jagadish Reddy further contended that the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) had no role in preventing water storage and alleged that the government was misrepresenting the authority's observations. He also accused the administration of avoiding water lifting due to concerns over electricity costs and other financial commitments. Former Minister Gangula Kamalakara questioned why water was not being lifted from Kannepalli and Yellampalli, alleging that the government was ignoring the interests of Telangana's farmers. He warned that the BRS would revive its "Chalo Kannepalli" and "Chalo Yellampalli" protest programmes if the pumps were not operated. Former MP B. Vinod Kumar also criticized the government's stand, claiming that the NDSA had only recommended repairs to minor defects at the Annaram and Sundilla barrages and had not advised against storing water. He urged the government to partially fill the barrages and begin lifting operations immediately. The BRS leaders further alleged that the State continued to utilize a significant portion of the Kaleshwaram project while simultaneously criticizing it. They also accused the government of prioritizing large-scale sand excavation from the barrages instead of ensuring water storage for irrigation. The leaders demanded immediate commencement of water lifting operations from Kannepalli, urging ministers from the erstwhile Karimnagar, Warangal, and Nalgonda districts to persuade the Chief Minister to take swift action in the interest of Telangana's farmers. BRS leaders Gellu Srinivas Yadav, Dharmender Reddy, and others also participated in the press conference.



Konda Surekha Meets New Forest Principal Secretary

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Forest, Environment and Endowments Konda Surekha on Monday met the newly appointed Principal Secretary of the Forest and Environment Departments, Shailaja Ramaiyer, and expressed confidence that the departments would achieve greater efficiency and progress under her leadership. Shailaja Ramaiyer, who recently assumed charge as Principal Secretary, paid a courtesy visit to the Minister at her residence in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad. During the meeting, Konda Surekha extended her best wishes to the senior IAS officer and wished her success in her new assignment. The Minister expressed hope that the Forest and Environment Departments

would further strengthen their performance and effectively implement the State government's priorities under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Konda Surekha directed the Principal Secretary to prepare and implement a comprehensive action plan aimed at improving the functioning of both departments. She emphasized the need to execute key initiatives in a systematic and time-bound manner, focusing on environmental conservation and sustainable forest management. The Minister highlighted several priority areas, including environmental protection, the successful implementation of Vana Mahotsav tree plantation programmes, conservation of wildlife and biodiversity, prevention of forest fires, and the adoption of modern technology to enhance forest pro-



tection and monitoring. She stressed that coordinated efforts by officials at all levels would help strengthen the departments and ensure the effective implementation of government policies across Telangana. During the meeting, the Minister and the Principal

Secretary also held a brief review of the ongoing programmes and discussed various administrative and developmental initiatives being undertaken by the Forest and Environment Departments. According to the Minister, the State government is committed to protecting

Telangana's natural resources while promoting sustainable development. She said the departments would continue to focus on increasing green cover, safeguarding wildlife habitats, and adopting technology-driven solutions to improve forest conservation. Shailaja Ramaiyer assured the Minister that the departments would work in accordance with the government's vision and strive to implement all programmes efficiently, with special emphasis on environmental protection and ecological sustainability. The meeting marked the beginning of coordinated efforts between the Minister and the newly appointed Principal Secretary to further strengthen Telangana's forest conservation and environmental management initiatives.

Three Held with RS.20.56 Lakh Ganja at Secunderabad Station



Secunderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

In a major crackdown on interstate narcotics trafficking, a joint team of the Government Railway Police (GRP), the Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) Eagle Team, and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) arrested three persons and seized over 41 kg of ganja at Secunderabad Railway Station. The operation was carried out on July 5, resulting in the busting of an alleged drug smuggling network transporting cannabis from Balangir in Odisha to Nagpur in Maharashtra. The arrested accused have been identified as Mahesh Dilip Vandhare (25) and Kartik Chandrakant Ambe (30), both natives of Maharashtra, along with a 17-year-old juvenile. During the operation, officials seized 41.131 kilograms of dried ganja, estimated to be worth ₹20.56 lakh in the illegal market. Police registered a case under Crime No. 344/2026 under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and the Juvenile Justice Act. The juvenile has been dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act. According to the investigation, the contraband was

allegedly handed over to the accused by Sanju Sahu, a resident of Balangir district in Odisha. The accused were reportedly instructed to transport the ganja to Nagpur for delivery. Police said the trio was intercepted while waiting at Secunderabad Railway Station to board the Dakshin Express bound for Nagpur. Acting on specific intelligence, the joint team searched the suspects and recovered the concealed contraband before it could be transported further. The alleged kingpin, Sanju Sahu, is currently absconding, and efforts are underway to trace and apprehend him. Investigators are also probing whether the accused are linked to a larger interstate drug trafficking network. The operation was jointly carried out by personnel of GRP Secunderabad, the TGANB Eagle Team, and the Railway Protection Force (RPF). Following the successful operation, K. Ramesh Naidu, Inspector General of Railway and Road Safety, congratulated the officers involved for their coordinated effort in detecting the case. He also announced that suitable rewards would be presented to the police personnel in recognition of their successful operation and commitment to curbing narcotics trafficking.

'Gift a Smile' Initiative Marks Dhanvik Goud's Birthday

Secunderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

A "Gift a Smile" programme was organized at the Government School in Seethaphalmandi on Monday to commemorate the birthday of Teegulla Dhanvik Goud, grandson of former Deputy Speaker and Secunderabad MLA Teegulla Padma Rao Goud. The initiative was organized by Dhanvik's parents, Teegulla Rameshwar Goud and Shilpa Rameshwar, who distributed school bags to all students studying at the government school as part of the celebrations. Addressing the gathering, Rameshwar Goud said that birthdays should be celebrated by contributing to society and supporting the education of children. He expressed



hope that the distribution of school bags would encourage students in their academic journey and motivate them to pursue their studies with confidence.

He also assured that efforts would be made to improve the infrastructure at the Seethaphalmandi Government School. He said initiatives would be taken to

facilitate the construction of better school buildings and provide essential amenities to ensure a more conducive learning environment for students. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and local residents. School authorities appreciated the gesture, noting that such initiatives help promote education and encourage students from economically weaker sections. Government School Headmaster Sanjeev thanked the organizers for supporting the students and emphasized the importance of community participation in strengthening government educational institutions. He said contributions from individuals and organizations play a significant role in enhancing

facilities and boosting student morale. Coordinator Raja Sundar also lauded the initiative and said programmes like "Gift a Smile" reflect a commitment to social responsibility and the welfare of children. Several political leaders, teachers, family members, and close associates of the organizers attended the event and extended their best wishes to Dhanvik Goud on his birthday. The participants appreciated the philanthropic gesture and expressed hope that similar programmes would continue to benefit students and encourage educational development in the future. The event concluded with interactions between the organizers, school staff, and students in a cheerful atmosphere.

Praja Vani Receives Four Public Grievances

Quthbullapur, July 6 | TPN Bureau

The Praja Vani public grievance redressal programme held in the Dundigal Circle of Quthbullapur on Monday witnessed active public participation, with citizens submitting representations on civic and infrastructure-related issues. Deputy Commissioner Dr. S. Venkata Manikaran personally received complaints from residents during the programme, which was organized to provide a direct platform for the public to present their grievances before officials and facilitate their prompt resolution. According to officials, a total of four complaints were registered during the programme. Of these, one com-



plaint pertained to the Town Planning Department, while the remaining three complaints were related to the Engineering Department. After reviewing the representations, Dr. Venkata Manikaran instructed the concerned departmental officials to thoroughly examine

each complaint and take appropriate action in accordance with the prescribed rules and regulations. He stressed that every grievance should be addressed without unnecessary delay and directed officials to ensure transparency and accountability while handling public

issues. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized that the Praja Vani programme serves as an important bridge between the administration and citizens, enabling people to directly communicate their concerns to the authorities. He said officials must discharge their responsibilities with sincerity and work towards resolving public grievances efficiently. Officials from various departments assured the public that the complaints received during the programme would be processed promptly and that necessary measures would be taken after verification of the issues raised. The Praja Vani initiative is being conducted regularly to

strengthen public service delivery and improve coordination between government departments and citizens. The programme enables residents to bring attention to issues related to civic infrastructure, town planning, engineering works, and other public services requiring official intervention. Among those who attended the programme were ACP Srinivas, Deputy Engineers Papamma and Anvesh Reddy, Assistant Engineer Surender Naik, along with officials from the Town Planning and Engineering Departments. They interacted with citizens and assured them that appropriate action would be taken to address the grievances submitted during the public hearing.

Harish Rao Visits Injured MLC Shambhipur Raju

Quthbullapur, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Former Telangana Minister Harish Rao on Sunday visited the residence of Medchal District BRS President and MLC Shambhipur Raju, who recently sustained minor injuries in a road accident while travelling to the Kannepalli Reservoir in Warangal district. During the visit to Shambhipur, Harish Rao enquired about the MLC's health and wished him a speedy recovery. He advised Shambhipur Raju to strictly follow the doctors' instructions, take adequate rest, and focus on a full recovery before resuming his public engagements. Expressing concern over the incident, Harish Rao said he was relieved to know that the injuries were minor and hoped the MLC would soon return to normal health. He extended his best wishes to Shambhipur Raju and his family. The visit was marked by the presence of several BRS leaders and party workers, who also gathered at the MLC's residence to enquire about his condition and offer their support. They conveyed their wishes for his speedy recovery and expressed confidence that he would soon resume his political and public service activities. Party leaders



praised Shambhipur Raju's dedication to public service and said they were encouraged by reports that he was recovering well after the accident. The road accident occurred while the MLC was travelling to the Kannepalli Reservoir in Warangal district. Although he sustained minor injuries, he has been recovering under medical supervision. The visit by Harish Rao reflected the solidarity within the BRS leadership, with party colleagues coming together to extend moral support to the injured legislator during his recovery. BRS leaders and workers present on the occasion prayed for Shambhipur Raju's good health and early return to active public life, expressing hope that he would soon continue his responsibilities as Medchal District BRS President and Member of the Legislative Council.

ACB Arrests DSP Bheem Reddy in Disproportionate Assets Case

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Monday arrested DSP Bheem Reddy in connection with a disproportionate assets case, following the recovery of valuable and documents during extensive searches conducted at multiple locations across the state. According to ACB officials, the arrest was made after investigations into allegations that the police officer had accumulated assets disproportionate to his known sources of income. The action follows large-scale raids carried out five days ago at properties linked to Bheem Reddy and his relatives. During the coordinated operation, ACB teams conducted searches at 16 locations across Telangana. Officials reportedly seized a substantial quantity of valuables, includ-

ing approximately two kilograms of gold, 20 kilograms of silver, and 23 bottles of foreign liquor. Investigators also examined and seized several documents relating to movable and immovable properties. The bureau is currently verifying the ownership, value, and source of the assets recovered during the searches. Officials are also scrutinizing properties allegedly held in the names of the officer's family members and close associates as part of the ongoing investigation. Following the raids, Bheem Reddy reportedly fell ill and underwent medical treatment. After his health condition improved, the ACB formally placed him under arrest on Monday in accordance with the investigation process. Officials said the probe is continuing to determine

whether the assets are disproportionate to the officer's legitimate income and to establish the financial trail of the recovered properties and valuables. Further legal action will be taken based on the findings of the investigation. The arrest of a DSP-rank police officer in a corruption case has drawn significant public attention across Telangana. The ACB is expected to release additional details regarding the valuation of the seized assets, documentary evidence, and the progress of the investigation in the coming days. Authorities stated that the case remains under investigation and that more information is likely to emerge as officials continue examining the financial records and property documents linked to the accused officer.

GHMC Launches Free Doorstep Collection of Bulky Household Waste

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has launched a free doorstep collection service for bulky household waste, making it easier for residents to dispose of old furniture and

other large discarded items in an environmentally responsible manner. Announcing the initiative, GHMC said residents no longer need to dump bulky waste such as old mattresses, sofas, chairs, tables, and similar household items on roadsides, in vacant plots, or into stormwater

drains. The civic body publicized the new service through its official X (formerly Twitter) account, urging citizens to make use of the facility.

According to GHMC, the initiative is aimed at improving urban cleanliness, preventing ille-

gal dumping, and promoting scientific waste management practices across the city. Under the programme, municipal teams will collect bulky waste directly from residents' doorsteps free of cost.

The corporation stated that all collected items

will be processed and recycled using safe and scientific methods, helping reduce environmental pollution while encouraging responsible waste disposal.

Residents can schedule a free pickup in advance by scanning the QR code provided by GHMC.

BRS Leaders Pay Tribute to Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram

Secunderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

BRS leaders and members of the Babu Jagjivan Ram Association paid rich tributes to former Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram on the occasion of his 40th death anniversary at New Bhoiguda-Bholakpur in Secunderabad on Monday. Senior BRS leader Aesuri Mahesh attended the commemorative programme as the chief guest and offered floral tributes to the portrait and statue of the veteran national leader. Speaking on the occasion, Mahesh recalled Dr. Jagjivan Ram's invaluable contributions to the nation, particularly his lifelong commitment to social justice, equality, and the empowerment of marginalized communities. He said Dr. Jagjivan Ram



remained an inspiration for generations through his ded-

ication to public service and his efforts to uphold demo-

cratic values. Mahesh urged people, especially the younger generation, to follow the ideals and principles of the late leader and work towards building an inclusive and equitable society. He noted that Dr. Jagjivan Ram's legacy continues to inspire those striving for social reform and justice, adding that his contributions to India's political and social landscape remain significant even today. The tribute programme was organized under the auspices of the Babu Jagjivan Ram Association, with participants remembering the former Deputy Prime Minister's distinguished public life and his role in advancing the welfare of weaker sections of society. Several community leaders, BRS members, and local res-

idents participated in the event and paid their respects by offering floral tributes. Among those present were Keys Blocks Association President Palle Sudhakar, M.R. Rambabu, General Secretary M. Vijay, Mallikarjunaswamy Temple Chairman Gundram Sriramulu, Palle Sanjeeva Rao, Sadanand, L. Suresh, Akram, Mekasik Madhukar, and several other association members and local leaders. The speakers called upon citizens to preserve and promote the values of equality, justice, and public service championed by Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram. The programme concluded with participants reaffirming their commitment to carrying forward his vision of social harmony and inclusive development.

Uttam Kumar Reddy Felicitates NCC Cadet Yadaiah for Aerospace Achievement

Hyderabad, July 5 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy has called upon the youth of the State to excel in the fields of defence, space research, science, and technology, stating that their talent and dedication will play a crucial role in shaping India's future. The Minister made these remarks while felicitating K. Yadaiah, an NCC cadet and student of Jayaprakash Narayan Engineering College (JPNCE), Mahabubnagar, in Hyderabad. Yadaiah recently completed the prestigious "Satata Shayananu Sandhanam" programme conducted by the Institute of Aerospace Medicine (IAM) of the Indian Air Force in Bengaluru. Congratulating the young cadet, Uttam Kumar Reddy said it was a matter of pride for Telangana that Yadaiah was selected from among thousands of candidates across the country through a rigorous screening process. He described the achievement as a reflection of the immense potential of Telangana's youth. The Minister said young people should aspire to contribute not only by securing employment but also by actively participating in nation-building through careers in defence, scientific research, aerospace, and advanced technology. He emphasized that India is emerging as a global leader in strategic sectors, creating unprecedented opportunities for talented youth. Highlighting the role of the National Cadet Corps (NCC), Uttam Kumar Reddy said the organisation instils discipline, leadership, patriotism, and a sense of responsibility among students, preparing them for greater roles in national service. He expressed confidence that Yadaiah's accomplishment would inspire many more students from Telangana to pursue excellence in defence and space-related fields. "Youth like Yadaiah form the strong foundation of the nation's future. With discipline, determination, and hard work, nothing is impossible," the Minister said. The programme completed by Yadaiah was jointly organised by the Institute of Aerospace Medicine (IAM), the ICMR Centre for Advanced Research in Space Psychology, and the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS). The felicitation programme was attended by JPNCE Chairman K.S. Ravikumar, Principal Dr. P. Krishnamurthy, Sai Teja, EEE Head of Department Venkatesh, Jagadeesh Kumar, faculty members, and students, congratulating Yadaiah on his achievement and wished him success in his future endeavours.



BRS Leader Demands Release of Pending Rythu Bharosa Funds

Adilabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

BRS social media leader Mazhar from Adilabad district on Monday demanded that the Telangana government immediately release all pending Rythu Bharosa assistance to farmers, alleging that the Congress government has failed to honour its commitments to the farming community. In a statement, Mazhar claimed that delays in providing crop investment support have compelled many farmers to borrow money to meet cultivation expenses during the current agricultural season. He alleged that the government had not fulfilled the promises it made to farmers during the Assembly election campaign. The BRS leader criticized the government's phased release of Rythu



Bharosa funds, alleging that while some farmers had received assistance, many eligible beneficiaries were still awaiting payments. He

also claimed that in an earlier phase, the benefit had been restricted to farmers owning up to two acres, leaving several cultivators with-

out financial support. Mazhar demanded that the State government issue a white paper detailing the amount of pending Rythu Bharosa assistance due to each farmer on a per-acre basis. He urged the government to deposit all outstanding amounts into farmers' bank accounts without further delay. According to Mazhar, the government owes farmers nearly ₹21,000 crore under three pending instalments of the Rythu Bharosa scheme. Referring to figures related to the 2026 Vanakalam (monsoon) season, he alleged that dues remain unpaid for approximately 1,18,92,952.11 acres of cultivated land across the State. He further alleged that the Congress government had weakened the farm investment support programme introduced during

the previous BRS administration and claimed that farmers were being denied the timely financial assistance required for cultivation. Calling upon the government to prioritise the welfare of the farming community, Mazhar said investment support was the rightful entitlement of farmers and should be released without discrimination. He warned that if the pending Rythu Bharosa dues were not cleared at the earliest, farmers would be compelled to intensify their agitation across Telangana. He urged the government to address the issue immediately and ensure that all eligible farmers receive the financial assistance due to them before the ongoing cultivation season progresses further.

BJP Leader Questions Government Over Job Promise

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

BJP Legislature Party (BJLP) leader Eleti Maheshwar Reddy has written an open letter to Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, seeking clarity on the Congress government's employment promises and demanding immediate steps to fill vacant government posts. In the letter, Maheshwar Reddy questioned the status of the Congress party's pre-

election promise to provide two lakh jobs every year after assuming office. He asked the government to explain the progress made in fulfilling its commitments to unemployed youth across the State. The BJP leader alleged that thousands of aspirants were still waiting for recruitment notifications and urged the government to provide a clear roadmap for implementing its employment assurances.

Referring to vacancies in the Police Department, Maheshwar Reddy claimed that nearly 20,000 posts remain vacant in Telangana. He criticized the government's decision to issue a recruitment notification for only 7,000 posts, arguing that it was insufficient to address the shortage of personnel as well as the expectations of unemployed youth. He demanded that the State government immediately initiate the recruitment

process to fill all vacant police posts instead of limiting appointments to a portion of the available vacancies. Maheshwar Reddy also urged the government to ensure transparency and accountability in the recruitment process and to provide equal opportunities to eligible candidates seeking government employment. Stating that employment generation was one of the major promises made by

the Congress before coming to power, the BJP leader called on the government to honour its commitments and deliver justice to unemployed youth by expediting recruitments across all departments. He said the government should provide a comprehensive update on its job creation and recruitment plans and take concrete measures to fulfill the aspirations of thousands of job seekers in Telangana.

Government Appoints PIC Committees for Seven More PACS

Hyderabad, July 6 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has appointed alternative non-official Person-in-Charge (PIC) committees for seven more Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) across the State. Agriculture, Marketing, Cooperation, Handlooms and Textiles Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao announced on Monday. In a press release, the Minister said the government had earlier

issued orders appointing alternative PIC committees for 20 PACS. With the latest decision, another seven cooperative societies have been brought under newly constituted committees to ensure the smooth functioning of the institutions. According to the Minister, the appointments have been made under the provisions of the Telangana Cooperative Societies Act. The committees will remain in office for six months, or

until elections are conducted for the respective societies, or until further orders are issued by the government, whichever is earlier. The newly appointed alternative PIC committees are for the Devampalli and Gattududdenapalli Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies in Karimnagar district, Bhuvanagiri, Chandupatla, and Bibinagar PACS in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district, Nallabelli PACS in Warangal district, and

Pudur PACS in Vikarabad district. Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao said the newly constituted committees would assume charge immediately and oversee the administration and day-to-day functioning of their respective cooperative societies until elected governing bodies take office. He directed the Special Commissioner and Registrar of Cooperative Societies to take all necessary follow-up measures for

the effective implementation of the government orders and to ensure a smooth transition in the management of the societies. The Minister said the appointments were aimed at maintaining continuity in the functioning of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies and ensuring that services to farmers and cooperative members continue without interruption until regular elections are conducted.

Kutbullapur, July 6 | TPN Bureau

Kutbullapur Zonal Commissioner Pinkesh Kumar (IAS) on Monday conducted an on-site inspection of the ongoing development works at the Kompally Central Park, directing officials to expedite the project while maintaining high quality standards to provide residents with a modern recreational space. Accompanied by Kompally Circle Deputy Commissioner Lavanya, the Zonal Commissioner reviewed the progress of various works being undertaken at the park and interacted with officials overseeing the project. During the inspection, Pinkesh Kumar instructed the concerned departments to ensure that every aspect of the park's development is completed with a strong emphasis on quality, durability, and public convenience. He stressed that the park should offer a clean, green, and pleasant environment where residents of all age groups can spend quality leisure time. According to officials, the Kompally Central Park is being developed with a range of modern amenities, including dedicated walking tracks, expansive green zones, an energy-efficient lighting system, children's play areas, and comfortable seating facilities. The park is expected to become a major recreational destination for local residents, providing a peaceful escape from the city's busy urban landscape. The Zonal Commissioner directed officials to accelerate the pace of work so that the park can be opened to the public at the earliest. He also emphasized the importance of long-term maintenance and instructed officials to prepare a sustainable upkeep plan to preserve the park's greenery and facilities after its completion. Pinkesh Kumar said that public parks play a vital role in improving the quality of urban life by promoting health, recreation, and environmental sustainability. He asked officials to ensure that the park is developed in a manner that caters to the needs of children, senior citizens, walkers, and families. Deputy Commissioner Lavanya also reviewed the progress of the works and discussed various aspects of the project with the engineering and horticulture teams present at the site. Officials from various municipal departments participated in the inspection and assured the Zonal Commissioner that the development works would be completed within the stipulated timeframe while adhering to the prescribed quality standards. The park is expected to significantly enhance green spaces and recreational infrastructure in the Kompally area of Kutbullapur.

Worker Dies in Drowning Incident Abroad

Nizamabad/Bahrain, July 6 | TPN Bureau

A Telangana native working in Bahrain lost his life after accidentally drowning off the coast of Durrat Al Bahrain, leaving his family in Nizamabad district in deep grief. The deceased, identified as Srinivas, hailed from Nizamabad district and had been employed with AMC Company in Bahrain since November 26, 2019. He was working as an operator in the company's project department. According to available information, Srinivas had visited the Durrat Al Bahrain coastline when he accidentally drowned in the sea. Following the incident, Bahrain's Coast Guard teams rushed to the spot and launched an intensive search and rescue operation. After searching the waters, rescue personnel recovered Srinivas's body. Local authorities subsequently informed AMC Company about the incident, following which company representatives conveyed their condolences and informed his family members in Telangana about the tragic loss. The news has plunged Srinivas's family into mourning. Relatives, who had hoped he would continue supporting the family through his overseas employment, were left devastated by his sudden death. Family members expressed profound grief, recalling that Srinivas had gone abroad with the dream of securing a better future for them. The bereaved family has appealed to both the Telangana government and the Union government to extend necessary assistance in expediting the repatriation of Srinivas's mortal remains from Bahrain to his native place in Nizamabad district so that the final rites can be performed in the presence of his loved ones. Officials are expected to coordinate with the Indian Embassy in Bahrain and the concerned authorities to complete the required legal and administrative formalities for transporting the body to India. The incident has once again highlighted the hardships faced by overseas workers and the emotional toll such tragedies impose on families back home. Further details regarding the repatriation process are awaited.

800 Animals Vaccinated on World Zoonoses Day

Hyderabad, July 06 | TPN Bureau

Around 800 animals received free anti-rabies vaccinations at the Super Specialty Veterinary Hospital in Narayanguda on Monday as part of World Zoonoses Day observances. The event also featured an awareness programme highlighting diseases that can spread from animals to humans and the importance of preventive healthcare. World Zoonoses Day is observed every year on July 6 to commemorate the first successful administration of a rabies vaccine by French scientist Louis Pasteur in 1885. The day aims to raise awareness about zoonotic diseases and encourage measures to prevent their transmission. Speaking on the occasion, District Animal Husbandry

Officer Dr. Praveen Kumar said the programme focused on preventing rabies and educating pet owners about zoonotic diseases, which can be transmitted between animals and humans. Pet owners from various parts of Hyderabad visited the hospital throughout the day to avail themselves of the free vaccination drive for their animals. Veterinary experts explained that zoonotic diseases account for nearly 60 percent of all known infectious diseases affecting humans. They noted that illnesses such as rabies, brucellosis, leptospirosis, avian influenza, Nipah virus infection, and COVID-19 demonstrate the significant impact animal-borne diseases can have on public health, food security, and the economy. Addressing the awareness



programme, Dr. Rahul Narang, Professor and Head of the Department of Microbiology and Nodal

Officer of the Regional Coordinator for One Health (RCOH-NCDC) at AIIMS, emphasized the importance

of adopting a One Health approach. He said effective prevention of future outbreaks requires close coordination between human, animal, and environmental health systems. Dr. Narang stressed the need for continuous disease surveillance, early detection, regular animal vaccination, food safety measures, vector control, and greater public awareness to reduce the risk of zoonotic diseases. He urged pet owners to ensure timely vaccination of their animals and maintain proper hygiene to safeguard both animal and human health. Officials said the vaccination drive and awareness programme received an encouraging response, reflecting growing public awareness about responsible pet care and disease prevention.

Editorial

Golden Family Scheme Needs Transparency

The concept of the Bangaru Kutumbam (Golden Family) scheme is undoubtedly a good one. Any initiative aimed at supporting poor families deserves appreciation. However, the real concern lies in the manner in which the beneficiaries are being selected. The present situation has become difficult to understand and raises several unanswered questions.

When the scheme was launched, the district collectors announced that a certain number of families had been selected as beneficiaries. But there has been no clarity on how these families were identified. What are the criteria? On what basis are they being chosen? These questions remain unanswered.

Are the lists being prepared and submitted by local Telugu Desam Party leaders? Or are the authorities identifying poor families through an official survey and then selecting those who are in extreme poverty? There is no indication that such a systematic process is being followed. Similarly, if the intention is to identify poor families whose children are performing exceptionally well in their studies, there is no clarity on that either.

Such ambiguity creates doubts in the minds of the public and weakens confidence in an otherwise well-intentioned scheme. Welfare programmes become meaningful only when the process of identifying beneficiaries is transparent, fair, and accessible to everyone.

The government should, therefore, issue clear guidelines explaining the eligibility criteria and the procedure for selection. Instead of leaving the process unclear, it should invite applications from families who genuinely require assistance. This would enable the authorities to verify the applicants and identify the real beneficiaries based on objective standards.

A good concept should not lose its credibility because of a lack of transparency. The success of the Bangaru Kutumbam scheme will ultimately depend not only on the assistance it provides but also on the fairness and openness with which deserving families are selected.

Editor

Did we just experience a world without order?

The Fragile World Order and India's Resilient Growth Engine



For nearly two centuries, the global landscape relied on a structured—if often heavily dictated—sense of order. From Pax Americana to the oversight of the United Nations and NATO, a centralized network of interventions and sanctions served as the world's geopolitical anchor. However, recent developments in the world order have been unacceptable. The UN and the global community were silenced by a thug.

Recent years have exposed the fragility of this paradigm. The shift toward aggressive tariff policies and the escalation of the unilateral conflict between the United States and Iran have disrupted this historical order. Instead of containment, the world has faced an energy crisis and severe supply chain fractures that have rippled through both developed and developing economies.

During the late 1980s and 1990s, I worked as a journalist in the Middle East for leading dailies and news agencies. At the time, I had many Iranian friends who would often tell me that, regardless of global sanctions, they would never starve because their domestic production and consumption were fully self-reliant. Today, despite extensive conflicts and geopolitical pressure from the US and Israel, Iran manages to stand steady. While everyday life has become incredibly grueling for the average citizen, the

country as a whole has largely absorbed the shock, having grown deeply accustomed to surviving under heavy sanctions.

When we look at India, the Global headwinds and the energy toll did not shook India. Yet, amidst this global turbulence, India's economic narrative is emerging as a masterclass in macroeconomic resilience. As the world navigates the fallout of the West Asia conflict, India's first-quarter growth reports for FY27 demonstrate an economy capable of self-sustaining momentum.

The geopolitical friction in the Gulf has sent shockwaves through international markets, manifesting primarily as elevated energy costs and systemic logistics disruptions. For a global economy still finding its footing, the conflict served as a reminder of how dependent international trade remains on regional stability.

Recognizing these severe external headwinds, the Reserve Bank of India proactively adjusted its economic projections. The central bank revised its FY27 growth forecast down to 6.6% from an earlier estimate of 6.9%, explicitly citing the prolonged Iran-US conflict, high energy costs, and fractured supply lines. The manufacturing sector also felt the pinch, with the HSBC Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) easing to a three-month low of 54.2 in June, down from 55 in May, as ex-



port demand softened under global strain.

Despite these realigned forecasts and international roadblocks, India's domestic economic indicators tell a story of remarkable internal strength. The country ended Q1 of FY27 on a remarkably strong footing, powered by strong domestic consumption and robust fiscal compliance. While global trade disruptions created friction, a massive 34.6% surge in GST revenue from imports (reaching 60,038 crore) heavily supported indirect tax revenues, offsetting minor plateaus in purely domestic trade expansion.

The roadmap for the remainder of FY27 requires cautious optimism. Economists note that while the West Asia conflict has lasted longer than anticipated, minor relief is appearing via

cooling crude oil prices. However, domestic variables like a volatile monsoon outlook mean policy execution must remain agile.

Ultimately, India's ability to chart a steady path forward—with Q1 expansion holding at 6.6% and projected to climb to 6.8% by Q4—proves that the nation is no longer just vulnerable to external shocks. In a world severely lacking a steady geopolitical order, India is proving that strong internal governance, robust digital infrastructure, and a massive domestic market can keep the economic engine revving, no matter the roadblocks outside its borders.

Infographics
Several high-frequency indicators from June underscore this momentum

Robust Fiscal Collections: Gross Goods and Services

Tax (GST) collections surged by 13.9% year-on-year to 1.95 lakh crore, bringing the total Q1 collection to 6.32 lakh crore (an 8.4% increase from the previous year).

• Surging Consumer Demand: Domestic passenger vehicle sales recorded an impressive 24% growth, showing that consumer discretionary spending remains vibrant.

• Industrial Output & Power: Reflecting high economic activity, power consumption increased by 11.6% to 166.5 billion units.

• Digital Transaction Momentum: The Unified Payments Interface (UPI)—the ultimate barometer of grassroots commerce—saw transaction volumes jump 23% and transaction values climb 20% year-on-year.

Flip side of RTI Act

RTI Act Burdening PIOs Amid Rising Misuse Concerns



It has been 20-odd years since the RTI Act, 2005 came into existence. It is, arguably, one of the most empowering laws for Indians. Millions of people, through this Act, have sought information and got their grievances redressed. Besides unearthing many scams running into crores of rupees, it has also brought accountability and transparency into the system.

There may be fewer instances where information has been withheld for ulterior motives, but in the majority of cases, information requested has been furnished to the petitioners.

As per the Act, in all administrative units or offices, one officer has to be designated as Assistant Public Information Officer (APIO) and another senior officer in the hierarchy would be designated as Public Information Officer (PIO). But the Act doesn't create posts of APIOs and PIOs.

If viewed from the perspective of the Public Information Officer (PIO), who happens to be the most important cog in the wheel of the RTI Act, it is PIOs who are bearing the brunt of the workload and other arising problems in the process of implementation of the Act.

As a result, this Act imposes an additional burden on ministerial staff who, besides discharging their regular duties, have to furnish information requested under the Act.

Petitioners submit RTI requests in many modes—either directly in the office, by post, or even online.

Tracking all these petitions

is increasingly becoming difficult for PIOs and APIOs. Every day, tens of applications are received in every office. In some offices like Revenue, Municipal Administration, Panchayat Raj and Excise departments, petitions come like a torrent.

Petitioners do not wait even for a day and demand information immediately, though a mandatory period of 30 days is prescribed for furnishing information.

Some persistently follow up till they receive the information and even exert pressure on PIOs in one way or another. Furnishing information has been getting delayed due to many reasons such as workload, special programmes being launched by the government from time to time, unearthing documents from bundles lying in the record room, elections and other factors. In fact, all these reasons are beyond the powers of PIOs.

When RTI requests are received by post, disposing of such applications becomes a problem as a majority do not provide any details, including phone numbers. Some petitions are like letters, and even after reading them a few times, it is difficult to conclude what is being asked.

These petitioners, after expiry of 30 days, appeal to the first appellate authority with a day's notice to furnish information.

In a hurry, leaving all administrative work behind, officials begin the information hunt and submit it to the applicant, duly certifying all the documents.



Sometimes PIOs face flak for delays from the appellate authority, and even petitioners hurl abuses at them directly.

Sometimes the information sought runs into a few hundred pages. In a good number of cases, all the employees in the office have to be deployed to unearth old documents, which consumes two to three days or even more.

Untying cloth bundles of files is a laborious and irksome process for tracing documents, especially those over 20 years old. Entering the record room itself is considered punishment, as dust mites irritate the

nose and throat when old records are handled, leading to cough and respiratory problems.

If they approach the commission, the final appellate authority, the PIO has to go to the capital city, wait there throughout the day, bear all travel expenses, and even pay a penalty if imposed.

Some RTI activists who make their livelihood out of this Act go on filing petition after petition till the PIO's spirit is snapped and they surrender. This may be minuscule, but they are holding the system to ransom.

Another difficulty is that, as per the provisions of Section 4(1)(a), land acquisition records should be computerised and connected through a network so that access to such records is facilitated.

Unfortunately, in many states, land records have not been fully computerised, resulting in severe problems in tracing old documents. There are instances where petitioners rush to the commission even without exhausting the forum of the first appellate authority, just to harass PIOs. Unfortunately, in a few cases, the commission has entertained such

petitions. In some other cases, appeals filed during the tenure of earlier PIOs come up for hearing after a change in officers. The incumbent PIO is then forced to attend the commission proceedings, bearing all expenses for no fault of their own. Some file petitions seeking information in a specific format, which is not possible as the Act states that information has to be furnished "as is where is" basis. Others seek personal information, which is barred under the Act, and when refused with reasons, still move to the next forum. Some even threaten PIOs with legal action

if information is delayed. The problem is not with genuine petitioners but with a few activists who seek information with mala fide intentions. Like this, the Act keeps PIOs always on tenterhooks, like a Damocles sword hanging over their heads. With increasing aspirations of people and a growing trust deficit between the public and the government, people are suspecting everything and filing RTI petitions to know the status of every work undertaken by the government. The result is a growing volume of petitions, putting pressure on precious human resources.



Shah Announces Cooperative Life Insurer

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Monday announced that the Centre will soon establish a cooperative life insurance company and launch a utility aggregator cooperative modelled on Bharat Taxi, India's first cooperative-based ride-hailing platform. The initiatives were unveiled during the fifth Foundation Day celebrations of the Ministry of Co-operation in New Delhi.

Speaking at the event, Shah said the proposed cooperative life insurance company would build on the success of the IFFCO-Tokio model and significantly strengthen the role of cooperatives in the insurance sector. He added that the government also plans to introduce a utility aggregator cooperative, expanding the cooperative movement into new service sectors while creating greater economic opportunities for members.

Highlighting the achievements of the cooperative sector, Shah said cooperatives currently account for nearly 20 per cent of agricultural credit, 35 per cent of fertiliser distribution, 21 per cent of sugar production and 35 per cent of the country's milk production. He said these figures reflect the growing importance of cooperatives in India's rural economy.



Monsoon Landslides Disrupt Mumbai-Pune Rail and Road Connectivity

Heavy monsoon rains triggered multiple landslides in Maharashtra on Monday, severely disrupting road and rail connectivity between Mumbai and Pune. The downpour led to the suspension of several train services, closure of key highways and large-scale traffic congestion, prompting authorities to launch restoration efforts and issue weather warnings.

According to Central Railway, landslides occurred in the Karjat-Lonavala ghat section after continuous rainfall caused boulders and debris to fall onto railway tracks. As a result, at least 16 trains were cancelled, while several long-distance services were diverted, short-terminated or rescheduled. Railway officials advised passengers to check the latest train status before starting their journeys. Restoration work is underway despite persistent rainfall.

The heavy rain also affected road transport. A major landslide near the Mumbai-Pune Expressway's "Missing Link" tunnel temporarily halted traffic, while the old Mumbai-Pune Highway was also closed as a precaution. Although movement on parts of the expressway was later restored, officials urged motorists to avoid un-

ecessary travel until weather conditions improve.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw reviewed the situation and directed officials from Central and Western Railways to work together to restore normal services as quickly as possible. Emergency teams have been deployed to clear debris, inspect tracks and ensure passenger safety. Authorities said restoration efforts remain challenging because heavy rainfall is expected to continue.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for Mumbai and surrounding regions, warning of extremely heavy rainfall, strong winds and the possibility of additional landslides in vulnerable areas. Residents have been advised to stay indoors unless necessary and follow official advisories.

The latest disruption highlights the challenges posed by the monsoon season in Maharashtra, particularly along the busy Mumbai-Pune transport corridor. With restoration work continuing and weather conditions remaining unfavourable, authorities are closely monitoring the situation to minimise further disruption and ensure the safety of commuters.

PM Modi's Indonesia Visit to Deepen Strategic Partnership

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Indonesia is expected to give a major boost to defence cooperation, digital partnerships and economic ties between the two countries, according to Indonesia's Ambassador to India, Ina Hagniningtyas Krishnamurthi. The visit is seen as an important step in strengthening the comprehensive strategic partnership between New Delhi and Jakarta.

The ambassador said both nations are working to deepen collaboration in key sectors, including defence manufacturing, maritime security, digital technology and trade. Several agreements are expected to be announced during the visit, reflecting the growing strategic importance of India-Indonesia relations in the Indo-Pacific region.

Defence cooperation is likely to be one of the main highlights of the visit. The two countries are exploring opportunities to expand joint military exercises, strengthen naval cooperation and increase collaboration in defence production. Maritime security is also expected to feature prominently, given the strategic location of both countries



along vital sea routes. Digital technology is another area where stronger cooperation is anticipated. Discussions are expected to focus on digital public infrastructure, fintech, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. Indonesia has shown interest in India's successful digital initiatives, including its digital payment ecosystem and public digital platforms, which could serve as models for future collaboration.

Trade and investment are also expected to receive renewed attention. Both countries aim to increase bilateral trade and encourage greater investments in sectors such as infrastructure, renewable energy, manufacturing and critical minerals. Officials believe

stronger economic ties will complement the expanding strategic partnership.

The visit also highlights the close cultural and historical links shared by India and Indonesia. The ambassador noted that cooperation in education, tourism and people-to-people exchanges will continue to strengthen the relationship. Prime Minister Modi's visit is expected to reaffirm India's commitment to enhancing ties with Southeast Asia under its Act East Policy. As both nations seek to play a greater role in ensuring peace, stability and economic growth in the Indo-Pacific, the visit is likely to pave the way for new initiatives and long-term collaboration across multiple sectors.

BJP, JD(S) Seek Probe into Voter Roll Revision Process

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its ally Janata Dal (Secular) have demanded an inquiry into alleged irregularities in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Karnataka, accusing election officials of violating the Election Commission's guidelines. A delegation of NDA leaders submitted a formal complaint to Karnataka's Chief Electoral Officer, seeking immediate action.

The complaint, signed by Union ministers H.D. Kumaraswamy, Pralhad Joshi and Shobha Karandlaje, along with senior BJP leaders R. Ashoka, R. Ashwath Narayan and former Chief Minister D.V. Sadananda Gowda, alleged that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) were not conducting the mandatory door-to-door verification of voters. Instead, they claimed enumeration forms were being filled at community halls, mosques and even the homes of BLOs, which they said violated Election Commission norms.

The BJP and JD(S) also alleged that WhatsApp groups had been created to encourage voters to visit these locations for enrolment, raising concerns over the transparency and neutrality of



the revision exercise. The opposition leaders urged the Election Commission to investigate the matter, claiming that evidence of the alleged violations had already surfaced on social media and in sections of the media.

Responding to the allegations, Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar rejected the accusations, asserting that the state government had no role in conducting the voter list revision. He said the Special Intensive Revision was being carried out entirely under the supervision of the Election Commission and that Booth Level Officers were following the poll body's instructions.

Taking a swipe at the BJP, Shivakumar described the com-

plaint as politically motivated and claimed the opposition was anxious because the Congress government was actively creating awareness about the voter verification exercise. He maintained that his government would not interfere in the Election Commission's work.

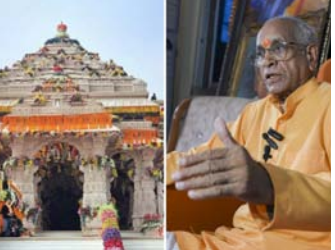
The dispute has intensified political tensions in Karnataka ahead of the 2028 Assembly elections. While the BJP and JD(S) continue to press for an independent inquiry into the alleged procedural lapses, the Congress government insists the revision process is being conducted fairly and transparently under the Election Commission's supervision.

Champat Rai Steps Down as Ram Temple Trust Gen' Secretary

The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has accepted the resignation of its General Secretary, Champat Rai, amid the ongoing investigation into the alleged theft of donations collected at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya. The decision was taken during a crucial meeting of the Trust on Monday, with trustees also appointing senior member Bajrang Bagra as the new General Secretary.

Champat Rai had stepped down from his post on June 27, citing moral responsibility after allegations surfaced regarding the alleged embezzlement of devotees' donations. Trustee Anil Mishra had also resigned around the same time. Under the Trust's by-laws, however, the acceptance of their resignations only relieves them of their official responsibilities. They continue to remain life members of the Trust.

The resignations come amid a widening probe into the alleged



misuse of temple donations. A Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been examining the handling of cash offerings and the system used to count and record donations received from devotees. Several people have already been arrested in connection with the case, and investigators are looking into possible lapses in supervision and financial management.

Ahead of the Trust meeting, treasurer Govind Dev Giri clarified that he had no role in the day-to-day counting of donations and maintained that all audit records were secure. He said local trustees and authorised person-

nel were responsible for managing the counting process and supported a thorough investigation into the allegations.

The controversy has sparked political debate, with Opposition parties demanding greater transparency and accountability in the management of the temple's finances. Trust president Nitrya Gopal Das appealed against politicising the issue and expressed confidence that the investigation would establish the facts while preserving the sanctity of the Ram Temple.

The Trust's decision marks a significant step in addressing the controversy as the investigation continues. While new leadership has been put in place to oversee the Trust's day-to-day affairs, authorities remain focused on completing the probe into the alleged financial irregularities and ensuring that donations made by millions of devotees are handled with complete transparency and accountability.



Modi Steps In After Kejriwal's 'Who Are You?' Jibe at BJP Chief

A political row intensified on Monday after Prime Minister Narendra Modi publicly praised BJP president Nitin Nabin, responding to former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's "Who are you?" remark aimed at the party leader. The exchange has triggered fresh war of words between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

The controversy began after Kejriwal questioned Nitin Nabin's identity while reacting to his criticism over allegations related to the Ram Temple. The AAP leader's remark drew sharp reactions from BJP leaders, who accused him of disrespecting the party's newly elected national president.

Stepping into the debate, Prime Minister Modi shared posts on social media highlighting Nabin's humble background and student life in Delhi. The posts described how Nabin lived with friends, travelled by public buses and led a simple lifestyle while pursuing his education. Praising the BJP chief, Modi said his simplicity, openness and commitment were a matter of pride for every BJP worker. Kejriwal responded by thanking the Prime Minister

for introducing Nabin to the public but shifted the focus back to his allegations regarding the Ram Temple. He questioned why those allegedly involved in irregularities related to temple funds and land matters had not been punished, reiterating his demand for action against those responsible. The BJP launched a strong counter-attack, with several leaders accusing Kejriwal of arrogance and attempting to divert attention from the issue. Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta criticised the AAP leader for his "Who are you?" remark, while Delhi minister Parvesh Verma also mocked Kejriwal in a social media response, escalating the political confrontation.

The latest exchange has further sharpened political tensions between the BJP and AAP ahead of upcoming electoral battles. While the BJP has projected Nitin Nabin as a grassroots leader known for his simplicity and organisational work, the AAP continues to press its allegations regarding the Ram Temple issue. The verbal clash has once again brought political rhetoric to the forefront, with both parties showing no signs of backing down.



West Bengal Rajya Sabha Bypolls Scheduled for July 24

The Election Commission has announced by-elections for three Rajya Sabha seats from West Bengal, paving the way for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to strengthen its position in the Upper House. Polling for the vacant seats will be held on July 24, with counting scheduled on the same day.

The vacancies arose after former Trinamool Congress (TMC) MPs Sukhendu Sekhar Ray, Sushmita Dev and Prakash Chik Baraik resigned from the Rajya Sabha and quit the party in June amid political developments following the West Bengal Assembly elections. Ray and Baraik's terms were due to end in August 2029, while Dev's tenure was scheduled to continue until April 2030.

As per the Election Commission's schedule, nominations will be filed between July 7 and July 14, scrutiny of nomination papers will take place on July 15, and candidates can withdraw their nominations until July 17. Voting, if required, will be conducted in the West Bengal Assembly on July 24 from 9 am to 4 pm, followed by counting from 5 pm onwards.

Rajya Sabha members are elected by Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs)

through the system of proportional representation using a single transferable vote. With the 294-member West Bengal Assembly now having a changed political composition after the recent state elections, the BJP is expected to comfortably secure all three seats if the election is uncontested.

The expected victory would increase the BJP's strength in the Rajya Sabha from 114 to 117 members, while the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) would reach 155 seats in the 245-member House. Although the alliance would still remain short of the two-thirds majority required for passing constitutional amendment bills, the gain would significantly improve its legislative position in the Upper House.

The development is politically significant as the Centre has indicated its intention to pursue major constitutional reforms, including advancing the implementation of women's reservation and pushing its "One Nation, One Election" proposal. A stronger presence in the Rajya Sabha is expected to aid the government in building support for such key legislative initiatives in the coming months.



NIA Alleges Hafiz Saeed Orchestrated Pahalgam Terror Attack

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a supplementary chargesheet in the Pahalgam terror attack case, naming Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) founder Hafiz Saeed as an accused. The chargesheet, submitted before the NIA Special Court in Jammu, alleges that Saeed masterminded the cross-border conspiracy behind the at-

tack and has been charged both in his individual capacity and as the chief of the banned LeT and its proxy outfit, The Resistance Front (TRF).

According to the NIA, Hafiz Saeed has been booked under multiple provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act

(UAPA). The agency has accused him of waging war against India, planning the terror conspiracy from Pakistan and directing activities through the TRF, which investigators say acted as a front for the LeT.

The Pahalgam terror attack, which took place on April 22, claimed the lives of 25 tourists and a local resident, making it

one of the deadliest attacks on civilians in Jammu and Kashmir in recent years. The incident triggered nationwide outrage and led to an intensified counter-terrorism response by Indian security agencies.

Officials said the latest chargesheet strengthens the prosecution's case by formally linking the attack to Pakistan-based terror leadership. The

NIA maintains that the assault was part of a larger cross-border conspiracy aimed at destabilising peace in Jammu and Kashmir. The agency has indicated that further investigations are continuing to identify additional conspirators and gather more evidence related to the planning, financing and execution of the attack.



PoK Protest Leader Seeks Opening of LoC for Humanitarian Relief

Amid escalating unrest in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) leader Sardar Aman Khan has appealed to India for humanitarian assistance, alleging that the Pakistani administration has imposed an economic blockade that has left residents facing severe shortages of food, medicines and other essential supplies. His appeal comes as protests against Islamabad's policies continue to intensify across the region.

Addressing a large gathering at Rawalakot's Eidgah Ground, Khan urged New Delhi to extend humanitarian support and called for the Line of Control (LoC) to be opened for civilians if conditions worsen. In a video widely shared on social media, he said the people of PoK urgently needed India's help, claiming that security forces had tightened restrictions following a crackdown on demonstrators. Meanwhile, NDTV reported that it could not independently verify the authenticity of the video.

During his speech, Khan asked the crowd whether they should march towards the LoC, prompting loud chants in support from those gathered. He warned that if the authorities continued responding to peaceful demands with force, the movement could take a different course. The JAAC leader also accused Islamabad of worsening the humanitarian situation through its actions against

protesters.

The protests in PoK have grown significantly over the past month, evolving from demonstrations over inflation, rising electricity costs and shortages of subsidised wheat into a broader movement demanding political reforms and greater autonomy. Last week, thousands of protesters reportedly raised slogans such as "PoK is not part of Pakistan" and "We want freedom," reflecting growing public dissatisfaction with Islamabad's administration of the region. Tensions increased further after Pakistani authorities declared the JAAC a terrorist organisation in June and launched a crackdown on its leadership. According to protest organisers, several leaders were arrested, while clashes between security forces and demonstrators resulted in casualties. The JAAC has accused police of using excessive force to suppress peaceful protests, allegations that have further fuelled public anger.

The ongoing unrest has drawn widespread attention as analysts describe it as one of the most serious challenges to Pakistan's control over the region in recent years. While the protesters continue to demand political rights, economic relief and administrative reforms, Khan's appeal for humanitarian assistance from India has added a new dimension to the crisis, highlighting concerns over the welfare of civilians caught in the prolonged confrontation.



Russian Missile Strike on Kyiv Kills Eight Ahead of NATO Summit

At least eight people were killed and dozens injured after Russia launched a fresh wave of ballistic missile attacks on Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, just a day before the NATO summit in Turkey. The strike, the second major assault on the city in less than a week, caused widespread destruction to residential buildings and infrastructure while rescue teams searched for survivors trapped under debris.

According to Ukrainian authorities, multiple explosions were heard across Kyiv as air raid sirens sounded early Monday morning. Fires broke out in several neighbourhoods after missiles struck residential areas, while emergency workers rushed to evacuate civilians and extinguish the flames. Officials said dozens of people were wounded, and the death toll could rise as rescue operations continued.

The latest attack comes at a crucial diplomatic moment, with US President Donald Trump expected to hold talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on the sidelines of the NATO summit. Trump is also scheduled to speak with Russian President Vladimir Putin, as international efforts to revive peace negotiations continue despite the escalating conflict.

Ukraine said its air defence systems intercepted several incoming drones and missiles, but some ballistic missiles managed to evade defences and hit their targets. The attacks damaged apartment buildings,

public infrastructure and vehicles, leaving several parts of the capital without power. Authorities urged residents to remain in shelters as the threat of further strikes remained high.

Meanwhile, fighting continued in eastern Ukraine, particularly around the strategic town of Kostyantynivka in the Donetsk region. While Russia has claimed advances in the area, Ukrainian officials insist their forces continue to defend the town and have rejected Moscow's claims of full control. The battlefield remains one of the war's most fiercely contested fronts.

The renewed missile barrage underscores the continuing intensity of the conflict, now well into its fifth year. Military analysts believe Russia is attempting to increase pressure on Ukraine ahead of key diplomatic meetings, while Kyiv is urging its Western allies to provide additional air defence systems and military assistance.

The NATO summit is expected to focus heavily on the war in Ukraine, regional security and future military support for Kyiv. Zelensky is likely to press alliance members for stronger commitments, while Trump's meetings with both Zelensky and Putin will be closely watched for any signs of progress toward reducing tensions. Despite renewed diplomatic efforts, the latest attack highlights the fragile security situation and the challenges facing any future peace initiative.

Iran Thanks India for Solidarity at Ayatollah Khamenei's State Funeral

Iran has expressed heartfelt gratitude to India for participating in the state funeral of its late Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, describing the gesture as a symbol of the long-standing friendship and mutual respect shared by the two nations. The message was issued by the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in India through a statement on social media following the funeral ceremonies held in Tehran.

A high-level Indian delegation represented the country at the funeral. The delegation included Bihar Governor Lt Gen (Retd.) Syed Ata Hasnain and Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita. Several prominent Indian political and religious leaders, including Congress leader Salman Khurshid, People's Democratic Party chief Mehbooba Mufti, and representatives of Sikh, Hindu, Muslim and Christian communities, also attended the ceremonies to pay their respects.

In its statement, the Iranian Embassy thanked the Government and people of India, particularly the official delegation, for standing with Iran during a period of national mourning. It said the presence



of Indian leaders, parliamentarians, scholars, intellectuals and religious representatives reflected the deep historical, cultural and human ties between the two countries.

The embassy described India's participation as a "powerful expression of mutual respect and sincere solidarity." It added that the people of Iran would never forget India's gesture of friendship, compassion and respect, calling it a valuable foundation for further strengthening bilateral relations. The embassy also conveyed its appreciation to all Indians who expressed sympathy and support following Khamenei's death.

Meanwhile, Tehran witnessed massive crowds as the funeral procession for Ayatollah Khamenei moved through the capital. According to Iranian state media, the proces-

sion is expected to be one of the largest public gatherings in the country's modern history. Thousands of mourners lined the streets, waving flags and paying their final respects as the flag-draped coffin was carried through the city.

Authorities imposed extensive security arrangements and appealed to people to remain calm and avoid overcrowding along the route. The procession is scheduled to travel across Tehran before Khamenei's burial at the Imam Reza shrine in Mashhad, his birthplace. The funeral ceremonies have become a significant national event, drawing widespread public participation and international attention while highlighting the diplomatic outreach shown by countries, including India, during Iran's time of grief.

Khamenei's Funeral Draws Huge Crowds Amid Calls for Revenge

Massive crowds gathered in Tehran for the funeral of Iran's late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, where grief over his death was accompanied by strong anti-US and anti-Israel sentiments. Thousands of mourners waved Iranian and red flags, carried portraits of Khamenei, and chanted slogans calling for revenge against those they blamed for his killing.

One of the most striking moments of the gathering drew widespread attention as analysts describe it as one of the most serious challenges to Pakistan's control over the region in recent years. While the protesters continue to demand political rights, economic relief and administrative reforms, Khan's appeal for humanitarian assistance from India has added a new dimension to the crisis, highlighting concerns over the welfare of civilians caught in the prolonged confrontation.

Addressing the gathering made remarks calling for the death of US President Donald Trump, drawing loud cheers from the crowd. Protesters also displayed banners and placards with messages targeting Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, reflecting widespread anger following Khamenei's assassination earlier this year.

The funeral, held at Tehran's Imam Khomeini Grand Mosalla, attracted hundreds of thousands of mourners and was one of the largest public gatherings in Iran in recent years. Many participants had arrived before dawn, dressed in black and carrying flags symbolising mourning and revenge. Red flags, traditionally associated



with calls for justice in Shia Islam, were prominently displayed throughout the ceremony.

The event was not only a religious ceremony but also a political demonstration of unity and defiance. Senior Iranian leaders, military commanders and religious figures attended the funeral, while crowds repeatedly shouted "Death to America" and "Death to Israel." The emotional atmosphere reflected continuing tensions between Iran, the United States and Israel after the conflict that claimed Khamenei's life.

Despite the hostile slogans, diplomatic efforts between Washington and Tehran remain under discussion, although negotiations have been delayed during the funeral pe-

riod. The ceremonies are expected to continue with processions across several Iranian cities before Khamenei is laid to rest in Mashhad, one of the country's holiest cities.

The funeral has drawn global attention, not only because of the enormous turnout but also due to the open calls for vengeance voiced by some mourners. Analysts believe the event highlights the deep anger among Khamenei's supporters and underscores the fragile state of relations in the Middle East following months of conflict. The procession has become a powerful symbol of both national mourning and political resistance, with Iran using the occasion to project unity while tensions with the US and Israel remain high.

Indian Embassy Issues Fresh Thailand Travel Advisory

The Indian Embassy in Bangkok has issued a fresh travel advisory for Indian citizens visiting Thailand following changes to the country's visa and immigration rules. The advisory aims to help travellers avoid delays or denial of entry by ensuring they carry all required documents and meet the latest entry requirements before departure.

The advisory comes after Thailand ended its visa-free entry scheme for Indian passport holders, making it essential for travellers to obtain the appropriate visa based on the purpose of their visit. The embassy has urged visitors to check all travel documents carefully and comply with Thai immigration regulations to ensure a smooth journey.

According to the embassy, travellers must carry a passport with at least six months' validity from the date of arrival. They should also have confirmed return or onward tickets, hotel reservations, and a clear travel itinerary. In addition, all passengers are required to complete the Thailand Digital Arrival Card (TDAC) online within 72 hours



before arriving in the country. The digital form generates a QR code that may be requested during immigration checks.

The embassy has also highlighted financial requirements for tourists. Those travelling under Visa on Arrival (VOA) or similar tourist provisions should carry at least 20,000 Thai Baht (around 58,000) in cash per traveller, as immigration officials may ask visitors to show proof of sufficient funds before granting entry. Officials have advised passengers to keep all required documents readily accessible while passing through immigration counters.

The advisory further cautions travellers against entering Thailand on a tourist visa or Visa on Arrival if they in-

tend to work in the country. Individuals with confirmed job offers should obtain the appropriate employment visa before travelling, as using a tourist visa for employment may violate Thai immigration laws. Transit passengers have also been advised to carry all necessary documents, including visas and onward travel tickets required for their final destination.

The embassy stressed that every traveller, even those travelling in groups or with family, should carry their own passport, visa and supporting documents. Immigration authorities may conduct individual checks, and incomplete documentation could lead to delays or refusal of entry.

Thailand remains one of the most popular overseas destinations for Indian tourists, attracting millions of visitors every year. The latest advisory is intended to ensure that Indian travellers are fully prepared for the updated immigration procedures and can enjoy a hassle-free visit by complying with all entry requirements before leaving for Thailand.



Trump Renews Feud with Meloni Ahead of NATO Summit

US President Donald Trump has reignited his public feud with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni by sharing a provocative social media post just days before the NATO summit, where both leaders are expected to meet. The post, shared on Trump's Truth Social platform, featured an edited image of Meloni looking at him with the caption, "Restraining order needed," implying that the Italian leader was overly interested in him.

The latest exchange follows a dispute that began after last month's G7 summit. Trump had claimed that Meloni repeatedly asked him for a photograph and suggested that she was eager to be seen alongside him. He also criticised European policies on immigration and energy while accusing Italy of being reluctant to support US military operations related to Iran.

Meloni strongly rejected Trump's remarks, calling them "completely made up." She insisted that neither she nor Italy had ever begged for a photograph and stressed that Italy's decisions are guided solely by its national interests. Speaking to Italian media, Meloni said she believes in maintaining a strong alliance with the United States but added that genuine partnerships must also be based on honesty and mutual respect.

Trump's latest post has drawn fresh attention because

it comes on the eve of the NATO summit in Turkey, where the two leaders are expected to interact. While neither side has officially commented on the meme, the incident has sparked criticism from political leaders in Italy, with some accusing Trump of undermining relations between close allies through personal attacks. Italian officials, however, have sought to downplay the controversy, emphasising that the strategic partnership between the United States and Italy remains strong despite disagreements between their leaders.

The public spat marks a significant shift in the relationship between Trump and Meloni, who were once viewed as ideological allies. Their ties have become strained over differences on issues including the Iran conflict and broader foreign policy priorities. Trump's repeated social media attacks have added a personal dimension to the diplomatic disagreement, drawing widespread international attention.

As NATO leaders prepare to discuss security challenges and transatlantic cooperation, the renewed feud risks overshadowing the summit. Observers say the exchange highlights growing tensions within the alliance and raises questions about how personal political rivalries could influence diplomatic relations among key Western partners.



Sri Lanka Prison Violence Claims 25 Lives, Military Put on Standby

At least 25 people were killed and around 100 others injured after violent clashes erupted between rival groups of inmates at Negombo Prison in Sri Lanka, marking one of the country's deadliest prison incidents in recent years. The unrest began on Sunday and continued into Monday, prompting authorities to place the military on standby as police worked to regain control of the overcrowded facility.

According to police and hospital officials, the violence broke out between convicted prisoners and inmates being held on remand. The exact cause of the clash has not yet been established, and investigations are underway to determine what triggered the confrontation. Officials said parts of the prison were still being secured as rescue and identification efforts continued.

Local media reported that both inmates and prison officials were among those killed. Several of the injured suffered serious gunshot wounds and were rushed to Negombo General Hospital for treatment. Television footage showed buses transporting wounded prisoners under heavy police escort while armed security personnel guarded the prison complex.

Sri Lankan Army spokesperson Brigadier Waruna Gamage said the military had been requested to assist police if required but had not yet entered the prison. Security forces re-

mained on standby as authorities sought to restore order and prevent the violence from spreading further.

The incident has once again highlighted the severe overcrowding in Sri Lanka's prison system. The country's prisons currently house more than 39,000 inmates despite having a capacity of only about 10,000, creating difficult living conditions and increasing the risk of unrest. Experts have repeatedly warned that overcrowding, inadequate facilities and the presence of organised criminal gangs make prisons vulnerable to violent outbreaks.

Authorities have launched multiple investigations into the incident, including efforts to identify those responsible for the violence and determine whether security lapses contributed to the escalation. Officials are also assessing the extent of the damage inside the prison and reviewing security procedures to prevent similar incidents in the future.

The Negombo prison clash is the deadliest episode of prison violence in Sri Lanka in more than five years and has raised fresh concerns over conditions inside the country's correctional facilities. As investigations continue, officials are focused on restoring normalcy, treating the injured and ensuring the safety of prison staff and inmates while addressing long-standing challenges facing the prison system.

Markets Rally for Fourth Straight Session

Indian benchmark equity indices continued their upward momentum for the fourth consecutive trading session, with the Sensex surging 521 points and the Nifty closing comfortably above the 24,400 mark. Positive global cues, sustained foreign institutional investor (FII) buying and broad-based sectoral gains helped fuel the rally, keeping investor sentiment upbeat.

The BSE Sensex ended the session at 78,285.07, gaining 521.16 points or 0.67 percent, while the NSE Nifty 50 climbed 159.50 points, or 0.66 percent, to settle at 24,430.35. Both indices traded in positive territory throughout the day, reflecting strong buying interest across key sectors.

The broader market also participated in the rally. The Nifty Midcap index advanced around 0.4 percent, while the Smallcap index gained nearly 0.7 percent, indicating healthy participation beyond large-cap stocks. Market breadth remained positive, with advancing stocks comfortably outnumbering declining ones on both exchanges.

Financial stocks emerged as the biggest contributors to the day's gains, supported by renewed buying in private and public sector banks. Construction and consumer services stocks also witnessed robust demand, while select auto, capital goods and infrastructure companies attracted investor interest. Realty and industrial stocks extended their recent gains as optimism over domestic economic growth continued to strengthen.

Market experts attributed the sustained rally to multiple



factors, including continued FII inflows, easing concerns over global interest rates and improving domestic macroeconomic indicators. Expectations of a favourable monsoon, steady corporate earnings and declining crude oil prices have also boosted confidence among investors.

The ongoing rally reflects growing optimism that India's economic fundamentals remain strong despite global uncertainties. Analysts believe the market is drawing support from resilient domestic demand, stable inflation and expectations that the Reserve Bank of India will maintain a

balanced monetary policy in the coming months.

However, experts also cautioned that after four consecutive sessions of gains, some profit booking cannot be ruled out. Investors have been advised to remain selective while focusing on fundamentally strong companies rather than chasing momentum-driven stocks. Volatility may increase ahead of key global economic data releases and the upcoming corporate earnings season.

Looking ahead, market participants will closely monitor foreign investment flows, quarterly earnings announce-

ments and global developments for fresh cues. The progress of the monsoon, movement in crude oil prices and policy signals from major central banks are also expected to influence sentiment in the coming weeks.

Despite the possibility of short-term volatility, the broader outlook remains positive. The latest rally highlights the resilience of Indian equities and reinforces investor confidence, with many analysts believing the market could maintain its upward trajectory if supportive domestic and global conditions continue.

Market Expansion Boosts Multicap Investment Case

The recent rally in the Indian stock market has expanded well beyond large-cap companies, strengthening the investment case for multicap mutual funds. According to a report by Axis Mutual Fund, the broader participation from mid-cap and small-cap stocks is creating opportunities for investors who seek diversified exposure across different segments of the equity market.

Over the past few months, market gains have no longer been concentrated in a handful of heavyweight stocks. Instead, a wider range of companies across sectors and market capitalisations has contributed to the upward momentum. This broad-based rally has improved the outlook for multicap funds, which are mandated to invest across large-cap, mid-cap and small-cap stocks.

Axis Mutual Fund believes that maintaining consistent exposure to all three market segments can help investors benefit from different phases of the market cycle. While large-cap stocks typically provide stability during periods of uncertainty, mid-cap and small-cap com-



panies often deliver stronger growth when market conditions are favourable. A multicap strategy allows investors to participate in both stability and growth without having to constantly shift allocations.

The fund house also noted that predicting which market segment will outperform at any given time is extremely difficult. Instead of making tactical bets, investors may be better served by remaining invested across the market spectrum through professionally managed multicap funds. This approach reduces the need to time

the market while ensuring participation in emerging investment opportunities.

Experts point out that India's economic growth story continues to support a wide range of businesses rather than just the largest listed companies. Sectors such as manufacturing, infrastructure, financial services, consumer goods and technology have all witnessed increased investor interest, contributing to the broader market rally.

Another advantage of multicap funds is diversification. By spreading investments across companies of varying sizes,

these funds help reduce concentration risk. If one segment underperforms, gains from another segment may help balance overall portfolio returns. This diversified approach makes multicap funds suitable for long-term investors looking to build wealth while managing market volatility.

However, financial experts caution that investors should align their investment choices with their financial goals, risk tolerance and investment horizon. While mid-cap and small-cap stocks can generate higher returns, they may also experience greater volatility during market corrections.

With the broader market continuing to attract investor attention, multicap funds are increasingly being viewed as an effective way to participate in India's long-term growth story. By offering balanced exposure across market segments and allowing professional fund managers to identify opportunities, these funds can serve as a strong core holding for investors seeking diversified equity exposure and long-term capital appreciation.

Global Liquidity Concerns Hit Equity Flows

Foreign investors continued to reduce their exposure to equities for the second consecutive week, with India-focused funds witnessing withdrawals of nearly \$250 million amid weakening global liquidity and cautious investor sentiment. The latest trend reflects a broader shift in capital allocation as global investors reassess risk across emerging markets.

According to recent market data, total foreign withdrawals from Indian equities stood at around \$580 million during the week. Of this, India-dedicated funds accounted for \$250 million in outflows, while the remaining withdrawals came through broader Global Emerging Market (GEM) and Asia ex-Japan investment allocations. Although the outflows have increased compared to the previous week, they remain significantly lower than the heavy selling witnessed earlier this year. The cautious approach is not limited to India. US equity funds also experienced their second straight week of outflows, with investors pulling nearly \$17 billion



from the market. This follows an earlier week that saw withdrawals of approximately \$8 billion, suggesting that global investors are becoming more selective after a period of strong equity market gains.

Market analysts believe the moderation in global liquidity is one of the key reasons behind the recent trend. Concerns over interest rates, slowing capital flows and changing risk appetite have prompted investors to trim exposure to emerging markets, including India. At the same time, profit booking after recent market rallies has also contributed to the outflows.

The broader emerging market landscape has remained under pressure as well. Global Emerging Market funds recorded another week of net redemptions, extending a prolonged streak of outflows. Several Asian markets, including Taiwan and South Korea, also witnessed foreign fund withdrawals, reflecting a cautious stance among international investors.

Sector-wise, investor sentiment has weakened across commodity-linked funds. Energy, metals and gold-related investment funds have experienced notable outflows as investors shifted towards more defensive strategies

amid uncertain global conditions. Despite the recent selling, market experts believe India's long-term investment story remains intact. Strong domestic economic growth, resilient corporate earnings, healthy retail participation and continued support from domestic institutional investors continue to provide a solid foundation for the equity market. Analysts also note that the current pace of foreign selling is considerably lower than the sharp outflows recorded during March and April.

Going forward, investors will closely monitor global central bank policies, geopolitical developments, corporate earnings and foreign investment flows for fresh market cues. While short-term volatility may persist, many experts believe India's structural growth prospects remain attractive over the long term. As a result, the recent withdrawals are being viewed more as a temporary shift in global capital allocation than a sign of weakening confidence in the Indian market.

Knack IPO Allotment Today

Investors who applied for the Knack Packaging Initial Public Offering (IPO) are eagerly awaiting the allotment, which is expected to be finalised today. The public issue received an overwhelming response during the subscription period, reflecting strong investor confidence and increasing expectations of a healthy market debut.

The 439.5-crore IPO was open for subscription from July 1 to July 3 and attracted robust demand across all investor categories. Institutional investors, non-institutional investors and retail participants showed significant interest, making the issue heavily oversubscribed. The strong response has reduced the chances of allotment for many applicants, particularly in the retail segment where demand far exceeded the shares available.

Once the allotment process is completed, investors can check their application status through multiple online platforms. The status can be verified on the registrar's website by entering details such as the PAN number, application number or DP/Client ID. Applicants can also check their allotment status on the websites of the BSE and



NSE using their application details.

If shares are allotted, they will be credited to investors' demat accounts before the listing date. Applicants who do not receive an allotment will have their blocked funds released or refunds initiated as per the IPO schedule. According to the timeline, refunds and credit of shares are expected to be completed on July 7, while the company's shares are scheduled to make their stock market debut on July 8. The latest Grey Market Premium (GMP) has remained positive ahead of the listing. Shares are reportedly commanding a premium of around 17-18 over the upper price band, indicating an expected listing gain of nearly 10-11 percent if market condi-

tions remain stable. However, market experts caution that GMP is an unofficial indicator and should not be treated as a guarantee of actual listing performance. Knack Packaging is engaged in manufacturing printed and laminated woven polypropylene bags and customised industrial packaging solutions. The company serves a wide range of sectors, including agriculture, food, chemicals, fertilisers, pet food and construction materials. It plans to utilise the proceeds from the fresh issue primarily for setting up a new manufacturing facility in Gujarat and for general corporate purposes.

With strong subscription numbers and encouraging grey market sentiment, market participants will now closely watch the company's stock market debut. While positive demand has raised expectations of a strong listing, analysts advise investors to consider the company's long-term business prospects rather than focusing solely on listing-day gains. The performance of the broader market on the listing day will also play an important role in determining the stock's opening performance.

Kotak Expects Mixed Q1 for Consumer Firms

Consumer sector stocks are expected to remain in focus as the June quarter earnings season begins, with Kotak Institutional Equities identifying Titan, Marico and Nestlé India among its top investment picks. The brokerage expects these companies to deliver strong quarterly performances, while forecasting relatively weaker results for ITC and Jubilant FoodWorks.

According to Kotak's latest quarterly preview, India's consumer sector is likely to witness resilient demand despite a challenging macroeconomic environment. Stable raw material costs, timely price increases and healthy consumption trends are expected to support earnings for several leading companies, particularly in the staples and jewellery segments. Among the brokerage's preferred picks, Titan is expected to report another robust quarter, driven by continued strength in its jewellery business. The company is likely to benefit from sustained demand for gold jewellery, festive purchases and an expanding retail network. Strong sales growth in its flagship Tanishq brand is also expected to contribute significantly to overall earnings.

Marico is another company expected to deliver an impressive performance. The FMCG major is likely to benefit from improving rural demand, fa-



vourable pricing and healthy volume growth across its key product categories. Similarly, Nestlé India is projected to post solid revenue growth, supported by strong consumer demand, product innovation and stable input costs.

Kotak is also optimistic about companies such as Hovana Consumer, Godrej Consumer Products, Tata Consumer Products, Colgate-Palmolive India, Hindustan Unilever, Dabur and Britannia Industries. The brokerage believes these companies are well-positioned to maintain healthy revenue growth while managing operating margins through efficient cost control and disciplined pricing strategies.

In contrast, ITC is expected to face a more challenging quarter. The brokerage anticipates pressure on its cigarette business following recent tax-related price hikes, which could weigh on sales volumes and profitability. Jubilant FoodWorks is also likely to report weaker earnings due to

slower demand in the quick-service restaurant segment and margin-related challenges.

Beyond the staples segment, Kotak remains positive on select discretionary businesses. Decorative paints, adhesives and premium consumer categories are expected to perform well, reflecting improving urban demand and continued spending on home improvement and lifestyle products. The brokerage also sees encouraging momentum in the beverages segment, with companies benefiting from strong summer demand and healthy consumption trends.

As investors prepare for the earnings season, market participants will closely monitor management commentary on consumer demand, inflation, rural recovery and input costs. Analysts believe these factors will shape expectations for the remainder of the financial year.

Overall, Kotak's outlook suggests that while India's consumer sector continues to display resilience, performance will vary across companies. Businesses with strong brands, pricing power and consistent execution are expected to outperform, while firms facing demand pressures and margin challenges may struggle to match investor expectations in the June quarter.

SEBI Plans Short-Selling Boost

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is reportedly considering significant reforms to make short selling easier by expanding the number of stocks available under the securities lending and borrowing mechanism. The proposed changes are aimed at improving liquidity in the cash market and encouraging greater investor participation while reducing excessive dependence on derivatives trading.

At present, investors can borrow and short sell only around 176 stocks listed under the Securities Lending and Borrowing Scheme (SLBS), despite the National Stock Exchange having nearly 2,600 listed companies. SEBI is now exploring ways to nearly double the number of eligible stocks by relaxing some of the existing qualification criteria.

Apart from widening the list of eligible securities, the market regulator is also reviewing collateral requirements. Currently, investors may be required to provide collateral of up to 130 percent of the value of borrowed shares. SEBI is considering lowering this requirement, bringing it closer to international markets such as the United States and Europe, where collateral requirements are generally around 100 percent.

The proposed reforms are part of SEBI's broader efforts to



strengthen India's cash equity market. Over the past few years, derivatives trading has grown rapidly, far outpacing activity in the cash segment. Regulators have expressed concerns that a large number of retail investors have suffered losses in derivative products due to excessive speculation and leverage.

By making short selling more accessible, SEBI hopes to improve price discovery, enhance market efficiency and increase liquidity. Short selling allows investors to profit from falling stock prices by borrowing shares, selling them in the market and later repurchasing them at lower prices to return to the lender. While the strategy carries higher risks, it also plays an important role in balancing markets by preventing excessive overvaluation of stocks. Market experts believe expanding the securities lending and borrowing framework could attract more institutional

investors and professional traders to the cash market. A larger pool of eligible stocks would provide greater flexibility while helping investors hedge their portfolios more effectively. The regulator is reportedly reviewing eligibility norms related to trading volumes, liquidity and derivatives activity before finalising the revised framework. Any relaxation of these conditions is expected to bring many more actively traded companies under the lending and borrowing mechanism.

The proposed reforms are still under discussion, and SEBI is expected to finalise the details later this year. If implemented, the changes could mark one of the most significant developments in India's equity market structure, making the cash market more vibrant, transparent and competitive while offering investors additional tools to manage risk and investment strategies.

Satluj Leaked Online

Pirated copies of Diljit Dosanjh's much-awaited film Satluj have surfaced online shortly after the movie was removed from streaming platform ZEE5 in India. The illegal leak has sparked fresh concerns over digital piracy while adding another chapter to the controversy surrounding the film's release.

Satluj, which began streaming on ZEE5 on July 3, was unexpectedly taken down within two days. The platform announced that the film would remain unavailable in India until further notice but did not disclose a specific reason behind the decision. Soon after the removal, users on social media claimed that high-definition versions of the film had appeared on piracy websites, with download and streaming links circulating widely.

The leak has drawn mixed reactions from internet users. While some viewers encouraged

others to watch the pirated version after losing access to the official release, many strongly opposed the move. Several social media users pointed out that piracy causes financial losses to filmmakers and producers and discourages original content creation. They urged audiences to wait for the film's official return rather than supporting illegal distribution.

Piracy remains a serious offense under Indian law. The Copyright Act, 1957, along with provisions of the Information Technology Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), prescribes penalties for the unauthorized sharing and distribution of copyrighted content. Offenders may face imprisonment as well as hefty fines depending on the nature of the violation.

The controversy surrounding Satluj predates its OTT release.



The film, originally titled Punjab '95, is based on the life of human rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra. It reportedly faced objections from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), which suggested numerous edits and changes before granting certification. As a result, the film remained unreleased for years before finally arriving on ZEE5 under a new title.

Even before its removal from the platform, Diljit Dosanjh had hinted that the film might face hurdles after release. Directed

by Honey Trehan and produced by Ronnie Screwvala, Satluj also stars Arjun Rampal in a significant role.

While ZEE5 has indicated that it is exploring legal avenues regarding the film's availability, the appearance of pirated copies has complicated the situation further. The incident has once again highlighted the growing challenge of online piracy, raising questions about digital content protection and the importance of respecting intellectual property rights in the age of streaming platforms.

Beyond the MBA Dream

For thousands of MBA aspirants, earning admission to the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A) represents the pinnacle of academic success. However, a candid social media post by student Vivek Kundu has sparked widespread discussion by highlighting the emotional and mental challenges that accompanied his first year at the prestigious institute. His reflections have resonated with students across the country, reminding many that success often comes with hidden sacrifices.

In a video shared on Instagram, Kundu described five "hidden costs" that shaped his first year at IIM Ahmedabad. Despite having an impressive background—including debating at Stanford University and cracking the CAT examination—he admitted that life at the country's top management

school tested him in unexpected ways. He said the real challenges were not academic alone but personal and emotional.

The first challenge, according to Kundu, was dealing with endless choices. Campus life offered a constant stream of competitions, club activities, networking events and social gatherings. Trying to participate in everything left him exhausted and unable to fully enjoy any experience. He realised that learning to say "no" was just as important as managing time, as the fear of missing out could easily become overwhelming.

Another major hurdle was comparison. Surrounded by classmates from IITs, top multinational companies, government services and prestigious academic backgrounds, Kundu found himself questioning his own achievements. He said the



environment reset everyone's accomplishments, making imposter syndrome a common feeling during the initial months. He also recalled receiving a "C" grade in his first finance quiz, an experience that shook his confidence. Rather than giving up, he gradually rebuilt his self-belief by asking questions freely and seeking help from classmates. The experience taught him that growth often begins with accepting setbacks instead of fearing them.

Kundu admitted that the demanding schedule also affected his personal life. He realised he

had gone an entire week without having a meaningful conversation with his family. Since then, he has made it a rule to video-call home regularly, even if only for a few minutes. Finally, he questioned the culture of glorifying sleep deprivation, saying that sacrificing rest reduced his ability to think clearly and affected his overall well-being. His honest reflections have drawn praise online, with many users calling his advice a valuable reminder that emotional resilience is just as important as academic excellence.

Mahindra's Heartwarming Gesture

Industrialist Anand Mahindra has won praise on social media after successfully tracing an elderly street violinist from Kolkata whose emotional story had recently gone viral. What began as a search to help the struggling musician ended on a touching note, with the artist expressing his gratitude through music instead of words.

The story revolves around 80-year-old Bhagwan Mallick, who earns a modest living by playing a decades-old violin on the streets of Kolkata. Despite his advancing age and failing eyesight, Mallick continues to perform every day to support himself and his wife. According to viral posts about him, he earns barely 100 a day, yet has never given up on his passion for music. His moving story touched thousands of people online, including Anand Mahindra.



Deeply moved by the video, Mahindra had earlier expressed his desire to extend financial support to the veteran musician. However, the original post did not reveal Mallick's whereabouts, making it difficult to reach him. Refusing to give up, Mahindra sought help from his team, hoping they could locate the elderly artist.

A few days later, Mahindra shared a heartening update on X, revealing that two colleagues

from his Kolkata office had successfully found Bhagwan Mallick and his wife. They personally delivered Mahindra's contribution to the couple, fulfilling his promise to support the musician. The businessman thanked his colleagues for their efforts and shared photographs and a video of the meeting.

What made the moment especially memorable was Mallick's heartfelt response. Instead of offering a simple verbal thank-

you, he picked up his violin and played the patriotic classic Saare Jahan Se Achha. Sharing the clip, Mahindra described the elderly musician as "dignity and grace personified." He also encouraged people living nearby to visit Mallick and listen to his music, saying that, above all else, artists seek an appreciative audience.

The story has resonated deeply with social media users, many of whom applauded Mahindra's compassion and quick action. Others hoped the attention would bring more opportunities and financial stability to the veteran musician. The incident serves as a powerful reminder that even a small act of kindness can make a meaningful difference in someone's life. It also highlights the positive role social media can play in connecting people, amplifying untold stories and inspiring collective compassion.

Diary of Memories

A simple act of kindness by a young man has touched thousands online after he discovered a rain-soaked diary filled with cherished memories and appealed to social media users to help reunite it with its owner. The incident has sparked an emotional response, with many calling the diary a priceless collection of someone's most personal moments.



The diary was found lying on a roadside after heavy rain by a man named Aditya. Curious about what it contained, he carefully opened its damp pages and realised it was far more than an ordinary notebook. Instead of daily notes or reminders, the diary held handwritten love messages, romantic song lyrics, colourful sketches and decorative keepsakes, including chocolate wrappers that had been thoughtfully pasted onto the pages. Despite being damaged by rain, the diary still reflected the time, creativity and emotions invested in making it.

Believing the diary held immense sentimental value, Aditya shared a video of his discovery on Instagram. In the clip, he gently flips through the

pages while expressing hope that the internet could help locate the rightful owner. He suggested that the diary may have belonged to a young woman, pointing to its detailed decorations and scrapbook-like appearance. His caption urged viewers to share the video widely so it could eventually reach the person who had created it with so much care.

The video quickly gained traction across social media, attracting thousands of reactions and comments. Many users described the diary as a "treasure chest of memories" and imagined the emotional story behind it. Some wondered whether it had been accidentally lost during the rain, while others speculated that the owner may have intention-

ally discarded it after a painful chapter in life. Several comments reflected on how memories may fade from paper but remain impossible to erase from the heart.

The heartwarming episode has also reminded people of the enduring charm of handwritten memories in an increasingly digital age. While photographs and messages are now often stored on smartphones and cloud platforms, many felt that a handmade diary carries a unique emotional value that technology cannot replace. Aditya's thoughtful gesture has been widely praised, with social media users hoping that the diary eventually finds its way back to its owner and preserves a piece of someone's unforgettable past.

Mango Loot Sparks Outrage



A viral video showing people scrambling to collect mangoes from an overturned truck has triggered widespread outrage on social media, with many users questioning the lack of empathy displayed at the accident site. Instead of helping the driver or checking if anyone had been injured, dozens of people were seen gathering the scattered fruit in bags, sacks and even pieces of cloth.

The video, which has been widely shared on social media platform X, captures a truck lying overturned on the roadside with heaps of mangoes spread across the ground. Within minutes, passersby and locals rushed to the scene—not to assist with rescue efforts, but to collect as many mangoes as they could. Some arrived carrying bags, while others improvised with sarees and dupattas to carry away the fruit. The exact location of the incident has not been official-

ly confirmed, although several social media users claimed that it occurred somewhere in Karnataka based on the vehicle's registration number.

The clip quickly went viral, drawing sharp criticism from internet users. Many expressed disappointment over the crowd's behaviour, saying the first priority should have been to ensure the driver's safety and inform emergency services rather than taking advantage of the situation. Several users described the incident as an example of declining civic sense and compassion, with one comment reading, "Humanity is dead." Others referred to it as evidence of a "low-trust society," where personal gain often takes precedence over helping those in distress.

Some users also shared personal experiences to highlight the financial losses caused by such incidents. One person recalled how a truck owned by his family

overturned while carrying onions during a period of high prices. According to the user, the entire load was looted within minutes, resulting in losses worth lakhs of rupees. Many argued that while scattered goods may appear abandoned, they remain the property of the owner, who ultimately bears the financial burden of the accident.

As of now, there has been no official statement regarding the driver's condition or whether anyone was injured in the accident. The viral video has nevertheless reignited conversations about public responsibility during emergencies, with many urging people to prioritise helping accident victims instead of exploiting unfortunate situations for personal benefit. The incident serves as a reminder that compassion and civic responsibility should come before opportunism, especially when lives may be at risk.

When Rain Meant Fear

For many people, the arrival of the monsoon brings joy, cool weather and nostalgic memories. But for Mumbai entrepreneur Shubham Gune, rain once symbolised fear, sleepless nights and the constant struggle to protect his family's home from flooding. In a heartfelt LinkedIn post, Gune shared how he spent seven years growing up in a flood-prone chawl, where every heavy downpour turned into a battle against rising water levels. His emotional account has resonated with thousands on social media.

Recalling his childhood, Gune said the ordeal usually began around midnight whenever heavy rain lashed the city. Water would first seep in through the windows, then under the door, before gradually flooding the entire house. As the water level rose, his family had to act quickly. Mattresses, clothes, books and shoes

were lifted onto tables and cupboards to prevent them from getting soaked. The family then spent hours removing the water with buckets, often continuing until the rain eased or daylight arrived. Sleep was rarely an option on such nights.

Gune contrasted his experience with the romantic image often associated with Mumbai's monsoon. While films and social media celebrate rainy evenings with cutting chai, Marine Drive and nostalgic songs, he said those beautiful moments felt distant from the reality of families living in vulnerable homes. For years, he believed that the charm of the monsoon was reserved for those who did not have to worry about flooded floors and damaged belongings.

His life, however, has changed dramatically over the past decade. Today, Gune

lives in a home where rain no longer enters through the windows or doors. Instead of spending nights bailing out floodwater, he now watches the rain peacefully from behind dry windows. Reflecting on this transformation, he wrote that "the same rain falls differently on different roofs," a line that struck a chord with readers across the internet.

Concluding his post, Gune expressed gratitude for how far he has come. He said that although he still folds his hands in prayer whenever it rains, the meaning of that prayer has changed. Instead of asking for relief from flooding, he now offers thanks for the opportunities that transformed his life. His story has inspired countless users online, serving as a powerful reminder that behind every success lies a journey of resilience, perseverance and hope.



Image Credit: Shubham Gune/LinkedIn

India Eye XI Change for Crucial Third T20I

India are expected to make a key change to their playing XI for the third T20I against England at Trent Bridge as they look to register their first win of the series. After a disappointing start to the UK tour, the visitors are under pressure to bounce back, with much of the spotlight once again falling on teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi following his historic international debut.

The five-match series has not gone according to plan for India. The opening T20I was washed out by rain after India

posted a competitive total, while England chased down 191 in the second game to take the lead. The defeat exposed weaknesses in India's bowling attack, prompting the team management to consider strengthening the pace department ahead of Tuesday's clash.

Leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi is likely to make way after enduring a difficult outing in Manchester. His four-over spell proved costly, with England taking advantage of his lack of rhythm. Bishnoi conceded 60 runs without claiming a wick-

et, and a 29-run over—including three back-foot no-balls—proved to be a turning point in the match. Reports suggest India could replace him with pacer Prince Yadav, whose ability to generate movement with the new ball may suit the conditions at Trent Bridge better than an additional spinner.

Attention will also remain firmly on 15-year-old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who became India's youngest-ever international cricketer when he debuted in the second T20I. Although the youngster managed only 14

runs, he impressed with his fearless approach, including a confident six off Jofra Archer. Former cricketers have urged the team management to continue backing him, arguing that one modest innings should not define a player of his immense potential.

India's batting unit has shown flashes of brilliance but has struggled to convert promising starts into match-winning totals. Abhishek Sharma has been the standout performer, producing aggressive knocks in both games, while



skipper Shreyas Iyer and Ishan Kishan have contributed useful runs without dominating the English attack. The middle order will be expected to provide a stronger finish if India are to level the series.

With England carrying momentum and India searching for answers, the third T20I has assumed added significance. A victory would not only revive India's hopes in the series but also boost confidence ahead of

the remaining matches. Fans will be eager to see whether the expected bowling change and another opportunity for Vaibhav Sooryavanshi can help India turn the tide against an in-form England side.

Bishnoi Under Fire After England Defeat

India leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi has come under intense criticism following the team's defeat to England in the second T20I, with former India cricketer Aakash Chopra describing his repeated no-balls as an "unpardonable crime" in the shortest format of the game. The remarks came after Bishnoi endured one of the toughest outings of his international career, as England chased down India's target to take the lead in the five-match series.

Bishnoi struggled throughout his spell, conceding 60 runs in four overs without taking a wicket. His most difficult moment came during a single over in which he leaked 29 runs, including three back-foot no-balls. The costly mistakes handed England extra deliveries and momentum at a crucial stage of the chase, making it significantly easier for the hosts to stay on course for victory.

Speaking on his YouTube channel, Chopra said bowling no-balls in T20 cricket is unac-



ceptable because every extra delivery gives the batting side another scoring opportunity. He pointed out that while front-foot no-balls can occasionally happen, repeatedly overstepping the back line is entirely avoidable. According to Chopra, Bishnoi's errors proved extremely expensive and ultimately hurt India's chances of defending their total.

The former opener also analysed India's overall performance, saying the visitors failed to seize key moments despite posting a competitive score. He felt England's aggres-

sive batting and better execution under pressure made the difference. Chopra added that India's bowlers lacked discipline during crucial phases, allowing the hosts to maintain control of the chase.

Bishnoi's disappointing performance has also fuelled speculation over his place in the playing XI for the third T20I. Reports suggest the Indian team management may consider bringing in an additional fast bowler to better exploit English conditions. With the series still alive, the selectors and coaching staff are expected to

weigh their options carefully before announcing the team for the next match.

India now face the challenge of bouncing back quickly as they prepare for the third T20I. The team will be eager to improve its bowling discipline and level the series against an England side brimming with confidence. Whether Bishnoi retains his place or India opt for changes, the focus will be on delivering a much-improved performance in what has become a must-win encounter for the visitors.

The upcoming match is expected to test India's ability to recover from setbacks and respond under pressure. A disciplined bowling display, sharper execution in key moments and stronger teamwork will be crucial if the visitors hope to keep the series alive. For Bishnoi, the next few days could prove pivotal as he looks to put behind a disappointing outing and reaffirm his place in India's T20 plans.

Neymar Bids Farewell to Brazil

Brazilian football superstar Neymar has announced his retirement from international football following Brazil's heartbreaking exit from the 2026 FIFA World Cup. The emotional decision marks the end of a remarkable 16-year journey with the national team, during which he established himself as one of the greatest players in Brazil's football history.

Brazil's World Cup campaign came to a disappointing end after a shock 2-1 defeat to Norway in the Round of 16. The five-time world champions were expected to progress deep into the tournament, but Norway produced a memorable performance to knock out one of the pre-tournament favourites. Although Neymar scored a late penalty in stoppage time to reduce the deficit, it was not enough to prevent Brazil's elimination.

Visibly emotional after the final whistle, the 34-year-old struggled to hold back tears as he reflected on the end of his



international career. Speaking to the media, Neymar said he had given everything he could for his country and felt it was the right moment to step away from international football. His heartfelt words signalled the conclusion of an era for Brazilian football.

Neymar's final appearance for Brazil came at MetLife Stadium in the United States, the same venue where he made his senior international debut in 2010. The emotional full-circle moment added even greater

significance to his farewell. Over the course of his career, Neymar became Brazil's all-time leading goalscorer, finishing with 80 goals in 130 appearances while also providing numerous assists and unforgettable performances.

Throughout his international career, Neymar represented Brazil in four FIFA World Cups and played a central role in many of the team's biggest successes. He helped Brazil lift the FIFA Confederations Cup in 2013 and captained the nation

to its first-ever Olympic gold medal in men's football at the Rio 2016 Games. Despite his extraordinary individual achievements, the FIFA World Cup trophy remained the one major honour that eluded him.

Injuries often disrupted Neymar's World Cup campaigns, limiting his opportunities to lead Brazil to global glory. Nevertheless, he remained the face of Brazilian football for more than a decade, inspiring millions with his flair, creativity and match-winning ability.

While Neymar has brought the curtain down on his international career, he is expected to continue playing club football. His retirement from the national team leaves Brazil searching for a new leader as a younger generation prepares to take centre stage. For football fans around the world, Neymar's farewell marks the end of one of the most memorable international careers of the modern era, leaving behind a legacy that will be celebrated for years to come.

Yamal Hails Ronaldo Ahead of Portugal Clash

Spain's teenage sensation Lamine Yamal has showered praise on Cristiano Ronaldo ahead of their highly anticipated FIFA World Cup clash against Portugal, describing the veteran forward as the toughest opponent he has ever faced. The young Barcelona star's comments have added extra excitement to one of the tournament's most eagerly awaited knockout encounters.

Yamal, who has enjoyed a remarkable rise in international football over the past two years, acknowledged Ronaldo's lasting influence on the game despite the Portuguese captain being in the final phase of his illustrious career. Speaking before the crucial match, the 18-year-old said facing Ronaldo is always a unique challenge because of his experience, leadership and unmatched ability to deliver in the biggest moments.

The Spanish winger recalled previous meetings against Portugal and admitted that Ronaldo's presence alone changes the complexion of a game. According to



Yamal, the five-time Ballon d'Or winner continues to command immense respect from opponents with his movement inside the penalty area, aerial dominance and relentless desire to score. He added that competing against one of football's greatest players is both a learning experience and a source of motivation.

Ronaldo, meanwhile, has once again played a crucial role in Portugal's World Cup campaign. The veteran striker has led from the front with important goals and inspirational performances, proving that age has done little to diminish his impact on the international

stage. His leadership has been instrumental in guiding Portugal into the knockout rounds, where they remain among the favourites to lift the trophy.

Yamal has been equally impressive for Spain, emerging as one of the standout young players of the tournament. His pace, creativity and confidence on the ball have troubled defenders throughout the competition, making him a key figure in Spain's attacking setup. The youngster has already produced several match-winning performances, strengthening his reputation as one of world football's brightest talents.

The upcoming encounter also symbolises a fascinating clash between two generations. On one side is Ronaldo, a global icon whose career has spanned more than two decades and countless records. On the other is Yamal, a teenage prodigy widely viewed as one of the future faces of football. Their duel has captured the imagination of fans, who are eager to witness experience take on youthful brilliance.

Both Spain and Portugal enter the match with strong squads and high expectations. While Spain will rely on their energetic attack and possession-based style, Portugal will look to Ronaldo's experience and the team's balanced lineup to secure victory.

Regardless of the outcome, Yamal's admiration for Ronaldo reflects the mutual respect shared between football's past and future. As two of the sport's biggest stars prepare to share the same stage, fans around the world can look forward to a memorable contest that promises quality, intensity and plenty of drama.

Anvay Dravid Leads India U-19 Fightback



Anvay Dravid, the younger son of former India captain Rahul Dravid, announced his arrival on the international junior stage with a sparkling knock of 87 runs off just 67 balls in the second Youth ODI against Sri Lanka Under-19 in Hambantota. The stylish wicketkeeper-batter played a mature and attacking innings to rescue India from a difficult position and steer the team to a competitive total.

Electing to bat first, India Under-19 found themselves in early trouble after losing four wickets for just 81 runs inside the first 19 overs. With Sri Lanka's bowlers firmly in control, the visitors desperately needed a partnership to stabilise the innings. Anvay rose to the occasion, displaying composure beyond his years while taking calculated risks to shift the momentum in India's favour.

Battling confidently, the 17-year-old struck nine boundaries and one six during his impressive knock. His fluent stroke play kept the scoreboard

moving and prevented Sri Lanka from tightening their grip on the contest. More importantly, he stitched together a crucial 145-run partnership for the fifth wicket with Arjun Rajput, who contributed a valuable 76 off 81 deliveries. Their stand completely transformed the innings after India's shaky start.

Anvay reached his maiden Youth ODI half-century in just 47 balls, underlining his aggressive intent. As he moved closer to what looked like a well-deserved century, expectations grew among fans. However, his innings came to an end on 87 when he was dismissed by left-arm pacer Gimhan Mendis, who emerged as Sri Lanka's standout bowler with a five-wicket haul. Despite losing momentum in the closing overs, India managed to post a respectable total of 285 in 47.2 overs.

The innings marked a significant improvement for Anvay, who had scored only 14 runs on his Youth ODI debut in the opening match of the series.

His ability to bounce back immediately has drawn praise from cricket followers, many of whom have highlighted his temperament and batting technique. While comparisons with his legendary father are inevitable, Anvay's latest performance suggests he is eager to build his own identity in Indian cricket. Having progressed through Karnataka's age-group system, Anvay has consistently impressed at the junior level before earning his India Under-19 call-up. His latest knock is expected to boost his confidence as the series continues and strengthen his credentials as one of the country's promising young batters.

For India Under-19, the innings not only provided a strong platform in the match but also showcased the depth of emerging talent in the squad. As Anvay continues his cricketing journey, fans will be keenly watching his progress, hoping this memorable innings is the first of many significant contributions in India's colours.

FIFA's Balogun Call Sparks Row

FIFA has found itself at the centre of a major controversy after allowing United States striker Folarin Balogun to play in the FIFA World Cup Round of 16 despite an automatic one-match suspension. The governing body's unexpected decision has triggered widespread debate, with several football officials and fans questioning whether the rules were applied fairly.

Balogun had been shown a straight red card during the United States' 2-0 victory over Bosnia and Herzegovina in the previous round after a VAR review ruled that he had stamped on an opponent's ankle. Under FIFA's disciplinary regulations, a straight red card usually results in an automatic suspension for the team's next match, making the striker unavailable for the crucial clash against Belgium.

However, in a surprising development, FIFA announced that the implementation of Balogun's suspension would be deferred for one year on probation, effectively making him eligible to feature in the knockout encounter. The governing body cited provisions within its disciplinary code that allow sanctions to be suspended under exceptional circumstances.

The decision gained even greater attention after reports emerged that US President



Donald Trump had personally contacted FIFA President Gianni Infantino, urging him to review the punishment. Trump later welcomed the outcome publicly, calling it the correction of what he believed was an unfair decision. While neither FIFA nor Infantino directly linked the ruling to political intervention, the timing fuelled speculation and intensified criticism.

Belgium's football federation reacted strongly, expressing surprise over the ruling and questioning how an automatic suspension could be overturned so close to an important knockout match. The federation reportedly began examining possible legal options while insisting that the decision appeared inconsistent with FIFA's own regulations.

The controversy has also drawn criticism from several football experts and former players, who argued that disciplinary rules must be applied

equally to every team regardless of stature or external influence. Many warned that any perception of political involvement could damage the credibility of international football's governing body.

On the other hand, the United States coaching staff welcomed the decision, maintaining that Balogun's challenge did not deserve a straight red card in the first place. They argued that allowing the striker to play ensured a fairer sporting outcome after what they considered an excessively harsh punishment.

With Balogun now available for the high-stakes encounter against Belgium, attention has shifted from on-field preparations to FIFA's disciplinary process. Regardless of the match result, the decision has become one of the biggest talking points of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, raising fresh questions about consistency, transparency and governance in world football.

Jr NTR's Voiceover Boosts Buzz Around Akhil's Lenin



The makers of Akhil Akkineni's upcoming film Lenin have sparked excitement among fans by unveiling a striking new poster that hints at Jr NTR's association with the project. While the poster does not feature the RRR star directly, it subtly teases his contribution, triggering widespread speculation across social media.

The newly released poster is simple yet intriguing. It showcases a roaring tiger alongside the film's title logo, without revealing any cast members. Fans were quick to decode the symbolism, and the makers soon confirmed that the tiger represents Jr NTR, who has lent his voice to the film. The "Man

of Masses" actor has provided the voiceover and narration for Lenin, adding another layer of anticipation ahead of its theatrical release.

Jr NTR's involvement has generated considerable buzz among movie lovers, with many believing that his powerful voice will elevate the storytelling. Although he does not appear on screen, his narration is expected to play a significant role in setting the tone for the rural action drama. The announcement has also delighted fans of both Akhil Akkineni and Jr NTR, who are eager to witness this unique collaboration.

Directed by Murali Kishor Abb

uru, Lenin stars Akhil Akkineni in the lead role opposite Bhagyashree Borse. The film is set against a rural backdrop and promises a blend of action, drama and emotion. The recently released trailer has already generated positive responses, with viewers praising Akhil's transformed look and speculating about the film's mythological undertones and intense narrative.

Lenin is particularly important for Akhil Akkineni, who is making his return to the big screen after a long gap. Expectations are high, as the actor is looking to bounce back with a strong performance in what is being described as one of the most crucial films of his career.

The production team has been actively promoting the movie through posters, teaser videos and promotional events ahead of its release.

Scheduled to hit theatres on July 10, Lenin has steadily built momentum in the days leading up to its release. The addition of Jr NTR's voiceover has only strengthened the film's promotional campaign, creating fresh excitement among audiences. With an intriguing storyline, a new avatar for Akhil and the support of one of Telugu cinema's biggest stars, Lenin is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated Telugu releases of the season.



Pradeep Unveils PR Show's First Film

Actor-director Pradeep Ranganathan has taken a major step in his filmmaking journey by launching his own production banner, PR Show, and announcing its maiden project. The filmmaker, known for blockbuster hits like Love Today, has surprised fans with an unconventional launch that introduces six directors and a fresh ensemble cast, signalling his commitment to nurturing new talent in Tamil cinema.

The announcement was made through an intriguing promotional video that quickly caught the attention of movie lovers. Instead of revealing a conventional star-driven project, the teaser focused on a unique creative concept and the people behind it. The biggest surprise was the introduction of The Alpha Unit, a six-member filmmaking collective comprising Vishal TR, Yash V, Naren Saoda, Chanakkiyan R, Dhanush Kumar and Ilamparithi. Together, they will direct the film, making it one of the rare Tamil projects to be helmed by a team of six directors.

Pradeep Ranganathan has written the story for the film, while young music composer Sai Abhyankar has been roped in to score the soundtrack. Editing duties will be handled by Pradeep E. Ragav, with Dinesh Purushothaman serving as the cinematographer. Although the film's official title has not yet been announced, it is currently being referred to as PRS01. The makers have promised to re-

veal more details about the story and supporting cast in the coming weeks.

Adding to the excitement is the lead cast. Pradeep Ranganathan himself will headline the film alongside actress Mamitha Baiju, reuniting the popular on-screen pair after their successful collaboration in Dude. Their reunion has generated significant buzz among fans, who are eager to see the duo share screen space once again. The promotional song titled "Aane Wala Star", released along with the announcement video, has further heightened anticipation for the project.

The launch of PR Show reflects Pradeep's ambition to expand beyond acting and directing by backing innovative stories and emerging filmmakers. Rather than relying on established names, his decision to entrust an entire feature film to six young directors has been widely appreciated as a bold and refreshing move. Industry observers believe the initiative could open doors for fresh storytelling and provide aspiring filmmakers with a valuable platform.

With production expected to begin soon, PRS01 has already emerged as one of the most talked-about announcements in Tamil cinema. Combining an unconventional directorial team, a popular lead pair and Pradeep Ranganathan's growing reputation as a storyteller, the film has generated high expectations even before shooting gets underway.

Court Permits Allu Arjun's Virtual Appearance

Actor Allu Arjun has received temporary relief in the Sandhya Theatre stampede case after a Hyderabad court allowed him to attend the proceedings through virtual mode instead of appearing in person. The decision comes after the actor's legal team sought permission, citing his professional commitments, and marks a significant development in the ongoing legal proceedings related to the tragic incident during the Pushpa 2: The Rule premiere.

The case is linked to the stampede that occurred outside Hyderabad's Sandhya Theatre during a special screening of Pushpa 2 in December 2024. A massive crowd had gathered to catch a glimpse of Allu Arjun, leading to chaos that claimed the life of a woman and left her young son seriously injured. Following an investigation, police filed a chargesheet naming 23 accused, including Allu Arjun as Accused No. 11, alleging lapses in crowd management and safety arrangements.

Initially, the Nampally Court had directed Allu Arjun to appear in person. However, his lawyers later filed a petition requesting permission for him to participate through video conferencing. After considering the plea, the court allowed the request, enabling the actor to join the hearing virtually while his legal representatives appeared before

the court physically. The matter has been adjourned for further proceedings.

The court's decision has come as a relief for the actor, who has maintained that he is cooperating fully with the investigation. His legal team has consistently stated that he has complied with the directions of the authorities and remains committed to the judicial process. The permission to appear virtually does not affect the merits of the case, which will continue to be heard by the court in the coming months. The Sandhya Theatre tragedy sparked widespread debate over crowd control measures at high-profile film events and the responsibilities of organisers, theatre management and celebrities during public appearances. The incident led to increased scrutiny of security arrangements at film premieres, with calls for stricter protocols to prevent similar accidents in the future.

Meanwhile, Allu Arjun continues to balance the legal proceedings with his professional commitments. While the case remains under judicial consideration, the court's decision allowing his virtual appearance offers procedural relief as the investigation and trial move forward. Fans and industry observers are now awaiting the next hearing, which is expected to determine the future course of the high-profile case.



Ankita Mukharjee

RISING STAR

Ranbir Kapoor's Upcoming Films Create Buzz

After the phenomenal success of Animal, Ranbir Kapoor has emerged as one of Bollywood's most sought-after stars, with an impressive lineup of high-profile films that has generated tremendous excitement among fans and the industry alike. His upcoming projects span mythology, action, romance and sequels, positioning him at the centre of some of Indian cinema's biggest productions over the next few years.

Leading the list is Nitesh Tiwari's ambitious two-part epic Ramayana, where Ranbir will portray Lord Ram in what is widely regarded as one of the most significant roles of his career. Mounted on a massive scale with cutting-edge visual effects, the film also features Sai Pallavi as Sita and Yash as Ravana. The project has already created enormous buzz and is expected to be one of the biggest Indian cinematic spectacles ever made.

Another highly anticipated film in Ranbir's schedule is Love & War, directed by acclaimed filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali. The film reunites the actor with Bhansali after Saawariya and brings together an exciting cast that includes Alia Bhatt and Vicky Kaushal. Given Bhansali's reputation for grand storytell-



ing and powerful performances, expectations surrounding the project are exceptionally high. Ranbir is also expected to return in Animal Park, the sequel to Sandeep Reddy Vanga's blockbuster Animal. The first film was a massive commercial success and ended with hints of an even more intense continuation. Fans are eagerly waiting to see Ranbir reprise his role in what promises to be a darker and more action-packed chapter.

Adding to the excitement are reports linking the actor to Brahmastra: Part Two - Dev. Although an official announcement is still awaited, the sequel remains one of the most anticipated fantasy films in Bollywood. The first instalment laid the foundation for a larger cinematic universe, and audiences are keen to see how Ranbir's character

evolves in the next chapter.

Speculation also continues around Ranbir's involvement in other big-budget franchises, including Dhoom 4, though the makers have yet to make an official confirmation. Even without these unannounced projects, his existing slate is enough to keep fans excited for years to come.

With a combination of mythological epics, emotional dramas, action entertainers and franchise films, Ranbir Kapoor's upcoming lineup reflects both scale and variety. Industry observers believe these projects could further cement his position among Bollywood's biggest stars. If the films live up to expectations, the next few years may well belong to Ranbir Kapoor, whose career appears to be entering its most successful phase yet.

Sanjay Dutt, Sehwaag Surprise in Pritam and Pedro

Rajkumar Hirani's debut web series Pritam and Pedro has become the talk of the town, not only for its engaging storyline and humour but also for the surprise cameo appearances of Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt and former Indian cricketer Virender Sehwaag. Their unexpected entries have emerged as one of the biggest highlights of the series, delighting viewers and creating a buzz across social media.

Streaming on JioHotstar, Pritam and Pedro has been receiving positive feedback for its light-hearted narrative, witty dialogues and entertaining performances. However, audiences were caught completely off guard when Sanjay Dutt and Virender Sehwaag made surprise appearances in the series. The makers had managed to keep their cameos under wraps before the release, making the reveal even more impactful for viewers.

Sanjay Dutt's cameo has particularly impressed audiences. The veteran actor brings his trademark charisma and effortless comic timing to the screen, adding extra energy to the show's humorous moments. Though his appearance is brief, fans believe it leaves a lasting impression and perfectly complements the tone of the series. His presence has become one of the most dis-



cussed aspects of the show, with viewers praising the makers for keeping it a surprise until the release.

Equally surprising is the appearance of former Indian opener Virender Sehwaag. Known for his fearless batting and witty personality off the field, Sehwaag showcases a natural ease in front of the camera. His comic timing and relaxed screen presence have earned appreciation from fans, many of whom never expected to see the cricket legend in such an entertaining role. Social media has been flooded with reactions celebrating his performance and calling it one of the most pleasant surprises in the series.

Created by acclaimed filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani, Pritam and Pedro marks his entry into the digital streaming space. The series blends comedy, emotion and

slice-of-life storytelling, staying true to the filmmaker's signature style. The addition of high-profile cameo appearances has further elevated audience interest and encouraged more viewers to tune in.

The positive word-of-mouth surrounding Pritam and Pedro continues to grow, with many viewers recommending the show for its wholesome entertainment and clever writing. While the lead cast has received praise for their performances, it is the surprise appearances of Sanjay Dutt and Virender Sehwaag that have become the biggest talking point. Their memorable cameos have added an extra layer of excitement, proving that well-executed surprises can significantly enhance the viewing experience and keep audiences engaged long after the credits roll.