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Women's Self-Help Groups to Get Fertilizer Distribution Licences



Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government is preparing to launch a new initiative aimed at economically empowering women's self-help groups (SHGs) by granting them licences to distribute fertilizers to farmers across the state. Under the proposed programme, selected women's groups in villages will be entrusted with the responsibility of supplying fertilizers locally, enabling farmers to purchase agricultural inputs within their own villages instead of travelling to nearby towns. Officials said Telangana has nearly 4.67 lakh women's self-help groups, and interested groups with active participation will be identified for the scheme. The selected SHGs will

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Strategic Partnership Set for Major Expansion

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Chris Cooter held extensive discussions on Wednesday to strengthen the growing partnership between Canada and Telangana, focusing on trade, investment, innovation, education, infrastructure, and sustainable development. During a courtesy meeting, the two leaders explored opportunities for expanding bilateral cooperation across sectors that are expected to drive long-term economic growth and technological advancement. The discussions reflected the increasing engagement between Canadian institutions and Telangana as the state continues to position itself as a major investment and innovation destination. High Commissioner Chris Cooter invited Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to lead a high-level delegation to Canada in the near future. The proposed visit aims to deepen collaboration between governments, industries, universities, and research institutions while creating new avenues for investment and knowledge exchange. The Chief Minister highlighted Telangana's flagship infrastructure initiatives, including the Musi Riverfront Project, the expansion of the Hyderabad Metro Rail network, and the proposed



Future City project. He said these projects are designed to transform Hyderabad into a globally competitive urban centre through sustainable infrastructure and modern planning. Responding to the presentation, the High Commissioner said Canadian companies possess significant expertise in urban planning, green infrastructure, engineering, and sustainable technologies that could contribute to these projects. He also noted that Canadian businesses are increasingly confident about investing in Telangana. Cooter pointed to several recent developments reflecting this growing confidence, including Firan Technology Group establishing a manufacturing facility in Hyderabad, CIBC setting up a Global Capability Centre (GCC), and CPP Investments entering into a strategic partnership with Hyderabad-based CtrlS Datacenters with a planned investment of up to CAD 1 billion. Revanth Reddy also high-

lighted Telangana's rapid growth in information technology, life sciences, defence, aerospace, and advanced manufacturing. He said Hyderabad has become one of India's leading destinations for Global Capability Centres established by Fortune 500 companies and continues to attract multinational investments due to its skilled workforce and business-friendly policies. Speaking about the Musi River rejuvenation initiative, the Chief Minister said the project goes beyond environmental restoration and aims to create a sustainable riverfront that will generate economic activity, improve urban living standards, and promote green development. He sought Canada's cooperation in areas such as clean technologies, environmental management, and climate-resilient infrastructure to help Telangana achieve its green economy goals. Education and innovation also featured prominently during the meeting. P3

Railway Ministry Clears Major Double-Line Project

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

The Union Railway Ministry has given a major boost to rail infrastructure in Telangana with the commencement of work on the long-pending



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Governor Urges Engineers to Become Job Creators

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Shiv Pratap Shukla called upon young engineering graduates to become job creators, innovators, and nation builders while addressing the 6th Graduation Day ceremony of Chaitanya Bharathi

Institute of Technology (CBIT) at Gandipet, Hyderabad, on Wednesday. Attending the ceremony as the Chief Guest, the Governor said a graduation ceremony is not merely the conferring of degrees but a significant milestone that

entrusts students with the responsibility of shaping the future of the nation. He urged the graduating Class of 2026 to use their knowledge and skills for the progress of society and contribute towards the vision of Viksit Bharat-2047.



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Nadda to Engage with Officials and Intellectuals

Hyderabad, July 09 | TPN Bureau

Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda is scheduled to visit Telangana on Thursday, where he will participate in a series of official and party engagements in Hyderabad and Bibinagar. According to the finalized itinerary, Nadda will arrive at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Shamshabad, at 10:55 a.m. He will then proceed to All India Institute of Medical



tracts of Jangaon and Mancherial secured the prestigious 'Uttam-3' recognition for their performance in school education. To improve the quality of education in government schools, the state recruited 10,06 new teachers and promoted 25,950 teachers. In addition, 1.12 lakh teachers underwent specialised training to strengthen classroom teaching and learning outcomes. P3

Education Reforms Earn National Recognition

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana has registered a significant improvement in the Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2.0 released by the Central Government, reflecting the impact of the state's education reforms. The state has climbed from the 31st position to 26th in the national rankings, while its PGI score increased from 552.5 to 599.7, moving Telangana from the 'Akanshi-1' category to 'Prachesta-3'. The state government attributed the achievement to a series of reforms aimed at strengthening school education under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Among the notable accomplishments, the dis-

and the Ananda Temple in Myanmar's Bagan region following earthquake damage. India has also assisted Nepal in restoring 28 heritage structures after the 2015 earthquake, including the Seto Machindranath Temple and the Budhanilkantha Temple Dharmashala. Conservation efforts have further extended to Cambodia's Angkor Wat, Ta Prohm, and Preah Vihear temples, Laos' historic Wat Phou Shiva Temple, Bahrain's Shrinathji Temple in Manama, and Sri Lanka's Thiruketheeswaram Temple. Officials said these initiatives strengthen India's historical and cultural ties with partner nations while helping preserve shared heritage for future generations.



India supported the reconstruction of the historic Ramna Kali Temple, which reopened in 2021 after being destroyed in 1971. It has also funded restoration works at the Joy Kali Mata Temple, Anandamayi Kali Mata

Temple, and the Ramakrishna Temple in Natore. The Archaeological Survey of India has restored the UNESCO-listed My Son Sanctuary in Vietnam and undertaken conservation work at 12 historic pagodas

Modi Highlights Global Temple Restoration Efforts

Indonesia, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the world-famous Prambanan Temple Compounds in Indonesia on Wednesday, drawing attention to India's ongoing efforts to preserve and restore ancient Hindu temples and cultural heritage sites across the world. The visit underscored India's cultural diplomacy initiatives aimed at conserving monuments that reflect India's civilizational heritage and Sanatana traditions. In recent years, the Government of India has extended financial and technical assistance for the restoration of several historic temples and heritage structures in different countries in Bangladesh,

Pawan Kalyan Fan Niranjan Passes Away at 17



Hanamkonda, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Ponuganti Niranjan, a 17-year-old ardent admirer of Jana Sena chief and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, passed away on Wednesday after a prolonged battle with a rare genetic disorder and kidney-related complications. His death has left his family, well-wishers, and thousands of Pawan Kalyan fans deeply saddened. A resident of Hanuman Nagar in Hanamkonda, Niranjan had been bedridden since childhood due to his medical condition. Despite his physical challenges, he remained cheerful and was affectionately known as "Chota Gabbar Singh" by his family and local residents because of his immense admiration for Pawan Kalyan.

Niranjan's heartfelt wish was to meet his favorite actor and leader at least once. The appeal gained attention after Jana Sena supporters, including Radha Manohar Das, highlighted his story on social media. Deeply moved by the young fan's condition, Pawan Kalyan personally visited Niranjan's residence last month. During the emotional meeting, Pawan spent time with the teenager, comforted him, and appreciated videos of Niranjan enthusiastically dancing to songs from his films while confined to bed. The Deputy Chief Minister promised to watch his

upcoming film OG-2 with Niranjan during a special screening and presented him with a heartfelt handwritten message in his diary reading, "With love to dear Niranjan." He also extended financial assistance of ₹1 lakh to support the family.

Inspired by Pawan Kalyan's gesture, actor and producer Bandla Ganesh also visited Niranjan's home and offered ₹5 lakh through his banner, Parameswara Art Productions, to help with the family's medical and financial needs. Sadly, Niranjan passed away before his cherished dream of watching OG-2 alongside Pawan Kalyan could come true. His untimely demise has triggered an outpouring of grief among Jana Sena workers, fans, and members of the public, who remembered him as a courageous young boy who never lost hope despite years of suffering. Actor and philanthropist Sonu Sood also mourned Niranjan's passing. Recalling their recent meeting, Sood described him as a "brave little soul" whose smile could brighten any room. In a heartfelt social media message, he wrote, "Rest in peace, my little friend. Your smile will stay with me forever. Om Shanti." Messages of condolence continue to pour in from across social media, with many praying for strength and peace for Niranjan's grieving family.

Global Delegation Explores Investment Opportunities



Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy met an international delegation attending the Green Growth Economic Summit-2026 in Hyderabad to discuss investment opportunities, sustainable development, and future collaborations in Telangana. The courtesy meeting was held at the Bodhi Pavilion in the MCRHRD campus, where government representatives, policymakers, and business leaders from several countries interacted with the Chief Minister on Telangana's growing investment ecosystem and development initiatives. The delegation included M. Saravanan, Nili Gilbert, Mahesh Konduru, Amit Mehra, Dilek Ayhan, Thomas Prohic, and Senthil Thondaman. During the discussions, the participants explored opportunities for collaboration in areas such as Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practices, sustainable infrastructure development, the application of artificial intelligence, innovation, and emerging investment prospects in Telangana. The delegation expressed interest

in the state's pro-investment policies, expanding industrial base, and focus on technology-driven growth. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy highlighted Telangana's commitment to creating a business-friendly environment through world-class infrastructure, progressive governance, and support for sustainable industrial development. He emphasized the state's focus on attracting global investments in green technologies, digital innovation, and future-ready industries. Representatives of Meridian Collective, the organisers of the Green Growth Economic Summit, including Rithvika Bhattacharya and Uma Bhattacharya, also participated in the meeting. Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy and senior government officials were present during the interaction. The meeting reaffirmed Telangana's growing reputation as an attractive destination for international investment and highlighted the state's commitment to fostering global partnerships that promote sustainable economic growth, technological advancement, and environmental responsibility.



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Indiramma Housing Scheme Fulfils Promise to the Poor: Vakiti Srihari

Wanaparthy, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Ministers Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, Vakiti Srihari and Jupally Krishna Rao distributed sanction letters under the Indiramma Housing Scheme at the Wanaparthy Collectorate on Wednesday, reaffirming the state government's commitment to providing permanent housing to poor and homeless families. Addressing the gathering, Minister Vakiti Srihari said the Congress government had launched the Indiramma Housing Scheme with the objective of ensuring that every deserving poor family owns a house. He stated that under the leadership of Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, the government was



working with determination to construct houses for lakhs of economically weaker families across Telangana. The Minister alleged that during the previous BRS government's decade-long rule, many poor families who had hoped to receive double-bed-room houses were left disap-

pointed. He said the present government was fulfilling its election promise by providing Indiramma houses to genuine beneficiaries and restoring public confidence through transparent implementation. Vakiti Srihari said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy

had revived the vision of the late Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy ensures that every poor family owns a home. He noted that the government has decided to provide financial assistance of ₹5 lakh for house construction to eligible beneficiaries and is releasing funds in phases directly into their bank accounts. Highlighting the scale of the programme, he said implementing housing projects worth hundreds of crores of rupees in a single constituency reflects the government's commitment to improving the lives of the poor. He described the scheme as a major welfare initiative aimed at enabling beneficiaries to live with dignity and security.

The Minister also criticized the previous administration, alleging that despite inheriting a surplus budget after Telangana's formation, it burdened the state with heavy debt. He asserted that despite financial challenges, the Congress government remains committed to fulfilling all its promises. He added that alongside the Indiramma Housing Scheme, the government is implementing welfare programmes such as Rythu Bharosa, bonuses for fine-variety paddy, and extensive grain procurement. MLA Megha Reddy, SATS Chairman Shiva Sena Reddy, Municipal Chairperson Madhavi, and other public representatives attended the programme.

Ponnam Prabhakar Launches Development Projects



Nagarkurnool, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar inaugurated a series of development projects in the Nagarkurnool district headquarters on Wednesday, highlighting the state government's focus on improving public infrastructure and citizen services. The Minister formally inaugurated the newly constructed District Transport Office in Nagarkurnool town, built at a cost of ₹50 lakh. Addressing officials and the public, he expressed confidence that the new office would emerge as one of the best-performing transport offices in Telangana. He urged transport department officials to work efficiently and create greater public awareness on road safety, traffic regulations, and responsible driving practices to reduce accidents and improve road discipline. As part of the day's programme, Ponnam Prabhakar unveiled a statue of the late Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy at the R&B Guest House premises on the occasion of the former Chief Minister's birth anniversary. He paid floral tributes and recalled YSR's

contributions to public welfare and development. The Minister also inaugurated the Bharosa Centre, which has been established to provide integrated support services to people in need. As part of the state's Vanamahotsavam tree plantation campaign, he planted saplings on the centre's premises, emphasizing the importance of environmental conservation and increasing green cover across Telangana. During the visit, Ponnam Prabhakar also paid homage to the statue of Sardar Sarvai Papanna Goud, remembering his legacy and contribution to the region's history. Several public representatives and senior officials attended the programme, including Damodar Reddy, Rajesh Reddy, RTC Managing Director Nagireddy, District Collector Hemanth Keshav Patil, Additional Transport Commissioner Ramesh, District Transport Commissioners Ismail, Vani, Ravinder, and other officials. The event underscored the government's continued emphasis on infrastructure development, public service delivery, road safety awareness, and environmental sustainability.

Jupally Highlights RTC Revival, Welfare Measures

Nagarkurnool, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Jupally Krishna Rao on Wednesday said the state government is committed to strengthening public transport, expanding welfare programmes, and accelerating development works across Telangana while addressing a public meeting in Nagarkurnool district. Speaking during the foundation stone laying ceremony for the new RTC bus station, the minister announced that ₹16 crore had been allocated for various development works in the constituency. He said the government is focused on improving infrastructure while ensuring



that welfare benefits reach every eligible citizen. Highlighting the performance of the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (RTC), Jupally Krishna Rao said nearly 65 lakh passengers travel by RTC buses every day. He noted that under the Mahalakshmi free

bus travel scheme, women have collectively saved more than ₹11,000 crore, making it one of the state's most significant welfare initiatives. The minister praised Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar for addressing the long-pending issues of RTC employees. He alleged that there had been attempts during the previous administration to privatize and weaken the RTC, resulting in hardships for workers. In contrast, he said, the present government under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is working to transform the corporation from losses to profitability while resolving employees' demands one by one.

Jupally Krishna Rao also highlighted the government's commitment to social justice, stating that legislation has been introduced to ensure reservations for the Backward Classes (BCs) based on population proportionality. He described Ponnam Prabhakar as a dedicated leader who consistently takes the initiative to resolve public issues and recalled his active role in the Telangana statehood movement. The minister criticized the previous government, alleging that it left Telangana with a debt burden of ₹8.21 lakh crore, forcing the present administration to pay nearly ₹6,000 crore every month towards interest pay-

ments. Despite financial challenges, he said the government is implementing several major welfare programmes, including the construction of eight lakh Indiramma houses at a cost of ₹40,000 crore, distribution of fine-quality rice through the Public Distribution System, 200 units of free electricity, waiver of farm loans up to ₹2 lakh, and a ₹500 bonus for fine-variety paddy. He reiterated that the Congress government remains committed to inclusive development and will continue implementing welfare schemes aimed at improving the lives of all sections of society.

Ministers Inaugurate CSR-Funded School

Nagarkurnool, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Jupally Krishna Rao on Wednesday inaugurated a newly constructed Mandal Parishad Primary School building in Thudukurthi village of Nagarkurnool district. The school was built with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) support from Gaja Engineering Company. The event was attended by Damodar Reddy, the native of Thudukurthi village, along with Rajesh Reddy, the District Collector, senior officials, and local public representatives. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar



congratulated the villagers and the company for contributing to the improvement of educational infrastructure. He said quality school facilities are essential for strengthening primary education and creating better learning opportunities for children in rural areas.

The minister called upon residents to actively participate in environmental conservation and announced an ambitious plantation drive in the village. He urged officials and villagers to plant 9,000 saplings within the next month with the objective of transforming Thudukurthi

into a model village for the entire district. Responding to a long-pending public demand, Ponnam Prabhakar also assured villagers that he would facilitate the introduction of an RTC bus service connecting Thudukurthi with Nagarkurnool, Jadcherla, and Hyderabad, improving transportation and access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. Highlighting the village's development initiatives, the minister noted that solar power facilities have already been introduced as part of the Model Village programme. He said such initiatives demonstrate the government's commitment to promoting sustainable devel-

opment and improving the quality of life in rural communities. Reflecting on his own political journey, Ponnam Prabhakar said he had risen through the ranks of the Congress party from the grassroots level, emphasizing the importance of public service and dedication. He also referred to a recent survey indicating that families with higher levels of education have achieved greater social and economic progress. Stressing the importance of education, he urged parents to encourage children to pursue quality schooling, describing education as the most effective tool for achieving long-term development and prosperity.

RS.12-Crore Bus Station to Come Up



Nagarkurnool, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Jupally Krishna Rao laid the foundation stone for a new RTC bus station in Nagarkurnool district on Wednesday. The modern facility, to be built at an estimated cost of ₹12 crore, is expected to strengthen public transport infrastructure and improve passenger amenities in the district. The ministers also flagged off a new RTC bus service connecting Nagarkurnool and Wanaparthy. Following the launch, the ministers, local public representatives, and officials travelled in an RTC bus to mark the commencement of the service. The programme was attended by Damodar Reddy, Rajesh Reddy, and RTC Managing Director V. C. Sajjanar Nagi Reddy, along with senior officials.

He said Telangana RTC currently operates nearly 10,000 buses, covering around 30 lakh kilometres every day and serving approximately 65 lakh passengers. In Hyderabad alone, buses are operating on 375 new routes, benefiting an additional seven lakh commuters. Under the Mahalakshmi free bus travel scheme, women have collectively saved ₹11,371 crore, while nearly 3.5 million women avail themselves of free RTC travel every day.

Ponnam Prabhakar also highlighted the government's welfare programmes, including the distribution of new ration cards, supply of fine-quality rice, construction of Indiramma houses, enhanced diet and cosmetic charges in residential schools, interest-free loans to women's self-help groups, and greater participation of women in RTC operations. The minister urged motorists to follow traffic rules and emphasized that the Police and Transport Departments are jointly implementing the "Arrive Alive" road safety campaign. Referring to the ongoing voter list revision, he appealed to officials and Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to ensure that no eligible voter is omitted from the electoral rolls. He also noted that the government has undertaken development works worth ₹150 crore at the Sammakka Saralamma Temple, including plans for a modern bus station. Speaking on climate concerns, the minister advised farmers to adopt less water-intensive crops in view of changing weather patterns and stressed the importance of healthy living and sustainable agricultural practices.

Bus Station to Get RS.1.5-Crore Modernisation

Nagarkurnool, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Jupally Krishna Rao on Wednesday laid the foundation stone for the first phase of the modernization of the Pentlavelli bus station at the Pentlavelli Mandal headquarters in the Kollapur constituency. The project, estimated at ₹1.5 crore, includes the modernization of the existing bus station, cement concrete (CC) works, construction of toilets, installation of electrical facilities, and the development of other essential passenger amenities. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar said the initiative is aimed at providing com-

muters with a modern and comfortable public transport facility that meets present-day requirements. He stated that the upgraded bus station would include improved infrastructure, including new toilets, enhanced electrical systems, and the construction of a compound wall to ensure better safety and maintenance. The minister said the government is committed to modernizing RTC infrastructure across Telangana to improve passenger convenience and strengthen public transport services. He added that the Pentlavelli bus station would be equipped with facilities in line with changing transportation needs and growing commuter expectations. Highlighting



the region's development potential, Ponnam Prabhakar noted that Pentlavelli and its surrounding areas are emerging as an important tourism destination. With an increasing number of visitors and a growing local population, the government is investing in better

transport infrastructure to support future growth and ensure seamless connectivity. He also announced that, following the completion of the modernization works, RTC buses would enter and operate directly from the bus station, providing greater convenience to passengers

and improving traffic management in the area. The minister said the project reflects the government's broader vision of strengthening public infrastructure in rural and semi-urban regions while promoting balanced regional development. He expressed confidence that the upgraded bus station would enhance passenger comfort, encourage greater use of public transport, and contribute to the overall development of the Kollapur constituency. Public representatives, officials, and local residents attended the foundation stone-laying ceremony and welcomed the government's initiative to improve transport facilities in the region.

Minister Reviews Bonalu Preparations

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Endowments Minister Konda Surekha on Wednesday directed officials to make comprehensive arrangements for the annual Balkampet Yellamma Bonalu festival, stressing that devotees should be able to participate in the celebrations without any inconvenience. The Minister unveiled the official posters for the Bonalu Jathara and Kalyanotsavam in Hyderabad before chairing a revi-



ew meeting with officials from various government departments to assess preparations for the festival. Addressing the meeting, Konda Surekha said devotees hold the belief that offering prayers at

the Balkampet Yellamma Temple is equivalent to visiting the Ashtadasha Shakti Peethas, making the shrine one of the most revered spiritual destinations during the Bonalu festival. She announced that the annual Kalyanotsavam of Goddess Yellamma will be celebrated from July 20 to July 22. The festivities will begin on the evening of July 20 with the traditional Edurkolu ceremony, followed by the grand celestial wedding ceremony on July 21.

Ministers Launch Development Works

Devarakadra, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Ministers Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and Vakiti Srihari on Wednesday participated in a series of development programmes in Duppalli village of Devarakadra constituency, where they inaugurated newly constructed Indiramma houses and cement concrete (CC) roads. Addressing the gathering, Minister Vakiti Srihari said the state government is implementing the Indiramma Housing Scheme across every constituency with the determination of a people's movement. He said the Congress government is committed to providing houses to every eligible poor family, irrespective of political affiliation, and emphasized that the selection process is being carried out transparently without corruption or illegal payments. The minister appreciated local leaders for ensuring the scheme is implemented fairly and lauded their efforts towards the development of the Devarakadra constituency.



Speculation Grows Over Konda Surekha's Position in Cabinet

Ravi Podili

Political speculation has intensified over the position of Telangana Endowments and Forests Minister Konda Surekha amid reports of differences within the ruling Congress government and growing discussions about her role in key administrative decisions. Konda Surekha has had a long and eventful political career. During the undivided Andhra Pradesh, she resigned from the cabinet led by the late K. Rosaiah after publicly criticizing his leadership. A close associate of the late Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy, she was considered part of the YSR camp and was known for supporting Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy during that period. Following the bifurcation of the state, she joined the Bharat

Rashtra Samithi before later moving to the Congress, where she currently serves as a minister in the cabinet headed by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. In recent months, Surekha has been at the centre of several controversies. Her remarks concerning film personalities Samantha Ruth Prabhu and Akkineni Nagarjuna drew widespread criticism and led to legal proceedings. The issue was later defused following the intervention of the Chief Minister. She also had a public disagreement with Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy during the Medaram Sammakka Saralamma Jatara. Although both ministers later addressed a joint press conference stating that there were no differences, political observers



continue to speculate about lingering tensions. Reports in political circles suggest that some decisions relating to the departments under Surekha's charge have been taken without her involvement. Discussions have also emerged over review meetings and administrative

decisions in the Forest and Endowments departments allegedly being conducted without her participation. There has also been speculation surrounding her absence from certain cabinet and departmental review meetings. The recent constitution of the Yadadri Temple Board

committee reportedly added to the perception of differences after claims that she was not consulted while she was on an overseas visit. Her subsequent absence from a cabinet meeting further fueled political discussion. Despite the growing speculation, neither the state government nor the Congress leadership has made any official statement indicating changes in the cabinet or Minister Konda Surekha's portfolio. Political observers note that the reports remain speculative, and any decision regarding the composition of the state cabinet rests solely with the Chief Minister and the party leadership. At present, there has been no official confirmation of any proposal to remove or replace the minister.

Governor Urges Engineers to Become Job Creators

continued

job seekers. He stressed that technological innovation and entrepreneurship are key drivers of economic growth and national development. Highlighting Telangana's rapid emergence as a global centre for technology, innovation, research, startups, aerospace, and biopharmaceutical industries, the Governor said Hyderabad offers abundant opportunities for talented young professionals. He encouraged graduates to make the most of the state's vibrant innovation ecosystem and contribute to its continued growth. The Governor emphasized that true education is a blend of knowledge, character, and values. He advised students to uphold honesty, integrity, discipline, and a spirit of lifelong learning throughout their professional and personal lives. Expressing concern over the growing menace of substance abuse, he urged the youth to stay away from drugs and actively support the vision of a "Nasha Mukta Bharat" by promoting a healthy, disciplined, and responsible lifestyle. He said young people have an important role in creating a society free from drug abuse through awareness and positive leadership. Congratulating the graduating Class of 2026, the Governor wished them success in their future careers and expressed confidence that they would bring laurels to their families, their alma mater, Telangana, and the nation through their dedication, innovation, and commitment to excellence.

Women's Self-Help Groups to Get Fertilizer Distribution Licences

continued

receive fertilizer licences and undergo training, including the use of the Urea App, to ensure efficient distribution and inventory management. To support the initiative, the government is also planning to construct 8,126 dedicated buildings for women's groups. These centres are expected to serve as storage facilities for fertilizers and function as local distribution points. Every year, around 40 lakh tonnes of fertilizers are supplied to farmers in Telangana through agricultural cooperative societies and private fertilizer dealers. The government now plans to involve women's groups in this supply chain, creating an additional source of income for rural women while improving farmers' access to fertilizers. Officials from the Agriculture Department and the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) have already held discussions on implementing the programme. The initiative will initially be introduced on a pilot basis in select districts before being expanded statewide based on the feedback and outcomes. The proposal is part of the government's broader strategy to strengthen women's economic participation through self-help groups and improve the delivery of agricultural services at the village level. The state has also been exploring alternative methods for supplying agricultural inputs. Earlier, the government initiated a pilot programme to distribute seeds through Rythu Vedikas (Farmers' Platforms). However, inadequate infrastructure and the absence of storage facilities at many centres prompted officials to examine other models for distributing seeds and fertilizers more effectively. Officials believe the new initiative will benefit both farmers and women's groups by improving last-mile delivery of agricultural inputs while creating sustainable livelihood opportunities in rural Telangana.

Strategic Partnership Set for Major Expansion

continued

Revanth Reddy noted that several internationally renowned universities are exploring opportunities to establish campuses in Hyderabad. He proposed that Canadian universities collaborate to develop a multi-university education campus in the city, strengthening academic partnerships, research collaboration, and student exchange programmes. The Chief Minister also invited Canadian companies, investors, educational institutions, and innovation partners to participate in the second Telangana Global Investors Summit, scheduled to be held in December. He said the summit would provide an ideal platform to expand Canada's engagement with Telangana across multiple sectors. Appreciating Telangana's development model, Chris Cooter praised the state's visionary governance, investment-friendly policies, and strong emphasis on employment generation. He assured the Chief Minister of Canada's full support for Telangana's development initiatives and announced that a Canadian trade delegation would visit the state in the coming months to explore collaboration in energy, urban development, defence, aerospace, and other strategic sectors. The meeting was attended by K. Ramakrishna Rao, Advisor to the Chief Minister and Ex-officio Special Chief Secretary; B. Ajith Reddy, CEO of Invest Telangana; Shashanka, Managing Director of TGIC; Anudeep Durishetty, Joint Secretary of the ITE&C Department; Nikhil Chakravathy, Director of Industries; and other senior officials. The discussions underscored Telangana's growing global profile and reinforced the commitment of both sides to building a long-term strategic partnership driven by investment, innovation, sustainability, and knowledge exchange.

Education Reforms Earn National Recognition

continued

The government also focused on expanding educational opportunities for girls by upgrading 120 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) to the intermediate level, while 93 KGBVs were recognised as Young India Institutes of Excellence. Students also recorded improved performance in Telugu, English, Urdu, and Mathematics during the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) assessments. To modernise education, the government established ICT laboratories in 1,132 schools, installed interactive flat panels in 2,036 schools, and set up computer laboratories in 4,249 primary schools. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital literacy were introduced into the curriculum for students from Classes 1 to 9, equipping them with future-ready skills. Teacher capacity-building was further strengthened through international study tours to Finland and Germany, enabling educators to learn global best practices in teaching and school management. The reforms also translated into improved academic outcomes. Telangana recorded a 95.15% pass percentage in the Class 10 examinations, while 5,731 government schools achieved a 100% pass rate. The state government said the sustained improvements in infrastructure, teacher development, digital learning, and student performance have earned Telangana national recognition and reaffirmed its commitment to transforming government school education through comprehensive and technology-driven reforms.

Nadda to Engage with Officials and Intellectuals

continued

Sciences Bibinagar, where he is expected to arrive at 12:00 noon. At AIIMS Bibinagar, the Union Minister will hold a comprehensive review meeting on the functioning and development of the premier healthcare institution. The meeting, scheduled from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., is expected to focus on the institute's progress, healthcare services, medical education, infrastructure, and future expansion plans. Following the review, Nadda will leave AIIMS Bibinagar at 2:45 p.m. and travel to the BJP state headquarters in Hyderabad, where he is scheduled to arrive at 3:30 p.m. From 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Union Minister will chair an important meeting with senior leaders of the Telangana BJP. The discussions are expected to cover organizational matters, party activities, and preparations for upcoming political programmes in the state. After concluding the party meeting, Nadda will proceed to the Taj Deccan hotel, arriving at 5:30 p.m. There, he will interact with intellectuals and prominent members of civil society during a meeting scheduled to continue until 7:00 p.m. The Union Minister will then depart for Shamshabad Airport at 7:10 p.m. and is scheduled to board a flight to New Delhi at 9:00 p.m., concluding his day-long visit to Telangana. The visit is expected to combine both official engagements related to healthcare administration and organizational meetings aimed at strengthening the BJP's activities in the state. Senior BJP leaders, officials, and representatives from AIIMS Bibinagar are expected to participate in the respective programmes.

CPM Leader Slams New Rural Employment Policy

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Former MLC and former Central Committee member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), Cherupalli Seetharamulu, has strongly criticized the Centre's new rural employment policy, alleging that it weakens the existing employment guarantee system and threatens the livelihoods of millions of rural workers. Addressing a press conference at his residence in Mansoorabad on Wednesday, Seetharamulu described the newly introduced VB Jeeranjee scheme as a measure that would ultimately undermine the objectives of the Mahatma Gandhi National

Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGN-REGS). He argued that the employment guarantee programme, introduced during the UPA era with the support of Left parties, had created livelihoods for millions of rural families while enhancing purchasing power and supporting village infrastructure through works such as check dams, tank desilting and earthworks. He alleged that the Centre was compelling states to adopt the new framework, sidelining a programme that had proved beneficial for rural communities. According to Seetharamulu, the reduced utilisation of person-days under the employment



scheme has raised concerns that the Centre may further cut future allocations, affecting employment opportunities for the rural poor. The CPM leader also referred to the Kerala Legislative Assembly's earlier resolution opposing the new policy and seeking the continuation of the previous system. He ques-

tioned the Telangana government's decision to implement the Centre's revised framework while also raising objections to its nomenclature. Seetharamulu pointed out that the funding pattern had changed significantly, claiming that while the Centre earlier contributed 90 per cent of the scheme's cost, the revised system requires states to bear a much larger financial burden before receiving central assistance. He argued that this could reduce the number of workdays available to labourers. He also recalled that the Congress had promised 120 days of employment and a daily wage of ₹400 in its election manifesto.

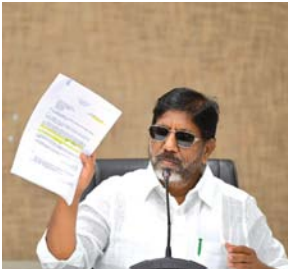
Seeking clarity from the state government, he asked how it would mobilise the additional funds required under the new funding model. Expressing concern over the merger of several gram panchayats into municipalities and the proposed Future City project, Seetharamulu said many residents were losing access to rural employment opportunities. On behalf of the CPM, he urged the Telangana government to continue the existing employment guarantee programme without dilution and extend its benefits to municipal areas to prevent migration and safeguard rural livelihoods.

Bhatti Demands Full Coal Block Allocation to Singareni

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Wednesday accused the Central Government of misrepresenting facts regarding the allocation of the Tadicherla-2 coal block to Singareni Collieries Company Limited and demanded that all coal blocks in the Godavari Valley region be allotted exclusively to the state-owned miner. Addressing a press conference at Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Praja Bhavan, Bhatti Vikramarka said the Tadicherla-2 block was not a fresh allocation, as claimed by Union Coal

Minister G. Kishan Reddy, but had already been allotted to Singareni by the Union Ministry of Coal on September 16, 2013. He said the recent decision merely granted the long-pending mining lease approval for the previously allocated block. The Deputy Chief Minister alleged that the Centre had delayed granting mining lease clearance despite repeated representations made by the Telangana government after it assumed office. He said the state had written several letters and held meetings with Union ministers, including appeals made on March 7, 2024, and May 20,



2026, seeking early approval for the mining lease. According to Bhatti, the prolonged delay prevented Singareni from commencing mining operations, resulting in financial losses for the company. While welcoming the eventual approval, he criticized attempts to portray it as a

new allocation. The Deputy Chief Minister also objected to the Centre's decision to auction coal blocks in tribal areas such as Koyagudem-3 Open Cast Block and the Open Cast Dip Side Mine near Manuguru. He argued that these regions fall under the protections of the Tribal Land Transfer Regulation (1/70), where mining activities should be undertaken only by public sector entities. Bhatti Vikramarka asserted that all coal blocks in the Godavari Valley should be allocated directly to Singareni through a government-to-government process instead of being

auctioned to private companies. He demanded that coal blocks already allotted to private firms, including Koyagudem-3 Open Cast and Sathupalli Open Cast-3, be reclaimed and transferred to Singareni. He said both the Telangana government and Singareni have consistently urged the Union Coal Ministry to safeguard the interests of the public sector company and ensure that coal resources in the region remain under its control. Singareni CMD Dr. Budda Prakash Jyothi, Directors Venkateswarlu and Gautam Potru, along with senior officials, attended the press conference.

BJP Credits Centre for Reviving Singareni

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

N. Ramchander Rao on Wednesday claimed that the Narendra Modi-led Central Government had revived and strengthened Singareni Collieries Company Limited after years of neglect by successive state governments, while accusing both the BRS and Congress of engaging in "credit politics" over the allocation of the Tadicherla-II coal block. Addressing a media conference at the BJP state office in Hyderabad, Ramchander Rao said Singareni, which operates 39 mines and provides livelihoods to around 41,000



permanent employees and 31,000 contract workers, has been safeguarded through the Centre's policy initiatives. He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Coal Minister G. Kishan Reddy for facilitating the Tadicherla-II

coal block for Singareni. According to the BJP leader, the block contains an estimated 182 million tonnes of coal reserves, which could generate more than ₹64,000 crore in revenue for Singareni while creating employment opportunities for nearly 1,200 people. He described the allocation as a major boost to both the public sector company and Telangana's economy. Rejecting the Congress government's claim that it secured the block through its own efforts, Ramchander Rao alleged that the allocation was made possible due to sustained efforts by BJP

MPs, MLAs, district leaders, and the personal intervention of Kishan Reddy. He questioned why the block was not allocated during the tenure of the former UPA government headed by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. He further alleged that while the previous BRS government had exploited Singareni for political interests, the present Congress government was weakening the company by diverting its funds to unrelated activities. He also claimed that the Modi government had introduced transparency and reforms in the coal sector following the

alleged coal allocation irregularities during the UPA era, resulting in a significant increase in coal production and revenue. Turning to land administration, Ramchander Rao demanded that the ongoing Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe into alleged irregularities in the Dharani portal be expanded to include the Bhubharathi project. He alleged that nearly 2,000 fake accounts had surfaced on the Dharani portal in the past two-and-a-half years and sought strict action against those responsible for alleged land-related irregularities.

Railway Ministry Clears Major Double-Line Project

continued

Dornakal Junction-Bhadrachalam Road railway line doubling project. Following the completion of the land acquisition process, construction work is expected to begin shortly. The project aims to convert the existing single railway line into a double line, significantly improving train movement and reducing delays on the busy route. Once completed, the upgraded corridor is expected to enhance con-

nectivity for passengers, particularly devotees travelling to the famous Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy Temple at Bhadrachalam. The Central Government has allocated ₹100 crore for the project in the current budget. The first phase involves doubling the line between Dornakal Junction and Bhadrachalam Road as part of the proposed 104-kilometre Dornakal-Manuguru railway doubling project announced in the 2008-09 Railway

Budget. The total cost of the first phase has been estimated at ₹770 crore. Officials said the land acquisition process has been completed after the Centre issued a gazette notification in September last year. Around 32.03 acres of land were acquired from 355 farmers, along with an additional 7.5 acres required for the project. The new double line will pass through Pocharam, Karepalli, Gandhipuram Halt,

Chimlapahad, Tadikalapudi, and Bethampudi railway stations before reaching Bhadrachalam Road. Railway authorities expect the project to improve operational efficiency by allowing more trains to run on the route while reducing congestion caused by the existing single track. The improved connectivity is also expected to benefit industries, promote regional economic development, and create

employment opportunities in the surrounding areas. As part of the modernization initiative, the railway yard at Dornakal Junction will also be remodelled, with additional railway offices and a dedicated coach fit line being established for train maintenance. Officials believe the upgraded infrastructure will strengthen rail services in the region and improve passenger convenience once the project is completed.

Housing Board Announces RS.1 Lakh Logo Contest

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Housing Board has announced a logo design competition for its upcoming Low-Income Group (LIG) housing initiative under the Comprehensive Urban Area Redevelopment (CUAR) project, offering a cash prize of ₹1 lakh to the winner. The competition is part of the Housing Board's efforts to promote public participation in its ambitious housing programme. Vice Chairman V.P. Gautam said the winning logo will become the official identity of the proposed "One Lakh Houses" scheme, which is being developed to provide affordable housing for economically weaker



sections. Interested participants have been invited to submit their logo designs by July 12, 2026. The competition is open to designers, students, artists, and members of the general public. This

announcement follows the Board's recently launched contest inviting suggestions for the name of the housing scheme, which received an overwhelming response of around 14,000 entries.

Gautam said the selected name and its winner would be announced shortly, and the prize would be presented during the official launch of the project. The proposed housing scheme forms part of the government's urban development initiative within the Core Urban Region Economy (CURE), covering Hyderabad and surrounding urban areas located within the Outer Ring Road limits. The Housing Board plans to construct one lakh affordable houses in the region under the government's housing programme aimed at benefiting low-income families. To participate in the logo competition, applicants must visit the Telangana Housing Board's official

Instagram page and access the Google Form link provided for submissions. After filling in the required details, participants can upload their logo design and complete the registration process before the deadline. Housing Board officials said the selected logo will be used across all official communications, publicity campaigns, events, digital platforms, and promotional materials related to the housing scheme. The Board expressed confidence that the competition would encourage creative participation from across the state while helping establish a distinctive visual identity for one of Telangana's major affordable housing initiatives.

Safety Measures Stressed for Vinayaka Festival

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar has directed Ganesh festival organizers to give top priority to public safety and adopt preventive measures to ensure the upcoming Vinayaka Chaturthi celebrations are conducted without accidents or untoward incidents. Chairing a coordination meeting with representatives of the Bhagyanagar Ganesh Utsava Samiti at the Telangana Integrated Command and Control Centre (TGICCC) in Banjara Hills on Wednesday, the Commissioner reviewed safety arrangements and highlighted lessons from previous years. He referred to incidents of electrocution and difficulties encountered during the transportation of oversized Ganesh idols, emphasizing the need for strict adherence to safety guidelines. Officials explained that overhead electric lines across many city roads are generally positioned at a height of around 22 feet, while the trolleys used for transporting Ganesh idols are approximately 4 feet high. In view of this, organizers were advised to ensure that the height of idols does not exceed 15 feet, thereby minimizing the risk of contact with power lines during processions. Sajjanar urged the Bhagyanagar Ganesh Utsava Samiti to create awareness among mandap organizers and coordinate with idol makers to strictly follow the prescribed height limit from the initial stages of idol preparation. He also warned organizers against attempting to lift or move overhead electric wires with sticks, pipes, or any other objects during the immersion processions, stating that such actions pose serious risks to life and property. The Commissioner said the meeting had been convened well in advance so that safety measures could be incorporated during the idol-making stage itself rather than at the last minute. He stressed that public safety must remain the foremost priority and called upon all stakeholders to work in close coordination to ensure peaceful and incident-free celebrations. Assuring full cooperation from the Hyderabad City Police, Sajjanar said comprehensive support would be extended for traffic management, crowd control, and security arrangements to facilitate smooth festivities and ensure the safety and convenience of devotees throughout the festival.

GHMC Commissioner Reviews Voter Verification Drive



Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

District Election Officer and GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan (IAS) conducted an inspection of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) door-to-door voter verification exercise on Wednesday at Polling Stations 274 and 283 in the Chanchalguda and Chavni areas of the Malakpet Assembly constituency. Accompanied by the Charminar Zonal Commissioner, Karnan reviewed the implementation of the voter verification process and interacted with local residents to understand their experience with the ongoing exercise. He also responded to queries raised by citizens regarding the enumeration and voter verification procedures. During the inspection, the District Election Officer closely examined the field-level distribution of SIR enumeration forms and assessed the progress of the verification drive being carried out by election staff. He emphasized the importance of conducting the exercise in a transparent, systematic, and voter-friendly manner to ensure the accuracy of electoral rolls. Karnan instructed the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO), Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs), BLO Supervisory Officers, Booth Level Officers (BLOs), and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) to strictly follow the guidelines issued by the Election Commission while carrying out the verification process. He directed officials to provide prompt assistance to voters, address their concerns efficiently, and ensure that eligible citizens receive the necessary support during the enumeration process. The Commissioner also stressed the need for timely completion of all assigned tasks within the prescribed schedule. Officials said the Special Intensive Revision aims to update and verify electoral records through door-to-door visits, ensuring that voter lists remain accurate and inclusive ahead of future elections. The inspection forms part of the Election Commission's ongoing efforts to monitor field-level implementation and strengthen the integrity of the electoral process across the city.

Temple Idol Removal Triggers Protest

Quthbullapur, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Tension gripped Simhapuri Colony in the Bowrampet Division of Dundigal Circle on Wednesday after idols installed at a proposed temple site were allegedly removed during the night, prompting residents to stage a road blockade in protest. Angered by the incident, local residents gathered on the Miyapur Highway and staged a demonstration, temporarily disrupting traffic. Protesters demanded that the idols be reinstalled at the original location and sought immediate intervention from the authorities. According to BJP leaders, the idols had been installed after a cere-

monial groundbreaking for the construction of a Shiva temple on a plot measuring around 300 square yards. They claimed that the foundation ceremony was performed with Vedic rituals and had the unanimous support of residents of the colony. The BJP leaders alleged that the removal of the idols during the night had hurt the religious sentiments of devotees. They maintained that the land was intended for community use and questioned the action taken against the temple construction. The party also criticized the police for detaining several protesters and shifting them to the Bachupally Police Station during the agitation. They



demanding that the authorities clarify the circumstances under which the idols were removed and take appropriate steps to restore them to the site. BJP leaders

urged the administration to resolve the issue amicably and facilitate the construction of the proposed temple while maintaining peace and public order. Several BJP

functionaries participated in the protest, including Peesari Krishna Reddy, president of the Bowrampet Division BJP unit, along with Gane Mallareddy, R. Narasimhachari, Ande Ashok, D. Prabhakar Reddy, D. Sitaram Reddy, and Srikanth. A large number of colony residents, including Pramod Kumar, Prakash Reddy, Shivaprasad, Venkat aratnam, Saikiran, Shiva, Sandeep, Tarak, Sudhakar, and several women, also joined the protest. Authorities had not issued an official statement on the incident at the time of reporting. The situation remained under watch as officials monitored the area to prevent any further escalation.

Officials Told to Strengthen Monsoon Civic Services

Quthbullapur, July 08 | TPN Bureau

The Deputy Commissioner of Jeedimetla Circle-55 convened a review meeting with officials from various departments on Wednesday, directing them to intensify civic service delivery and take proactive measures to address public issues during the ongoing monsoon season. The meeting, held at the Jeedimetla Circle-55 Deputy Commissioner's office, focused on ensuring that residents do not face inconvenience due to rain-related challenges and on improving the overall quality of municipal services. Officials were instructed to



prioritize the removal of hazardous tree branches that could pose risks during heavy rains and winds. They were also directed to take immediate action against encroachments on footpaths to ensure safe and unobstructed movement for pedestrians.

Special emphasis was placed on sanitation measures, with officials asked to conduct intensive cleanliness drives across the circle. The Deputy Commissioner also directed engineering teams to identify potholes on roads and carry out repairs without delay to improve road

safety and prevent accidents. As part of measures to control seasonal diseases, officials were instructed to effectively implement the 'Friday Dry Day' programme by eliminating mosquito breeding sources. Fogging operations are also to be intensified in vulnerable areas to reduce the spread of mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue and malaria. The Deputy Commissioner further directed the electricity and maintenance teams to promptly repair non-functional streetlights to improve public safety and visibility during the monsoon. Stressing the importance of

coordinated action, the Deputy Commissioner said every department must work in close coordination and respond swiftly to field-level issues without negligence. He instructed officials to ensure that all decisions taken during the meeting are implemented within the stipulated timeframe and that progress is monitored regularly. Officials from sanitation, engineering, electrical, horticulture, and other concerned departments attended the meeting and discussed measures to strengthen civic infrastructure and provide efficient public services throughout the monsoon season.

Navodaya Class 6 Admissions Open for 2027-28

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

The Central Government has invited applications for Class 6 admissions to Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya for the 2027-28 academic year, offering an opportunity for students from underprivileged families to receive free quality education. Admissions will be conducted through the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Selection Test (JNVST) 2027. Eligible students can submit their online applications until July 31, 2026, without paying any application fee. There are 665 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas across the country, including 15 schools each in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Students selected through the



entrance examination will receive free education from Class 6 to Class 12, along with boarding, lodging, and other educational facilities. Separate residential accommodation is available for boys and girls. To be eligible, applicants must be residents of the district where the respective Navodaya school is located and should be studying Class 5 during the 2026-27 academic year in a government or government-recognised school in the same district.

Couple's Suicide Linked to Debt, Harassment; Police Book Neighbours

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Fresh details have emerged in the investigation into the alleged suicide of a couple who died after jumping in front of a speeding train near Ghatkesar railway station, with police probing allegations of financial fraud, mental harassment, and attempted religious conversion. The victims, Ravikumar, a rice trader, and his wife Sirisha, were natives of Papayyapet village in Chen naraopet mandal of War angal district. The couple had been residing in the Kun thuru area of Hayathnagar, Hyderabad, along with their minor children. According to the investigation, Ravikumar and Sirisha had devel-



oped close ties with their neighbours, identified as Venkat and Pramila. Family members alleged that the neighbours had repeatedly pressured the couple to convert their religion and later persuaded them to invest in a ready-mix concrete business, promising substantial profits. Believing the investment would secure their future, Ravikumar reportedly pledged his wife's gold ornaments at a bank and raised ₹20 lakh, which he handed over to Venkat for

purchasing a ready-mix concrete vehicle. The accused allegedly assured the couple of a monthly return of ₹20,000, but made payments for only a few months before stopping them altogether. As the loan burden increased and interest on the pledged jewellery mounted, the couple reportedly faced severe financial distress. Their relatives further alleged that repeated demands for repayment were met with harassment, leaving the family under immense mental stress. Unable to cope with the situation, Ravikumar and Sirisha had reportedly decided to vacate their rented house and had already packed their belongings.

Man Held With Fake Educational Certificates

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

The Mirchowk Police arrested a 38-year-old man for allegedly possessing and selling forged educational certificates to job aspirants seeking employment abroad. The accused, identified as Abdul Rashed Khan, was apprehended at Etebar Chowk following a tip-off received by the police. During the operation, officers seized 15 fake educational certificates, a mobile phone, and a scooter believed to have been used in the illegal activity. According to the preliminary investigation, Abdul Rashed Khan was



allegedly supplying forged educational certificates to individuals intending to secure overseas jobs. Police suspect the accused was running the racket to earn illegal financial gains by providing fabricated academic documents to prospective job seekers. A case has been

registered against the accused under the relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Investigators are examining the source of the forged certificates and whether they were used to facilitate fraudulent employment applications in foreign countries. Police said efforts are underway to identify and apprehend other individuals believed to be associated with the racket. The investigation is also focused on uncovering the wider network involved in the preparation and distribution of fake educational documents. Officials have urged the public.

CMC Commissioner Reviews Civic Issues



Quthbullapur, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) Commissioner Srujana conducted a comprehensive field inspection in Chintal ward on Wednesday as part of the corporation's 'One Ward - Every Day' initiative aimed at improving civic services and addressing public grievances at the grassroots level. The inspection was carried out in the Chintal Circle along with Kutbullapur Zonal Commissioner Pinkesh Kumar, the Deputy Commissioner, and officials from various municipal departments. During the visit, the Commissioner interacted directly with local residents and representatives of Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) to understand the civic challenges affecting the ward. Following the interaction, the officials undertook an extensive inspection of the locality to assess the issues on the ground. The review covered sanitation management, including door-to-door garbage collection and the removal of green waste, repair of damaged roads, desilting of stormwater drains and major nallas, maintenance of streetlights, installation of new lighting facilities, tree pruning, and removal of encroachments in residential areas. The team also examined the condition of municipal community infrastructure and reviewed drainage-related problems requiring coordination with the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB). Officials discussed measures to improve inter-departmental coordination to ensure the timely completion of development works. Commissioner Srujana directed all concerned departments to treat the identified issues as a priority and complete the necessary works within the stipulated timeframe. She stressed the importance of prompt action, effective coordination, and regular monitoring to enhance the quality of civic services for residents. Officials stated that the 'One Ward - Every Day' initiative is designed to identify and resolve local issues through direct field inspections and public interaction, enabling faster delivery of municipal services and better planning for ward-level development. The program is expected to strengthen civic infrastructure while ensuring that residents' concerns are addressed efficiently through coordinated action by the municipal administration.

Major Irrigation Project to Boost Water Supply

Khammam, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has directed Irrigation Department officials to activate the Sitarama Project pumps to divert floodwaters from the Godavari River to the Wyra Reservoir, describing the initiative as a crucial step in securing water for the Nagarjuna Sagar ayacut. The decision comes in the wake of heavy rainfall in the upstream regions of the Godavari basin, which has led to a significant rise in river inflows. Taking advantage of the abundant water availability,



the minister instructed officials to begin pumping operations through the Sitarama Project and channel the water via the Rajiv Link Canal. Following the minister's directions, Irrigation Department officials activated the project motors at Biji Kothuru on Wednesday morning, marking the commencement of water diversion operations. According to Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, the Godavari floodwater entering the Sagar Main Branch Canal will be diverted upstream for about 13 kilometres before being routed through escape sluices toward the Wyra

Reservoir. The diverted water is expected to reach the reservoir by Thursday afternoon. The minister said the operation would help augment water storage in the Wyra Reservoir and strengthen irrigation support for farmers dependent on the Nagarjuna Sagar ayacut. He emphasized that timely utilization of available floodwaters is essential for ensuring water security during the agricultural season and improving irrigation availability in the region. Irrigation officials are closely monitoring the pumping operations and water flow to ensure smooth execution of the diversion process.

The department is also keeping a close watch on the inflows into the Godavari River to maximize the use of available floodwater. The Sitarama Project has been designed to harness surplus Godavari waters and improve irrigation infrastructure across Telangana. Officials said the latest diversion exercise demonstrates the project's strategic importance in enhancing water management, supporting agriculture, and ensuring reliable irrigation supplies to command areas dependent on the Nagarjuna Sagar canal system.

Mamidi Balreddy Visits Ailing Journalist, Extends Financial Support



Secunderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Mamidi Balreddy, President of the Padmarao Nagar Welfare Association, visited the residence of Namasthe Telangana reporter Narsing Rao in Bholakpur on Wednesday to inquire about his health following his recent bypass surgery. During the visit, Balreddy interacted with the senior journalist and enquired about his recovery. Wishing him a speedy and complete recovery, he expressed hope that Narsing Rao would soon regain good health and resume his professional responsibilities. As a gesture of support, Balreddy also extended financial assistance to the journalist and assured him of his continued encouragement during his recovery period. Andhra Jyothi reporter V.J. Seshagiri Rao was also present during the visit and joined in conveying his wishes for Narsing Rao's early recovery. The visit reflected solidarity among members of the media fraternity and community leaders, highlighting their support for the journalist during his recuperation.

Collector Stresses Quality Education and Civic Services

Mancherial, July 08 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Kumar Deepak on Wednesday stressed the need to provide quality education and better facilities for students during an inspection of educational institutions and government offices in the mandal. He also reviewed the implementation of key government programmes and directed officials to ensure timely completion of ongoing works. The Collector visited the Mandal Parishad Primary School at Akkepally Guda, where he assessed the quality of teaching and interacted with school authorities. He instructed officials to ensure that all essential facilities are available for students and emphasized strict adherence to the prescribed mid-day meal menu to provide nutritious food. He also inspected the school kitchen and verified the quality of vegetables and other food items being used. Later, Kumar Deepak visited the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) at Kishtapur and inspected the construction of additional classrooms, urinals, and the canteen. He directed the concerned officials to expedite the works and complete them at the earliest to improve infrastructure for students. The Collector also inspected the Government Tribal Ashram School at Kaval and reviewed the facilities being provided to students. Continuing his visit, he inspected the Primary Health Centre in the mandal headquarters. He reviewed the outpatient register, medicine stock, wards, and storage facilities, besides examining the medicines being provided to pregnant women. He instructed health officials to remain alert against seasonal diseases and ensure that patients receive prompt and efficient medical services without inconvenience. At the Tahsildar's office, the Collector reviewed the implementation of the Bhubharati programme, the Special Intensive Revision process, and the Indiramma Housing Scheme. He examined applications received during the Bhubharati Revenue Conference and directed officials to conduct thorough field-level verification. Kumar Deepak instructed the revenue officials to complete the Special Intensive Revision process before July 24 and ensure effective implementation of government programmes. Tahsildar Bakkaiah, MPDO Umar Sharif, and other officials accompanied the Collector during the inspections.

Tension Over Podu Land

Komaram Bheem Asifabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed on the outskirts of Dongargaon village under Chichupalli Gram Panchayat in Vankidi mandal on Wednesday after a dispute erupted between Forest Department officials and farmers over Podu (forest cultivation) lands. According to local sources, five farmers have been cultivating cotton on nearly 20 acres of the disputed land for several years. The situation turned tense when Forest Department officials arrived at the site and reportedly began leveling the land with a tractor as part of a plantation programme. On learning about the activity, the farmers rushed to the spot and objected, leading to a heated argument with the officials. The cultivators claimed that they had been farming the land for nearly four decades and depended on it for their livelihood. They expressed distress over the land being leveled after the cotton crop had already germinated. The farmers said they would not have sown the crop had they been informed in advance about the plantation drive. They questioned how their families would survive if they were deprived of lands they had cultivated for generations. Demanding immediate relief, the farmers urged the authorities to allow them to continue cultivation until the end of the current crop season since the cotton crop had already sprouted. Alternatively, they sought compensation for the losses incurred due to the damage caused to their crop. Following information about the dispute, Sub-Inspector Mahender and Forest Range Officer (FRO) Govindchand Sardar reached the spot and held discussions with the aggrieved farmers to ease tensions. After hearing both sides, the officials advised the farmers to submit their grievances before the District Forest Officer (DFO) for further consideration. The situation was brought under control following the intervention of police and forest officials, and no untoward incidents were reported. The incident has once again highlighted the recurring disputes over Podu lands in forest areas, with farmers seeking recognition of cultivation rights while the Forest Department continues plantation and conservation activities.

Retired Man Held for Illegal Homemade Wine Unit

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Excise officials from the Malkajgiri District Task Force (DTF) busted an illegal homemade wine manufacturing unit in Neredmet and arrested a retired man who allegedly learned wine-making techniques through YouTube tutorials before starting the operation. The accused, identified as Antony Peter, was found to be manufacturing and selling homemade fruit wine without the required licence. During the raid, officials seized 377.7 litres of homemade wine along with 502 bottles, with the total value of the seized stock estimated at ₹1.5 lakh. According to excise officials,

Antony Peter had been producing seven varieties of fruit wine and selling 750-ml bottles for ₹300 each. The products were allegedly supplied to customers in Neredmet, Secunderabad, NHO and Kapra. Investigators said the illegal unit had been operating for nearly a year before it was detected by the Malkajgiri DTF. Acting on specific intelligence, officials conducted a raid and uncovered the unauthorized manufacturing facility, recovering the entire stock along with equipment used in the production process. Preliminary inquiries revealed that the accused had reportedly acquired knowledge of wine production by watching online



video tutorials and later established the unit to earn illegal profits through the unlicensed sale of homemade alcoholic

beverages.

Excise authorities reiterated that the manufacture and sale of liquor without valid

licences is a punishable offence under the Excise Act. They warned that unauthorized alcoholic products pose potential health risks as they are produced without quality control or regulatory oversight. Following the seizure, Antony Peter was handed over to the Kapra Excise Station for further legal action. Officials said an investigation is underway to determine whether others were involved in the operation and to identify the distribution network through which the homemade wine was being sold. They also stated that enforcement drives against illegal liquor manufacturing and sale would continue across the district.

Congress Faction Clash Triggers Tension

Suryapet, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Factional rivalry within the Congress party in Suryapet district came into the open on Wednesday after supporters of two rival groups clashed in Arvapalli, prompting police to resort to a lathi-charge to restore order. The incident occurred when dissident Congress leaders from the Tungaturthi constituency set out for Hyderabad to stage a "Chalo Gandhi Bhavan" protest against the recent appointment of Congress party presidents for nine mandals. The dissident leaders were reportedly planning to submit their objections to the party leadership. According to police, as the con-



voy of the dissident leaders reached the Arvapalli crossroads, it was intercepted by

supporters of the local Congress MLA. A heated argument soon escalated into vio-

lence, with members of both factions allegedly attacking each other using stones and sticks. The clash created panic in the area, with local residents rushing to safety as the confrontation intensified. During the violence, the windows of at least two vehicles were damaged. Police personnel reached the spot and initially managed to disperse the rival groups. However, tensions flared up again shortly afterwards, leading to another round of stone-pelting and physical confrontation between the two sides. To bring the situation under control and prevent further escalation, police carried out a lathi-charge on both groups. The intervention eventually dispersed the supporters and

restored normalcy in the area. Police have registered cases against members of both factions and launched an investigation into the incident. Officials said those responsible for violence and damage to property would be identified and proceeded against in accordance with the law. The incident has exposed growing factional differences within the district Congress unit, particularly over recent organizational appointments. While party leaders have yet to issue an official statement on the clash, the episode is expected to draw the attention of the state leadership as it seeks to address internal differences ahead of future political programmes.

Kunja Rukmini Awarded PhD by Osmania University

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Kunja Rukmini, a native of Chinnaravigudem village in Manuguru mandal of Bhadradri Kothagudem district, has been awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree by Osmania University for her research on the protection of tribal rights. The doctorate was conferred by the university's Department of Law for her thesis titled "Protection of Tribal Rights in Telangana State Agency Areas - A Study with Special Reference to Bhadradri Kothagudem District." The



research was carried out under the guidance of Dr. Radhika Yadav, Assistant Professor in

the Department of Law at Osmania University. Rukmini's study examined the constitutional and legal safeguards available to tribal communities living in the agency areas of Telangana. It also evaluated the implementation of these provisions and assessed the effectiveness of measures taken to protect tribal rights, with a special focus on Bhadradri Kothagudem district. According to an official statement issued by the university's examination department, the PhD was awarded in recognition of the scholarly value of the research and its relevance

to society, governance, and the legal system. The study is expected to contribute to a better understanding of tribal rights and support future policymaking and legal reforms concerning indigenous communities. Following the announcement, Kunja Rukmini was felicitated by her family members, villagers, legal professionals, teachers, intellectuals, public representatives, and friends, who congratulated her on achieving the highest academic qualification. Expressing gratitude for the recognition, Rukmini said she intends to continue

research in the field of law with a focus on strengthening the protection of the rights of Adivasi communities. She expressed hope that her research would contribute to safeguarding tribal interests and promoting social justice through legal awareness and effective implementation of constitutional protections. Her achievement has been widely appreciated in her native village and across the district as an inspiring example of academic excellence and commitment to advancing the rights and welfare of tribal communities.

Osmania University Confers PhD on Legal Researcher from

Hyderabad, July 08 | TPN Bureau

Osmania University has awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree to Puliganti Suresh, a young legal researcher from Tadicherla village in Malharrao Mandal of Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, for his significant contribution to legal research. Suresh received the doctorate from the university's Department of Law for his thesis titled "Status of Matrimonial Dispute Resolution in Telangana State - A Study with Special Reference to Hyderabad District." The research was carried out under the guidance of Professor B. Vijayalakshmi of the Department of Law at Osmania University. The study provides a comprehensive analysis of the legal

framework governing matrimonial dispute resolution in Telangana. It examines the functioning of family courts, mediation and conciliation mechanisms, and the implementation of dispute resolution systems, with a special focus on Hyderabad district. The research also explores measures to ensure speedy settlement of family disputes, strengthen judicial reforms, and improve access to justice for the public. The university recognized the study as a valuable contribution to the field of law for its relevance to legal practice and public welfare. An official statement issued by the Examination Branch of Osmania University confirmed that Puliganti Suresh had successfully qualified for the doctoral degree. His achievement has brought recognition to his



native Tadicherla village, with residents describing it as a matter of pride for the entire

district. Coming from a modest rural background, Suresh's academ-

ic accomplishment has been widely appreciated as an inspiring example for students aspiring to pursue higher education and careers in the legal profession. Villagers noted that his dedication and perseverance demonstrate that determination and hard work can overcome social and economic barriers. Following the announcement, Puliganti Suresh was felicitated by villagers, lawyers, academicians, intellectuals, public representatives, family members, and friends. They congratulated him on earning the highest academic qualification and expressed confidence that he would continue contributing to legal research and serve society by promoting judicial reforms and improving access to justice through his future work.

Editorial

Politics Must Not Drown an 87,000-Crore Project

The ‘ 87,000-crore project’ that was envisioned to bring water to Telangana has unfortunately become a platform for *challenges and counter-challenges* in politics. A project that was meant to irrigate lakhs of acres is today struggling in the midst of political rivalry. Before deciding ‘who is right and who is wrong’, the foremost responsibility is to ensure that ‘public money is not wasted’.

If the previous BRS Government led by K. Chandrashekar Rao committed mistakes in the planning or execution of the project, those responsible must certainly be held accountable. No one should be spared if public funds have been misused. However, accountability should not become a political weapon. Instead of arriving at a conclusion and taking corrective measures, the Congress Government appears to be spending more time projecting it as a “failed project.” The emphasis seems to be on highlighting political failures rather than identifying solutions to make the project functional.

On the other hand, the BRS maintains that it did not commit any mistake and argues that the Congress Government has failed to utilize or rectify the project. While both parties continue to trade accusations, the real question remains unanswered: ‘Will lakhs of acres receive water or not?’ If not, ‘What is the alternative?’

Equally important is the silence of farmers’ organizations, which should be at the forefront of demanding a practical solution. If water is reaching agricultural fields even without the project functioning as intended, then a fundamental question arises: Why was the project built at such an enormous cost?

The people deserve clear answers to these questions. Political leaders have a responsibility not merely to score points against one another but to safeguard public resources and fulfil the purpose for which such massive investments were made. It is time to end the controversy, move beyond political rhetoric, and focus on finding a lasting solution that serves the interests of Telangana’s farmers and taxpayers.

Editor

Memorization in the Age of AI: A Reflection from the Gita

Swathi Dev Education Expert

At a recent roundtable conference on education, the keynote speaker reflected on the sweeping changes brought by the information age and the growing influence of Artificial Intelligence. He observed how vast amounts of information now reach us in seconds, reshaping the way we learn and remember. In contrast, he reminded the audience of an earlier era, when theologians and pundits devoted themselves to memorizing the Vedas and sacred texts, carrying entire traditions in their minds.

In making this point, he recalled a recent conversation with me. He mentioned that Swathi is now engaged in Bhagavad Gita studies, and as part of that journey, she is memorizing verses from the Gita. His reflection led to a provocative question: in the near future, will anyone continue the practice of memorization?

The Value of Memorization The question is not trivial. AI can provide instant meanings, analyses, and reviews of the Bhagavad Gita. Yet memorization is not about recall—it is about internalizing wisdom. Reciting shlokas embeds rhythm, meaning, and philosophy into the mind, shaping thought patterns and emotional resilience. It is a discipline that strengthens focus and offers peace in moments of confusion.

When verses are memorized, they become available not just on a device but within the self. In moments of stress or uncertain-

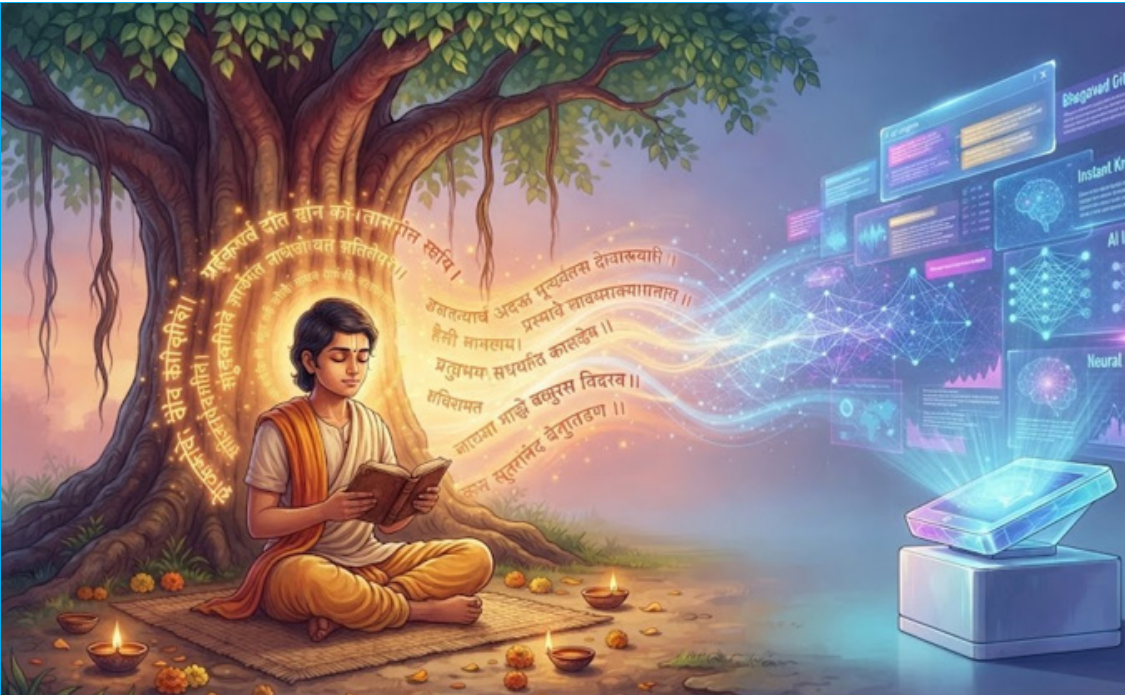
ty, the mind can draw upon them instantly, without needing to “search.” This immediacy is what makes memorization transformative.

Tradition Meets Technology Memorization once served as the backbone of cultural continuity. Oral traditions preserved knowledge across generations, ensuring that wisdom was not lost even when written texts were scarce. Today, technology has reduced our reliance on memory—calculators replaced mental arithmetic, mobiles replaced memorized phone numbers, and now AI replaces the need to recall facts.

Yet practices like memorizing the Gita remain relevant, not as a necessity for information storage, but as a path to personal transformation. AI can explain meanings, but memorization ensures those meanings live within us. It is the difference between reading wisdom and living it.

A Holistic Perspective The World Health Organization defines health as complete physical, mental, and social well-being. The Gita contributes to this vision by:

- Reducing anxiety through acceptance of time's eternal flow.
- Encouraging detachment from results, lowering stress.
- Promoting clarity in decision-making.
- Strengthening social



bonds when recited in groups.

Enhancing spiritual health by connecting with universal truths.

Memorization, in this sense, is not just spiritual—it is therapeutic. It trains the mind to focus, calms the emotions, and builds resilience in a world of constant distraction.

Philosophy Made Personal The Gita explores the three modes of material nature, the eternal soul, the laws of cause and effect, and the importance of performing duty without attachment. These are not abstract ideas—they are practical guides for living. Memorization ensures these truths are not just read but lived, becoming part of one’s daily consciousness.

When verses are internalized,

they act like a compass. They guide choices, temper reactions, and provide strength in adversity. This is why memorization is more than an intellectual exercise—it is a spiritual discipline.

Waste of Time—or Timeless Practice?

If the goal is quick access to information, AI is unmatched. But if the goal is personal transformation, discipline, and resilience, memorization is irreplaceable. In fact, both complement each other: AI can explain meanings, while memorization ensures those meanings shape our inner world.

The practice may become rarer, but its value will remain timeless. Memorization is not about competing with technology—it is

about cultivating the human spirit.

Reflection

The keynote speaker’s question lingers: will memorization survive in the AI era? Perhaps fewer will undertake it. Yet those who do will discover that memorization is not a relic of the past, but a timeless practice. AI can provide knowledge; memorization provides wisdom. And wisdom, unlike information, must be lived, not just accessed.

(Author is an accomplished education professional contributing to innovative projects in early childhood care, adolescent empowerment, career guidance, and strengthening government school education.)

When Politics Divides, Democracy Suffers

Ravi Podili Sr Journalist

“Democracy is not merely a form of government; it is primarily a mode of associated living.” — B.R. Ambedkar

Democracy, at its core, is meant to foster collective progress and peaceful coexistence. It is a system where differences are debated, not weaponized, and where governance is rooted in public welfare rather than political rivalry. However, the current political climate in Andhra Pradesh raises a troubling question: is politics still serving the people, or is it steadily dividing them?

Across the state, there is a growing perception that politics has moved away from its primary purpose. What should ideally be a contest of ideas, policies, and development agendas is increasingly turning into a battleground of personal attacks, allegations, and constant confrontation. Social observers point out that political intensity, which traditionally peaks during election seasons, now persists throughout the year. As a result, ordinary citizens are left navigating an atmosphere of continuous tension.

People fundamentally seek peace and stability in their daily lives. Development, welfare, and economic growth naturally follow when society is harmonious. Yet, in Andhra Pradesh, public discourse appears to be dominated by criticism of opponents rather than constructive dialogue. This shift has led to a growing sense of disillusionment among citizens who expect politics to address real issues affecting their lives.

Recent remarks by Janasena MLA Mandali Buddha Prasad have added weight to this concern. His candid reflection on whether one should continue in such a political environment has sparked widespread

debate. Analysts view this as a symptom of a deeper issue—the steady erosion of civility and mutual respect in political engagement. When elected representatives themselves express discomfort, it signals a broader systemic problem that cannot be ignored.

Critics argue that political leaders, instead of competing to solve public problems, are increasingly focused on weakening their opponents. The rise of social media has amplified this trend, turning political communication into a relentless cycle of propaganda, misinformation, and personal attacks. Meaningful criticism, which is essential for a healthy democracy, is often overshadowed by sensationalism. This not only dilutes the quality of political discourse but also widens societal divisions.

The role of certain media outlets and digital platforms has also come under scrutiny. Observers note that prioritizing sensational narratives over factual reporting contributes to polarization. When media becomes an extension of political battles rather than a neutral platform for information, it undermines public trust and deepens existing divides.

At the same time, opposition parties and civil society groups have raised concerns over the government’s response to dissent. Allegations that the gov-

ernment is taking legal action against critics have sparked debate about the balance between maintaining law and order and protecting democratic freedoms. The government, led by YSRCP, maintains that its actions are strictly within the framework of law and are necessary to ensure stability. However, this ongoing tension highlights the delicate balance that must be maintained in any democracy.

Beyond political narratives and institutional debates, the real impact is felt at the grassroots level. Increasingly, political differences are straining personal relationships—families, friendships, and communities are experiencing divisions along political lines. Intellectuals warn that such social fragmentation is unhealthy and poses a long-term risk to societal cohesion.

For democracy to thrive, both the ruling party and the opposition must exercise restraint and responsibility. Politics should not be about perpetual conflict but about constructive engagement. Mutual respect, tolerance of differing views, and a commitment to dialogue are essential pillars of a functioning democracy. Ultimately, the purpose of politics must return to its fundamental goal—serving the people. There is a growing and justified demand among citizens for governance that prioritizes public welfare over political rivalry. If democracy is to remain meaningful, it must unite rather than divide. The path forward lies not in louder arguments, but in wiser conversations.



Between Faith and Doubt: Finding the Middle Path

P Subba Rao Veteran Journalist

The debate between theism and atheism has long been framed as a binary clash: belief in God versus denial of God. Yet this framing oversimplifies the complexity of human experience. Faith and doubt are not mutually exclusive; they often coexist within the same mind. To strike the right balance is not to dilute conviction but to recognize that both perspectives offer insights into meaning, morality, and the human condition.

The Value of Belief

For many, theism provides a moral compass and a sense of belonging. Religious traditions have historically shaped cultures, inspired art, and offered solace in times of suffering. The belief in a higher power can instill humility, reminding individuals that they are part of something larger than themselves. At its best, faith nurtures compassion and community, encouraging people to act with integrity and empathy.

The Power of Doubt

Atheism, on the other hand, challenges blind adherence to dogma. It insists on evidence, rational inquiry, and intellectual honesty. Doubt is not destructive—it is a catalyst for progress. By questioning inherited beliefs, societies have advanced in science, ethics, and governance. Atheism underscores human responsibility: if there is no divine overseer, then morality must be grounded in human dignity and reason.

The Middle Ground: Agnosticism and Pluralism

Between these poles lies agnosticism, which acknowledges the limits of human knowledge. Agnostics neither affirm nor deny the divine but remain open to mystery. Similarly, pluralism embraces diversity of belief, recognizing that no single worldview holds all answers. This middle ground fosters dialogue rather than division, allowing believers and non-believers to learn from one another.

Case Studies in Balance

History offers examples of leaders who navigated this tension. Mahatma Gandhi drew strength from Hindu spirituality yet respected secular ethics. Albert Einstein spoke of a “cosmic religious feeling” while rejecting traditional dogma. These figures illustrate that balance is not compromise but synthesis—an ability to draw wisdom from both faith and reason.

Toward a Shared Future In a world fractured by ideological battles, the balance between theism and atheism is not merely philosophical—it is practical. Interfaith dialogue, secular governance, and ethical cooperation are essential for coexistence. Theism without openness risks fanaticism; atheism without humility risks nihilism. The middle path acknowledges the human need for meaning while honoring the pursuit of truth.

Contemporary balance between theism and atheism is



most visible in public figures, institutions, and movements that embrace both faith-based values and secular reasoning—examples range from scientists who respect spirituality to governments that integrate secular law with religious diversity.** These cases show how modern societies navigate belief and doubt without collapsing into extremes.

Examples of Balance

- Barack Obama - As U.S. President, Obama openly identified as Christian but emphasized secular governance.
- He often spoke about respecting atheists and agnostics, framing morality as both faith-inspired and reason-driven.
- His approach highlighted how leaders can draw personal strength from religion while ensuring pluralism in public life. [philosophy.institute](https://philosophy.institute/philosophy-of-religion/future-theism-atheism-debate-philosophy/)
- Neil deGrasse Tyson - The astrophysicist avoids labeling himself strictly atheist or theist.
- He acknowledges the cultural role of religion while advocating for scientific skepticism.
- Tyson’s stance reflects a balance: respecting belief traditions without compromising scientific inquiry. [John Monyok Maluth](https://johnshalom.com/theism-vs-atheism-a-deep-dive-into-the-pros-and-cons-for-modern-humans/)
- Elon Musk - Musk identifies as non-religious but often references “higher purpose” and “cosmic questions.”
- His language blends atheistic rationalism with quasi-spiritual awe about humanity’s role in the universe.
- Indian Supreme Court - India’s judiciary often rules in ways that balance religious freedom with secular law.
- For example, judgments on temple entry, marriage rights, and education policies show attempts to respect faith while upholding constitutional secularism.
- This reflects pluralism in practice, where theism and atheism coexist under a legal framework.



BJP Fields Youth Leader Abhishek Kumar Against Prashant Kishor

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has named Abhishek Kumar, a young party leader, as its candidate for the crucial Bankipur Assembly bypoll in Bihar. He will take on Jan Suraj Party founder Prashant Kishor, setting the stage for a high-profile contest between two first-time electoral candidates.

The bypoll was necessitated after the Bankipur seat fell vacant following the election of former MLA Nitin Nabin to the Rajya Sabha. Considered a BJP stronghold, the constituency has emerged as one of the most closely watched political battles in Bihar.

Abhishek Kumar is a prominent leader of the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) and has served as the state vice-president of the BJP's youth wing. He has been actively involved in grassroots organizational work and is regarded as a close associate of senior BJP leader Nitin Nabin. His selection reflects the party's strategy of promoting young leaders with strong local connections.

The BJP believes Abhishek Kumar's organizational experience and connect with party workers will help retain the Bankipur seat. Senior party leaders have described his candidature as a recognition of dedicated grassroots workers rather than relying only on established political faces.

On the other side, Prashant Kishor is making his electoral debut after years of working as one of India's most influential political strategists. Through his Jan Suraj Party, he has been campaigning for governance reforms and political change in Bihar. His decision to contest from Bankipur, traditionally a BJP bastion, has made the bypoll a major political contest.

The election is expected to draw significant attention as it will test Prashant Kishor's popularity as a political leader against the BJP's strong organizational network. Apart from the BJP and Jan Suraj Party, other political parties are also in the fray, making the contest highly competitive.

With both principal candidates entering electoral politics for the first time, the Bankipur bypoll is being viewed as more than just a local election. The outcome could influence the political narrative in Bihar ahead of future electoral battles and provide an indication of voter sentiment toward emerging political alternatives and established parties alike.



India Plans Longest Bullet Train Corridor from Delhi to Siliguri

India is moving ahead with an ambitious high-speed rail expansion plan that could transform long-distance travel across the country. The proposed Delhi-Varanasi-Siliguri bullet train corridor is set to become one of India's biggest railway infrastructure projects, with the potential to reduce travel time between Delhi and Siliguri to around six hours.

The corridor is part of the government's broader plan to develop multiple high-speed rail networks across India. Among the proposed routes, the Delhi-Varanasi-Siliguri line stands out as one of the longest, connecting the national capital with eastern India and serving as an important gateway towards the Northeast.

The proposed high-speed corridor is expected to cover approximately 1,700 kilometres, making it longer than India's first bullet train project between Mumbai and Ahmedabad. The route is planned to connect major cities including Delhi, Noida, Mathura, Agra, Lucknow, Varanasi, Patna, Begusarai, Khagaria, Katihar, and New Jalpaiguri (Siliguri).

At present, travelling from Delhi to Siliguri by conventional trains takes nearly 20 hours. The bullet train project aims to reduce this journey significantly by using dedicated high-speed tracks and trains capable of reaching speeds of up to 320 kmph.

The project is expected to improve connectivity between northern, eastern, and north-eastern regions of India. Faster transportation links could boost tourism, encourage business activity, improve passenger convenience, and create new economic opportunities around the proposed stations.

Another major high-speed rail route under consideration is the Delhi-Lucknow-Varanasi corridor, which is expected to strengthen connectivity across Uttar Pradesh. The proposed network could reduce travel time between major cities and provide a faster alternative to existing rail and road transportation.

Railway authorities are currently focusing on surveys, feasibility studies, and detailed planning before moving towards construction. The project will require significant investment, land acquisition, and advanced engineering solutions to build dedicated high-speed infrastructure.

The bullet train network is part of India's larger vision to modernize railway infrastructure and introduce faster, safer, and more efficient modes of transportation. The ongoing Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project is expected to provide valuable experience for future high-speed rail corridors.

If completed, the Delhi-Siliguri bullet train corridor could bring a major change in India's transportation system by connecting key regions with high-speed rail connectivity. The project has the potential to strengthen economic links, reduce travel time, and redefine the future of railway travel in the country.

Shah Assures Full Central Support to States Amid Heavy Rains

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday reviewed the flood and heavy rain situation in Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Jammu & Kashmir, speaking separately with the chief ministers of the three regions and assuring them of all possible assistance from the Centre. The move comes as intense monsoon rains continue to disrupt normal life in several parts of the country.

During his conversations, Shah spoke with Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, and Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to assess the impact of heavy rainfall and the preparedness of state administrations in handling the situation. He assured the leaders that the Central government would extend every possible support for rescue, relief, and rehabilitation efforts.

Several parts of Maharashtra, especially Mumbai and nearby districts, have been experiencing heavy rainfall, leading to waterlogging, traffic disruptions, and delays in rail services. Gujarat has also witnessed widespread rains, while parts of Jammu & Kashmir have been affected by flash floods and landslides caused by persistent monsoon activity.

Shah emphasized that the Centre is closely monitoring the evolving weather situation and remains in constant touch with the affected states. He assured the chief ministers that additional resources would be made available if required to strengthen rescue and relief operations.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast continued heavy to very heavy rainfall in several regions, prompting authorities to remain on high alert. Disaster response agencies, including the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and state emergency teams, have been deployed in vulnerable areas to assist local administrations and respond to emergencies.

Authorities have urged residents in low-lying and flood-prone areas to remain cautious, avoid unnecessary travel, and follow official weather advisories. Emergency teams are continuing rescue and monitoring operations as the southwest monsoon remains active across western and northern India.

The Central government has reiterated its commitment to providing all necessary assistance until the situation returns to normal. Coordination between central agencies and state governments is expected to continue to ensure timely relief, safeguard lives, and minimize damage caused by the ongoing heavy rains and flooding.



'Abuse-Proof' Fadnavis Defends Mumbai-Pune Missing Link

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis strongly defended the Mumbai-Pune 'Missing Link' expressway project in the State Assembly after the Opposition criticized the government over a recent landslide that temporarily disrupted traffic. Declaring that he was "abuse-proof," Fadnavis rejected allegations of corruption and structural failure.

The controversy erupted after heavy monsoon rains triggered a landslide on the recently inaugurated 7,000-crore Missing Link project, forcing authorities to suspend traffic for nearly 18 hours. Opposition parties accused the government of poor construction quality and misuse of public funds.

Responding to the criticism, Fadnavis accused the Opposition of spreading misinformation and making baseless allegations. He asserted that the project remains structurally sound and said the incident was caused by an extreme natural event rather than engineering flaws.

The Chief Minister clarified that the landslide damaged an outer protective arch after mountain debris fell on it, but stressed that the tunnel and the main structural components remained completely safe. He said the integrated safety systems functioned effectively, enabling emergency teams to respond immediately and clear the debris before reopening the route.

Fadnavis also claimed that the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government had stalled the project, citing multiple objections. According to him, the current government revived and completed the project despite those challenges.

Taking a swipe at criticism on social media, Fadnavis remarked that he had become "abuse-proof" after years in public life. He said political attacks did not concern him but warned that he would not tolerate attempts to defame Maharashtra or undermine major infrastructure projects.

Highlighting the significance of the expressway, he noted that the Missing Link includes India's tallest cable-stayed bridge and some of the world's widest twin tunnels, making travel between Mumbai and Pune faster and safer while bypassing the accident-prone ghat section.

Drawing a comparison with the Konkan Railway, Fadnavis said that major infrastructure projects often face initial challenges but improve over time through engineering solutions and continuous maintenance. He argued that development should not be halted because of isolated incidents.

The Chief Minister also reviewed the broader monsoon situation in Maharashtra, stating that disaster management teams are actively engaged in relief operations across rain-affected districts. He assured the Assembly that the government remains committed to ensuring public safety while continuing with ambitious infrastructure development across the state.



Maa Baglamukhi Temple Donation Row: Inquiry Ordered

A controversy has emerged at the famous Maa Baglamukhi Temple in Madhya Pradesh's Agar-Malwa district, where allegations have surfaced that cash, gold, and silver offerings from devotees were collected through a private system outside the official temple management structure. The district administration has ordered an inquiry into the matter.

According to the allegations, an unauthorized committee was collecting donations and valuable offerings from devotees inside the temple premises by issuing private receipts. It is also alleged that the collected funds were deposited into private bank accounts instead of being properly recorded through the official temple management system.

The Maa Baglamukhi Temple at Nalkheda is managed by a government-constituted temple committee headed by the local Sub-Divisional Magistrate. However, complaints received by the administration claim that another group, operating in the name of a private service committee, had been collecting donations since 2024 without official approval.

Following the complaints, Agar-Malwa Collector Preeti Yadav formed a three-member inquiry committee to investigate the allegations. The panel has been tasked with examining temple records, receipt books, bank details, and other financial documents. Statements of people associated with the matter will also be recorded as part of the investigation.

The inquiry committee will determine whether any financial irregularities occurred and identify those responsible if violations are established. Officials have stated that strict action will be taken against anyone found guilty of wrongdoing. The issue has triggered political reactions in Madhya Pradesh, with opposition leaders demanding a transparent investigation into the management of devotees' donations. They have called for accountability and proper handling of temple funds.

The state government has maintained that any person found involved in financial misconduct will face action. Officials have also clarified that the alleged private donation collection system was not part of the officially recognized temple management process. Maa Baglamukhi Temple is one of Madhya Pradesh's prominent religious destinations and attracts thousands of devotees every year. The temple is especially known for special rituals and religious ceremonies, drawing visitors from different parts of the country.

The controversy has once again highlighted concerns over transparency in the management of religious donations. The final report of the inquiry committee is expected to reveal whether the allegations are true and what further steps will be taken by the authorities.



Congress Rules Out Leadership Change in Punjab

The Congress has firmly ruled out any change in its Punjab leadership ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections, putting an end to speculation over a possible reshuffle in the state unit. The party leadership has made it clear that the current organizational structure will remain unchanged as it focuses on strengthening its election campaign.

AICC General Secretary and Punjab in-charge Bhupesh Baghel stated that the party high command has taken a final decision and that Amarinder Singh Raja Warring will continue as the president of the Punjab Congress. He emphasized that the appointment of a state party chief is a well-considered decision and is not subject to change due to internal pressure or political speculation.

Baghel dismissed reports of an imminent leadership change, saying the Congress is concentrating on preparations for the Assembly elections rather than internal disagreements. He stressed that party discipline would be strictly maintained and that all leaders are expected to work together to strengthen the party's prospects in the state.

The clarification comes amid reports of differences within the Punjab Congress, with some leaders and supporters seeking a larger role for former Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi. However, the party leadership has reiterated that organizational appointments have already been finalized and there is no plan to revisit those decisions.

Baghel urged party workers and leaders to focus on building the organization at the grassroots level instead of engaging in internal politics. He said personal ambitions should not take precedence over the party's larger objective of returning to power in Punjab.

The Congress has already finalized its key election committees, with Raja Warring continuing as the state unit chief while senior leaders have been assigned important campaign and organizational responsibilities. The leadership believes the existing structure provides the right combination of experience, stability, and representation to effectively challenge the ruling Aam Aadmi Party and other political opponents.

By ruling out any leadership change, the Congress hopes to end speculation and project a united front ahead of the crucial Punjab Assembly elections. The party is aiming to strengthen its grassroots network, maintain internal unity, and present itself as a strong alternative to the ruling government as it prepares for the electoral battle.



12,000 Police, Drones Deployed for Secure Puri Rath Yatra

Odisha Police has announced a massive security arrangement for the annual Puri Rath Yatra, deploying around 12,000 police personnel along with advanced surveillance systems to ensure the smooth conduct of the grand religious festival. The security plan focuses on crowd management, traffic regulation, emergency response, and the safety of lakhs of devotees expected to participate.

The Rath Yatra will witness a huge gathering of devotees in Puri, prompting authorities to prepare a multi-layer security strategy covering land, sea, and air surveillance. Officials have planned extensive arrangements to prevent any untoward incidents and ensure the festival proceeds peacefully.

As part of the security measures, drones and anti-drone systems will be deployed to monitor aerial activity and prevent unauthorized drone operations. Security teams will maintain continuous surveillance across important locations to quickly identify and respond to possible threats.

A special maritime security arrangement has also been planned, with the Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, and Odisha Police Maritime units conducting coordinated patrols along the coastal areas. Quick Response Teams will be positioned at strategic locations to handle emergency situations.

Several central and state security agencies, including the CRPF, BSF, Railway Protection Force, and Coast Guard, will assist Odisha Police during the festival. Authorities have also arranged anti-sabotage checks, bomb disposal squads, sniffer dog teams, and special tactical units as part of the overall security framework.

Special focus has been placed on crowd control and preventing stampede-like situations. Barricading arrangements, regulated entry and exit points, emergency routes, and coordination between police personnel and district administration officials have been planned to manage the movement of devotees effectively.

Police teams have also intensified security checks at hotels, lodges, railway stations, bus terminals, and other public areas in Puri. Authorities are monitoring suspicious activities and carrying out verification procedures to maintain law and order throughout the festival period. With a massive number of devotees expected to attend the historic celebration, Odisha is combining traditional security methods with modern technology to ensure a safe and peaceful Rath Yatra. The use of drones, surveillance systems, and deployment of multiple security agencies reflects the scale of preparations for one of India's biggest religious gatherings.

The state administration has assured devotees that all necessary precautions are being taken to maintain safety, provide smooth arrangements, and ensure the successful completion of the nine-day festival.



Oil Prices Surge Over 2% as US-Iran Tensions

Global crude oil prices climbed more than 2% after renewed military tensions between the United States and Iran heightened concerns over the security of the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical oil transit routes. The latest escalation has raised fears of supply disruptions, pushing energy prices higher in international markets.

The rise in oil prices comes amid fresh military exchanges in the Gulf region, increasing uncertainty over the movement of crude shipments through the Strait of Hormuz. Nearly 20% of the world's oil supply passes through this narrow waterway, making any threat to its security a major concern for global energy markets.

Investors reacted swiftly to reports of heightened tensions, with traders pricing in the possibility of supply interruptions if the conflict intensifies. Shipping companies are also closely monitoring the situation, as increased military activity could affect the safe passage of oil tankers and commercial vessels operating in the region.

Higher crude prices have renewed concerns about global inflation, as rising energy costs could increase transportation and manufacturing expenses worldwide. Economists warn that sustained increases in oil prices may complicate the efforts of central banks to manage inflation while supporting economic growth.

Energy-importing countries, including India, are expected to closely monitor developments since higher crude prices could translate into increased fuel import costs and put pressure on domestic inflation. Governments may also face challenges in managing fuel prices if the geopolitical situation worsens.

Financial markets reflected growing uncertainty, with investors shifting toward safer assets while keeping a close watch on further geopolitical developments. Market participants believe that oil prices could remain volatile as long as tensions persist in the Gulf region. Despite the current spike, analysts note that the extent of any long-term price increase will depend on whether the conflict disrupts actual oil production or shipping operations. If exports through the Strait of Hormuz continue without major interruptions, prices could stabilize. However, any escalation affecting the flow of crude oil could lead to sharper price gains.

With geopolitical risks rising and energy markets remaining sensitive to developments in West Asia, traders and policymakers around the world are expected to closely track the evolving situation. The coming days will be crucial in determining whether diplomatic efforts can ease tensions or whether further military action will continue to drive volatility in global oil markets.



Pakistan Links Offender Deportation to Extradition Demand from UK

Pakistan has reportedly informed the United Kingdom that it is willing to accept the deportation of a convicted child sex offender of Pakistani origin only if Britain also extradites two Pakistanis accused by Islamabad of spreading anti-state propaganda and criticizing Army Chief General Asim Munir. The reported demand has added a new dimension to diplomatic discussions between the two countries.

The convicted offender, widely known by the nickname "Daddy," was a central figure in the Rochdale child grooming gang scandal that shocked the United Kingdom. British authorities have been attempting to deport him after he completed a lengthy prison sentence for multiple child sexual abuse offences, but legal and diplomatic challenges have delayed the process.

According to reports, Pakistan has requested the extradition of former government adviser Shahzad Akbar and journalist and former military officer Adil Raja. Islamabad accuses both individuals of spreading false information and engaging in activities considered harmful to the state while living in the UK. Both men have denied the allegations, claiming the charges are politically motivated.

British authorities are re-

portedly reluctant to link the deportation of a convicted criminal with the extradition of political figures. Legal experts point out that criminal deportation and political asylum are governed by separate legal frameworks, making such an arrangement difficult to implement under UK law. The issue has reignited debate in Britain over immigration policies and the deportation of foreign nationals convicted of serious crimes. Several politicians and victims' rights groups have argued that individuals convicted of grave offences should be deported after completing their prison sentences.

The matter has also highlighted broader differences between the UK and Pakistan over extradition agreements, political asylum, and freedom of expression. Human rights organizations have expressed concerns that political critics deported to Pakistan could face legal action or persecution upon their return.

At present, discussions between the two governments are ongoing, but there is no indication that the UK is willing to accept Pakistan's reported conditions. As negotiations continue, both sides are expected to balance legal obligations, diplomatic relations, and human rights considerations before reaching any final decision.

Trump Ends Iran Ceasefire, Signals Talks

US President Donald Trump has declared that the interim ceasefire agreement with Iran is effectively "over" following a fresh wave of military escalation between the two countries. However, despite the renewed hostilities, Trump indicated that diplomatic negotiations for a broader peace agreement could continue.

The latest developments came after the United States launched fresh military strikes on Iranian targets in response to attacks on American military installations in Bahrain and Kuwait. The renewed exchange of fire has significantly weakened hopes of preserving the temporary ceasefire that had been negotiated earlier this year.

Speaking on the escalating conflict, Trump accused Iran of repeatedly violating the terms of the ceasefire and warned that Washington would respond forcefully to any further attacks on US personnel or interests. At the same time, he stressed that his administration remained willing to pursue diplomatic engagement if Iran demonstrated a genuine commitment to peace.

The renewed conflict has further heightened tensions



across West Asia, particularly around the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical oil shipping routes. The uncertainty has already triggered a sharp rise in global crude oil prices and increased concerns over disruptions to international energy supplies.

Military exchanges between the two nations have intensified in recent days. The US carried out airstrikes targeting Iranian military infrastructure, while Iran responded with missile and drone attacks on American bases in the Gulf region. Both sides have accused each other of breaching the ceasefire agreement and vvdDespite the deteriorating security situation, Trump reiterated that negotiations aimed at achieving a long-term peace settlement had not been abandoned. He suggested that

diplomatic channels remain open, although the immediate priority would be ensuring the safety of American forces and protecting strategic interests in the region.

The latest escalation has drawn concern from several countries, with fears that prolonged military action could destabilize the region further, disrupt global trade, and intensify volatility in energy markets. Governments around the world are closely monitoring developments, urging both Washington and Tehran to return to dialogue and avoid a wider conflict.

As tensions continue to rise, financial markets remain on edge, with investors watching geopolitical developments closely for signs of either further escalation or renewed diplomatic efforts.



Fresh US-Iran Strikes Raise Fears of Wider Gulf Conflict

The conflict between the United States and Iran has escalated once again, with both countries carrying out fresh military strikes that have intensified tensions across the Gulf region. The latest exchanges have increased fears of a broader regional conflict and raised concerns over the security of global energy supplies.

The fresh round of hostilities follows a series of retaliatory attacks after recent US military operations targeting Iranian-linked facilities. Iran responded with missile and drone strikes aimed at American military assets and strategic locations in the Gulf, prompting further military action by the United States.

A major focus of the escalating conflict is the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's busiest and most strategically important oil shipping routes. Nearly one-fifth of the world's crude oil passes through the narrow waterway, making any disruption a significant threat to global energy markets. Shipping companies have become increasingly cautious, while several vessels have reportedly altered their routes due to rising security concerns.

The renewed fighting has pushed global crude oil prices higher as traders worry that prolonged military action could disrupt oil exports from the Gulf. Higher energy prices have also renewed concerns over global inflation, adding pressure on financial markets already dealing with economic

uncertainty.

Military analysts believe both nations are attempting to demonstrate strength without triggering a full-scale war. However, the continued exchange of missile attacks, airstrikes, and drone operations has increased the risk of miscalculation, which could rapidly expand the conflict beyond the two countries.

Several regional allies and international powers are closely monitoring the situation. Diplomatic efforts are underway to prevent further escalation, with many countries urging both Washington and Tehran to exercise restraint and return to dialogue. The United Nations and several world leaders have also expressed concern over the growing instability in West Asia.

The conflict has affected investor sentiment worldwide, leading to volatility in stock markets and increased demand for safe-haven assets. Energy-importing nations are also watching developments carefully, as any prolonged disruption in Gulf oil shipments could impact fuel prices and economic growth.

As tensions continue to rise, the situation remains highly unpredictable. The coming days are expected to be crucial in determining whether diplomatic initiatives can reduce hostilities or whether the region will witness a deeper and more prolonged military confrontation with global economic consequences.



Pakistan Cargo Plane Goes Missing Over Arabian Sea

A Pakistan-registered K2 Airways cargo aircraft disappeared from radar over the Arabian Sea while flying from Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates to Karachi, triggering a large-scale search and rescue operation by Pakistani authorities. The Boeing 737-400 freighter was carrying five crew members when it lost contact with air traffic control.

According to aviation officials, the aircraft reported a navigation system malfunction shortly before communication was lost. Flight-tracking data indicated unusual altitude changes in the aircraft's final minutes, followed by a steep descent before it vanished from radar approximately 155 nautical miles southwest of Karachi. The exact cause of the disappearance remains unknown, and authorities have not confirmed whether the aircraft crashed.

Pakistan's Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and other maritime agencies have launched an extensive search operation in the Arabian Sea. Naval ships, surveillance aircraft, helicopters, and nearby commercial vessels have been deployed to locate the missing aircraft and its crew. Rescue teams continue to search the suspected area despite challenging sea conditions.

The missing aircraft belonged to Karachi-based K2 Airways, a private cargo airline. The Boeing 737 freighter had been operating regular cargo services be-

tween regional destinations and was on a routine flight when the incident occurred. Airline officials have said they are fully cooperating with investigators and government agencies involved in the search.

Aviation experts have described the aircraft's final flight path as unusual. Even in the event of an engine failure, a commercial aircraft is generally expected to glide for some distance before descending. However, the sudden altitude fluctuations and rapid loss of height recorded before radar contact was lost have raised several questions that investigators will seek to answer.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed authorities to intensify the search and rescue mission and ensure that all available resources are deployed to locate the aircraft. Officials have assured the families of the crew that they will continue to receive timely updates as the operation progresses.

The disappearance has once again highlighted the importance of aviation safety and emergency response capabilities in the region. While investigators continue to examine all possible causes behind the incident, the immediate priority remains locating the aircraft, recovering the crew, and determining exactly what happened during its final moments. Search operations are expected to continue until definitive information is obtained.

Trump Revives Greenland Push, Backs Turkey at NATO Summit

US President Donald Trump reignited debate within the NATO alliance by once again calling for the United States to take control of Greenland while criticizing several NATO allies for what he described as a lack of support during the recent conflict with Iran. His remarks came as leaders gathered in Ankara, Turkey, for the NATO summit.

During a meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Trump said several European allies had failed to stand firmly with Washington during the Iran crisis. He specifically expressed disappointment with countries including Britain, France, Germany, and Italy, arguing that the alliance had not fully backed US interests during the conflict.

Trump also revived his long-standing proposal that Greenland should come under US control, describing the Arctic island as strategically vital for American national security. He argued that its location has become increasingly important due to growing Russian and Chinese activity in the Arctic region. However, Denmark has consistently rejected any suggestion of transferring sovereignty over Greenland, maintaining that the autonomous territory is not for sale.



In a major policy announcement, Trump said the United States would lift sanctions imposed on Turkey in 2020 following Ankara's purchase of the Russian S-400 missile defence system. He also indicated that Washington is willing to consider selling F-35 stealth fighter jets to Turkey, a move that could significantly improve defence ties between the two NATO allies, although it would still require approval from the US Congress.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan welcomed the announcement and expressed optimism about strengthening defence cooperation with the United States. The development could mark a significant improvement in relations between Washington and Ankara after years of strained ties over military and security issues.

Speaking about the war in Ukraine, Trump said he believed both Russian President Vladimir

Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy were interested in reaching a negotiated settlement to end the conflict. He stressed the need for diplomacy while reaffirming America's commitment to NATO's collective security. Meanwhile, NATO leaders announced new multinational defence procurement initiatives worth around \$50 billion, aimed at enhancing the alliance's military readiness and addressing emerging global security challenges.

The summit highlighted continuing differences among NATO members over defence spending, regional conflicts, and strategic priorities. Despite these disagreements, alliance leaders reiterated their commitment to strengthening collective defence and maintaining unity in the face of growing geopolitical tensions involving Russia, the Middle East, and the Arctic region.

Japan's 500-kmph Maglev Train Set to Revolutionize High-Speed Travel

Japan is moving closer to transforming rail travel with its next-generation Superconducting Maglev train, a cutting-edge high-speed rail project that is expected to connect Tokyo and Nagoya in just 40 minutes. Capable of reaching speeds of up to 500 kmph, the Maglev train is designed to become one of the fastest commercial rail services in the world.

The project is part of the Chuo Shinkansen high-speed rail corridor, which uses advanced magnetic levitation technology instead of conventional wheels. The trains float above the guideway using powerful superconducting magnets, eliminating friction and allowing them to travel at extremely high speeds while ensuring a smooth and quiet ride.

Once operational, the Maglev service will cut the travel time between Tokyo's Shinagawa Station and Nagoya from the current journey of around 90 minutes by bullet train to approximately 40 minutes. The route is expected to significantly improve connectivity between two of Japan's largest economic and industrial hubs. The ambitious project involves extensive engineering work, with nearly 90 percent of the route passing through tun-



nels to minimize environmental impact and accommodate Japan's mountainous terrain. Construction has faced delays due to environmental concerns, rising costs, and complex tunneling operations, but authorities continue to push the project forward.

The Maglev system has already demonstrated its capabilities during testing, setting a world speed record of 603 kmph for a manned train. The commercial service, however, will operate at a maximum speed of around 500 kmph to ensure safety and reliability. Officials believe the project will not only reduce travel time but also strengthen regional economic growth, ease congestion on existing transport networks, and provide a more efficient mode of intercity travel. The new line is expected to sup-

port business travel, tourism, and long-term infrastructure development. The technology also represents a major step forward in sustainable transportation. Since the trains operate using electric power and magnetic levitation, they are expected to offer an environmentally friendly alternative to short-haul air travel by reducing carbon emissions and improving energy efficiency.

Although the project has encountered construction challenges and rising expenses, Japan continues to view the Maglev railway as a landmark investment in the future of transportation. Once completed, it is expected to redefine high-speed rail travel and reinforce Japan's position as a global leader in advanced railway technology.

Sensex Crashes 1,677 Points as US-Iran Tensions

Indian stock markets witnessed a sharp sell-off as escalating tensions between the United States and Iran rattled investor confidence, triggering heavy selling across sectors. Concerns over rising geopolitical risks, surging crude oil prices, and weak global cues pushed benchmark indices deep into the red, making it one of the steepest market declines in recent months.

The trading session began on a weak note, but selling pressure intensified as the day progressed. The Nifty 50 slipped below the crucial 24,000 mark and touched an intraday low of 23,805.20 after reports of renewed hostilities in the Middle East heightened fears of a prolonged conflict. Investors rushed to book profits and reduce exposure to equities amid growing uncertainty.

At the close of trade, the BSE Sensex plunged 1,677.12 points, or 2.15%, to settle at 76,503.60, while the Nifty 50 dropped 516.65 points, or 2.12%, to end at 23,882.05. The sharp decline erased significant investor



wealth in a single session and reflected the cautious mood prevailing across global financial markets.

The sell-off was broad-based, with almost every major sector ending in negative territory. Banking and financial stocks led the decline, while information technology, auto, metal, realty, oil & gas, and capital goods stocks also witnessed heavy losses. Mid-cap and small-cap stocks were equally affected as investors shifted away from riskier assets.

A major concern for investors was the sharp rise in crude oil

prices following the renewed geopolitical tensions. As India imports the majority of its crude oil requirements, higher oil prices raise fears of increased inflation, a wider trade deficit, and pressure on corporate earnings. Rising fuel costs could also impact consumer spending and economic growth, prompting investors to adopt a cautious approach.

Market experts believe that while India's economic fundamentals remain strong, external factors are currently dominating investor sentiment. Geopolitical developments, fluctua-

tions in crude oil prices, foreign institutional investor activity, and global economic trends are expected to influence market movements in the coming days.

Analysts advise investors not to panic during such periods of volatility. Instead, they recommend focusing on quality stocks with strong fundamentals and maintaining a long-term investment perspective. Temporary market corrections are considered a normal part of the investment cycle and often provide opportunities for disciplined investors.

Going forward, market participants will closely monitor developments in the Middle East, movements in global oil prices, foreign fund flows, and upcoming corporate earnings. Any easing of geopolitical tensions could help restore confidence, while further escalation may keep markets volatile in the near term. Despite the current uncertainty, experts remain optimistic about India's long-term growth story and believe the market could recover once global conditions stabilize.

Global Markets Sink as Trump Declares US-Iran Ceasefire 'Over'



Global financial markets came under heavy pressure after US President Donald Trump declared that the ceasefire between the United States and Iran was "over," reigniting fears of a wider conflict in the Middle East. The announcement triggered a sharp sell-off across global equities, while crude oil prices surged amid concerns over potential supply disruptions.

Wall Street futures fell by more than one percent, signaling a weak start for US markets. Investor sentiment turned sharply negative as geopolitical tensions intensified, prompting traders to move away from riskier assets and seek safer investment options such as gold and the US dollar.

European and Asian markets also witnessed significant declines, reflecting growing concerns that a prolonged conflict could hurt global economic growth. The uncertainty surrounding the geopolitical situation led investors to book profits and reduce exposure to equities across major markets.

One of the biggest reactions

came in the energy market, where Brent crude oil prices jumped nearly 5 percent. Traders fear that escalating tensions in the Middle East, a region responsible for a significant share of global oil production, could disrupt supply chains and tighten crude availability. Rising oil prices have renewed concerns about inflation and increased input costs for businesses worldwide.

The surge in crude oil prices is particularly worrying for oil-importing nations such as India, where higher energy costs could increase inflation, widen the trade deficit, and put pressure on economic growth. Analysts believe sustained high oil prices could also complicate central banks' efforts to manage inflation and interest rates.

Global investors also shifted money into traditional safe-haven assets. Gold prices moved higher, while demand for the US dollar increased as investors sought stability during the period of heightened uncertainty. Bond yields fluctuated as market participants reassessed the outlook for the global

economy.

Market experts believe that geopolitical developments are likely to remain the key driver of financial markets in the coming days. Any further escalation between the United States and Iran could increase volatility across equities, commodities, and currency markets. Conversely, signs of renewed diplomatic efforts could help restore investor confidence. Despite the sharp market reaction, analysts advise long-term investors to avoid panic selling and remain focused on quality investments. While geopolitical events often trigger short-term volatility, markets have historically recovered once uncertainties begin to ease.

Investors around the world will now closely monitor further developments in the Middle East, movements in crude oil prices, and official statements from global leaders. These factors are expected to play a crucial role in determining market direction and investor sentiment over the coming weeks.

India Inc Set for Uneven Q1 Results as Banking and Infra Outperform

India Inc's earnings season for the first quarter of FY2025-26 is expected to present a mixed picture, with private banks, Larsen & Toubro (L&T), Siemens, and Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) likely to emerge as the key growth drivers. However, weak performance from oil marketing companies (OMCs) could limit the overall growth in corporate profits.

Market analysts expect private sector banks to post healthy earnings, supported by steady loan growth, stable asset quality, and resilient net interest income. Strong credit demand across retail and corporate segments, along with disciplined risk management, is likely to help banks maintain solid profitability despite a challenging interest rate environment.

Infrastructure and capital goods companies are also expected to deliver encouraging results. L&T is projected to benefit from a robust order book, continued execution of large



infrastructure projects, and sustained government spending on public infrastructure. Siemens is likely to report improved earnings, driven by rising demand in industrial automation, electrification, and engineering solutions. Meanwhile, BEL is expected to continue its strong momentum, supported by increased defence spending and healthy order inflows from the government.

In contrast, oil marketing companies may report weaker earnings during the quarter.

Volatility in global crude oil prices, pressure on marketing margins, and fluctuations in fuel pricing are expected to impact profitability. These factors could significantly drag down the aggregate earnings growth of listed companies, offsetting gains made by stronger-performing sectors.

Analysts believe the overall earnings season will highlight the widening gap between sectors benefiting from domestic economic growth and those facing external market pressures.

Banking, infrastructure, capital goods, and defence are expected to remain among the strongest performers, reflecting continued investment activity and government-led spending.

On the other hand, sectors closely linked to commodity price movements may continue to experience earnings pressure due to volatile global conditions. Investors are therefore expected to closely monitor management commentary on future demand, order pipelines, margin trends, and capital expenditure plans, as these will provide important signals about the outlook for the rest of the financial year.

Overall, while the first-quarter earnings season is expected to deliver healthy growth in select sectors, the weakness in oil marketing companies could prevent broader corporate earnings from showing stronger expansion, making stock-specific performance more important for investors.

Gold Slumps on Rate Fears as Strong US Dollar Dulls Safe-Haven Appeal

Gold prices witnessed a sharp decline in futures trading on Wednesday, with the precious metal falling 2,308 per 10 grams on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX). The drop was largely driven by a stronger US dollar and rising crude oil prices, which reduced the appeal of gold as a safe-haven investment.

Market analysts said renewed geopolitical tensions in West Asia pushed crude oil prices higher, raising concerns over inflation. Higher oil prices strengthened expectations that major central banks, particularly the US Federal Reserve, could keep interest rates elevated for a longer period. This boosted the US dollar, making gold more expensive for overseas buyers and reducing demand for the yellow metal.

On the MCX, gold contracts for August delivery declined sharply as traders trimmed their positions amid weak global market sentiment. International gold



prices also moved lower, reflecting concerns over persistent inflation and the possibility of tighter monetary policy in the United States.

Although gold is traditionally considered a hedge against inflation and geopolitical uncertainty, higher interest rates tend to reduce its attractiveness because the metal does not generate any interest income. Investors often shift towards interest-bearing assets during such periods, putting pressure on bullion prices.

Analysts believe gold prices

are likely to remain volatile in the near term as global markets closely monitor developments in the Middle East, fluctuations in crude oil prices, and upcoming US economic data. Any signals regarding future interest rate decisions by the Federal Reserve are expected to significantly influence the direction of gold prices.

Market participants are also keeping an eye on the movement of the US dollar and bond yields, both of which play a crucial role in determining bullion prices. A

stronger dollar generally weighs on gold, while lower bond yields tend to support the precious metal.

Despite the recent correction, experts believe the long-term outlook for gold remains constructive, supported by ongoing geopolitical uncertainties, central bank purchases, and sustained investor interest in safe-haven assets. However, short-term price movements are expected to remain highly sensitive to global macroeconomic developments.

For investors, the current environment calls for caution, as gold prices may continue to witness sharp fluctuations depending on inflation trends, monetary policy expectations, energy prices, and overall global market sentiment. While long-term investors may continue to view gold as a portfolio diversifier, short-term traders should be prepared for increased volatility in the bullion market.

Laser Power & Infra IPO: Power Sector Potential vs Falling GMP Challenge

Laser Power & Infra Ltd. is set to launch its 742-crore initial public offering (IPO) on July 9, but a sharp decline in the grey market premium (GMP) has made investors more cautious ahead of the issue. While the company operates in India's fast-growing power transmission and distribution sector, market experts advise investors to focus on the company's long-term fundamentals rather than short-term GMP movements.

The IPO has been priced in a band of 203-214 per share and comprises a fresh issue worth 542 crore along with an Offer for Sale (OFS) of 200 crore by existing promoters. At the upper end of the price band, the company is valued at nearly 3,000 crore. The public issue will close on July 13, and the shares are expected to be listed on the BSE and NSE on July 16.

The company plans to use the proceeds from the fresh issue primarily to reduce its outstanding debt, while the remaining funds will be utilized for general corporate purposes. Lower debt levels are expected to strengthen its balance sheet and provide greater financial flexibility for future expansion.

Laser Power & Infra manufactures power cables, conductors, and transmission prod-



ucts, besides executing engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) projects. With more than three decades of experience in the industry, the company is well-positioned to benefit from India's rising investments in power infrastructure, electrification, and transmission networks.

Despite its strong business prospects, the grey market premium has declined considerably in recent days, indicating that expectations of strong listing gains have weakened. The fall in GMP reflects cautious investor sentiment and softer demand in the unofficial market. However, analysts caution that GMP should not be treated as the sole indicator of an IPO's potential performance.

Brokers believe the company offers investors an opportunity to participate in India's

long-term infrastructure and power sector growth, driven by increasing electricity demand and continued government spending on transmission and distribution projects.

At the same time, investors should remain mindful of potential risks, including dependence on large customers, volatility in raw material prices, and execution challenges associated with EPC projects.

Overall, Laser Power & Infra's IPO appears suitable for investors with a medium- to long-term investment horizon who are optimistic about India's infrastructure growth story. However, those looking for immediate listing gains may prefer to remain cautious, as the declining grey market premium points to a relatively muted stock market debut.

PGIM India Freezes New SIP Entries in Overseas Funds

PGIM India Mutual Fund has temporarily suspended fresh Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) registrations in three of its overseas fund schemes, effective July 9. The decision has been taken to ensure compliance with the overseas investment limits prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

The suspension applies to the PGIM India Global Equity Opportunities Fund of Fund, PGIM India Emerging Markets Equity Fund of Fund, and the PGIM India Global Select Real Estate Se-

curities Fund of Fund. Fresh SIP registrations submitted after the prescribed cut-off date will not be accepted. However, investors who have already registered SIPs before the deadline will continue to have their investments processed without any interruption.

This is the latest in a series of measures introduced by the fund house to regulate inflows into its international schemes. Earlier, PGIM India had capped fresh SIP investments at 50,000 per day per investor per scheme

and had also suspended fresh Systematic Transfer Plan (STP) registrations, while allowing existing SIPs and STPs to continue. The company had previously paused fresh subscriptions to these schemes before reopening them with revised investment limits.

The restrictions are primarily aimed at ensuring that the mutual fund remains within the regulatory ceiling for overseas investments applicable to Indian asset management companies. Since the overall industry limit

for investing in foreign securities is closely monitored, many mutual funds have imposed similar restrictions whenever they approach the maximum permissible investment threshold.

Importantly, the latest decision affects only new SIP registrations. Existing SIPs will continue without any changes, and investors can continue holding, redeeming, or switching their investments as per the scheme rules. Other investor services remain unaffected.

The three overseas schemes

offer Indian investors exposure to global equity markets and international real estate securities, helping diversify portfolios beyond domestic investments. Such funds have gained popularity among investors seeking geographical diversification and access to global growth opportunities.

However, regulatory limits on overseas investments have led several fund houses to periodically restrict fresh inflows until additional investment capacity becomes available.



For existing investors, the latest move does not alter their investment plans or returns. New investors interested in these schemes will have to wait until PGIM India Mutual Fund reopens fresh SIP registrations after sufficient regulatory head-

room becomes available.

The development highlights the continued demand for international investment opportunities among Indian investors, even as mutual fund companies balance investor interest with regulatory compliance.

Train Coach Turned Into a Honeymoon Suite

A video showing a First AC train coach transformed into a romantic honeymoon suite has gone viral on social media, drawing widespread attention and mixed reactions. The unusual makeover has impressed many viewers with its creativity, while others have raised concerns about railway rules, safety, and whether such decorations should be allowed inside a moving train.

The viral clip features a private First AC coupe lavishly decorated with balloons, fresh flowers, rose petals spread across the beds, heart-shaped ornaments, and illuminated "I Love You" lettering. The entire compartment resembles a luxury honeymoon suite rather than a regular train cabin. The decoration was reportedly arranged as a surprise for a newly married couple, making their train journey a memorable experience.

Many social media users praised the thoughtful gesture, calling it a unique and romantic



way to celebrate the beginning of married life. Several users commented that such personalized experiences make travel more enjoyable and create life-long memories. The video quickly gained thousands of views, likes, and shares, with many appreciating the creativity behind the idea.

However, not everyone was impressed. Some users questioned whether decorating a railway coach with balloons, flowers, and decorative lighting complies with Indian Railways' safety regulations. Critics point-

ed out that certain decorative materials could pose fire hazards or obstruct emergency movement inside the compartment. Others wondered whether the passengers had obtained prior permission from railway authorities before making such extensive changes to the coach's appearance.

Responding to the growing discussion, railway officials clarified that the passengers had booked the entire First AC coupe, giving them exclusive access to the private compartment during the journey. Officials

stated that passengers are generally allowed to decorate their private space as long as the decorations do not damage railway property, interfere with train operations, inconvenience other passengers, or violate safety guidelines. They also emphasized that any decoration must remain within permissible limits and should not compromise the safety of the train or its occupants.

The incident has once again highlighted how social media can turn ordinary travel experiences into viral sensations. While many people admired the romantic gesture, the debate also underscored the importance of balancing creativity with public safety and adherence to railway regulations. The video continues to attract attention online, with users divided between celebrating the innovative surprise and questioning the practicality and safety of such elaborate decorations inside a train.

Football Fan's Sacrifice Rewarded After World Cup Dream Comes True

A heartwarming story of a young England football fan who gave up his house deposit to take his grandfather to the 2026 FIFA World Cup has received a fairy-tale ending. After their emotional journey captured the internet's attention, the money he had sacrificed was unexpectedly returned, turning an unforgettable trip into a life-changing experience.

Twenty-one-year-old Jacob Allmendinger from East Yorkshire had spent five years saving £10,000 (around Rs 12 lakh) as a deposit for his first home. However, instead of buying a house, he chose to spend the entire amount on taking his 80-year-old grandfather, Geoff Golliker, to the FIFA World Cup in North America.

Jacob said the decision was easy because opportunities to earn money would come again, but spending a World Cup with his grandfather was a once-in-a-



lifetime experience. Geoff had been taking Jacob to football matches since he was a child, and the grandson wanted to repay him by creating one final unforgettable adventure together.

Their touching story quickly went viral as the pair documented their travels across the United States and Mexico while following England's World Cup campaign. Football fans around the world were moved by the close bond between the grandfather and grandson, with many

describing their journey as a reminder that memories are often more valuable than material possessions. Their viral popularity also caught the attention of a US-based company, which publicly promised to reimburse Jacob's savings if England defeated DR Congo in the tournament. When England secured the victory, the company honoured its promise and returned the entire amount Jacob had spent.

Speaking after receiving the surprise, Jacob said he had been overwhelmed by the positive re-

sponse from people across the world. Many shared personal stories about losing grandparents and said they wished they had created similar memories with their loved ones. Geoff added that the pair had been recognized by fans throughout their trip, making the experience even more special.

The emotional story has resonated with thousands online, with many praising Jacob for choosing priceless family memories over financial security. While buying a home remains an important goal, many social media users said his decision proved that some experiences simply cannot be measured in money.

The story has become one of the most inspiring World Cup moments off the pitch, reminding people that love, gratitude, and time spent with family often become life's greatest treasures.

Zoho Founder Sridhar Vembu's Veshti Sprint in Japan

Zoho founder and Chief Scientist Sridhar Vembu has gone viral after sharing a light-hearted video of himself rushing to catch a bullet train in Japan while dressed in a traditional white veshti and shirt. The clip has struck a chord with social media users, many of whom praised him for proudly embracing Indian culture while travelling abroad.

The video, posted on X (formerly Twitter), shows Vembu carrying a backpack and hurrying through a Japanese railway station alongside a companion in an attempt to board the high-speed train before departure. Sharing the clip, he humorously captioned it, "Nothing says Japan like running to catch the train."

The simplicity of the moment quickly captured the internet's attention. Instead of the formal business attire often associated with global technology leaders, Vembu chose to travel in traditional Indian clothing. His appearance in a veshti at one of the world's most modern rail-



way systems sparked admiration from thousands of users.

Many people applauded his confidence, saying the video demonstrated that true self-assurance comes from being comfortable with one's identity rather than dressing to meet others' expectations. Others appreciated his grounded personality, noting that despite leading one of India's most successful software companies, he continues to maintain a simple lifestyle.

The comments section was also filled with humour. Some users joked about the contrast

between India's relaxed approach to time and Japan's world-famous punctuality. Others remarked that running while wearing a veshti is no easy task, making the clip even more entertaining.

However, not everyone viewed the video positively. A few social media users questioned whether rushing to catch a train reflected poor time management, while others debated whether traditional attire was practical for such situations. Despite the criticism, the overwhelming response celebrated Vembu's authenticity and cul-

tural pride.

The viral moment came during Vembu's visit to Japan, which has a broader purpose beyond sightseeing. He is exploring partnerships between small and medium-sized enterprises in rural Japan and businesses in rural India. According to Vembu, the initiative aims to connect companies that value skilled craftsmanship and long-term manufacturing traditions.

He has said that many smaller Japanese firms have successfully preserved their artisanal heritage, making them ideal partners for businesses in India's smaller towns and villages. His vision is to strengthen rural entrepreneurship and revive traditional craftsmanship through international collaboration.

What began as a simple dash to catch a train has evolved into a widely shared symbol of cultural confidence, simplicity, and the idea that tradition and modernity can comfortably travel together.

Virat Kohli Lookalike's Mall Prank Triggers Frenzy



A social media prank featuring a man who closely resembles Indian cricket superstar Virat Kohli has gone viral after it created massive excitement at a shopping mall in Lucknow. While many people initially believed the former India captain had made a surprise appearance, the stunt has since sparked a heated debate online over public safety and the ethics of celebrity impersonation.

The prank was carried out by content creator Kartik Sharma, who is well known on social media for his striking resemblance to Virat Kohli. To make the act as convincing as possible, Sharma recreated Kohli's signature hairstyle, beard, tattoos, and wore a Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) jersey. He also arrived at the mall in a BMW accompanied by four men dressed as bodyguards, creating the impression that a high-profile ce-

lebrity had arrived.

As soon as he entered the mall, shoppers rushed toward him, convinced they were seeing the cricket icon in person. Within minutes, hundreds of people gathered around him, eager to click selfies, record videos, and catch a glimpse of the "star." The crowd grew so large that mall security personnel stepped in to escort Sharma and control the gathering. Visitors on multiple floors leaned over railings to watch the commotion, making the prank one of the most talked-about viral videos of the day.

After the video gained traction online, Sharma clarified that it was purely an entertainment prank. He stated that he is a lookalike creator and a devoted Virat Kohli fan, not the real cricketer. He also claimed the video was filmed under supervision and that no one was put at risk during the shoot.

Despite the clarification, social media users remained divided. Some praised Sharma's remarkable resemblance to Kohli and described the prank as harmless entertainment. Others, however, criticized the stunt, arguing that it unnecessarily misled fans, created overcrowding in a public place, and could have become dangerous if an emergency had occurred. Several users also questioned whether such impersonation pranks should be permitted when they have the potential to disrupt public spaces and divert security personnel from their duties.

The viral incident has once again highlighted the immense popularity of Virat Kohli and how quickly celebrity lookalikes can attract attention. At the same time, it has reignited discussions about the fine line between creative social media content and responsible public behavior.

Love Floats Above the Flood

A wedding in Indore has captured hearts across social media after heavy monsoon rains flooded the venue, turning what was meant to be a grand celebration into an unforgettable display of love and resilience. Instead of allowing the unexpected weather to disrupt their special day, the bride and groom chose to continue with the ceremony, creating a viral moment that has touched thousands online.

The wedding was held at a marriage garden on CAT Road, where relentless rainfall left the entire venue submerged in nearly two feet of water before the ceremonies could begin. The couple had travelled from Delhi for the occasion, but despite the flooded surroundings, they decided not to postpone their wedding.

The most memorable moment came when the groom lifted his bride in his arms and carried her through the waterlogged venue to the mandap. Dressed in their traditional wedding attire, the couple smiled throughout the challenging situation, refusing to let the rain dampen their spirits. Videos of the touching gesture quickly spread across social media, earning widespread admiration.



Even the wedding rituals were carried out in ankle-deep water. The couple completed all seven pheras while standing in the flooded mandap as rain continued to pour. Guests also embraced the unusual circumstances, carefully wading through the water to attend the ceremony and later making their way to the dining area. Shoes and slippers could be seen floating around the venue, adding to the surreal scenes.

The incident comes as Indore has experienced continu-

ous heavy rainfall over the past several days, leading to widespread waterlogging across the city. The flooded wedding venue became another example of the impact of the intense monsoon, but the couple's determination transformed the situation into an inspiring story rather than a disappointing one.

Social media users flooded the comments section with messages of appreciation. Many described the groom's gesture as the true meaning of love, while others called it the most memorable "monsoon wedding" they had ever seen. Several users praised the couple for choosing togetherness over inconvenience and turning an unexpected challenge into a cherished memory.

However, a few users also raised concerns about safety, pointing out that conducting wedding rituals in standing water could have posed electrical and other hazards. Despite these concerns, the overwhelming response celebrated the couple's positivity and commitment.

The viral wedding has become a reminder that while perfect celebrations may be planned, it is often unexpected moments of love, courage, and determination that create memories lasting a lifetime.

Elderly Woman's High-Speed Workout in Park Sparks Safety Debate

A viral video of an elderly woman performing an intense workout on an outdoor gym machine at a public park in Bengaluru has ignited a lively debate on social media. While many viewers admired her energy and enthusiasm for staying fit, others expressed concern over the potential safety risks of using public exercise equipment without proper guidance.

The short video shows the woman, dressed in a traditional saree, vigorously using an outdoor air-swing exercise machine. Her rapid back-and-forth movements caught the attention of park visitors, including children, who can be seen watching the unusual workout session. The clip quickly spread across social media platforms, drawing

thousands of views and comments.

The video was shared by a Bengaluru-based social media user, who questioned whether such equipment should be used without supervision. He argued that outdoor gym machines in public parks should have clear instructions and safety guidelines displayed nearby, especially for senior citizens and first-time users.

The post triggered a broader discussion about the growing popularity of open-air gyms installed in parks across Indian cities. Many users pointed out that while these facilities encourage fitness and healthy lifestyles, they often lack instructional boards explaining the correct way to use the equip-

ment. Some also noted that improper use could lead to falls, muscle injuries, or other accidents.

However, several users defended the elderly woman, saying there was no evidence she was using the machine incorrectly. They praised her determination to remain active and argued that age should not be seen as a barrier to exercising. Many described her as an inspiration, encouraging others to prioritize physical fitness regardless of age.

Others felt that the focus should not be on criticizing the woman but on improving public infrastructure. They suggested that civic authorities should install easy-to-understand safety instructions, recommend appro-

priate age limits where necessary, and carry out regular maintenance of outdoor gym equipment to ensure public safety. The viral clip has highlighted the importance of balancing fitness promotion with public safety. As outdoor gyms become increasingly common in parks, experts and citizens alike believe that awareness, proper signage, and responsible usage are essential to prevent injuries while allowing people of all ages to enjoy the benefits of exercise.

The debate continues online, with the video serving as both an inspiring example of healthy ageing and a reminder that public fitness facilities should be designed with safety and accessibility in mind for everyone.





Ishan Kishan,Abhishek Sharma Stay on Top of ICC T20I Rankings

India's Ishan Kishan and Abhishek Sharma have retained the No. 1 and No. 2 spots respectively in the latest ICC Men's T20I batting rankings, providing a positive boost for Indian cricket despite the team's difficult series against England.

While India has struggled in the ongoing T20I series, the two left-handed batters have continued to dominate the rankings thanks to their consistent performances over the past year. Their impressive run in international cricket has helped them remain ahead of the competition.

England's dominant performances against India have also been reflected in the updated rankings, with several of their players making significant gains. Young batter Jacob Bethell climbed seven places to enter the top 10 after producing a match-winning knock during the series.

All-rounder Sam Curran enjoyed one of the biggest jumps in the latest update. His contributions with both bat and ball earned him major improvements in the batting, bowling, and all-rounder rankings, underlining his growing importance to the England side.

Veteran leg-spinner Adil Rashid also moved up in the bowling rankings after another impressive display, while fast



Argentina Star Hails Lionel Messi as the Greatest Player Ever

An Argentina teammate has showered Lionel Messi with praise, calling him not only the best player in the world but also the greatest footballer in history. The glowing tribute comes as Messi continues to inspire both teammates and fans with his remarkable performances and enduring influence on the game.

Speaking about the Argentine captain, the player said Messi's impact goes far beyond his incredible statistics and trophies. He highlighted the veteran forward's leadership, humility, and ability to change the outcome of a match with moments of brilliance, describing him as a once-in-a-generation footballer.

The teammate also praised Messi's dedication and professionalism, saying that even after achieving almost everything in football, he continues to train with the same passion and commitment. According to him, Messi sets the standard for the entire squad, motivating younger players to improve every day.

Since leading Argentina to FIFA World Cup glory in 2022, Messi has continued to play a crucial role for the national team. His experience, vision, and creativity remain central to Argentina's success as they prepare to defend their world title at the 2026 FIFA World

Cup.

Messi's influence extends beyond the pitch. His calm personality and willingness to guide younger teammates have made him one of the most respected figures in world football. Many players who have shared the dressing room with him have spoken about his positive attitude and inspirational presence.

The Argentine legend has enjoyed an extraordinary career filled with countless records and individual honors, including multiple Ballon d'Or awards, league titles, Champions League triumphs, and international success with Argentina. His achievements have cemented his place among football's all-time greats.

The latest praise from his teammate adds to the long list of football stars, coaches, and experts who consider Messi the greatest player to have ever played the game. His consistency, longevity, and ability to perform on the biggest stages continue to set him apart from his peers.

As Argentina prepares for another major international tournament, Messi remains the heart of the team. Fans around the world will once again look to the legendary forward to produce moments of magic and lead his country in its quest for more silverware.

Gambhir Explains Why Sanju Samson Left Out of Playing XI

India head coach Gautam Gambhir has addressed the decision to leave Sanju Samson out of the playing XI, saying that team selection is based on current form and the overall balance of the squad rather than individual popularity.

Speaking after the match, Gambhir made it clear that every player is selected on merit and recent performances. He stressed that while Samson is a talented cricketer, the team management has to back players who are delivering consistently and fit the combination required for specific conditions.

"We have to look at the form," Gambhir said, emphasizing that selection decisions are never personal. According to him, maintaining consistency in team selection is crucial, and players who are performing well deserve continued opportunities.

The head coach also pointed out that competition for places in the Indian team is extremely intense, with several players fighting for limited spots. As a result, even experienced and talented cricketers may occasionally have to sit out despite their abilities.

Sanju Samson's omission has been a major talking point among cricket fans, with many expressing disappointment on social media. The wicketkeeper-batter has built a loyal fan following over the years, and his absence from the playing XI once again sparked debates over team selection.

However, Gambhir urged everyone to look at the bigger picture, stating that the management's focus is always on fielding the strongest possible XI based on current performance, opposition, and match conditions. He added that players outside the playing XI must remain prepared because opportunities can arise at any time during a long series.

The coach also praised the professionalism shown by players waiting on the sidelines, saying healthy competition within the squad ultimately benefits Indian cricket. He expressed confidence that Samson will continue to work hard and be ready whenever the team requires his services.

With India's team selection continuing to generate discussion, Gambhir's remarks underline the management's philosophy of rewarding form and maintaining a balanced side rather than making decisions based solely on reputation. As the series progresses, fans will be watching closely to see whether Sanju Samson gets another opportunity to prove himself in India's colours.



Tilak Under Pressure as India Face Must-Win 4th T20I Against England

India will head into the fourth T20I against England with everything on the line, as the visitors look to keep the series alive in a must-win encounter. With England holding the advantage, the pressure is firmly on the Indian team to deliver a strong all-round performance.

One player who has come under particular scrutiny is Tilak Varma. The talented left-hander has struggled to make a significant impact in the series so far, failing to convert his starts into match-winning innings. As a result, questions are being raised about his place in the playing XI and whether he can deliver when the team needs him the most.

Tilak has earned a reputation as one of India's brightest young batting prospects, but his recent performances have fallen short of expectations. With India's middle order needing greater stability, the upcoming match presents a crucial opportunity for him to silence his critics and play a defining role.

India's batting unit has lacked consistency throughout the series, with top-order failures putting additional pressure on the middle order. The team management will expect experienced players to shoulder greater responsibility

while hoping youngsters like Tilak can rise to the occasion.

Apart from batting concerns, India will also be looking for improved performances from its bowling attack. The bowlers have shown flashes of brilliance but have struggled to contain England during key moments. Taking early wickets and maintaining control during the middle overs will be essential if India hopes to level the contest.

England, meanwhile, will enter the match full of confidence after their recent performances. Their batting lineup has displayed aggressive intent, while the bowling unit has consistently applied pressure, making them favorites heading into the crucial encounter.

A victory for India would keep the series alive and set up an exciting finish, while another defeat would hand England the series. With so much at stake, fans can expect an intense battle as both teams look to seize the momentum.

All eyes will be on Tilak Varma, whose performance could play a decisive role in determining India's fate. A match-winning knock would not only help India stay alive in the series but also reaffirm his status as one of the country's most promising young cricketers.



Vihari Slams BCCI's Zimbabwe T20I Squad

Former India batter Hanuma Vihari has strongly criticized the BCCI selectors over India's squad for the upcoming T20I series against Zimbabwe, questioning the inclusion of a few players and calling some of the selection decisions "shocking."

Vihari was particularly critical of the selection of fast bowlers Yash Thakur and Mayank Yadav. He argued that neither bowler had delivered standout performances during the recent IPL season and felt their inclusion in the national squad was difficult to justify based on current form.

Speaking on his YouTube channel, Vihari pointed out that Mayank Yadav has struggled with injuries and did not feature regularly in the IPL. He also noted that the pacer has not consistently bowled at the express pace that made him a sensation earlier. Regarding Yash Thakur, Vihari said the fast bowler failed to make a significant impact in the IPL and was even left out of the playing XI in several matches, making his national call-up a surprise.

The squad announcement has triggered widespread debate among cricket fans and experts, with many questioning the selectors' approach. While the BCCI has opted for a

young-looking pace attack featuring fresh faces, critics believe recent performances should have carried greater weight in the selection process.

The selection controversy has also extended beyond the bowling department. Former India captain Ajinkya Rahane expressed his surprise over the omission of wicketkeeper-batter Sanju Samson, who played an important role in India's successful T20 World Cup campaign. Rahane said he hoped the selectors had communicated the decision to Samson and backed the Kerala batter to make a strong comeback in the near future.

Despite the criticism, the BCCI appears committed to giving opportunities to emerging players as it begins preparations for future ICC tournaments. The Zimbabwe series is expected to serve as a platform for several young cricketers to prove themselves at the international level.

With the series set to begin soon, all eyes will be on the new-look Indian squad. The performances of players like Yash Thakur and Mayank Yadav will be closely watched as they look to justify the selectors' faith and answer their critics with strong performances on the field.

Jofra Archer Pinpoints India's Batting Flaws

England fast bowler Jofra Archer has offered a candid assessment of India's batting performance, suggesting that the visitors struggled because they failed to adapt to changing match conditions and allowed England's bowlers to dictate the game.

Following England's impressive victory, Archer explained that his team's bowling attack remained disciplined throughout the contest. Instead of searching for spectacular deliveries, England focused on maintaining consistent line and length, forcing the Indian batters into mistakes.

According to Archer, India's batting unit found it difficult to build meaningful partnerships when the pressure increased. He noted that once England managed to pick up early wickets, the visitors struggled to regain momentum, allowing the hosts to stay in complete control of the match.

The pacer also highlighted the importance of patience in English conditions. He suggested that successful batting requires players to leave deliveries outside the off stump, remain disciplined, and wait



quickly to conditions is often the difference between success and failure in Test cricket.

Despite India's disappointing performance, Archer acknowledged the quality of the opposition and stressed that every match against India is highly competitive. He believes both teams will continue to challenge each other throughout the series as they make tactical adjustments.

With the series still alive, India will now be under pressure to address its batting shortcomings in the upcoming matches. Cricket fans will be eager to see whether the Indian batting lineup can learn from its mistakes, improve its approach, and produce a stronger performance in the next Test.

Felix Auger-Aliassime Reflects on Painful Wimbledon Loss to Novak Djokovic



Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime admitted that a brief lapse in concentration proved costly during his heartbreaking Wimbledon quarterfinal defeat to Novak Djokovic. After pushing the seven-time champion to five sets in one of the tournament's most thrilling matches, the Canadian said he was disappointed to come up just short of a historic victory.

Reflecting on the marathon contest, Auger-Aliassime revealed that he remained confident throughout most of the match. However, he acknowledged that he "lost focus a little bit" during a crucial game in the third set after maintaining an extremely high level of concentration for more than two and a half hours. He believes that brief dip allowed Djokovic to seize the momentum.

Despite the setback, the Canadian refused to blame a lack of belief for the defeat. He said he continued to trust his game until the very end, trying to serve well, make smart decisions, and stay patient against one of the greatest players in tennis history. According to

his maiden Wimbledon semifinal.

Although disappointed with the result, the Canadian said he would take plenty of positives from the performance. Competing toe-to-toe with a player of Djokovic's caliber has given him confidence that he can challenge for major titles in the future.

For Djokovic, the hard-fought victory secured another Wimbledon semifinal appearance and kept his Grand Slam ambitions alive. For Auger-Aliassime, the defeat was painful, but his performance demonstrated that he has the talent and resilience to compete with the very best on the sport's biggest stage.



Preity Mukhundhan Missed a Big Opportunity in Allu Arjun's 'Raaka'

Rising actress Preity Mukhundhan, who recently gained widespread recognition with the success of Blast, almost became a part of Allu Arjun's much-awaited pan-Indian film Raaka. However, due to unavoidable scheduling conflicts, she had to let go of the opportunity.

The surprising revelation came from director Atlee during the promotional event of Preity's upcoming romantic comedy Idhayam Murali. Speaking at the event, Atlee praised Preity's acting skills, screen presence, dancing ability, and dedication, describing himself as a great admirer of her work.

He revealed that he had personally approached Preity for an important role in Raaka. However, the actress was already committed to the shooting schedule of Idhayam Murali and was unable to adjust her dates. As a result, she had no choice but to decline the offer despite her interest in the project.

Following her exit, the role was reportedly offered to actress Femina George, who eventually came on board. The makers have not disclosed any details about the character,



'Ramayana' Reportedly Seals Biggest Theatrical Distribution Deal

Director Nitesh Tiwari's ambitious mythological epic Ramayana has reportedly created history even before its theatrical release by securing what is being described as the biggest theatrical distribution deal in Indian cinema. The development has generated massive excitement across the film industry and among movie fans.

According to industry reports, Karan Johar's Dharma Productions has acquired the Indian theatrical distribution rights for the film in a deal reportedly worth 350 crore. If the reported figure is accurate, it would surpass previous records and become the largest theatrical distribution agreement ever signed for an Indian film.

Trade experts believe the record-breaking deal reflects the enormous confidence the industry has in the film's box-office potential. The movie has already generated unprecedented buzz thanks to its grand scale, star-studded cast, and cutting-edge visual effects. The makers are also reportedly planning one of the widest theatrical releases ever for an Indian film.

Produced by Namit Malhotra, Ramayana features an impressive ensemble cast led by Ranbir Kapoor as Lord Rama, Sai Pallavi as Sita, Yash

as Ravana, Sunny Deol as Hanuman, and Ravi Dubey in a key role. The film has been mounted on a massive scale and is expected to redefine visual storytelling in Indian cinema.

One of the biggest attractions of the project is its world-class technical team. The film's music brings together two legendary composers—Hans Zimmer, who is composing the background score, and A.R. Rahman, who is handling the songs. The visual effects are being created by the Oscar-winning VFX company DNEG, further raising expectations for the cinematic spectacle.

Ramayana is being developed as a two-part epic, with the first installment scheduled for a grand theatrical release during Diwali 2026. The makers have repeatedly described the project as a global cinematic experience aimed at taking Indian storytelling to international audiences.

Although the reported distribution deal has not yet been officially confirmed by the production house, the news has already become one of the biggest talking points in the trade. If finalized at the reported value, Ramayana could set a new benchmark for theatrical business in India even before audiences witness the film on the big screen.

Prabhas' 'Spirit' Roars Ahead with 70% Shoot Wrapped Up

Prabhas' much-awaited action entertainer Spirit has entered a crucial stage of production, with the latest shooting schedule currently underway in Hyderabad. Directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, the film is progressing at a brisk pace, and the makers are now filming some of the most intense sequences of the movie. According to reports, the current schedule is taking place in Hyderabad's Kukatpally area, where the team is shooting key scenes featuring Prabhas. The schedule is expected to continue late into the night, highlighting the importance of this phase in the film's production.

Sources indicate that nearly 70% of the film's shooting has



already been completed, with the production unit spending the last few weeks filming extensively across various locations in Hyderabad. The makers are reportedly focused on

completing the remaining portions on schedule so that post-production work can begin without delays.

Spirit is one of the most anticipated Indian films current-

ly in production, primarily because it marks the first collaboration between Prabhas and blockbuster director Sandeep Reddy Vanga. The film is expected to present Prabhas in the role of a powerful police officer, a character that has generated tremendous excitement among fans ever since the project was announced.

Actress Triptii Dimri plays the female lead, while Harshvardhan Rane is widely reported to be portraying the antagonist. The film also boasts a strong technical crew, with Harshavardhan Rameshwar composing the music. The combination of an action-packed storyline, an acclaimed director, and Prabhas in a never-before-seen avatar has significantly raised expectations.

Although the makers have kept most story details under wraps, updates from the film's sets continue to fuel anticipation among fans. Every production milestone has become a talking point on social media, with movie lovers eagerly awaiting the teaser and further official announcements.

With the latest schedule focusing on emotionally charged and high-intensity sequences, Spirit appears to be moving steadily toward completion. If the current pace continues, fans can expect more exciting updates from the makers in the coming months as one of Indian cinema's biggest action dramas prepares for its next phase.

Climax to Be the Game-Changer? Nani's The Paradise Raises Expectations



Natural Star Nani's much-awaited pan-Indian film The Paradise has once again become the talk of the town after an exciting update from lyricist Kasarla Shyam sent fans into a frenzy. As shooting progresses steadily, the latest buzz suggests that the film's climax could be one of its biggest highlights.

Kasarla Shyam recently shared on social media that he had witnessed the filming of the climax sequence and was completely blown away by what he saw. Calling the climax "next level," he urged fans to bookmark his post, confidently hinting that audiences are in for an unforgettable cinematic experience.

His enthusiastic reaction immediately went viral, with Nani's fans flooding social media with excitement. The update has significantly boosted anticipation, especially after the film experienced multiple release date changes over the past few months.

Originally planned for a March 2026 release, The Paradise was later shifted to August and is now reportedly eyeing a September 2026 theatrical release. Despite the delays, the production is progressing smoothly, and the makers are focused on delivering a film that lives up to the massive expectations.

Directed by Srikanth Odela, who previously delivered the

blockbuster Dasara with Nani, The Paradise is expected to be a gritty action drama with a strong emotional core. Their successful collaboration has already raised confidence among movie lovers, making this one of the most anticipated Telugu films in production.

The movie features Kayadu Lohar as the female lead and boasts an impressive supporting cast that includes Mohan Babu, Sonali Kulkarni, Babu Mohan, Tanikella Bharani, and Sampooranesh Babu. The music is being composed by Anirudh Ravichander, whose soundtrack is also eagerly awaited by fans. While the makers have remained tight-lipped about the story, every update from the sets continues to generate tremendous buzz. Fans are now eagerly waiting for the first single, teaser, or another official glimpse from the production team.

If Kasarla Shyam's comments are anything to go by, the climax could become one of the film's biggest talking points after its release. With Nani, Srikanth Odela, and Anirudh Ravichander joining forces, The Paradise is shaping up to be a grand cinematic spectacle that fans hope will exceed all expectations.



Akhil Says 'Lenin' Climax Will Be the Film's Biggest Highlight

As Lenin gears up for its theatrical release, actor Akhil Akkineni has significantly raised expectations by repeatedly praising the film's final 20 minutes. During the ongoing promotional campaign, Akhil has described the climax as the biggest strength of the movie, saying it will leave audiences surprised and emotionally moved.

According to Akhil, the climax is the heart of Lenin. He revealed that the final act features an unexpected twist that completely changes the narrative and delivers a powerful emotional payoff. He expressed confidence that audiences would walk out of theatres with a lasting impression after experiencing the film's ending.

His comments have sparked widespread curiosity among fans, with social media buzzing over what the much-talked-about climax could be. Many believe the film could feature a gripping emotional revelation or an action-packed finale that may become one of its biggest talking points after release.

ed healthy pre-release buzz through its trailer, songs, and promotional activities, with Akhil actively interacting with fans and the media to build excitement.

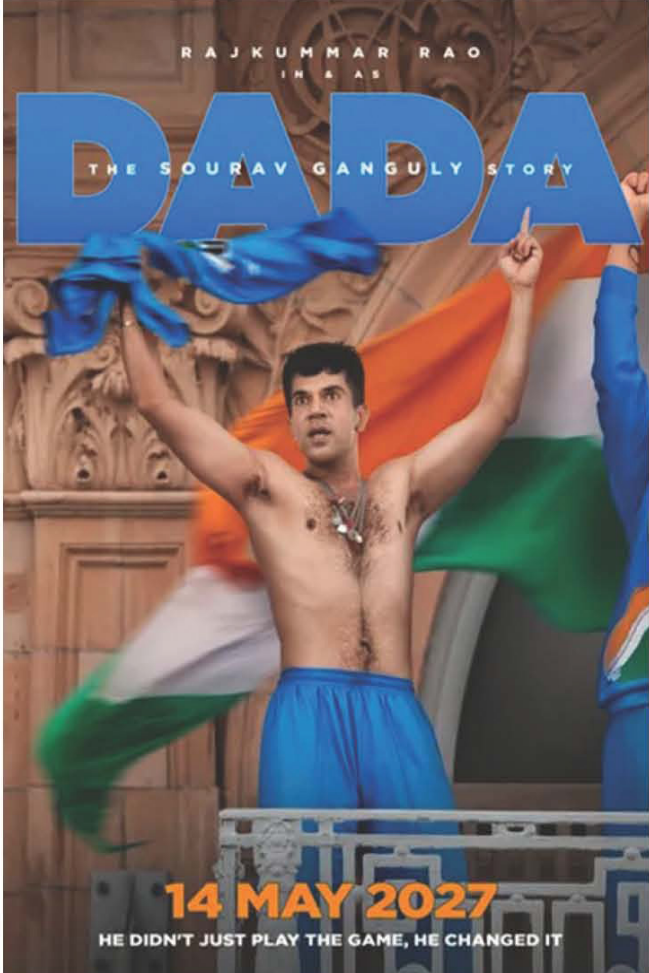
The project is especially significant for Akhil, who is aiming to make a strong comeback at the box office. Directed by Murali Kishore Abburi, Lenin is expected to blend action, romance, family emotions, and commercial entertainment, making it appealing to a wide audience.

Trade analysts believe that Akhil's confidence in the climax has become one of the film's biggest promotional assets. If the final 20 minutes live up to expectations, the film could benefit from strong word-of-mouth and sustained box office collections. At the same time, the makers now face the challenge of delivering on the high expectations they have created.

With the release date fast approaching, all eyes are on Lenin to see whether its much-hyped climax can deliver the impact Akhil has promised and turn the film into a memorable cinematic experience.

Rajkummar Recreates Ganguly's Iconic Lord's Celebration in 'Dada' First Look

The makers of Dada – The Sourav Ganguly Story have unveiled the much-awaited first-look poster of Rajkummar Rao as former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly, giving fans an exciting glimpse into one of the most anticipated sports biopics in recent years. The poster was released on Ganguly's birthday, making the occasion even more special for cricket lovers.



The first look recreates one of the most iconic moments in Indian cricket history—Ganguly waving his jersey from the Lord's balcony after India's memorable NatWest Trophy victory over England in 2002. Rajkummar Rao's appearance, body language, and expression closely mirror the legendary celebration, instantly drawing comparisons with the former Indian captain. Soon after the poster was unveiled, it went viral across social media. Fans praised Rajkummar Rao's remarkable transformation, with many applauding the actor's dedication to portraying one of India's greatest cricketing icons. The first look has significantly raised expectations for the biopic, which is expected to chronicle Ganguly's inspiring journey from a talented young cricketer to one of the most successful and influential captains in Indian cricket history.

Sourav Ganguly also shared the poster on social media and described it as one of the best birthday gifts he could have received. He expressed his excitement about watching Rajkummar Rao bring his life story to the big screen, further fueling anticipation for the project. Directed by Vikramaditya Motwane, the film is expected to explore Ganguly's

leadership, resilience, and the fearless attitude he instilled in the Indian cricket team during his captaincy. Along with his cricketer achievements, the biopic is also expected to delve into key moments from his personal and professional life, offering audiences a comprehensive look at the man affectionately known as "Dada."

The makers have officially announced that Dada – The Sourav Ganguly Story is scheduled to release in theatres on May 14, 2027. With Raj-

kummar Rao leading the cast and Vikramaditya Motwane directing the project, the film has already emerged as one of the most eagerly awaited sports dramas in Indian cinema.

As excitement continues to build, fans are now eagerly looking forward to the teaser, trailer, and more glimpses from the film, hoping it captures the passion, determination, and legacy of one of India's most celebrated cricket captains.

